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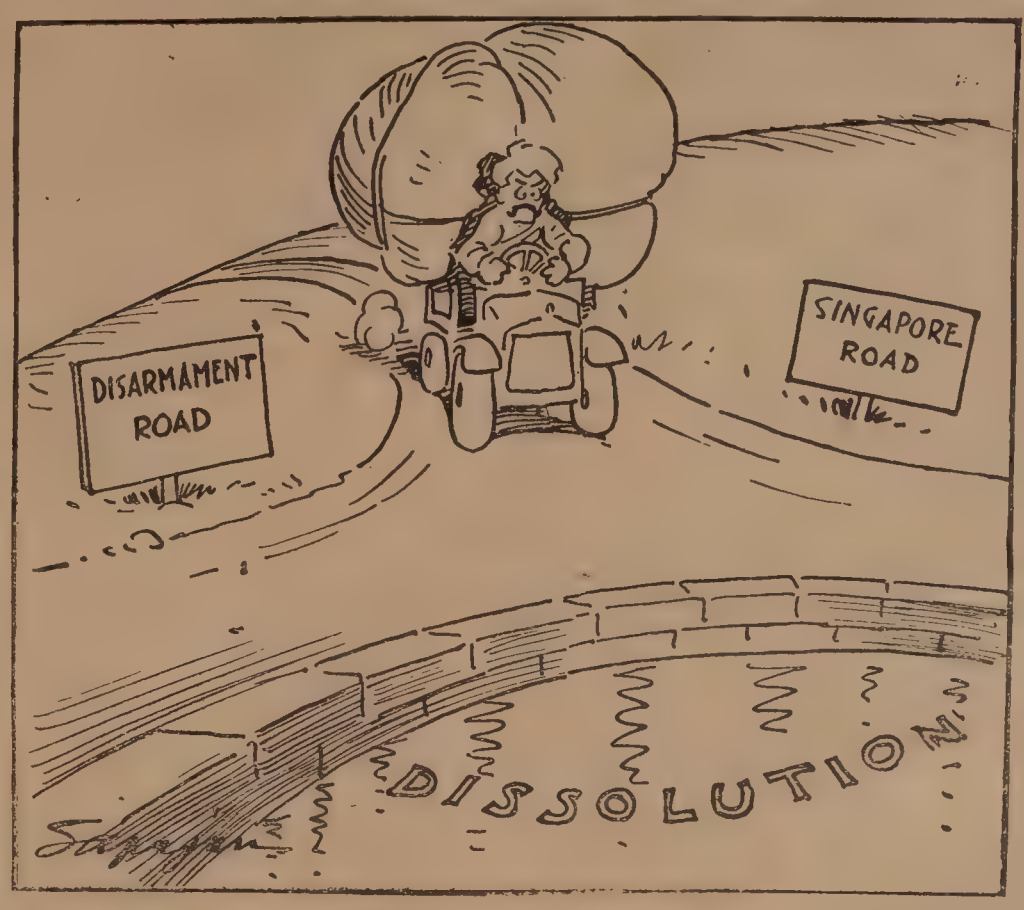

Safety first! Turn to the left

THE CIGARETTE TAX AND SHANGHAI SHOPKEEPERS' RESISTANCE

The Facts of the Case: Shopkeepers Solidly Opposed to What is Nothing but Official Squeeze: Tax Equally Illegal and Against Treaties

The following illuminating account of the failure of the 20 per cent. cigarette tax, not only in Shanghai district but in other provinces is written by a Chinese.

Not only foreigners but also the Chinese are at a loss to know whether or not the 20 per cent. cigarette tax has actually been enforced in Shanghai. The tax office and those people who have received good promises claim that it has been enforced and is very successful, while the tobacco companies and all those people whose interests have been seriously affected say that it has not been, and can never be, enforced. Let the following facts in connexion with the tax answer the above question and prove which side is right.

Seeing that a special tax on cigarettes had been enforced in Chêkiang, and thinking that lots of money had been made by that province, the authorities of Kiangsu, in the spring of last year, decided to introduce a similar tax into this province. In June, the tax was approved by the Provincial Assembly. After that, despite the opposition of various classes of people, the authorities began to make all preliminary arrangements to put the tax into force. They divided the province into 29 sections, and received tenders from applying tax-farmers three times. The law governing the submitting of tenders provides that all bidders must be tobacco merchants of their respective sections. But a great number of the successful bidders are not only not tobacco merchants, but are members of the Provincial Assembly. Disputes over their qualification have not yet been settled.

SOLID RESISTANCE.

Shanghai is not only the greatest cigarette market in China but is a leader in everything. If Shanghai accepts the tax, it can be enforced in all other parts of the province. As no one had made any offer to farm the tax for Shanghai, the authorities at Nanking appointed Mr. Chang Tsing-ching as Tax Chief, and sent him to Shanghai last January to establish an office for collecting the tax directly. Since his arrival the cigarette dealers in the native territory of Shanghai and its neighbourhood have been fighting more vigorously than ever. Twice they have suspended their business and almost all of them are still on strike. Threats, promises, negotiations, and various means have been employed by the local tax office and the Nanking authorities to make the cigarette dealers pay the tax, but the latter have not been moved; and there is no reason to expect that they will be, because conditions in Shanghai are different from those of any other place in this province.

In Shanghai the Settlements are closely connected with the extra-settlement territory. If the tax, which can only become effective in the extra-settlement area, is enforced there, all cigarette stores in that area will be compelled to close up sooner or later, because smokers will naturally go to the Settlements to get their cigarettes, which will be sold there at a cheaper price. In speaking about something which can never succeed, the Chinese usually say, "You are asking the tiger to give you his hide." But the authorities are doing exactly the same thing in asking the cigarette dealers in the districts around the Shanghai Settlements to pay the tax. One gives away everything but one's means of living.

EDUCATION A MERE BLIND.

The authorities claim that the money collected will be used for educational purposes, so those people who resist the tax have been accused of being unwilling to promote the education of their own province. In February the cigarette dealers addressed a petition to the Civil Governor, requesting him to stop the tax, and offering to contribute a certain sum each month toward the maintenance of the educational work of this province. The petition would have been carefully considered if the object of collecting that tax had been really to subsidize education. But the Governor rejected the offer and refused the request. That is evidence to show whether or not the revenue will be actually used for educational purposes. The Chinese have already paid enough money to enrich their officials and to feed the ever-increasing army of their country.

The local tax chief has bribed some uninfluential cigarette dealers, and has been using them as tools to break the formidable union of the opponents of the tax. A few days ago he submitted a report to the Civil Governor and published it in newspapers, saying that, of the 1,997 cigarette stores in and around Shanghai, 1,200 had applied for licences, and that the dispute over the tax would soon end. Investigation shows that only a few hundred stores in Nantao have received licences, and that in an unnatural way. They did not apply for the licences but were forced to accept them. They were also induced by artful means to keep some tax stamps in their stores. In order to show that a store had received stamps, they were requested to put a chop on to a book. The tax office went another step further by exaggerating the number of chops and announcing that almost all cigarette shops in and around Shanghai had applied for licences and recognized the tax.

NUISANCE AND FAILURE.

The special cigarette tax has been tried by various provinces, and it has failed and is a nuisance at each place. In Chêkiang the peace of the cigarette dealers is always in danger of being disturbed by rascals in uniform, who are employed as tax inspectors. In Anhui the authorities cannot help keeping the tax in force because, if they give it up, they will have to return to the farmers their cash deposit, which has already been spent by the Provincial Government for purposes unknown to the public. The tax farmers in Hupeh are no longer willing to take charge of the collection because they have already lost $80,000 since they took over the monopoly. Evidence of the resistance offered by cigarette dealers in Kiangsu Province appears in every day's newspapers. Their *confrères* in Shanghai are holding anti-tax meetings every afternoon. So the tax is bound to fail in Kiangsu also and can never be enforced in this peculiarly-situated port of Shanghai.

The imposition of the 20 per cent. tax on cigarettes is one of the worst things the Chinese officials have done in late years. The rate of tax on cigarettes has already been fixed by Treaties, and agreed upon between the Chinese Government and various tobacco companies. The constitution of the Republic (Articles 23 and 27) also forbids "double taxes," of which the provincial cigarette tax is a notorious example; and it provides that the tobacco tax shall be one of the national revenues at the sole disposal of the Central Government. So the imposition of this double tax not only violates the Constitution of the Republic and Treaties and Agreements, but also embarrasses the Central Government and exposes our weakness to the world.

CANTON AND CUSTOMS SURPLUS

An Appeal to British Prime Minister by Students for his Good Services

FUNDS WANTED FOR THE UNIVERSITY

The "Canton Gazette" gives prominence to a letter which has been written by the students of Canton to the British Prime Minister asking for his intervention in the matter of Canton and the Customs funds. The letter is in the following terms:—

MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD,
LONDON, ENGLAND.

SIR,—We, the Committee of the National Kuangtung University Endowment Fund Movement organized by the student body of the Teachers' College, National Kuangtung University, extend our congratulations upon your assumption of the high office of Prime Minister of England. Conscious of your lofty principle and honourable sense of justice for all, we now approach you to ask your aid in the matter of the return of the proportionate share of the Customs surplus to the Southern Chinese Government for use in defraying the expenses for education in South China.

As there has been no Government university in existence in South China, Dr. Sun Yat-sen has ordered the Normal College, the Law College and the Agricultural College, all of Canton, to combine and form themselves into a university called the National Kuangtung University. Large funds are needed for this new undertaking. It is hoped that the funds from the Customs surplus may be available for this laudable and worthy cause. Our Committee is entrusted with the task of securing funds and endowments for the needs of the newly established National Kuangtung University. We, therefore confidently await your favourable response and sympathetic co-operation.

We are, etc.,

The Committee of the National Kuangtung University Endowment Fund Movement.

PEKING, Mar. 28.—Admiral Wen Shou-teh, Commander of the new Pehhai Squadron, will leave Peking for Chefoo on Wednesday next.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE RUSSO-CHINESE NEGOTIATIONS

M. Karakhan's Plea of Illness: Statement by Chinese Foreign Minister

Peking, Mar. 30.

In response to Dr. Wellington Koo's invitation for a personal talk, M. Karakhan on Friday evening pleaded illness and sent his secretary to call on Dr. Koo. Two exchanges of messages occurred on Friday and one on Saturday morning.

Dr. Koo said that he was impressed by two points in M. Karakhan's memorandum of March 24: (1) that M. Karakhan admitted that the initialled agreements, one covering general matters and the other relating to the Chinese Eastern Railway, were preliminary texts subject to approval or rejection by the Chinese Government; and (2) that the three days' time-limit was not intended to obstruct but to expedite a settlement.

The Chinese Foreign Minister proposed modification of two Articles of the original draft concerning Mongolia, contending that Article 4 could not conform with the principle of reciprocity for, whereas China was asked to renounce all treaties and agreements made with a third party affecting Russian interests, Russia was only to renounce the Tsarist treaties and agreements with a third country affecting Chinese interests. The agreement should provide reciprocal renunciations.

THE EVACUATION OF MONGOLIA.

With regard to withdrawal of Russian troops from Mongolia, Dr. Wellington Koo proposed that the principle of inviolability of territorial sovereignty should be decognized.

Concerning the settlement of Russian church property, which was to be arranged by exchange of Notes, Dr. Koo proposed that it should remain in abeyance after the estalishment of normal relations, because the Chinese Government was not yet in possession of all the facts concerning such properties.

Dr. Koo hoped that M. Karakhan would see the reasonableness of these proposals, adding that it was quite in conformity with international practice for one of the contracting parties to propose changes. He was not opposed to immediate restoration of relations with Russia, but he thought that such a step could not be considered an end in itself and that there must be some basis to regulate such relations. Dr. Koo pointed out that the negotiations between the Chinese and Russian delegates were brought to a sudden stop on March 14 without the previous knowledge of the Chinese Government. He argued, therefore, that no party should take advantage of that mishap.

It seems to be the view of the Chinese Government that M. Karakhan does not appreciate the sincerity of the Chinese in trying to meet him half way and find a satisfactory basis for the conduct of peaceful relations between the two countries.—Reuter's Pacifid Service.

Peking, Mar. 26.

A bill has been placed on the agenda for Friday's meeting of the House of Representatives in the name of Mr. Huang Kung-su, calling upon the Government to recognize the Russian Soviet Government. It is expected that the bill will meet with considerable opposition.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Government's Objection to Provincial Authorities Interfering

Peking, Mar. 20.

Mr. Liu Chen and a number of other senators sent a telegram to Marshal Wu Pei-fu urging that the Sino-Russian negotiations should be left in the hands of the Central Government without interference from Provincial authorities. In reviewing the present state of Sino-Russian affairs the Senators say that as Mr. Karakhan refuses to negotiate further with the Chinese Government, the Chinese Government should ask the Moscow authorities to recall him and send another delegate to Peking.

The tone of this telegram is in direct opposition to the views of a majority in the House of Representatives.

The police guards are still stationed at the Government University and it is reported that the police are paying special attention to the residence of Dr. Koo, fearing that the students may attempt to make a demonstration there.

Mr. Ho Shou-jen, Member of the Board of Directors of the Chinese Eastern Railway, who came to Peking to watch the Sino-Russian negoiations, has left here for Harbin to report to Dr. C. C. Wang regarding the deadlock.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

HARBIN PAPER'S FALSE REPORT.

Harbin, Mar. 27.

The Chinese authorities have threatened to suppress the newspaper *"Rupor"* owing to the publication of a sensational story that Marshal Chang Tso-lin had invited all the chief officials of the Three Eastern Provinces to a conference at Mukden on March 27 in connexion with Sino-Russian affairs, at which Dr. Sun Yat-sen would be represented by Dr. C. C. Wu. The newspaper has been warned that it will be closed if any further rumours of such a nature are published.

The Chinese administration states that it has no knowledge of any conference to take place at Mukden on that date.

Gen. Chu, with Dr. C. C. Wang, President of the Chinese Eastern Railway, left Harbin on March 25 in response to a summons from Gen. Chang Tso-lin, but the subject to be discussed has not been made public.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, Mar. 31.

That Moscow does not look upon the Sino-Russian negotiations as finally concluded is the inference drawn by many Chinese in view of the fact that the unofficial agencies are continuing their duties. China's unofficial agent at Chita is being replaced by Mr. Chang Wei, whose passports are being agrranged with the Soviet Mission in Peking. This is thought to be significant in view of the drastic action taken towards the Japanese Consul at Vladivostok recently.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking's Reply to M. Karakhan

Peking, Apr. 2.

It is semi-officially reported that the Waichiaopu last night forwarded to M. Karakhan China's reply to the Note from the Russian Envoy dated March 25. In the reply, the Chinese Government still insists upon the three points at issue which are alleged to have brought the Sino-Russian negotiations to a standstill, but it is reported that the Chinese Government in reality makes every possible concession. It is said that if Soviet Russia complies with the proposition set forth in the above reply, the Chinese Government is ready to restore the diplomatic relations of the two countries without delay. It is also rumoured, however, that owing to the indisposition of Premier Sun Pao-chi and Dr. Wellington Koo the reply has not yet been delivered.—Eastern News Agency.

Peking, Apr. 2.

Replying to M. Karakhan's memorandum of March 24, the Waichiaopu, in a lengthy Note presented to the Soviet Envoy last night, reiterates most of the points brought out by Dr. Wellingon Koo in the exchange of messages with M. Karakhan on Friday and Saturday through the latter's secretary.

The Note adds that the Chinese Government must decline to discuss with M. Karakhan China's relations with other Powers. It must suffice to reiterate that the Chinese Government would not permit their policy *vis-à-vis* of the Sino-Russian negotiations to be interfered with by outside influence. The Ministry points out that the Chinese Government have not disavowed any agreement formally concluded. If M. Karakhan refuses to discuss the modifications with a view to completion of the proposed agreement and insists on returning to the position at the beginning of his conversations with Dr. C. T. Wang, it would merely be another proof that responsibility for the delay rests with the Soviet and not the Chinese Government.

As regards the proposed agreements, the Chinese Government are ready to approve and sign them provided modifications are effected in the preliminary text, as follows:—

(1) Regarding treaties, the Note contending that the agreement should provide for reciprocal renunciation of treaties and agreements made with a third party affecting the interests of the other;

(2) Regarding the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Mongolia, which, the Note contends, should be made a more definite undertaking on the part of Russia. It should not be conditional, though the necessary details for the withdrawal may be arranged later;

(3) Concerning Russian Church property, the settlement of which the Foreign Minister proposes shall remain in abeyance until after the establishment of normal relations because the Chinese Government are not yet in possession of all the facts concerning such properties.

DESIRE FOR OFFICIAL RELATIONS.

The Chinese Government wish to discuss these three points, on which they cannot believe that M. Karakhan, if he really wishes to re-establish friendly relations with China, can have any objection to negotiate. Should M. Karakhan, however, see insurmountable difficulties in the way of modifying the preliminary text, the Chinese Government, animated by a spirit of conciliation and an earnest desire for official relations between China and Russia, are prepared to agree to having these modifications effected through a supplementary exchange of notes to be signed with the agreements.

The Note, in conclusion, remarks that the texts of the proposed agreements can serve as the basis of understanding if the three points, to which the Chinese Government attach great importance, can be given adequate consideration and suitable changes effected by a revision of the texts or through an exchange of notes.—Reuter.

REPLY ALSO SENT TO MOSCOW.

Peking, Apr. 2.

The Waichiaopu, after forwarding its reply last night to M. Karakhan's second Note, wired to Mr. Li Chia-ao, Chinese Envoy in Moscow, instructing him to convey the same reply to the Moscow Government. It is reported that the Waichiaopu contemplates collecting the views of the Chinese populace throughout the country with a view to coming to terms with all parties concerned. The Waichiaopu at the same time wired to Marshal Wu Pei-fu, sending to him the full text of China's reply to Soviet Russia.

M. KARAKHAN DISSATISFIED.

Apr. 3.

M. Karakhan, upon receiving China's second reply, immediately wired to the Moscow Government, asking it for instructions. He is expressing his dissatisfaction with the reservation by China of the settlement of the three points at issue, but it is observed that his attitude will not necessarily influence the attitude of the Soviet Government towards the proposals. — Eastern News Agency.

WANG KO-MING IMPEACHED

Peking, Mar. 28.

Three hundred and nineteen members were present in the House of Representatives this afternoon, when the most important question on the agenda was the discussion of Sino-Russian affairs. The agenda was changed, however, in order to permit discussion of the impeachment of Mr. Wang Ko-ming, the Minister of Finance, in connexion with the gold franc question and the issue of Treasury Bonds.

After a long discussion, the impeachment was voted on, 227 votes being cast, but as only 223 name-cards had been deposited in the name-card box the vote was invalid. The result of the actual voting was 204 in favour of and 21 against impeachment, while two votes were informal.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHANG TSO-LIN AND THE SOVIET

Conflicting Rumours as to His Views of the Present Situation

Peking, Mar. 25.

It has been evident that the attitude of Marshal Chang Tso-lin has been watched very keenly by both sides during the Sino-Russian negotiations at Peking, and, since the deadlock was reached, his attitude has become even more important. Various conflicting rumours have reached the capital regarding Marshal Chang's views. To-day it is reported that Mr. Chi Kung-liang, head of the Manchurian delegation, which was to have watched the progress of formal negotiations between China and Russia, left here yesterday for Mukden to report to Marshal Chang concerning the Sino-Russian situation. Mr. Chi is said to have been given the full confidence of the Government and to be, therefore, thoroughly familiar with the incidents that led to the *impasse*. Consequently it is expected that his visit to Mukden will dispel any misunderstanding on the part of Marshal Chang. That such misunderstandings exist is feared owing to recent reports from Manchuria. Marshal Chang, however, does not seem to have been satisfied with the information he has received, for it is reported that he is sending Gen. Chang Chiao-ching to Peking to investigate the actual position of affairs between the Soviet mission and the Central Government.

WU PEI-FU'S ATTITUDE.

Marshal Wu Pei-fu also seems to have been giving the Sino-Russian negotiations quite a lot of attention. He is said to be a strong supporter of Dr. C. T. Wang, and to have favoured accepting the vague settlement offered by Mr. Karakhan without any additional assurances. In this connexion it is reported that President Tsao has telegraphed to Marshal Wu stating that it was necessary for the Government to handle the matter with extreme care, and suggesting that Marshal Wu should quietly await the outcome of further negotiations.

The *"Chingpao,"* which is sympathetic towards the Russians, says that Marshals Chi Hsieh-yuan and Hsiao Yao-nan and Dr. C. C. Wang have telegraphed to Dr. C. T. Wang urging him not to be downhearted over the outcome of the negotiations.

Semi-officially it is reported that Premier Sun will entertain members of both Houses of Parliament this afternoon, when he will give them a lengthy explanation of the Government's attitude towards Russia and the proposed agreement.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

WU PEI-FU ABOUT TO INVADE SHENSI

Rival Tuchun Secretly Plotting Against Him and Must Be Removed

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Apr. 2.

It is reported here, on reliable official authority, that Marshal Wu Pei-fu is concentrating troops on the Honan-Shensi border at Tungkuan under the commander of the 20th Division, with the object of invading Shensi and ejecting Tuchun Liu Chen-hua.

According to the gossip in Honan Marshal Wu Pei-fu has discovered that the Shensi Tuchun is secretly negotiating with his, Wu Pei-fu's, enemies against Loyang; accordingly, upon Loyang's report, Peking has prepared a mandate removing the present Tuchun and appointing a successor, while Wu Pei-fu, anticipating resistance from the Shensi man, is preparing for an invasion.

Peking, Mar. 30.—A mandate was issued last night appointing Gen. Yuan Tsu-ming Tupan of Frontier Defence on the Szechuan-Kueichow border.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

NORTHERN CAMPAIGN AGAINST CANTON

Expedition Indefinitely Postponed: Changing Conditions in Fukien

Peking, Mar. 28.

According to unofficial Chinese reports the proposed expedition to Canton has been indefinitely postponed.

Gen. Ma Chi, who recently made a visit to the Hunan-Kuangsi border, has returned and is now at Loyang. Gen. Lu Yung-ting is said to have sent a second telegram to the Government declining the post of Tuli of Kuangsi. It is believed that the attitude of Gen. Lu Yung-ting contributed to weaken the adherence of Gen. Shen Hung-ying to the North. Foreign telegrams from Fukien also indicate changing conditions. Gen. Tsang Chi-ping's forces have occupied Tunganhsien and negotiations are in progress between Gen. Tsang and Gen. Wang Yi at Chuanchow with the object of their reaching an understanding. Gen. Chou Yin-jen's troops have reached Hsinhua in pursuit of Gen. Wang Yung-chuan, who recently fled from Foochow. Gen. Wang, however, got away before the arrival of the hostile troops and fled to Shanghai, where he is endeavouring to get into touch with Little Hsu with a view to concerted action between Generals Tsang, Lu Yung-hsiang and himself.

In Szechuan the position of the Northern forces is reported to be improving. Gen. Lai Hsin-huai, former follower of Gen. Hsiong Keh-wu, has come over to the northern side by joining Gen. Yang San. This has weakened Gen. Hsiong and Tan Mao-hsin to such an extent that their counter-attack is not likely to be carried out.

Gen. Yuan Tsu-ming, the Kueichow leader who was requested to remain in Szechuan owing to the growing strength of the Szechuanese, has replied with a request for funds and ammunition. He reports that he has now 25,000 men and desires to recruit an additional 5,000 in order to form three complete divisions.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TRADE MARKS BUREAU

Private Agency's Advertisement Repudiated by Ministry of Commerce

Peking, March 28.

The Trademarks Bureau requests Reuter's Agency to circulate the following:—

"Notice is hereby given that the establishment of an agency for the registration of trademarks as advertised by one Hsiung Chai has not been approved by the Ministry of Commerce. As such false advertisement might lead to deception and fraud and produce mischievous consequences, the public, both foreigners and Chinese, are hereby notified that the Ministry of Commerce has never approved such an establishment as the one described above."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, Mar. 28.—A Chihling Mandate issued to-day appoints Dr. W. W. Yen to represent the President at the tree-planting ceremony inside the Temple of Heaven grounds on April 5.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Hankow, April 1.—Advices from Chungking report that the troops under the command of Hsiong Keh-wu and Tao Mo-hsin have advanced to a point 40 *li* from Chungking and that Chungking is now in a dangerous position.—Eastern News Agency.

Peking, Mar. 28.—Gen. Chow Hung-ti, Commander-in-chief in Hunan, whose temporizing policy seems likely to get him into trouble with Marshal Wu Pei-fu has sent another delegate (Gen. Tsou Ti) to Peking to explain the difficulties connected with cancellation of Hunan's autonomy.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LEADING ARTICLES

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THE OLD SCHOLAR & THE NEW

Mar. 31.

MANY of our readers must have read with much pleasure the delightful article on the True Scholar by Dr. Ku Hung-ming which we published in a recent number. In it the Chinese scholar of the old type, with his love of learning for learning's sake and his dislike of the glare of publicity, was contrasted, much to the latter's disadvantage, with his successor of the present generation who loves parades and slogans and noisy tea meetings. Dr. Ku quoted Confucius as his authority for his ideal, but the phraseology of the English Bible peeped out now and then in his rhythmic prose, proving that the ideal scholar—and his opposing type—is a universal and not a national character. Dr. Ku would surely approve Austin Dobson's description of the *beau idéal* English gentleman of leisure and of letters:—

It may be that he could not count
The sires and sons to Jesse's fount
He liked the Sermon on the Mount
And more, he read it.

For the struggle between the new and the old is as ancient as the world itself. It is Yin and Yang, Ormuzd and Abriman, Light and Darkness, hoary age and debonair youth: it is always a drawn battle and is renewed in every clime with every new generation. For more than two thousand years the victory lay with the old in the unchanging East. China was an old man's paradise, but now youth is clamorously asserting itself and Dr. Ku sings the swan song of the dignified *literati* who are fading into forgetfulness.

It is true that those old scholars of China were wonderful men. They were men of letters to their finger tips, often pedants and sometimes learned fools, but on occasion they came forth from their retirement and proved themselves men of war as well as students. It is now sixty years since the Taiping army spread terror and desolation throughout the larger part of the Chinese Empire, but there are still old men living who recall the extremity of distress the country was in when the Emperor Hsien Feng summoned Tseng Kuo-fan from his study to lead the Imperial troops. Tseng and his lieutenants, Tso Chung-tang and Li Hung-chang, were as remarkable a trio as any nation can show. They were first of all scholars but, just as Cromwell turned his Generals into Admirals, so the Emperor turned his best scholars into Generals and they justified his belief in their powers. Tseng Kuo-fan was a scholar, a philosopher, the author of more than a hundred volumes of literature and a great soldier. Tso Chung-tang fought first in the Yangtze valley against the Taipings. He was then sent to put down the Mohammedan rebellion in Shensi and Kansu and finally reconquered Chinese Turkestan; a feat scarcely surpassed by the exploits of Clive in India. Li Hung-chang won his spurs as a soldier and his fame as a diplomat is too recent to bear recounting here. The kind of literature which produced men of action of this type does not require an apology. It has passed away but it well deserved the panegyric which Dr. Ku sings in its praise.

And yet we shall have to admit that, taken as a whole, the old learning failed and failed utterly. It made scholars and gentlemen of its devotees, but it also made them bigots and conservatives. The outstanding examples of success which we have given above only succeeded because they were matched against enemies more backward than they were themselves. When they came into conflict with modern nations they were invariably worsted in the field though they often regained in the council chamber what had been lost in battle. The truth is, the world had moved since the days of Confucius and the old scholar was a survival of the unfit. Unable to adjust himself to the new environment there was nothing left for him but to vanish away. We may regret his picturesque robe and his old world courtesy, but we must recollect too that the land suffered from flood and famine under his *régime*. That disease swept the country and the many toiled in ignorance and poverty to make the few cultured and happy. The True Scholar lived in his ideals, but this is a world of realities and the most beautiful ideals are not helpful but hurtful unless they are to be translated into the facts of life. The new scholar may sometimes be an objectionable person, but there is no necessity why he should be so. At any rate he looks forward to a better future and not backward to a vanished past. His outlook is world wide and is not bounded by the well built by Tsin Shih Hwang-ti. It would surely be the negation of civilization if we had to admit that all that modern education has done for the Chinese has been to turn them into prigs. There is abundance of froth on the surface, but there is also an under stratum of real progress. The apparent retrograde movement is merely the illusion of a stationary observer who watches a moving body and transfers the sensation of motion to his own person.

THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Apr. 1.

IN accordance with the policy founded last year, of getting the estimates into ratepayers' hands as far in advance of the annual meeting as possible, the Budget was issued yesterday. It contemplates an ordinary income for the coming year of Tls. 8,224,720, not quite a million taels more than in 1923, and an ordinary expenditure less than revenue by Tls. 295,420, which is to be carried to extraordinary income. It is proposed to raise Tls. 5,000,000 by borrowing (one million less than last year) and, with the addition of debentures issued between January 1 and February 5 this year and miscellaneous receipts, the extraordinary income amounts to Tls. 5,450,200. Of this the Electricity Department gets a million taels (as against three millions last year) and the deficit brought forward from 1923 eats up no less than Tls. 712,590. The estimated deficit was Tls. 142,450. We must wait for the report on last year's expenditure to see how this considerable discrepancy between estimates and facts is made up. So large as the interests and occupations of Shanghai have become it is difficult to foresee exactly how much money will be needed. But an excess of nearly six lakhs over expenditure authorized tends to make the vote of the ratepayers' meeting slightly ridiculous and calls for attention.

Under the heading of extraordinary expenditure this year we find a trifle of Tls. 8,200 to pay for the completion of the reconstruction of Thibet Road bridge and Tls. 115,000 to finish off that at Honan Road, which should be open for traffic next August. The appropriation for drainage, at Tls. 139,200 is some fifty-four thousand taels less than the figure proposed by the Commissioner of Public Works who "regarded it as highly important that the programme of work should allow for the provision of proper drainage at a much earlier stage of property and road development than had been the practice in the past, with a view to the prevention of unsanitary conditions and to minimizing the interruption to thoroughfares." As regards the last mentioned consideration we are in hearty agreement with the Commissioner. At the present time, North Szechuen Road Extension is "up" for tramway repairs and we think we are right in saying that Dixwell Road is "up" too, thus badly hampering communication with the Hongkew Park end. Now the Public Works Department is often unfairly blamed for the digging up of roads, when the real cause is to be found in the perpetual difficulty of making budget appropriations square with necessities not to be ignored. But the resulting inconvenience to the public is the same, and we cannot but think that by looking farther ahead, in respect of financial provision, the continual disturbance of main thoroughfares, which is noted with so much general irritation, might be avoided. By such a policy too, it would be possible to give due notice to public utility companies and the Electricity Department that such and such a road would be shut to traffic at a certain time and no further interference with it would be permitted for, say, two years.

The estimates of ordinary expenditure are in some respects more interesting than those for extraordinary. The Health Department this year will require Tls. 122,170 more than in 1923, owing to the appointment of a radiologist and an additional pharmacist and an increase in the numbers of sanitary inspectors and overseers. The Police Force estimates are increased by Tls. 220,470: it is proposed to bring out 35 more recruits from Home and to increase locally engaged Russian constables to twenty. Considering the increasing needs of both these departments, the addition to their strength cannot be considered unreasonable. Traffic control alone must absorb a very large number of constables and it is to be remembered that the Health Department does a great deal, gratis, for ratepayers, in the way of analysis, etc., for which elsewhere they would have to pay private laboratories. On the other hand, the allusions to "increases of pay automatically due under the fixed scales" will probably attract criticism—though not of one department more than another. The subject is one rather delicate to touch upon, inasmuch as the labourer is certainly worthy of his hire. But it is also one on which ratepayers are sensitive, not finding that, in their own case, there is any automatic increase on a fixed scale. What they cannot help thinking is that a certain amount should be allotted for salaries and that promotions or increases in lower ranks should be balanced by retirements in the upper, so that the total expenditure year by year should show no marked alteration. Two years ago the ratepayers threw out the Salaries Commission's report: since then the Council's revenue has increased by nearly two millions, and we seem to hear critics saying that it looks rather as if the Commission's recommendations, although rejected by ratepayers, had none the less been met out of the additional revenue.

THE DUTY ON CHINA TEA

Apr. 2.

Now that the House of Commons is shortly to discuss the first Budget of the Labour Government an opportunity presents itself to draw attention to and press for the abolition of a serious anomaly in the fiscal system of the United Kingdom. We refer to the preferential duty in favour of Ceylon and Indian teas imported into the United Kingdom. During the war, for revenue purposes, the duty on tea was raised from five pence to one shilling a pound. Later at a conference of the Allies and the Dominions in Paris the so-called Paris resolutions were passed and the principal of Imperial preference was affirmed. The Government found it was one thing to affirm the principle of Imperial preference, but quite another thing to carry it out effectively. We do not propose to discuss this thorny question but simply to point out that rightly or wrongly the electorate has since decided that Imperial preference is not a practical possibility. After the Paris resolutions, however, the Government were committed to it. It was manifestly impossible to introduce a highly contentious measure carrying out the spirit of the resolutions so they decided to save their face by carrying out in some small measure the letter of the resolutions. In looking round for some *corpus vile* on which to experiment, they unfortunately hit upon tea as being an article on which a preference could be established with the least contention and the least disorganization to the trade of the country. In point of fact they could hardly have chosen anything which required a preference less. Nevertheless the duty on British-grown tea was reduced from one shilling to ten pence per pound and later, when the general duty on tea was reduced to eight pence, British-grown tea was admitted at six pence per pound, at which figure it now stands.

It is difficult to see what good has resulted from this measure. A preference has been established on an article so firmly rooted in the public taste as not to need it, in favour of a country whose whole fiscal policy in recent years has been increasingly directed towards imposing import duties to protect its industries from imported English manufactures, while imports into England from China, a country into which the manufactures of all nations enter on equal terms, are penalized to the extent of a penny-three-farthings per pound. The strictest Protectionist now admits that a country's imports can only be paid for by its exports and it seems a pity to handicap China's purchasing powers in England by legislation against her produce.

There is another aspect to the case, which is very important. The preference in favour of British-grown tea has had a very serious effect on the re-export trade in London. Before the preference was imposed, most of Europe's tea buying was done in London, because, broadly speaking, being a free market, it was the cheapest one. The imposition of the preference has undoubtedly caused the other consuming countries to obtain more and more of their requirements direct and London is rapidly losing a very valuable trade. Teas were shipped in quantity from China to London to meet the re-export demand, the merchant well knowing that, if he missed this relatively small and fluctuating market, his cargo could be sold for home consumption in free competition with British-grown tea. Now such consignments are getting smaller and smaller, and London and British merchants in China are losing all the profit on handling them.

In view of the present favourable circumstances for securing the abolition of this preference, which nobody really wants, it would appear excellent policy for the Chinese through their Minister in London to press for its abolition and our British Chamber of Commerce should also make its views known to the Home Government. We understand that a fund is being raised in London by a leading broker there, ninety per cent. of whose business is in British-grown tea, for the purpose of propaganda in favour of abolition of the preference, and with combined action on the part of everybody interested it should be possible to create a favourable atmosphere in the House for its removal.

THE COMING GERMAN ELECTIONS

Apr. 3.

THE news that the People's Party has placed in the forefront of its programme the establishment of a democratic monarchy invests the forthcoming German elections with a special importance. The monarchical movement has never died out in Germany although sections of the country have gone Communist and the ex-Kaiser and his son have alienated the sympathy of a large part of the people. Among the officer caste it has remained

as strong as ever, and the same appears to aristocratic circles, and it has long been known that only a favourable opportunity was awaited to create anew a German Kaiser. This must not be confused with monarchical movements in Bavaria, which are not connected with the restoration of the Wittelsbach family to the throne of Bavaria and have nothing to do with the German Reich as a whole. The German monarchists centred themselves in the National Party which may be described as the extreme Right wing of the German political structure. Next in order to them come the People's Party which under Herr Stresemann has now for the first time declared itself in favour of a monarchy, and it is this fact that gives such a great significance to the approaching contest. It indicates a strengthening of the royalist sentiment throughout the country and gives a clear issue to the electorate on a subject which, although it has been in the background during the post-war years, was recognized as bound to be an inevitable feature of German politics sooner or later.

We have noted that the two parties on the Right are the National and People's Parties, and in studying this present development due heed must be paid to the position of the other groups. Next comes the Centre—the Catholic Party—and then in order to the Left are the Democrats, Socialists and Communists. When, as in the present case, a matter of great national importance has to be decided, a political machine having so many component parts is not the best suited for arriving at a decision. Owing, however, to the trend of events in [illegible] not so disadvantageous as might at first sight appear, for there is a steady movement away from the parties closest to the Centre and the electors are gravitating towards the wings. In the circumstances it is not improbable that the People's Party may find itself greatly strengthened at the election, and if so we may be on the eve of certain interesting if not exciting events. For the purpose of arriving at a democratic monarchy nothing seems more natural than an alliance between the People's and National Parties, for although composed of the military and aristocratic sections the National Party's aim to-day is all in the direction of a constitutional monarchy. There is no desire to create a monarch possessing the powers of the former Kaisers—that is realized as being altogether too dangerous while probably impossible in Germany to-day—and it is believed that the British throne is the model which has been adopted.

As yet there is no information whether the democratic monarchy is an immediate or only tentative proposal of the People's Party, but at any rate it is of some interest to consider how certain people in Germany would stand in the event of its succeeding. There were four kings in Germany up to 1918, these being of Prussia, Bavaria, Wurtemburg and Saxony. The King of Prussia was also the German Kaiser and held a host of other offices as well. He is now in Holland. Ludwig of Bavaria is dead, while the other two have retired to their estates and are apparently living the lives of private individuals, keeping up little if any claim to royalty. So apparently is the ex-Kaiser's heir, the Crown Prince as we used to know him, who has kept remarkably quiet since leaving Holland and rejoining his family in Silesia. Ludwig of Bavaria's heir, Prince Rupprecht, seems to be an outstanding one among the representatives of these four houses in that he still prefers to be known as "His Highness." The impression is that if the monarchical movement succeeds it will be used in favour of a Hohenzollern, but that the ex-Crown Prince will be passed over in favour of one of his sons, and none of the others will come into the picture at all. Even so, the question then comes up whether they will once more assume the dignity of a throne. It may be so, and if such proves to be the case, it will possibly be on a larger scale than before. Formerly the German Reich was composed of something like twenty-five different states, but to-day there is a movement to eliminate the smaller divisions, and we might see the Reich split up into no more than half a dozen different compartments, such as Prussia, Bavaria, Saxony, Baden, Mecklenburg and Thuringia. For these, where no king exists a grand-duke would always be found.

SHEEP WITHOUT SHEPHERDS

Apr. 4.

The Chinese religious processions, picturesque and sometimes weird, so often encountered in the streets of Shanghai, and the ceremonies attending marriages and funerals, are generally regarded by foreigners with an amused interest, perhaps mingled with a feeling of complacency on their freedom from superstition in every shape and form. But to the Chinese it is all very real; it is an expression of their desire to escape the misfortunes of life by placating innumerable ghosts and demons, and to obtain health, wealth and posterity, a good old age and other reputed blessings. After all, the Chinese are not singular in desiring to be in right relations with their environment both in this world and in the other. To believe that this has been fairly well accomplished gives an anchorage that steadies in the storms and vicissitudes of life. Without an anchorage of some kind, individuals are apt to drift, not knowing whither they are going, and this may be said also of nations.

It is rather strange that in the discussion of Chinese affairs so little has been said concerning the effect of the overthrow of the monarchy in 1910 upon the inner life of the people. As the Son of Heaven, a semi-divine personage, the Emperor held a unique position in popular estimation because of the extraordinary, supernatural powers he was supposed to wield. He offered the national prayers and sacrifices at the annual State services and on such great occasions as a victory in war, or a calamitous visitation: he invoked the great spirits of earth and heaven to administer the forces of nature for the general benefit of the country; he was accredited with power over hosts of minor deities to whom he referred in state papers as if they were highly respectable State officials of a superior order, whose duty it was to support law, order, and morality, and to assist, promptly and efficaciously, in preventing or combating such calamities as floods, famine, or pestilence; he distributed posthumous honours and appointments, sometimes promoting the spirits of deceased notables to the rank of divinity; by the regular public worship of his own ancestors he strengthened the reverence or worship paid by the Chinese people to their dead, and this in turn strengthened their belief that his power was great in the invisible world as well as here. In short, he stood between the people and their ghostly enemies, warding off misfortune, and he obtained for them the help and protection of the more friendly deities and spirits. In accord with his exalted powers and functions he lived as a sacred personage, making public announcement at intervals of majestic ordinances, and was only occasionally seen in public when he officiated at high altars in the performance of some stately ceremonial. To the common people it must have seemed that between him and his ministers on the one hand, and the gods of heaven and earth on the other, there was little or no difference of kind and not much of degree. Now all is changed. He is dethroned and can be no longer accredited with the vast spiritual powers which it was believed he exercised for the happiness and prosperity of his people. *Sic transit gloria mundi.*

The religious beliefs of a people, whether true or not, cannot be suddenly undermined without producing disastrous effects. It is quite possible that the present political corruption and general lawlessness is very largely due to the disintegration of the State religion caused by the Emperor's retirement and the abandonment of all his public religious functions. Going further afield, perhaps the frightful barbarities of the revolution in Russia were due to similar causes, as there also the head of the State, the Tsar, was the chief representative of religion to the vast majority of the people. The recent deposition of the Caliph, the religious head of the Mohammedans, may have a very disturbing influence upon the communities of this religion throughout the world. As the Chinese number 440 millions, the Russians over 130 millions, and the Mohammedans 220 millions, about half the population of the world is in a state of religious confusion. Thrones, principalities dominions, powers, in the religious as well as the political world, are everywhere being shaken. The outlook is extraordinarily interesting.

THE NIBBLING AWAY OF TREATIES

Apr. 5.

This week we have been informed that Dr. Sun Yat-sen has begun fighting again with General Chen Chiung-ming on the East River and that the Tuchun of Shensi has been plotting against Marshal Wu Pei-fu, who is making ready to invade Shensi and oust him. A few days ago one of readers contributed a violent denunciation of Dr. Sun, in our correspondence columns, asking if any mortal, Dr. Sun himself included, could say what he was fighting about and what conceivable good he might hope to produce in compensation for the immense misery which his fighting had brought upon his fellow-countrymen. Dr. Sun has explained that he has no personal antagonism to General Chen and is merely fighting him as the agent of Marshal Wu. But that is obviously no answer to the question unless we know what Wu has been doing and whether he deserves to be treated as a common pariah. Quite possibly he does. His proposed invasion of Shensi, for example, appears to need some more convincing explanation than that he does not like the Tuchun of that province. But if we begin to look for the explanation of inter-provincial rivalries, we are soon lost in an utter maze of intrigue and mutual denunciation, stretching back and back for years, of which foreigners have long since utterly lost the clue.

And if the provincial leaders insist on fighting each other and their countrymen are so chicken-hearted as to submit to the inconvenience unprotesting, it is not the foreigner's business to say them nay. What is the foreigner's business is that the breakdown of all centralized government and complete independence of the provinces, each going its own way as it pleases, has brought about a gradual whittling away of the treaties which, unless stern measures are taken, will very soon virtually have ceased to exist. The worst offender in this respect is Chêkiang, and this is the more regrettable in that Chêkiang is certainly one of the three best-governed provinces in China. But in her lawless disregard of treaties she is giving a lead to all other provinces. She has declared independence of Peking, professes herself unbound by treaties that, Peking has signed and claims the right to impose taxation as she pleases. Transit passes are practically ignored in Chêkiang and all classes of goods are subjected to heavy and irregular duties. The twenty per cent. tax on cigarettes has attracted most attention, not because it is a heavier charge than that imposed on other goods, but because more is known about the movement of such things as tobacco, sugar and oil than of other commodities. But they are being taxed in precisely the same way and it is always those people who can bear it least who are hit worst. The big distributing companies can to some extent look after themselves and carry on. The smaller firms are very likely unconscious of what is affecting their business: they know only that it is falling off and that the up-country buyer will hardly take one or two cases or bales of goods where once he would take a dozen. Illegal and excessive taxation is the cause.

In many other ways Chêkiang is deliberately challenging the treaties. Her officials boast that nobody can touch them and they make no secret of the fact that they do not want the concessions promised at the Washington Conference to come into force, because they would restrict the province's freedom to do as she pleases with foreign trade. A curious parallel may be found in Canton's demand after the Chino-Japanese War, that Japan should return her ships, because Canton was not concerned in the war, which was purely Peking's affair. But in those days there was an organized framework of Government, through which the capital could impose its will on the provinces. Now there is none. Peking promises that bandits shall be suppressed and foreigners' lives and property respected. Neither promise is kept, and even in provinces which have not declared their independence, which are nominally on Peking's side of the hedge, contempt for national obligations flourishes unchecked. Our Liuchow correspondent, for example, reports to-day that a launch journey which used to take three days may now occupy eighteen because of the multiplication of tax-offices and the corresponding growth of smuggling. Probably native trade is as yet more affected in this way than foreign. But there is no doubt that other provinces are watching the behaviour of Chêkiang and will copy her example if no retribution befall. And already the list of claims filed in Peking on account of taxes illegally levied on goods moving under transit pass is very large.

The point has been reached at which half measures will not avail. If the evil is to be checked, it must be dealt with unflinchingly; and if it is not dealt with at once, it will spread throughout China with absolutely fatal effect. It is necessary to make a public example of Chêkiang and, inasmuch as Peking still professes to have a regard for treaties, the Legations would be perfectly justified in assisting Peking to maintain them. To this end they might begin by recognizing Chêkiang's declaration of independence and invite the Chinese Government to recognize it too, for all purpose of Customs' collection. All Chêkiang produce leaving the province for other provinces or for Shanghai should be treated as coming from a foreign country and taxed accordingly, exception only being made in respect of staple foodstuffs, meat, fish, poultry, and the like. Simultaneously a blockade on all telegrams into and out of Chêkiang might be urged, a course which had a great effect a few years ago in calming the hotheads of Canton. Chekiang must be taught that independence has its pains as well as its perquisites. She cannot be allowed to enjoy the treaty privileges of a province of China whilst ignoring the corresponding privileges of those who do business within her borders.

And as regards the mass of claims accumulating against the Chinese Government, claims in respect of the looting of Ichang three years ago, of Lincheng, of many bandit outrages and of illegal taxation in the provinces, we would urge that the Diplomatic Body should insist on the Customs surplus being devoted to their satisfaction before being used for the service of the domestic loans. At the end of 1922 that very threat was made, at the time when Peking appeared likely to take the surplus out of Sir Francis Aglen's hands for its own spending, and the clamour raised by the Chinese banks showed how very powerful a lever there is to the Diplomatic Body's hand in this direction. In 1922 the chief preoccupation was to supply security for unsecured loans; of which it may be said that people who lend money to China without being sure of how it is to be repaid are not entitled to any sympathy. The claims mentioned at the beginning of this paragraph are quite otherwise. Just in themselves, they are furthermore synonymous for a reasonable demand that the treaties shall be respected and that the insidious nibbling at them, now of every-day occurrence and in every direction, shall be put a stop to once and for all.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

M. Poincare

Even those who do not at all "hold with" Mr. Poincaré should approve his continuance as Premier. The issue on which he was defeated in the Chamber last week was really only "a snap vote" as it is called at Westminster, which means nothing. And as matters stand now in the Ruhr it is perhaps really better that there should at present be no change in the management of French policy. When action has to be taken on the latest report of the Allied experts on reparations it will certainly be as well that there should be in France a Prime Minister familiar with everything that has occurred. And the same feeling applies in respect of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's overtures for a better understanding between France and Britain. As regards the occupation of the Ruhr, it is rather curious that we have has so little news from that region latterly and the little we have had indicates that passive resistance is really broken down and that the French are getting the coal out. One does not suggest that that is the solution of reparations or that it is at all a good thing for the French occupation to continue indefinitely. But if M. Poincaré's policy is at all succeeding, he will probably be more amenable to adjustment, in common with Great Britain, than any successor.

Sir Charles Stanford

It may be that, to the modern school, the name of Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, whose death is announced to-day, means little but as that of a musician who clung to the now apparently discredited notion that art is intended to please and that music should have a tune. But to some others that name is associated with some very beautiful and inspiring music. Sir Charles Stanford was an Irishman and some of the finest work he did was undoubtedly his setting of old Irish melodies. He was also for many years an organist—first at Queen's College, Cambridge, where he had been a classical scholar, and then from 1872 to 1893 at Trinity—and no mention of his life would be complete without including his great contributions to church music. In this respect his taste was too operatic for some, but it seems ultra-puritan to cavil at the brilliance of his melody and its rich harmonization. Such a work, for example, as the "Te Deum" in "B" flat often performed in Holy Trinity Cathedral is a miracle of triumphant splendour. For many years Sir Charles Stanford dominated music in that great centre of the musical world, Cambridge, and under his *régime* it used to be said that the most difficult degree to get was that of Mus. Doc. Cantab. He was a man of amazing musical learning and with such others as Parratt, Mann and Bridge made up a cohort of which the great English school of sacred and classical music has indeed cause to be proud.

The Trademark Bureau

The account of the inefficiency already displayed by the Trademark Bureau established under the new Chinese Law, which appears to-day on another page of this issue, is worth studying. The Japanese firm of Suzuki registered, last November, a powder sauce "Vi Tsing," over which they are able to show rights in the Far East extending back for 10 years. Now come the Tienchu Manufacturing Co., claiming that "Vi Tsing" is one of their products and that they had registered the words as their trademark before Suzuki did. It appears that "Vi Tsing" simply means sauce of some kind, and that the Trademark Law does not permit the mere name of a commodity (say, tooth powder, or bath soap) to be registered as a trademark. Hence the Bureau is convicted either of having broken its own regulations, or of having allowed Suzuki to register a mark which had already been registered by some one else. It is important to notice that in this case the Chinese firm is quite as much dissatisfied with the Bureau's conduct as is the Japanese. So no doubt will it happen frequently. In this connexion, it is worth recalling that trademarks were originally invented for the protection of customers so that they might know what they were buying, not for that of the dealer. Under the new Trademark Law the only protection apparently likely to be enjoyed will be that of the syndicate which has bought the monopoly of having all registrations passed through its hands.

Claims on Russia

According to a Riga telegram to-day, Zinovieff, the arch-Bolshevist, announces that Great Britain has sent in claims to Russia of Gold Rls. 10,390,000,000 (say, roughly, 500 million pounds), not counting interest due on loans since 1915. Zinovieff is not, in all probability, a very trustworthy informant on matters of this kind, because the extreme nature of his political creed would probably cause him to say the worst of Great Britain that he possibly could, whether true or untrue. However, considering the large British property that was seized by the Bolshevists in 1917, the claims made are likely to be big. And now arise two interesting points. First of all, what Russia wants abroad is credit: recognition without it is a very empty honour. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald may recognize the *de jure* rights of the Soviet twenty times over: but unless the Soviet responds by recognizing the *de jure* and *de facto* rights of British property owners in Russia, it is not going to get one penny's worth of credit from British banks. Whether it puts in counter-claims for damages from "White" assaults or not is beside the question. If it wishes to get goods or money in England, it must first give back what it stole from Englishmen. But if it makes restitution to foreign property-owners, what is going to be its attitude to dispossessed Russians? It cannot very well be less conciliatory to them than to foreigners—at least, if it is, the latter will not find Russia a very healthy country to live in, nor, we imagine, will the Soviet. Altogether to seek recognition and the fruits thereof, without being prepared to pay for them, is a futile proceeding.

U. S. Immigration Anomaly

The "quota" system of immigration into the United States of America, which already has been responsible for much discussion and contention, disappointment and heart-rending, has taken on an entirely new aspect—an aspect that bids fair to have far-reaching results, by reason of two legal judgments in cases that seem destined to become famous. They are known as the "Gottleib" and "Markaran" decisions. Gottleib was a rabbi who was exempt from the quota because he was (and presumably still is) a minister. He claimed exemption for his wife on the grounds that the quota law does not supplant but is merely an addition to the Immigration Act of 1917 which grants exemptions for persons from the Asiatic barred zone, such as teachers, students, ministers, and their wives and minor children. The Federal Court upheld this contention and Gottleib and his wife were admitted. This case established a precedent and shortly afterward an Armenian named Markaran was admitted to the United States before his national quota was exhausted. Later, he sailed abroad, married and brought his wife back after the quota was exhausted. He claimed exemption as a returning alien and demanded admission for his wife, basing his claim on the Gottleib case, and won his point. Now, it is stated, thousands of Latins and Slavs in the U. S. are bringing their wives and children to that country from Europe and the steamship companies are taking advantage of the loophole in the law and are freely transporting them. The immigration authorities have accepted the situation and are helpless to prevent the rush unless and until the U. S. Supreme Court, to which the matter has been carried, reverses the Gottleib decision. It certainly appears that the U. S. legal authorities have been caught napping (may be they were too busy on the Teapot Dome business), and that the steamship companies are making hay while the sun shines, and making it—as an American contemporary puts it so delightfully—"from the grass growing under the feet of the immigration authorities."

The Cigarette Tax

The account received to-day from a Chinese correspondent of the failure of the cigarette tax in the Shanghai district is particularly interesting to this paper, because, when the antagonism was first manifested, and apparently with success, we commented upon it as an example of the force which any body of Chinese opinion can exert if it really means to do so. Since then statements by Chinese newspapers have seemed to indicate that the opposition had failed. Our contributor shows exactly what these statements were worth. The tax chief has forced licences on some unimportant salesmen, too weak to defend themselves; but in the main it is clear that the imposition of the tax is a failure. More than that, it is a failure in other provinces, notably in Hupeh, where the farmers have lost $80,000 by it. Significant is the evidence given that the pretext of providing funds for education is a mere blind for the usual squeeze. Our contributor admittedly takes an *ex parte* view of the case, being himself a tobacco merchant. But that in no way affects the force of his arguments or the importance of the movement. On the contrary, nothing could be more desirable than that Chinese merchants generally should realize what official rapacity means and be encouraged to voice their feeling as loudly as possible.

The Press By-law

This week's Municipal Gazette duly announces the special meeting of ratepayers, to be held together with the ordinary annual meeting, and on the agenda appears, once more, the famous Press By-law. The wording has, we think, been revised, though we confess that we have not taken the trouble to look up all the occasions during the past nine years on which this famous old bone has been worried and snorted over by self-constituted guardians of public right. In its present form it appears as unequivocal as any law can be. It simply says that anybody who wants to carry on the business of printer or publisher and fails, first of all to register his name and address with his consul or the Council and further fails to put that name and address on everything he prints or publishes, shall be liable to certain penalties. At one time, the Chinese printers got hold of the idea that the by-law would compel them to submit everything they published to the police. The fault was, perhaps, less theirs than that of unscrupulous agitators, some of foreign nationality. At any rate the present form of the by-law should allow of no possible misunderstanding and as it is unquestionably most necessary for the cause of good order in the Settlement, one hopes it may go through at last.

British Finance

The statement of national accounts as summarized in to-day's telegrams is surely one on which all British citizens may look with pride. The surplus of £48,000,000 is less than that realized during 1922, namely 101½ millions. But several factors have to be considered: first, that the biggest reductions naturally come nearest to the war, when the special staffs which it entailed are being cut down; then, that there was a reduction last year in both income and corporation taxes; lastly that the surplus realized is more than 24 times Mr. Stanley Baldwin's estimate, i.e. £1,884,000. It is to be hoped we shall get some figures given us by the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the total decrease of British indebtedness since the end of the war. Whitaker gives the net decrease at the end of 1921-22 as £246,334,610. To this has to be added £101,500,000 from Mr. Baldwin's last full year of office (1922-23) and now another 88 millions, bringing the total reduction to £436,834,610. But with cost of interest and management, etc., the net reduction can hardly be as much as this. At any rate, the result is highly satisfactory, especially when it is remembered that we are regularly paying off our debt to America, notwithstanding that our Allies are not paying their debts to us, which debts were practically the sole cause of our being compelled to borrow from the United States. Much of Great Britain's financial solidity to-day is due to the sound principle followed during the war, of never raising a new loan without imposing taxation to cover it. But there also are reasons for hoping that trade conditions are to some extent beginning to revive.

Critics of China

The report of the American Chamber of Commerce which we publish to-day, long as it is, should, and we trust will, be read by all who are interested in the welfare of China, whether they be of American or other nationality. The attitude that the Chamber takes is particularly welcome. To speak quite frankly, there is a very general impression that American feeling is prone to be "sloppy" where China is concerned. The asseverations of the Young China revolutionists of 1911 that henceforward China would take the American Republic for its model, their loud claims of brotherhood, the oily half-truths of Chinese spokesmen abroad, and, it must be added, the thoughtless enthusiasm of some of the missionary body for the new *régime*, did an immense amount of harm in America among the warm-hearted folk, who naturally responded to the implied compliments of Young China, without pausing to reflect, indeed without any knowledge which might lead them to reflect, that Young China's aspirations might be as unrealizable as they were foreign to Chinese nature. The importance of the Chamber's report lies in its showing that, not only American businessmen in China taught by bitter experience, but also the State Department has begun to realize that republicanism in China means nothing but the breakdown of all authority, disruption, violation of treaties, insecurity of life and property, impossibility of trade. Towards China as a whole American policy has not changed its traditional sympathy. But China as a whole has virtually ceased to exist, at least it cannot be got at, nor can any concession to, or pressure upon Peking affect it in any way. The letter from Mr. Hughes, quoted in the report, is specially valuable in this respect. As we have said in these columns many times, China is not one but twenty different kingdoms: each one, though perhaps momentarily attached to another in some transient phase of internal political intrigue, claims for itself complete independence, ignores every treaty stipulation and is in no respect whatever amenable to either threats, cajoleries or pleadings from Peking. It is a mistake to suppose that any of these little autocracies cares twopence about the concessions promised by the Washington Conference. Indeed they prefer to be without them, finding that there is much more to be made out of things as they are. This is the phenomenon with which the Powers are confronted, the worse that they have been repeatedly warned of the trend of events and have persistently refused to take heed. Now at last they appear to be awakening to the truly terrible state of affairs, when, we will not say it is too late, but when the problem is infinitely harder to tackle than it would have been if resolutely faced two or three years ago, or even if the advantage had been taken of the Lincheng outrage that might have been. Nobody asks for foreign intervention in China. By all means let the Chinese work out their own political salvation as they please. But while they are doing so, let the foreign Powers insist unyieldingly on strict observance of treaty rights. No Chinese whose opinion is worth heeding will gainsay them: indeed, he will be glad, because his own business is equally concerned in these rights and stands or falls with them. We are glad to see that the American gunboats on the Yangtze are to be strengthened.

The Munich Trial

Nobody could reasonably have expected anything but an acquittal for General Ludendorff and a nominal sentence for his fellow accused at the treason trial at Munich. It was at the end of October last or the beginning of November that the movement with which Ludendorff and his fellow conspirators were concerned took place, but it was at once overshadowed by the separatist plot in the Rhineland and so interest in it vanished until the recent trial started. The Munich plot was more or less directed against Berlin and was aimed at the government of the Socialist Party. Ludendorff hoped to establish once more an imperialistic *régime*, and the time being as yet unripe, he made a hopeless mess of it. That being so, it may be queried whether he will ever again be in the forefront of German affairs. There are no two questions of his ability as a soldier. When under Hindenburg he assumed command in France he knew that he was in a bad strategical position, and his great push of March, 1918, was a daring effort to snatch victory in spite of it. It has been admitted by some of the highest authorities that it very nearly came off. But Ludendorff is not now in his prime, and even his German admirers feel that any outstanding enterprise is no longer within his powers, that it must be left to a younger man. His actions to-day are no longer those of the man who controlled millions with wonderful facility, but savour of the breakdown which his nerves suffered on August 8, 1918, when Haig struck the first of his hammer blows. His confidence then gave way, and it may well be that Haig spoilt him for all time.

To the North Pole by Air

Arrangements are progressing fast in connexion with Captain Amundsen's attempt to cross the North Pole by aeroplane, from Spitzbergen to Alaska, and Captain Hammer, who will accompany him, has arrived in England to complete the final preparations. According to later information the American Government is to be represested at the flight, but whether this will have any bearing on the problem as to which country is entitled to the territory around the Pole—Canada or the United States—our information does not state. Each 'plane is supplied with wireless receiving and transmitting apparatus, with a range of from 400 to 500 miles and after being tested over the lakes of Switzerland they will, some time during April, be taken to Rotterdam and shipped to Green Harbour, Spitzbergen. A 500-ton wooden steamer, especially constructed to resist ice pressure, will accompany the expedition is support as far as possible, and will be used as a base. The whole project is intensely fascinating in that it opens up vast possibilities of communication, and may add to the scanty information we possess of the Polar regions. Before the real start is made the machines will reconnoitre the first portion of the distance with the object of estimating difficulties likely to be encountered. After this they will load up with petrol and then fly northward, seeking a landing place as near the Pole as possible. Here, Amundsen intends establishing a base from which he hopes to wireless his safe arrival. The machines will then set off for Alaska. Perhaps when the journey has been completed the problem of the disputed territory will be finally settled.

News has been received in Shanghai of the proposed flight of a French airman from France to Japan. The officer in question is Lieut. Pelletier d'Oisy, and it is learned that he intends landing at Canton, Foochow, Shanghai and Peking. His machine is a 370 H. P. Lorraine Dietrich Breguet.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

FINANCE AND OPIUM IN CANTON

The Drug Monopoly to Support the Troops: Salutary Action by British Gunboat

Canton, Mar. 15.

By special order of the Department of Finance the export of Canton subsidiary coinage (20 cent pieces) above the amount of $50 will be subject to a tax of 1½ per cent. in the form of permit fees, besides a $1 stamp fee for every permit issued. Anyone contravening this order will be subject to heavy fines and the money will be confiscated. The order will be effective from March 22. In addition to this order the Department of Finance is considering the issue of stamped papers, which all native banks must use for their written transactions.

The Government Anti-Opium Bureau has claimed the monopoly of the preparation and sale of opium in Kuangtung. In Canton the drug is being sold at $5.50 to $11 an ounce, and importers of the drug are taxed 50 cents an ounce. Dr. Sun's mercenary army depends much on the sale of opium for its support, and its demands for money are endless. If they are refused, they hold the officials of the Opium Bureau responsible. Recently Mr. Wong Sze-keung, the head of the General Affairs Department of the Bureau, was held by one of the commanders in his headquarters as a prisoner until a satisfactory guarantee was given for the delivery of $50,000, which the troops were demanding from the Bureau. Mr. Wong resigned his post two days ago.

Mr. Julean Arnold, the Commercial Attaché of the American Legation at Peking, is visiting Canton. In addition to making inquiries into trade conditions, Mr. Arnold takes particular interest in the Canton Merchants' Volunteer Corps, an organization of merchants for local self-defence. Mr. Arnold has already several times visited Mr. Chan Lim-pak, a former President of the General Chamber of Commerce and present Commandant of the Corps.

Practically all the vacant buildings in Canton are now occupied by the mercenary troops. Owing to the constant threat to the safety of the inhabitants through the presence of these troops, Dr. Sun Yat-sen has ordered them to leave for the front within the next fortnight.

BRITISH SHIPPING ASSAILED.

Some Hunanese soldiers this afternoon attempted to commandeer a launch belonging to the Horgkong & South China Launch Co., which was moored at the Ching Hoi Maloo Wharf, but marines from the British river gunboat Tarantula interfered, arresting six of the soldiers. These men were only released on the request of their commander after he had tendered an apology. In order to protect British shipping interests, British gunboats have several times lately been compelled to take action without reference to the Chinese authorities in Canton waters.

General Hsu Chung-chi, who was at one time one of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's most loyal commanders, has failed to arrive in Canton from Shanghai as expected. General Hsu's corps, while greatly reduced since its defeat on the eastern front last November, is still in existence and is being sent to the south-western front.

NO MONEY, NO FIGHT.

According to a new division of spheres of influence, the Hunanese will occupy the East River districts and the Yunnanese the North River while the Cantonese and Kwangsi-ites will defend the West River. So far there is no new development in the military situation, both Dr. Sun and General Chen Chiung-ming having failed to obtain the financial support expected from their friends. Neither army shows any intention to fight unless it is first assured of money and plenty of it, too.

In addition to the several units of non-Cantonese troops in Canton, Dr. Sun has recently commissioned more corps commanders to recruit for a northern expedition against Peking.

BOLSHEVISM FAILS.

Supporters of Bolshevism have so far failed to influence the more reasonable leaders of the Kuomintang in Canton to include its political and economic principles in the recently adopted Kuomintang programme. For a time it was feared by the Cantonese that Bolshevism would be adopted here. While it is true that the Chinese Bolsheviks have made an effort to dominate the present *régime*, no formal action has been taken by the local authorities one way or the other, and there is good reason to believe that Dr. Sun Yat-sen will not sanction the introduction of this policy into Canton at present.

Dr. C. C. Wu, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Quo Tai-chi, Assistant Secretary, are now visiting Mukden and Tientsin on behalf of their chief on a political mission, but it appears that up to the present their negotiations have not proved satisfactory.

A PRESIDENT NOT YET.

The talk of reorganizing the present General Headquarters and making Dr. Sun "President of the Consolidated Government of China" has been dropped for the time being.

General Shen Hung-ying, the Kuangsi commander, has again come back to Dr. Sun on condition that he is appointed Commander-in-Chief in Kuangsi. Whether he will get this post is not yet certain, but there is no doubt that he is after something more substantial and valuable than the mere commission and rank.

Owing to the heavy taxation and the presence of bandit-troops along the waterways, the cost of living is still soaring in Kuangtung. Rice and fire-wood are selling at figures unheard-of in the past. Poor grade rice commands a price of $7.50 per picul and fire-wood $2.50 per picul.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Excessive Taxation Defeating Its Own Purpose

From Our Own Correspondent.

Canton, March 24.

There has been no improvement in the situation in the City during the last few weeks. There is an attempt being made to enforce discipline amongst the Hunanese troops, who are now practically the only troops in the City, and there have been many executions of miltary offenders. Last week there were two men executed on the East Parade Ground for desertion. They were first shot and afterwards had their heads cut off. A few days later another execution took place at which the criminals' heads were cut off. On this occasion the first one's head came off at the first blow of the executioner's sword, but the second one had to be hacked off as the first blow was not successful.

Strenuous attempts are being made by Gen. T'an Yin-hoi of the Hunan forces to get the finances centralized, so that all troops shall have their share of the gambling receipts. He wishes to have all the money collected remitted to the Military Expenditure Bureau for distribution so that it shall not fall into the hands of individual military commanders.

KILLING THE GOLDEN GOOSE.

The difficulty experienced by the Government in raising funds is shown by the new taxes now being put on, such as the tax on mineral waters and the luxury tax on toilet articles etc. The result is that the cost of living in Canton is going up considerably. It would appear that many of the new taxes do not bring in as much as expected, as the consumption of the taxed articles goes down and the tax fails to attain its object. For example the restaurant tax brings in very little as, owing to the unrest, people do not dare to go to the restaurants as they used to, and for the same cause the brothel tax, which is collected by one body of troops to provide their expenses, is falling off to such an extent that the commander of the troops in question is making special efforts to induce people to become reassured, by despatching troops to the quarters concerned to prevent the disorders that deter the people from going out.

The arbitrary collection of taxes by the troops is being strenuously opposed by the Government, and last week some Yunnanese troops who began to collect a tax from the boat people on the river were arrested and punished by the Generalissimo's Headquarters.

Efforts are also being made to deal with the pirates in some of the worst places and last Thursday a force under Gen. Li Fuk-lam attacked a lair near Whampoa, and after encountering a slight resistance they captured about 40 pirates and set at liberty 23 persons who were being held captive. The pirates matshed stronghold was then burnt down.

THE RUMOUR OF BOLSHEVISM.

There have been persistent rumours that operations in the East River District were about to commence, and several conferences have been held at Headquarters to discuss plans but so far no serious fighting has taken place. It is expected, however that operations will start shortly.

Owing to the persistent rumours that Bolshevism was going to be tried by the authorities here an official denial of the Government's intention to do anything of the sort was published, and at the same time it was stated that persons spreading such rumours would in future be severely dealt with.

On Saturday night last in the Canton Club Theatre a very successful performance of the well-known farce "A Little Bit of Fluff" was given. There was a very large and appreciative audience, and the Members of the Canton Amateur Theatrical Society who took part in the production are to be heartily congratulated on a very successful show.

Further Fighting in Kuangtung

Canton, Mar. 29.

The native banks intend to suspend business on March 31 as a protest against the recent Government order requiring the use of stamped paper for all transactions.

Fighting has been resumed between Gen. Chen Chiung-ming and Dr. Sun Yat-sen on the East River. Dr. Sun Yat-sen's troops claim a success.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

KIANGSI IN FEAR OF INVASION

The Expedition from Kuangtung: Rumours from Fukien: The Market Depressed

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kanchow, Ki., Mar. 20, 1924.

Northern soldiers have, for some time been vacating the district. Persistent rumours have been current that Fukien has designs upon Kiangsi, and troops from this district are being withdrawn to meet the emergency. The road now seems fairly open for Kuangtung to march upon this district without opposition, if they feel inclined. The money market has been greatly agitated. Kiangsi notes are dependent, for their stability, upon the tenure of office of the present Tuli, and the Fukien rumours have caused a big slump in these notes. Holders are disposing of them as rapidly as possible, and taking Bank of China notes in exchange.

The weather, after two months of cloud and rain, has at length cleared up.

The city is tranquil, and the movement of troops is not causing any great stir. Great inconvenience to traffic and trade is still caused by the sealing up of small craft by the military.

HUPEH TUCHUN'S BIRTHDAY GIFTS

$150,000 Spent in Entertainment: Lavish Presents of Gold, Silver and Jewels

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, March 29.

The birthday celebrations of Governor Hsiao Yao-nan passed off with great éclat and splendour. It is said that over $150,000 were spent in entertainment, and that more than 10,000 guests partook of the Governor's hospitality. Each guest brought away with him a silver medal as a memento of the occasion. Among the magnificent presents made to the Governor were a set of the "Eight Immortals" carved out of a kind of precious stone known as "Yu fan," which is said to be found only in Shantung Province, in the State of Lu where Confucius was born. Other sets of the "Eight Immortals" were given in gold and silver, and more than 1,000 congratulatory scrolls were presented. A large amount of money and food was sent to the various Hankow charitable institutions to be distributed among the poor. An umbrella with 10,000 names inscribed on it came from the barracks; and the schools presented the Governor with a portrait of himself embroidered in silk.

THE TWENTY-ONE DEMANDS.

The local branch of the "People's Foreign Relations Society" met in Hankow yesterday. It was decided that a petition shall be sent to the President of the Republic urging the withdrawal of the Twenty-One Demands, and the restitution by Japan to China of Lü Ta, as promised, by March 26. On April 1 processions are to be held in all the streets of Wuchang, Hankow, and Hanyang in order to demonstrate against foreign aggression. This is not merely a students' movement, but is shared with merchants, working-men and all classes.

NATIONAL ATHLETICS.

Preparations are already being made for the National Athletics meeting, which is to be held next May on the public sports' ground in Wuchang. It is said that over 1,000 scouts from the various local schools will patrol the field. Arrangements are being made by the Chin Wu Athletics Club for displays of Chinese boxing to be given, in some of which 500 performers will take part simultaneously.

FEMININE DARING.

Some of the leaders of the feminist movement are evidently letting their enthusiasm carry them to lengths which have disgusted the authorities; for a strict order has recently been issued in Wuchang, that girls who attend the government schools are not to cut their hair short, nor to wear long gowns like men.

RIDDING CHINKIANG OF ITS BEGGARS

Rounded up and Made to Work: Police Commissioner Who Knows His Job

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chinkiang, April 2.

Some improvements that have recently taken place in our city that we might mention are given in the order of their importance:

First, by order of the government the beggars of all descriptions have been gathered into an old temple on Liangpeng *san*. In this nice position above the city they can enjoy the beautiful scenery and have an abundance of fresh air, and food to eat, and the unqualified association of each other. Perhaps the only privation they are called upon to undergo is the change from their former public begging to quiet obscurity, where they pass the days in some sort of useful occupation for those who are able to work, while those who are not are fed and looked after and in a measure supported by their stronger fellows. While the scheme may be said to still be in the experimental stage, I do not think the public will allow it to fail for lack of support.

Our new Police Commissioner Liu seems to be rather of the progressive order and more public-spirited that some who have held the office before him. One of the most noticable improvements is the increasing efficiency of the local fire department. In the old days there could never be a fire close enough to the fire station for the brigade to get there in time, now there are fire stations in the different parts of the city, and fairly well equipped.

The funeral of Miss Clough of the C. I. M. in Yangchow, was held in Chinkiang to-day, under the direction of Rev. Mr. Orr of Yangchow and Mr. Hoste of the C. I. M.

MANCHURIAN RAILWAY PROBLEMS

Japanese Company's Relations with Chinese Eastern and Ussuri Railways

Harbin, Mar. 25.

Baron K. Okura, Director of the South Manchuria, Railway who is now visiting Harbin, in an interview with a representative of the "Harbin Daily News," stated that one of the most important problems facing the South Manchuria Railway was that of its relations with the Chinese Eastern and Ussuri Railways, the status of which had been altered since the original agreement between the two railways had been consummated. At that time the Chinese Eastern Railway was under control of the Ussuri Railway. Later, however, the Ussuri Railway had been made independent of the Chinese Eastern and the result was that the South Manchuria Railway had been placed at an unfair disadvantage, for the latter continued to be tied up by the agreement for the whole of the freight business between Changchun and Dairen, while the Chinese Eastern was now bound only with respect to the traffic between Harbin and Pogranichinaia, instead of that between Harbin and Vladivostok, as originally stipulated. While the arrangement was an unfavourable one for the Japanese railway, the directors of the latter felt that good faith demanded that the agreement with the Chinese Eastern be kept, in spite of the fact that the Chinese Eastern was no longer in a position to fulfil completely the terms of the agreement as originally drawn up, so long as that railway remained in the present hands.

Should, however, a change be made in respect to those controlling the Russian railway, and that railway be taken over by the Soviet authorities, the existing agreement between the Chinese Eastern and the South Manchuria Railways would be, on that same day, automatically rendered null and void, and the South Manchuria Railway would be forced to negotiate with the new interests for the purpose of arranging a new agreement. These negotiations would necessarily be carried on between the South Manchuria Railway on the one hand, and, on the other hand, the Chinese Eastern and Ussuri Railways as a whole, or in other words the interests controlling the whole railway line between Harbin and Vladivostok.

FULL UNDERSTANDING NEEDED.

Baron Okura reiterated that such an agreement could not be made with the Chinese Eastern Railway alone. While there might be troubles between the various countries, he said, there must always be good relations between the railways, which should stand together and never compete. The communications were public services, for the benefit of the people as a whole, and political considerations should not be permitted to interfere with them. The only change in the general situation that might take place could be brought about solely when an agreement between the Chinese and the Reds came about. Until that time, said the Baron, there would be peace and quiet. Should such an agreement, however, be made, the South Manchuria Railway might be forced to have recourse to competition, unless full understanding between these two concerns was definitely reached.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

HOSPITAL LOOTED IN SZECHUAN

Enemy Soldiers' Revenge: Trial of Murderers of Missionaries

From Our Own Correspondent.

Mienchow, Sze., Mar. 11.

At Tungchuan on January 28 the men's hospital of the Friends' Foreign Mission was looted. The cause was that a great enemy of the 21st Division, a Colonel Dai of the 1st, was there mortally wounded. His enemies in revenge looted all the wounded soldiers, and also stole about $100 worth of goods from the hospital stores, besides an even larger amount from the house of the nurses. This is late news; but lends probability to the report that the C. M. S. Hospital at Mienchow has also been looted just recently. The report is from Chinese sources; and we hope it is not true, but it is well known that Chinese reports have a way of turning out only too reliable, especially if it is bad news. This is not said in a pessimistic mood: soldiers have generally kept clear of hospitals, seeming to realize their indebtedness to them, and it is a regrettable indication that things seem to be getting worse instead of better.

On the other hand there is probably another reason why trouble should arise at Mienchow. That city is the place from which all the proceedings in connexion with the trial of the murderers of the two missionaries, Messrs. Watt and Whiteside have emanated. H. M. Consul-General has been very thorough in his determination to sift the matter through, and the missionaries at Mienchow have given him substantial help. This is well known to the wrongdoers, who are members of a large society in which soldiers and brigands, and even city magistrates, all seem mixed up together. One man has been removed from office on account of his determination to find out nothing; and that not on the initiation of higher Government authority. The Consul-General has a very delicate and anxious piece of work in seeking to get justice, and at the same time avoid stirring up bad feeling. There is a sort of *imperium in imperio* which makes it desirable that robber chiefs should be placated in their own particular spheres of influence. It is often much safer to get the permission of such a gentleman to travel rather than bother the local mandarin.

There is a greater degree of quietness about at the present time than we have had for some months. This does not mean that life is always untroubled. For instance, a schoolboy was escorting a sick companion to his home the other day. The sick one was riding a *huager* (chairs cannot be got), when they fell in with some soldiers. The soldiers confiscated the conveyance in the interests of the public welfare. The planks of the city bridge are removed every night to keep away night bandits.

THE APPEAL TO DEMOS

A Chinese Orator on Popular Education

From a Correspondent.

Kiukiang, Mar. 28.

On the 25th instant a big parade was held in Kiukiang to gain support for the popular education movement, the demonstration being arranged by the newly organized Popular Education Association. The parade was joined in by the whole student body of the city, from the lower primary schools to the William Nast College, and General Wu, the Defence Commissioner, sent his band to head the procession. At various points *en route*, students and teachers addressed the people, advocating free education for all.

The following translation of a student's speech is given for the light it throws upon the native view of education and its relation to present day social problems:—

"Well, friends, do you know what we are doing here? Are we here for the national humiliation? No. For the Labour Day? No. What we are here for is on behalf of the popular education movement which may concisely be defined as the getting rid of so-called aristocratic education and substituting therefor the education of 400 millions of people, rich and poor, giving all an equal chance of obtaining the benefits of education. That is 'popular education,' and that is what we are here for.

"Friends, do you not all see that the wealthy are able to send their sons and daughters to high schools and colleges, and send them also abroad where they may obtain the degress of B.A., M.A., Ph. D., and the like, while you poor fellows have, through poverty, fail and remain in the deep mire of ignorance! You are ignorant and illiterate not because of natural inferiority but because of our traditional system of society which has allowed you to fall into such a pitiful condition.

"Our conscience and sense of humanity encourage us to begin this movement with the genuine purpose of helping you to get education, and it is hoped that, when your eyes and minds have been opened you will then proceed to think how best you may rid yourselves of burdens and inhuman treatment you now unconsciously but reluctantly bear. Poor fellows! Rise, Rise, Rise!"

THE CIVIL WAR IN SZECHUAN

Military Conference Again Postponed: The Idea of Independence

From Our Own Correspondent.

Changsha Mar. 26, 1924.

The much talked of "Military Conference" is still postponed At first the reasons for postponement were the non-arrival of certain important Generals. Their arrival, however, has been of no help in any actual formal meeting to discuss the messages which have been received from Wu Pei-fu asking for the abolition of the status of independence and the Constitution. Of course, all the Generals here have met and have discussed their attitude again and again; but always informally; and the answer is not one which they wish to formulate in words and forward to Loyang. Gen. Ma Chi left the city last Friday, and immediate rumours went round to hint that his life was in danger. Gen. Mei arrived on Tuesday, on the Japanese boat.

Although there is no official information as to the thoughts of the military men, it is generally believed that they are very reluctant to abandon their ideas of independence. Gen. Tang is said to be even more opposed that Gen. Yeh, though both agree that Gen. Chao, having led them all to fight T'an Yen-k'ai on behalf of the Constitution, cannot abandon it at the bidding of Wu Pei-fu. What would there be to say to all their fellow-provincials who would at once ask why they fought?

We have had a long spell of wet and cloudy weather. For the last few days, the return of sunshine has been most welcome.

We are just losing Mr. and Mrs. Lowndes, of the A. P. C., whose stay in Changsha has been marked by abounding hospitality. We welcome back to the port Mr. and Mrs. Drysdale, whose interest in Changsha is assured from the fact that it was here they were married. There are other changes in the personnel of the port, including the Japanese Consul, the Harbour Master, and the staffs of the B. A. T. and B. & S.

FUNERAL OF PRINCE KWACHO

Tokio, Mar. 31.

The funeral of Prince Kwacho took place to-day in the presence of Imperial Princes, Members of the Cabinet, officials and members of the Diplomatic Corps.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Marshal Wu Pei-fu will celebrate his 50th birthday on April 10.

A GREAT RELIGIOUS FESTIVAL

Kiangsu and Chekiang On the Eve of a Remarkable Ceremony

From Our Own Correspondent.

Soochow, April 1.

On Friday, April 4, there will begin the great Shuang Yang Hui (雙陽會) and it will run for about 15 days. This Shuang (雙—double, a twin) is sometimes written Sang (桑 mulberry). This great "Hui" is held only once in every 10 years. It is purely local, and is held in five large towns in the extreme southwestern corner of Kiangsu, where Kiangsu seems to cut into Chêkiang at the southeast corner of the West Lake. The worship is carried on for three days in each of these five towns. The Shuang Yang Temple is situated between Pingmong (30 miles south of Soochow) and Chinyah, on the main canal to Huchow. The Suang Yang idol receives little notice for nine years, then in the 10th year he has the spotlight turned on. He is about human size, and during this "hui" is taken from his temple and carried by boat to these five towns, in turn, to receive his due of homage and worship. Some claim that he is the local God of Agriculture, and some claim for his "sphere of influence" the mulberry tree and the silk worm. This southern part of Kiangsu is the chief silk raising district. Many of the boats taking part in this "hui" have a small model of a water wheel (for water pumping) placed on the forward deck. Some claim that this is a part of the worship, but some say that it is merely an old custom.

MASSED HUM'NITY.

Thousands of people from southern Kiangsu and northern Chêkiang will attend this festival, and the canals will absolutely be jammed with boats of all sizes and all types. It will be something like Columbia River when the "run" of the salmon is at its height. If for no other reason than as a view of Chinese *humanity en masse*, this "hui" is worth seeing. There have been many conflicting reports that this festival would, and would not be held. The District Magistrate at Wukiang, and many of the leading men in these five towns were against holding this "hui," but the people as a whole were for it, and the people seem to have prevailed. Ten years ago, this "hui" was not very greatly attended, because at that time the "Republic" (?) had just been established, and idolatry was greatly discredited; but this year the festival promises to be the greatest in the history of the Shuang Yang, which runs back at least a score of centuries. Most of the Soochow houseboats are already taken, and are commanding four to five times the usual price for hire; some of the Soochow pleasure boats will charge from $20 to $30 per day during the "hui."

JAPAN'S INTELLECTUALS

Widespread Unemployment

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, March 27.

There are more unemployed "black-coats" in Japan to-day than there have ever been in the modern development of this Island Empire of the Far East, the large number of intellectuals in need of jobs being one of the direct results of the depression of business and the destruction of firms and factories that followed the September cataclysm.

With the exception of physicians, lawyers and technical experts, the remuneration intellectual workers, as a class, get is very small, often smaller than that of a skilled worker, with the result that the financial position of the unemployed intellectual workers has become precarious. This is all the more so because they have to maintain a social position of sorts and because, unlike manual labourers, they cannot readily and easily migrate to other portions of the country. The business prospects before Japan are not believed to be very roseate for some time to come, and this has plunged the unemployed intellegentsia deeper in the slough of despond.

As one means of relieving and ameliorating their position a movement has been started for forming a union of intellectual workers which, if consummated, will be the first systematic organization of intellectual workers to be formed in Japan, or for that matter, in the East.

The Press welcomes the organization of such a union and urges the authorities to give every possible assistance to those backing the movement and also to aid the venture financially, on the ground that, in the long run, unemployed intellectuals develop into the most fertile source of political and social unrest.

An orderly demonstration of unemployed intellectuals was held yesterday, a delegation from among them calling on the Premier and the Home Minister. Both officials received the delegation and pledged all reasonable aid that the Government could proffer.

JAPAN'S ARMY

Falling Off in Recruitment

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, March 27.

The Army as a career for the young men of Japan is rapidly losing the attractions it once possessed, and the military authorities are said to be much worried over the marked decrease in the number of young men eligible for conscription who have reported at the various Army depôts throughout the country. Figures compiled by recruiting officials show that there is a decrease of nearly 40,000 persons of military age in comparison whth normal years.

Opinions differ as to the cause of this decrease. Some put it down to the earthquake, but then, against this theory stands the fact that the large majority of those who perished in the seismic upheavals and disastrous conflagrations following the catastrophe of last September were women, old men and children. Further, the reduction of the number of those eligible to to conscription is greater in districts like Osaka and Kyoto, where no natural visitations came to afflict those regions, than in Tokio and Yokohama. Others believe that the conduct of the European war has been instrumental in weaning the young men of Japan away from studying the latest scientific methods of slaughter, while yet others put it all down to filthy lucre. These point out that a private's pay is only a few sen a month, ludicrously below that of the most ignorant coolie, with the result that when a person is in training, learning how to serve his Emperor and his country, he has to be subsidized by his relatives. This last reason—the absurd inelasticity of the pay envelope—is perhaps as good a reason as any of the others advanced as to why the young men of the country studiously avoid the life of a soldier.

Despite the decrease in the number of men of military age for conscription this year, the military authorities say that a more hopeful sign is that the physical condition of those examined is above the average of the last few years, due, without doubt, to the fact that young Japan is taking to outdoors sports with enthusiastic avidity. The military authorities declare that the quality they possesss this year more than makes up for the reduction in quantity.

With the object of popularizing the Army, an unprecedented innovation was recently made when boys and girls of primary schools and members of young men's and children's associations took part in military exercises staged by the Bodyguards' Division and the First Division of Tokio, two of the crackest regiments of the Imperial Japanese Army. The object, according to the military authorities, was to make the people see that the Army was theirs and did not belong to any particular clan or coterie.

In addition to sham battles there were aeronautics, parachute descents, calisthenics, demonstrations of first aid rendered on the field of battle in which little school children participated, war song singing, wrestling matches and games of hockey and rugby.

It was a fine display of military and athletic exercises and the school children present must have thoroughly enjoyed the spectacular sights.

WINTRY WEATHER IN ANHUI

Rain Necessary for Wheat Crop: Irregular Postal Service

From Our Own Correspondent.

Pochow, An., March 26.

Our spring weather has been very peculiar. March has averaged almost as cold as was January and also very dry. We have had very little rain since September and no snow at all. Unless we have rain soon the wheat crop will be very much cut short. People have all ploughing done for spring planting.

So far this spring it has been quite peaceful in all this county, but we hear frequently of slight disturbances in the Kueitehfu region. Not long ago the troops of Governor Ma stationed here became rather over free in making themselves familiar in and about our mission places, but my brother jerked off the number from one of them who was one day rather impudent to him in his own yard and turned it over to the *hsien* official; and the presiding military men soon sent around an apology and things have been much better since.

Our postal service has not been so regular and efficient recently, owing to the fact that the authorities seem to expect the autos to carry letter bags free as a public service, or practically without remuneration. There are four different companies operating from here to Kueitehfu railway station, and they agreed once each to carry it for a month at the time, but it did not work well and we have gone back to the foot carriers. Our former Mr. Wang was removed to another office not long ago and a Mr. To placed here. He has had 25 years in the post office work and seems very anxious to get a better system of getting the mails in and out. He talks something of getting an auto and running it mainly for the mails. Many here will be glad if this can be done.

There has been much sickness among the people—a rather peculiar cold or grip accompanied nearly always with bad throat trouble, but so far it has not been very fatal, though the after cough hangs on in an aggravating manner as the writer knows by experience.

OPIUM CULTIVATION.

We have now a most peculiar and unsatisfactory situation in the opium question. I was at Rungcheng, Honan, last week and saw many signs by the way that they were really destroying the plant in that region and every body said that it was so throughout the county, but within 18 *li* of this place before we struck Honan territory there is a great deal in every direction. I hear that the *hsien* official here has made several trips into the surrounding country market towns and "preached" to the people that it must be destroyed, but so far as I have yet heard in this county it is proving a preaching that leads not to repentance or action. It does seem an international pity and shame that there is no central authority in China to act for the nation in the removal of this awful curse from the people as was so effectively and almost perfectly done from 1906 to 1916. One sometimes longs for the iron hand of Yuan Shi-kai. I am sincerely hoping that the League of Nations may effect some international measures in the matter that will greatly aid China unless she becomes too arrogant to accept such aid and rushes on to national ruin and decay.

TRANS-SIBERIAN RY. REVIVAL

Approaching Restoration of Wagon-Lits Cars and Through Passage

From Our Own Correspondent.

Harbin, March 22.

The Soviet representative in Paris and the Administration of the Wagon-Lits Co. there have reached an agreement whereby the Company will run its cars on the railways of Soviet Russia. Mr. Withoff representing the Company has left Paris for Russia with a view to concluding a final agreement. Upon the signing of the agreement sleeping cars will be run on the Siberian railways affording uninterrupted communication between the Far East and Europe. Through tickets between the Orient and all parts of Western Europe will be obtainable as before the War. It is expected that the Soviet Government will return to the Company all the latter's property including 280 sleeping cars, numerous dining cars, supplies linen, etc., as well as the repair shops owned by the Company.

The chairman of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce Harbin has publicly refuted the recent rumours that have been circulated among the Russian population and which have been substantiated by the local Russian press to the effect that the Japanese have been buying up large supplies of provisions fodder and horses in the C.E.R. zone, and thus preparing for military operations on a large scale in Manchuria. This same authority points out that such purchases as are being made are made yearly by the Japanese military authorities of the Kuantung district for annual needs.

The mixed-train No. 5 on the eastern section of the C.E.R. was fired upon by Hunghutze between the stations Hailin and Mudatantze yesterday afternoon. Bullets broke some windows of the baggage-car as well as entering the bodies of other cars, but there were no casualities.

Mr. Goldman, a local lawyer, who was accused of having swindled a client of his, has been found guilty of the charge by the District Court and sentenced to two and a half years' imprisonment and deprived of the right of further practising his profession for a period of 10 years. The case has created great interest in Russian legal circles and the accused was defended by three of the principal Russian lawyers here. The result was unexpected by the legal fraternity who affirm that their colleague only committed a technical error. An appeal against the sentence has been lodged, Mr. Goldman being let out on bail.

KUANGTUNG CONSERVANCY

The Customs Funds: Inquiries From Canton: Will There Be Money to Carry on?

Mr. Yau Yui-ping, Director of the Board of Conservancy Works of Kuangtung, went to see the foreign consuls in Shameen on March 21 to discuss the matter of turning Canton's share of the Customs surplus, or a portion of it, to the Board of Conservancy in this province, says the "Canton Gazette." The director declared that owing to the financial stringency of the local Government, money is not obtainable for the Board. He had tried his utmost to make various improvements in the waterways of the province, but he found that there was not sufficient money to finance the scheme.

Mr. Yau also pointed out that it is wiser to spend the Customs surplus in this important work than for any other purpose, as it will be most beneficial to the lives and properties of the people of the province.

CONSERVANCY IN THE EAST RIVER.

The Engineer-in-Chief of the Conservancy Board, Major Olivecrona, has just returned from an inspection trip up the East River. Interviewed by a representative of the "Canton Gazette," Major Olivecrona made the following statement:

"The conditions in the East River district are deporable. Last summer's violent floods have badly damaged the dykes, and, if the broken parts are not repaired, the population in this district will have to face serious inundations early this summer. Unfortunately, the Board have no funds, left to appropriate to repair work, and unless the peasants themselves take the matter in their own hands, no work will be done this season. It is, however, doubtful if anything can be done even if money were forthcoming, as, on account of the military operations, the villages are more or less deserted, and their leading men absent. The village administration, in ordinary times upheld by the gentries, is disorganized, and it is thus difficult to bring about a joint effort amongst the villagers to complete any work. Besides, the season is advanced and only a narrow limit of time is left before the river rises.

"The Board is, as I have already stated, sadly lacking in heart. I acknowledge the inability of the Board to effectively assist and relieve the suffering population. The warfare carried on in this part of the province, having raged nearly uninterrupted during the dry season, has prevented the Board's engineers from carrying out necessary maintenance of the already reconstructed dykes, on account of which also these will be more or less deteriorated in the rainy season to come.

"The plight of the population, already suffering bitterly from the political unrest, will, when floods and famine set's in, be almost unbearable. Generally speaking, the whole situation is extremely serious, and the feeling of inability to render any assistance is most disheartening."

OPIUM TRAFFIC ON UPPER YANGTZE

Military Steamer Held Up and Sent Back: Sixty Tons of Opium on Board

Ichang, Mar. 24.

The military steamer Kiahtsi, formerly the Ankong, has been lying here for some little time. It appears that she arrived here with a full load of opium, probably about 60 tons. It is thought that one of the Generals in Szechuan was sending down this consignment to purchase a supply of arms and ammunition from the Hanyang Arsenal. When the steamer arrived here, she was seized and held by the Commander in-Chief of the Upper Yangtze, Gen. Wang, so there must have been some difficulty about the ship and her cargo. All the while she was lying here, Gen. Wang had a guard on board, but the vessel still flew the military flag. It is to be assumed that arrangements have now been made between the factions, for the Kiahtsi has now gone down river to Wuchang or Hankow.

A DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

There was a disastrous fire here on March 18. Some soldiers were out flying a big centipede kite with some fire-crackers attached to its tail. Some of the exploding crackers fell on the thatch of some mat huts and over 100 of them were destroyed before the fire burnt itself out. As the fire happened at about four o'clock in the afternoon, many of the occupants were away at their work and only came home to find that their houses and all their belongings had been destroyed. Fortunately for them the weather is now milder and it will not be long before more of the huts can be built.

Some of the Upper Yangtze steamers have now transferred to the Italian flag. They are the Pakiang, Yungkiang and Shuho.

The river remains low for this time of the year. It was 0.5 ft. when the Chiping (later reported by telegram on the rocks at the Kungling Rapid) left the other morning. It rose a couple of inches and the watermark for to-day is 0.4 ft.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPAN RISING FROM THE SEA

A Result of the Earthquake and Experience of Other Generations

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Mar. 27.

Although eminent seismologists, both Japanese and foreign, had discounted the supposition that the recent terrible earthquake was the result of volcanic disturbances, and that it was caused by a depression in the bed of the ocean, Dr. T. A. Jagger, the eminent American volcanologist, who for years has been studying volcanic phenomena from an observatory that he had specially built near the crater of Kilavea; in the Hawaiian Islands, declares that he is firmly of the opinion that the disturbances were of volcanic origin.

He also declares that Japan is rising from the sea and that the district embracing Tokio, Yokohama and the regions recently stricken is several feet higher than a generation ago.

Dr. Jagger believes that the entire eastern coast of Asia is rising and that within a short space of time, speaking in terms of the history of the world, the appearance of the surface of the globe will be entirely transformed.

"The Japan earthquake," according to him, "caused great changes in the surface of the earth in that vicinity. The extent of the changes is yet unknown, but from the investigations already made it is evident that far greater changes took place than is the case generally in similar disasters. Although the quakes centred about the cities of Yokohama and Tokio, the level of the ground has been changed for hundreds of miles in all directions, and it is possible that the east coast of China has also been affected."

The immediate site of Yokohama, it is known, sank several feet, but the solid rock underneath rose from seven to eight feet and this is believed to be the case throughout the entire district affected. Yokohama sank because the land there is soft. Geologists say that, approximately speaking, the east coast line of Japan is now several feet higher than it was a generation ago. The rumours that went out at the time of the disaster that this part of Japan is sinking have now been conclusively proved to be groundless. The opposite rather is the case; with each quake the land is rising.

The Recent Conflagration.

The biggest conflagration that has occurred in these regions since the unprecedented blazes that razed so much of Tokio to the ground following the earthquake of September 1 occurred yesterday and wiped out one of the northern suburbs of Tokio, known as Zoshigays. Nearly 3,000 persons were rendered homeless, 13 were injured and the damage is estimated as, at least, Yen 1,000,000. The extremely low water pressure and the narrow alleys that did duty for streets are chiefly responsible for the headway that the flames gained over the fire-fighters who responded promptly and efficiently. The blaze occurred early in the morning when a fair drizzle which had commenced the previous evening was still on driving the unfortunate victims out into the cold and wet.

Most of the ordinary fires of Japan can be traced to defective electric wiring, and when the fire brigades arrive in time and are unable to do anything worth while towards putting the flames out, this has been traced time and again to lack of water pressure and narrow streets in which the fire engines cannot operate. This has been the case for years, if not decades. None the less, defective wiring is still the order of the day, while there is not the slightest sign yet of any attempt to do away with the firetrap alleys and footpaths that do duty for streets in various parts of Tokio.

The Nanking authorities are reported to have issued an order to the effect that no Bolshevik meetings may be held in the province, nor must there be any memorial services for M. Lenin.

HSIUNG PING-CHI STANDING FOR CIVIL GOVERNORSHIP OF SHANTUNG

Ex-Tuchun Dismissed for Responsibility in Lincheng Outrage: His Appeal to President and Marshal Wu: The Murder of Mr. S. S. Keh

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, March 26.

A surprising report is now to hand to the effect that former Tuchun Tien Tsung-yui may replace Hsiung Ping-chi as Civil Governor of Shantung. He was "allowed to resign" as a result of pressure brought to bear upon the Peking Government by the Diplomatic Body on account of the Lincheng outrage. It is now reported that during the celebration of Marshal Tuan's birthday, General Tien solicited the assistance of Marshal Wu Pei-fu and President Tsao Kun in installing him as Civil Governor. The worthy general's idea seems to be that so long as he is not reinstated as Tuchun, the Diplomatic body will have no objection.

At the time of the Lincheng outrage the view was held that the poor protection given to the section of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway which runs through Shantung had made the bandit raid possible. Public opinion was very bitter over the maintenance of a large number of troops which were quite useless and gave protection to no-one, and it was felt that the laxity of the Tuchun's control over his troops, should be punished.

A memorial service was held on Sunday last in the Guild Hall in honour of the late Mr. S. S. Keh who was captured by bandits, held for ransom and eventually murdered. Mr. Keh was a district Locomotive Inspector in the employ of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway and through an intrigue between a sub-inspector and a band of cut-throats, he was kidnapped and held for ransom. Eventually, a compromise was reached between the Railway Administration and the bandits but through some bungling on the part of the people sent to deliver the ransom-money to the gang that held Mr. Keh, the latter murdered him and left his body at a spot near the Japanese cemetary at Tsinan.

The memorial service was held under the auspices of the Tsingtao American College Club, the Nanyang University Alumni Association, and the Locomotive Department of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway jointly. Mr. C. T. Sun, superintendent of the Locomotive Department was Chairman for the occasion, and gave a short account of the incidents leading up to the murder of Mr. Keh. The Managing-Director then outlined the Railway's efforts to secure compensation for the benefit of the widow and children and gave an account of the arrest of some of the kidnappers. Then Mr. Tong, a bosom friend of Mr. Keh, related the life history of the unfortunate man. Numerous messages of condolence were read, and several special representatives of prominent officials were present at the memorial service.

A resolution of the American College Club expressing its sympathy and condolence to Mrs. Keh and the children was read by Mr. James Giauque of the American Academy, Mr. Keh having been educated in America and was therefore a returned student.

It has now been decided to grant the family of the murdered Railway employee a lump sum compensation of $25,000 instead of the previous plan of a monthly allowance until the oldest son, who is at present six years old, attains his majority.

Treasury Sadly Depleted: The Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway Commission

Tsingtao, Mar. 28.

Mr. Kao En-hung, the new Director-General of the Kiaochou Territorial Government, will arrive here to-morrow evening. He will find himself faced with a difficult task in placing the territory on a sound financial foundation and re-establishing the credit of the administration. The treasury is said to be in a sadly depleted state and there does not seem to be any prospect of help from the provincial administration. Many of the officials have abandoned their posts, some without even the formality of a resignation. The latest departure is that of the head of the telephone department, who is alleged to have withdrawn from the treasury amounts far in excess of actual expenditure.

The arrival of the special commission, appointed by the Minister of Communications to investigate the affairs of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway, has been delayed by the illness of Mr. Griffith, one of the members. He is assistant manager of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway. It is expected that they will arrive now within a few days.

Memorial services were held on Sunday for Mr. Keh, the official of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway who was murdered by bandits. Nearly 1,000 persons were present at the Guild Hall, the majority being colleagues and fellow employees of the murdered man. Mrs. Keh and two of her children were also present. Mrs. Keh has received a cheque for $25,000 from the Railway in compensation for her loss. The Ministry of Communications decided on this form of payment instead of a monthly allowance as previously determined upon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Arrival of the New Director-General: Marshal Wu in Complete Control

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, Mar. 31.

Mr. Kao En-hung, the new Director-General of the Kiaochou Territorial Government, arrived here yesterday evening and was received at the railway station by Department officials, the British Consul, and the Japanese Consular representatives.

Marshal Wu Pei-fu's control of the territories is thought to be complete and it is forecast here that the dispute between the Chinese and Japanese as to the railway revenue will very shortly reach its full height.

FISH DEALERS' STRIKE IN TOKIO

Dispute Over Market Fees

Tokio, Mar. 31.

The inhabitants of Tokio are faced with three fishless days beginning from to-morrow, unless mediation removes the troubles between the Municipality and fish dealers. The fish dealers have declared a strike for three days owing to the fees which the Municipality demand for the use of premises in the new city fish market, established in Tsukiji instead of the historic market in Nihonbashi destroyed last September by fire. Unless satisfaction is granted the strike will be extended.

Yokohama dealers have declared a similar sympathetic "holiday."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, Apr. 3.

Through the intervention of the Mayor the fish-dealers' strike ended this morning when the market opened as usual.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

HUAI RIVER CONSERVANCY

Peking, Mar. 31.

Marshal Chi Hsieh-yuan, Inspector-General of the three Yangtze Provinces, has telegraphed to the Government urging it to lose no time in carrying out the necessary work on the Huai River Conservancy. A special meeting of the Cabinet will probably be called to discuss this matter.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEIYANG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ON STRIKE FOR "SELECTIVE" COURSES

Or the Right to Choose What They Would Learn

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, March 30.

Two hundred and ninety students of Peiyang University who struck recently, have been given until April 8, to return to their classes, failing which they will be struck off the rolls. To this ultimatum a portion of them have replied asking leave of absence until April 8.

As nearly as we have been able to gather the chronology and facts of the case between students and University authorities are as follow:

First of all the Peiyang University is a Technical school of Mining, Metallurgy and Civil Engineering, with a staff which includes 12 foreigners. It is independent of the Ministry of Education in Peking, being solely financed and conducted by the Chihli Provincial Government through the Chihli Commissioner of Education of Education. The Commissioner annually allocates for the University $225,000, which is expended, according to requirements by the Acting President of the University, Dr H.Y. Feng, a graduate of Yale. Among recent expenditure are a Chemistry Building costing about $65,000, and a Students' Dormitory costing $43,000, money being saved out of yearly grants to pay this.

NO ORGANIZATIONS.

About five years ago, when students thought more of politics than study and spent much time parading and lecturing to the detriment of their own learning and the standards of the University, came into prohibiting student organizations on penalty of dismissal. Matriculating students were required to pledge themselves not to join nor form organizations of any sort.

A few months ago the Ministry of Education promulgated the new system of education which permits "electives," or in other words, gives students the privilege of electing a stated number of subjects in order to make up their full complement of studies.

The Peiyang University, being a technical school with a very definite curriculum, declined to adopt the elective system and retained its rigid programme. It was decided by the Faculty that to permit students the privilege of electing studies would lower the standards of the school and oblige them to graduate students unfitted for their tasks. The school has, hitherto, maintained a high standard and its graduates are considered among the most capable in this country.

EASIER TASKS WANTED.

When the students, who were being dropped out of classes by the rigid curriculum, found the University would not introduce the elective system and thereby give them an easier course, they felt they were being badly treated. They considered the school should adopt the laws promulgated by the Ministry of Education. Their dissatisfaction grew to anger. Out of the 350 in the University, 290 held a meeting and decided to form an association to further their aims. The meeting appointed four students to carry its representations to the President, who, upon discovering that the students had broken their promise not to organize and also the school's rule against it, immediately dismissed them. President Feng then issued a proclamation reasserting the rule and had it posted on the notice board. It was torn down by a student.

The students then responded by striking and as the situation seemed to be getting into a violent state, the Civil Governor, at his own initiative, sent a detachment of troops to the University to maintain order. This move was taken by the students to mean military suppression of their just claims. A notice forbidding them to use the telephone was also similarly construed. A delegation of students then went to Peking to stir up an agitation in the Capital but their moves were closely watched by troops and upon the Civil Governor's authority they were forced to leave the capital and return to Tientsin. A certain amount of bitterness and rough handling was the outcome of this move, contributing in no small degree to the students' anger.

DR. FENG UPHELD BY STAFF.

In his stand for strict adherence to the customary standards of the University, the President has been solidly backed by the 12 foreign professors, all of whom, it may be stated, are men of excellent training and graduates of the best technical schools in the world. Their attitude on matters pertaining to the school is always sought and their advice acted upon by the President, who holds regular Faculty meetings.

The students claim that Dr Feng is incapable of controlling a technical school because he is a Doctor of Laws, and that he is frequently absent from duty. To this it is replied that Dr Feng, as a President, exercises executive functions only and relies upon the various technical members of the Faculty for advice upon matters coming under their departments. The students want an Engineering graduate for President, but inasmuch as there are three different and distinct branches of Engineering in the school, it would be impossible, even if advisable, to obtain a man with degrees in all three branches. Dr Feng is man of private means and obtains a very nominal salary for his services, Tls. 350. per mensem. In his absences secretary, who meets with the Faculty and permits the University to function normally.

STUDENTS EXCEPTIONAL BENEFITS.

Students pay an annual fee of $30, live in the dormitories free of charge and buy their own food. Servants are provided free of charge. Emphasizing the charitable nature of the school it is estimated that each student costs the Chihli Provincial Government $450, a year.

Between 35 and 50 students are graduated each year, out of a normal enrolment of 350.

The students' recent organization have showered libellous statements upon the local foreign and Chinese press, but have not so far succeeded in presenting a clean-cut statement of what they want, apart from the dismissal of Acting President Feng. The Chinese Press seems to take the students' side in the matter, but has not taken any steps to find out what actually is the trouble. In this connexion a Chinese newspaper-man went to the Acting President and said that if Dr Feng would give him $200 he would quash the Chinese press attacks. Dr Feng replied that he would not request it for two cents The foreign press has paid little attention to it.

Dr Feng has acted with great patience in the matter and although put to no end of embarrassment by the agitations is still willing to permit the students to return, providing they adhere to the rules of the school. His offer expires on April 8.

PEKING GRANT FOR EDUCATION IN SHANGHAI

Peking, Mar. 27.

To-day's Cabinet meeting decided upon the recommendation of the Ministries of Finance, Education and Communications that a sum of $35,000 be allocated to the Sino-French Technical Academy at Shanghai, this amount to be a charge upon the Inland Customs within an area of fifty li beyond the area under the Shanghai Maritime Customs district.

POLICE LESS LUCKY.

Marshal Wang Huai-ching called on President Tsao Kun yesterday in the interests of the police and the gendarmerie and requested that the Cabinet be instructed to pay the arrears of wages due the men in these services.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

STRANDED CHIPING

Passenger's Narrative of How She Struck A Rock in Upper Yangtze

A passenger who was aboard the str. Chiping when she struck the rocks in making the passage of the Upper Yangtze describes the incident in a letter which has just been received in Shanghai. Writing on March 22 he says:—

At daybreak yesterday morning we hauled up our mudhook and set gaily forth. At 8.50 a.m. I heard our siren hoot, and realized we were approaching the Kung Ling Fan, so I ambled out on deck to see how she took it. She didn't! The rapid is pretty bad just now, and there's only a very narrow channel on the left bank. We seemed to be going all right when suddenly the ship took a broad sheer to port, but I thought the pilot was running close up to the big rock in the centre of the river, before easing her into the channel. When we got to within about 20 feet of it, I realized something was wrong, and next second she gave a mild bump, followed by a much heavier one almost at once. There she hung for an appreciable time, slightly canted to port, and I hoped hard that she would slide off. If she had struck and had filled for'ard, she might have broken something, and even if we had been able to back off later, she would have been badly down by the head and difficult to navigate.

Fortunately the engines backed her off and then I knew it was just a matter of seamanship and finding a soft spot to beach her. Captain Fisher backed her slowly for maybe 600 or 700 yards, until the channel widened out a bit. He then turned her and jammed her hard into a soft shelving sandbank. He got out wires at once, and here we are, out of action, but as safe as houses. It was a fine bit of seamanship and I give the skipper full marks. He never batted an eyelid, but just stood waggling the telegraph until the ship was hard and fast ashore.

We at once started to jettison cargo, and the beach is strewn with umpteen bales of cotton yarn and boxes of tin plates. The forehold is full of water and they haven't been able to locate the damage yet, and I think No. 2 hold has water in it as well. The skipper and engineer have been working like Trojans, together with Captain Harris, who is to take the ship over later on, but we haven't got much forrarder yet, and I have my doubts they'll be able to do much without more assistance. The Chinese are a complete washout on occasions like this, and everything has to be thought out and more or less done by the three white men.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

Complimentary Tiffin to Gen. Connor, U. S. A.: Desire for a World's Peace

Peking, Mar. 28.

There was almost a record attendance at the Anglo-American Association tiffin to-day at the Grand Hotel des Wagons Lits. General Connor, commanding the American troops in Tientsin, was the guest of honour, and was introduced by the President, Sir Francis Aglen, in a few happy remarks in which he referred to the General's distinguished services in the Philippines and in France.

General Connor chose as the subject of his discourse "Peace." Peace, he said, was the most desirable thing in the world, and emphasized the importance of working for it. After sketching how primitive man had passed from extreme individualism to communal life, developing into the village, the seignory, the duchy, the small kingdom and the large empires of to-day, the speaker pointed out that progress was the outcome of communications, the spoken and, later, the written language, and went on to show that during years of human history man had made no signal advance upon these means of communication.

In the 20th century there were five epoch-making inventions in respect of communications, and he wondered if they might venture the hope that progress towards peace might be reckoned as having been proportionately accelerated by these discoveries. He agreed that a world language would contribute materially to world peace and called attention to the responsibility of the American and British people, in working for and securing world peace.

In conclusion, he remarked that it was said that charity began at home, but they should all remember that if any great reform was to be accomplished it would be by each individual working for it individually and collectively.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

STRIKE AT KOWLOON DOCKYARD

Housing Difficulty: Chinese Workmen's Protest Against Demolition of Dwellings

Hongkong, Mar. 31.

A practical demonstration of the housing difficulty was furnished at the Kowloon Dockyard this morning when over 2,000 Chinese workers from all departments laid down their tools as a result of the commencement of demolition of a block of about a dozen dwellings adjoining the dockyard, in which the engine-shop mechanics were housed, with a view to providing space for dockyard extension.

The workmen's attitude is considered unreasonable since the chief manager had promised an investigation into their grievance. The workmen demanded immediate alternative housing and walked out of the yard. The saw-mill is the only department still working.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TIENTSIN CROWN LEASES

Renewal Certain: Chairman's Statement at B. M. C. Annual Meeting

The annual general meeting of the electors of the British Municipal Area at Tientsin was held on March 19, H.M. Consul-General, Mr. W. P. Ker, C.M.G., presiding.

Regarding the question of renewal of the Crown leases, the Chairman, in his report, stated:

I reported to you at the last Annual General Meeting, that Mr. Kent had gone to London to represent and give our case in the matter of the renewal of the Crown leases.

It will suffice to say that Mr. Kent was successful in obtaining the re-opening of the whole issue.

Mr. Kent was also able to obtain the support of Sir John Jordan, the President of the China Association, who is still helping us in this matter. The whole case is reopened for the consideration of the Cabinet. It will now come before the Cabinet of a Labour Government, and I think we may look for the same sane treatment from that Government as from its predecessor, and we have good reason to hope that the question will be settled soon.

FILLING THE EXTRA-MURAL AREA.

The next matter is our agreement with the Hai Ho Conservancy Commission. The effect of our arrangement with them will be that the whole of the Extra-Mural Area will be completely filled in before the end of 1928 if the agreed rate of filling in is adhered to. We have good reason to believe that this agreed rate will be exceeded for this year, and also in future years. That means that by the end of 1928, or before, the area available for building will be nearly doubled. Roads, drains, light and water have all to be provided for that greatly increased area. That means that we shall have to borrow money. For the moment there cannot be any question of repaying the loans we have already made. The time for repayment will come later. There is no prospect of getting further land from the Chinese authorities.

MR. F. W. CAREY AND NINGPO

Urgent Requests to Peking by Chinese Businessmen That He Be Not Transferred

The transfer of Mr. F. W. Carey, Commissioner of Customs at Ningpo, to Swatow appears to have created a feeling of dismay among the mercantile community both here and at Nnigpo, judging by the messages and telegrams that have appeared in the Chinese Press, of which the following are translations.

From the Ningpo Association at Shanghai to the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce.

"We beg to state that Mr. F. W. Carey, the Commissioner of Customs at Ningpo, who is undisputedly an official of high efficiency as manifested in his four years' brilliant service, is now going to be transferred to Swatow. This intelligence brings an uneasy feeling to all Ningpo. We all agree that his assistance is needed badly to bring a greater Ningpo into being, and have therefore requested the Inspector General to consider retaining him at his post. With the same purpose and intention, we beg you to send a telegram on our behalf to the Inspector General expressing our wish for the retention of the Commissioner at Ningpo."

From the General Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai, to Sir Francis Aglen, Inspector General Chinese Maritime Customs, Peking. (March 19, 1924).

"Ningpo Merchants here came personally to this Chamber stating that Mr. Carey, Commissioner of Customs, Ningpo, is respected and liked by all in way he fulfilled his duties since coming Ningpo that they are much grieved on hearing report of his transfer to Swatow. They request this Chamber telegraph you Mr. Carey be not transferred. This Chamber hopes that you can see your way granting their request so as to correspond with public opinion. General Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai."

From the Ningpo Association, Shanghai, to Sir Francis Aglen, Inspector General Chinese Maritime Customs, Peking. (March 18, 1924).

"Local Press reports Mr. Carey, Commissioner Customs Ningpo to be transferred Swatow. Mr. Carey's past excellent records as Commissioner and his great service in connexion Chêkiang Famine Relief work last year have won for him gratitude and love of whole Ningpo. Ningpo merchants here therefore beg that Mr. Carey may be retained, as change of new man at this time of unrest may have undesirable results. Soliciting request may be granted awaiting early telegraphic reply Ningpo Association, Shanghai."

From the Ningpo Chamber of Commerce and the local Gentry to the Inspector General. (March 20, 1924).

"We have the honour to state that for the past four years since Mr. F. W. Carey, the Commissioner of Customs assumed his post, trade has incessantly made headway, and the municipality has improved by leaps and bounds. As a member of the Board of the International Relief Committee the services rendered by him in relieving distress in Chêkiang were such as are to be expected from a man of his outstanding ability. Moreover, the introduction of collecting duty on luggage at the steamer wharves has been of great convenience to the passengers. Such improvements, though not uncommon to other advanced ports, are rather inovations to Ningpo. Now it is said that Mr. Carey is going to be transferred to Swatow. The urgent need of a man of quality in this port impels us to request that he be retained in Ningpo."

Telegrams have also been sent by the Steam Launch Association of Ningpo, and the Ningpo Chamber of Commerce has appealed to the Premier, Mr. Sun Pao-ch'i, urging him to discuss the retention of the Commissioner of Customs of Ningpo with the Inspector-General.

The well-known river steamer Heungshan, which went aground in the Canton River on February 29, has been abandoned to underwriters, the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company having declared that salvage is impossible. The "Hongkong Telegraph understands that the steamer will be sold by auction very shortly, as she now lies at Larkin's Point (Kellett Reach), in the Blenheim Passage of the Canton River. The Heungshan has been on the Hongkong-Canton run for many years and was a most popular boat with the travelling public. She was built in 1890.

PRINCE MATSUKATA'S RETURN TO LIFE

A Marvellous Recovery: Flight of Spirit from Flesh: Nerve Stimulation: Value of "Katsu" Again Brought to Light

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Mar. 22.

The dramatic and semi-miraculous return to life staged by the octogenarian "Genro" (elder statesman), Prince Matsukata, who was believed even by physicians and those nearest his bedside to have definitely winged his way into an unknown life, has afforded me an opportunity of making an incursion into an almost unknown realm of medical science. Discussing the last-minute rallying of the aged Japanese statesman, a friend ventured to declare that the resuscitation was brought about through the application of *Katsu*. No evidence goes to uphold this supposition, but it furnished me with sufficient newspaper curiosity to find out what exactly did this mystic word *Katsu*, that can restore a man to life when to all appearances he is dead, signify.

Our field of investigation centred around Ryogoku, a section of Tokio famous for *jiu-jitsu* (Japanese science of self-defence) experts and *sumo* (Japan's national form of wrestling) men. After many potations of weak tea had been partaken of and many a cigarette's blue-black smoke blown in the air, enough material was gathered to find out that *Katsu* was mysterious only as far as its name was mystic; otherwise *Katsu* is an almost forgotten—it is to be hoped, not lost—branch of scientific medical knowledge.

WHEN DEATH IS NOT DEATH.

Adepts in the physical feats of *jiu-jitsu* and *sumo*, especially those who have reached that stage of perfection when they are awarded "belts" of merit, are credited with a knowledge of *Katsu*. These do not believe that there is such a thing as dying of shock, one of the fundamental necessities in Japan's ancient medical lore being that death does not set in until decomposition has actually occurred. The heart may stop functioning, but this is not regarded as conclusive proof that the spirit has fled from the flesh, for the medical men who bank on ancient teachings believe that the nerves continue to remain alive for some considerable time even after the heart has ceased beating and, by nerve stimulation, so *Katsu* experts aver, the heart can be induced to beat again.

Bluntly stated—in simple, yet truthful, language—this seems no less than bringing the "dead" (it is generally accepted, at least by the average layman, that those whose hearts have ceased to give signs of activity are no more) to life. The immense value of this closely guarded secret is apparent. The art is said to have been known and extensively practised two centuries before the Birth of Christ, but the extreme jealousy with which the secret has been guarded—a weak characteristic of all Asiatic peoples who would rather shield their discoveries in the realms of science and knowledge from others than give the benefit of the secrets they have wrested from Nature to the whole community—has all but killed it. For practical purposes, it is not supposed to be known anywhere except amongst some of the elect of *jiu-jitsu* and *sumo* circles.

NERVE STIMULATION THE SECRET.

Katsu, resolved into ordinary terms understandable by the layman, consists of a method of resuscitating the nerve centres in certain parts of the human body, and, by stimulating these nerves, bringing about a reaction of the heart which has temporarily ceased beating.

In the rough-and-tumble encounters that often feature a display of *jiu-jitsu* and *sumo*, it happens not infrequently that a person is thrown down with such force that he may be temporarily stunned. Often the stunning is different from that which ails the anaemic or the physically run-down. The force of the blow may also be so powerful as to cause cardiac action to stop temporarily—permanently, if suitable remedies are not immediately adopted. Here is where, it is claimed, *Katsu* scores. It is declared that one who knows this branch of ancient Japanese medical science, by applying pressure on the nerves of the pectoral arch where the thinness of the tissues leave the nerves most exposed, can revivify the apparently lifeless body. Two other centres which respond immediately to pressure applied immediately to the nerves of the pectoral arch are said to be the pneumogastric centre and the auditory nerve centre of the brain. Over and over again, according to persons who claim to have witnessed the operation of *Katsu*, after the action of the heart has stopped, this system of resuscitation has proved effective.

NO DEATH BY SHOCK.

The Japanese do not believe in death by shock and officers of the Army and Navy with whom I have talked about this science of *Katsu* also agreed that, in their departments of the nation's activities, such a thing as death by shock is not provided for. What really happens, a naval officer explained, is that there is stunning and what ultimately happens, in most cases, is that death comes about through a person being buried alive. He added that in the modern wars Japan engaged in, there was no conclusive evidence of death by shock, although, as may be imagined, every effort was made to study whatever lessons the war had to impart.

Perhaps this explains why burials in Japan are so long delayed. They prefer to make sure and prefer to err on the safer side. Not until there are obvious signs of decomposition and disintegration of the cells is a person pronounced dead.

BURIED ALIVE PERHAPS.

It seems perfectly reasonable to go on the premise that death does not set in until decomposition sets in, except in perfectly obvious cases, so apparent that there is no need to make mention of them.

One's thoughts run back to the recent war. Stretcher-bearers scour the battlefield and come across a wounded or unconscious man. They apply their ear to the place where the heart of the prostrate hero is. Not a tick; not a beat. They mournfully shake their heads and one who perhaps is not yet dead goes down into a living grave along with the mangled remains of those who have really taken their last farewell of life.

If *Katsu* is what it claims to be, there is no need to be gifted with extraordinary perception to realize the wonderful value to all humanity that lies behind this science which, if further developed in the light and knowledge of medical discoveries of to-day, may revolutionize that noblest of all arts—the great aim of conquering pain and staving off death through the achievements of medical lore.

NORTH MANCHURIA'S FUR TRADE

An Important Business Being Gradually Ruined by Officialdom

From Our Own Correspondent.

Harbin, Mar. 18.

One of the most important trade commodities of North Manchuria for years past has now lost its significance owing to a series of obstructions which sooner or later must be realized by the authorities, seeing that it is adversely affecting the economical prosperity of this northern province. I refer to the fur trade which has now been diverted through Mongolia to Kalgan and Tientsin though geographically exportation through Manchuli, Hailar and Harbin is a far more direct route. Practically all the large foreign fur traders who maintained offices at Harbin and had their agents scattered over northern Manchuria, Zaibaikalia and Mongolia have now transplanted their places of business to Tientsin not because of preference but of necessity owing to the sudden change in conditions in northern Manchuria.

One of the chief sources of supply Zaibaikalia and its hinterland is now a closed door to free trading since the Soviet Government has inaugurated a fur monopoly in Siberia. All furs are now dealt through Vneshtorg, the holders of the monopoly, who this season are faced with a reduction of turnover of at least 50 per cent. as compared with last year. The reason is the restriction placed on the hunters in Siberia, who are forced to sell at fixed prices to the monopoly-holders' agents and who have in turn to buy their requirements from Government run stores who also sell at their own prices. Thus the hunter finds that it does not pay him to hunt in the same manner as he has been accustomed in the past, and is now content to trap and shoot just enough for his requirements. Consequently, the number of squirrels and foxes that are being turned over to Vneshtorg are much less than when the hunters were able to dispose of their goods to the highest bidder.

THE GOVERNMENT OBDURATE.

The managers of the monopoly realize the harm that is being done to this once thriving trade, but the Government does not feel inclined to abolish it. Recently fur-traders, bankers, and representatives of the fur monopoly met together at Chita to consider the situation. The present policy was attacked from all sides and several detailed reports were submitted to the Soviet Government. These, however, have been shelved since any reforms would not be in accord with the existing general trading policy of the Government. Pelts from Monogolia have also been forced to find a new outlet since various dues and likins levied by the Chinese authorities on goods arriving into Northern Manchuria have become prohibitive, whilst one of the principal exports from Mongolia, marmot skins have been practically banned from entering Manchuria.

One of the results of the loss of the fur trade to northern Manchuria is that the financial resources of the municipalities of Manchuli and Hailar are going from bad to worse, and that they are compelled to discover new sources of revenue somehow or other.

The Hailar municipality is faced with statistical facts of 1923, that not only has the trade in furs come to an absolute deadlock but that the export of other Mongolian raw products has decreased many fold.

An investigation of the problems facing them resulted in the following:

(1) That notwithstanding that transportation from Mongolian trade centres to Kalgan by pack or cart is $2 higher than by Hailar, the former route is now preferred owing to the saving of various Chinese dues and levies and owing to the lack of bridges or ferries across the rivers Kurulium and Urshun.

(2) The high railway freights on goods that are shipped by Hailar and destined for export. This is proved by the fact that the Chinese Post Office is able to compete with them on favourable terms, so that the merchant finds it much more cheaper to ship by parcel post all his furs, thus avoiding various dues, export duties and veterinary charges that are levied when the goods are shipped as freight.

WHAT HAILAR WANTS.

The Municipality of Hailar has submitted to the C.E.R. Administration a proposal for the construction of crossing points across the above named rivers and the improvement of roads in the sandy Hanshura district in order to direct Mongolian products to Hailar. It suggests at the same time that the funds required for these improvements could be derived from an increase of freight on livestock from Manchuli, Jelainor and Hailar, as at present the cheaper rates offered on live cattle compared with slaughtered cattle divert the former from the Hailar to the Harbin slaughter-houses thus robbing the former of a slaughter tax.

Likewise the Hailar Chamber of Commerce has submitted a report to the C.E.R. Administration, for the establishing of an automobile service between Hailar and the Mongolian town of Sambes. The report indicates that all Mongolian raw mterials such as hides, sheep and goat-skins, wool, furs, hair etc., which are being collected by traders in the districts of Sambes, Barga etc., are now being transported to Kalgan, which is at a far greater distance from Sambes than is Hailar. It further points out that shipment to Hailar is preferred by merchants than to Manchuli owing to the fact that the highway to the latter town runs very close to the Russian frontier where life is not secure and where robbery is rife. There is in addition a saving in freight rates by rail, and, the also the more favourable geographical situation of Hailar should be considered.

RUSSIAN REFUGEES IN THE PHILIPPINES

250 of Admiral Stark's Party Still Unprovided for: Ships of no Value

Manila, Mar. 15.

The 250 Russian refugees who came to the Philippines from Vladivostok more than a year ago are looking toward America and are hoping they may be able before the end of the coming summer to join their 600 countrymen who were sent there by the American government last June on the United States army transport Merritt. They have received many letters from their friends in America who report satisfactory working conditions, good wages and an enjoyable climate.

It was late in the year 1922 when a party of some 6,000 Russian refugees under Admiral Stark set sail from Vladivostok in 16 ships, looking for a country where they could settle and build homes. Being adherents of the old Russian monarchical government, they were forced to leave Siberia. The party dropped several thousand at Gensan, Korea and another thousand or more in Shanghai. By the time it reached the Philippines the party had dwindled to 850 people and 11 ships. The refugees were without means of sustenance and it was necessary for the Red Cross and charitable organizations to provide food for them for many months after they had been allowed to land in the Philippines and had been provided with shelter at the United States naval station at Olongapo, 50 miles from Manila.

Since landing in the Philippines, the Russians have sold four of their ships and from the proceeds have managed to buy food enough to maintain a precarious existence. The other seven vessels, which are anchored in Subig Bay, near Olongapo, are said to be unseaworthy and virtually without value for transportation purposes. A number of the refugees found work for a time on the hemp plantations in the province of Davao, but these all have returned to Olongapo, having decided that work so near the Equator was not congenial. It is said that only about one dozen of the entire 250 are employed.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ANCIENT COFFINS OF KIANGSU

Remarkable Discovery of Ming Dynasty Relics in Bed of Grand Canal

From Our Own Correspondent.

Suchien, Ku., March 24.

There has been much excitement in our little city owing to the discovery, the other day, of six coffins in the bed of the canal. For the last two or three days people have been flocking to see these said coffins. Buried there, 450 years ago, the men deepening the Canal bed dug them out in a wonderful condition of preservation. Your correspondent has just been to see them, so can testify to this statement. There was a "pei" or tombstone beside them with a good part of the family history written upon it. The stone is a polished stone, about a foot and a half in length, and with a second stone about the same size covering it, which has kept the characters in perfect condition.

It seems that about 300 years ago the Canal changed its course, and this place was originally the burial ground of a family called Tsiang. The largest coffin seems to have belonged to a Hsien magistrate of this city; and so much of his history is given that if any of his descendants are still living it should be an easy task for them to make their claim good. His grandfather's name is given in full, and also his mother's. He was one of three sons, and was a man of large stature; the coffin testifies to this. He left one son and three daughters, the married names of the latter are also given. His uncle was named as a degree man, being a "Chu ren." His merits were also extolled; how many would come to him with their troubles and were always helped, and no one could quarrel in his presence.

GIGANTIC WORK.

The coffins themselves are a remarkable sight. They are made of massive wood. The lid and sides in one at least were one solid piece of wood about a foot in thickness. They have also massive nails about an inch square in thickness and about a foot and six inches in length. There was not one little bit of rust on these nails. The largest coffin would be nearly five feet in height and seven and a half feet in length. Only one coffin was in a state of decay and the workmen had gathered out the blackened bones and were breaking up the coffin to remove it. Some idea of the size may be conveyed to your readers' minds in that it took 50 men to pull it with ropes up the Canal bank. The men could not carry it. The blackened bones were also an unusual size. The Commercial Guild are trying to find some relatives, and have sent word to the Tsiang Ancestral Hall, asking all of that name to look up their ancestral tablets. The date on the stone is in the Ming Dynasty. Report has it that the Ancestral Hall is calling a "Huei" and if the relatives cannot be found, subscriptions will be taken to buy a burial ground.

DEEPENING OF THE GRAND CANAL.

In my last letter I mentioned how it looked as if it would take a long time to finish the Canal. Your correspondent heard to-day that this channel of about 20 ft. wide is all that is to be done, and that there are prospects of the water soon being diverted back into the Canal. It is difficult to find out accurately how much money has been spent on it; report gives a large sum. As the bed of the Canal is very wide it is feared the sand of the higher ground will soon fill up this channel again.

PEKING BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Peking, Mar. 31.

The following officers of the British Chamber of Commerce, Peking, have been elected for the ensuing year:—Chairman, Mr. A. C. Henning; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. S. Fripp; Committee, Messrs. R. C. Allen, G. W. Frodsham, D. R. MacKenzie and W. H. E. Thomas.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FALL OF CHANGCHOWFU

Peking, Mar. 26.

Foreign telegrams report that Gen. Tsang Chi-ping has captured Changchowfu, which is situated about 50 *li* inland from Amoy, where Gen. Tsang has his headquarters. Gen. Tsang was formerly Military Commissioner of Amoy and Changchow. This Commissionership was abolished when Gen. Sun Chuan-fang arrived at Foochow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TONGSHAN MINE ACCIDENT

Tientsin, Mar. 27.

Three of the miners who were entombed have been rescued from the Tongshan mine.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

GUIDES TO CHINA'S REFORMATION

Dr. Alfred Sze's Suggestions: Military Suppression or Else Foreign Intervention

Peking, Mar. 27.

Dr. Alfred Sze, the Chinese Minister to the United States, has wired to the Chinese Government the following four items as measures for the salvation of the country:—

(1) Financial readjustment.—A certain limit shall be put to the revenues of the Central Government and local provinces, a financial retrenchment policy be adopted, and all new enterprises be suspended.

(2) Reduction of soldiery.—The Powers have been putting in force the reduction of their respective armies since the termination of the European War, where China is still unnecessarily keeping too many troops, with the consequence that she is badly pressed for military funds and her troops are doing great harm to the country. The troops shall, therefore, be reduced to such an extent that is required only for the defensive purposes of the country, taking into consideration the national financial power. In the meantime, measures shall be devised for the development of industries and for providing disbanded soldiers with the necessaries of life.

(3) Unification of North and South.—The country has been disintegrated for the last several years, and for this reason the intelligent classes are now averse to discussing politics and have come to engage in business or educational work. In consequence, those who are now dealing with politics are, on the contrary, detrimental to the unification of the country. At this juncture, it is necessary for the Government to call together representatives of provinces to deliberate upon national affairs, to release from prison on amnesty all political criminals, to employ men of ability, and to put into effect the provisions of the constitution in conformity with the trend of the popular will.

(4) Parliamentary elections.—The administration of the State shall be carried out according to the popular will and only those members of Parliament who really represent the people shall be elected.

In conclusion, Dr. Sze, quoting examples of the Powers in Europe and America, warns the Chinese Government against the practice of resorting to military power in regard to party strifes and adds that, unless the Chinese authorities concerned reform the above practice, foreign intervention will be forthcoming.—Eastern News Agency.

OPIUM ERADICATION IN ANHUI

Gen. Ma's Distastive Task: Anti-Opium Commission's Work in Fuyang

Peking, Mar. 28.

According to March reports from the Anhui Anti-Opium Association and particularly from the Fuyang branch in that province, there are signs of improvement. Anhui is one of the northern provinces directly controlled by the Central Government and ought easily be made an example and sign of the Government's determination to bring about total suppression. Gen. Mo is making some attempt to carry out the Government Mandate, but his past probably destroys the vigour necessary for radical fulfilment. After raising several millions in 1923 out of general and military protected opium cultivation, and having established the equivalent of a personal monopoly, even going so far as to print his own duty and transit stamps, it will require more than average boldness to enforce prohibition in 1924, and more than average fear on the part of the people before they obey him.

In the Fuyang district, where last year the opium land taxes alone amounted to over half a million dollars, the Government Anti-Opium Commission have, however, succeeded in uprooting about 80 per cent. of poppy fields. This is vouched for by our branch association in Fuyang, which sent two of its members with each of the five groups of investigation commissioners. Our local secretary refers to the Magistrate of Fuyang, Mr. Hsu, who is responsible for investigation in section 2, who stated that at Kao Kuan Temple a vast area of 15 square miles was one vast "opium sea."

At the time of writing this section had yet to be dealt with, and the issue was doubtful because of the stubbornness of the people. The farmers deserve some consideration, for after having paid an excessive land tax, and the poppy planted and well grown to be compelled to uproot it and lose a whole harvest would certainly produce trouble in other lands than China.

EXTENSIVE CULTIVATION.

The district of Haohsien is extensively planted with poppy and here Gen. Ma does not seem inclined to exert pressure, for it is the native place of the late Gen. Chiang Kuei-ti and opium has been extensively cultivated since the establishment of the Republic. Gen. Chiang was formerly a large trafficker in opium, and when Tut'ung of Suiyuan transported large quantities of opium from Suiyuan to Anhui for disposal. Having established cultivation in Haohsien for many years the Anhui Anti-Opium Association is of the opinion that only by extra pressure from Peking will Gen. Ma interfere with this district, and they request us to make representations to the Government upon the matter. Nothing will more convince the people of the Government's determination totally to suppress cultivation, than to find that the law is applied equally to all classes and places.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPAN AND LABOUR CONFERENCE

Selection of a Delegate: Keen Contest Between Rival Candidates

Tokio, Mar. 27.

Voting on the part of the various labour unions in the country to select a labour representative as delegate to the International Labour Conference was carried out on March 25, with the result that Mr. Bunji Suzuki secured 75 votes, Mr. Yozo Nagato 50, and Mr. Kosaburo Sakamoto 5. These three names will now be submitted to the Department of Home Affairs, with which rests the final choice of the delegate.

The favoured candidate is Mr. Bunji Suzuki, the well-known president of the Japan Federation of Labour, though Mr. Nagato, who has been put forward by the arsenal workers, runs him a close second.

The contest between the two men has been strenuously fought, and feeling runs high in both camps. Indeed, the arsenal workers' federation claims that if Mr. Suzuki is the final choice of the Government authorities, the publication of the ballot figures, prefecture by prefecture, will be demanded as a proof that there has been no previous understanding between the officials and the Federation of Labour, as is now alleged.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE BANDIT OUTRAGE IN SZECHUAN

Murderers of Missionaries Sentenced to Prison

Chêngtu, Mar. 15.

Sentence of seven years' imprisonment of the second grade and loss of all civil rights has been passed on Chang Yung-kao and 18 months' imprisonment of the fourth grade passed on Liu Shao-t'ing, accomplices in the murder of the Rev. Watt and the Rev. Whiteside at Mienchow. Two of the chief criminals still at large are reported to have fled to the Tribes' country on the borders of Tibet.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPAN'S WORKING ESTIMATES

Deficit in Revenue to be Met from Last Year's Surplus Funds

Tokio, Mar. 27.

The working estimates for the present fiscal year, which have just been approved by the Cabinet, show a State revenue of Y.1,320,793,000, while the expenditure is calculated at Y.1,347,173,000.

The deficit is to be met out of the surplus funds carried over from last year.

Details are as follows:—

REVENUE.

Ordinary	Y. 1,207,849,000
Extraordinary	112,944,000
Total	Y. 1,320,793,000

EXPENDITURE.

Ordinary	Y. 980,806,000
Extraordinary	366,367,000
Total	Y. 1,347,173,000

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE AND CHINESE LOANS

London, Mar. 31.

The Stock Exchange notify automatic removal of quotations from the official list on May 2 unless the Chinese Government fully resumes service of the bonds issued in Germany, of the Chinese Gold 5 per cent. Loan of 1896, the Chinese Gold 4½ per cent. Loan of 1898, and the Hukuang Railway 5 per cent. Loan of 1911.

The Rumanian 4½ per cent. Loan of 1913 (London issue) will be similarly treated.—Reuter.

***The service of the bonds referred to was suspended upon China's entry into the war on the side of the Allies, and the Chinese Government has made the fullest use of "enemy property" legislation in order to escape or postpone financial obligations which should have been resumed upon the cessation of hostilities and the resumption of normal relations. Many of these bonds went on to the London market at the time of issue, in the ordinary course of events, and, becoming the property of British investors, should be free from whatever enemy taint may later have been put upon them. In any case, there is now no legitimate excuse for the Government evading its obligations; but it is chronically "hard up," and expedients of this nature are not surprising.—Ed.

PIRACY IN CHINESE WATERS

Hongkong Government Regulations Criticized in the House of Commons

London, Apr. 2.

In the House of Commons today, Viscount Curzon (Conservative) drew attention to what he described as the alarming increase in piracy in South China waters. He declared that the merchant shipmasters and officers considered the piracy regulations of the Hongkong Government useless. A large British shipping company was anxious to instal wireless on its ships as a safeguard, but was prevented by the Government regulation dealing with the nationality of the operators to be engaged.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, referred to his previous reply on the question. He said that the Governor's report would without doubt deal with the question of wireless, and the applicability of the regulation mentioned to Hongkong waters could then be further considered.—Reuter.

An interesting report appears in the "*Sinwanpao*," to the effect that President Tsao Kun has ordered all his subordinates to wear foreign apparel. The order appears to be unpopular, for in spite of a threat by the President to dismiss those who refuse to obey, the minor officials have declined. Their plea is that they are too poor, which is not unlikely as they have received no salary for several months.

FILIPINO SABOTAGE

Attempt to Cut Off Fresh Water

Manila, Mar. 29.

Twenty Filipino labourers on Corregidor, the fortified island at the mouth of Manila Bay, have been discharged by the Army authorities following an attempt to cut off the fresh water supply last week by tampering with the valves. One hundred and fifty thousand gallons of water were wasted before the sabotage was discovered, leading to a serious shortage. The authorities are uncertain as to whether the attempt was directed against an individual or against the Government.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

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SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary, Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury S., Rhodesia.

The giving of advice to prospective settlers will be facilitated if applicants will advise the Board in detail of their circumstances and the amount of capital they would be prepared to invest in a suitable venture.

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SHANGHAI NEWS

A MERCHANT KING'S VENTURE

Centenary of the Netherlands Trading Society: Steady Development in the East

Not the least interesting of the many commercial anniversaries recently celebrated in Shanghai was the recognition last Friday of the centenary of the Netherlands Trading Society. At noon the manager will receive guests at the Bank's offices, 21 The Bund, and there is certain to be a large attendance, for the Netherlands [illegible] throughout the Far East.

In 1824 the economic situation in the Netherlands and her colonies called for special measures. Shipping was heavily subsidized and industry was supported out of a fund for the encouragement of national industry. King William I, the Merchant King, took the initiative in the establishment of a big company for the purpose of furthering trade, shipping, shipbuilding, fisheries, agriculture and industry in the Netherlands and the overseas possessions, with a view to uniting various scattered efforts made by less powerful individuals without satisfactory result. The Royal Promoter hoped "with God's help to assure for the nation the advantages to which it is entitled by its rank under the nations, the situation of its territories and the importance of colonization."

VALUABLE MONOPOLIES.

This company, the Netherlands Trading Society, obtained under its charter far-reaching monopolies which enabled further assistance to and virtual control of all sailing vessels trading to the Indies. Outward cargoes comprised mainly cotton goods manufactured in mills which again were practically under its control and the present cotton industry in Twente is greatly indebted to the Society for assistance in the early days. On their return voyage, the vessels carried colonial products which were delivered to the Government under the Culture System. Their sale under the Consignment System was another monopoly of the Society. As shipping and industry grew and were able to dispense with protection, the scope of the Society's monopolies was greatly diminished and in 1853 the second era started, during which the company developed into a big mercantile concern trading with products from the Indies, cotton from America and British India, wool, hides and horn from South Africa, Australia and South America, coffee from Ceylon and various products from Japan and China.

After a number of successful years, the Society abandoned this field, as conditions had changed considerably and it was deemed preferable that commerce in produce should be left rather to private firms and that the Society should devote its efforts and capital to the financing of the trade rather than to competition. As such it has asserted itself in a remarkable way since 1880 and, as the leading bank in the Netherlands and the Dutch East Indies, it has established agencies in 27 commercial centres in the Far East. The re-establishment of the Shanghai agency dates to 1903.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDIES.

On the commemoration of its centenary, the Society can look back on a long history of great commercial achievements. There is in the Netherlands and in the Dutch East Indies hardly any branch of commercial activity or public service with which the Society is not at this time connected in one way or another. Railways and tramways, ocean shipping and inter-island communication, industrial and agricultural enterprises of all kinds have had its interest and help. Java's enormous growth into one of the richest producing islands in the world is greatly due to the work of the Society in its early days and to the financial support which it continues to give to the planters. Credit also must be given for the active part which the Society has taken in the development of Sumatra, Celebes and the other islands. In the course of its existence the company has increased its capital from 24 to 150 million Guilders and it is interesting to note that during its long history only twice have the yearly balances closed with a loss, in 1826 and 1828. Shareholders have received an average dividend per annum of 8 per cent.

With special relation to China, it is interesting to know that the tea industry in the Dutch East Indies took a high flight after one of the Society's tea-tasters, in the late twenties, penetrated into the province of Honan to study the Chinese tea industry. From a number of plants which he took from Fokien to Java various experimental gardens have originated, worked by Chinese under government supervision. Though in later years the Chinese plants were substituted by others from Assam, Java's special qualities for producing tea mainly were proved by the earlier experiments with the China plants.

WEDDINGS

Dumbarton-Trueman

A marriage of much interest to the Shanghai community was celebrated in Holy Trinity Cathedral on Saturday afternoon when Miss Nora Trueman, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Trueman, was married to Mr. George Frederick Dumbarton, the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Dumbarton of Dulwich, England. The Cathedral was beautifully decorated for the occasion with blossoming boughs and bamboo. The ceremony was performed by the Very Rev. Dean Symons.

The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a gown of white silk lace over georgette, its draperies caught in front with a buckle of orange blossoms. The long tulle veil which formed a trail was fastened with orange blossoms and the bridal bouquet was of pale pink carnations. The bridesmaid, Miss Helen Macnaghten wore an effective gown of cyclamen georgette and carried freesias. The bride's mother wore a handsome gown of black and white crepe satin, with hat to match. One of the interesting features of the ceremony was the presence of a guard of honour from the Girl Guides, Company 3, of which the bride is Captain.

The bridegroom was attended by Mr. H. V. Hummel, M.C., as best man and Messrs. Bond, Lester Arnold, Trueman, and Trenchard Davis acted as ushers. The reception, which was held at the house of the bride's parents, 547 Avenue Foch, was attended by hosts of friends of the popular young couple. The health of the bride was proposed by Mr. Wheen and responded to suitably by Mr. Dumbarton, who then proposed the health of the bridesmaid, Miss Macnaghten for whom Mr. Hummel replied.

Mrs. Dumbarton wore for her going away dress a green woollen suit with a green hat. The honeymoon will be spent in Mokanshan in the beautiful country house which Mr. Trueman built last summer.

Mackinnon-Sweet

A very pretty wedding was quietly celebrated on Saturday afternoon in Holy Trinity Cathedral, the Very Rev. Dean Symons, officiating, when Miss Norah Sweet, daughter of Mrs. F. Rayden, became the bride of Mr. J. M. Mackinnon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mackinnon of Innellan, Scotland. The bride, who was given away by Mr. F. Rayden, wore a stylish costume of white brocaded serge with hat to match and carried a bouquet of white carnations, roses and orange blossoms. Her sister, Miss Dorothy Rayden, acted as bridesmaid, wearing a white serge dress and white and yellow hat. The bride's mother wore a sand-coloured dress of curly stockinette trimmed with green and tan leather and a dark green hat of georgette and green feathers. Mr. A. M. Howat acted as best man After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents, 25 Yu Yuen Road, from which Mr. and Mrs. Mackinnon left for their honeymoon which will be spent in Kuling, the bride wearing a cape costume of grey curly stockinette, trimmed with grey figured crepe de chine.

Tyrrell-Chapin

A quiet wedding, attended only by the close friends of the bridal couple was solemnized on Saturday evening at the Carlton when Miss Madeline Chapin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Chapin of Honolulu, became the bride of Mr. Cyril Tyrrell of the Robert Dollar Company. The Rev. C. M. Drury of the Community Church performed the ceremony, which took place in a floral bower of green and white. The bride was given away by Mr. George Brush. After the ceremony a reception was held at the Carlton at which Mr. J. Harold Dollar proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Tyrrell and a wedding dinner was later given at the Astor House. After a short honeymoon in Hangchow Mr. and Mrs. Tyrrell will be at home at 7 Route de Grouchy.

How-Ng Quinn

A pretty Chinese wedding took place on Saturday afternoon at the Allen Memorial Church, Dr. F. L. Hawks Pott officiating, when Miss Rose Ng Quinn, youngest daughter of Mrs. Ng Quinn of Hongkong, was married to Mr. Bang How, secretary of the Commercial Press, Ld. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. Sydney Ng Quinn, wore white charmeuse with silver embroidery and chantilly lace, with a train trimmed with lovers knots and pearls. A crown of orange blossoms fastened the tulle veil and her bouquet was white roses and maiden-hair fern. Her maid of honour, Miss Mary How, wore jade green satin, trimmed with silver lace and carried sweet peas. The bridesmaids, the Misses Mabel and Edith Tang, Elsie Tom, S. K. Wu, Mayling Soong, and Lois How wore georgette gowns of the pastel shades and Miss Rene Chur, the little flower girl wore pink tulle and carried a basket of ping sweet peas.

The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. H. L. Huang as best man and the page boys were the bride's nephews, Mossy Lai and Mark Wei. After the ceremony a reception was held in the ball room of the Astor House and a dinner was given at the Great Eastern Hotel before Mr. and Mrs. How left on their honeymoon. Mr. Bang How is a graduate of the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, University of Pennsylvania.

Furer-Leeds

The marriage took place in Tientsin on March 25 of Mr. Furer and Mrs. Leeds. The bride being British by former marriage, the wedding took place at the British Consulate as well as at All Saints Church. The "North China Daily Mail" announces that a marriage is to take place in Tientsin shortly of Mr. William Robert Beetlestone, engineer at Linsi, and Miss Paskey Mary Morley Hill, who has also resided recently at Linsi. Mr. Edouard Hippolyte Desiré Scheltus, of the Asiatic Petroleum Co.'s engineer in staff, living at 4 Nicolai Road Russian Concession, announces his forthcoming marriage to Miss Dorothy Vernon, who has been about one year in Tientsin, on the Victoria Hospital nursing staff.

Roberts-Puncheon

Mr. Arthur William Roberts, of Messrs. Lane, Crawford, & Co., was married at St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, on March 21, to Miss Edith Puncheon, daughter of Mr. James Puncheon, of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock, Co., Ld. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. G. R. Lindsay, The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a gown of ivory charmeuse and silk lace, trimmed with seed pearls and orange blossom. She wore a tulle veil and carried a bouquet of china roses. Her bridesmaids were Miss Doris Puncheon (sister) and Miss Dorothy Goodman. Mr. T. R. Reeves fulfilled the duties of best man. Mrs. Fred Goodman was present as Matron of Honour.

JUDGE LOBINGIER'S RETIREMENT

Allied American Associations' Farewell Tiffin: Growth of the Colony

Judge C. S. Lobingier, on completing the first full term of Judge of the United States Court for China, on Friday was given a farewell luncheon at the Astor Grill by a number of American organizations, those represented being:—The American Chamber of Commerce, the American Association of China, the Far Eastern American Bar Association, the China Central Committee, American Red Cross, the General Ward Post (American Legion), the American Company, S.V.C., the American Troop, S.V.C., the Shanghai American School, the American Club, the Columbia Country Club, the American University Club, the American Baseball Club.

Judge Lobingier said:—

There could be no better index of the Shanghai American colony's growth than this gathering to-day of the officers and committees of its representative organizations. It is a little more than a decade since I entered upon the term whose completion you have done me the honour to observe upon this occasion. At that time, as I recall, there were only two of these organizations in existence—the American Association and the Athletic Association. To-day we have assembled here the representatives of about a dozen, exemplifying practically every phase of communal activity. It is clear that the growth of our colony has not been in numbers alone and that while it has been expanding it has also been differentiating. All the more gratifying to me is it that these varying phases of our colony's life should all be represented upon an occasion like this. I can conceive of no more satisfying reward for a public official than such a response from such a group of organizations. The approval which is most worth while is that which comes from those among whom one has lived and laboured.

I know that your presence here to-day is also a mark of your interest in and regard for the institution over which I have had the honour to preside during these past 10 years. In that interest I naturally share, for one could not devote 10 of the best years of one's life to an institution without acquiring a deep and abiding concern for its welfare. I am sure that we are all agreed that the United States Court for China must be maintained upon the highest level of prestige and efficiency and that every factor which tends to cripple or weaken it must be eliminated. One of the important factors in its successful operation is a competent and co-operating corps of assistants to its Judge and in this feature I feel that I have been remarkably fortunate. With two or three exceptions—belonging to a time now well past—those who have been selected to assist me, from the United States Attorney down to the Chinese servants, have been singularly loyal, faithful and efficient. Without their help the Court could never have performed its functions, especially in recent years.

I regret to be obliged to add that one important member of the staff—the Clerk—is greatly overburdened and another—the Commissioner—is greatly underpaid. I have made every possible effort for the relief of these worthy and capable officials and I now ask for them some of the effective help you have given me, for I speak from experience when I say that the American organizations in China need only be convinced that a cause is worthy in order to espouse it.

Looking back over 10 years I can think of nothing more strengthening than your support and encouragement, and with that continued support I feel sure that the opportunities of the United States Court for China for service to Americans and all others here—not excepting the Chinese themselves—will constantly expand. Service is the one reason for its existence. Now, gentlemen, permit me to express my profound thanks for this function. It crowns a long series of testimonials and courtesies whose memory never fade.

Judge Lobingier, left Shanghai on Thursday, on the Admiral Line str. President McKinley for his home in America. He was accompanied by Mrs. Lobingier. It is interesting to note that in all the years that Judge Lobingier has functioned in Shanghai, not a single appeal taken against his decisions to the Ninth Court of Appeals in San Francisco, has been reversed—truly a worthy record. Mr. and Mrs. Lobingier have not made any announcement as to their return to the Orient.

RAILWAY MAGNATE IN SHANGHAI

Visit of Mr. Byram, President of Chicago-Milwaukee Line

Mr. H. E. Byram, President of the Chicago-Milwaukee-St. Paul Railway left Shanghai for Hangchow last night.

In conversation with a "North-China Daily News" representative on Thursday afternoon, Mr. Byram stated that he and his family had come to the Orient purely on pleasure bent. In the course of his duties Mr. Byram has considerable dealings with the East, and as a natural consequence he has also always evinced a keen desire to see something of it. While he is here he intends taking a number of trips into the Interior by train, and at the invitation of a number of Chinese bodies he will give them his impressions of the Chinese Government Railways.

Up-to-date Mr. Byram has seen nothing whatsoever of railways in the East. He visited Canton from Hongkong by boat, owing to the fact that the Kowloon-Canton Railway was not running a through service at the time, and he came back by boat. At Manila he had no cause to use the railway. He is, therefore, all the more keen to see something of railways in this part of the World.

Mr. Byram expressed considerable surprise on his arrival in Shanghai. "Chicago," he said, "is a long way from here and we don't quite realize what a huge city Shanghai is, how full of business and how really alive." He expressed, also, admiration of the way in which the streets of the city are laid out.

During the afternoon Mr. Byram visited the Shanghai-Nanking Railway station and had a chat with Mr. A. C. Clear.

Asked whether it was true, as has been rumoured, that he came to Shanghai in connexion with the agreement which exists between the Chicago-Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha Line, which arranges for the mutual handling of passenger and cargo freights at the Pacific ports and Eastern ports, Mr. Byram denied the story. He explained that the contract had been in existence for some years and there was no reason why it should not continue.

The Chinese have long since discovered the value of Shanghai as a recruiting ground for skilled labour, and another raid is just being made. A representative from the Mukden Arsenal has been sent here to engage a number of skilled mechanics. The wages offered are $50 and $60 per month, and numerous applications have been made for the jobs.

The Shanghai Bureau of Foreign Affairs has received instructions from the Peking Ministry with reference to foreigners in the interior (places other than the treaty ports) of China. These are:—(1) that no foreigners are to be permitted to establish factories in places other than those named in the treaties; (2) that no foreigners are to be permitted to import or to sell livestock in the interior; (3) that no foreigners are to be permitted to buy land in the interior; and (4) that no foreigners without *huchao* (permits) are to be allowed to travel in the interior.

ROYAL AIR FORCE REUNION

The Air as the First Line of Offence and Defence: Apathy in Shanghai

The fifth reunion dinner of members of the Royal Air Force (1914-1918), at the Shanghai Club on Saturday, was a great success. The menu cards were of a very tasteful design, illustrated by Sapajou, having on the front a comparison of the ancient and modern in an aeroplane flying above a Peking cart outside a Chinese walled city. Other pages carried caricatures of several prominent local flying officers. Capt. R. N. Swann presided and the guests of honour were Paymaster-Commander E. T. M. Green, R.N., and Col. W. F. L. Gordon, C.M.G., D.S.O. The toasts were "The King," "The Silent Toast," "Our Guests," "The Royal Air Force," and "The Sister Services."

In proposing the toast of "The Royal Air Force," the Chairman said:—

Our gallant Chairman last year stated that those present indeed formed a happy family, the *esprit de corps* which was in every one so manifest being a splendid augury for the future traditions of the R. A. F. There has been no reason to retract those words, and although we are a small band to-night when compared with other units we may remember with pride that it was the personnel of the R. N. A. S., the R. F. C. and the R. A. F. during the great war who made the force what it is to-day. Our sister services were continuing the good traditions of their respective units, whereas it was for us to inaugurate traditions.

There have been many reductions in the Service since most of us left it, but in spite of the destruction and the sweeping away nothing of the roots and foundations of the service, as it was in the war, have been destroyed, as evidenced by the fifth annual re-union dinner. The Regiment had 30,000 officers and 265,000 other ranks at the time of the Armistice. For every 20 then we have only one now. In spite of this great reduction, the apathy of the British Government, and, I regret to say, the supineness of the Sister Services, the work of the Air Force since the Armistice, in Afghanistan and in many other lands, culminating in the brilliant work of the "Z" expedition in Somaliland, when the Air Force fought on its own, has proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that the air must be the first line of offence and defence.

IMPORTANCE OF AVIATION.

The Secretary of State for Air under the new Labour Government stated on February 7 last, "The future is in the air and the chief menace to the Empire is from the air." To-day we have the Service recognized as a distinct branch of the Forces and not an auxiliary to them as in the great war. The importance of aviation is becoming more marked every day; it is becoming a distinct feature of our very existence. We read of women pilots who have flown the Channel, of the American flight around the world, of our poor lone aviator attempting, as they attempted in the great war, to establish the traditions of the British Air Force. We hear of the contemplated expansion both as regards the permanent Force and the creation of a Territorial Air Force, which latter gives us food for thought in Shanghai on the wisdom of the present apathy of the Council regarding aerial co-operation with the existing defence forces, but we also read of the great efforts being made by other Powers to establish aerial supremacy and wonder if the efforts of our own Government are sufficient. The lessons of the past are fresh in all our minds and should prove a safe guide for dealing with the probabilities of the future. Neither Army nor Navy can be complete without an efficient Air Force and with the intense interest which is being displayed by all Powers, friendly and otherwise, in aviation in all its branches it behoves our Government to leave no stone unturned in their efforts to regain that supremacy which we ultimately gained, at what cost we all know, during the great raw.

LOCAL SHORTCOMINGS.

Locally we are without any possible means for repelling attacks from the air and the importation of aeroplanes into China during the the past year can only bring us to the conclusion that our defence schemes have got to be radically revised. It is the duty of each one of us here to-night to do everything in our power to bring such revision about. All who have been in the Air Services are an asset to the Empire, and, I venture to say, continue to be an asset to the Service, for I feel sure that the affection for it will prompt you to endeavour to maintain the interest of the rising generation in the future of the Air Force and to watch over it and see that it is not allowed to deteriorate. We are jealous of its reputation; the reputation that we helped to earn.

LADY AUTHORS IN SHANGHAI

Reception at U. S. Consulate to Miss Mary Floyd Williams and Miss Joan Conquest

Miss Mary Floyd Williams, PH. D., an author, of San Francisco, and Miss Joan Conquest, the English author whose novel "Desert Love" has been so popular, were the guests of honour at a tea given by Mrs. Edwin S. Cunningham at the American Consulate General last Friday afternoon.

Dr. Williams, who is the author of two books on the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance of 1851, a writer on general subjects, and a lecturer in the Extension Courses of the University of California, is spending a few days in Shanghai on her trip around the world, but intends to return in the autumn for an extended trip through China and India. That Dr. Williams is no tourist tripper is shown by the fact that she left the United States in 1922, spent a year in Australia and New Zealand and six months in Manila. Her witty and informative address yesterday afternoon was largely concerned with her experiences in Australia and the contacts formed through the English-Speaking Union of which she is an enthusiastic member.

Miss Conquest's throat prevented her from speaking but she, too, has promised to return to Shanghai as her publishers have asked her for a novel of China, and she has the laudable, if unusual, ambition to become well acquainted with a country before using it as a background for a romance. Some delightful songs by Mrs. Connell and Mrs. Cunningham concluded a most interesting afternoon.

AN AMERICAN AUTHOR IN CHINA

Mr. Wallace Irwin a Visitor to Shanghai on a Rest Cure

Mr. Wallace Irwin, the creator of the "Japanese Schoolboy," author of various short stories and novels, the latest being "Lew Tyler's Wives," was in Shanghai yesterday as a member of the str. Resolute's round-the-world party. When seen at the house of his friends, Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Branagan, Mr. Irwin said that he was "sampling China," and that it was his desire and intention to return for a stay of at least a year.

Mr. Irwin said he was supposed to be taking this trip as a rest cure. He had been working hard on his last novel, which has been appearing in serial form as "Tomorrow's Bread," and will be published in book form and filmed as "The Golden Bed," and he must have sprained a nerve or something of the sort. Anyway, he went to pieces and the doctors sent Mrs. Irwin and him off.

Asked about this novel he said:—"I'm afraid I'm a doubled-faced, Janus-like sort of person. While I enjoy writing the schoolboy and light stuff I feel all the time as if I had something different to say that had to be put into a novel. 'Lew Tyler's Wives' was my first, and I intend to write a third after 'Tomorrow's Bread' to complete the series."

"Yes, the Japanese letters are a relaxation, and they paid expenses while I was doing heavier work. It's amusing how Togo survives. I had the idea of writing some 24 letters to start with, but I can't seem to stop, although I have killed him off in different publications and have thought various times that he was 'good and over.' This travelogue has an entirely different angle because hitherto the humour has lain in the reactions of a Japanese boy to situations surprising to him and familiar to us. Now the case is reversed.

AN INDIAN EPISODE.

We saw the Taj Mahal by moonlight and were at Benares for the eclipse of the moon. Never saw anything like it in my life. Here were five millions of pilgrims, more than the population of New York, gathered round to save the world. Their prayers and sacrifices to induce Siva to interfere on their behalf and prevent his blood-thirsty wife Durgha from swallowing the moon and deranging the rest of the sidereal system were eerie in the extreme. I never in my life had felt such a sense of invisible powers at work as when I heard their chants. Then at Darjeeling we were lucky enough to see the sun set over Mt. Everest so we felt that Siva was arranging the planets in our interests.

"And China? Yes, we were particularly interested in Canton, which we insisted on visiting. We were warned against the smells of the native city, but I want to say that we found it far cleaner than some cities I have seen at home and that the smell couldn't compare with those I've smelled between 96th and 115th Streets on the East Side of New York City. Canton Christian College impressed me very favourably, specially the practical work they are doing. Their inquiry into the cause of the silk blight, and improving the silk culture is bound to help China tremendously."

"And for Shanghai? Well, I've been so kindly entertained here that I am afraid I shall carry away with me mainly the memory of hospitalities and a collection of lacquer which my friends have helped me to assemble. But we are coming back to become better acquainted."

LUNGTAN CEMENT WORKS

A Description of an Industry Fostered by Chinese Enterprise: Hopes of Extension in the Future

A numerous party of foreigners and Chinese on Sunday visited the recently opened works of the Chin Portland Cement Co., Ld., at Lungtan, on the Shanghai-Nanking Railway a few miles from Nanking. Visitors, among whom were representatives of the leading foreign engineering firms, and professional and business men, were very greatly interested in the lay-out and equipment of the works, representative of the new industrial life radiating from Shanghai and other centres, and destined in course of time to revolutionize the economic life of this country.

A number of influential Chinese in Shanghai, among them Lord Li and Mr. S. C. Yao, the well-known building contractor, had the idea of this enterprise in mind for some time past and its completion represents carefully considered plans. The works are admirably situated, the square mile of ground on which they stand having within its limits limestone hills which should yield an almost inexhaustble supply of material—limestone, clay deposits and coal. The superior quality of these materials has been known to the people of the neighbourhood from ancient times, and many lime kilns have for years been at work in the vicinity, but until now only the most primitive methods have been applied to these valuable natural resources. There is excellent coal to be mined beneath the limestone deposits, and already four shafts have been opened and are being worked, by native methods.

DETAILS OF THE PLANT.

The new factory building is mainly composed of a spacious steel structure, with an area of approximately 10,000 square feet, and is served with numerous other buildings and offices, including laboratory, engineers' residences, etc. The plant consists of two water tube boilers, supplied by Messrs. Babcock & Wilcox, one 700 h.p. steam engine directly coupled with the generator, 14 motors, supplied by Messrs. Siemens China Co., and one 80 h.p. crude oil engine with generator, supplied by the General Electric Co., has been installed by Messrs. Nagel & Kaemp, of Hamburg, the laboratory outfit being also of German make. Light railways have been laid down throughout the works and in every respect the place is well equipped for extensive production. The whole plant is actuated by electric power and is under the supervision of German engineers. The "wet" process of manufacture is in use and, with one or two exceptions, the complete process is automatic from the feeding of the material into the machine until the finished product emerges from the immense tubular conveyors and furnaces, and is automatically packed.

RESULTS GIVEN BY TESTS.

The factory has a daily output of 500 barrels or 1,000 bags of cement, and of a quality which has proved to be first class, uniformity being maintained by hourly tests, day and night, in the laboratory, so that strict control of the process of manufacture is maintained. Visitors were much interested in watching the tests applied, and of which the results were:—

Tensile strength: Neat cement (after seven days), 730-lb. per square inch. (S.M.C. requirement 450-lb.); sand and cement, 230-lb. (S.M.C. requirement, 200-lb.). Compression strength: neat cement, 9,000 lb. per square inch; sand and cement, 2,600-lb.

In addition to the production of cement, the company is also operating five modern lime kilns, 16 brick and tile kilns, and one fire brick kiln. The concern is very well staffed, and is under the managing directorship of Mr. Yao King-sec, who is conducting affairs from the head office at 62 Kiangse Road. Mr. S. C. Yao is managing director, and Mr. Woo Ling-sue, chairman of directors.

PROSPERITY ASSURED.

Following inspection of the factory on Sunday afternoon, guests gathered in the works' offices and were welcomed by Lord Li, who who gave a brief account of the enterprise. He said that the originator of the scheme was Mr. Yao Sing-kee, a prominent figure in the building world of Shanghai, who had applied his usual ability and perseverance to realizing a project which he had had in view for the past 10 years. It was he who discovered the natural resources of the Lungtan district and, having done this, he set about the realization of his cherished scheme, energy and business acumen enabling him to overcome all opposition and raise the necessary capital, and to-day he had the satisfaction of seeing his project successful. The natural deposits of pure limestone and clay were sufficient to keep the works going indefinitely, and this, with coal waiting to be mined in the neighbourhood and easy lines of communication—(a railway siding communicating with the S. N. R., and a main canal to the Yangtze three miles distant)—the undertaking had a certainty of success. The plant of the company was capable of turning out 500 barrels of cement, each weighing 400 lb., per day, and as the demand for this kind of building material now-a-days far exceeded the supply, the company had hopes of building up a model of Chinese industry. Already, the directors were thinking of extending the works in the near future. They did not claim that their present outfit was perfect, but they believed they had made a fair start on a solid foundation.

On behalf of visitors, Mr. W. J. Davey, speaking in English and in Chinese, proposed the toast of the directors of the company and success to their enterprise—which toast was given due attention—and he thanked the company for the generous way in which visitors had been received and entertained during the day.

SILVER coins of the 20 cent. denomination are said to have been exported from Canton to Shanghai in large quantities recently, but the reason for this is not explained in the Canton paper from which the information is gleaned. Shipments of $500,000 by B. & S. steamers are mentioned.

"OLD LADY 31"

First Production by American Woman's Club: A Comedy of Village Life

The latest group of amateur actors made their first bow to the Shanghai public on Monday at the Carlton Theatre with a performance of "Old Lady 31," a comedy written by Rachel Crothers and presented by the Dramatic Department of the American Woman's Club under the able direction of Mrs. Gardner Crane, Chairman of the department. While the scene is laid in a small New England community in 1870, its cheery, wholesome plot made an appeal which is perennial and universal so that the enjoyment of its homespun philosophy of life was not confined to the Americans present, but captured the whole audience.

The atmosphere of the play is quaintly picturesque and much admiration was expressed for the sets, which were designed by Mr. Gardner Crane and painted by Mr. Ralph Peyton Griffin. The brief prologue shows Angie, played by Mrs. Crane, and her husband, Abe, or "Old Lady 31" (Mr. Crane) taking leave of their vine wreathed cottage with the garden full of hollyhocks and dahlias, and setting out, she to the Old Ladies' Home and he to the Poor Farm.

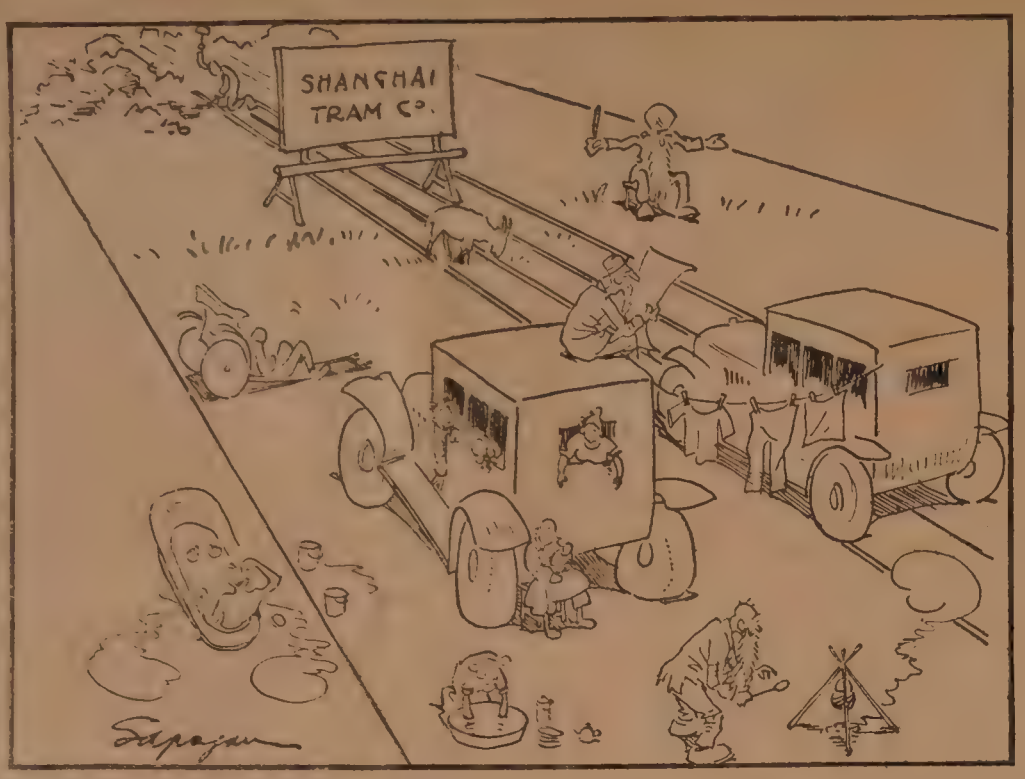
On the front verandah of the Home the philosophical spinster Nancy (Mrs. R. I. Clapp), the superior Mrs. Homans (Mrs. S. C. Kingsbury) and the acrimonious Sarah Jane (Mrs. A. M. Sheldon) indulge in a few ladylike recriminations at the opening of the first act. Later they are joined by the sweet-faced housekeeper of the Home, Abigail (Mrs. P. A. Sargeant), the flirtatious Blossy (Mrs. H. L. Cumming) and later pretty little Mary, (Miss Loraine Fleming) daughter of the Chairman of the "Home Board," appears with her carpenter lover, John (Mr. S. R. Schlobohm) in the background. A common impulse of sympathy leads the inmates of the Home to invite Abe to stay with them, along with Angie, so that they may be spared separation.

The succeeding acts take place in the "best room" of the Home, fearfully and wonderfully furnished with the current atrocities in the way of furniture, pictures, and artistic jim-cracks including painted vases and conch shells. A parlour organ and a huge family Bible on a marble-topped table are prominent features of decoration but the costumes themselves, ranging over a period of some years, as the old ladies needs must wear out their old clothes, are the greatest joy to the beholder.

As the plot develops we meet the man of all work, Mike, (Mr. P. W. Giovannini), Captain Darby (Mr. H. L. Paddock) the finally accepted lover of the coy Blossy, Minerva, played by Mrs. Rubel, Elizabeth, Mrs. V. G. Lyman, Mrs. R. W. Squires (Granny) and also another inmate of the Home, played Mrs. C. L. Boynton. Abe, gallantly determined to make the best of his unaccustomed surroundings, is in danger of being spoiled by the attentions of 30 women, until his wife has to warn him that "it's a turrible dangerous thing to be a hero." Amusing and pathetic misunderstandings which arise, together with the progress of the idyllic little love affair between Mary and John, form a thoroughly interesting story.

The winsome comedy, shot through with humour and tears, affords excellent opportunity for character work, but the different types are not so over-emphasized as to become grotesque. The elderly hero and heroine, Abe and Angie, as played by Mr. and Mrs. Crane, themselves once on the professional stage, convince the audience of their reality from the minute Abe carries out the trunk from the old home and Angie turns the key in its door, till the final curtain. In comparison the young lovers' romance had to take a second place, although Mr. Schlobohm made a delightfully natural lad and Miss Fleming made up in youth what she lacked in stage experience.

The romantically inclined are saved in good measure, for the love affair of the kittenish Blossy



The progress made by the Tramway Co. in relaying the permanent way in Nanking Road is extremely slow and it would appear that measures easily could be taken to quicken up the work.—Mr. C. R. Burkill at the annual meeting of the Automobile Club of China.

is brought to its pleasing, if hardly passionate, culmination when Captain Darby takes a firm stand, after 20 years of patient wooing. Other excellent work was done by the acidulous Sarah Jane, crabbed but capable, Nancy, Mrs. Homans, Abigail, the head of the Home, and Mike the woman-hater.

The costumes of the play were no inconsiderable part of its charm. Those were the days when figures were really figures and there was no mystery about a lady's waist. From the bewitching frills and pantalettes of Mary to the elegancies of Mrs. Homans or the uncompromising austerities of Sarah Jane all the dresses were fascinating pictures of bygone days.

"SHANGHAI TIMES" BUILDING FIRE

Little Damage in Offices

Firemen were fighting the flames in the "Shanghai Times" office all through the night on Thursday, and at mid-day last Friday wooden beams were still burning. The building was then expected to collapse at any moment and Soochow Road and a portion of Museum Road were completely blocked to traffic—foot and wheel. Not even members of the office staff were allowed to go into the building—or rather the shell of the building, which was all that was left standing. The danger came from the fact that built into the brick walls are a number of timber beams for support. These were smouldering fiercely throughout the morning and the Brigade officers were of opinion that when they burned through the building must collapse.

Strangely enough, although the building was completely gutted and every floor appeared to be in a mass of flames on Thursday night, yet the editor's office remained intact. The door to the office was burned through, the window sashes and the walls were burned, but the desk and equipment was undamaged excepting by water. The unhappy part was, however, that the door to the room was shut and if once opened the whole wall would almost certainly have collapsed on the person who took the risk. The reporters' room also, which adjoins the editor's office, was only partially damaged. The walls were burned and the ceiling fell through, but the reporters' desks were untouched. The linotype machines still stood, looking as good as formerly. But they also, if touched, were liable to fall to pieces. There are two huge cracks in front of the building while the wall in Museum Road bulges dangerously.

The two fires demoralized the tram service for some little time especially the larger one, for with lines of hose strung over the northern lines on North Soochow Road, the system came to a complete halt for residents in the Hongkew district. The delay in the Western district was but slight. Trams finally had to be re-routed over the Woosung Road and Chêkiang Road lines and until early yesterday morning, patrons along North Szechuen Road got to this side of Soochow Creek behind time.

A rather ironical incident is told in connexion with the destruction of the "Shanghai Times" plant. As is the custom in the local newspapers, several hours before the paper is put to bed an employee is delegated to inquire from the Central Fire Station if there have been fires of note. As it happened the first person whom Miss Douglass saw after she discovered the fire, was the Chinese boy, who usually made the call at night. He quickly got to the telephone and instead of his usual query, this time demanded that the Brigade hurry to the scene.

We have been informed by responsible people that it had been proposed within the next 30 days to instal a concrete floor on the first storey and had it been in place it would have prevented the spread of the flames to the machinery, linotypes and presses below.

LOSS AND INSURANCE.

Investigations reveal that nearly Tls. 500,000 insurance was carried by the various tenants on the four floors, though just what the ratio between damaged goods and insurance is, it will require lengthy study by adjusters to ascertain.

Older Shanghai residents will recall that this corner has been the scene of two serious outbreaks in the past 10 years. In 1915 the Hall & Holtz bakery was on the identical premises and when the flames were finally quenched, the building was in more or less the same condition as it now stands. The other occurred in the Eastern Garage in 1918. Now that the building is ruined, it is probable that the proposed widening of Soochow Road at this point and the extension of the Chapoo Road Bridge will be undertaken. Under the new building laws, the new structure to be built here must be of reinforced concrete, making a nearly fire-proof building, which can never be the scene of such a conflagration again.

Last Friday night the beams in the walls had burned themselves out and the walls remained standing. The roads were still blocked, however, but there seemed to be no immediate danger of the walls toppling in. It is thought the building will almost certainly have to be pulled down.

Opium and other drugs seized by the subordinates of the City Procurator during the second half of last year will be burnt in the Procurator's compound on Friday next.

AUTOMATIC PHONES IN SHANGHAI

A Successful Test at the New East Exchange: Ready for Operation in Two Weeks

Last Friday the "North-China Daily News" gave an exclusive account of the Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co.'s new automatic exchange and a promise was given to supply a more detailed description of the apparatus at a later date. As a matter of fact, after attending a reception at the new East Exchange in Lay Road, on Wednesday, it must be admitted that it would be difficult to live up to that promise. None but a highly skilled engineer possibly could understand the intricate apparatus and though Mr. P. H. Cole, the engineer-in-chief and general manager, supplied elaborate notes on the subject and his assistants courteously endeavoured to make the matter plain, it is doubtful whether the general public really would be interested in reading such technical details.

One thing can be said—that several newspaper men personally tested the apparatus and all agreed that, though not one of them had seen it before, they were able to call up and get connected far more quickly than is the case with the system now in use. The working is as simple as can be and when one gains experience by practice a great deal of time must be saved. Many hundreds of people inspected our linotypes after the opening of the new building and were amazed at the working of that machine. The automatic telephone may be compared with it. In one case the operator plays upon keys as upon a typewriter; in the case of the telephone he swings a small wheel, and in each case the machine does the rest. The human element at the switchbboard is eliminated and the automatic telephone does not go on strike.

This particular installation is the only one of the sort outside Europe, though there are other patterns successfully working in Great Britain. It was natural to ask whether it had proved satisfactory in actual working for a sufficiently long period and the engineer replied that it was the only installation used in Stockholm and several other large cities, which had entirely discarded the operator type telephones. The new exchange has 700 lines, with extensions to 1,000 and it will be opened during the next two weeks to public service, though at present it is not connected up to subscribers. Eventually the whole of Shanghai will be automatically connected.

Although the manner of operating is so simple that it seems scarcely possible for mistakes to be made, yet it should be mentioned that various alarms and signalling devices also have been provided whereby notification is given to the attendant should any part of the apparatus stop functioning, or should there be undue delay in a call going through. Provision is also made for assisting people in difficulties in cases, for instance, where a subscriber cannot or does not know how to use the dial. In such cases the calling subscriber is connected to an attendant who can plug into his line and complete the call for him.

Humidity plays an important part in the successful working of the plant and steps have been taken automatically to regulate the moisture in the air. When the humidity reaches a certain percentage, electric heaters and fans instantly are set working and when the air is again at its correct degree of dryness the heaters and fans automatically stop.

THE BRITISH GAOL

Negotiations for Its Purchase by Council from British Government

Amongst the many interesting items in the Estimates section of the Municipal Council's Budget Report for this year is the following:—"Under Police Force is contained provision for acquiring the British Gaol site in terms of a very favourable offer by the British Government." And again:—"Under Police Force, provision is made for purchase of the building of the British Gaol, Tls. 130,000."

At present nothing much can be said about this matter, because the deal has not been carried through and presumably the Council's estimate is included only in case the parties should agree and the ratepayers give their sanction to the scheme. It must always have been a wonder why the British Government ever established such a palatial gaol as that in Amoy Road, for really it is a splendid place and it has been exceptionally well conducted. Yet the British out here are a very law-abiding community and the British Gaol staff have been very lonely for lack of prisoners to keep them company. Nor does the business show any signs of improvement. Hence, probably, the Government's readiness to sell. That is all that can be said about the matter at present.

The Shanghai Post Office has issued a notice (says the Chinese press) inviting people who can read French or Japanese to join the postal clerk staff, salaries ranging from $65 to $450 per month being offered. The report so far lacks official confirmation.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Bowes-Smith left for Home on Tuesday by the P. & O. S. Khyber, Mr. Bowes-Smith has resigned his position with Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., and is establishing himself as an exchange broker in Hongkong where he will succeed Mr. J. E. Joseph. He returns from Home at the end of the present year to take up his new duties.

For Thin Falling Hair Use Cuticura

If your scalp is irritated and your hair dry and falling out in handfuls, try this treatment: Touch spots of dandruff and itching with Cuticura Ointment and follow with hot shampoo of Cuticura Soap. Nothing better than Cuticura for all skin and scalp troubles.

Soap 1s., Talcum 1s. 3d., Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s 6d
Sold throughout the Empire British Depot: F Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27, Charterhouse Sq., London, E.C 1
Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

SHANGHAI BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIP

Ex-Champion, Mr. C. W. Porter, Defeated by Mr. Morriss in Second Round

The billiards match at the Town Hall on Saturday night, between Mr. C. W. Porter, ex-champion of Shanghai, and Mr. Gordon Morriss, in the second round of the senior championship, furnished one of the most interesting displays of billiards that has been seen in Shanghai for many years. After being 134 points in arrears at the conclusion of the first session, Mr. Morriss made a wonderful recovery after dinner and eventually ran out winner by 121 points—800-679.

In the opening stages the scoring was brisk and after the opening misses the score read 103-91 in favour of Mr. Porter after only three visits to the table, Mr. Porter having compiled breaks of 62, 29 and 11 against Mr. Morriss's 56 and 34. Then came a spell of safety play, after which a 42 to Mr. Porter and a 31 and 30 to Mr. Morriss brought the players on fairly level terms. Breaks of 24 and 17 by Mr. Morriss gave him a lead of five points (205-200), but shortly afterwards Mr. Porter made a beautiful break of 68, following up with a 47 and a 22, which put him well in the lead, and with a 17 (unfinished) he reached his 400 with a lead of 134 points (400-266), when play had been in progress for 80 minutes.

At the second session it was quite another story. Mr. Porter carried his unfinished break to 25 and Mr. Morriss replied with 13. A 16 to Mr. Porter was followed by a 49, and then after a 30, consisting principally of losing hazards off the white, Mr. Morriss compiled a beautifully built break of 71, using the red-losing hazard stroke into the middle pocket to considerable advantage, but at the same time gaining good position at the top of the table. This brought the score to 480-410, with Mr. Porter still leading. The next breaks of importance were a 33 to Mr. Porter and a 36 and 56 to Mr. Morriss. The latter's 56 consisted chiefly of losing hazards off the red ball into the middle pocket, and gave him the lead by 571 points to 536. Thenceforward Mr. Morriss took control of the game. To a 25 and 15 by Mr. Porter he replied with 21 an 15. A 27 by Mr. Porter was met by two 15's, 14, 25 and 13 by Mr. Morriss, the last break putting the latter 62 points ahead (715-653). A 25 to Mr. Morriss gave him a still further lead and after a 20 to Mr. Porter, the winner ran to his points with a beautiful unfinished break of 60, in the course of which he was several times in difficulty but regained position by brilliant shots.

The final scores were:—

Mr. Gordon Morriss	800
Mr. C. W. Porter	679

Mr. Morriss's best breaks were 71, 56, 56, 54, 36, 34, 31, 30, 30, 25, 25, 24, 21 and his 60 unfinished, giving him an average of 10 per visit to the table. Mr. Porter's best efforts were 68, 62, 49, 47, 42, 33, 29, 27, 25, 25, 22 and 20.

Barrett and Campos in First Semi-Final: Fine Win for Barrett

Captain E. I. M. Barrett played J. P. Campos at the Town Hall on Monday in the first of the senior championship semi-finals, and much interest was taken in the game, there being few seats vacant. The game was not at all brilliant during the first session, neither player being at ease and both labouring under the importance of the occasion. Captain Barrett in particular made a very poor beginning and was quite out in strength, touch and accuracy of striking, and had Campos been in a scoring mood he must have gone substantially ahead. As it was, he passed the first hundred with a lead of 65, Barrett failing to reach double figures and Campos's best being 22 and 27 (off the red). Barrett gained slightly with 21 and 22, and the Campos went to the table for the break of the session, a carefully played 73. Playing a variety of strokes, he kept the balls well under control until 68 was reached and then, failing to gather the balls after a cannon, he had the red in baulk and the white over a top pocket, a run through loser giving two more points but closing up the game. Barrett then had a stroke of luck. At 18, he made an unusually incautious attempt at a forced red loser into the middle pocket, missed the shot, and scored a rather hefty fluke, then going on steadily to 57. Campos could do nothing of note, and Barrett, favoured with scoring position after a forced cannon, put on 40 and got within 18 of his opponent (232—214). The game went forward at a slow pace, Barrett playing safety on every possible occasion, but Campos went out for all sorts of difficult strokes and, upon their failing, was rather fortunate that Barrett did not make better use of several good opportunities. The two continued within a few points of each other until the third hundred was passed and Campos then got away with 41. There was rather a dour struggle for the fourth hundred, and neither player accomplished anything better than a 20 break, Campos just keeping his lead and going to his points with 16 (unfinished), the score at the interval reading:—

Campos	400
Barrett	375

The game underwent a remarkable change in the second session, Capt. Barrett assuming command early and winning without the least difficulty. With an unfinished 16, Campos had the red ball in nice position but failed to add to his score, and getting position on his second visit to the table, Capt. Barrett put up a 38 and so gained a lead which he was never afterwards in danger of losing. It was evident that he was in a scoring mood, playing his strokes with much greater precision and confidence. After 21 by Campos and 26 by Barrett, the latter got position again and made a very pretty 51, spoiling position with the first really bad stroke of the break. Campos rapidly fell a century behind and seemed unable to do anything right, having a succession of difficult leaves and being so put off by this, coupled with his opponent's strength, that when he did get position he quite failed to do justice to it. The result was that Barrett went steadily ahead, a 40 and 39 taking him to 646 against 492. Thus well within the hour he had scored 271 against 92 by Campos. A 38 and 30 by Barrett, with several small breaks in between, carried his score to within 48 of game, and with Campos failing to do anything better than 22 and 17, Barrett went to the table and set about a very nicely played break which brought the game to the end. A prettily played double got him out of difficulties half way through, and he went to his points with 48 unfinished, the score then reading:—

Barrett	800
Campos	580

The winner played a wonderfully consistent game in the second session, and though Campos had none of the luck of the game, it must be said that he was altogether outplayed. After dinner there was a big crowd present, numbers even failed to find room in the hall, this no doubt in anticipation of a close finish. As it was, interest in the second session was confined to Barrett's unexpectedly good form.

Mr. Gordon Morriss Successful in Another Delightful Exhibition

After another splendid exhibition, in which he held the upper hand almost unchallenged throughout the game, Mr. Gordon Morriss, at the Town Hall on Tuesday, defeated Mr. E. D. Bush in the second semi-final of the Shanghai Amateur Billiards Championship by 800-637. He now will meet Capt. E. I. M. Barrett in the final.

The game had been in progress only 10 minutes when Morriss gave a show of his best form. The white was in the centre of the table and after making a few shots off it he manœuvred it so as to get a cannon and transfer the losing hazards to the red, the result being a break of 43. Bush replied with 23 and then Morriss fell off somewhat, the game being called in his favour at 75-60. However, he broke the first 100 at 105-66. Bush showed up with 30, the break including a wonderful back screw which must have run quite 18 inches and again, when Morriss made a mistake over an attempt at leaving safety, Bush added another 21. Morriss had some compensation when, after his next break ended through the red jambing, Bush tried an impossible shot simply because the red was close to the pocket and gave his opponent another opening, from which, with 34, Morriss went to 168-152.

Morriss had a lead of 30 at 200 and then went well away with 48, all off the red, and shortly afterwards a 58, in which red losers were interspersed with some pretty top of the table play. He now had an advantage of over 100 and played somewhat carefully up to 377-277, when he went to his points with an unfinished break of 24, the first session ending:—

Morriss,	400
Bush,	277

THE SECOND SESSION.

After dinner, when practically every seat in the hall was occupied, several by people whose presence well could have been dispensed with on account of their continual chattering, Morriss ran his unfinished break to 42. For a time both players appeared to be rather nervous and during this period the game went in favour of Bush. He did not do anything of note, but he scored regularly and gradually crept up until the score was only 501-454 against him.

At this point Morriss got his chance and went well away with a very fine break of 65. He was again worried by the white being in his way, he being one of those advanced players who score the majority of their points off the red, and it was a real treat to watch the clever manner in which he worked the red ball round so as to avoid the other. Eventually he had to bring the white into play and, getting to the top of the table, broke down when trying to make position off what was a perfectly simple shot if played without regard to after results. Bush only could reply with 15 and at his next visit Morriss added another 31, taking the score to 597-467. Thereafter Morriss completely dominated the game, Bush only making one break of note, which was the outstanding feature of his play. This was a spectacular effort for 58, made by all round play and just when he had got his best position and seemed to be well set he broke down.

Some rather careful play, in which a great number of safety misses were given, was punctuated by breaks of 26, 22 and 30 by Morriss Then a run of 41 took him to 740-604. Once again he got position and seemed likely to repeat the ending to his previous game by running out with an unfinished 60, but the spectators were disappointed when he finished at 22. However, two visits later he went to his points with an unfinished 32 (all reds after the first white) and the game ended:—

Morriss	800
Bush	637

CLEVER RED PLAY.

There was no question as to the winner being by far the better player and the only wonder was that, playing the balls so easily as he did, his breaks were not much bigger. He showed such perfect command that very few of his shots called for special effort, for he had gauged the table to a nicety and brought the red—it was almost always the red—back to position with amazing regularity. One other shot Morriss played several times with the most confident precision—a cannon from in or near baulk, off two cushions, to the red or spot, a very difficult shot to make with certainty His principal breaks were:—65, 58, 46, 43, 42, 41, 34, 32, 31, 30, 26 and 22 (twice).

Bush made a game fight but he was outclassed. His principal strength is in his knowledge of such a great number of shots that it is very difficult to leave him safe, but he could not equal Morriss at collaring the red and playing with it alone for 10 or more successive shots. He made some amazingly clever trick shots in order to get out of trouble, but they seldom brought him anything of account. His principal breaks were:—58, 30, 25, 24, 23 and 21 (twice).

INTERNATIONAL CHESS TOURNAMENT

Dr. Lasker Still Leading

New York, Mar. 27.

In the ninth round of the International Chess Tournament M. Capablanca and M. Reti defeated M. Bogoljubow and, M. Janowsky, respectively. M. Alekhine and M. Tartakower drew, and Mr. Marshall and Dr. Lasker drew. The game between Mr. Yates and M. Maroczy was adjourned.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Mar. 30.

In the tenth round of the International Chess Tournament, Dr. Lasker beat M. Reti and M. Boguljubow beat Mr. Yates, M. Janowski drew with M. Tartakower.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Mar. 30.

The position of the players at the end of the tenth round of the International Chess Tournament is as follows: Dr. Lasker has won 6 games and lost 2; M. Alekhine has won 6 games and lost 3; M. Reti, F. Tartakower and M. Capablanca have won 5 games and lost 4 games each.

Mr. Marshall and Mr. Capablanca drew. M. Edward Lasker drew with M. Alekhine.

In the 11th round of the International Chess Tournament Mr. Marshall, M. Maroczy and M. Reti defeated Mr. Edward Lasker, M. Janowski and M. Tartakower respectively. Dr. Lasker and Mr. Yates drew after 55 moves. The game between M. Alekhine and M. Boguljubow was adjourned. M. Capablanca drew a bye.—Reuter's American Service.

New York Mar. 31.

At the end of the first half of the International Chess Tournament at the conclusion of the 11th round the scores stand:—Dr. Lasker 7½ points: M. Alekhine 6½ points: MM. Capablanca and Reti 6 points: MM Tartakower, Boguljubow and Maroczy and Mr. Marshall 5 points; M. Janowski 3½ points; Mr. Edward Lasker 3 points; and Mr. Yates 2½ points.—Reuter's American Service.

Twelfth Round Results

New York, Apr. 2.

In the twelfth round of the International Chess Tournament today M. Reti defeated M. Bogoljubow. M. Maroczy drew with M. Tartakower and M. Capablanca drew with M. Alekhine. Mr. Yates defeated Mr. Edward Lasker. The game between Dr. Lasker and M. Janowski was adjourned after 62 moves.—Reuter's American Service.

A BRITISH-AMERICAN ATHLETIC MEET

Olympic Teams to be Opposed After the Games

New York, Feb. 26.

Dual athletic competition between the United States and the British Empire in England after the Olympic Games will cover several branches of sport, according to present plans. The Amateur Athletic Union announced to-day that it had tentatively accepted an invitation for American Olympic swimmers to meet British rivals in a tank meet at London, on July 26, while arrangements also are under way for opposing wrestling teams to stage a dual contest.

The A.A.U. some time ago accepted an invitation to have the American track and field team meet a British Empire team at a meet at Wembley Stadium, London, on July 19. Reuter's American Service.

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY FOOTBALL

France Defeated by Wales on Heavy Ground: Forwards Predominant

Paris, Mar. 27.

Wales beat France in an international Rugby match here to-day by 10 points to six in spite of heavy rain 30,000 people were present.

The downpour was continuous and the light very poor. The Frenchmen held their own in the first half, but were handicapped by the marsh-like ground and after the interval never looked like scoring.

After a quarter of an hour Griffiths got the ball from a line-out and dropped a beautiful goal. Then Jauneguy secured the ball in the midfield and sent Behoteguy over for an unconverted try. Following a Welsh forward rush, Joe Jones scored a try which was not converted. Near the interval Lubin scored a try for France, which they failed to convert. At half-time Wales was leading by 7 points to 6.

On the resumption the Welsh forwards pressed heavily. After ten minutes Richards scored a try, and from then on the Welsh pack dominated the field, Wales winning by 10 points to 6.

BOXING

McTigue Defeated by Stribling: Clark Beats Kelly in Fly-weight Championship

London, Mar. 31.

In a 20-round contest for the British fly-weight championship, at the National Sporting Club to-night, Elky Clark of Glasgow beat Kid Kelly of Plymouth, the referee stopping the fight in the 20th round.—Reuter.

Jersey City, Apr. 1.

In a 12-round "no decision" boxing contest here last night, Young Stribling, the light heavy-weight champion of the World, defeated Mike McTigue on points. The championship was not involved.—Reuter's American Service.

VARSITY BOATRACE

Oxford's Full Course Under Bad Conditions

London, March 28.

The Oxford crew went over a trial course from Mortlake to Putney to-day in 21 min. 10 sec. The conditions were bad, the crew encountering a head wind and rough water from the start to Hammersmith Bridge.—Reuter.

GOOD TIMES IN TRIALS.

London, Mar. 31.

The Oxford crew to-day rowed from Hammersmith Bridge to Mile Post in 2 min. 53-2/5 sec. beating the Cambridge record of 2 min. 54 sec., made in 1911.

The Cambridge eight's latest full course trial from Putney to Mortlake was done in 19 min. 51 sec. in fairly good conditions.—Reuter.

GRAND NATIONAL

Won by Master Robert

London, March 28.

The Grand National Steeplechase (about four and a half miles), run at Liverpool to-day, resulted as follows:—

Master Robert	1
Fly Mask	2
Silvo	3

Thirty ran. Won by four lengths, three lengths separating second and third.

Betting: 25 to 1 Master Robert; 100 to 7 Fly Mask; 100 to 7 Silvo.—Reuter.

GOLF IN AMERICA

Havers Wins North and South Championship

Pinehurst, April 2.

Hagen won the North and South Open Golf Championship scoring 283 for 72 holes. Cyril Walker was second with 285. The British players, Havers and Ockenden, played poorly and withdrew at the end of the third round. The Australian, Kirkwood, scored 296. Reuter's American Service.

COMPANY MEETINGS

SEREMBAN RUBBER ESTATES LD.

Annual General Meeting

At the annual meeting of the Shanghai Seremban Rubber Estates, Ld., held last Friday morning in the offices of the secretaries, Messrs. Wattie & Co., Ld., Dr. R. S. Ivy presided and was supported by Mr. A. K. Craddock and Mr. C. J. L. Stewart (directors and Mr. C. G. Copley, representing the secretaries. The Chairman, after the notice convening the meeting had been read, said:—

Gentlemen,—The report and accounts have been in your hands for the prescribed period and with your permission I will take them as read.

The accounts show, after deducting the amount of Tls. 246.70 at debit of profit and loss a/c brought forward from last year, a profit on the year's working of Tls. 11,115.14, which although fairly satisfactory does not, I regret to say, permit of the payment of a dividend.

The directors recommend that the amount be dealt with as follows:—

	Tls.
To [illegible] Medical Cer account	39.20
To write off Rubber Factory and Stores	645.60
To write off Plant and Machinery	78.22
To carry forward to next year's account	10,352.12

and I shall ask you later on to pass a resolution to this effect.

The amount to be carried forword is fully covered by liquid assets. The rubber stock has since all been sold and has realized over S 82,000 more than it was valued at in the balance sheet.

We should undoubtedly have had a more favourable balance sheet to put before you had our neighbours the Dutch East Indies, joined hands with Malaya and Ceylon in regulating supply to demand. It is to my mind deplorable that the burden of stabilizing and preserving this great industry from ruin should fall upon British shoulders alone. British producing countries restricted some 40,000 tons in 1923, whereas the Dutch incresed their output by some 35,000 tons which no doubt is responsible for the falling tendency of the rubber market to-day. Let us hope the Dutch may be brought to see the benefits of restriction which is not framed to rob either the manufacturer or consumer but is framed to enable the rubber producer to live and perhaps enjoy some return on the money invested.

There is no alteration in the acreage which remains at 638 acres as given by the 1916 survey. Weeding was done monthly and the estate is clean throughout, whilst cultivation in the way of contour draining was carried out as stated in the report; 60 more acres will be done this year which will complete the work on the estate.

Thinning out was done by selection based on yield test, every tree taken out was carefully examined by the manager before being dug up. The programme for this year will practically complete this work, so that there will not be much, if any, expenditure under this heading in the future.

I am glad to state that the estate keeps remarkably free from disease. Elephants destroyed 26 trees when they visited us during July, two of whom were shot, since when the herd has not again made an appearance.

THE STRAITS AGENCY.

For some considerable time past your directors have had in mind the desirability of having as our Straits agents some firm or individual who would be intimately connected with Shanghai in general and our interests in particular. An opportunity to achieve this end occurred during the past year and arrangements were accordingly made to transfer the Straits agency to Messrs. Kennedy, Burkill & Co., Ld., on December 1, 1923. I would like here to record our thanks to Messrs. Harrisons, Barker & Co., Ld., who have acted as the company's agents since its inception for their valuable services to the company and to emphasize the fact that your directors were in no wise dissatisfied with the manner in which they conducted the affairs of the estate, but that they felt that as Messrs. Kennedy, Burkill & Co., Ld., who represent practically all of the Shanghai rubber companies and moreover have in a senior position on their staff a gentleman who has lived in Shanghai for many years and who is very intimately acquainted with the affairs of the various companies, they will now receive that personal interest and attention which is so essential to the satisfactory conduct of business matters and which is unobtainable from mere correspondence.

In concluding these remarks, I have to state that the condition of the estate is first class, trees are healthy and foliage good, and I take this opportunity of expressing the Board's appreciation of the good work done by the manager, Mr. Gilchrist, during the year under review.

This is all I have to say, but should you wish to ask any questions, I shall be pleased to answer same to the best of my ability before putting the resolutions to the meeting. The following resolutions were adopted unamiously:—

That the Directors' report and statement of accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923 as presented and the disposal of the balance at credit of profit and loss account as recommended be adopted and passed—proposed by Dr. R. S. Ivy and seconded by Mr. A. K. Craddock.

That Mr. M. Speelman be re-elected a Director of the Company—proposed by Mr. A. K. Craddock and seconded by Mr. C. J. L. Stewart.

That Messrs. Thomson & Co., successors to Messrs. G. H. & N. Thomson, be elected auditors to the company for the ensuing year—proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch and seconded by Mr. G. Grayrigge.

LANGKAT OIL CO.

Details of Last Year's Working and the Future Prospects

The annual meeting of the Naamlooze Vennootschap Maatschappij Tot Mijn-Bosch-En Landbouw Exploitatie in Langkat was held last Friday afternoon at the office of the general agents, Messrs. George McBain, 1 The Bund. Mr. R. S. F. McBain presided and was supported by Messrs. John Prentice, R. C. Triggs and J. Elmore. After reading the notice convening the meeting, the Chairman said:—

Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some time past, I will with your permission take them as read.

In the accounts you will notice that reserve against sundry assets has been increased by Tls. 86,725.91 being the amount realized for sundry assets in excess of what they stood at in our books.

On the advice of our auditors it was decided to form a reserve of Tls. 28,723.41 for foreign staff leave pay and debit the respective working accounts annually with their proper proportion of these charges instead of in the year in which they were actually incurred as hitherto.

Sundry assets have been reduced during the year from Tls. 543,559.32 to Tls. 445,029.91 and we hope to see them reduced still further during the present year.

The item stores, plant and machinery has been increased from Tls. 229,001.85 to Tls. 306,307 principally owing to the taking back into stock of a quantity of stores, etc., from the Darat Oil Field not wanted by the B.P.M.

DISAPPOINTING FEATURES.

I regret that the accounts for the year under review show a somewhat disappointing result in spite of the fact that a satisfactory profit of Tls. 155,426.41 was earned on rubber. The loss on oil is due principally to the expenditure on packing and transport of machinery, but it is to be hoped that we shall reap the benefit of this work in the present year. The loss on timber was due to our losing our market in the south, and we had almost decided to abandon the business. It appears, however, that there are profits to be made in China on some of our timber, and it is our intention to give these markets a fair trial. During the year under review, however, little timber was sold in Sumatra and business at this end had not started to yield results. Up to the present sales have been small, but we have promises of good orders when we are in a position to deliver according to the requirements of the market. Our timber yard is on the Ward Road and we are installing a small sawmill and a kiln for drying timber; also, we are about to open a modest showroom where it will be possible for prospective buyers to see the finished article. As some of you may wish to see what we are producing I may mention that the address is No. 77 Szechuen Road. I do not want to say too much about prospects but it is my opinion that there are substantial profits to be made when the business is fully organized. It will never be on anything like the scale of the big concerns here, as we only compete in the better classes of hardwoods, therefore our competition should not be felt by them to any extent. Doubtless, we shall have troubles in the beginning to pass through, but for the present the market should be good and prices satisfactory owing to the great demand from Japan consequent upon the recent earthquake.

THE DRILLING MACHINERY.

You will have noticed in the auditors' report that they say: "We consider that after allowing for the reserve against same, sundry assets are stated in the balance sheet at figures in excess of their realizable value." It is of course impossible for me to say whether this opinion will prove to be correct as so much depends on the prices that the Asiatic Petroleum Company are able to secure for us for the drilling tools and machinery that we are delivering at San Pedro, and the first consignment to them has not yet arrived. Even if the result is not satisfactory, however, I wish to point out that we have valuable planting and timber concessions not mentioned in the accounts which should more than offset any difference that there may be. We have about 38,000 acres of good land, part of which we intend to reserve for our timber business, and the balance we are willing to sell when a favourable opportunity occurs. You will remember that we had an offer last year for part of this land but your directors decided that the price was too low. The prospective buyers were the Deli-Railway Company, and it is still possible that we may be able to come to business with them although they are out of the market for the present. It is not a good time to attempt to sell land suitable for rubber planting and we shall have to wait until the market improves for the raw material, but it is my opinion that we shall have our chance sooner or later.

There has been no drilling done on our Darat oil field and the Bataafsche Petroleum Maatchappij have not mentioned to us that they intend to do any in the near future but I believe they will still make an attempt to increase the output when circumstances are favourable for them to do so. The average daily production for the year under review was 21 tons as against 22 tons the year before.

RUBBER PRODUCTION.

I do not think there is very much of interest that I can tell you about our rubber estates, but everything is going on well and our visiting agent's reports are highly satisfactory. The estimated production for the year is 960,000 lb., as against 975,000 lb. last year. Our manager intends to start tapping some of our young rubber of Pelawi I, but the yield from this division of the estate for this year will not be of much importance, probably about 25,000 lb., which is included in the above mentioned estimate.

I do not think there is any necessity for anxiety about overtapping as we have gone into this question carefully with our manager, and our visiting agent has done the same. Bark renewal is excellent and it is considered that there is ample reserve. We are proceeding with the planting up of 1,000 acres as mentioned to you last year, and 245 acres will be planted up during the current year. The land has been carefully selected and the latest methods of planting will be employed so that this extension should form a very valuable reserve for the future.

That is all I have to say, but if any one has any questions, I will be glad to answer them to the best of my ability.

There being none, the following resolutions were unamiously passed:—

That the report and accounts as presented, be passed—proposed by Mr. R. S. F. McBain, seconded by Mr. John Prentice.

That the appointment of Mr. R. C. Triggs as a director of the Company be confirmed—proposed by Mr. W. G. Pirie, seconded by Mr. Ellis Hayim.

That the appointment of Mr. R. S. F. McBain as a director of the company be confirmed—proposed by Ellis Hayim, seconded by Mr. G. Fitzgerald.

That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year—proposed by Mr. W. G. Pirie, seconded by Mr. D. M Gubbay.

ANGLO-DUTCH (JAVA) PLANTATIONS

Annual Meeting

The 14th annual general meeting of the Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld., was held on Monday afternoon at the offices of the secretaries and general managers (Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co.). Mr. G. Grayrigge presided, supported by Messrs. C. R. Burkill and E. S. Kadoorie, directors, and the attendance represented 77,213 shares.

The notice convening the meeting, and the auditor's report, having been read, the Chairman said:—

We meet to-day under happier auspices than this time 12 months ago. Then we were just emerging from a slump the like of which I trust we may not have to endure again and there would be positively no reason to fear it at all if the Dutch authorities would throw in their lot with the British and adopt some form of compulsory restriction. Instead of doing this, however, the Dutch Colonies have produced almost pound for pound that quantity restricted by the British Colonies which is perhaps the main reason why rubber remains to-day one of the cheapest commodities in the world. The price, though sagging at present, has however maintained a sufficiently high level to enable most companies adequately to upkeep their estates and to earn very modest profits though not at all in keeping with what an investor could reasonably look forward to from an agricultural enterprise carried on under tropical conditions with all its attendant risks.

VOLUNTARY RESTRICTION.

This company early on gave its allegiance to voluntary restriction and has loyally done its share towards maintaining the rubber market above the dead loss level.

What the present year may have in store for the industry is yet too early to predict, but with Europe all at sixes and sevens it is apparent the present scale of production is outpacing the world's capacity of consumption. The scale adopted by the British is a fair one, it works automatically and if the price advances beyond a certain level more rubber is permitted export and *vice versa*. The scheme has now had the test of 17 months' working and has proved the salvation of many enterprizes that otherwise must have gone under. It has placed no burden on the shoulders of manufacturers and consumers; all that can be claimed for it is that it has enabled the rubber producer to live and to pay, in some instances, a small return to those whose money is at stake. Thus, all interested are hoping that the Dutch may soon see their way clear to co-operating with the British and doing their share towards placing this great industry on a sound basis by regulating supply to demand as is done in other industries.

ESTATE IMPROVEMENT.

Good progress was made towards improving the Anglo Dutch properties during the past year. Mimosa Gigantica, which is both a soil improver and lallang killer, has been sown down in large quantities and the estate is undoubtedly benefiting therefrom.

Like most of the older estates, bark excision in the earlier years had been too rapid, but a conservative rotational tapping system was put into operation in the Autumn of 1922; excessive bark consumption was guarded against and the position now is safe for all time. These methods hit our crop returns for awhile very severely, but output is creeping up again now and next year we shall be able to harvest all the rubber we may be asked to produce. Costs naturally rose with the smaller crop and stood at 14 pence per lb. dearer than in 1922, but the higher market price obtained will offset this item.

The cultivation and conservative rotational tapping have apparently made a great difference in the betterment of the property, for writing in September, 1923, our visiting agent says *inter alia*:—"Change in appearance is positively astounding owing to the milder tapping system. New foliage is abundant and of a deep healthy green."

I think thus that we may rest content that our principal asset, the estate itself, is being well looked after and I am sure you will join the Board in an appreciation of the work put in by the manager, Mr. Petit, who has been with us many years, the visiting agent, Mr. Sheppard, and our Sourabaya agents.

ADDITIONAL LAND.

During the year the company acquired 1,246 acres of reserve land near Banjoemas, Middle Java, for the sum of F. 40,000 as authorized by shareholders at the extraordinary general meeting held on June, 1. Beyond cutting paths no work has yet been done on this reserve.

The coffee area having been stumped no crop was made last year, but we may see a small crop this, though it is yet uncertain.

The rubber harvest was 540,000 lb. or 60,000 lb. less than the estimate. The deficit was due to the lighter tapping system the necessity and benefits of which I have already dealt with. The estimate for this year is 600,000 lb., and judging by returns to date, I expect the estimate may be exceeded.

The selling price averaged practically sixpence per lb. over that of 1922, an advance due to British foresight by enforced restriction.

THE ACCOUNTS.

The above reflects in the accounts, for whereas the working account of the Dutch company in 1922 showed a profit of only F. 22,895.11, 1923 returns us F. 122,666.79. Of this, by agreement, the Dutch company has to pay the Shanghai company F. 25,470.04 for commission on sales and agency fees, and after providing for income tax and other charges, the net profit is F. 99,202.45, to which is added the balance of profit brought forward from the preceding year, making a total of F. 147,028.43.

The directors have dealt with this as follows:—Written off for Depreciation F. 28,880.70, which reduces the Dutch company's assets such as buildings, machinery and rolling stock to F. 1 each, paid a dividend to the Shanghai company of F. 100,000 and carried forward F. 18,147.73 to a new account.

The Shanghai company's Accounts show that the profit for the year amounted to Tls. 71,318.92, to which must be added the balance from 1922 of Tls. 32,504.58 leaving a sum of Tls. 103,823.50 to be dealt with.

If the directors' recommendations as to the disposal of this profit be adopted, the company will retain in liquid assets the equivalent of Tls. 38,772.

THE RESOLUTIONS.

There were no questions, and the following resolutions were unanimously carried:

That the Directors' report and statement of accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923, as presented be adopted and passed. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. C. R. Burkill

That the balance at credit of profit and loss account be dealt with as follows:—

	Tls.
To pay a dividend of 20 candareens per share	70,000.00
To pay commission to Administrative staff	3,581.65
To carry forward to a new account	30,241.85
	103,823.50

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Burkill.

That Mr. S. A. Hardoon be and hereby is re-elected a Director of the company. Proposed by Mr. E. S. Kadoorie, seconded by Mr. A. J. Welch.

That the appointments of Messrs. C. R. Burkill and E. S. Kadoorie as Directors of the Company be and are hereby confirmed. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. S. E. Levy.

That Messrs. Mortimer, Reid & Slee be elected auditors to the company for the ensuing year. Proposed by Mr. Levy, seconded by Mr. Welch.

THE CHEMOR UNITED RUBBER CO.

Saints and Sinners in Tapping: Smuggling from the F. M. S. to Sumatra

The annual meeting of the Chemor United Rubber Co., Ld., was held on Wednesday.

Mr. E. E. Clark presided, supported by Mr. G. Grayrigge, Mr. C. R. Burkill, Mr. E. S. Kadoorie (Directors) and Mr. C. J. L. Stewart representing the secretaries and general managers.

The notice calling the meeting having been read, the Chairman said:—

Reading over my speech at our last annual meeting. I opened with a reference to the benefits we were even then deriving from enforced restriction.

We have now had a full 17 months in which to appraise the pros and cons of the scheme, and I may give it as my own opinion and also of my colleagues that the benefits of the scheme far outweigh the disadvantages. Like all new movements it had its anomalies and inequities, but those are gradually being balanced up and straightened out. The latest revision is a new assessment, pending which no estate is allowed a standard production of over lb. 400 per acre.

This will go some way towards evening up those sinners who got a huge standard production allowed them, by over-tapping during the standard period, with those saints who conserved and properly treated their trees and whose allowance suffered in consequence.

DUTCH PRODUCTION.

Prices during 1923 soared to no great heights. We started with an allowance of 60 per cent. of standard Production, for a brief three months we were allowed 65 per cent., and we finished the year back at 60 per cent. Every time the price climbed over 50 cents, it seemed to lose its backbone and drop down again. The reason is not far to seek. Our Dutch neighbours proved themselves only too keen to make money at the expense of our restrictive endeavours and produced almost pound for pound what we British restricted. This may be good business from a Dutch point of view but it certainly is a distorted one from the view of the countries which are doing their utmost to replace the rubber growing industry on its legs. If the Dutch would work hand in hand with us, I am quite sure a scheme could be evolved whereby rubber growers would be able to make a living and a bit to spare and which would in no way prove tyrannous to manufacturers and consumers.

Going through the statistics of Dutch East Indies export, I notice it is not the Island of Java that shews such a big increase as those Sumatram ports opposite the F.M.S., which makes me think that perhaps a deal of the rubber figuring as Dutch is really smuggled stuff from the F. M. S. I hope the latter will take measures whereby the sale of illicit rubber may be entirely checked and one way towards this would be certificates of origin.

Coming from the general to the particular, I am glad to tell you that the two properties belonging to this company are both in excellent condition, especially Chemor, which has splendid bark reserves. Batu Dua is not so well placed in this respect and on this division a very conservative tapping policy has been adopted with partial resting, which in time will have the effect of placing its bark reserves on an A. 1 footing. Meantime any shortage of production on Batu Dua is easily made up by Chemor.

With restricted crops the cost has naturally increased, 1923 being 1.35 pence above 1922 but the average sale price of 15.20 pence as compared with 8.33 pence in 1922 amply compensates for this, and is at the same time an eloquent witness to the success of restriction. This company might possibly have survived without restriction but it certainly would have been unable to pay you any return on the money invested.

The report before you is brief but deals with all essentials and leaves me nothing to add except to voice our thanks to our managers, Mr. Johnson of Chemor and Mr. Murray of Batu Dua both of whom have been with us many years and enjoy our confidence.

THE YEAR'S PROFITS.

The accounts make better reading than we have been accustomed to of recent years. The nett profit for 1923 amounts to Tls. 33,923.40 to which must be added the sum brought forward from 1922, making the divisible profits Tls. 71,620.03. Out of these the company paid an interim dividend of 5 candareens per share on November 6, 1923 absorbing Tls. 20,000, leaving the sum of Tls. 51,620.03 to be dealt with to-day.

Last year I stated that it was the Board's intention to build up a reserve fund in a gold currency and a glance at the balance sheet will show you that this has been carried out by the purchase of S. $25,000. Straits Settlements 1929 5½ per cent. Loan.

The Board recommends that the balance at credit of profit and loss account be dealt with as laid down in the report.

With those remarks, Gentlemen. I have pleasure in proposing Resolution No. 1, viz:—"That the Directors' report and statement of accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923 as presented be adopted and passed." This is proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. G. Grayrigge.

The resolution is now before the meeting and is open to discussion I shall be glad to answer any questions that may be asked.

No questions were asked and the resolution was carried, also the following:—

"That the balance at credit of profit and loss account be dealt with as follows:—

	Tls.
To write off investment account (rubber roadways)	79.22
To write off live and rolling stock	4.13
To write off development account	964.02
To transfer to general reserve	12,000.00
To pay commission to secretaries and managers —	600.00
To pay a final dividend of 5 candareens per share	20,000.00
To carry forward to a new account	17,972.66
Tls.	51,620.03

Proposed by Mr. J. Sudka and seconded by Mr. A. J. Welch. —"That Messrs. G. Grayrigge and E. E. Clark be and are hereby re-elected directors of the company."

"That the appointments of Messrs. C. R. Burkill and E. S. Kadoorie as directors of the company be and are hereby confirmed."—Proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch and seconded by Mr. G. Grayrigge.

"That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews be and hereby are elected auditors to the company for the ensuing year."—Proposed by Mr. J. Sudka and seconded by Mr. G. Grayrigge.

AT the meeting of the United Services Association (Women's Branch) held at the B.W.A. Headquarters last Friday afternoon the following officers were elected:—Chairman, Mrs. McMichael; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Elwin; Committee members, Mrs. R. M J. Martin, Mrs. H. Y. Irwine, Mrs. Graham Barrow, Mrs. Alex. Samson, Miss England and Miss Lyall.

THE SHANGHAI WATERWORKS

Chairman's Speech at Annual Meeting: The Council's Negotiations for Purchase and Recent Developments: How Shareholders Are Suffering

The annual meeting of shareholders in the Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld., was held on Thursday afternoon, when there were present Messrs. H. Martin Little (presiding) and A. W. Burkill, Directors; F. B. Pitcairn, engineer-in-chief and manager; W. R. Walter, secretary; L. E. Canning, Chun Bing-him, C. A. Pearson and T. Cock. The attendance represented 10,779 shares.

The notice convening the meeting, and the auditors' report having been read, the Chairman said:—

I regret to say that Mr. Cubitt is unable to be with us to-day on account of illness. Mr. Mackie has recently resigned from the Board on leaving for Hongkong and we have invited Mr. F. R. Scott, of Messrs. Mackenzie & Co., to take his place.

The report and accounts for the year ending December 31, 1923, having been in your possession for some days, you will doubtless agree that they be taken as read.

As you will have seen the directors recommend that the disposable balance, after the transfer of Tls. 40,000 from equalization of dividend fund, be dealt with as follows:—

	Tls.
To pay a final dividend for the year 1923 on 33,530 shares of 10/- per share £16,765 at ex. 3/2½	103,500.96
Carry forward to new account	24,474.63
Tls.	127,975.59

When paying the interim dividend in July last we considered it desirable to point out to shareholders that our action in paying an interim dividend was not to be taken as an indication that the final dividend would be maintained at the same rate as that paid in respect of 1922. I regret to say our fears have been fully realized. As stated in the directors' report the two principal reasons for the unsatisfactory result of the year's working are (1) the fact that the company is unable, at the rates fixed by the agreement of 1905, to collect revenue commensurate with the increased cost of providing an efficient supply of water and (2) that the profit derived from the fittings department has been disappointing.

FITTINGS.

I will deal with the case of the fittings department first. In previous years we have derived a satisfactory profit from the sale and repair of water fittings but for the year under review the result has been disappointing. A careful investigation has since been made and we have come to the conclusion that the keen competition that has arisen in recent years has forced our prices too low; this setback we look upon as only temporary. The fittings department is a very valuable adjunct to the company's business. I do not think I am wrong in saying that our turnover is larger than that of any other similar concern in China. We are, I think, popular with local architects; we have connexions with the leading purveyors of sanitary ware and heating apparatus in Great Britain and the U.S.A. and we receive few complaints from our customers. There is therefore no reason so far as I can see why this department should not be worked at a satisfactory profit.

INCREASED COST OF SUPPLY.

The increased cost of providing an efficient supply of water is due principally to the adoption of the methods of purification to which reference is made in the summary of the engineer-in-chief and manager's report. It must be remembered, however, that but for this intensified treatment we should have had to buy more land for filter beds, reservoirs, etc. Moreover, we have the satisfaction of knowing that we are supplying water of a far higher standard of bacteriological clarity than before. Reference to this is made in the report of the Commissioner of Public Health for last year recently published. He says: "A systematic investigation extending over 14 months has shown that the processes employed at the Waterworks are capable of reducing the number of lactose-fermenting organisms of the 'B' coli group to 40 per litre in all seasons of the year, and that with rare exceptions, this standard has been maintained. It is a high standard and the quality of the supply is most creditable to the Waterworks authorities. Again in the chemical laboratory report: "A progressive improvement in the clarity of the water supplied from the mains has been evident and the ordinary condition of the water during the latter part of the year was that of only very slight opacity and approaching clear brightness."

If you reflect upon the contaminated state of the Huangpu river from which we draw our supply, I am sure you will agree that our staff is to be congratulated on this tribute.

We also had to pay a higher price for our coal in 1923 than in 1922 but I am happy to say that there is a small reduction in the contract price for the current year.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

As you will have seen from the accounts the total expenditure on working account has increased by Tls. 148,573.62 over that of the previous year, while the revenue from all sources in spite of the disappointing result of the fittings department has increased by Tls. 110,838.15. The profit from the sale of water shows an increase over that for 1922 but this is due in a considerable measure to the fact that we now charge extra agreement consumers by meter at an increased rate. To consumers residing within the Settlement and on roads under the control of the Council our charges are limited by the agreement with the Council of 1905. I believe I am correct in saying that practically all waterworks undertakings in Great Britain—I have no statistics from other countries—have been permitted during the last few years to increase their rates, in many cases by 50 per cent, and the French Municipal Council has recently sanctioned an increase in the rate charged by the French Waterworks undertaking from 7½ candareens per cubic meter to 8½ candareens per cubic meter (with abolition of the meter rent), that is to say from 47.4 dollar cents per 1,000 gallons to 54.3 dollar cents per 1,000 gallons. The former rate was already higher than our meter rate. The French Waterworks undertaking charges for the supply for all purposes, domestic and non-domestic, by meter. The mere fact that negotiations have taken place is an admission on the part of the Council that modification of the agreement of 1905 has been called for, yet no increase in rates, although asked for, has been sanctioned.

RELATIONS WITH THE COUNCIL.

Turning to profit and loss account, you will see that interest is Tls. 32,280.23 and depreciation Tls. 5,575.52 higher than the preceding year. These increases are inevitable with the growth of capital expenditure. We have been accused of lack of foresight in embarking upon the large capital expenditure of the last few years without previously obtaining the Council's sanction of increased rates. Gentlemen, the Municipal Council is a body of men of high standing in the commercial world; could it have been anticipated that some six years would elapse without their being able to come to a decision in regard to our relations with them?

As pointed out in our last letter to the Council dated February 22 this year, our policy has been to spare no expense in keeping up and enhancing the efficiency of the undertaking in the interests of the community and beyond what is strictly called for in the agreement of 1905, basing our trust on the assurances and fairmindedness of succeeding Councils that the company would receive such treatment as would compensate shareholders for the protracted delay in the negotiations.

HARDSHIP TO SHAREHOLDERS.

We fully realize the unfortunate position in which many of our shareholders are placed by the diminution of the dividends paid by the company and by the consequent fall in the market value of shares. We have received letters from some of them. One a retired missionary writes that nearly 20 years ago he bought shares at over Tls. 400 per share as he was led to believe that the Shanghai Waterworks Co. was a perfectly sound security and that he could rely on a steady 5 per cent. on his capital but that the small sum now received causes much distress; he expresses the hope that we shall soon find the Municipal Council more just and reasonable; another, at one time the head of the oldest firms in the Far East, writes that many shareholders are persons of very limited means and a few are solely dependent on the dividends for their income and that the reduction in dividends and the delay in declaring them have been productive of great hardship and anxiety. Our shareholders are, I think, without exception residents and ex-residents of the Far East and their descendants. Gentlemen, I say without fear of contradiction that the treatment we have received from the Municipal Council is a stigma upon the fair name of Shanghai which those ex-residents did so much to create.

PROPOSED PURCHASE.

I do not think the accounts call for further comment and I will therefore proceed to consideration of the proposed purchase of the company's undertaking by the Council. I hope you have all read the record of the negotiations during the last two years which accompanied the annual report and accounts. You will have seen that after consultation with a leading firm of chartered accountants in London we decided to base our price upon the value of the property and plant at the date of purchase. Accordingly a valuation was made by the company's engineers assisted when required by expert advice, and we informed the Council that we were prepared to recommend the shareholders to sell the company's "business and undertaking etc.," for the sum of Tls. 14,947,780 subject to certain conditions which are set forth in our letter to the Council of April 13, 1923, to which would have to be added further capital expenditure up to the date of purchase. We reserved the right to amend this price in the event of the Council being unable to agree and deciding to submit the matter to arbitration. At the Ratepayers' meeting held on April 19 last year a resolution was passed authorizing the Council to purchase, with an amendment whereby the Council should not exercise the authority until it should have further examined the financial considerations involved and should have taken the directions of a further meeting of ratepayers whether or not there should be a quorum of ratepayers present. The Council has since informed us that it is advised that it cannot exercise the power to purchase except with the authority of a special meeting of ratepayers at which a quorum is present, and that it may therefore be necessary to lay the whole matter *de novo* before the ratepayers at their next annual meeting.

I may point out that if the Council is unable to agree to the price named by us and decided to submit the matter to arbitration, it must, under the terms of our agreement, first give one year's notice to purchase and then, having given that notice, it must purchase whatever the result of the arbitration may be.

COUNSEL'S OPINION.

In September last year, it was intimated that in the Council's opinion the price to be paid should be based upon an agreed number of years' purchase of the net maintainable profits. We therefore decided to consult the best possible counsel in England on the question and we obtained the opinions of the Right Hon. Sir John Simon, K.C., M.P., and Mr. G. J. Talbot, K.C., now Mr. Justice Talbot. Both counsel supported our contentions. I had an interview the Chairman of the Council and acquainted him with this and on December 12 we advised the Council in writing. We also drew attention to a decision of the Supreme Court of the U.S.A. last year that the value of a public utility undertaking is properly measured by the cost of its reproduction, or more elaborately, the

cost of construction to-day at prevailing prices of material and labour. Yet the Council in its letter of January 18 this year asks the company to accept a price based upon 15.3846 years' purchase of the profits earned during the year 1922—less than Tls. 8,000,000—with a view to avoiding "what may possibly develop into a long and costly arbitration."

THE COUNCIL'S DESIRE.

Time does not permit of my going into all the arguments in support of our price nor in view of the possibility of arbitration is it desirable. Suffice it to say that the Council by this offer seeks to gain possession of the company's undertaking at its highest state of efficiency at a price based upon the year in which the return on capital expended was at its lowest. The basis of maintainable profits is in itself manifestly unfair; the company's profits have been limited by its agreement with the Council. The Council seeks to regard these profits as the net maintainable profits, it ignores the potential profit earning capacity of the undertaking, for, if the Council purchases, it will be the sole arbiter of the rates to be charged and I think there is very little doubt that purchase will be followed by an immediate increase in water rates.

We have refused the Council's offer, indeed, I find it difficult to believe that such a price could have been offered by a set of business men unless when they enter the Council room they get their ideas warped by the bureaucratic atmosphere tinged with an oriental influence and thus offer as is customary in the East at least half of what they are prepared to pay.

NOT TREATED FAIRLY.

Well, Gentlemen, I am sure that the views of ratepayers are that an individual or a company should have a square deal. For six weary years we have been negotiating with succeeding Councils and while nearing agreement at times—you have only to refer to former speeches of the Chairman of this Company—the Council again and again changes its ground, and I cannot help feeling that the company has not been treated fairly.

In our letter to the Council of February 22 we suggested a profit sharing arrangement in lieu of purchase, whereby the Council should participate in the profits earned after paying interest at an agreed rate upon the capital cost of the concern, the company in return being authorized to base its charges upon a meter tariff. An arrangement of this sort has been adopted in Alexandria (Egypt) and has much to commend it. We have this week received a preliminary reply from the Council in which no reference is made to purchase but it is stated that the Council is giving particular attention to this suggestion of the company.

A CHANGED ATMOSPHERE.

I am afraid I cannot at present give you further information, but there are certain principles put forward in the letter which we may not see our way to fall in with. The letter is couched in friendly terms and welcomes discussion on points open to difference of opinion and is a very great advance on previous communications. If we may take this as a forerunner of a new atmosphere in the Council's deliberations and as a token that they are now prepared to recognize the just claims of the company, well then, Gentlemen, I think there is a very good hope indeed that this will really be the last time that your Chairman will have to make any reference to protracted negotiations and the next time he addresses you our difference with the Council will have been amicably and fairly settled to the satisfaction of both parties and the company on a fair way to the prosperity it has so long been debarred from.

Before sitting down I should like on behalf of the directors to bear testimony to the satisfactory manner in which the staff of the company has carried out the work entrusted to it during the year.

There were no questions, and the following resolutions were formally carried:

THE RESOLUTIONS.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. A. W. Burkill: That the directors' report and accounts for the year 1923, as submitted to this meeting be and are hereby received and adopted.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. A. W. Burkill: That a final dividend for the year 1923 of 10/- per share be and is hereby declared; payable in Shanghai at exchange 3/2½ per tael.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. L. E. Canning: That Mr. A. W. Burkill be and he is hereby re-elected a director of the company.

Proposed by Mr. C. A. Pearson, seconded by Mr. Chun Bing-him: That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be and they are hereby re-elected Auditors of the company.

On the proposal of Mr. Canning, a vote of thanks was accorded to the staff and the directors for their work during the year, and the Chairman acknowledged the compliment, the proceedings then terminating.

ANGLO-FRENCH LAND INVESTMENT CO., LD.

Details of Year's Operations Given at Annual Meeting: Property Development

The 18th annual general meeting of the Anglo-French Land Investment Company, Ld., was held at the offices of Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. C. R. Burkill took the chair, and was supported by Mr. Gilbert Davies and Mr. Liu Chang-yin. The total number of shares represented was 4,899.

The Chairman, presenting the annual report said:—

While the figures showing the year's working indicate an increase of approximately Tls. 3,900, the actual result is not quite up to the last year's standard. The net profit for the year amounted to Tls. 113,883.71 as against Tls. 114,851.57 for the previous year, a decrease of Tls. 967.86. This result is mainly due to the charge of Tls. 7,834.11, expenses and debentures discounts in connexion with the flotation of the new issue of Tls. 800,000 debentures.

During the year the directors received an offer for the purchase of Estate "J" on the Fokien Road. For several years this property has been yielding a comparatively poor return and although the price offered was not as high as we might have wished, the directors considered it advisable to dispose of the property and utilize the proceeds for the purchase of more remunerative properties which were then on the market. A loss of Tls. 11,114 was incurred on the sale but this loss, however, does not affect our profit and loss account as the amount has been written off depreciation and renewals account. Although the sale of this property naturally affected our rentals, I am glad to say that the gross rentals for the year exceeded last year's collections by Tls. 5,321.51 which may be considered very satisfactory.

NEW PURCHASES.

As you have been informed in the report, Estates "S" and "T" are new purchases. The development of Estate "R" purchased last year and Estate "S" were completed last month and all houses and shops are now fully occupied. Since the report and accounts were published, Estate "T" has been augmented by the purchase of B.C. Lot 1113 situated at the corner of Yuhang and Miller Roads. The acquisition of this corner piece now gives us the whole road frontage on the Yuhang Road from Miller to Fearon Roads and will greatly facilitate development. The building of this property is now in hand and will be completed during the current year.

A fire occurred in October last in the Rue de la Mission—part of Estate "A"—12 houses being totally destroyed and the remaining four partly damaged. It was decided to rebuild this property with 12 three-storied shops which will assure a much better return on the rebuilding than the original houses which were destroyed.

At an extraordinary general meeting held on March 28, 1923, a resolution empowering the directors to borrow sums up to the full nominal capital of the company, instead of half as formerly, was passed. Under this new power, the directors decided to pay off the 1908 issue of Tls. 250,000 debentures and to create a new issue of 5-20 year 6 per cent. debentures amounting to Tls. 800,000. The 1908 issue was therefore redeemed on December 31, 1923, and it was decided to invite subscriptions for Tls. 450,000 of the new issue at 98. Up to the end of our financial year, applications amounting to Tls. 301,000 of this new issue were received making, with the 1911 issue of Tls. 300,000 a total amount of Tls. 601,000 debentures. Since March 1 further applications have been received, bringing the total of the new issue up to Tls. 450,000 (leaving a balance of Tls. 250,000) which is considered sufficient for present requirements. Further debentures will be sold when funds are required and the directors are on the look out for any suitable properties for investments which may come on the market.

EIGHT PER CENT. DIVIDEND.

I do not think there is anything in the balance sheet which calls for any special comment. Property account shows an increase of Tls. 95,278 over the previous year's figures while mortgages remain the same. Our loan account of Tls. 173,500 was obtained at very favourable rates and is repayable at call.

The directors are glad to be able to recommend a final dividend of Tls. 4.50 per share, making eight per cent. for the year. It is also proposed to place the sum of Tls. 31,114.84 to depreciation and renewals, bringing this account up to Tls. 360,000 and to place Tls. 15,000 to special repairs account. This latter sum is being put aside for a thorough overhaul of the company's properties in North Szechuen, North Chêkiang Road and Burkill Roads and on completion of the work a considerable advance in rentals will be obtained.

Prospects for the current year are very encouraging and I am pleased to report that our new properties are well let and there are no empty houses on our other properties.

That is all I have to say, gentlemen. Before putting the resolutions to the meeting, I shall be glad to answer to the best of my ability any questions shareholders may wish to ask.

No questions were asked and on the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Liu Chang-yin, the report and accounts for the year as presented were accepted.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. Liu Chang-yin seconded:—

"That the following recommendation as to appropriation of balance at credit of profit and loss account be accepted:—

	Tls.
Pay final dividend of Tls. 4½ per share (making 8 per cent. for the year)	58,500.00
Place to special repairs account	15,000.00
Place to depreciation and renewals	31,114.84
Carry forward	9,268.87
	113,883.71

On the proposition of Mr. R. C. B. Fennell, seconded by Mr. W. A. Ogden, Mr. Liu Chang-yin was re-elected a director of the company.

On the proposition of Mr. W. A. Ogden seconded by Mr. J. R. Moodie, Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews were re-elected auditors to the company.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The "Sarawak Gazette" announces the death on January 11 at Torquay of Major W. H. Rodway, who joined the Sarawak Civil Service in 1862, and retired on pension in 1883. Major Rodway, who was a great-uncle of Mr. E. S. Benbow Rowe, of Shanghai, was nearly 90 years of age at the time of his death. He spent a great part of his service at Mukah, being one of the officers there when the fort was captured and held for a short time during the Chinese rebellion. Major Rodway later acted as Commandant of the Sarawak Rangers, Resident of the 1st Division and President of the Committee of Administration.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

A SOLUTION FOR MOTOR-CAR PROBLEMS IN SHANGHAI

Why Not a Central Sky-Scraper Garage to Save Parking? One Way Traffic: Tram Co.'s Intolerable Delays in Track Repair

Some very important points were raised at the annual meeting of the Automobile Club of China, held at the General Chamber of Commerce rooms, on Monday Mr. C. R. Burkill (the Chairman) presided, supported by Mr. M. O. Springfield, Mr. J. J. Keegan (members of the Committee) and Mr. R. N. Swann (secretary).

The Chairman said that, with regard to the accounts, there was nothing calling for special comment. Their investments were intact and the expenditure was approximately the same as in the preceding year.

The accounts were adopted and the retiring committee (Messrs. C. R. Burkill, H. von Heidenstam, R. T. Peyton Griffin, G. Okada, C. Harpur, J. J. Keegan and M. O. Springfied) were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. A. L. Anderson.

The Chairman—Many matters of importance have been dealt with by your committee during the past year, chiefly connected with traffic and parking problems, and questions relative to street congestion. Parking and ranking of vehicles and other traffic problems are becoming so serious that an impossible state of affairs will be reached in a very short time. The amount of traffic on the streets is certain to increase rather than decrease and more especially with regard to automobiles. Local statistics show that the increase in the number of cars used is very considerable from year to year and it will readily be seen that grave difficulties will arise in the congested areas if steps are not taken to relieve the situation.

A MONSTER PARKING GARAGE.

The Shanghai Municipal Council has endeavoured to meet the parking difficulties by providing spaces on wide and little used roads and, of course, on the Bund; and shopping centres have had ranking spaces allotted them, these latter adding rather seriously to the general congestion I am afraid, but it is difficult to know how to avoid it. Streets have been widened and the Council are, I understand, taking every opportunity which arises to acquire road frontage, but this entails considerable expense and time and I feel that some other means should be sought for solving our difficulties. I have already said that cars ranked and parked along the street side add to the congestion and we must therefore endeavour to find further facilities for ranking and parking and the only sound and practicable scheme that comes to my mind is multiple storage. That is the provision of a huge centrally situated garage with numerous floors and elevators.

A scheme of this nature could be worked by the Council in such a way as to obtain the return of expenditure on land and buildings; 1,000 cars stored at 25 cents per diem would produce an annual income of $91,250 and there should be no difficulty in obtaining the consent of the ratepayers to the expenditure in the circumstances. At the present rate of progress in Shanghai the estimate of 1,000 cars needing day garage space does not seem too high and the exposure of valuable cars to the elements costs owners in the end more than $7½ a month as proposed in this scheme. Similar parking arrangements have met with success in other parts of the world, and though the problem is a difficult one there is no doubt that a long view of the situation should be taken by the Shanghai Municipal Council now.

ONE WAY TRAFFIC.

There are many alternative schemes for providing relief and the time has arrived when serious attention must be given to the matter of traffic problems. The appointment of a local commission assisted by a representative of the Traffic Commissioner and the Commissioner of the Public Works Department in an advisory capacity, would appear to be essential, and your committee would be willing to render any possible service in this direction.

In my remarks at the last annual meeting I referred to the necessity for introducing a "one-way" traffic scheme in the congested areas, but I understand the scheme met with serious opposition from certain quarters. I am still of the opinion, however, that such a scheme would provide a certain amount of relief and I trust the Traffic Department will continue their efforts in this direction. Questions relating to traffic in Avenue Edward VII have been brought before your committee during the year, but dual police control on this thoroughfare renders proper regulation of traffic difficult. Several new suggestions for checking the cutting corners by cars and other vehicles are under consideration. The new traffic signals have given satisfaction and it would seem that some efforts might now be made at standardising them.

TRAMWAY DELAYS.

Before leaving the question of street traffic, I think I ought to refer to the length of time taken by the Tramway Company to relay the permanent way in Nanking Road and other thoroughfares. The progress made is extremely slow and it would appear that measures could easily be taken to quicken up the work, which is a source of great inconvenience and would not be tolerated in other parts of the world. Your committee has found the Traffic Department ready at all times to consider reasonable suggestions, but many of them entail considerable expense which can only be sanctioned with the approval of the ratepayers themselves. However, the club welcomes suggestions from members and the same will receive full consideration with a view to making representations to the Council, where deemed expedient.

The chauffeurs' school, closed in December, 1922, is sadly missed and I hope the resuscitation of same may be found possible at an early date. Several inquiries have been received by the club regarding same and in many quarters it is considered a necessity in the interests of public safety. No further progress has been made regarding motor road extensions or the building of new roads outside the Settlement and Concession limits, but the existing roads have been kept in comparatively good order which augurs well for the future of the road building movement in China.

CLUB MATTERS.

Turning to the club matters members continue to take advantage of the benefits of affiliation with the Royal Automobile Club, London, and have found the privileges extended of considerable help both as regards the purchase and landing of cars and the general facilities provided for tourists. A letter has just been received from the Royal Automobile Club extending to members of our club visiting Great Britain on the occasion of the British Empire Exhibition, a cordial invitation to become honorary members of the Royal Automobile Club during the period of the Exhibition on presentation of a letter of initroduction. Members desiring to take advantage of this exceedingly generous offer should apply to our secretaries for a letter of introduction.

The Club Handbook which was recently issued to members contains a good deal of information of interest and value to motorists. It is hoped to improve future issues by adding to the contents, and the secretaries will be glad to receive suggestions from members at any time. Your committee has appointed the "Asiatic Motor"

(*Continued on Page 22*)

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

Money and Exchange

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, Apr. 4.

Bank's demand selling rate for 11 at 3/2⅜=Tls. 6.25 at 7160=$8.73

Bank's demand selling rate for G.$100 at 68¾=Tls. 145.45 at 7160=$203.14

Mex. Dollars, market rate	7185
Native Interest	06
Copper Cash	262,000
Bar Silver	32 1/16
Bank rate of Discount	4%
Paris on London	74.40
New York on London	430¼

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/2½
Demand	3/2⅝
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	68⅛
Demand	68¾
PARIS—	
Demand	1198
INDIA—	
Demand	228¾
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73½
JAPAN—	
Demand	61½
BATAVIA—	
Demand	190½
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	73½

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/3
4 m/s. credits	3/4⅛
4 m/s. Docs.	3/4⅜
6 m/s. credits	3/4⅜
6 m/s. Docs.	3/5¼
NEW YORK—	
Demand	70
4 m/s. credits	72
4 m/s. Docs.	72½
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1275
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/2½
New York T.T.	69¼

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR APRIL

Hk. Tls. 5.49 at 3/3½	£1
,, 1 at 163 1/2	Frs. 18.17
,, 1.28 at 69 7/8	Gold $1
,, 1 at 62⅜	Yen 1.79
,, 1 at 233½	Rupees 2.60
,, 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
,, 1 at 16.35	It. Lire 18.21
Marks and Roubles	no quotation

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates, Apr. 4.

It. Lire 15.60	Tl. 1
Swiss Frs. 3.92	Tl. 1
It. Lire 9.55	Y. 1

Week's Exchange Notes

Apr. 5.

At the close of business on the 3rd instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 30,931,000 and $44,760,000.

These figures include Tls. 8,120,000 and $28,810,000 in Chinese banks in which there were 933 bars.

BAR SILVER.

Arrivals were:—
nil.

Shipments were:—
70 bars to Foochow.
10 ,, ,, Mukden.

80 bars.

SYCEE.

There were no movements of sycee during the week.

DOLLARS.

Arrivals were:—
$250,000 from Chinkiang.

Shipments were:—
nil.

SILVER.

The price came yesterday as 32 1/16d. ready and 32⅛d. forward, showing declines of 1/16d. ready and ⅛d. forward compared with a week ago. The market has generally been reported as quiet. China sold, the Continent bought, and India both bought and sold. Bars in stock, 2,331, including silver yen 10 lakhs.

EXCHANGE.

Last week exchange left off at 3/2¾d., where it remained until Thursday. There was a feeling of weakness about and at 10.30 the rate dropped to 3/2½d. With silver down again yesterday 3/16d. ready and forward, the rate dropped a further ⅛d. down to T.T. 3/2⅜d.

At the moment the market is quiet with sellers of T.T. 3/2 1/16d. and Gold $69 to June.

Official quotations are T.T. 3/2½d. to June, 3/2d. to December, G.$T.T. 68¾ to December, 4 m/s. L/C 3/3⅛d. and 4 m/s L/C G.$ 71¼ both ready and forward.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

Further Improvement at Piece Goods Auctions but Private Business Extremely Slow

Apr. 5.

Another very dull week has to be registered in the case of the local markets. At the auctions piece goods have again shown an improvement, but there is little indication of a general resumption of business activity.

Local yarn and cloth are going into consumption fairly well, but no new business is mentioned.

All exports show a stagnant tendency.

PIECE GOODS.

Piece goods prices remain steady, and clearances continue to be good, but no new business of any moment has been transacted. The same state of affairs was noted last year at this period, but was followed by a good inquiry, and the hope is expressed that within the next few weeks business may eventuate. Recent reports from Peking indicate that onlookers there do not anticipate any tangible developments of the political situation for the time being, and there may thus be enough confidence to promote trade.

In woollens business is very slack, and no forward contracts are reported. The Home market is steady, prices showing a tendency to rise.

The auctions have again shown a general improvement this week. For the most expensive qualities of Venetians there was a strong demand, while the lower types remained steady. Velvets were also in request. High quality Italians are making a very steady recovery, having regained about 4 per cent. of the total fall from the highest point of the year—the third week in February. The loss amounted in all to 14 per cent. There is therefore a very good prospect of a complete recovery of the remaining 10 per cent. as stocks are low and all cargo purchased is being shipped away very rapidly. Speculators are having little opportunity of carrying out their usual operations at the present juncture, and have had no chance to lay in their customary stocks. Greys continue to enjoy a very good all-round demand, and there is much confidence in the future. In Whites the outstanding feature is the extensive demand that has sprung up in the north, especially Tientsin. Realizing that supplies of spot cargo are very small, dealers are anticipating better prices prior to the arrival of new shipments.

COTTON AND YARN.

China Cotton—China cotton continues firm, and holders do not seem inclined to sell. In view of the amount of watering which today has to be contended against, more attention is being given by local mills to the Indian staple On the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange the following quotations are current:—April 46; May 45.50; June 44.85; July 44.05; August 43.10; September 40.70. Spot market rates are as follows:—Tungchow 47.50; Shanghai 45; Shensi 45/46.50; Hankow 44.

Yarn—Local Yarn remains firm but no new business with the mills is mentioned. Deliveries are fairly good, and this is also the case with local cloth. On the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange yarn prices are quoted as follows:—April 176.50; May 174.50; June 172.20; July 170.90; August 169.70; September 167.80.

SILK.

The demand from Lyons has ceased, and the market there is dull, buyers apparently expecting lower prices.

New York is still holding off, and reliable quotations are unobtainable.

The Japan market is also reported very weak, and some short sales which are going on there seem to be a sure sign that a further drop is expected.

The local market is quiet, and prices are decidedly on the weak side.

PRODUCE.

There is no business to report An absence of any purchases from New York is noted, and few signs of activity can be seen. The European market also remains inactive, and there people seem to be waiting for a measure of stability in the franc before operating.

Amsterdam Loan

London, Mar. 28.

The issue price of the City of Amsterdam loan is 96½.—Reuter.

Rubber Production and Consumption

London, Mar. 28.

Presiding at a meeting of the United Serdang Rubber Plantations, Mr. C. Heath-Clark estimated that the exportable production of crude rubber in 1923 was 370,000 tons and the world's consumption 405,000 tons. The production in 1924 was estimated at 380,000 tons to 400,000 tons and the consumption at 430,000 tons.—Reuter.

WHOLESALE PRICES IN SHANGHAI

Bureau of Markets Index Number

The Treasury Department's Bureau of Markets has issued the wholesale price index number for Shanghai for the month of March. In making the figures public the Commissioner of the Bureau says:—

The total index number for this month is 157.5 being the same as those for February and December of last year. It is 1.3 per cent. lower than the previous month and 0.8 per cent. lower in comparison with the corresponding month of last year. All groups are down except metals, which have risen on account of the higher price of antimony.

Our index number is a wholesale one and contains altogether 147 kinds of principal imports, exports and daily articles, having the purpose of measuring the general price level and the change of the purchasing power of money. It differs from cost of living index and has no connexion with the revision of import tariffs. Some people have a wrong impression that this index number is to be used for future tariff revisions. If an index number is to be used for the amendment of tariffs, having such a purpose it must be based upon imports in particular and will be decidedly different from this one.

Our monthly figures since March, 1923, are given below:—

		Cereals	Other food products	Textiles	Metals	Fuels	Miscellaneous: Building materials	Industrial materials	Sundries	Average	Total Average
Feb..	1913	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mar.	1923	149.2	156.2	155.7	162.5	178.5	166.1	199.3	136.5	170.1	158.7
April	,,	150.1	156.3	154.1	160.3	177.0	168.4	189.7	135.1	167.6	157.7
May	,,	154.1	159.8	154.9	162.4	169.5	162.3	177.7	134.3	160.6	158.4
June	,,	153.7	152.6	155.8	157.8	167.7	159.1	172.5	126.0	156.3	155.2
July	,,	152.8	154.4	155.9	155.8	168.1	160.9	170.8	132.8	158.1	155.4
Aug.	,,	150.0	148.5	153.8	156.8	164.2	162.4	162.9	132.4	155.5	153.1
Sept.	,,	153.2	150.3	154.8	166.9	165.2	165.7	173.0	131.7	158.9	156.8
Oct.	,,	146.1	152.9	160.0	160.8	166.0	166.3	180.6	129.5	160.6	156.1
Nov.	,,	141.5	157.4	165.8	157.9	166.4	167.2	193.0	129.7	164.1	157.3
Dec.	,,	141.2	155.8	165.7	161.6	172.2	162.9	189.6	129.7	163.6	157.5
Jan.	1924	139.1	154.9	165.7	162.4	169.9	163.8	183.5	128.8	161.5	156.7
Feb.	,,	145.6*	159.8	167.9	166.6	159.5	160.5	179.0	130.5	157.4	*159.5
Mar.	,,	141.2	154.9	165.8	172.0	157.9	155.9	170.6	130.5	153.7	157.5

IMPORTANT INSURANCE ENTERPRISE

Proposal to Take up Trustee Business in Shanghai

A very important circular has just been addressed by the general manager to shareholders of the Yangtsze Insurance Association Ld. It is in the following terms:

Your directors have taken under consideration the advisability of extending the scope of the Association's business so as to enable it to act as a trustee, executor, administrator and agent, and otherwise in a fiduciary capacity. So far as your directors are aware, no public company at present transacts business of this nature in Shanghai or other ports in China. One of the results of this is that the ordinary resident in the Far East, who presumably has a considerable portion of his property invested locally, when providing for the disposition of his property by will, is compelled to appoint one or more private individuals as his executors or trustees. The disadvantages attending such an appointment are obvious. The persons appointed may decline the responsibilities of such office, or they may leave China or die before their duties are concluded, in any of which events considerable legal expenses may have to be incurred by the estate, and other disadvantages may accrue.

The opportunity of appointing as trustees or executor or placing other trust business in the hands of a public company of established reputation, thereby ensuring continuity of management and safe administration, should be one of which many persons will be glad to avail themselves.

From the Association's point of view, the benefits of the new department would not be immediate In course of time, however, the trust business should progress and result in a satisfactory profit to the department itself, and should also at the same time tend to develop the Association's insurance connexions.

This proposed extension of business necessitates an addition to the memorandum of the association. The Association being a "China Company" within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance 1915, and, therefore, required to have its registered office within the limits of the China (Companies) Order in Council 1915, the opportunity has also been taken to obtain the alteration of clause 2 of the memorandum so as to make it conform to the present law. The necessary alterations and additions have been prepared by our legal advisers.

FORTHCOMING RESOLUTION.

Your directors, although they do not contemplate opening this new department until they are satisfied that it will receive adequate support, propose to invite the sanction of the shareholders to the necessary alteration in the memorandum by a special resolution to be proposed at an extraordinary general meeting to be held immediately after the conclusion of the annual general meeting in May next. If the resolution is carried, a further extraordinary general meeting for confirmation thereof will be convened after the necessary interval. If the approval of the shareholders is then obtained, application will in due course be made to His Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court for China at Shanghai for the necessary confirmation.

The additional clause to the memorandum of association is in the following terms:

(H)—To undertake and execute any trusts the undertaking whereof may seem desirable and also to undertake the office of and act as trustee, executor, administrator, guardian, committee, agent, custodian, receiver, treasurer, registrar or auditor and to keep for any company, government, authority or body any register relating to any stocks, funds, shares or securities or to undertake any duties in relation to the registration of transfers, issue of certificates or otherwise and generally to transact all kinds of fiduciary business and either with or without remuneration.

RUBBER OUTPUT IN DUTCH INDES

Suggested Compromise With British Planters

Amsterdam, Mar. 30.

In authoritative rubber circles the reported intention of the Dutch East Indian Government to tax native-grown rubber exports is received with some reserve. The motive submitted, that it is impossible to include non-European profits in the income tax, is not considered sound. It is generally accepted that the Government scheme is the result of a compromise with British rubber planters, for such a tax would slacken the speedy development of native rubber cultivation.

The *"Handelsblad"* points out that the restriction of native rubber cultivation would be directly opposed to the policy carried out hitherto, and, moreover, it remains to be seen whether it will be easy to keep native and plantation rubber apart.—Reuter.

GULA KALUMPONG RUBBER ESTATES CO.

Dividend of Two Shillings on Fully Paid Shares

Messrs. Ilbert & Co., Ld. the local secretaries of the Gula-Kalumpong Rubber Estates Ld., inform us that they have received the following cable from the London secretaries of the company:—

The annual general meeting will be held on April 8, balance of profit and loss is £56,678.16.4. Dividend will be 2/- per share on fully paid shares and 6d. per share on partly paid shares less income tax 4/7½ in the £. Proposed to carry to reserve fund £10,000, and to carry forward £42,941.10. Dividend payable on and after April 15, subject to confirmation at the annual general meeting. Payable to all shareholders registered on April 8 and bearer shares coupon No. 21.

FIRE LOSSES IN FAR EAST

Typhoon and Earthquake Effects

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. Ld., Mr. D. G. M. Bernard, the Chairman, made reference to the Japan earthquake and the Hongkong typhoon. He said:—

Fire losses in the Far East during the period under review have not been numerous or severe, but you will, perhaps, wish me to say a few words with regard to the effect upon the company of the two disasters in our local field last year, viz., the earthquake in Japan in September and the typhoon in Hongkong of August 18.

In connexion with the former, we only had on our books one small insurance in Yokohama against the risk of fire arising from earthquake, and as subsequent investigations have revealed that the insured property withstood the shocks but was ultimately destroyed by fire, liability for the loss was admitted and settlement authorized.

Liability for loss or damage from both earthquake shock and from fire arising from earthquake is expressly excluded from the risks covered under the universal policy conditions adopted by all the leading British and foreign offices, and these two risks can only be covered at an additional premium, which in Japan is exceptionally heavy. Consequently, only an infinitesimal proportion of the owners of destroyed properties in Yokohama and Tokio had protected themselves against loss from either of these causes, so that the liability of the various insurance companies under their ordinary fire policies is nil and under special "earthquake" policies, it must also be comparatively trifling.

As regards the Hongkong typhoon, although the volume of the company's insurance against typhoon risks has shown a steady increase in recent years, I am glad to be able to state that, in spite of our being substantially interested by insurance on much of the property which suffered damage, the loss was considerably less than we had at first anticipated and was no more than the company might normally expect to bear in a calamity of this nature.

Share Report for Week Ending April 4, 1924.

No. 24/13

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Codes in use: A1 Code
A.B.C. 4th 5th and 6th Editions
B. Becombail's Imperial Combination Code
Bentley's Complete Phrase Code.
Telephone Cent. 171 & 174.

Members of Shanghai Stock Exchange
Land, Estate & Insurance Agents.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building,
12 The Bund.
Post Office Box No. 244, Shanghai.

The local share market has been dull during the past week and except for Yangtze Insurance Association Ltd. share quotations generally show no changes calling for special comment. "Rubbers" due to a slight improvement in the price for the raw material are a firm market at prices offering to-day and enquiries indicate more confidence in the prospects for rubber generally. "Cottons" are neglected and the local mills continue to work short hours whenever possible. All sound local shares are in good demand but stagnation in trade generally here makes it questionable whether some of them are worth prices offering to-day in comparison good sterling investments.

London market quotations have improved slightly since last week and the following are the latest prices cabled to us this week:—

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Gold Loan 1913, B.I.	£ 72. 10. 0	(Middle Price)
" " " " " " " F.I.	69. 10. 0	" ex B.R.I.S.
" " " " " " " G.I.	65. 0. 0	(Buyers) "
" " " " " " " R.I.	66. 0. 0	(Middle Price) cum "
" " " " " " " R.I.	65. 0. 0	(Sellers) ex "
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"	3. 3. 9	(Middle Price)
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Estates, Ltd.	1. 11. 0	
Shanghai Electric Cons. Co., "B"	2. 13. 3	(Middle Price)
British-American Tob. Co., "B"	5. 6. 0	" "
Imperial Tob. of G.B. (Ord).	3. 10. 9	" "

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/2¼.

Shanghai, April 4, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

MARCH	29th		31st		APRIL 1st		2nd		3rd		4th	
	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June
RUBBERS												
Kroewock Rub' Est., Ld. .. Tls.	13	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Semambu Rub. Est., Ld. .. "	..	..	1.10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Consolidated Rub. Co., Ld. .. "	..	..	2.20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bukit Toh Alang R. E., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	1.10	..	1.10	..	..	..	1.12½	..
Dominion Rub. Co., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.85	..	1.85	..	..	..
Sungala Rub. Est., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.97½	..	..	..	..
Anglo-Java Est., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.85	..	5.85	..
Kali Glidik Coffee Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.15	..
Tanah Merah Rub. Est., Ld. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.60	..
Anglo-Dutch Plant., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.15	..
Batu Anam R. E., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.80	..
Senawang Rub. Co., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.82½	..
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
New Eng. & S. Wks. (Pref.) Tls.	4.95	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
S. & H. Wharf. Co., Ld. .. "	188	..	..	195	..	..	192½	197½	..	..	..	..
H. & S. Bank .. .. .. $	..	..	115½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Land Invest. Co., Ld. Tls.	..	..	118	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld. "	..	..	73	..	..	..	..	..	74	..	..	..
S'hai Dock & Eng. Co., Ld. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	98½	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Loan & Invest. Co., Ld. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6½	..	..	..
Lanekats (combined) .. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88	..
S'hai Sumatra Tob. Co., Ld. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	105	..
S'hai Elec. Cons. Co., "B" "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16½	..
COTTONS												
DEBENTURES												
S. M. C. Sterling Loan .. .. £	104	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Land 6% 1909 Debs. Tls.	..	..	..	..	98	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Gas 6% " " "	..	..	..	..	..	..	94	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Land 6% 1916 " " "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88	..	..	..
S. M. C. 6% 1923 " " "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99	..	..	..
" 6% 1916 " " "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99	..	..	..
" 8% 1921 " " "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	110	..

FORWARD SETTLEMENTS FOR 1924.

COMPANIES' NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Shanghai Gas Co., Ltd.—At a meeting of directors held on 6th inst. it was decided to recommend at the forthcoming annual general meeting, the payment of a dividend for 1923 of Tls. 4 per share, being at the rate of 8% on the paid-up capital.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Office of Messrs. Scott, Harding & Co., Ltd., 35 Peking Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, April 10, 1924, at 4 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 1 to 10, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Batu Anam (Johore) Rubber Estates, Ltd.—The 11th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, April 10, 1924, at 3.30 p.m.

It was decided to recommend to shareholders a dividend of 5 cents per share.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 7 to 10, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ltd.—The 10th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 2 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, April 8, 1924, at 4 p.m.

To Pay a final Dividend of Tls. 0.15 per share (making 28 per cent. for the year.)

The Transfer Books will be closed from March 31 to April 8, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Gula Kalumpong Rubber Estates, Ltd.—The local Transfer Books will be closed from March 24 to April 11, 1924, both days inclusive.

A dividend at the rate of 2/- per share on Fully Paid Shares will be paid on and after April 15, 1924 (Coupon No. 21) Less Income Tax 4/7½ in the £.

The Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ltd.—The 14th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Monday, April 7, 1924, at 11.45 a.m.

A dividend of 25 candareens per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 2 to 7, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Anglo-Java Estates, Ltd.—The 14th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Monday, April 14, 1924, at 4 p.m.

A final dividend of 30½ candareens per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 7 to 14, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Java Consolidated Rubber & Coffee Estates, Ltd.—The 11th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, April 17, 1924, at 4.30 p.m.

A final dividend of 75 candareens per share, making Tls. 1.25 per share for the year will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 12 to 17, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Bute Plantations (1913), Ltd.—The 11th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 2 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, April 15, 1924, at noon.

The Taiping Rubber Estate, Ltd.—The 11th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 2 Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Wednesday, April 9, 1924, at 11.30 a.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 5 to 9, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.—At the approaching annual general meeting of shareholders the Directors will recommend that a dividend be declared for the past half year at the rate of 14 per cent. annum and a bonus of 6s. 3d. per shares free of income tax (equal to 20½% per annum).

The Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ltd—The 15th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 23 Peking Road, Shanghai, on Monday, April 7, 1924, at 12 noon.

To pay a final dividend of 6% per share.

The Dominion Rubber Co., Ltd.—The 10th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 2 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, April 15, 1924, at 4 p.m.

To pay a dividend at Tls. 0.10 per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from [illegible]

The 14th Annual General Meeting will be held at

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, APRIL 4, 1924.

STOCK		Last business done.	Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc:	Finan. year ended	Last Dividend etc.	Paid or Due
BANKS.										
London	£	127½								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Cor.	$	1150	1155	1165	61) 400,000	H $125	(a H $3,350,212 (c H $85,123,837	Dec.	Final £3 & Bonus £2 (mkg. £3 1922) less I/T	25-3-24
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. .. London	£	19 3/16			600,000	£5	(a £222,201 (c £3,800,000	Dec.	Final 7s. & Bonus 6s. 3d. (mkg. £1 0s. 3d.) free of I/T, 1922	5-4-24
INSURANCE.										
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	H$	240		55)	200,000	d £4	(av £437,386 (b £99,500 (c £3,574,054	Dec.	Final 16s. (mkg. 40s.) ex 1921 Work. a/c., Interim 24s. & Bonus to Contributors, 20%, ex 1922 Work a/c	26-5-23
North-China Insurance Co., Ld.	T	138			10,000	e £5	(av T610,627 (c T4,782,855	Dec.	Final 15s. (mkg. 30s.) ex 1921 Work a/c. and Interim 15s. ex 1922 Works. a/c.	30-6-23
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld. ..	$	27	29½	21)	250,000	$10	(av $1,921,990 (aw $2,408,636 (c $4,063,242	Dec.	$2 (or T1.46) ex 1922 Work. a/c. payable in Taels at Exchg. 73	30-5-23
Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld.	T	22		1)	50,000	T20	(av T518,346 (aw T294,093 (c T9,361	Dec.	T1.20 ex 1922 Work. a/c.	30-5-23
Canton Insurance Office, Ld.	H$	720	715		10,000	f H $100	(av H $2,172,375 (c H $6,649,892	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $40) ex 1921 Work. a/c., and Interim H $18 ex 1922 Work. a/c. ..	11-5-23
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld. ..	H$	550	520		8,000	g H $50	(au H $515,102 (c H $4,207,311	Dec.	Interim H $35 ex 1922 Working a/c.	28-3-24
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	H$	127	145		20,000	h H $20	(av H $1,328,926 (c H $5,523,650	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $3 ex 1921 Work. a/c. ..	20-6-23
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	F	500			14,000	¥500	(a F101,368 (c F3,784,330	Dec.	None, Floated 1918	....
SHIPPING.										
Indo-China S.N. Co., Ld. .. (6%cum.pref.	H$	38	38½	2)	120,000	£5	(a £2,167	Dec.	Pref. 6s. at Exchg.—$2/4 London Warrants less I/T a/c., 1922. Def. Ord. Nil	15-6-23
(def. ord. ..	H$	140		2)	120,000	£5	(c £2,103,182			
Shell T'sport & Trading Co., Ld. (ord.	'B'		£4:13:0	£4:16:0	56) 30,000,000	£1				
(5%cum.pref.	£			28)	300,000	£10	(a* £2,020,050	Dec.	Interim 2s., free of I/T, Coupon 42	5-1-24
(7% cum. 2nd pref.	£			57)	10,000,000	£1	(c £5,000,000			
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co., Ld. (ord.	T	85	85	90	20,000	T25	(a T23,575	Dec.	Final Ord. T4.50 (mkg. T7, 1923)	11-3-24
(7% pref.	T	51½	52		10,000	T50	(c T410,000		Final Pref. T1.75 (mkg. T3.50, 1923)	11-3-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.										
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld. ..	T	92½	95	96½	47) 55,700	T75	(a T102,535 (c T1,048,000	Apr.	T7.50, 1922-23	27-7-23
Hongkong & W'pao Dock Co., Ld.	H$	155			‡ 60,000	H $50	(a H $319,796 (c H $4,067,500	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkg. H $9, 1923)	21-3-24
New Eng. and Shipbuilding Works, Ld. (ord.	T	5½	5½		42) 500,000	T5	(a T200,000 (b T1,211,017	Dec.	Ord. T0.25, 1923	10-2-24
.. .. (8% pref.	T	4.95	4.97½		65) 500,000	T5	(c T1,015,251		Pref. T0.40 1923..	10-2-24
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co., Ld.	T	192½	191		‡31) 40,000	T100	(a T200,000 (b T290,000 (c T1,015,251	Dec.	Final T10 (mkg. T13, 1923)	4-3-24
H'kong & K'loon W. & G. Co., Ld. ..	H$	168	169		80,000	H $50	(a H $200,819 (b H $300,000 (c H $59,240	Dec.	H. $6 & Bonus H. $3, 1923	26-2-24
MINING.										
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ld. ..	£	12/-			24) 500,000	G $10		June	G $0.50, 1920-21	26-7-23
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ld. (Bearer).	T	20½	20½		†264) 2,000,000	£1	(a £10,537	June	Final 84% (Coupon No. 23) free of I/T, 1922-1923	11-12-23
London	£		£3:7:0	£3:10:0			(c £252,000			
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ld. ..	H$	5			200,000	£1	(a £23,613 (c £4,573	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	21-5-10
LANDS AND HOTELS.										
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld. ..	T	118	118		‡) 78,000	T50	(a T34,410 (b T275,000 (c T2,239,317	Dec.	Final T3 & Bonus T2 (mkg. T8, 1923)	21-3-24
H'kong Land Invest. & Agcy. Co., Ld. .. (New Reg.)	H$	121		120½	240,000	H $25	(a H $157,500 (b H $250,000 (c H $1,582,200	Dec.	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares (mkg. H $5, 1923) H $2.50 on 40,000 new shs.	28-1-24
Humphreys Est. & Finance Co., Ld. ..	H $	24			150,000	H $10	(a H $50,000 (b H $50,000 (c H $421,483	Dec	H $0.80 and Bonus H $0.80, 1923	9-2-24
Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld.	T	6			3,874	T20	(a T2,946 (c T7,000	Dec.	T1.20, 1923	13-2-24
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld. ..	T	115½	118		‡23) 18,000	T100	(a T9,209 (b T20,000 (c T375,000	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg. T8, 1923-24)	3-4-24
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld. ..	H$	28	26		23) 500,000	H $10	(a H $85,238 (c H $4,953,767	Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000 shares (mkg. H $2 (old) & H $1.75 (new), 1923)	14-2-24
Carlton, Ld.	T	53			14) 10,000	T50		Mar.	Floated April 1, 1922	
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	G$	100			‡18) 10,000	G $100		Dec.	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware 1922, 7%	4-1-23
Raven Trust Co., Inc. .. .. (ord.	G$	10	12½		**106,000	G $10				
(pref.	G$	10	10			G $10			Ord. Pref. 1st gr. 1923, 1½%	4-1-23
PLANTATIONS.										
Alma Estates, Ld.	T	5½	5½		70,000	£1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23	19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.25	0.20		‡62) 500,000	T1		Oct.	....	....
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld. ..	T	2.15	2.05		12) 400,000	10s.	a T30,242	Dec.	T0.20, 1923	1-4-24
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T	5.85	5¾		4) 500,000	10s.	(a T129,151 (c T378,570	Dec.	Interim T0.25 a/c. 1923	14-9-23
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld.	T	21			27) 80,000	T10	(a T16,223 (b T22,000 (c T69,960	Sept.	Final T2.00, (mkg. T2½, 1922-23	28-12-23
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld. ..	T	0.80	0.72½		400,000	T1	a T20,789	Dec.	T0.05, 1919	10-4-20
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T	1.12½	1.10		500,000	T1	a T20,402	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	25-7-17
Bute Plantation (1913), Ld.	T	0.75	0.72½		300,000	T1	a (Loss)T13,076	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	29-3-17
Chemor United Rubber Co., Ld.	T	0.85	0.90		400,000	T0.90	(a T17,973 (c T12,000	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)	3-4-24
Chempedak Rub. & G'bier Est., Ld. ..	T	4½			39) 35,000	£1	a (Loss)T13,435	Oct.	2nd Interim, T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17)	16-10-17
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	1½			135,000	T5	a T4,120	June	T0.20, 1916-17	1-11-17
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ld. ..	T	2.20	2¼		25) 500,000	2s.—T0.75	(a T23,192 (c T30,000	Dec.	Interim T0.06, 1923	15-10-23
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T	1.85			19) 350,000	T1	a T15,813	Dec.	T0.40,1919	18-5-20
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T	8	8½		†48) 750,000	21;450,000 5s; 200,000	(a (c	Dec.	2s. less I/T at 5s. in £1922, "B" Coupon 20)†† ..	28-3-23
Java-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee Est., Ld.	T	11½	10½		8) 85,000	£1 at 2.31½	(a T54,465 (c T650,113	Dec.	Interim, T0.50, 1923	3-9-23
Kali Glidik Coffee Estates, Ld.	T	6.15	6		70,000	T5		....	....	....
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld. ..	T	10			‡5) 15,000	T10	(a T6,977 (b T4,023	Dec.	(T0.50, 1922	19-4-23
Karan Rubber Estate Co., Ld.	T	4			25,000	T10	(a (a	Dec.	Interim 1923, T0.50	17-7-23
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Ld. ..	T	0.75	0.75		390,000	T1	(b T10,000	Mar.	T0.60, 1922-23	1-8-23
Kroewock Java Plantations, Ld.	T	12	12		20) 70,000	£1 at T8.60	a (Loss)T35,264	June	....	....
Padang Rubber Co., Ld.	T	5½			50,000	T10	(a T12,986 (c T62,599	Dec.	T1 (mkg. T1.50, 1923)	8-3-24
Pangkalan Jambon Estates (1923), Ld. ..	T	5.00	5.05		36) 600,000	T5	(a T16,410 (c T249,000	Apr.	T0.04, 1919-20	6-3-20
Pataling Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.60	0.65		36) 600,000	T1	(a T8,744			

The following telegraphic advices have been received:—

Singapore, April 3, 1924.

Spot or April	42⅞ cents
May/June	43¾ ,,
July/Sept.	44¾ ,,
July/Dec.	45¼ ,,

Market firm with upward tendency.

Thursday, April 17, 1924, at 11.30 a.m.

A dividend of 7 per cent. will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 14 to 29, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Cheng Rubber Estates, Ltd.—The Transfer Books will be closed from April 10 to 16, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Malay Rubber Estates, Ltd.—The 14th Annual General Meeting will be held at No 23 Peking Road, Shanghai, on Monday, April 14, 1924, at 11.45 a.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 10 to 11, 1924, both days inclusive.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
S'hai Municipal Council	1905	6 to 20	12-5-22	T96½	*d* 320,000	6	June-Dec.
	1907	do.	24-1-22	T94	500,000	6	do.
	1908	do.	11-3-24	T99	650,000	6	do.
	1909	do.	15-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
	1910	do.	11-5-23	T99	313,800	6	do.
	1911	10 to 30	3-4-24	T99	350,000	6	do.
	1912	do.	3-1-24	T99	340,000	6	do.
	1913	do.	3-3-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
	1914	10 to 50	8-5-22	T78	500,000	5½	do.
	1914	10 to 30	8-1-23	T91	900,000	5½	do.
	1915	do.	11-3-24	T91	800,000	5½	do.
	1916	do.	3-4-24	T99	1,400,000	6	do.
	1918	10	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
	1919	10	4-12-23	T104	1,793,300	7	do.
	1920	10	1-2-24	T105	2,240,600	7	do.
		10 to 30	29-3-24	£104	£750,000	6	do.
	1921	do.	18-2-24	$110	$1,000,000	8	do.
	1921	do.	4-4-24	T110	T5,096,400	8	do.
	1922	do.	2-4-24	T105	T8,000,000	7	do.
	1923	do.	2-4-24	T99	*a*T6,000,000	6	do.
French Municipal Council	1911	do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914	do.	12-2-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
	1915	do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd. S'hai Gas Co., Ltd.	1921	do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8	do.
	1923	do.	17-12-23	T95	*a* T300,000	6	May-Nov.
	1921	10 to 30	2-10-23	T112	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
	1922	do.	6-6-22	T108	T500,000	8	do.
	1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
	1905	do.	2-4-23	T94	*e* 800,000	6	do.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.	1905	5 to 20	31-8-22	T96½	T250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1909	do.	1-4-24	T98	750,000	6	do.
	1911	do.	26-9-22	T92	250,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
	,,	do.	28-3-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
	1912	do.	2-4-24	T98	250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1913	do.	3-4-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct.
	,,	do.	11-1-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914	do.	22-3-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct.
	1916	5 to 25	3-4-23	T88	*f* 500,000	5½	do.
	1922	do.	12-2-23	T98	750,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
	1922	do.	10-1-24	T98	500,000	6	May-Nov.
Shanghai Club	1907	20	1-2-24	T93	455,000	6	do.
Country Club	1901	Perpetual			139,000	6	June-Dec.
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ltd.	1911	5 to 20			120,000	6	May-Nov.
	1915	do.			110,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ltd.	1900	do.			250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1911	do.	7-6-23	T98	300,000	6	do.
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ltd.	1923	10 to 20	27-2-23	T95½	*h* 270,000	6	do.
S'hai Race Club	1923	25	11-3-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
Culty Dairy Co., Ltd.	1915	10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
Hall & Holtz Ld.	1914	5 to 20	14-10-22	$92	*i* 280,000	7	Jan.-July
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	1922	5 to 20	..	..	T500,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—*b*—Tls.65,100; *c*—Tls.51,100; *d*—Tls.34,100; *e*—Tls.68,500; *f*—Tls.262,400; *g*—Tls.189,800; *h*—Tls.12,300; *i*—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial Yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end. last fin. year to 31-12-23	1924: Jan.	1924: Feb.	Total output this fin.yr. to date
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Alma	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	246,618	8.87d	68,000	22,000	15,000	108,000
Amherst (New)	,, 500,000	Oct.	72,442	80,692	90,751	*8.89d.	19,020	8,214	8,175	35,709
Anglo-Dutch	£220,000	Dec.	540,000	510,000	600,000	8.45d.	..	67,000	50,000	114,000
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,521,711	1,350,000	1,550,000	6.95d.	..	184,000	164,100	348,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 300 000	Sept.	369,447	358,912	360,000	†9.24.41	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam	,, 400,000	Dec.	258,510	217,822	185,793	9.01d.	..	12,500	11,500	24,000
Bukit Toh Alang	,, 600,000	Mar.	309,254	305,615	315,000	7.54d.	222,682	25,000	Nil.	218,122
Bute	,, 300,000	Dec.	220,057	174,350	159,516	10.11d.	..	17,000	16,000	31,107
Chemor United	,, 360 000	Dec.	310,791	267,627	..	8.40d.	..	27,000	23,500	50,500
Chempedak	,, £35,000	Oct.	145,760	153,063	..	1.75.42d.	30,700	11,000	7,400	49,100
Cheng	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.09d.	102,014	10,500	9,700	122,214
Consolidated (1914) ..	,, 375,000	Dec.	669,599	645,778	761,500	7.47d.	..	55,000	55,775	101,779
Dominion	,, 350,000	Dec.	271,150	323,140	306,867	11.01d.	..	28,000	27,000	55,056
Gula-Kalumpong	$500,000	Dec.	1,113,000	937,000	1,215,000	170.74d.	..	78,000	78,000	166,000
Java Consolidated	£85,000	Dec.	675,500	626,000	..	7.05d.	..	65,000	60,000	129,200
Kapayang	,, 150,000	Dec.	189,239	146,710	..	†26.20	..	10,592	8,815	18,907
Karan	,, 250,000	Mar.	113,875	104,753	84,000	8d.	60,067	8,145	6,448	74,661
Kota Bahroe (1921) ..	,, 380,000	June	138,330	329,970	..	..	160,918	29,156	26,419	216,923
Kroewock	,, £70,000	Dec.	449,000	583,881	569,000	0.7.24d.	..	53,000	55,000	114,000
Langkat	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	842,589	913,000	975,000	Glds.0.28	179,300	82,500	71,500	345,300
Padang	Tls. 500,000	April	209,711	220,232	..	10¼d.	120,500	19,700	11,100	151,300
Pangkalan (1921)	,, 150,000	Mar.	172,022	135,263	176,088	†40.19	..	..	2,780	2,780
Permata	,, 250,000	Oct.	98,303	86,299	..	0/84d.	17,685	8,080	6,063	31,868
Repah	,, 275,000	Dec.	68,584	217,087	..	..	..	17,400	8,700	26,100
Samagaga	,, 600,000	Sept.	361,816	250,813	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sandakan	,, 100,000	June	179,065	142,000	115,183	11.37d.	120,500	8,500	11,600	140,603
See Kee (1918)	,, 300,000	Dec.	161,105	241,593	158,204	0/9.37d.	..	13,100	13,100	26,800
Semam	,, 375,000	Jan.	272,500	275,100	..	*17.35d.	..	..	11,500	11,500
Sendawang (1921)	,, 400,000	Sept.	313,411	246,542	..	8.12d.	67,625	21,000	17,250	105,875
Shanghai Kedah	,, 315,000	Dec.	126,108	106,034	..	11.35d.	..	5,700	8,000	13,700
S'hai-Klebang	,, 600,000	Dec.	373,111	289,156	392,000	..	..	22,782	21,474	44,256
S'hai-Malay	,, 200,000	June	209,881	188,010	..	9.3d.	100,973	16,432	14,475	131,880
S'hai Peahang	,, 325,000	Dec.	171,213	147,112	..	9.82d.	..	14,400	13,800	27,500
S'hai-Seremban	,, 650,000	Oct.	661,725	679,710	650,000	Glds.0.58	111,341	61,111	51,170	223,621
S'hai-Sumatra	,, 250,000	Dec.	114,886	97,700	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sua-Manggis	,, 100,000	Mar.	30,473	166,757	..	17.20	14,010	3,382	..	22,002
Sungei	,, £10,000	June	308,073	296,568	220,000	11.61d.	126,409	23,598	22,272	172,379
Sungei Duri	Tls. 950,000	Dec.	107,011	103,689	99,000	..	..	8,184	8,592	16,776
Taitung (1913)	,, 750,000	Mar.	415,000	390,500	..	7.85d.	234,500	21,000	22,000	277,500
Tanah Merah	,, 750,000	Jan.	630,888	723,000	717,725	0/7.66d.	..	..	67,000	64,000
Tebong	£150,000	Dec.	514,586	522,000	600,000	7.24d.	..	67,500	58,200	125,700

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expenses.

† Straits $ cents.

Senawang Rubber Ests./ord.	T	0.82½	0.80			63)	300,000	T1	(*a*	T10,482	Dec.	Interim T0.05, 1923		20-4-23
Co. (1921), Ltd. (12% Cum. Pref.	T					67)	100,000	T1	(*c*	T20,000	Jan.	.. ..		30-10-23
Shanghai Kedah Plantations, Ltd.	T	0.75	0.75			34)	400,000	T1	*a* (Loss) T20,075			.. ..		....
S'hai Klebang Rubber Estate, Ltd.	T	0.50				13)	315,000	T1			Sept.	T0.05, 1923		27-12-23
S'hai Malay Rubber Estates, Ltd. .. ord	T	3					87,500	T10	*a*	T1,183	Dec.	T0.05, 1919		24-2-20
,, 8% cum. part. pref.	T	9				22	2,000	T10	*a*	T12,033	Dec.	(Ord. T0.60 for 9 months ended 31/12/16		2-5-17
									a	T19,124		Pref. T0.10, for 6 months ended 31/12/22 ..		31-10-23
S'hai Pahang Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.75					200,000	T1						
S'hai Seremban Rubber Estates, Ld. ..	T	0.60			0.75		325,000	T1	(Loss) T1,213		June	Final T0.09 (mkg. T0.10, 1916-17)		12-10-17
S'hai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ld.	T	105	100			7)	30,000	T20	*a* (Loss) T10,352		Dec.	T0.04 for 10 months, ended 31/12/22		31-3-17
Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ld.	T	3				30)	56,090	T5	*a* (Loss) T25,816		Oct.	T2, 1914-19		1-4-20
Sungala Rubber Estate, Ld:	T	0.80	0.95			15)	100,000	T1	(*c*	T12,170				
									a	T6,055				
Sungei Duri Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	7½	6¾				10,000	£1 at T3.50	*a*	T25,000	Dec.			
Taitung Rubber Estates (1913), Ld. ..	T	0.50					200,000	T1	(*a*	T4,625				20-4-20
Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ld.	T	0.60	0.57½			32)	750,000	T1	(*c*	T10,000	Mar.	T0.10, 1916-17		12-7-17
									a (Loss) T5,491		June	T0.05, 1922-23		12-10-23
Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	1.05	1.05			‡54)	750,000	T1	*a*	T31,851	Dec.	T0.03, 1919		20-5-20
Zangbe Rubber Co., Ld.	T	3	2.90			6)	0,000	10s.	(*c*	T5,747				
									a (Loss) T13,874		Mar.	Interim T0.06 1916-17 (Final, Nil)		7-12-17
COTTONS, ETC.									*a*	T38,757	Jan.	.... ††		....
									e	T5,239	Dec.	T0.50, 1919		28-4-20
Ewo Cotton Mills, Ltd: (ord.	T	11½	11½			15)	1,000,000	T5	(*b*	T3,257				
,, (8% cum. pref.	T	105	106			43)	10 000	T100	*b*	T1,400,000		Ord. T0.55, 1923		5-3-24
									c	T2,802,920	Dec.	Pref. T8, 1923		5-3-24
Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ld. ..	T	8					80,000	T10	*a* (Loss) T36,057					
									b	T120,000	Dec.	Final T2, (mkg. T4, 1921)		8-3-22
Oriental C. S. & W. Co., Ld: .. .. ord. pref.	T	5				60)	500,000	T3	*c*	T7,612				
	T					3)	5,000	T100	*a* (Loss) T9,590					
Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ld. (Shanghai Boshoku K.K.)	T	(6 old 36 new)							*b*	T200,000				
							80,000	T50	*c*	T2,551,760	Dec.	Final T0.50 (mkg. T1.50, 1921)		25-3-22
							40,000	T50						
INDUSTRIAL.									*a*	T50,375				
British-American Tobacco Co., Ld. (ord.	£		£5 ..	£5 ..		66)	18,000,000	£1	*c*	T1,270,000	June	T3.50 1922-23		24-8-23
,, (5% cum. pref.							4,500,000	£1						
China Inn. & Ex. Lumber Co., Ld.	T	350					5,000	T100	*a*	£3,531,846	Sept.	Final Ord. 1922-23, 9% (mkg. 25 ..) free		
									c	£2,251,649		of I/T		11-1-24
China Sugar Refining Co., Ld.	H $	284	236				20,000	H$100	*a*	T161,833				
									b	T300,000	Feb.	T8, 1922-23		31-5-23
Gordon & Co., Ltd.	T	25				37)	6,000	T25	*c*	T2,100,000				
									a	H$2,762				
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.	H $	34	33¾				400,000	H$7.50	*b*	H$470,000	Dec.	H$10, 1922		27-3-23
Maatschappij, &c., In Langkat	T	10½	9¼	(comb. T23)	(comb. T22½)		200,000	Gs.10	*c*	H$879,752				
									a	T19,695		Div. T2.50 & Bonus T0.02½		
									c	T150,015		1922-23		5-7-23
									a	H$38,634		(Final H $1.50 (mkg. H$2, 1922)		
									c	H$1,000,000	Dec.	(Interim H $0.50 a/c., 1923		24-2-23
Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ld. ..	T	6½	6.40	(comb. T23)	(comb. T22½)		250,000	T5	*a* (Loss) T158,435		Oct.	T0.50, 1918-19		18-9-23
									c	T190,161				30-3-20
S'hai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.	T	13					250,000	T5	(*a*	T35,698				
Major Brothers, Ld.	T	5				10)	6,000	T30	*c*	T300,000	Dec.	T0.50, 1923		5-3-24
John Richards & Co., Ld.	T	10				11)	25,000	T10	*a* (Loss) T13,341		Dec.	....		....
									a	T6,941	Dec.	....		....
Shanghai Gas Co., Ld:	T	45				‡)	24,000	T50	*c*	T70,000				
									a	T3,130	Dec.	T0.50, 1922		24-6-22
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld:	T	136 80ex				‡9)	50,900	$20	*c*	T30,000				
									a	T23,791	Dec.	T3.50, 1922		13-4-23
STORES.									*b*	T50,000				
									c	T365,891				
Hall & Holtz, Ld:									*a*	T24,475	Dec.	(Final 10s./- (at Exchg. 3/2½ = T3.09) mkg.		
									b	T75,000		20s./-, 1923		4-4-24
S. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.	$	7	7			‡16)	28,000	$20	*c*	T1,770,986				
									a	$5,339				
S. Mootrie & Co., Ld.	$	30					1,200	$60	*b*	$20,000	Dec.	$6, 1922		12-6-23
									c	$250 000				
Weeks & Co., Ld.	$	50				17)	10,000	$30	*a*	$20,282	Mar.	(Final $2 & Bonus $4 (mkg. $9, 1922-23) ..		
									c	$323,195		(Int. 6%, 1923-24		2-6-23
									a	$37,633	Feb.	$1.50, 1922-22		30-11-23
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	$	11				‡50)	30,000	$20	*c*	$210,000				30-5-22
									a	$5,339				
									b	$20,000		$8, 1922-23		24-5-23
	$	102	105			‡)	2,500	$100	*c*	$250 000				
MISCELLANEOUS.														
Culty Dairy Co., Ld.	T	13	12				10,000	T10	*a*	Loss T26,956	Oct.	T0.60, 1921-22		30-12-24
									c	T119,293				
S'hai Electric Construction Co., Ld., "B"	T	16½	16¼	16¼					*a*	£17,022				
London	£1		£2/12/0	£2/15/0			40,000	£1			Dec.	(1st Int. 1923, 12s./- (Coupon 23)		1-10-23
									c	£114,315		(2nd Int. 1923, 12s./- (Coupno 24) both less		
S'hai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ld. ..	T	50					5,400	T50	*a*	T18,548	Dec.	1/T at 4/7½ in £		1-2-24
Shanghai Mercury, Ld.	T	25					3,000	T50	*c*	T215,257				
											Apr.	T1 50 1913-14		20-4-23
Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co. Ld. ..	T	74	73½	74		‡49)	40,000	T50	*a*	T10,285				
									b	T70,000	Mar.	T4.50, 1922-23		31-3-15
									c	T920,016				
Oriental Press (L'Imprimerie Francaise)	$	100					940	$100	*a*	$109,513				
									b	70,000	Mar.	$10, 1922-23		31-5-23
									c	$21,101				5-7-23

For all Dollar shares quoted on the Shanghai Stock Exchange the Exchange rate is fixed at 73.

a Carried forward at last Ann: Genl. Meeting.
b Dividend Equalisation Reserve.
c General and Other Reserves.
d Uncalled liability £8 per sh;
e ,, £10 ,,
f ,, T$100 ,,
g ,, T$200 ,,
h ,, T$ 25 ,,
i Working Account '22
k Working Account 1922
m Working Account 1921
† Registered; or Bearer (idem. "B").
†† Issued Capital; 7% Cum. Prof. 24,461 shares; Ordinary, 16,270 shares.

‡ Debentures Issues also.
‡‡ Subject to Estate Managers' Commissions
* Subject to E. P. D. and Comm. Tax.
** Contingent liability for Interest on 12% Cum. Prof. Shares of Tls. 5,989

1—24,000 sh' unis'd.
2—70,411 ,,
3— 5,000 ,,
4— 4,000 ,,
5—101-2 ,,
6—50,000 ,,
7—10,761 ,,
8—10,000 ,,
9—16,470 sh. unis'd.
10—500 ,,
11—12,500 ,,
12—50,000 ,,
13—1,387 ,,
14—3,000 ,,
15—10,000 ,,
16—5,000 ,,
17—3,000 ,,
18—5,000 ,,
19—154,688 ,,
20—15,000 ,,
21—100,000 ,,
22—10,000 ,,
23—5,000 ,,
24—70,810 ,,
25—125,000 ,,
26—60,000 sh' unis'd.
27—3,921 ,,
28—100,000 ,,
29—4,683 ,,
30—2,000 ,,
31—2,000 ,,
32—[illegible] ,,
33—125,000 ,,
34—102,370 ,,
35—[illegible] ,,
36—180,000 ,,
37—1,443 ,,
38—7,695 ,,
42—200,000 ,,
43—1,000 ,,
(Not to be issued for less than 950 ea.
47—500 sh; unis'd
48—100,000 ,,
49—5,644 ,,
50—8,178 ,,
54—40,000 ,,
55—30,000 ,,
56—10,634,800 ,,
57—5,000,000 ,,
60—16,000 ,,
61—240,000 ,,
62—401,055 ,,
63—15,000 ,,
64—600 000 ,,
65—200,000 ,,
66—1,952,900 ,,
67—60,067 ,,

In order to ensure accuracy of the above Details, Agents and Secretaries of Companies are requested to notify Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co: of any alterations, errors or omissions.

Clubs and Societies

(*Continued from Page 18*).

[illegible] club notices will in future be published therein, together with motor notes received from Europe and the U. S. A. The "Asiatic Motor" will in future be delivered free to all members of the club having paid their subscriptions and cases of non-delivery should be reported to the secretaries. I trust you will approve the action of your committee in this matter.

Negotiations have been in progress for some time for the leasing of a site for a club house. A river frontage is desired, easily accessible by road, and sufficiently in the country to provide the necessary change of atmosphere and facilities for recreation or rest. The site must of necessity be on Chinese territority and suitable places on motor roads are few but your committee hopes to be able to submit a scheme for your approval in due course.

SHORT MEASURE.

Mr. A. L. Anderson—The gasoline pumps erected on the sidewalks, on Municipal ground, are allowed to be put up for a nominal fee but, considering that they are licensed by the Council, I think that involves some responsibility on the Council to see that the amount of gasoline paid for is delivered. I am not able to prove anything, but I have good reason to doubt if, at some places, you get the five gallons you pay for. I have noticed after I have been to some garages, that my car does not go so far as it does after I have been to some others, though I pay for the same amount of gasoline at all of them. I have noticed that my chauffeur prefers to go to the garages whose gasoline seems to take the car not so far. I notice also that my chauffeur makes mysterious signals when approaching certain garages. I asked one firm whether it would be possible so to alter the pumps that less gasoline would be given, although the register showed the correct amount. They said that it would be the easiest thing in the world, though they did not do it themselves. I also noticed at one garage that, though there were five gallons in the jar, there were only 4½ on the measure. Now, I got the five gallons, but who lost the half gallon before? I think the Council should test these pumps.

The Chairman—We will approach the Council and see if they will shoulder the responsibility. If they will not do anything, we might be able to go round the various garages and collect our own proofs in the matter.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman on the call of Mr. Anderson.

SHANGHAI AND ITS MERCHANT SEAMEN

Scheme for Tls. 250.000 Institute as Memorial to British Mercantile Marine: The King's Patronage and Sympathy

The building and endowment of an Institute for Seamen which is also to be a memorial to men of the British Mercantile Marine who gave their lives in the war, was resolved upon at the annual meeting of the Missions to Seamen in Shanghai, held on Tuesday in the Cathedral Church House. It was announced that his Majesty the King has given the proposals his sympathy and patronage.

Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., H. M. Consul-General, presided at the meeting, supported by Dean Symons, the Rev. T. W. Hall, the Mission Chaplain, and Mr. W. A. Willis, the hon. secretary.

Mr. Barton, in opening the meeting, observed that the report for 1923 was of special interest to all who had the welfare of seamen at heart; and these were many, for the subscription list showed the number was not limited to those attending that meeting. Old friends of the Mission had continued their support, and they were once again indebted for very generous assistance from the Race Club. The Chaplain's report was an inspiring account of the work done afloat and ashore and must convince the most sceptical of the immense field for this work there was in Shanghai, and also must convince them of what it was possible for one man with his heart in the work to accomplish with limited resources. The tonnage of Shanghai was increasing at a very rapid rate and already it was now within the number of the world's greatest ports. Obviously, Mr. Hall had not undertaken his Chaplaincy a moment too soon, and it was to his energy they owed the fact that the reproach of leaving uncared for men to whom we owed so much was not heavier than it is. The only satisfactory return Shanghai could make to Mr. Hall was to supply him with the means of coping with his work, and an opportunity for this would be given in the proposal to establish a new Seamen's Institute as a memorial to the men of the Mercantile Marine who gave their lives in the war. The [illegible] was a big one, but the need was bigger, and it called for the best effort that could be made. (applause).

THE SCHEME IN OUTLINE.

The report and accounts having been adopted, Dean Symons outlined and moved the adoption of the Institute's home, agreed on in principal at the last annual meeting. He first mentioned that subscriptions to the amount of Tls. 1,500 had already been received, almost unasked for, and said it was a scheme which should undoubtedly appeal to the residents of Shanghai. It was proposed to erect the Institute by voluntary subscription as a memorial to British merchant seamen who fell in the war. The Committee had taken the bold step of sending to his Majesty the King to ask if he would kindly give his patronage, and through the Secretary of the Privy Purse the following message was received:

"The King sincerely sympathizes with the excellent object you have in view,"

and the local representatives of his Majesty—Sir Ronald Macleay, British Minister, Admiral Leveson, Commander-in-chief on the China Station, and Mr. Sidney Barton, H. M. Consul-General—had given the proposal their cordial approval. The scheme, therefore, was well laid, and started out surely with the prospect of receiving worthy support.

As an instance of the great need for such an institute, the Dean quoted figures indicating Shanghai's growing importance in the shipping world. In 1920, he said, London had a tonnage of 17,000,000. Liverpool 16.500.000, and Shanghai 12.000.000 (increased last year to 15.000.000); there were some 50 shipping companies represented in Shanghai, interested in 600 vessels aggregating about 6.000.000 tons actual capacity, while during 1922, the number of British ocean vessels which put in at Shanghai was 457. Allowing an average stay of four days for these steamers, and an average complement of 30 men, this meant there were 150 seamen in port every day of the year, whilst in addition, there were 600 officers and engineers of the coastal shipping fleet.

WHAT THE INSTITUTE WILL DO.

The reasons for establishing the institute were: to give the men the change of environment which was necessary for their bodily and mental well being; to introduce them to the right kind of people who shall remind them of home and for which it stands; to afford them rest, quietness and spiritual help; and to give them entertainment and recreation. The work of the Mission was ever growing, and its present machinery was altogether too inadequate, so that an institute was absolutely essential. The rough plans provided for social rooms for officers and seamen, reading rooms, billiard rooms, concert hall, Chapel, and Chaplain's flat, and the building would be so arranged that sleeping quarters could be added if found necessary.

Tentative inquiries showed that Tls. 30,000 would be required for purchasing the necessary land, whilst the building was estimated to cost Tls. 80,000, furniture Tls. 10,000, and extras Tls. 10,000. As it would be necessary to endow such an institution, Tls. 120,000 for investment to bring in an annual income of Tls. 6.000. Thus the total estimated cost was Tls. 250.000. This might seem to some people to be an almost impossible scheme, and perhaps it might take some few years to accomplish, but surely, in a place of the size and importance of Shanghai, so greatly depending on seafaring men, it might be regarded as comparatively a small sum, especially emphasizing the spirit of the scheme as a memorial to men whose war record made some of the finest history that had been written (applause).

THE HANBURY INSTITUTE.

Mr. E. F. Mackay said there was one point on which he was in some doubt. As a Trustee of the Hanbury Institute, he was not quite sure what functions the Hanbury Institute was going to fulfil if a scheme on the scale of the one outlined was going to be carried through. As far as he recollected, the Hanbury Institute had been established for just the purposes the Dean had described.

The Rev. T. W. Hall, in reply to Mr. Mackay, said that in 1908 the Hanbury Institute amalgamated with the Sailors' Home in Broadway, and when the scheme was drawn up the following stipulations were made: that sleeping accommodation should be found for 40 men of the Merchant Service, for 20 bluejackets, and for 10 or a dozen destitute seamen, or others, giving a total of 72. And this was what the Hanbury Institute was, viz., a boarding house, and one fulfilling its purpose very well. But the new scheme was not at all for a boarding house. That was a purpose it was hoped the Hanbury Institute would continue to fulfil for many years to come.

Mr. Mackay went on to say that he was not speaking against the scheme, but merely, as a Trustee of the Hanbury Institute, drawing attention to the fact that the objects of the new scheme were essentially the same as those laid down by Sir Thomas Hanbury when he founded the Institute. Sleeping accommodation was provided, but it was never intended the Hanbury Institute should be merely a boarding house, and he mentioned this because, as a Trustee, he did not wish the point to be passed over without notice.

POOR RICHARD'S PARADISE.

Mr. Barton—You don't suggest that the existence of the Hanbury Institute, whatever its functions are, is sufficient to minimize in any way the requirement of a new Institute? Personally, I do not think the Hanbury Institute could possibly cope with the requirements of the present day as far as the Merchant Marine is concerned.

Mr. Mackay—I think not.

Mr. Barton—Then there is also the point that the Hanbury Institute is bound to receive the destitute, and that is another reason for founding a new institute, for it is hardly a compliment to the Merchant Service to ask them to share the place with the destitute.

Mr. Mackay mentioned that he had heard the Hanbury Institute described as "a place for dead beats", but it certainly never was intended to be so.

Mr. Barton—It is probably one of the nicest places "dead beats" are ever likely to strike. The fact is, I think, that the Hanbury Institute will continue to discharge its functions exactly as it does to-day, and that it will always be just as full. I do not think there is any possibility of the two Institutes competing with each other or clashing in any way.

The Rev. T. W. Hall seconded the Dean's proposal that the the scheme be formally adopted, and the resolution was carried without dissent.

COMMITTEE AND SUBSCRIBERS.

In addition to the ex-officio members, the following were appointed to the Committee:—Messrs. D. W. A. Holder, R. Pote-Hunt, G. F. A. Mulcok, P. H. Rolfe, T. H. R. Shaw, E. S. Wilkinson, H. V. Wilkinson, W. A. Willis and W. E. Wilson.

The Chaplain proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the subscribers, mentioning that several firms and individuals had doubled their subscriptions and many others had increased theirs, the total last year being Tls. 3,000 as against Tls. 1,700 in the previous year.

THE SHANGHAI MEDICAL SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting at General Hospital: The Council's Report on the Visit of Dr. Brinkley: An Association of Ten Nationalities

The fourth annual general meeting of the Shanghai Medical Society was held on Thursday evening, March 27, at the General Hospital. Dr. S. A. Ransom, President, was in the chair, and called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. The following members were present:—Drs. Ransom, Neild, Cumming, Tucker, Morris, C. J. Davenport, Hiltner, Snoke, Legrang, Price, Bary Joffick, Decker and Siao.

After the usual preliminary business had been concluded, the President made a short speech reviewing the work of the past year. He then called upon Dr. H. Lovett Cumming, Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, to read his report of the society's activities during 1923-24.

The report is as follows:—

Mr. President, and members: since the last annual general meeting, March 22, 1923, the roll of the society's membership has been increased from 91 to 100 by the addition of nine new members. The latter include four British, one American, one Russian, one Hungarian and two Chinese doctors.

Unfortunately, during the year the society lost two of its members through death, *viz.*, Dr. Parrott and Dr. Petit. In addition, three of the original members, Drs. Billinghurst, Massie, and Marland have left Shanghai for good: also, two Japanese members, Drs. Nakano and Senoo, have left Shanghai. The latter five doctors are now considered as absent members. Excluding the names of Drs. Parrott and Petit the actual number of members on the register is now 98. Of this total, 88 are resident, five associate and five absent members.

The different nationalities are represented as follows:—

British 31; American 29; French three; Russian two; Belgian, Italian, Roumanian and Hungarian, one each: Japanese six and Chinese 23. Thirteen of above are women, *viz.*, American eight and Chinese five.

MEETINGS.

There were nine meetings of the society during the year, including the annual general meeting, and two joint meetings with the China Medical Missionary Society and the National Society which were entirely clinical. The remaining six were regular monthly meetings. Two of these were clinical and, at the other four, papers were read by members. The papers were as follows:—"Medical art in relation to Modern Psychotherapy" by Dr. Bary; "Fractures of the Femur" by Dr. Tucker; Lecture and demonstration on the "Laboratory Diagnosis of acute Dysentery" by Dr. Hicks; "Treatment of Diabetes with Insulin" by Dr. Parsons.

At the four clinical meetings which were well attended, 25 cases, and eight pathological specimens were presented to members for examination and discussion. Most of these cases were specially selected and of an extremely interesting nature, presenting features which were both uncommon and instructive. A very keen interest was displayed and, perhaps, no little benefit was derived by members present. If only the habitual absentees could realize what opportunities they were actually missing, the average attendance would be very considerably larger.

At the nine meetings, the chair was taken seven times by Dr. Ransom, President of the Society, and twice by Dr. Neild, the Vice-President. The average attendance of members at the meetings was 21, and of visitors, three, which figures were identical with those of the previous year.

Notwithstanding the fact that the hour of the meeting was altered from 9 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. to suit the convenience of a number of members who found it difficult to attend at the former hour, yet the attendance remained very little changed. An average attendance of 21 out of a membership of nearly 100, shows, unfortunately, a condition of apathy and disinterestedness which would be difficult to understand in any place other than Shanghai where counter-attractions are as numerous as they are distracting and where most societies are similarly handicapped.

If non-attending members would only realize the pleasure and benefits to be derived from these meetings and the unique opportunity of coming into contact with other medical men of different nationality, with different kinds of experience, and with, perhaps, a completely different viewpoint, they would make a serious endeavour to be present at some of the meetings, at least.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS.

An extraordinary general meeting was called on December 8, 1923 to discuss the visit of Dr. John Brinkley to Shanghai and to consider a cablegram sent by him to Dr. Ransom, the President of the Society, requesting him to hold a clinic. Fifteen members were present at the meeting and after prolonged discussion it was unanimously agreed that, the President, Hon-Secretary, and any of the Council and members who so desired should arrange to meet Dr. Brinkley in Dr. Ransom's office and give the former a hearing before coming to any definite decision in the matter.

Drs. Ransom, Fresson, Cumming, Legrang, Cameron and Gardiner were present at the meeting.

A report of what took place was later put forward and discussed at a full meeting of the Council. As a result of this, and also taking into consideration the amount of propaganda in the press of which Dr. Brinkley had evidently been at least cognizant if not actually the author of, the Council not only refused to countenance any clinic, but decided to ignore the whole matter, and instructed the secretary to inform Dr. Brinkley that after discussing the matter fully, the Council had unanimously decided to take no further action.

The decision of the Council has since been completely justified by correspondence between Dr. W. W. Peter and Dr. Cramp of the American Medical Association re Dr. Brinkley, which appeared in practically all the local papers in February last.

WORK OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Council of the society held eight meetings during the year in April, May, June, July, October, and December, 1923, and in February and March of this year. Besides the usual business of election of new members, and of dealing with a fairly large amount of correspondence, the Council got through quite a useful amount of work considering the limited number of meetings. Chief amongst the work accomplished was the appointment of a special V. D. Committee on April 3, 1923, on the strength of a mandate from the members present at the annual general meeting held the preceding month. This committee, which consisted of Dr. Marsh (President), Dr. Bryson, Dr. Legrang and Dr. Cumming (as Hon. Secretary) was instructed to go into the whole question of V. D. in Shanghai, and draw up a report embodying their opinions, suggestions and advice, in as practical a form as possible for presentation to the Shanghai Municipal Council, after previously being submitted to the Council of the Society, for examination and discussion, and for whatever alterations and corrections might be deemed necessary.

This report was dealt with exhaustively at five Council meetings. The V. D. committee held altogether four meetings, in April, May, June, and July 1923, at the General Hospital, and as a result of its painstaking deliberations two separate reports were presented to the general public, *viz.*, one long, historical, and comprehensive report which appeared first as supplement to the China Medical Journal of January 1924 and afterwards reprinted as a separate pamphlet for distribution to the members of the society and for sale to the public, and another shorter, preliminary

report dealing mainly with the whole V. D. question from a public health point of view, and containing practical suggestions only. This was sent in the form of a letter to the Shanghai Municipal Council, dated December 10, 1923, and appeared in the Municipal Gazette of January 17, 1924.

At the Council meeting on April 3, 1923 a committee, consisting of Drs. Tucker and W. S. New, was formed to inquire into the standard of qualifications and medical experience necessary for Chinese doctors to possess before being admitted as members of the society.

A special report in the form of a standard syllabus was prepared by the medical council of the China Medical Missionary Association, June 25, 1923 and printed in the China Medical Journal of July 1923. A reprint copy of this was supplied to the Council by Dr. Tucker for their guidance in this matter.

At the same Council meeting in paragraph five section V of the Bylaws, the clause "Meeting shall be convened at 9 p.m. was altered to read, "Meeting shall be convened at 9 p.m. or at such time as the council may decide."

This alteration which was agreed to unanimously, enabled the Council to arrange the meetings for 5.30 p.m. to suit several members who found it inconvenient to attend after dinner. Unfortunately, so far, this alteration has not increased the average monthly attendance. While a number who were formerly regular attenders have found it impossible to come before dinner. The Council are of the opinion that it would be better to revert to the original arrangement of 9 p.m.

As the society, so far, does not possess a Journal of its own it was arranged through the courtesy of Drs. Tucker and W. S. New (May 15) that reports of our Society's meetings could be printed in either the China Medical Journal or in the National Medical Journal.

At a meeting on December 18, 1923, the question of the standardization of medical fees was brought forward. A committee was appointed consisting of Dr. Neild (Chairman), Dr. Fresson, Dr. Murray, and Dr. Cumming (Secretary) to discuss the whole question of medical fees in Shanghai and to present a report on same for the Council to bring before the Society. As the deliberations of this Committee are not complete, the report is not yet available.

Amongst numerous subjects discussed and inquired into by the council are the following:—

(1) The condition and treatment of lunatics in the Chinese Hospital, Haining Road.

(2) The question of legal procedure against doctors performing illegal operations in Shanghai.

(3) Danger of the present method of sewage disposal in reference to spread of bacilliary dysentry, etc.

Members were invited to make use of the excellent medical reference library at the Health Office, which had been carefully arranged and indexed, after a considerable amount of labour and energy, by Dr. Hill.

FINANCES.

The finances of the Society continued in a satisfactory condition, and, notwithstanding several very heavy items of expenditure, a substantial balance remained at the end of the year. This would have been very much larger but for an unfortunate slackness in the payment of dues which, it was hoped, would be remedied during the ensuing year."

The Secretary then briefly announced his intention of retiring from the secretaryship after three years of continuous service. He hoped that his successor might be able to give more time and undivided attention to the work which was gradually increasing and becoming more exacting.

The Secretary's report was approved unanimously and was followed by the election of Officers and Councillors for the ensuing year 1924-25, *viz.*, President; Dr. F. M. Neild; Vice-President, Dr. H. Lovett Cumming; Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. H. H. Morris; Councillors, Dr. S. A. Ransom, Dr. R. J. Marshall, Dr. A. W. Tucker, and Dr. W. S. New.

AMERICANS' GROWING DISSATISFACTION WITH CHINA'S MISGOVERNMENT

Strong Words by American Chamber of Commerce: No Change in American Policy But Sympathy Not to Be Taken as Sign of Weakness

At the annual meeting of the American Chamber of Commerce on Thursday evening in the American Club 100 members and friends assembled to dinner, after which the elections were held and resulted as follows:—Committee, Messrs. S. R. Brown, J. Harold Dollar, J. Eichwald, B. C. Haile, H. B. Lane, V. G. Lyman, A. E. Schumacher, P. P. Whitham and H. A. Wiley. This body will meet on Monday and choose their officers.

In addition to the annual report of the Board, Mr. J. Harold Dollar, the President, commented in general on the situation of the past year. He was of the opinion that protestations on the part of the several Chambers of the Orient had attracted the attention of the various Governments to things Chinese and suggested that continual repetition would cause greater activities at Home. He did not believe that the Peking Government could enforce the trade-mark law in the various provinces and urged unremitting action by the incoming committee as to the protection of rights of extraterritoriality in this same connexion. The financial balance of the Chamber showed nearly 50 per cent. betterment over last year. "Our policy, as I see it, is to continue to maintain a helpful and sympathetic attitude towards the Chinese and to see to it that our treaty rights are safeguarded fully."

A discussion followed on the ownership of American newspapers in China and the policy of the Chamber in this connexion, while further argument centred on the point of the best medium (journalistic) of keeping in touch with American officialdom.

Mr. Julean Arnold, U. S. Commercial Attache at to Peking, also spoke on "constructive commercial tactics."

The report stated:—

At the last annual meeting of the American Chamber of Commerce (Shanghai) held on June 29, 1923, considerable attention was devoted to the serious situation existing in China. The Lincheng outrage was fresh in our minds, and served to bring home to us a very keen realization of the urgent need that something be done to improve conditions which were rapidly drifting from bad to worse. Very soon after the release of the captives had been secured, this Chamber, both independently and in conjunction with other foreign Chambers here, urged that some action be taken by our home Governments to bring China to a sense of her responsibilities and obligations as a sovereign, independent nation—the place to which she had been accorded at the Washington Conference.

On August 10, the Diplomatic Body sent a note, signed by the representatives of 16 nations to the Chinese Government protesting against the activities of bandits and uncontro'led soldiery, and demanding that the foreigners involved in such affairs be reimbursed for property losses, loss of time, and injuries, and also demanding the proper punishment of the Chinese officials responsible. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Chinese Government replied to this note in part as follows:

"The safety of foreigners has always been the subject of very deep solicitude on the part of the Chinese Government." and said further that,

"Through the series of measures recently adopted, the lives, property, and interests of foreigners in China will enjoy added security."

A WORTHLESS PROMISE.

As far as that particular locality is concerned, some protective measures have been taken; but, while there have been no instances of quite the magnitude and audacity of that affair, the list of bandit and military atrocities in other parts of the country has continued unabated. In one of the Shanghai newspapers a few days ago a recital of these was given, from which it is seen that no less than nine foreigners have been murdered, and at least 50 others have been kidnapped or subjected to indignities such as robberies, beatings, or insults. In two or three cases, the American flag has been deliberately insulted, and quite recently a boat flying the American flag loaded with American cargo and operating on one of the rivers in the adjoining province of Chekiang was forcibly detained by the military authorities, and the Chinese crew thrown in jail, because of the refusal of the company to submit to an illegal tax levied on foreign merchandise by Chinese military authorities in contravention of treaties between the United States and China.

Just prior to our annual meeting last year, this Chamber, in conjunction with the American Association of China, sent a strong cablegram to Scretary of State Charles E. Hughes, recommending that additional protection for Americans and American interests in China be provided, and that in case China failed to take definite steps to place her house in order all further benefits granted to China by the Washington Conference be withdrawn or delayed in their application. This action has since evoked some criticism on the part of some who thought it to be a reversal of America's traditional policies toward this country.

U. S. PATROL ON YANGTZE.

We are pleased to find, however that our views were not considered extreme by our Governmental authorities, as steps are being taken by the Navy Department to improve our Yangtsze patrol force to the extent of six new boats, costing G.$700,000 each, capable of navigating the upper reaches of the Yangtsze River, and in addition two boats of the "minesweeper" class have been sent here from Honolulu for reconditioning for service on the lower Yangtsze. Furthermore, in news dispatches from Peking, Washington, London, and Paris early last month, it was indicated that the Powers have decided to delay the holding of the Special Tariff Conference and also the visit of the Judicial Commission authorized at the Washington Conference to investigate into the matter of extraterritoriality. It is reported that definite action is soon to be taken in respect to China's default upon her foreign loan obligations, including obligations for materials purchased by the Chinese Government Railways.

CO-OPERATION WITH BRITISH.

At the recent annual meetings of the British Chamber of Commerce of Shanghai and of the Associated British Chambers of Commerce in China considerable attention was devoted to the important matter of American-British co-operation in respect to the solution of many of the pressing problems affecting the development and conduct of foreign business in China. On behalf of the American Chamber I am pleased to state that the friendly desire for co-operation expressed at the meetings of the British Chambers of Commerce in Shanghai is heartily reciprocated by our membership. At the Washington Conference it was demonstrated that the United States and Great Britain stand practically on the same ground from the standpoint of their policies in the Far East and if our governments are in agreement naturally the same spirit should be carried out by the private citizens of the two countries in their various commercial activities in this part of the world. A full and frank spirit of cooperation on the part of the Americans and Britons represented out here is certain to be productive of good for all concerned in this part of the world, where active constructive leadership is so greatly needed.

SECRETARY HUGHES'S WARNING.

During January of this year, the various newspapers in China published a letter written by Secretary of State Hughes to Mr. George Lockwood, Secretary of the Republican National Committee, which shows that the Administration at Washington is aware of the seriousness of the Chinese situation, and that preparations are being made to cope with it. Secretary Hughes' letter in part reads as follows:

"The Far Eastern policy followed by the Administration in connexion with the Conference remains unaltered in its main objective and has in its application been modified only to the extent necessitated by the changes which have meanwhile taken place in China itself. Those changes I very much regret to say have been a disappointment to those who had hoped that a fuller measure of opportunity for independent development would hasten the evolution of a more normal and orderly internal administration in China and make possible the establishment of a governmental entity capable of fulfilling the international obligations correlative to the rights of sovereignty which the Conference had recognized and sought to safeguard for China..... ..... Under these circumstances the application of our Far Eastern policy to the situation in China has had necessarily to take into account conditions created by the almost complete disintegration of administrative authority and of the sense of political responsibility on the part of those nominally in control of the affairs in China..... But whatever our faith in the capacity of the Chinese people to work out ultimately their own salvation, we cannot ignore the present responsibilities involved in our duty of assuring due protection of the persons and interests of our citizens who are sojourning in China as missionaries or in business or professional pursuits in pursuance of rights clearly granted them by the terms of our treaties with China. This duty compels us primarily in the interests of our own citizens, but secondarily in the interest of China itself, to hold the Chinese Government as rigorously as we may to the fulfillment of the foreign obligations which, no less than the rights of sovereignty, are incident to its enjoyment of a position in the family of nations. I feel fully assured that no measures that we have thus far taken or which we contemplate taking to that end are unduly harsh; and I am, on the contrary, confident that the steps in which this Government participate will in the end prove no less advantageous to the real interests of the Chinese people than to the foreigners whose interests these measures are designed immediately to protect.....

"The difficulty of the situation in the Far East, as you will perceive, lies in the weakness of the Chinese Government. We have done what we could to strengthen it and to give it the opportunity for development, but that development must of necessity take place within. It is not possible for the powers to create a government for China or to substitute with any hope of success a government through their own agencies. The utmost which they may hope to do is to bring the Chinese authorities to a realization of their responsibilities and give such assistance (even though it should be against the will of certain elements in Chinese politics which hope to profit by a continuance of disorder and corruption) as will tend to stabilize the finances and the transportation services of the Chinese Government and thereby bring about conditions of order and security which may offer a less difficult, set of conditions in which the Chinese people may develop an effective administration of their own."

NO CHANGE OF POLICY.

The above, written by Mr. Hughes while not given out as an official document, nevertheless undoubtedly gives the views of the Administration regarding the present China situation and the measures which are now under consideration for meeting it. There has been no reversal of American policy towards China; America always has been, and still is, one of the best friends that China has. History offers conclusive proof that the United States has no desire for political or economic aggression against any country, and her action in calling and conducting the Washington Conference offers very recent and striking evidence of her attitude towards China. This does not mean, however, that the resolutions of the Washington Conference were ever intended to be an abrogation of foreign treaty rights in China as the military-minded gentlemen in this country seem to think. It does not mean that we intend to sit calmly by and witness the murder and persecution of our citizens at the hands of the militarists and bandits without protest or the adoption of protective measures. When however, we see that the Chinese are taking definite steps to bring about orderly government and stable conditions in China, and when we see that improvement actually taking place, China will find the United States, as always, most friendly, altruistic, and ready to help.

THE NEED OF EDUCATION.

As to the means by which such improvement is to be effected, we can only repeat that this is in the hands of the Chinese themselves—and that the business men of China can play a very large part. The solution here, as in every country, lies in education—the education of the people to a realization of their right to good government and freedom from oppression by despotic militarists; and a prerequisite to this is, of course, education of the illiterate masses in such elementals as reading and writing, With this in mind, it is pleasing to note the progress that is being made along these lines, a concrete example of which is the "Mass Education Movement," organized and promoted by Mr. Y. C. James Yen, M. A. of the National Committee, Y. M. C. A. This consists in principle of a vocabulary of 1,000 of the simpler Chinese characters, which can be mastered by even an illiterate person in four months of steady application, and which will enable the student to read the newspapers, simple books and magazines, and write simple letters. This campaign is being carried on all over China, with volunteer teachers and utilizing local public buildings, and remarkable success has already attended the movement.

While we are all agreed upon the principle of the political and adminstrative integrity of China and that the country must be given the fullest possible opportunity of self-development we cannot however close our eyes to the fact that more than 90 per cent. of the Chinese people are illiterate in their own language and from the standpoint of modern development the greater part of China is still in a primitive condition and that as long as this condition exists the Republic of China cannot expect to occupy a position in world affairs which has been accorded to other nations where the standard of civilization as we know it has been raised to a much higher level. So long as these conditions exist in China the country must require the friendly assistance of outside nations otherwise it becomes a menace to the world generally.

It is our firm conviction that the solution of the problems now facing the Chinese people rests entirely in the hands of the educated and business classes, and until such time as they take a firm hand in political and governmental affairs, no lasting improvement can take place. To this end, it is our duty to lend assistance wherever it may be needed to those elements which are working for right and justice. Until something is accomplished along these lines, however, it will be necessary for the foreign governments to insist upon fulfillment of all treaty rights, and to see to it themselves that the lives and property of their nationals are safeguarded.

This policy, as Mr. Hughes states, will work out to the benefit of the Chinese people as well as the foreign interests in China.

ASSOCIATED AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF CHINA.

This organization, which was formed on October 23, 1922, and which is composed of the American Chambers at Harbin, Hankow, Peking, Shanghai, and Tientsin, has continued to function successfully, and has proven of great value in coordinating sentiment and action amongst American business interests throughout China. The annual

meeting of this body was held in Shanghai on October 16 and 17, 1923, and the annual report received much favorable attention in the United States.

The principle of a closer working arrangement between the American business communities in China and those of the Philippine Islands and in Japan has been agreed by all to be most desirable and there is reason to hope that such an arrangement will be effected within the near future for the organization of a Far Eastern Association of American Chambers.

The Associated Chambers in October 1923 appointed a resident representative in Washington, Mr. J. J. Underwood, whose address is 621 Colorado Bldg.

BOXER INDEMNITY.

During the past few months considerable discussion has appeared in the public press with regard to the proposed expenditure of the balance of the American share of the Boxer Indemnity amounting to some fifteen million dollars, United States currency, which Congress is now considering remitting to China.

The Board is of the opinion that any expenditure for educational or other purposes in China should be closely supervised by an American committee composed of representatives of the United States diplomatic or consular services and of the American business and missionary organizations in China.

As it has come to the attention of the Board that an organized campaign is being conducted in America to obtain remission of this fund to be administered by a committee, the majority of whom are non-American, the attention of the various governmental departments at Washington was directed to the resolution passed on October 23, 1923 by the Associated American Chambers.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAY DEFAULTS.

The United States Government has taken the position that obligations for materials supplied to the Chinese Government Railways constitute a part of the operating expenses of the railways, and as such should be met before any charges on the surplus revenues are provided for, or in other words that such obligations for equipment are a prior lien on the actual earnings of the railways and must be satisfied before any surplus can be said to exist.

This matter was the subject of a resolution to the above effect passed at the meeting of the Associated American Chambers held on October 17, 1923 but in view of the continued disregard for the rights of American creditors by the Chinese Government the Chamber believes this matter should once again be brought to the attention of the State Department in order that it may obtain arrangements whereby these obligations may be liquidated.

ILLEGAL TAXATION.

During the past year illegal taxation has spread throughout the country so that few if any of the provinces are free from this complaint. The example set by Chekiang Province has extended throughout all the provinces in the Yangtze valley. The reason advanced by Chekiang Province for levying the taxation was that this province was independent of Peking and was not bound by the treaties or special arrangements entered into by the Peking Government. The other provinces along the Yangtze have not been able to make this excuse and now all violations of treaty rights are excused on the plea that the treaties have become obsolete and that therefore the provinces should not be bound by them.

The provincial authorities in some cases have pointed out that the failure to bring into effect the agreement arrived at by the Washington Conference has left them no other course than that of the increase to which they feel they are entitled and this is offered as the reason for their acts in levying and collecting illegal taxes. The Peking Government has recognized the illegality of the taxes against which protests have been made by the various Legations but these instructions to the provinces have not been executed. There seems to be a determined effort generally throughout the provinces to proceed without regard to the treaties and to question generally treaty rights which have been recognized and acknowledged for many years.

Various treaties between China and the foreign powers have put a limitation upon the taxation of imported goods, without regard to their nature. Any taxation levied in excess of those provided for in these treaties is therefore a violation of the said treaties. The first exception to this principle appears in the Washington Agreement in the provision that has been made for the levying of a tax on luxuries. It therefore applies that any violation of treaties by the illegal taxation of any article of commerce jeopardizes the principle established by treaty and would further establish a precedent which might be extended to all importations.

YANGTZE PATROL FORCE.

The Board of Directors take pleasure in announcing that partly as a result of our efforts in cooperation with representatives of the State, Commerce and Navy Departments a bill introduced in Congress early this session providing for the construction of six patrol boats of a special type for operation on the upper Yangtze to cost not more than G. $700,000 each recently passed the House of Representatives. According to the present plans of the Navy Department these new boats will be used to replace the present craft now operating under the American flag on the Yangtze River.

In addition to the above the Navy Department has sent to Shanghai two boats of the minesweeper class for reconditioning in one of the Shanghai shipyards for service on the lower Yangtze.

It is felt that these new boats will do much to maintain peaceful conditions in the Yangtze valley, affording greater security to American lives and interests in that section.

TRADEMARKS.

The Chamber has taken a very active interest in the new Chinese Trademark Law. Without consulting the various Legations the Peking Government promulgated in the month of May, 1923, a law providing for the registration of trademarks which gives to foreign firms six months within which to register existing trademarks which they could use in China. Committee of the Chamber cooperated with a committee from the British Chamber at Shanghai in reviewing this trademark law and suggested certain changes which would make the law more suitable to the conditions which exist in China. In general the law is considered to be a good law but the joint committee of the two Chambers recognized that no matter how good the law may be it will not give the desired protection if it is not properly administered. The Chambers have been most interested in seeing that precaution would be taken to have the law properly administered. Representations have been made by all of the foreign Chambers to the proper authorities to try to bring about the establishment of safeguards which would protect them in their valuable trademark rights but up to the present no satisfactory result has come out of the negotiations between the various Governments and the Peking Government. The position of all foreigners has been somewhat handicapped by the fact that individuals on their own initiative have registered marks with the new Bureau without taking into consideration the fact that the promulgation of this law has not met with the approval or has been accepted by their home Government.

It is hoped however that at an early date some conclusion will be reached by the Governments concerned which will correct the apparent defects in the law which will provide the proper administration of the law thus ensuring the proper protection to the right of ownership. The opinion of the foreign merchants in Shanghai [illegible] and protests have been made jointly and severally to their respective [illegible] advising [illegible]

[illegible]

On March 15, 1924, the American Chamber at Shanghai sent the following telegram to President Coolidge and Secretary of State Hughes:

Americans reside and do business in China under their own laws in accordance with extraterritorial clauses which have been incorporated in all treaties between the United States and China. At the Washington Conference it was decided to investigate the practice of extraterritoriality in China with the idea of suggesting improvements, but the appointment of the international committee of investigation authorized by the Conference has been postponed (at China's request) because of the political situation now existing in the Chinese Republic—the seriousness of which is recognized all over the world.

"Now the Chinese Government is trying to obtain America's consent to a new trademark law recently enacted by the Peking Parliament which will have the effect of breaking down immediately the rights of Americans and other foreigners guaranteed under the treaties without waiting for the investigation and recommendations of the Commission authorized at the Washington Conference.

"The Trademark law which the Chinese Government is attempting to enforce arbitrarily places all American and other foreign owned trademarks, and tradenames under the exclusive jurisdiction of a native bureau without provision in the law for appeal to courts of justice as is the established practice in the United States, in Europe and in Japan. Since trademarks and tradenames constitute the backbone of foreign commerce and carry values running into the millions of dollars, the ratification of this law by the United States Government would certainly be followed by disastrous effects and confusion in American trade in this country.

"Even if the new trademark law was ratified with safeguarding amendments—it would not protect American rights in China because of the self-evident fact that due to the disturbed political condition of China, no laws promulgated by the Peking Government command the slightest respect in the provinces.

"The acceptance of the new Chinese law by the United States would constitute a waiver of our extraterritorial rights; would nullify the action of the Washington Conference in respect to the matter of investigating China's fitness for a relinquishment of foreign extraterritorial rights in China; would immediately place American and other foreign property from the standpoint of trademarks under purely Chinese control without resort to properly constituted courts of justice; and finally would cause confusion and losses in America's important trade with China which might be most disastrous."

CHINA TRADE ACT.

In view of the fact that the China Trade Act which was passed by Congress in 1922 does not fulfill the expectations of American businessmen interested in trade in this part of the world a serious effort is now being made to amend the act so that it will be of service to American business operating in this country. A number of amendments dealing especially with the taxation features of the bill which have the approval of the Chamber are now before Congress and according to recent advices which have been received from the Registrar of the China Trade Act who is now in Washington there is a possibility of favourable action resulting from the present Congress.

To make the Act of benefit to American interests, there are two groups of amendments proposed.

One proposed amendment to give China Trade Act companies entire exemption from the 12½ per cent. Federal corporation tax, as is done with British China Companies. The Act as passed only gives relief from Federal corporation taxes to the extent of a special dividend to American and Chinese stockholders resident in China equal to and credited to the China Trade Act Corporation in the payment of its corporation tax in the proportion that the percentage of stock so held bear to all outstanding stock. The revenue part of the Act as originally proposed, and as now proposed to be amended, has not contemplated any exemption of personal income taxes on China Trade Act company dividends.

As the Act now stands, there are some provisions which are not clear and some provisions that are inconsistent. It is also felt that the application and administration of the Act can be simplified. To this end there are proposed 10 amendments which briefly stated in order are as follows:

1.—Reduce number of necessary incorporators from five to three. This will conform to all State Laws, which require only three incorporators.
2.—Eliminate the requirement for maintaining principal office in the District of Columbia.
3.—Eliminate the necessity of maintaining a resident director in the District of Columbia.
4.—Extend the period for the payment of the initial capital. All of which must now be paid in full before issue of certificate of incorporation.
5.—Change the purpose of the Act to developing trade between China and the United States instead of developing markets in China for goods produced in the United States.
6.—Require a corporate seal, which is now optional.
7.—Permit stock to be issued at more but not less than par.
8.—Require the president and treasurer to be American citizens, or persons who at their place of residence are subject to the laws of the United States.
9.—Permit proxy-voting of stock.
10.—Require an audit of the annual reports of China Trade Act corporations.

There are now about a dozen companies incorporated under the China Trade Act.

PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR THE HANDLING OF "DANGEROUS" CARGO AT THE PORT OF SHANGHAI.

The proposed regulations issued by the Harbour Master's office received the careful attention and study of the shipping committee and the Board, who recommended to the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce that the proposed regulations should be accepted in principle, with a view to getting them before the Consular Body as a definite basis to work upon.

The Board also recommended that the General Harbour Regulations be amended so as to provide the necessary local authority which can be appealed to for quick decision in the event of its being desired to import or store larger quantities than those allowed in the present proposals.

The Board recommended that nothing be introduced in the proposed regulations which will adversely affect present approved bulk petroleum storage installations.

The Board recommended that a set of buoys be provided where vessels with considerable quantities of restricted commodities on board and having no oil installation wharf privileges may berth in the lower section of the River instead of being forced to berth at Woosung as at present.

With regard to the proposed limitations of storage areas for inflammable petroleum products such as gasoline, and certain chemicals, also restrictions in the amount of only 29,250 Imperial gallons in the area between the Cosmopolitan Dock and Yangking Creek, it was made clear that the Chamber's acceptance in principle does not waive the right for any responsible interests having the endorsement of its Chamber of Commerce or Consul from being privileged to negotiate with the Harbour authorities for what it may require in this respect.

IMPORTATION OF RESTRICTED ARTICLES.

In connexion with the importation into China of articles which have been listed under the general heading of contraband, prohibited and restricted articles the Board of Directors of the Chamber have recommended revisions of this list to permit of the importation of wireless equipment, articles such as sulphur, saltpetre, sulphuric acid, nitric acid, spelter, picric acid and oil of mirbane, but that dynamite, nitroglycerine, gelignite, melinite, detonators and powder strings be retained on the restricted list as at present. The chamber does not approve of the proposal emanating from certain Chinese sources that industrial copper be placed on the restricted list.

RULE, 1, CHINESE MARITIME CUSTOMS.

This question was considered again during the past year and the Board upon being asked for a decision restated, its opinion that the position of the Chamber remains unchanged, i.e. that advalorem duties shall in all cases be calculated upon the c. i. f. cost of the goods, imported that is to say, the landed cost in bond, or in other words, the prices at which the goods have been sold by the exporter in the foreign country to the importer in China plus the insurance and the freight on the goods.

CHANGE IN CUSTOMS CLASSIFICATION HEADINGS.

The Chamber in conjunction with the Trade Commissioner's office interviewed many members of the American business community in regard to any changes desired in connexion with the compilation of the Maritime Customs Trade Returns. The recommendations of the Chamber were forwarded to the Commissioner of Customs for consideration.

DUTY ON MOTOR-CARS—PORT OF SHANGHAI.

On December 17, 1923 a conference was held with the Commissioner of Customs by representatives of verious national Chambers of Commerce at Shanghai with a view to arriving at the duty paying value for automobiles. At that meeting it was suggested that a fixed percentage of 20 per cent. be added to the invoice value the wholesale market or duty paying value. This proposal however did not meet with unanimous approval and the duty is still assessed in a manner similar to that on other unenumerated articles. Unenumerated articles pay duty at the rate of 5 per cent. advalorem, and the value upon which duty is to be calculated is the wholesale market value of the goods in local currency. This market value when converted into Haikwan taels is considered to be higher than the duty-paying value by the amount of the duty on the goods and 7 per cent. of the duty-paying value of the goods.

TONNAGE DUES IN CHINESE PORTS.

No change has been made since the meeting of the Associated American Chambers on October 17, 1923 in the tonnage dues now being assessed against foreign shipping entering Chinese ports. The Chamber desires to re-affirm the resolution which was passed by the Associated American Chambers at that time quoted below:—

"The tonnage dues which China is permitted to charge foreign vessels are based upon treaties between China and other nations beginning with the Tientsin treaty between China and Great Britain signed in 1858. These dues amount to 4 mace (equivalent to 30 cents U. S. currency) per net registered ton on vessels of over 150 tons and 1 mace (equivalent to 8 cents U. S. currency) per net registered ton on vessels of 150 tons and under. The dues are levied in a lump sum upon any foreign ship that touches at a Chinese port, and cover a period of four months. These dues are higher than those charged by any other country and were adopted originally more than a half century ago because of the fact that few foreign ships touched Chinese ports and the high dues were necessary to provide funds for the construction and maintenance of light-houses, etc. Since these high rates work a handicap upon American shipping not engaged in the coastwise trade of China, the Associated American Chambers of Commerce of China recommend that steps be taken by the United States Government to revise these regulations which have been in effect without change for 64 years.

The Associated American Chambers of Commerce of China recommends that all foreign vessels be granted the privilege of paying tonnage dues at the rate of 4 mace (equivalent to 30 cents U. S. currency) per net registered ton and good for a period of four months or the privilege of paying tonnage dues at a fair rate per net registered ton per call."

UNITED STATES COURT FOR CHINA.

In view of the fact that the American population in China has increased from about 3,000 in 1906, when the United States Court for China was first created, to about 9,000 at the present time and of

the further fact that America's share of the foreign trade of China has increased from about 50 million gold dollars to 200 millions it has been found that the original machinery creating the United States Court for China is now entirely inadequate. To remedy this situation the American Chamber of Commerce (Shanghai) has recommended to Congress several amendments to the original act, briefly as follows:

1.—Placing the Court under the administration of the Department of Justice in accordance with the other Federal courts of the United States.
2.—Appointment of an assistant judge or in lieu of that increasing the powers and number of commissioners so that sessions of the Court may be held during the absence or disability of the presiding judge.
3.—Inauguration of a modified form of jury trial considered workable in this jurisdiction.
4.—Increasing the salaries of the district attorney, commissioners, clerk and other court officials so that it should not be necessary for them to engage in the private practice of law.

U. S. DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICES.

There has been before Congress for several years a measure known as the "Rogers Bill" which is intended to improve the consular and diplomatic services of the United States through combining the two services into a unified foreign service.

According to the terms of the Rogers Bill provision is made for increases in salaries, travelling expenses, post allowances, retirement and for promotions in accordance with the abilities of the individual.

In view of the fact that the question of improvements in the United States Consular and Diplomatic Services in China have been a frequent source of consideration on the part of this body as well as other American organizations in China the American Chamber of Commerce (Shanghai) desires to go on record as being in favour of and fully endorsing the Rogers Bill and expresses the hope it may be speedily enacted into law by Congress.

AMERICAN OWNED CONSULAR PROPERTY IN CHINA.

The Chamber has cooperated with the American Association of China in the collection and publication in booklet form of data dealing with the need for the purchase of land and the construction of modern buildings for the accommodation of American consular officials in China.

Copies of the booklet under preparation are to be mailed to members of Congress, heads of departments and Bureaus of the Government at Washington in the hope that Congress may be induced to take action on this subject during the present session. There is now a measure before Congress providing for the construction of new Consular buildings at Tientsin, Hankow and Canton which it is hoped will be passed.

ICHANG CONSULATE.

We regret to have to report that to date no action has been taken in regard to stationing an American consular official at Ichang to represent and protect the various American missionary and commercial interests established there, and to assist American shipping now regularly engaged in the upper Yangtze trade. This Chamber is still very strongly of the opinion that American interests generally are of sufficient importance to justify the opening of a consulate at Ichang.

PILFERAGE OF CARGO—STRENGTHENING OF SHANGHAI RIVER POLICE.

During the year a proposal to increase the River Police was brought to the notice of the Board. The strength has been increased and a new police hulk obtained which should be of considerable help in reducing the pilferage of cargo at this port.

The original proposal from the Maritime Customs provided for a special addition to the wharfage dues which would have to be met by the trade of the Port. The Board did not approve of this as it would establish an undesirable precedent to permit any further surtaxes levied on cargo moving through the port of Shanghai.

The improvements referred to above were finally obtained without any additional levy on cargo passing through the port of Shanghai.

SOOCHOW CREEK IMPROVEMENT.

One of the chief avenues of communication between Shanghai and the hinterland is Soochow Creek, a native waterway, which in recent years has become so difficult to handle the traffic that normally passes through it between Shanghai and the interior. This creek although running through the foreign settlement is under the control of the Chinese Government and up to the present it has been impossible to obtain improvements because of the opposition of the provincial and local Chinese officials. This matter has had the earnest and careful consideration of a special subcommittee and that committee as well as the Board is of the opinion that immediate dredging and more effective policing of the Soochow creek is imperative. The Chamber has made representations to the proper authorities urging that immediate action be taken on this important matter and stating that in its opinion the best method to accomplish the dredging and engineering work would be to have this done by the Chinese authorities utilizing if possible the engineering facilities of the Whangpoo Conservancy Board.

AMERICAN INCOME TAX.

American Chambers of Commerce in London, Paris, Mexico City, Buenos Aires, Manila and elsewhere representing American commercial interests engaged in foreign trade have for many years agitated against the injustice of the United States Government enforcing its domestic income tax regulations upon Americans residing abroad who derive their income from non-American sources.

There are approximately 240,000 foreigners residing in China of which number about 9,000 are Americans, and the Americans are the only foreigners who are required by their home Government to pay income taxes upon incomes derived from activities in this part of the world and entirely outside of the United States.

The handicap which this places upon the American citizen in his competition with the British, Japanese, French, Germans and other activities in China is practically self-evident. Governor-General Leonard Wood of the Philippine Islands has well stated the case in letters and cables to the Secretary of War and to the President of the United States dated September 7 and 8, 1923. In these communications Governor-General Wood said:

"Filipinos and foreign residents of the Philippine Islands, business competitors of Americans, are exempt from Federal income tax paying only local taxes which are very much lower. Resulting discrimination against Americans on an outpost of our foreign commerce is grossly unjust, . . . British subjects abroad have never been subjected to British taxation on income derived from sources outside of Great Britain. By the Finance Act of 1920 Great Britain has even gone to the extent of refunding to overseas British subjects taxes heretofore levied on income derived solely from British sources. Relief on the part of Congress would greatly facilitate the general efforts to build up our foreign trade now seriously interfered with by subjecting it here and elsewhere abroad to the handicap of heavier income taxes than those paid by foreign competitors . . . I feel very strongly that the least the home Government can do is to give a considerate hearing to the American business men of this community in order that all the facts may be before you before definite action is taken."

The situation affecting Americans interested in business and other activities in China is practically the same as the situation outlined by Governor-General Wood in the Philippines. All foreigners residing in China are subject to certain municipal and other taxes in the communities wherein they live but it is only the Americans residing in China who are in addition subjected by their home Government to all of the domestic taxes of the United States even though the incomes are derived from sources entirely outside of the United States.

In view of the above factors the American Chamber of Commerce (Shanghai) desire to approve of the action of other American Chambers of Commerce in various parts of the world, and especially the action of the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippine Islands, as well as the action of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America to the effect that Congress in framing the next Revenue Bill may provide exemptions for Americans residing overseas and deriving their income from non-American sources.

PASSPORTS.

The American Chamber of Commerce (Shanghai) has endorsed a movement stated by the Merchants Association of New York to reduce the application and visa fees paid for passports from G$10 to G$2. This proposal has the support of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and other influential organizations in America, and a bill providing for this reduction has been introduced in the present Congress.

SHANGHAI AMERICAN SCHOOL.

The American Chamber of Commerce (Shanghai) is rendering what assistance it can in the campaign in America for raising funds for the support and endowment of the Shanghai American School. In addition to this an effort is being made to obtain from the American Government the enactment of suitable legislation to secure financial assistance from the Federal Government toward the running expenses of the several American Schools in China subject to periodic consular or other inspection and approval.

THE SHANGHAI CLAY PIGEON CLUB

Plans for a New Pavilion: The Elimination of Pot-Hunting: Handicap Reforms

Mr. J. Ambrose (the President) occupied the chair at the annual meeting of the Shanghai Clay Pigeon Club, held at the Shanghai Club, on Thursday, and there were also present Messrs. H. H. Read (Vice-President), A. E. Algar, H. E. Gibson, W. G. Pirie, E. H. Himrod (committee), A. E. Stewart (hon. secretary and treasurer) and a number of members.

The report and accounts were passed and the following were elected:—General Committee.—Messrs. J. Ambrose, H. H. Read, A. P. Nazer, H. E. Gibson, K. J. McEuen, W. G. Pirie, E. H. Himrod, W. J. Gande (hon. secretary and treasurer). Balloting Committee.—Capt. E. I. M. Barrett, Messrs. F. Schwyzer, Gordon Morriss and N. E. Moller.

Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Ambrose and Mr. A. E. Stewart.

A NEW PAVILION.

Mr. Ambrose mentioned the question of the pavilion. Year after year, he said, they had to spend a lot of money on it and it could not possibly be left in its present condition. The committee unanimously were in favour of rebuilding it on better lines, so as to give more room and a better outlook. Plans and estimates had been prepared and if the turnout continued to be as good as it was in the past season they would be able to pay off the whole cost in two years.

Messrs. I. Tuxford, H. E. Gibson, Gordon Morriss and A. P. Nazer were appointed a sub-committee to make a decision on the matter.

A VETO ON POT-HUNTING.

Capt. E. I. M. Barrett said that the number of cups put up for competition rather savoured of pot-hunting. It would be better to have sweepstakes, or else to shoot for a few better cups on the system of legs.

Mr. E. H. Himrod said that he thought the elimination of the weekly cups, as suggested by Capt. Barrett, would do away with a lot of the trouble in handicapping. He suggested that in handicapping they should start on the basis of the average of the whole of the previous season's shooting, and then continue on the whole of the shooting of the current season to the date of a competition.

Mr. Tuxford and other members strongly supported this suggestion, which was put as a proposition and agreed to. It was further decided that the club should offer one cup to be shot for through the season.

MUNICIPAL GAZETTE NEWS

Registration of Printers and Publishers.

A resolution providing for the licensing of printing establishments and of the Press was introduced by the Council at a Special Meeting of Ratepayers in 1919 and was duly passed. The reasons for this measure were very clearly set forth by the Chairman of Council for that year, Sir Edward Pearce, who stated *inter alia* that Shanghai was very behind hand in this matter and reminded his hearers that the French Consul-General had recently issued an Ordinance for the regulation of all printing establishments in the French Concession, the British Municipal Council in Hankow had for some years a Bye-law governing the licensing of the Press and the British Concession in Tientsin had recently obtained similar powers.

The Bye-law in question as also the Licence Conditions which were passed at the same meeting did not meet with the support of the Consular Body, but in March 1920, the Council learned that with a view to achieving the same object, the Consular Body favoured the registration of printers and the publication of their names and addresses on all printed matter, in a manner similar to the practice obtaining in other countries. In the circumstances, and in the view that such a measure, whilst not of the same value as the Council's licensing proposals, would be valuable in keeping a check on printed matter—particularly scurrilous and seditious pamphlets—the Council decided to lay before the Ratepayers a Bye-law in such terms as would meet with the approval of the Consular Body.

The publication of this proposed Bye-law four years ago, when the Council's first endeavour to bring it before the Ratepayers failed because of the lack of a quorum, brought forth considerable protest from the Chinese Publishers' Guild, the Chinese Publishers' Association and other Chinese concerned in the printing business, and appeals were made to the Foreign Community to reject the proposed bye-law on the ground that it was a remedial measure and that the remedy was worse than the disease. The Council's second endeavour to bring the matter before the Ratepayers at a Special Meeting three years ago again failed because of the lack of a quorum.

In March, 1922, the Council gave notice of its intention again to propose the Bye-law, but there was no quorum, and, for the fourth time, therefore, the matter is put on the list of resolutions to be proposed at the forthcoming meeting on April 16.

The Council is not so sanguine as to anticipate an attendance at the Ratepayers Meeting this year any greater in numbers than upon previous occasions; but it has been decided to adopt the policy of bringing up each year for consideration the business held back from previous years on account of lack of a quorum, until opportunity should occur to obtain thereon a decisive vote by the ratepayers.

In 1922, considerable opposition was manifested to the proposed measure for registration of printers and publishers, and an extensive campaign was set on foot by certain native merchants to secure its withdrawal, which, however, failed of accomplishment. Signs are not lacking that the same interests are again at work in similar propaganda.

It is not the purpose of this minute to deal in detail with the misleading character of this propaganda, suffice it to say that the provisions of the proposed Bye-law were fully explained two years ago to those who are opposed to it, as follows:—

Printers and publishers shall register with their Consul, if they have one, or with the Council if they have not.

Having registered, printers shall print their names and places of business on their publications.

No person may publish or distribute printed matter which does not bear the name and place of business of the printer.

Registration will not have to be repeated, although changes of address, and in the case of a printing company, changes in the directorate, will have to be notified. There is absolutely no question of the registration of printed matter itself, as is customary in so many other countries.

Volunteer Corps.

Annual Inspection.—A letter from Major-General Sir John Fowler K.C.M.G., Commanding H. M. Forces in China, informs the Council that he will be able to conduct the Annual Inspection of the Corps from May 21 to May 23 inclusive.

Chaplains (attached Headquarters).—The Rev. T. W. Hall, late Chaplain of the British Armies in the Field, to be Captain.

Brothels.

In accordance with the policy adopted as a result of the report of the Vice Commission in 1920, the remainder of the licensed brothels will be closed on December 31, next.

Fire Brigade Report for February.

The total number of calls received was 45 of which 42 were genuine fires, 29, (including 1 chimney fire), occurring within the Settlement and 13 outside. The remaining three were false alarms.

The damage on assessed property within the Settlement was estimated at Tls. 7,325 (Foreign Tls. 3,950: Chinese Tls. 3,375), whilst the property at risk was estimated at Tls. 2,032,000 (Foreign Tls. 1,852,000: Chinese Tls. 180,000).

One life was lost during the month, and 2 firemen were injured. 10 premises were damaged. In dealing with these calls Brigade machines travelled approximately 342 miles. Hose used 13,800 feet and the time occupied was approximately 120 hours.

The fire at Mahriah's on February 12, at 7 a.m., which was extinguished with very slight damage by the Astor House staff prior to the arrival of the Brigade, was another illustration of the danger of leaving the current on electric irons. In this case the iron was resting on a wooden table, not even on an iron stand, and the consequence might have been extremely serious as the shop was an under portion of an Hotel.

There was a loss of life at No. 137 off Fokien Road, where after the extinguishment by the Hongkew Division, a body was found by them buried under the débris.

Return of Communicable Disease.

Reported during the week ending Saturday, midnight, March 29, 1924.	Foreign Cases notified from within Settlement limits (Estimated population 21,400)	Deaths among Chinese resident estimated population of 825,000.
Small-pox	3	2
Cholera	0	0
Typhoid Fever	0	5
Paratyphoid Fever	0	0
Diphtheria	2	0
Scarlet Fever	0	2
Tuberculosis	2	17
Plague	0	0
Amœbic Dysentery	0	0
Bacillary Dysentery	1	0
Influenza	2	1
Total Deaths from all Causes	13	177

"Where to Stay in England"

GLORIOUS DEVON

MR. AND MRS. GOODACRE,
(LATE TIENTSIN)

Tembani Private Hotel,
Sea Front, Paignton,
Near Torquay.

CORRESPONDENCE

EDUCATION AND CHINESE CHILDREN.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Mr. W. W. Lockwood has raised in your columns a subject of the greatest importance and one worthy of the consideration of those responsible for the government and control of this great city. It would surely be well to invite Mr. Lockwood to be a little more explicit especially in these days when the subject of Education as a whole, and its ideals—possibly the product of individual fancy—and aims are matters about which there are great differences of opinion. If Mr. Lockwood has up his sleeve a scheme which he considers will prove beneficial and of real practical value as regards the progress, peace, and prosperity of this city and tend to the better maintenance of law and order, he will find the ratepayers ready and eager to discuss it. General remarks and criticism of the Commission are merely futile.

To confine our attention for the moment to this city alone, it will be profitable to consider what foreign education has done for the Chinese. What has it produced that is of real and lasting value? Have we employment for the numerous foreign trained students? Are those who have studied abroad, even in the United States, welcomed in commercial circles as tending to maintain and improve the standards of the commercial life of this city?

Primary education on Chinese lines will teach a number of people to read and write but it is to be much doubted whether the ability will tend to their betterment. What are they to read? Chinese newspapers, rubbishy periodicals and anti-foreign propaganda. When you have given the children of the masses of this city some measure of education, what are you going to do with them? There may be work of a kind for them, but it is just that kind of work they will refuse to do, even if you cover the whole city with juvenile employment exchanges.

Is not education largely a matter of supply and demand? Any vast scheme of education in this city would merely produce vast numbers of youths with little or nothing to do put express their dissatisfaction with their environment, and expend their energies upon making things hot for the Municipal Authority which had educated them.

Increased educational facilities can only be given when the country as a whole is showing signs of progress and development to such an extent that she is capable of finding suitable and sufficient employment for those educated. There are not a few today who have received a really sound technical education abroad, and yet, owing to the present condition of this country, they can find no suitable employment.

The present situation in India is to a large extent due to the fact that the educational system has developed beyond the capacity of the country to assimilate the educated, who have thus been thrown back upon that profession which is destructive rather than constructive, the political agitator. We have already enough of these would-be "Lo-ins" in Shanghai.

That knowledge and capacity is of the highest value to the pupil who is representative of the world about him, and tends to bring him up to the level of what is best in the tradition and custom of the people, and, on the other, "It is yet to be proved that non-European races submitted to our education are capable of assimilating themselves to our mental standards." These two statements are obviously contradictory. One is at a loss to make out what he really means.

The above is sufficient to point out the fallacies of Mr. Anti's statement and is written with the hope that those who can see that, in order to build a bigger and prosperous peaceful Shanghai, co-operation and mutual understanding among foreign and Chinese inhabitants are necessary and that one of the best means to achieve these aims is by a sound state of education among its inhabitants, will not be misled by such irresponsible statements as put forward by Mr. Anti.

I am, etc.,
C. C. H.

Shanghai, Mar. 31, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Lest we be accused, on the top of myriad other sins, of lack of appreciation, I hasten to do homage to the moderation as displayed in some of the counter-proposals which have appeared since the publication of Mr. Lockwood's letter. It is wonderful how their writers can restrain the selves to say simply that the money now wasted on the education of the Chinese should be used to relieve indigent foreign residents of part of the burden of their children's school fees and to provide the same children with higher education, so that they will be better equipped in the glorious battle of keeping the "Chinks" inferiors in perpetuity. For in this way, the poor fathers have still to work and their sons cannot yet go to Cambridge or Oxford. And these are very grave handicaps to superior men.

A less moderate man would certainly go much farther. He could easily demonstrate how all the monies now spent on the Chinese residents in the way of policing, lighting and road-building are worse than wasted; how they only initiate them into comforts which they will be unwilling to give up; and how the enjoyment of these unaccustomed delights will breed jealousy and envy in their minds and end in an anti-foreign movement. And therefore, he could go on to deduce with perfect logical sequence, that all these expenditures should be saved and much better spent on providing the poor fathers with rich incomes so that they can live in idleness and send their sons to European universities.

But, as befitting a higher race, the advocates of the counter-proposals will not let themselves thus run away with their feelings, and it behoves me, a representative of the inferior Chinese, to register this phenomenom, and, on my knees, do a little hero-worshipping.

The reference to Tuchuns and selfish millionaires, I must admit, is most elevating. Is it not always sweet and comforting to know that there are wise sinners in this part of the world? Perhaps, it was their intelligence to descend to the same moral level that has made these most admirable writers such beautiful examples of self denial. Anyway, it would be most insulting to the city fathers even to think for one moment that they would ever be a party to the practice of receiving and not doing.

"Anti" is quite right in assuming that "it is yet to be proved that non-European races are capable of assimilating themselves to our mental standards." Indeed, most of us would not, even if we were capable, if the examples we see in the correspondence columns of your paper are representative of those "mental standards." Only, "Anti" seems rather to have confused the issue. Which is, that the Council should do more in the way of educating the children of the Chinese residents. Whether the education is to be on foreign lines is another question.

I am, etc.,
K. C. K.

Shanghai, April 1, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—May I be allowed a few lines in which to reply briefly to C.C.H.? I regret that C.C.H., after a perusal of my letter, should have arrived at the conclusion that education for Chinese is not desirable at all, and more especially so in that I have not arrived at such conclusions myself. It is also a matter for regret that C.C.H. is unable to admit that foreign newspapers and periodicals are slightly less objectionable than similar Chinese publications in this city. I am in touch with quite a number of Chinese students who have noted a considerable difference as regards moral and intellectual tone.

Mr. Anti. has no wish to make anyone do any particular kind of work; but he does object to any form of mass education which will make countless thousands of youths dissatisfied with their environment when there is nothing better to offer them.

If the schools planned by C.C.H. and his friends are going to concentrate on the formation of character, most people will be willing to have any number of them. In this country the word character has many interpretations and no doubt C.C.H. would like it to cover another ambiguous term "Sovereign Rights." The masses C.C.H. wishes to educate so far in advance of the development of the country would be out for dollars not character: it would be a case of "follow my leader" (in Peking).

It is not my fault that C.C.H. finds the statements in paragraph 7 contradictory and is at a loss to make out what I mean. I am afraid he must remain at a loss until he is better acquainted with the English language.

Your peroration, C.C.H., is excellent and one such as is frequently met with at conferences and gatherings for the uplift of the masses. I have no quarrel with your aims or ideals, but I would beg of you to come down from the clouds and face facts. The Education of this city cannot be run on the same lines as a Ford factory. The educational policy of the Municipal Council is sound and wise, and at this stage increased educational facilities would produce unfortunate results.

I am, etc.,
Anti.

Shanghai, April 2, 1924.

THE CALIPHATE.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Replies have come from other Mosques to the deposition of the Caliphate at Constantinople by a Congregation after meeting held, must be maintained as sacred because there could be no unfair reason, not made public.

Caliphs are like Princes or Dukedoms are useless lot, proved to hilt in the late Great War. Those Statemen who make speeches to lure the people to go to the front, whilst princes stay behind and High Monarchs visit the seat of Fire out of Range (danger zone) Whilst hundreds get their limbs shot off or thousands bereaving the loss of their husbands or Fathers we have not heard of King, or Emperor leading a Bayonet Charge, but he is seen conspicuous when giving out Rewards to his favourities who succeeded in his game. No Caliph was near the danger zone, Was he?

Through your Columns, I like to be known to the other Moslems who had asked to be put in Constantinople against the verdict of the Congress to think once more, that Religion and Politics do not go hand in hand together therefore must leave them alone. is the decision in China. The result of these all over the world, had been disastrous, therefore there must be a change to the good. Take for instance Italy and Holy See, England and Temporal Power.

I am, etc.,
Mullah Nawan Chus

Shanghai, Mar 27, 1924.

Shanghai Mar. 27, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Many of your readers will, I fear, be somewhat puzzled or dissatisfied with your footnotes and comments on this subject.

According to Mr. Gilbert Peet's figures (quoted from the best source available on these questions) the Chinese portion of the municipal rate is rather larger than the foreign portion. Whereas the amount expended on education for foreign children is considerably more than double that spent on Chinese.

You point out that "there are items headed 'Foreign' which upon anaylsis, will be found to include Chinese contributions, and *vice versa*, and in order to ascertain the precise total paid by Chinese and foreigners, the municipal accounts would have to be gone through item by item." This may be so, but may we not assume that the official figures quoted are approximately correct? And may not the apparent inequality herein brought to light justify the public in questioning the grounds of your further statement? "There is no gross unfairness in the proportion spent on Chinese education and the proportion spent on foreign education, the amounts being relatively the same to the amounts of rates paid by Chinese and foreigners."

No one of Mr. Lockwood's critics has attempted to answer his argument that our municipality, having in some measure recognized its responsibility for providing education for Chinese by establishing Secondary Schools, should not leave Elementary Education for Chinese children entirely untouched. His plea was not that the Council should spend "millions" on the education of Chinese children, but that something should be done which might be a model and an encouragement to the Chinese in this direction.

In reminding us of the proportionate amount spent on education in cities of the West, Mr. Lockwood was not, I think, urging that the same proportion necessarily ought to be spent in Shanghai, but the contrast gives reason for asking whether in our Municipality, education, and particularly education for Chinese, has a fair share of attention.

I am, etc.,
G. W. Sheppard.

Shanghai Mar. 28, 1924.

***If what Mr. Sheppard says in his fourth paragraph of his letter is all that Mr. Lockwood meant to ask for, it is actually far less than the Educational Commission recommends, as we showed in Wednesday's letter, Mr. Lockwood having entirely ignored this part of the Commission's report. As regards the footnote to Mr. Peet's letters, Mr. Sheppard may be assured that it was not written without our verifying our references.—Ed.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—I have followed with interest the correspondence in your columns regarding the desirability and otherwise of the Council subscribing a larger share of its contribution to the education of the Chinese children of the Foreign Settlement.

I quite agree that they should receive the benefit of the highest order, and would suggest the Council set aside Tls. 25,000,000 to build a large wide road outside the limits of this Foreign Settlement. We could then invite [illegible] to send their children to [illegible] with the [illegible] Engineering with the [illegible] Council's Engineer [illegible] and [illegible] built, [illegible] the completion of this [illegible] of education, we might [illegible] like the rulers of [illegible] and Kiangsu Provinces [illegible] Central Administration, of course, drawing their pay from [illegible] 20 per cent. Cigarette Tax. The present students of the various Chinese Law Schools would by that time have fully grown up and could then instruct their police in the desirability of protecting China's Sovereign Rights by seeing that all foreigners do not get beyond the limits of the Settlement Boundary.

The above would, I think, meet with the approval of the knowing ones.

I am, etc.,
Humpty Dumpty.

Shanghai, March 29, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—I think it is pretty safe to say that Chinese children attending school are in the majority those of well-to-do parents. If such is the case, I would make a fair suggestion to Mr. W. W. Lockwood and his followers, i.e., to start a "drive" amongst the Chinese only; from which circle Mr. Lockwood will find a long string of millionaires who would contribute liberally, and their support alone will be good enough to maintain as many schools as they like for exclusive education of their children absolutely independently of any contribution from our Municipal coffers.

For the present the Council is contributing an excellent amount for the education of these children and if this money were devoted to the education of foreign children instead, we should hear less complaints of high school fees for our own children, many of whose parents find it all they can do to meet the school bills.

I know of many cases in which parents (foreigners of course) make immense sacrifices to keep their children in school.

Mr. Lockwood may also apply to the many Tuchuns and Generals as well as to the Chinese warlords for school funds. They are all millionaires and there is no reason why they should not look after the education of the coming generation of China.

We ought to see that no more money from the Council goes towards the education of Chinese children as that will tend to entail much higher school fees for the future, and we cannot afford it.

Enclosing my card,
I am, etc.,
Leventis.

Shanghai, March 28 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Mr. Anti's expression, contained in your correspondence column of the 29th instant, is so unsound and misleading that some comments thereon are necessary for the interest of those who have education problems at heart.

Mr. Anti points out, in paragraph 2, that Chinese students who have studied abroad are not welcomed in commercial circles, and, again in the last paragraph, that "A little learning is dangerous thing." From what he states it can only be concluded that education for Chinese is not desirable at all, which is rather an astonishing statement.

In paragraph 3 Mr. Anti puts: "Primary education on Chinese lines will teach a number of people to read and write. . . . What are they to read? Chinese newspapers, rubbishy periodicals and anti-foreign propaganda?" Well, reading is, more or less, a matter of personal choice. We cannot stop a Chinese boy from reading Chinese newspapers, rubbishy periodicals and even anti-foreign propaganda, in the same way as we cannot very well stop a foreign boy from reading foreign newspapers, rubbishy periodicals and anti foreign writings one may find in a near at hand newspaper. In the same paragraph—"When you have given the children of the masses of this city some measure of education, what are you going to do with them? There may be work of a kind for them, but it is just that kind of work they will refuse to do." I would like to know what is the kind of work which Mr. Anti would like to make them do and wouldn't like them to refuse to.

Paragraphs 4, 5 and 6: Education is a matter of demand and supply, etc. May I point out to Mr. Anti that, besides for commercial purposes, "Education has for its object the formation of character" (H. Spenser)! If education should be given in accordance with need, who has more claim for it than the Chinese, who (as a whole) are more illiterate than any people? Granted that education has close relation with employment, the writer never hears that any country advocates the closing down of schools or cutting down of the budget for education on account of unemployment.

In paragraph 7 Mr. Anti states, on the one hand, "That knowledge and capacity is of the highest

TRAMWAY RETURNS.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—The comparative figures published for the third quarters of 1923 and 1924 (First?? Ed.) teresting data for consideration. are interesting data for consideration.

1924—$586,659.31
1923—$544,489.89

increase over last year $42,169.42 or roughly 8 per cent.

Query: Do the above amounts include sales of season tickets?

II. Passengers carried:

1923—31,726,866
1924—31,059,208

less this year 567,658 or roughly 1.8 per cent.

Query: Do the above figures include the season ticket holders and such as don't pay, due to over-crowdedness and the consequent impossibility of conductors collecting fares?

III. Car Miles run:

1924—1,495,232
1923—1,448,123

increase over last year 47,109 or roughly 3¼ per cent.

Query: Do these figures include the car miles by "reserved cars" for the Company's own purposes?

In conjunction with the above let us consult the Municipal Report of 1923, page 31. We read, "The Company's rolling stock has been increased by 2 Railless Cars during the year and is as under:—

	1923	1924
Motors	90	90
Trailers	90	90
Railless Cars	12	14

In Tokio there were, after the earthquake, 800 cars in use, and that was considered absolutely inadequate, although the population had decreased to about 1½ million as compared to over 2 millions in the pre-earthquake days. Considering that the International Settlement of Shanghai has about 1 million population, and also the fact that the lines 8, 9, and 2 serve partly the French Concession (the French Bund), and line 2 partly Chapei, (North Szechuen Road Extension), we see how hopelessly inadequate our Tram Service is. There should be 600 and not 90 motors to meet our requirements to travel in comfort.

Owing to the cars being used so excessively, and also carrying heavier loads than they were built for, the natural consequence is that many have to be in "hospital" for patching up a bit, which reduces still further the effective number of cars in service.

We have been promised year after year improvements, but instead things go from bad to worse. The Great War can no longer be accepted as an excuse for the company not having enough rolling stock, and with money it can get any number of motors now. Who are the sufferers of this system of false economy Certainly in the first place the travelling public, and it is time to kick, now that the revenue of the company has been considerably increased, and the public has to bear the depreciation of the copper currency, no matter even if silver is tendered in payment of fares, for which incidentally one gets penalized to the extent of 5 or 10 coppers, as the case may be, an additional squeeze for the benefit of the conductor. If the present capital of the company is insufficient to tackle the improvements which are a crying need, there are certainly enough people who would willingly subscribe towards a Public Utility Corporation.

In spite of the fact that there has been little done to improve the Service, the increased number of accidents through the tram cars is surprising:

1923—700
1922—535

Increased 165 or 30 per cent. within a year.

These are of course the reported cases only, those not reported are perhaps many times more. And to what are these accidents due? To over-crowding of the cars for one thing, and lack of care for another thing. The conductors are often so jammed by the excessive number of passengers, that they are simply not in a position to signal to the drivers. These conditions are appalling, and what is going to be done about it? The only remedy is an increased number of cars. Are we to continue to have deaf ears turned to our complaints, and for how long? Safety first! It is all very well to put up such notices, why is there, for instance, no tramway official or a police officer on the north end of the Garden Bridge to supervise traffic? Motor-cars dash along when trams are at standstill, as there is nobody there to give the stop signal. I wonder how many accidents happen at this danger zone daily?!

Thanking you for the space,

I am etc.,
H. Kliene.

Shanghai, April 2, 1924.

KATSU.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—A few remarks regarding the Japanese "resuscitation" methods known as "Katsu," which your Tokio correspondent enlarges upon in your issue of today, by one who has been in the unfortunate predicament of having to have it practised upon him, and who has seen it in operation and been taught its use, may prove of interest to your readers.

It consists of very violent sudden jerks on the diaphram, just above the abdomen; on what is generally referred to as the "solar plexus." The subject, always unconscious, is lifted to a sitting position, the operator sits behind him, places both arms around the body of the subject, and with his two clasped hands pulls suddenly and strongly on the solar plexus. This causes a reflex nerve-action throughout the entire body, which stiffens up, and without question it does bring back consciousness to a stunned person.

But I think it is clearly understood that this method is only of use where the cause of the accident was plainly seen; it does not apply where illness or enfeeblement has caused the unconsciousness. Therefore I am extremely sceptical as to its use in any cases but the results of some accident. Accidents amongst the more advanced students and exponents of ju-jitsu are so alarmingly frequent that when one has reached a certain degree of proficiency the "Katsu" methods are shown one in fairness to one's opponents, and also one sees it in operation.

I did practical ju-jitsu for seven years, had the usual number of minor accidents, and a major one which permanently weakened some joints. But "katsu" was practised on me when I was thrown and had my neck "broken," *i.e.*, dislocated; instantly the neck was set, and "katsu" applied, and in a short while I was conscious again. But I wonder how good it was for me, and certainly the terrific blows on my abdomen did not improve that organ.

There is really little difference between our methods of artificial respiration and "Katsu," the idea being much the same; whereas we try to start the heart through the lungs, the Japanese try to start it through the nerves; and one method has about as much chance of success as the other in most cases, but in a case of violent shock I would recommend "Katsu," violent and cruel as it seems at the time.

I am, etc.,
R. V. Dent.

Shanghai, Mar. 31, 1924.

DR. SUN AND THE WARFARE IN CHINA.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—The fighting in South China has now been in progress for about three years, if I am not mistaken, and yet it is doubtful whether one man in 20, be he Chinese or foreigner, could say what Sun Yat sen is driving at.

From what one can gather he still seems to enjoy a certain measure of popularity, but it is indeed difficult to understand why this should be so. He is the sole and direct cause of instigating the weary warfare that has been and continues to be waged, with its terrible toll of life and infliction of misery and privation on thousands of his own country men. It is he who is responsible for the revival of the licensed gambling houses and the direct encouragement of this awful curse. Not content with this shameful expedient for raising money, he has authorized and upholds the most barefaced system of robbery in the form of illegal taxation in 20 different ways, the theft of private and public lands and property, the most outrageous press gang system and in short, the adoption of methods for extorting money and recruits for his armies from the whole territory under his evil control that rank far above those adopted by the most ruthless of any of China's warlords.

The particular irony in all this lies in the fact that he is an avowed Socialist and Republican, both ideas standing for the freest form of Government of the people, by the people and for the people, whereas the latter have not the faintest or remotest vestige of a voice in the management of his miserable travesty of a Government, nor are they ever likely to.

If he had some vision splendid of a goal the attainment of which would ensure the abolition of military tyranny even in his own part of China the establishment of a firm, clean and effective form of government, the development of means of communication and a general reconstructive policy, one could almost be brought to condone the measures he is using and the misery he is causing.

But instead, the only trace one can discern of any specific aim he is pressing takes the form of an extraordinary obsession on his part that the gang of corrupt wasters, masquerading as the Peking Parliament, should have been dissolved long ago and, by its continued existence, has offended his pure and lofty sense of constitutionalism. Once clear them out and replace them by a fresh lot—incidentally as corrupt and worthless as their predecessors—but elected by filling in the correct coloured papers or whatever the process may be, and the freed man could retire from the public gaze with his life's work achieved.

It probably lies far nearer the truth to say that if this is his only reason for his course of action during the past few years of miserable and squalid warfare, it is a mere blind and that he is bent on nothing short of the President's Chair, and if his actions in the past form any criterion of what one might expect when he gets there, then Heaven help China.

I am, etc.
X.Y.Z.

Shanghai, March 29, 1924.

THE BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—I have before me an ancient cutting culled from the "North China Daily Mail" dated July 22, 1921, giving an official statement of the closing of the Banque and, with the exception of two pamphlets suggesting a settlement, the matter seems to be entirely forgotten. If we are to wait for a "Gold Franc" settlement, most of us will not be in need of it. I, as a small and poor creditor, acknowledge my weakness in trusting such a concern when I might have owned one brick in that palatial structure which adorns the Bund. As a suggestion, I think matters may be brought to a head by holding a creditors meeting in Shanghai and calling for signatures from all creditors in China, to demand that the Banque liquidate and pay its creditors. We have patiently waited long enough.

I am etc.,
Bitten.

Tsingtao, March 31, 1924.

Northern papers state that the Yalu has begun to thaw. In a few days, the river will entirely be relieved of ice, and become thoroughly navigable.

A paper on the subject of "Kublai Khan and the Yuans" was read by Miss Lucille Douglass at the meeting of the Literary Department of the American Woman's Club on Friday. It was the beginning of this Department's study of this Dynasty and the paper was in the nature of an historical sketch of the time beginning with the rise of the Mongols in A. D. 1125 and describing their conquest of China and the reign of Kublai Khan.

LAW REPORTS

THE CHENG RUBBER ESTATES

Scheme for Reduction of Capital Approved by Supreme Court.

The scheme of arrangement involving a reduction of capital, recently passed by the Cheng Rubber Estates Ld., was on Monday sanctioned in the Supreme Court by his Honour Judge Sir Skinner Turner.

In presenting the company's petition, Mr. H. Lipson Ward said the present capital of the company was divided into 135,000 shares of Tls. 5 each, making a total of Tls. 675,000 and it was proposed that this capital should be divided into 675,000 shares of Tls. 1 each, and that three-fifths of these shares be surrendered to the company for future issue, the balance of 270,000 shares to be credited as fully paid up. Out of the 405,000 shares surrendered, it was proposed that one share be offered to old shareholders for subscription at par in respect of every five old shares held by him. This would dispose of 27,000 shares, and the balance of 378,000 would be reserved for future issue. This was one of the companies, said counsel, which was floated during the rubber boom, and it was obvious to everybody that it was over-capitalized, so that a reduction of this nature would be of the utmost benefit to the shareholders.

Counsel detailed the formalities taken to effect the change and, in reply to his Lordship, said there was no opposition to the application. He also read the petition, in the course of which it was stated that the object of the scheme was to admit of the payment of adequate dividends and also provision of further capital for working capital.

PROSPECTIVE PROFITS.

Dr. R. S. Ivy, the chairman of the company, in an affidavit said that the total area of the estates was 910 acres, of which 789 acres were planted. Having regard to the altered conditions in the rubber industry, the capital of the company, which worked out at over Tls. 855 per planted acre, was far too large and did not admit of the payment of an adequate dividend. Under the new scheme, the issued capital would work out at about Tls. 337 per acre, a figure which in the opinion of the directors more fairly represented the present value of the estate. On the assumption that under the present Restriction Ordinance the company was allowed to produce 145,608 lb. of rubber, it was calculated that the cost of production, including all Shanghai expenses, would be about 32 Straits' cents per lb. With the present average selling price of 45 Straits' cents per lb., such production would allow a profit of Tls. 13,250, 1.96 per cent. only on the present issued capital but nearly 4½ per cent. on the proposed reduced issued capital. Every increase of five cents in the price of rubber would mean an increase in profit of 1.71 per cent. on the latter, as against only 1.17 per cent. on the former. The last dividend paid by the company was one of 4 per cent. in 1917. In order to place the company upon a sound financial basis it had become necessary to raise further capital for the purpose of providing sufficient working capital for its needs, and the directors were of opinion that to raise funds by any increase of capital would be unjustifiable and impracticable, the proposed scheme being considered the only practicable way.

His Lordship sanctioned the scheme, and made an order for discontinuance of the words "and reduced" in the companys title.

The servants quarters in the godown of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire at Changsha were looted on March 18 by soldiers, who got away with $21 and 16,000 cash. Mr. Rawlinson, the agent, has demanded of the police restoration and punishment of the offenders.

UNUSUAL CLAIM IN SUPREME COURT

Chauffeur's Action Against Former Employer: Verdict for Defendant

A generous employer and an ungrateful chauffeur were parties to an action of an unusual character heard by his Honour Judge Grain in the Supreme Court on Thursday. The plaintiff, a chauffeur named Koeg Fook-kan, claimed from Mr. Charles A. Howard the sum of $328, alleging that this amount had been deducted from his wages and deposited in the bank on his behalf.

Mr. Arthur Covey appeared for plaintiff and Mr. R. G. MacDonald for defendant.

The case for plaintiff, as stated by Mr. Covey, was that the chauffeur served Mr. Howard for a little over six years, beginning with a salary of $20 and rising to $25 and $30. Mr. Howard suggested that the plaintiff was living a rather fast life and ought to look to his future, and urged him to deposit $5 in the bank each month. Plaintiff was agreeable to this, but did not know to proceed in the matter, and Mr. Howard accordingly opened an account for him in the Hongkong & Shanghai Savings Bank, the arrangement being that defendant was to have control of the account. Defendant left Shanghai, on Home leave, and plaintiff obtained other employ. When, upon defendant's return to Shanghai, plaintiff went to him and asked for the money in the bank, Mr. Howard told him he could not possibly give it to him. He offered $100 and expressed the intention of handing over the balance to some charitable institution.

Mr. F. A. Branagan, in charge of the Hongkong & Shanghai Savings Bank, said the account was marked "C. A. Howard to operate," which meant that he was the person who was to be recognized when any withdrawals were made. On the cover of the pass-book, there were the words (initialled by defendant): "This belongs to my chauffeur." Mr. Howard closed the account in January of this year.

Plaintiff, in his evidence, said defendant suggested to him that saving the money would prevent him from going to bad places and that he might presently be able to buy a small business. Accordingly, he paid $5 into the bank every month, on each occasion handing the pass book back to Mr. Howard, who arranged for the continuance of the monthly deposit of $5 during the time he away on Home leave. Witness had arranged to return to his employ when he came back to Shanghai, but at that time he was earning $60 a month and Mr. Howard was not prepared to pay the same. The money in the bank had been paid out of his wages and he thought it belonged to him, but upon asking for it, Mr. Howard only offered $100 and said he would give the balance to charity; to which witness replied that he was a poor man and the money was his.

In answer to Mr. MacDonald, witness said he went to work for Mr. Rosenfeld, who paid him $70 a month, and he was now with the Central Garage, receiving $20, and cumshas.

Mr. MacDonald, for the defence, described the case as a trumped-up action brought by an ungrateful, impertinent and underserving employee. Mr. Howard had treated him most generously. He rather liked the boy and took him into his employ when he was earning only $3 a month, clothed him, allowed him to learn driving on his own car, and procured a temporary licence for him. Then he started this fund as a provision for his old age, but only on condition that he became an old retainer and discharged his duties faithfully and well. The money never at any time belonged to plaintiff and it was only out of pure generosity that Mr. Howard offered to give him $100.

Defendant, in evidence, bore out counsel's statement, and went

on to say that the monthly deposit did not come out of the chauffeur's wages. He personally gave him $5 out of his own pocket with the pass book, to go the bank, sending the chauffeur with it in order that he might see the money was being put by. He had no right whatever to the money, but when he grew old he might have had it. The deposit of this fund was a purely voluntary action, on witness's part, and the chauffeur was distinctly made to understand this. The chauffeur was the only servant who did not return into his employ, and when he called for the money witness pointed out to him that he had no right to it, though afterwards he did offer him $100, saying that he did not want it, the chauffeur went away, and within half an hour witness received a lawyer's letter.

His Honour, in giving judgment, said he was bound to say that the demeanour of plaintiff in the witness box to some extent supported Mr. MacDonald's suggestion that the claim was an impertinent one. After reviewing the evidence, his Honour concluded by saying it was abundantly clear that in fact and in law the money belonged to the master and that property in it had never passed to the servant. Accordingly, he gave judgment for defendant, with costs.

"FOR PURPOSE OF HIS EVIL SPITE"

Counsel's Strong Denunciation of Complainant in Larceny Charge

When Miss Camelia Mason, alias Camelia Boisserie, appeared before Mr. G. W. King in the British Police Court again on Thursday of last week to answer a charge concerning the alleged larceny of a diamond ring and coat, valued altogether at $1,900, Mr. P. W. Goldring, representing the complainant, Oscar Matias, said he had received certain written instructions from his client, and on those instructions he proposed to offer no evidence.

Mr. M. Reader Harris, appearing for the girl, said he wished to register a strong protest against a foreigner in Shanghai evoking the aid of H. M. Police Court for the purpose of his own evil spite, in making serious charges of larceny against a young girl earning her own living. She could bring evidence to the Court which would prove that the coat in question was actually brought by Mr. Matias and put on to her shoulders by his own hand in the shop, and he saw her walk away. They could produce evidence, also, showing that he fitted the ring on to her finger himself. Mr. Harris considered the whole thing a very disgraceful case of spite and a vicious charge against a young girl which acted naturally to her detriment, since accounts of the charges had appeared in all the newspapers here. The case had been taken into the French Court and twice into the British Court. In the British Court the complainant did not even take the trouble to appear.

The Magistrate asked to see Mr. Goldring's written instructions. These, consisting of a small slip of paper with a few words upon it, were handed up, and his Worship commenced to read. At the first few words, however, Mr. Goldring asked the Magistrate to treat is as confidential.

The Magistrate, in dismissing the case, remarked on the seriousness of the charge preferred and the facts of the complainant's non-appearance. It was not, he said, in his province to comment on a charge being brought: it concerned the alleged larceny of $1,900, and at neither hearing had the complainant appeared. The case would be dismissed.

A DISASTROUS NIGHT ASHORE

Sailor's Story of Attack by Coolie Gang

An American sailor's night ashore had an interesting sequel in the Mixed Court last Friday, before Mr. Whitamore, British Assessor, and Magistrate Li, when a couple of coolies were charged with highway robbery, and being concerned with two or more in robbing Hans Jenson (the sailor aforementioned), and assaulting Jenson in Soochow Road.

Jensen's story was that he engaged a ricsha at Markham Road on Thursday night and told the coolie to take him to the Customs Jetty, where he intended to rejoin his ship. Past North Thibet Road in North Soochow Road about ten coolies set upon him with stones, and his coolie, one of the accused men, waited till they reached an alleyway and then turned him into the road. The overturning was really done by the second accused who ran after the vehicle and grabbed it at the Stone Bridge. He turned on his assailants but one of them hit him in the stomach with a pole and he fell to the ground unconscious. Chinese police came to the scene and he was taken to the General Hospital and treated.

The ricsha coolie told a different story. He agreed that Jensen got into the ricsha at Markham Road but stated that when they reached North Soochow Road he got out of the vehicle. Witness asked for his fare and Jensen struck him and kicked him about the legs. After that he went into the alleyway and lay down and went to sleep.

Jensen stated that he had had two beers at the Savoy Hotel during the evening.

Inspector McKenzie said the Police had information that complainant was seen outside the Sinza Police Station during the evening in a drunken condition.

The case was dismissed.

ALLEGED IMITATIONS OF TRADEMARKS

China Soap and Candle Co's Action Against Loong Mow Soap Co.

This case was tried before Messrs. Whitamore and Lee at the Mixed Court last Friday. Mr. M. B. Brown, of Messrs. White-Cooper, Master and Harris, appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Woo Fee for the defendants.

Mr. Brown, in opening his case, said the proceedings were brought under three separate charges with a total of six separate counts. One charge was in respect of imitations of the plaintiffs' "Ziang Mow" mark, one in respect of imitations of their "Peh Chi" mark, and one in respect of a collection of stencils used for marking cases. Mr. Brown, in a brief outline of the case, mentioned that a warrant to search had been granted by the Mixed Court and that this search revealed all the evidence which would be produced in Court, namely the infringing brands of soap, 15 dies for stamping soap, and 16 stencils for marking cases. He went on to mention the China Soap & Candle Co.'s case against Tin Fong early in February, when judgment was given against defendants in a fine of $100. Subsequent to this case plaintiffs inserted a quarter-page advertisement in the *"Sinwanpao"* warning soap manufacturers against imitating or infringing their well-known and old-established brands, and, in addition to this, all the soap manufacturers in Shanghai known to plaintiffs were circularized warning them in a similar manner. A few days after the search the plaintiffs had information that, in spite of the search and summons, the Loong Mow Soap Company were again manufacturing imitations of the plaintiffs' mark, and a further warrant was granted by the Mixed Court, which search revealed many pieces of soap obviously newly manufactured lying about the premises.

Mr. P. H. Cobb, of the plaintiff Company, gave evidence in support of Counsel's statement.

The next witness called was Chow Tze-kan, manager of the Loong Mow Soap Co., who said that since receiving a letter from the China Soap & Candle Co., Ltd., he had ceased to manufacture any of the brands complained of. He said there were 1000 cases of soap in the godown at the time of the search, and that the soap seized on the second search was only new because it was taken from a case and that in cases it took a considerable time to dry.

Mr. Cobb was recalled with regard to Chow's evidence, and pointed out that when the original search was made it was long subsequent to their having received plaintiffs' letter and they were actually stamping the soap in the works when he arrived. He also said that the soap seized on the second search was not taken from a case but was standing out on trays to dry.

PLAIN SPEAKING AND A $400 FINE.

Mr. Brown then summed up for the plaintiffs, pointing out that early in February the Tin Fong Soap Company had been fined the maximum penalty of $100 for infringing on the plaintiffs' brands. Advertisements had been issued in the paper warning manufacturers against imitating plaintiffs' brands, a letter had been written to every soap manufacturer known to the plaintiffs in Shanghai, among whom were the Loong Mow Soap Company, and all this apparently had no effect seeing that in the time between the summons and the trial the defendants had made new dies and started anew the manufacture of infringing soaps. On these grounds Mr. Brown asked for imprisonment as being the only method of stopping manufacturers from continuing in these offences.

The Assessor in passing judgment said:—"Yours is one of the meanest and most despicable offences possible, and to all intents and purposes you are a thief because you have stolen trademarks belonging to another Company. The evidence you gave is a tissue of lies and was fortunately able to be controverted by the plaintiffs' representative. Yours is a corporation and 'a corporation has no body to be punished and no soul to be damned' but we consider that you are far worse than any of the many coolies who are daily sentenced to imprisonment for petty theft. You will pay a fine of $400. We only regret that the law does not permit us to send you to prison also."

EX-COMPANY MANAGER CHARGED

Allegations of Swindling Against Mr. W. Wallace: Alleged Worthless Cheques

Mr. W. Wallace, former manager of the China Pacific Trading Company, appeared in the Mixed Court again last Friday before Mr. Martin, British Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan to answer charges of fraud by tendering false cheques. It was alleged that he committed a swindle by uttering a worthless cheque for $2,500 and fraudulently using the name of the China Pacific Trading Company: also that he obtained electrical fittings to the value of Tls. 125 by a worthless cheque from 5 Soochow Road: that he obtained by means of a worthless cheque from Mr. Lane, of Arbuthnot & Co., 250 cases of Beehive Brandy, valued at Tls. 3,063.70: and that he obtained from one Fa Yoong-kang the sum of $500 by fraud.

Dr. O. Fischer defended and Inspector Kinniple prosecuted for the Police.

Lam Ngai Pak, an employee of the East Asia Bank, stated that Wallace went to the Bank in company with a Chinese and opened an account with Tls. 5,000. He gave a specimen signature. This deposit was drawn out at later stages with a cheque for Tls. 2,000 and another for Tls. 3,000. After that a number of cheques were presented to the Bank and returned, as there were no funds to meet them.

The complainant Fa Yoong-Kang told the Court he was introduced to Wallace by a friend at the end of last August and after some general conversation the accused told him his company had four ships, one of which, the "Gweneth" or "Meping," was expected to arrive in Shanghai on the 2nd or 3rd of September. When she did arrive witness was to be given the position of Chief Steward. Before taking this, however, he was asked to give a guarantee of $500, which he did. The ship was a day or so late but she came in eventually and witness asked Wallace about the job. Wallace told him the vessel had to go into dock for repairs and he could take the position when the repairs were completed. He would not let witness go on board and forbade that he see the vessel's captain. Finally he told Wallace that he did not want his job and asked for the return of his deposit. Again he was put off and given a note to take to the ship, but was again told he was not to see the captain. He did see him, however, and gave him the note. The captain read it, smiled, and gave witness a reply to take back to Wallace. He again asked Wallace offered him a cheque. He refused the cheque because when he wanted to pay Wallace the original $500 deposit by cheque he refused to accept and demanded cash. Therefore he demanded cash of Wallace. He visited him at his office again after that and Wallace gave him $200. He had never repairs were completed. He had been to the defendant's house in the French Concession on three or four occasions to try and collect it, but the last time he went he found it guarded by French policemen.

Wallace then gave evidence. He stated that he was originally employed with Getz Bros. at a salary of $350 per month. A member of the China Pacific Trading Company offered him the position of manager with them at $500 per month and he accepted. After this he heard of a good job going at Harbin and immediately proceeded to the Russian town, only to find the position was taken. He went on to Hankow and it was while at that port he heard there was a warrant out for his arrest. He immediately postponed a visit he intended making to Chunking, journeyed back to Shanghai, communicated with the police and was met on arrival and arrested. It was not a part of his duties when he was with the China Pacific Trading Company to handle the finances. The only thing he ever did was to sign the cheques as they were brought to him and he knew nothing of any of the frauds with which he was charged.

The case was again adjourned.

Mr. Wallace's Defence: Denial of Responsibility for Company's Affairs

Mr. Wallace, occupied the witness box in the Mixed Court all of Tuesday afternoon.

Wallace stated that he was employed by the China Pacific Trading Company simply as their manager and at no time was it his duty to look after the accounts. He admitted that he went to the Asia Bank in company with one of his Chinese employers and opened a current account with Tls. 500, and he admitted that he signed cheques afterwards for sums considerably over that amount. He explained this by stating that whenever the company wished to issue any cheques they brought the cheque book to him and it was for him to sign. At all times when he signed these cheques he was under the impression there was a large balance at the Bank to meet them.

In cross-examination he stated that he did go to the Bank on one occasion and ask what was the balance the company had. The accountant, however, refused to let him know and after that he admitted he made no effort to find out.

Questioned with regard to the man to whom he was alleged to have offered the post as steward on one of the company's ships, he stated that one of his Chinese employers came to him one day and asked him to sign a receipt for $500 which had been received from the man as a deposit. When he refused to accept the position and asked for the money back witness understood that it had all been paid. The Chinese manager told him the man had threatened to make a complaint to the authorities if the money was not paid and therefore he (the Chinese manager had handed the money over. At no time did the man complain to witness.

With regard to the charge of fraudulently obtaining 250 cases of "Beehive" brandy, he said, still in reply to Superintendent Vaughan, that his employers asked him to go to 24 Whangpoo Road and get samples. He did so and was afterwards instructed to make the purchase, which he did with a cheque on September 5, post dated to October 5.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR RENT.

Regarding the premises at No. 5 Foochow Road, concerning the rent of which there was a civil action elsewhere, he denied that he was responsible.

Superintendent Vaughan:—How is it, then, that the landlord has been looking for you for the rent?

Witness.—Has he? Then I am surprised. Is the contract for the premises signed by me? Is the lease signed by me?

Superintendent Vaughan:—I don't know.

Witness:—If it is I am liable to pay, but I have not signed the lease.

Asked in what condition the business was at the end of September he stated that it was "not looking too bright." Further questioned, he said no complaints were made to him before he left Shanghai for Harbin with regard to the cheques he had issued, and when he left Shanghai he had no idea there was anything wrong. The first he heard was in the Customs Club at Hankow when a man who was on leave told him there was a warrant out for his arrest in Shanghai, and on hearing that he took the next boat down here. He had not been home half an hour when he was arrested. He was quite satisfied that he had met all his particular obligations in connexion with the business when he left Shanghai. He was under the impression all responsibility rested with the Chinese.

Superintendent Vaughan told the Court that he had made further inquiries and he could bring evidence to prove that defendant was the actual founder and owner of the China Pacific Trading Company.

Dr. Fischer objected to this. He pointed out that the case for the prosecution was closed and that Superintendent Vaughan had no right to make such damaging statements at that stage of the proceedings.

Superintendent Vaughan said he believed he had every right to bring in fresh evidence at that stage; he could do so in similar circumstances in the British Court.

Dr. Fischer:—It may be permissible in the British Court, but it is surely not so in this Court. I have practised here for 10 years now and never in the whole of that time have I heard such an application, or known it granted.

The Assessor said the Court would have to reserve its decision on a point of that sort. He had never known it granted before.

After further conference, he asked the Superintendent whether he would mind withdrawing the application, and in deference to the Court Mr. Vaughan did so.

The case was again adjourned.

CHINESE JUDICIAL PROCEDURE

Laws and Regulations Now Published in English and French and for Sale

The Commission on Extraterritoriality has made a series of English and French translations of Chinese laws and regulations, the French editions being provided with notes and indexes. Those now ready for sale are the following:—

I.—English translations:—

1. New Provisional Criminal Code	$2.50
2. Regulations relating to Criminal Procedure	1.20
3. Regulations relating to Commerce	1.20
4. Chinese Supreme Court Decisions relating to General Principles of Civil Law, Obligations, and Commercial Law	5.00
5. Regulations relating to Civil Procedure	2.50
6. Regulations relating to Judicial Administration	4.00
7. Trade Mark Law	40 cents.

II.—French translation:—

1. Code Pénal Provisoire	2.00
2. Réglement de Procédure Pénale	2.00
3. Réglement de Procédure Civile	2.50
4. Législation Commercials	2.50

The above books we are informed may be obtained:—

English Translations:—Sales Office of Judicial Gazette, Sze-fa kunpao, and other book sellers, Peking.

French Translations:—La Librairie Française, Hotel de Pekin.

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

BRITAIN'S REDUCED EXPENDITURE

Past Year's Budget Surplus: Sound State of Nation's Finances

London, Apr. 1.

In the House of Commons today, Mr. Philip Snowden, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced that the Budget would be introduced on April 29.

The fact that the national accounts for the year ended yesterday show a surplus of £48,000,000 instead of £2,000,000, for which Mr. Baldwin had estimated in the former Government's Budget, constitutes a striking contrast to the deficits of Britain Continental neighbours and confirms the sound state of the country's finances.

The surplus goes automatically to the reduction of debt, which, in view of the budgetary debt provision of £40,000,000, will be thereby reduced by £88,000,000.

The revenue has exceeded the Budget estimates by £18,000,000 in spite of the fact that the Excess Profits Duty, which had been estimated to yield £12,000,000, failed to contribute a single penny.

The fact that the yield in all other taxation items exceeded Treasury anticipations suggests that trade conditions are not so bad as financial experts had expected them to be.

The expenditure showed a reduction of nearly £28,000,000 on the estimates, the fighting forces recording a saving of £16,000,000, and the Civil Services, over £12,000,000.—Reuter.

THE PEACE TREATY WITH TURKEY

Government's Desire for Early Renewal of Relations: Debate Adjourned

London, Apr. 1.

In the House of Commons today the Government's intention to carry out the Labour policy of no secret treaties was announced by Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in moving the second reading of the Treaty of Peace with Turkey Bill. He urged the passage of the Bill so as to allow ratification of the Treaty without delay. The Government desired renewal of normal Anglo-Turkish relations as early as possible.

Mr. Ponsonby declared that the Government intended to lay every treaty, when signed, on the table of both Houses 21 days before ratification and publication. Important treaties would be discussed, if desired, thus secret treaties would be impossible (Ministerial cheers). The Government would also inform the House of all agreements and understandings which might in any way bind the nation to specific action in certain circumstances.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, replying to criticisms of the Treaty, declared that there was much in it with which everybody disagreed, but it must be ratified as otherwise there was going to be no end to the state of war. He stated that the Dominions and India had agreed to ratification.

The debate was adjourned till next week.—Reuter.

"WARM" TIME FOR THE GOVERNMENT

Chorus of Criticism in the House of Commons as to Labour Policy

London, Apr. 2.

That the Government are going to have a very warm time was the suggestion of Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, Conservative member for Nottingham, at question time in the House of Commons to-day when even the Conservative front benchers joined in the chorus of criticisms of the Government's action on the subject of their housing scheme, unemployment benefits and other matters. Feeling ran high throughout, questions on the Wembley strike especially exciting heated passages between the Government and the Opposition benches.

To day's business included controversial topics like the Evictions Bill, the Capital Levy, Army discipline, including the death penalty, and the use of troops in trade disputes. The Evictions Bill, otherwise the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Bill, which was introduced by Mr. John Wheatly, Minister of Health, provoked the Conservatives and Liberals, who describe it as a "sop to Clydeside," chiefly on account of its first clause which prohibits the ejectment of a tenant not paying his rent, if the tenant is unemployed.

When Sir H. Kingsley Wood, Conservative Member for Woolwich, asked for a prolongation of the debate on a bill of such gravity, Mr. J. R. Clynes, the Deputy Leader of the House, said that in view of the serious grievance which the bill dealt with the Government intended to take a decision of the House to-night (Ministerial cheers).

The Evictions Bill.

Later.

In the House of Commons today, Mr. John Wheatley, the Minister of Health, moved the second reading of the Evictions Bill. He vividly depicted the destitution in Glasgow due to unemployment. Women and children were starving, yet evictions were increasing, destroying family life and subjecting them to treatment worse than that inflicted on great criminals. Mr. Wheatley agreed that the burden of helping them should not be thrown entirely on property owners (Opposition cheers and laughter). He knew that there were still members of the House who put the rights of property above the rights of human beings (Opposition protests and Ministerial cheers). He warned the House that there were limits to human endurance.

Mr. Neville Chamberlain, Conservative Member for Birmingham, said that Mr. Wheatley fulfilled a double function. He was a hostage in the hands of Mr. Ramsay Macdonald for the good behaviour of the Labour Party back-benchers and a pledge for his friends that class war would not be allowed to sleep. The back-benchers were now beginning to realise their power.

Mr. Asquith, Liberal Member for Paisley, said that he was unable to support, the bill, which introduced an iniquitous and invidious proposal. Unless the Government deleted the first clause, he said that the Liberals would vote against the second reading.

Mr. J. Maxton, Labour Member for Glasgow, pressed the Government to accept the Opposition's ultimatum and appeal to the country on the issue.

The Bill Talked Out.

The trend of the Opposition speeches was heralding the doom of the Government until Mr. J. R. Clynes, Deputy Leader of the House, at the last moment announced their willingness to erase Clause I and substitute a clause whereby the cost of maintaining unemployed in their homes fell on the public funds. Discussion thereupon arose as to whether the insertion of such a clause would make the measure a money bill, which would necessitate complete re-framing. Thus the allotted time for discussion passed and the bill was talked out. This does not mean that the bill is lost, but that the debate is adjourned.

The Government are considering the situation arising from the debate on the Evictions Bill, but have decided that, whatever the outcome, they will not treat the matter as one of confidence.

(It is the opinion at present that the bill will be dropped and a new measure substituted).

The Capital Levy.

Later.

After the Evictions Bill had been got out of the way the House of Commons settled down to the debate on the subject of a capital levy, which was of an academic character as it is recognized that the question is not a live issue in this Parliament.

Lieut.-Col. Walter Guinness, Conservative Member for Bury St. Edmund's, submitted a motion inviting the House to register the opinion that encouragement of enterprise and fruitful use of capital was needed and a capital levy would prove disastrous to employment.

Mr. F. W. Pethick-Lawrence, Labour Member for Leicester, moved an amendment supporting a capital levy.

Mr. J. R. Clynes, the Deputy Leader of the House, recognized that no Government could introduce a capital levy proposal unless they were assured of public opinion. He believed that people would soon see that it was a real and stern necessity.

The amendment was defeated and Colonel Guinness's motion carried by 325 votes to 160.

It is understood in the Lobby of the House of Commons that further consideration of the evictions question has been adjourned to the Cabinet meeting to-day.

Army and Air Force Bill.

Apr. 3.

The House of Commons after an all-night sitting passed the third reading of the Army and Air Force Bill. The Bill was not amended. There were lengthy debates on the questions of abolition of the death penalty in the Army and the use of troops in trade disputes, etc., but all the amendments were rejected. The Government promised to ask the Army Council to inquire into the whole question of the death penalty and to report to the Cabinet.—Reuter.

TRANSPORT STRIKE SETTLEMENT

Immediate Increase of Pay for London Tram and Bus Men: Terms Accepted

London, Mar. 28.

The tram and bus strike has been settled.

Later.

According to the terms of the tram strike settlement, the men will receive an advance of six shillings a week immediately. The remaining two shillings demanded will fluctuate according to the cost of living.

Mar. 29.

The terms of settlement of the tranway strike reached between the companies' negotiating committee and the Transport Workers' Union are subject to confirmation by the Transport Workers' Delegate Conference, which will be held to-morrow, and possibly by a ballot vote of the men. Pending this ratification, the inconvenience suffered by Londoners during the past week will continue, but it is hoped that some tram and bus services will start again on Sunday in the event of the terms proving acceptable.

The provisional settlement carries with it postponement of the threatened Tube strike at midnight. Nevertheless, it is anticipated that a full service on the Underground railways will not be available in the earlier part of to-morrow owing to the difficulty of communicating the postponement of the strike to the men off duty.

The news of to-night's turn in affairs obtained wide publicity, in spite of the comparatively late hour of 9.30, by being broadcast.

Later.

As an outcome of a four-hour sitting, at which Mr. Bevin, the secretary, urged endorsement of the terms of the tram strike settlement, the conference of delegates of the Transport Workers' Union decided that the position should be explained to the strikers to-morrow and a ballot taken on Monday. It is understood that the conference will refrain from any recommendation to the strikers.

It is stated that Mr. Bevin's speech was well received, but that strong opposition developed, chiefly on account of the terms offered to the lower grade men.—Reuter.

London, Mar. 30.

Crowded meetings in London warmly applauded Mr. Bevin, Secretary of the Transport Workers' Union, who advocated acceptance of the offer of the tram and 'bus employers as a great victory.—Reuter.

London, Mar. 31.

The tramwaymen's ballot has accepted the terms of the strike settlement.—Reuter.

THE COAL DISPUTE

Owners' Offer Rejected by Men: Government Called on to Institute Inquiry

London, Mar. 28.

A miners' delegate conference to-day decided to take a ballot on the recommendation to reject the coalowners' final offer to increase the minimum rate of wages from 90 to 34½ per cent. and to give 87 per cent. of any surplus to wages and 13 per cent. to profits instead of the present ratio of 83 per cent. to 17 per cent.

The conference also decided to call on the Government to institute an inquiry. This will not be a strike ballot.—Reuter.

EMPIRE EXHIBITION STRIKE

Work at a Standstill: Police to be Employed to Protect Willing Operatives

London, Mar. 31.

A mass-meeting of the building operatives at the British Empire Exhibition to-day declared an unofficial lightning strike to enforce a claim for an increase of 2d. an hour. Seven thousand men are involved.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 1.

Work on the Empire Exhibition is almost paralyzed by the strike of building operatives, who are marching round the grounds stopping everything.

Later.

During their march through Wembley grounds the strikers met with opposition in the Burma section, but eventually forced the workers to down tools by stone-throwing.

The strikers threatened to pull girl art-students from the scaffolding unless they ceased work. The girls finally consented to cease work, although they protested that they were in no way connected with the strike.

The authorities of the British Empire Exhibition anticipate that many of the strikers who are idle through intimidation will return to-morrow, when 500 police will be drafted to Wembley to protect the willing workers.

On the adjournment of the House of Commons Sir Philip Sassoon (Conservative) deplored the strike at Wembley. He said that he had learned that it would inevitably delay the opening and he severely condemned the action of the strikers, which, he declared, was an insult to the Empire.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Colonial Secretary, strongly contradicted the statement that the Exhibition would not open to time.

Police Now in Control.

Apr. 2.

A strong force of mounted and unmounted police have matters well in hand at the Empire Exhibition. They forcibly ejected the chairman of a meeting which the strikers attempted to hold inside the grounds. Artists and others who yesterday were intimidated entered unmolested this morning, but the activities generally are still paralysed. The strike is entirely unofficial. The trade unions are not participating.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 2.

It is estimated that 50 per cent. of the men are now back at work at Wembley.

Apr. 3.

Mr. Murray, the London organizer of the Building Trades Federation, has advised the Wembley strikers to resume work immediately. He pointed out that continuance of the strike would prejudice the pending negotiations with the employers. In the event of failure of the negotiations there would be a national strike on May 1.—Reuter.

LONDON'S TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

An Advisory Committee to Ministry of Transport: Monopolies for Private Undertakings

London, Mar. 28.

In the House of Commons, today, Mr. Harry Gosling, Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Transport, moved the second reading of the London Traffic Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on March 25. Mr. Gosling said that it was merely proposed to constitute an advisory committee to the Minister of Transport and he appealed to the authorities of London to give it a fair trial. He hoped that this would result in the formulation of some agreed larger scheme.

Mr. Stanley Baldwin supported the Bill.

Mr. Percy Harris, Liberal Member for Bethnal Green, moved its rejection on the ground that it was contrary to the principles of local government and conferred a monopoly on private undertakings. He said that London must sooner or later come into line with other cities where traffic was controlled by the municipality.

Mr. Sydney Webb, President of the Board of Trade, arguing in favour of the Bill, emphasized the necessity of dealing with the traffic problem in view of the Wembley Exhibition.

The amendment proposed by Mr. Harris was rejected by 211 votes to 112. The Bill passed the second reading.—Reuter.

THE SINGAPORE BASE

Australia's Views: Abandonment a Serious Prejudice to Peace

Melbourne, Mar. 27.

In the House of Representatives to-day, Mr. S. M. Bruce, the Prime Minister, reviewed the work of the Imperial Conferences. He emphasized Australia's determination to have a voice in the framing of foreign policy while remaining within the Empire. He considered it incomprehensible that some members should regard the Singapore base as unnecessary. He himself was convinced that abandonment of the base would seriously prejudice peace. Its construction would strengthen the League of Nations. The Premier said that he was confident that the House of Commons would ultimately give a decision based on the needs of the whole Empire. The Government, however, did not intend to take alternative action towards provision of a naval base although, if Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's Government's views were not modified, it would be necessary for the Australian Government to consider action to provide what he believed to be an absolutely vital essential. "If we cannot look to Britain we must look to ourselves," Mr. Bruce declared.—Reuter.

AMERICAN CONSULATE AT NEWCASTLE

Settlement Reached in a Long-Standing Dispute: All Cloud Removed

London, Apr. 1.

Every cloud in the relations between Britain and American has been removed by the settlement of the longstanding dispute with regard to the American Consulate at Newcastle. Here the two Consuls were deprived of their exequaturs on the ground that they had used their official position to further the interests of American passenger shipping companies.

The details of the settlement have not yet been officially announced, but there is reason to believe that the Consuls will be free to go wherever their Government chooses to send them.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 2.

Letters have been exchanged between Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and the United States Ambassador with regard to the Newcastle Con-

sulate incident. The Prime Minister says that, after further consideration, the Government are not prepared to insist upon the charge against the Consuls of exceeding their authority, and it is therefore recalled.

The Ambassador notifies Mr. MacDonald of the new appointment.—Reuter.

M. POINCARE'S NEW CABINET

Special Choice of Ministers to Relieve Premier of all but Foreign Policy

Paris, Mar. 27.

M. Poincaré has consented to form another Ministry.—Reuter.

Paris, Mar. 28.

The following is an authoritative forecast of the Cabinet:—

M. Poincaré, Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs;
M. Marsal, Minister of Finance;
M. Maginot, Minister of War;
M. Le Trocquer, Minister of Public Works;
M. Loucheur, Minister of Commerce;
M. Daniel Vincent, Minister of Health and Labour;
M. de Jouvenel, Minister of Public Instruction;
Lieutenant-Colonel Fabry, Minister of Colonies;
M. Leygues, Minister of the Interior;
M. Mercier, Minister of Justice;
M. Bokanowski, Minister of Marine;
M. Rimbert, Minister of Agriculture.

Later.

M. Poincaré has made a clean sweep of the old Cabinet except for M. Maginot and M. Le Trocquer, who were directly responsible for the occupation of the Ruhr. Their retention is interpreted as signifying that the occupation of the Ruhr remains the keystone of M. Poincaré's policy. It is generally accepted that the changes in the Cabinet do not indicate a change of principle in regard to foreign or home policy.

The Premier seized the opportunity to eliminate Ministers not enjoying the confidence of the country, thus revivifying the Ministry and galvanizing the majority party on the eve of the elections. M. Poincaré is too much engrossed with his foreign policy to attend to other problems, for which he requires capable men.

Of the newcomers, M. Bokanowski has been the protagonist of retrenchment for the past 18 months; M. de Jouvenel represented France on the League of Nations, and M. Loucheur has been prominent in connexion with reparations in kind and at one time was regarded as a likely successor to M. Poincaré in the Premiership.

Later.

The forecast of the new Cabinet is confirmed except for the following:—

M. Lefebvre du Prey, Minister of Justice;
M. Caups, Minister of Agriculture;
M. de Selves, Minister of the Interior;
M. Marin, Minister of Liberated Regions.

Mar. 29.

The Ministers state that the first meeting of the Cabinet this morning unanimously decided to continue the late Government's foreign policy.—Reuter.

M. Poincare's Ministerial Declaration: The Ruhr and Reparations

Paris, Mar. 31.

M. Poincaré made his Ministerial declaration in the Chamber of Deputies to-day. The Premier said that the Cabinet, formed in the spirit of Republican union and national concord, was determined to pursue unflinchingly the late Government's foreign policy. France would only withdraw from the Ruhr in proportion as Germany fulfilled her obligations. France was most desirous of the earliest possible agreement with her allies and associates on reparations and security. Immediately the experts handed in their report, which the Government strongly hoped would lead to a speedy and general settlement, the Government would be ready to seek with its friends the elements of a definitive solution. Any Power subsequently seeking to disturb European order and to recover lost provinces would arouse universal indignation, and those who barred the road would earn the approval of the whole world. France was not imperialistic, but was given to peace, to which she was entitled. France would march with right toward the new sun, of which the long-delayed rising was awaited feverishly by the world.

At home, M. Poincaré declared, the Government's main task would be drastic financial reform. The new Government would continue its predecessor's policy for the restoration of the devastated regions. But there must not be any inflation, since, until France came to an agreement with her creditors, the situation would require prudent handling. The Government would take steps to prevent a repetition of the recent campaign against the franc.

In conclusion, the Premier stated that the Government's colonial policy would be to develop the wealth of France's oversea possessions.

The statement met with a lukewarm reception from both Houses.—Reuter.

M. Poincare's Reiteration of his Views on the Ruhr Occupation Policy

Paris, Apr. 2.

M. Poincaré's reply to interpellations on the Government's policy in the Chamber of Deputies to-day was interrupted owing to a violent scene, which necessitated a temporary suspension of the sitting.

The trouble arose on a supplementary remark to M. Poincaré's speech by the Minister for War, M. Maginot, as a result of which a Communist, after calling M. Maginot "infamous scoundrel" and "blackguard," was only prevented from assaulting him by the intervention of the ushers.

The Prime Minister declared that the choice of new Members of the Cabinet did not signify a change in foreign and home policy. He reiterated his well-known views regarding the French hold on the Ruhr until satisfaction was accorded. M. Poincaré declared that the receipts from the Ruhr last year exceeded expenditure by Frs. 658,000,000 and estimated that the net surplus in 1924 would be Frs. 3,000,000,000. He emphasized the necessity of united will and perseverance on the part of all Allies in carrying out the Reparations Expert Committees' decisions, but in any event France would not waver in her determination.

The concluding statement was greeted with prolonged cheers.

The Chamber then adjourned.—Reuter.

FRENCH AND GERMAN ELECTIONS

German People's Party Advocating Restoration of Democratic Monarchy

London, Mar. 31.

Interest is deepening in the forthcoming elections in Germany and France. The latter are fixed for May 11, a week later than the German elections. It is stated that the date was deliberately chosen, as it is expected that reactionary successes in Germany would influence the French electors in M. Poincaré's favour.

It is significant in this connexion that the programme of the German People's Party, which was drawn up at a meeting in Hanover presided over by Herr Stresemann, declares that the Party will fight under the old black, white and red colours, and for the restoration of German power and greatness under a democratic monarchy.

It is noteworthy that, while Herr Stresemann is announcing his support of the monarchical programme, the Chancellor, Dr. Marx, speaking in Hanover, declared that a victory for the chauvinistic Nationalist movement in the elections would ruin Germany.—Reuter.

THE MUNICH TREASON TRIAL

Gen. von Ludendorff Acquitted: Other Accused Released Conditionally

Munich, Apr. 1.

Gen. von Ludendorff has been acquitted and Herr Hitler sentenced to five years' detention in a fortress.

Herren Poehner, Kriebel and Weber were also sentenced to five years' detention in a fortress. The accused were ordered to pay costs and a fine of 200 gold marks. The prisoners will be conditionally released after six months.

The costs of the case of Gen. von Ludendorff will be borne by the State.

The other accused, Herren Frisk, Roehm, Brueckner, Wagner and Pernet, were sentenced to 15 months' detention in a fortress and payment of costs and fines of 100 gold marks, but were released immediately on an undertaking of good behaviour until April 1, 1928.

The court was packed to suffocation when the sentences were read. Many were unable to gain admission.

Gen. von Ludendorff was in the full uniform of a General. Some of the other accused were also in uniform, wearing all their war medals and decorations.

The verdict was received quietly by the public, but the accused, especially Gen. von Ludendorff, were loudly cheered by the crowds outside.

The sentences virtually amount to an acquittal, since the period of detention is deducted from them. The closing scenes of the trial were marked by fervert outbursts from Gen. von Ludendorff, to which the spectators responded enthusiastically. He rose when the verdict was announced and protested that his acquittal, when his colleagues were convicted, was an insult to his uniform. The President of the Court sharply rebuked the General, who again became violently excited and demanded to be arrested when the police tried to remove him quietly through the court-yard.—Reuter.

MILITARY CONTROL IN GERMANY

German Reply to Conference of Ambassadors and New Proposals

Berlin, Apr. 2.

The German Government's reply to the Conference of Ambassadors on the question of military control, which was presented last night, suggests that the proposed investigation of German armaments should be carried out by the Council of the League of Nations and also proposes immediate replacement of the Allied Control Commission by a body subordinate to the Council.—Reuter.

Paris, Apr. 2.

The opinion is expressed in French official circles that a very grave situation has been created by the German reply to the Note of the Ambassadors' Conference.

It is stated that for the first time after the Armistice Germany adopts the tone of an independent Power unbound by treaty. It is also intimated that no steps towards resumption of control are possible until after the German elections.—Reuter.

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 29.—The Central Pennsylvania bituminous coal miners have accepted a proposal to renew the present wage scale for three years.—Reuter's American Service.

THE RUSSO-RUMANIAN CONFERENCE

Deadlock as to Bessarabia: Soviet's Demand for a Plebiscite

Vienna, Mar. 31.

A complete deadlock on the subject of Bessarabia marks the Russo-Rumanian Conference, which is proceeding here, the Rumanian delegates having refused to discuss the question, which, they contend, has been settled by the decision of the Conference of Ambassadors.

The Russians have issued a statement declaring that the Soviet Government will never consent to the annexation of Bessarabia by Rumania, contending that the Allies' endorsement of the annexation is invalid, and insisting that the question must be settled by a plebiscite.—Reuter.

NAVAL DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Japan Willing to Co-operate on Certain Conditions: Battleship Strength

Tokio, Mar. 27.

Japan is prepared to co-operate with the other Powers in any measures tending towards the promotion of peace and the welfare of mankind, according to naval opinion as quoted by the *"Yomiuri"* in connexion with the resolution passed by the American House of Representatives calling for another naval disarmament conference.

This willingness to co-operate, however, is conditional on Japan's being allowed to retain a defensive force, large and efficient enough to meet the available strength of any potential enemy in Far Eastern waters.

Discussing the possibilities of further naval retrenchment, naval officers, quoted by the *"Yomiuri,"* declare that no one could seriously oppose restriction of battleship strength, or even the total abolition of this first-line ship, seeing that its function is purely for offence. When it comes to the question of auxiliary vessels, the opinion is expressed that in view of the wide differences in the needs and circumstances of the Powers concerned, little progress is likely in the effort to bring about a really effective curtailment in naval strength of this type.

As regards submarines, Japan is reported to be in favour of restriction, but cannot see her way to accepting a proposal aiming at abolition.

Her attitude towards aircraft is understood to be somewhat similar; while she would favour retrenchment, the difficulty of distinguishing between machines used for war and for commercial purposes is held to render any agreement on the amount of retrenchment to be enforced impracticable.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Alleged Slight to Japan.

London, Apr. 1.

The Political Observer of the "Daily Telegraph" professes to discern some resentment in political circles in Japan owing to Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, in his statements in regard to disarmament, not mentioning Japan among the Powers which should issue invitations to a general conference. The writer declares that the Japanese certainly will not sincerely co-operate in any international move in which they have not been allotted the position due to their preponderant influence in the East.—Reuter.

Australia and the Pacific.

Melbourne, April 1.

Asked in the House of Representatives to-day whether, in accordance with the defence resolutions of the Imperial Conference he would summon a Pacific conference on further disarmament to be held in Australia, Mr. S. M. Bruce, the Commonwealth Prime Minister, said that, while he did not think a conference would have the best prospect of success if summoned by Australia, he would certainly welcome the suggestion if one of the Great Powers issued the summons and that Australia would be represented.—Reuter.

THE AMERICAN OIL SCANDAL

Attorney-General's Resignation: His Obstructive Attitude to Senate's Inquiry

New York, March 28.

The Attorney-General has resigned. President Coolidge has accepted his resignation.

In a letter to Mr. Daugherty, the President based a request for his resignation on the Attorney-General's refusal to comply with a summons issued by the Senate Investigating Committee for the production of certain papers relating to gun-running on the Mexican border.

Mr. Daugherty in his reply said that he resigned solely in deference to President Coolidge's request.

The President's letter insisted that Mr. Daugherty was an interested party and he was therefore not justified in refusing the information desired by the Senate Committee. The President declared that he was convinced that Mr. Daugherty was unable to give his undivided attention to his duties in the present stress.

Mr. Daugherty replied arguing at great length that President Coolidge's position was untenable.—Reuter's American Service.

Mr. Sinclair Charged With Contempt

Washington, Mar. 31.

Mr. Sinclair has been indicted on ten counts for contempt as a consequence of his refusal to give evidence before the Senate Oil Investigation Committee. Each count relates to a specific question put to Mr. Sinclair before the Committee, which the Federal Grand Jury held to be pertinent.

Mr. Sinclair's attorneys indicate that he will voluntarily answer the charges.—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, Apr. 1.

Mr. Sinclair has pleaded not guilty of contempt of court. He has furnished a bond of $5,000.—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, Apr. 2.

President Coolidge has selected Mr. Harlan F. Stone, dean of the Columbia University School of Law, New York, to succeed Mr. Harry M. Daugherty as Attorney-General.—Reuter's American Service.

OBITUARY

Sir Walter Parratt

London, Mar. 27.

The death is announced of Sir Walter Parratt, K.C.V.O., M.A., MUS. DOC., Master of the King's Music, at the age of 83.

Sir Walter was the organist of St. George's Chapel Royal at Windsor and had been Dean of the Faculty of Music of London University since 1916. Amongst his compositions was the music for the "Tale of Troy." His recreation was chess and for two years he captained the Oxford University chess team against Cambridge.—Reuter.

Sir Charles Stanford

London, Mar. 29.

The death is announced of Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, M.A., MUS. DOC., D.C.L., LL.D., Professor of Music at Cambridge University and Professor of Composition and Orchestral Playing in the Royal College of Music, at the age of 71.

Sir Charles Stanford studied in Germany under Reinecke and Kiel. He produced operas in Germany and conducted concerts in many Continental capitals as well as in London.

Among his works are the operas "The Veiled Prophet of Khorassan," "Savonarola," the "Canterbury Pilgrims," "Shamus O'Brien," "Much Ado About Nothing" and the "Critic."—Reuter.

PARIS, Mar. 29.—A member of the new Ministry, in an interview to-day, stated that M. Sarraut, the former Ministry of the Colonies, would be French Ambassador to Japan.—Reuter.

'ARGENTINE AVIATORS' WORLD FLIGHT

Plans for Long Journey in British Machines: To Cross Atlantic in One Day

London, Feb. 28.

Major Pedro Zanni and Ensign Nesto T. Page, the Argentine aviators who are to attempt a flight round the world next summer, expect to let contracts for a specially designed landplane very shortly. This machine will be used for the first half of their trip. The two aviators have completed an inspection of British aircraft factories and are understood to have selected a builder. They will personally supervise the construction of their aeroplane and also are arranging for the purchase of a seaplane for the water leg.

After a conference with British officials, Major Zanni and Ensign Page have changed their route, avoiding Constantinople and proceeding via Egypt. The present route will be from London to Paris, Rome, Cairo, Bagdad, Calcutta, Rangoon, Shanghai, Tokio, Alaska and San Francisco. From San Francisco the flight to New York will be made in four stages over the transcontinental route and the trans-Atlantic flight will be from St. John's. They hope to make this last leg in one day directly to London. They expect to start about April 15.—Reuter.

BRITISH ROUND-WORLD AIR FLIGHT

Squadron-Leader MacLaren Forced to Descend Lake St. Matthew

Corfu, Mar. 27.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren arrived here to-day. He will resume his flight to Rome to-morrow.—Reuter.

Lyons, Mar. 27.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren has left for Rome in continuation of his world flight.—Reuter.

Rome, Mar. 28.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren has arrived.—Reuter.

London, Mar. 30.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren today left Rome on his way to Athens, which he intends to make without stopping at Brindisi.—Reuter.

Paris, Mar. 31.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren was compelled to descend on Lake St. Matthew, Corfu. Nobody was injured. The machine was slightly damaged. Squadron-Leader MacLaren will continue the flight after repairs.—Reuter.

London, Mar. 31.

Advices from Corfu state that Squadron-Leader MacLaren landed at Garitza Lake, at the south end of Corfu, on Sunday afternoon owing to engine trouble. He telephoned to the British Consul saying that no assistance was required and that he hoped to continue his flight on Monday morning.

Corfu, Mar. 31.

The damage to Squadron-Leader MacLaren's engine prevents the continuance of the flight before spare parts, which have been telegraphed for, arrive from England. The passengers are well.—Reuter.

THE AMERICAN ROUND-WORLD FLIGHT

Closed Japanese Ports Lent as Landing Stages

Tokio, March 28.

The American Government has accepted the Japanese Government's invitation to send two destroyers to the Imperial Closed Ports of Kushimoto and Busan as the Kyoto Imperial Government wishes to express and render assistance to the American aviators who are flying around the world.

The destroyers will accompany the American vessels and render similar assistance.

This is the first time in history that foreign vessels have been permitted to enter these ports.

The destroyers are expected to sail from Yokohama on April 5. Newspaper men will probably be permitted to sail with the destroyers.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE MEXICAN REVOLT

False Report as to Death of Gen. Huerta

Washington, Mar. 30.

Gen. Huerta, the Mexican insurgent leader, has instructed his representative in Washington to inform the press that he is safe and that the story of his disappearance was propaganda in favour of President Obregon.—Reuter's American Service.

SNOWSTORM IN N. YORK

Eastern America Covered with Heaviest Fall of Season: Numerous Accidents

New York, Apr. 2.

The heaviest snowstorm of the season swept the entire eastern section of the country to-day. There were from six to eight inches of snow in New York and elsewhere, hampering traffic and crippling the telegraphs and telephones. There were many accidents in New York. One person was killed and 25 were injured when two elevated trains collided on Long Island.—Reuter's American Service.

FIRE ON A PILGRIM STEAMER

Twelve Hundred Passengers on Board: Vessel Abandoned and Sinking

London, Apr. 2.

Twelve hundred pilgrims for Jeddah are on board the burning British steamer Frangestan, from Bombay, which is making for Port Sudan, where she is due at daybreak to-morrow. She is accompanied by the Clan MacIver, while the steamer Pangistan is proceeding from Port Sudan immediately to render assistance.

The Frangestan first wirelessed stating that a cargo of cotton was on fire in the tween-deck in No. 2 hold, that the weather was calm and that there was no immediate danger. Later the vessel wirelessed that the fire was spreading and becoming serious and that the crew were making every effort to control the outbreak.

Later.

A despatch from Port Sudan states that the Captain of the Frangestan reports that the situation is now very serious and that it may be necessary to abandon ship.—Reuter.

Passengers All Safe.

Port Sudan, Apr. 2.

The Captain of the steamer Frangestan reports by wireless that the fore end of the steamer is fiercely ablaze. All passengers have been transferred to the steamer Clan MacIver. The crew have been ordered to abandon ship.—Reuter.

Alexandria, Apr. 3.

A wireless message has been received from the str. Clan MacIver, stating that the str. Frangestan, which is on fire, has been abandoned and is sinking. The Clan MacIver is bringing all hands to Port Said.—Reuter.

PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS IN AMERICA

Japan's Protest Followed by One from Holland

The Hague, Mar. 28.

The Government have instructed the Dutch Minister at Washington to protest against the enforcement on May 20 of Section 28 of the Merchant Marine Act, providing for preferential tariffs on goods carried by American railways destined for transport in American ships. The protest is based on Article 1 of the Dutch-American Treaty of (illegible)

Note.—The Japanese Government have already registered a protest in this connexion with the United States State Department. It is expected that other countries also will protest.—Reuter.

DISASTERS IN AMERICA

Tornado's Long Casualty List: 25 Virginia Miners Killed

Kansas City, Mar. 29.

Eight persons were killed and 70 injured at Shawnee, Oklahoma, as a result of a tornado which levelled 200 buildings in the best section of the town.

Four hundred students of the High School narrowly escaped, as they were dismissed only a few minutes before the building was demolished by the storm.

One death occurred in Kansas.—Reuter's American Service.

Charlestown, W. Va., Mar. 29.

The 25 miners trapped in the Yukon coal mine are dead.—Reuter's American Service.

CINEMA THEATRE FIRE

Terrible Affair in Mexico City: People Electrocuted or Crushed to Death

Mexico City, Apr. 1.

Twenty-six persons were killed and 56 injured in a fire in a cinema theatre in the suburb of Tacubaya City. A panic followed the outbreak. The majority of the victims were electrocuted by wires hanging neck-high along the main aisle and trampled upon in the wild rush for the exits. It is believed that a short circuit was the cause of the disaster.—Reuter's American Service.

FLOODS IN SPAIN

Collapse of a Bridge: Death Roll of At Least 30

Paris, Mar. 31.

It is reported from Seville that as a result of torrential rains an old bridge over the Guadalquiver, on which a crowd was watching the flood, collapsed under the weight of a crowded motorbus. Thirty dead and 50 injured persons have up to the present been recovered.

Enormous damage was done by the floods elsewhere in Spain. Roads and railways are blocked.—Reuter.

DISASTROUS FLOODS IN POLAND

Warsaw, Mar. 31.

The rising of the Vistula has caused catastrophal floods involving the towns of Cizchocinek and Torun and 38 villages.

Thousands of farmers have lost all their cattle and implements.

Several factories have been partly destroyed and over 70 lives lost.—Reuter.

AMERICAN ARMY VOTE

Washington, Mar. 29.

The House of Representatives has adopted the Army Appropriation Bill, providing for an expenditure of $326,000,000.—Reuter's American Service.

ARMAMENT LIMITATION

Washington, Mar. 27.

Senator Borah lodged a resolution in the Senate to-day calling on the President to invite such nations as he deemed wise to a combined economic and disarmament conference in Washington, especially to consider limitation of the size of submarines to 10,000 tons.—Reuter's American Service.

EXPELLED BISHOP BOUND FOR ROME

Rome, Mar. 31.

The Vatican has been informed that Monsignor Cieplak, whom the Soviet Government have released from prison, has departed for Rome.—Reuter.

REDUCTION OF NAVY AND ARMY OFFICERS' PAY

London, Mar. 29.

Fleet orders state that, in accordance with the stipulation made in 1919 when the new scales of pay were introduced, the pay of Naval officers will be reduced by approximately 5½ per cent. from July 1 in view of the fall in the cost of living.

An Army Order, corresponding to the Fleet Order, has been issued. Officers only are affected.—Reuter.

NARROW ESCAPE OF GREEK PRINCESS

Brunswick, Ga., Mar. 30.

Mr. Leeds, his wife, Princess Xenia of Greece, and their guest Mrs. Thompson, daughter of Colonel Harvey, the former Ambassador in London, had a narrow escape from drowning in a gale in the dangerous St. Simon's Sound, when a launch, in which they were returning from a picnic on the island, sank 200 yards from the shore. The party, in lifebelts, reached the shore in a small dinghy, which they carried astern, after a perilous struggle.—Reuter's American Service.

PERSIA AND A REPUBLIC

Teheran, March 28.

The report that the Mejliss (Parliament of Persia) had decided to depose the Shah is incorrect.—Reuter.

Teheran, Mar. 31.

The Premier has issued a proclamation declaring that a republic is contrary to the Islamic religion and prohibiting all mention of the subject under threat of penalties.—Reuter.

ALL-BRITISH TELEGRAPH SERVICE LOAN

London, Mar. 31.

The House of Commons to-day unanimously passed a resolution sanctioning expenditure not exceeding £400,000 in the form of a loan for a period of 30 years to provide a system of all-British cable and wireless communication with the West Indies and British Guiana under the control of the Pacific Cable Board. The new agreement will replace that with the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, which expires in 1924, under which the States paid a subsidy of £26,000 a year.—Reuter.

INCREASE IN SHIPPING FREIGHTS

London, Mar. 31.

Hull shipowners announce a general increase of 7½ per cent. on freight rates to meet the increased pay of the dockers and additional working expenses abroad.—Reuter.

DECREASE IN BRITISH REVENUE RETURNS

London, Mar. 31.

The revenue of the United Kingdom for the fiscal year ended March 31 totalled £837,000,000, as compared with £914,000,000 last year. The decrease is chiefly accounted for by a fall of £49,000,000 in property and income tax and super-tax. The expenditure chargeable against revenue totalled £789,000,000 as compared with £812,000,000 last year.—Reuter.

FRANCO-JAPANESE RELATIONS

Paris, Apr. 1.

The impending official visit of M. Merlin, Governor-General of Indo-China, to Tokio is described by "*La Depeche de Toulouse*" as a highly important political event with respect to drawing together France and Japan. The writer hopes that the visit will mark the end of the system of separate interests in the Far East and will be the beginning of a co-operation which will be profitable to French prestige and interests.—Reuter.

THE BRITISH WAR LOAN

London, Mar. 31.

The Government is offering holders of 5 per cent. War Loan to convert their holding into a new 4½ per cent. issue redeemable in 1939-44.

The terms are £103 of the new stock for every £100 of the old.

It is intended at first to convert up to £200,000,000.—Reuter.

AMERICAN INCOME TAX REDUCTION

Washington, Apr. 1.

The Senate Finance Committee has unanimously approved the proposed 25 per cent. reduction in the income taxes payable during the current year.—Reuter.

THREATENED LOCK-OUT IN SHIPYARDS

London, Apr. 1.

The shipbuilders have declared a lock-out on April 10 of members of all Unions whose members in Southampton do not resume work by April 8.—Reuter.

RUHR COAL EXPORTS

Paris, Apr. 1.

Exports from the Ruhr destined to the Allied countries last week totalled 187,000 metric tons of coke and 413,682 metric tons of coal, constituting a record since the signature of the Peace Treaty.—Reuter.

PRINCE OF WALES AT BIARRITZ

London, April 1.

The Prince of Wales has gone to Biarritz for a 10 days' stay to recuperate from the effects of his accident.—Reuter.

RECOVERY OF THE FRANC

London, Apr. 1.

French francs to-day touched this year's high record at 75.70 to the £. The recovery of the Belgian franc is still greater, being quoted to-day at 90.50.—Reuter.

THE INDIAN MENACE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Capetown, Apr. 2.

The Minister of the Interior, moving the second reading of the Class Areas Bill in the House of Assembly, said that it was introduced owing to pressure by Indians on Whites. The Bill only aimed at separation with regard to residence and trading. Every consideration and justice would be shown to an Indian, but the claim of equality could not be allowed. There was no place for the expansion of Indians in South Africa to-day and the so-called Indian menace could only be dispelled by expansion of Whites throughout the Union.—Reuter.

THE SIAMESE LOAN

London, Apr. 2.

Large applicants for the Siamese Loan will receive 10 per cent. and small applicants nil. Dealings commenced at 2 per cent. premium.—Reuter.

SHIPPING BOARD VESSELS AND DIESEL ENGINES

Washington, Apr. 2.

The House of Representatives has passed a bill authorizing expenditure of $25,000,000 on the installation of the Diesel type of engine in United States Shipping Board vessels.—Reuter's American Service.

RUMANIA'S CLAIM TO BESSARABIA

Vienna, Apr. 2.

The Russo-Rumanian negotiations have been definitely broken off. The Rumanians have refused consent to taking a plebiscite to decide the position of Bessarabia.—Reuter.

Sale of America's Highest Building

New York, April 1.

The Woolworth Building, which has 50 storeys and is the tallest office structure in the world, has been sold for $17,000,000.—Reuter's American Service.

British Empire Exhibition Grant Increased

London, March 28.

Mr. William Graham, the Secretary of the Treasury, has given notice of a motion in the House of Commons to increase the Government guarantee in connexion with the British Empire Exhibition by £100,000 to £600,000.—Reuter.

Lisbon to Macao by Air

Lisbon, Apr. 2.

A Portugese airship will depart at dawn to-morrow on the projected flight to Macao.—Reuter.

Eight-Hour Day Bill

London, Apr. 2.

In the House of Commons to-day at question-time, Mr. Thomas Shaw, the Minister of Labour, said that it was hoped to introduce the eight-hour day bill shortly, whether or not foreign countries took similar steps. The Bill would cover textile operatives.—Reuter.

Japanese-Polish Treaty Ratified

Warsaw, Apr. 2.

The Senate has approved the ratification of the commercial and navigation treaty between Japan and Poland.—Reuter.

City of Amsterdam Loan

London, Mar. 31.

Dealings in the new City of Amsterdam Loan commenced around a half per cent. discount.—Reuter.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

EMPIRE EXHIBITION STRIKE

Majority of Operatives Returning to Work: The Effect of the Delay

London, Apr. 3.

A mass-meeting of the Wembley strikers to-day adopted by a narrow margin a resolution in favour of returning to work. Consequently a vast majority of the men have returned.

Later.

Colonial Liddell, Deputy Administrator of the Empire Exhibition, estimated that 70 per cent. of the men had resumed work. Many had left for good, but a certain number of Londoners would probably return on the morrow.

The effect of the strike is far greater than the three days' delay involved, but until the extent of the delay is ascertained it will be impossible to tell the effect on the opening date.

Sir James Stevenson, Chairman of the Exhibition, speaking at an Australian luncheon to-day, said that he was convinced that the Exhibition would open on April 23.—Reuter.

U. S. LIQUOR LAWS

Members of Crew of Megantic Fined for Smuggling

New York, Apr. 3.

Federal Judge Garvin to-day fined seven members of the crew of the White Star liner, Megantic, $1,500 each for bringing liquor into the country.

Judge Garvin recalled that he only imposed nominal fines on the crew of the Royal Mail liner, Orduna, when they were recently similarly convicted and when he issued a warning that the next time he would inflict heavy penalties on British seamen. He declared that foreign ships owed special obligation to American laws in American waters. Earlier in the day the Cunard and Hamburg-Amerika Lines had paid $275 and $281 respectively for liquor seized on board the Berengaria and the Albert Ballin.—Reuter's American Service.

PLAGUE IN THE PUNJAB

Raging with Heavy Mortality

Lahore, Apr. 3.

Plague is raging virulently here and in Mooltan. Thirty deaths occur here daily. Four colleges have already been closed. The examinations of the Punjab University will probably be postponed. The Commissioner of Mooltan has forbidden the holding of the usual large annual religious fair at an adjacent village.—Reuter.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN

Queensland Premier's Confidence that No Clash Need Be Dreaded

London, Apr. 3.

The Queensland Premier, Mr. Theodore, speaking at a luncheon in London to-day, said that he was convinced that Australia respected the Japanese nation. Some said that Japan was a menace to Australia, but he did not think so. Australia could live in neighbourly amity with Japan, which had a great destiny and was undoubtedly entitled and bound to exercise her great influence even in the Pacific, where Australia had a vital interest. He expressed the opinion that there was no danger of a clash between Australia and Japan over any Australian domestic policy.—Reuter.

JAPANESE PRINCE IN RUMANIA

Heartily Welcomed on Arrival in Bucharest: The Prince Regent's Message

Bucharest, Apr. 3.

Prince Naruhiko Higashi-Kuni, brother-in-law of the Emperor of Japan, was welcomed on his arrival here to-day by the King, the Crown Prince, the Cabinet Ministers, Diplomats and the chief State dignitaries. A guard of honour was drawn up at the station. They Mayor of Bucharest presented the customary bread and salt. The King and Prince Higashi-Kuni drove together to the Royal Palace. The whole route was gaily decorated. The Prince lunched with the Royal Family and later laid a wreath on the tomb of the Rumanian Unknown Soldier and visited the Military Museum.

In an interview, Prince Higashi-Kuni declared that he had been instructed by the Prince Regent of Japan to express to the King of Rumania his gratitude for the visit of the Crown Prince of Rumania to Japan.—Reuter.

VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN FRENCH GOVERNMENT

Paris, Apr. 3.

The Chamber of Deputies passed a vote of confidence in the Government by 408 votes to 151 at the conclusion of the debate on interpellations of the Government's policy. M. Herriot, the leader of the Radical-Socialists, was the principal critic, particularly of the reparations policy. He declared that the only solution lay in an international guarantee under the auspices of the League of Nations.—Reuter.

THE EX-CALIPH'S SALARY

Cut Out for Contumacy

Constantinople, Apr. 3.

In the National Assembly to-day Ismet Pasha announced that the ex-Caliph having taken up an open stand against the decisions of the Assembly, the Government had decided not to pay him any more money.—Reuter.

WASTE LAND IN BRITAIN

London, Apr. 3.

The House of Commons devoted the entire evening to agricultural discussion in the course of which Mr. Noel Buxton, the Minister of Agriculture, threatened possible re-introduction of control of undercultivated land. He said that something would be heard about State grants to sugar beet factories during the Budget speech. He hoped that there would be a definite period during which the growers and workers of the important beet industry would be assured of assistance.—Reuter.

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FIRE ON SWEDISH SHIP

London, Apr. 3.

A telegram from Kalmar states that the Swedish steamer Formosa, bound for Hamburg from Vladivostok with soya beans, has had a fire in her cargo, a portion of which was reloaded and transhipped and has arrived at Kalmar.—Reuter.

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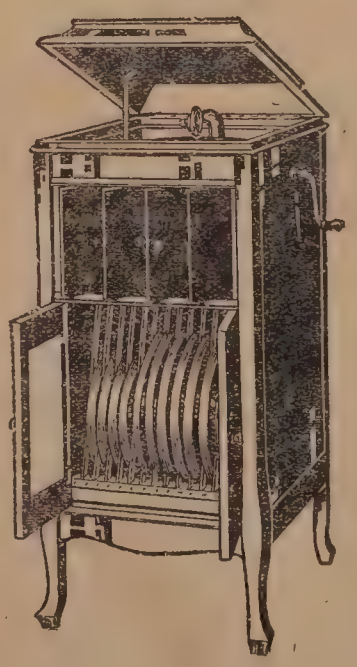

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FROM THE FOUR WINDS

AN ENGLISH WANDERER IN AMERICA

American Railways: Purely Running but Heavy Cost: America's Bewildering Mass of Gold: Inrush of Immigrants: Mr. Doheny and the Teapot Dome Inquiry

From Our Own Correspondent.

San Francisco, Feb. 24.

"We have to take off our hats to the Americans in the running of these things," said an old Shanghailander to me the other day, as he stepped off the train after a trans-continental trip *en route* from London to Shanghai again. And it is true. What the mercantile marine is to the British Isles, the railways are to America. They are without question the most efficiently run lines in the world.

While in Seattle the other day, however, I learned to my surprise—and it may surprise a good number of your readers also—that the railways of the northwest are not earning at the present time a fair return upon their property. They are doing a little better than they were during the disastrous days following the war, because the present law, though not as liberal as it might be, was intended to permit them to live. But a large percentage of thinking Americans are concerned about most of the main roads in the country. Railways, like any other business institutions, in this country or any other, cannot be operated efficiently unless this can be done at a profit. Nobody continues long to give something for nothing. Ever since the war American railways have been suffering from high costs that they cannot materially reduce and low income—and if this is not remedied it must result in nationwide misfortune. The first danger, of course, is that if the money invested in railways does not earn a reasonable return, no improvements can be made; nor can the property be maintained at a high level, for the simple reason that additional capital will not be forthcoming.

The second danger is that if the lines continue to run on a narrow margin of profit, or none at all, their demands as purchasers and employers will be so cut down as to ensure general calamity. And American railways employ more labour than any other industry. They employ some two million employees, with a wage demand of something between two and a half and three billion dollars annually. Then railways are also heavy purchasers. Their bill for supplies and materials is over one and a half billion. They also use one-third of the bituminous coal and approximately 40 per cent. of the iron and steel the country produces, and the same percentage of the national lumber supplies.

It is clear, then, that any diminution in this demand will bring progressive paralysis upon all industry.

A LOST CHINESE BANK NOTE.

At a club the other day I was introduced to a man who had just come over from China, and knowing that I had spent some time in that country, he told me that when last in Hankow he picked up a piece of "Chinese paper with some characters on it," and "as it looked as if it might be of some value, he put it in his wallet." Then he forgot it. He duly left China, arrived in America, and had not shown the peculiar document to anyone but myself since he had arrived home. I recognized it at once as a Chinese cheque—the familiar flimsy tissue, bearing the chop, as far as my nearly-forgotten knowledge of characters would allow me to determine, of a local Chinese bank at Tientsin. The amount was for Tientsin Tls 491·65. The cheque is now back on its way to China, and somebody up North will have a pleasant surprise when it is delivered to him.

The funny part of it is, that the man who showed me this valuable piece of tissue paper was himself a banker although he had not been in banking in China. He was well versed in the art in America, however. Indeed, he had for years been a teller in one of the largest institutions in New York, and was, moreover, a teller of some funny stories. One would interest the gentlemen who follow the business of the law round Yuenmiugyuen Road and in the neighbourhood of the British Post Office.

"You know," said the bank teller, "lawyers make more mistakes in drawing cheques than any other people. Not only is a lawyer likely to make a difference between the body and the figure of a cheque, and to forget to sign it, he is even likely to forget to endorse a cheque when he sends it to the bank to swell his credit." Hard lines on the lawyers, but very likely true!

BEWILDERING FIGURES IN GOLD.

Speaking of money, I am reminded of some astounding figures I was shown a day or two ago. I do not know whether they are as yet published. They refer to the gold position in America, and show that imports of gold from the beginning of the war to the end of December last, a period of nine and a half years, amounted to the staggering total of $3,562,000,000 an average of $375,000,000 a year against an average of $76,000,000 a year in the 10 years preceding the war. From July 1, 1914, to December 31, 1923, America's exports of gold averaged $166,000,000 per year. If your readers will bear with me a moment longer, I should like to say also that during the 9½ years, in addition to an excess of imports over exports of about $2,044,000,000, America produced from her own mines about $654,000,000 worth of gold. So that it will be seen that the United States could boast a net total of $3,698,000,000 of gold accumulations since the beginning of the war up to the end of 1923.

The reader will naturally be inclined to ask, "Well, what in the name of faith has become of this net total of this vast sum of money?" This is a question I cannot satisfactorily answer. But I see by the latest circulation report of the Treasury Department that the total value of coin and bullion in the country on Jan. 1 of this year was $4,247,000,000, while a similar statement for July 1, 1914, stands at $1,890,657,000, indicating an increase during the 9½ years of about $2,356,500,000. Then if you subtract this 9½ year increase of $2,356,500,000 of coin and bullion in the country from the net gain of imports plus production $3,698,000,000 during the same period, you find a total of $342,000,000 in excess of the amount added to the circulation. This corresponds rather closely with the annual estimate of the amount used in the industries and arts, since the Government records of "new gold" (exclusive of that obtained from old jewellery, plate, etc.) supplied to the manufacturers of the country by the New York Office, the Philadelphia Mint and a limited number of private refineries and banks averages about $38,000,000 per annum during the period in question.

It may further be of interest to note in this whirl of millions where the gold came from and where some of it went when it left America—I have figures only for 1923, however. Of the $322,715,812 imported last year.

$147,000,000 came from Great Britain
50,000,000 came from Germany
49,000,000 came from Canada
19,000,000 came from France
13,000,000 came from Netherlands
6,000,000 came from Mexico.

Of the $28,643,417 of gold exported.

$[illegible] were to India
[illegible] were to Mexico
[illegible] went to France
[illegible] went to Hongkong.

HEAVY IMMIGRANT RUSH EXPECTED

America is still regarded as the Eldorado of immigrant tendencies can be a guide. I see that vessels of 16 steamship companies are prepared for what is expected to be the greatest immigrant rush in the history of Canada and the United States since before the war. The movement is expected to begin about the middle of March. Starting with the present season, vessels of seven lines which formerly have called only at American ports will also make Halifax a port of call.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT WITH LETHAL GAS.

Some months ago a Chinese was sentenced to death for murder of a fellow country-man in the state of Nevada. He has just been executed, and had the distinction of being the first to meet death by a method entirely new—that of lethal gas. Newspapers have been giving some weird stories of the manner in which he met his death, but it is certain that this stoical Oriental passed out with much less physical suffering than he would have had it fallen to his lot to be executed in Nanking, for example. The State of Nevada is, therefore, the first state to adopt this merciful method of execution. "If sentences were made to be executed after a certain day," remarks one writer, "the 'condemned cells' arranged for the use of gas, and the murderer installed in them not knowing when he will die, the gas could be turned on as he goes to sleep for the night, and he would die without fear or suffering." Apparently that is the best that could be done.

DOHENY OF THE TEAPOT DOME SCANDAL.

Telegraphic reports will doubtless have kept your readers aware of the scandal in the oil world which is developing in what is called the Teapot Dome scandal. Whether this is a clever political move or not is not at the moment clear, and whatever comment I might offer at this time would probably be out of date by the time it reaches the "North China." But there is one feature which is extraordinarily interesting as showing the weakness of human nature. This is in the psychology of Mr. Doheny, the oil magnate, and the principal actor in this oil drama. Doheny is shown to be possessed of an inordinate passion for collecting ex-Cabinet ministers as other people might collect old masters. He has almost a mania for power. As one writer puts it, "he makes war on Great Britain in Ireland: he juggles a Mexican republic in one hand and an Irish republic in the other." All his power, however, appears to have suddenly crumbled about him, and for the first time he is facing an unpleasantly great power in the quizzing he is getting at the hands of the Government.

Doheny is a poor prospector who "struck it rich." He is a man who lends $25,000,000 to the President of Mexico: who lends, or gives, $100,000 to a Cabinet member from whom he expects a valuable lease: who sends about money in suit cases: who tears signatures from notes which he never intended to collect from high officials: who almost boasts that he will make a hundred million dollars from naval oil lands. All this is done because he has a mania for power. He "employs" ex-Cabinet officers for the sense of power that it gives to have ex-Secretaries of the Treasury, ex-Secretaries of the Interior and ex-Attorney-Generals working for him. If he is crossed in the slightest matter he flies into apoplectic. A man with 60 millions of dollars, and another hundred millions in sight, who deals with foreign governments on a level of equality is, after all, not in the habit of being crossed, and the Government inquiry is certainly rubbing him up the wrong way.

He suavely tells the investigating committee that he saw nothing whatever out of place in the things that he has done for the achievement of his ends, no matter what they appear to be to the public. But people with a mania for power, as you occasionally see in Shanghai, never do have a sense of the moral quality of their own acts. When he gives in an offhand manner $250,000 to the Irish cause it was probably simple love of the display of power. To him there is no difference in dealing with the American government, or the Irish government or the Mexican but neither must stand in his way. At the moment, however, it looks as if Mr. Doheny is unconcernedly facing a most miserable array of facts.

HOW THE PRESIDENT SPENDS HIS TIME.

In national affairs public interest is absorbed in the approaching Presidential election of 1924. President Coolidge will be returned, I believe. No matter what bubbles there may be on the surface of national life, it is perfectly clear that the average voter realizes that in the successor to President Harding the country has a *worker*, whose sincerity of motive in all that he does, eschewing the ordinary "political" method of doing things, is slowly winning him the admiration of all classes, even including political enemies. The most striking fact in his office is that he cuts out all non-essentials, and "toadies" to no class. I was interested in seeing what a variety of public questions he personally attended to during one month, things which might quite easily have been delegated to others, but which he evidently considered of sufficient vital importance as to be handled directly in the chief executive's office. They ranged from personal letters to important charities to the holding of receptions, where he had to shake hands with 4,000 people.

OUR PROSAIC AGE

The Post Office and Its Wares: Suggestion of Advertisement: Rhymes of the Times

From Our Own Correspondent.

London, Feb. 20.

This is a prosaic age! It is now suggested that the Post Office should advertise its wares. People do not realize what a wonderful organization it is, and if the thing were properly pushed, I feel sure that the sale of postal orders and dog licences would go up by leaps and bounds. For instance, who could resist something on these lines?

STAMPS! STAMPS! STAMPS!
ALL COLOURS AND PRICES.

Beautiful engravings of His Majesty the King in green, purple, and red.
Every edge is beautifully pinked and our gum is rich in vitamines.
Read what our clients say:—
Mr. B: Their flavour recalls the delicious fish glue of 40 years ago.
Countess X:—Your three-ha'penny ones are just too sweet.
Lord K:—Please send me three more.

Or perhaps a little lesson in economy would better attract the business man:—

Must you go to Wigan?
Can't you Write?
(See What We Save You).

3rd return to Wigan	43/9d.
Cab to Victoria	2/6d.
Smelling Salts	9d.
Hotel Bill	7/4d.
Tips, etc.	5d.
	54/9d.

Do it by post and save 54/7½d.
Letters delivered punctually in our own vans. Right to the very door.

Our prosaicness is even evidenced in our poetry. The point of immediate practical importance is the successor to the world-famous, but now moribund lyric, "Yes, we have," etc. I am able on unimpeachable authority to announce that the masterpiece elect is on the way, and that its appropriate title is "When it's night time in Italy it's Wednesday over here." The first verse is said to be the worst:—

When it's night time in Italy, it's Wednesday over here.
Oh, the onions in Sicily make people cry in California.
Why does a fly? When does a bee?
How does a wasp sit down to have his tea?

I am glad to think I have given you ample warning.

THE DEATH OF ROMANCE.

And romance is dead too. Strangely enough men do not seem to appreciate the medals that cost them most to win. I know only one who does. He was a flying officer, and he has the V.C., the D.S.O. and the M.C., without counting so many multi-coloured ribbons from foreign nations that he could make a patchwork quilt of them. I asked him one day to tell me about his decorations.

"I shall never forget the night I won this," he said, picking one up. "The rain was beating down, and I'd been soaked through for hours. Suddenly I felt a bite—"

"A what?" I said, thinking I had misheard. "What medal is this—the Croix de Guerre?"

"Oh, dear, no," he said. "It's one I got in a fishing competition at Southend."

Then he showed me another he'd won for being third in a pig show, and another he got for never having been found out in telling a lie at school.

"But what about the V.C., and all these others?" I said.

"Oh, them! Well, they're there. I can't even push them into a penny-in-the-slot machine. But I'll tell you what, I'd swap the whole lot of them for a decent job like the one I threw up to go to the Front."

GILBERT AND SHAKESPEARE.

I notice in the "Bolton Evening News" the following passage:—"I heard a very interesting discussion in the last few days as to whether Gilbert's words or Sullivan's music will survive the longer? I think there is little doubt the music will, because already many of Gilbert's caustic allusions are getting pointless to the present generation."

Of course, it is bound to come—someone will try and bring Gilbert up to date. It may be written in humour, but I notice the "Daily News" has been alluding to the fact that the railway staff of the Great Western are about to produce "The Gondoliers," and it suggests they might bring the libretto up to date on the following lines:—

Rising early in the morning
We despatch the workmen's trains
Then, most decorously yawning,
We retire to bed again.
After breakfast, if inclined,
We begin our daily grind,
First we stand in groups together
And discuss the awful weather,
And consign the latest Government to blazes,
Then if business isn't pressing
We agree it's most distressing
That the railway line is overgrown with daisies;
But, of course, that's really no concern of ours,
For it's not a porter's duty to pick flowers;
He has quite sufficient troubles which begin
When the nine o'clock for London ambles in;
Then we do our solemn duty,
With nice regard for Beauty,
And we lend a willing ear to any damsel in distress,
While the creatures of the male sex
And the plain ones of the frail sex
If they don't know when the train goes
Well, they've simply got to guess.
What though passengers bewail
When they're travelling by rail
There are pleasures for the porter and of troubles there are none
And the culminating pleasure which we treasure beyond measure
Is the gratifying feeling that the public has been done.

With a little ingenuity on these lines we could bring Gilbert and Shakespeare and everyone else well up to date.

RIGHT TO JURY TRIAL RESTORED

Lord Haldane's Bill

Provisions for dispensing with the holding of assizes in places where unnecessary, as a measure for saving expense and judicial time, are contained in the Administration of Justice Bill introduced in the House of Lords by the Lord Chancellor.

The first clause of the measure, based on the report of the Committee of Inquiry presided over by Mr. Justice Swift, gives power to the Lord Chief Justice, with the concurrence of the Lord Chancellor, to dispense with the holding of assizes on any particular circuit at any place in which there is on that occasion no substantial amount of business to be transacted. The permanent abolition of any assize town is not authorised.

Restrictions imposed as a war-time measure on the right to trial by jury in High Court civil cases are dealt with. The Act was criticised as restricting the right unduly and as being obscure in its terms. The present clause reproduces in the main the position as it was before the war, subject to the exception that trial without a jury may be ordered by the Court if in the opinion of the Court "the cause is more fit to be tried without a jury," but an absolute right to trial with a jury is preserved in certain cases.

THE REDDING PIT DISASTER

One of the Most Tragic in Coalmine History: Men Trapped by Inrush of Water: Heroic Rescue Work: Who Was to Blame?

By Our Trade Union Correspondent.

Manchester, Feb. 19.

The Ministry of Mines' inquiry into the causes of the Redding Pit disaster has just finished after a hearing lasting nine days. Sir Thomas Mottram, Chief Inspector of Mines, presided, and sitting beside him was Mr. E. Shinwell, M.P., the new Minister of Mines. The latter, at the time of the disaster, publicly stated that the miners drowned in the pit were murdered by the management. Mr. Robert Smillie, M.P., who cross-questioned the witnesses in the interests of the working miners, first obtained an assurance from the mineowners that no workman giving evidence should be victimized. The evidence given at the inquiry threw additional light on the causes that led up to the tragedy and on the desperate efforts made to rescue the various groups of men immured in those sections of the pit cut off by the water. The story of the catastrophe is one of the most moving in the annuals of British mining.

THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT.

Number 23 Pit, Redding, is situated about 2½ miles from Falkirk in ground honeycombed with the waterlogged workings of old worked-out mines. It is worked by Sir Andrew Nimmo & Co. The seams of coal lie beneath the old Coxrod Pit, a worked-out mine full of stagnant water. Between these and the Redding Pit there was a geological "fault" consisting of a natural sandstone barrier. The miners called it the "Universal Dyke." Some of them, and the managers of the mines, believed that this fault was a reliable barrier between the Redding Pit and the old water-logged workings. Others doubted it. The maps and plans of the old workings were known to be sketchy and imperfect.

The coal seams in the Redding Pit converged on the main shaft at an acute angle. The highest gallery was the Dublin section where the miners were stripping the coal away from the Universal Dyke. For a long time water had been coming through the roof of this section in increasing quantities. A witness stated that it ran down the main haulage way 2½ inches deep, and a special channel had been cut to drain it off. The under manager admitted that a fireman had called his attention to it and had also pointed out that it was foul smelling. He stated, however, that his sense of smell was deficient and he could not verify that. In his opinion at the time it was water from surface drainage.

Just before the night shift ceased work on the morning of September 25 a fireman gave a note to a 19-year old youth and told him to take it to the under manager's house. At that very moment the youth heard a "thump" in the distance and the air current reversed. The fireman walked off in the direction of the sound and was drowned. The youth delivered the note. It informed the under-manager that water had broken through into the Dublin section and was knee deep on the slope. The pumps could not cope with it, and would the under-manager come at once to the pit. In 30 minstes he was there, but on descending found 14 ft. of water at the pit bottom and the entrance to the main workings cut off.

A DESPERATE STRUGGLE.

Witnesses at the inquiry gave evidence of the desperate struggle for life that had taken place in the pit during the intervening half hour. Two or three men fought their way to the pit bottom, climbed the pit stair, and tumbled into the cage as it descended. Most of the others desperately raced up the slanting roads away from the rising waters. Brave men turned back to warn comrades and were drowned. Millions of gallons of dirty water poured down from the break in the Dublin section, raced through the Ball seam, and filled up all the lower portions of the mine, cutting off all means of ingress to the slanting galleries at the top of which the trapped miners took refuge. When the manager went down again an hour later there was 36 feet of water in the shaft and the ingress to all the workings was cut off. Ninety men were in the pit.

Some distance from the pit there was an old disused shaft in a potato field. Old workings connected to it were known to touch old workings in the Redding Pit. Miners went to it to see if it was possible to rig up tackle and commence rescue operations. They heard voices, speeded up their efforts, and in a few hours brought up 21 men. Kirkwood, a veteran miner, and a brother of the Labour Member of Parliament of the same name, had led them to safety. He had some idea of the lie of the old workings and had broken down an intervening wall.

SOME SPLENDID RESCUES.

The rescued men said they had seen other miners struggling through the rising waters to higher levels. The only way to reach them was by cutting a long passage from the old pit. Gangs of miners immediately started to do this, but the days passed, the job seemed endless, and most people thought that if any miners had escaped the water they would have long since perished with the deadly black damp. Still the rescuers carried on their task and nine days after the disaster their efforts were splendidly rewarded. A faint knocking was heard in the distance. More men were rushed down and 30 minutes later the rescued, a party of five, were shaking hands with their deliverers. In the last spurt, 25 yards of roadway had been excavated in less than 30 minutes; a world's record.

All the food the rescued men had between them was a half slice of bread yet they were in good condition and had under-estimated the length of their ordeal by four days. On reaching the pit head they remembered the farewell messages they had written on the walls and were insistent that they should be immediately erased. The wife of one of them had kept a copper of water hot for her husband from the day of the disaster, confident that he would be rescued.

THE FINAL TRAGEDY.

The finding of these men encouraged the rescuers to carry on their good work with more energy than ever. At one time there was almost a riot at the pit head, caused by the efforts of men to get down and take part in the good work. It was regarded as almost certain that two men, an uncle and his nephew, had reached a point above the water. Desperate efforts were made to reach them. Naval divers were brought from Rosyth, but were unable to push through the narrow galleries of the mine to the imprisoned men. Bottles containing food and good advice were released in positions below the water that might enable them to rise where they would be of use. It was of no avail. Nor was it possible to reach them by cutting a road. Pumping was the only method, and after a hundred million gallons had been pumped out the water in the mine only subsided eight feet. The rescuers got through on October 19, 24 days after the disaster. They found the two men dead of starvation and exhaustion. Footsteps in the mud showed how the doomed pair had followed the subsiding waters only to die a few days before the rescuers reached them.

The evidence at the inquiry revealed an even deeper tragedy. Witnesses told how, in another part of the mine, arrows were found traced on the dusty walls of old workings showing the way a party had gone. Following these guides the searchers came to 11 dead miners in an old gallery. They were without tools, and had cleared a passage with their bare hands 35 feet long into an old working, but starvation and exhaustion had killed them one by one until they were all dead. This evidence caused a great sensation.

OWNERS' POSITION.

It had been alleged that the management at the pit threw obstables in the way of the rescuers. The inquiry proved that these allegations were groundless. Everything possible was done to get the men out. Counsel for the dependants of the dead miners admitted this, but charged the management with culpable negligence in allowing the coal to be stripped from the face of the Dyke. Miners gave evidence that a huge piece of coal had been burst from the face of the Dyke several months before. They believed this was caused by the pressure of water behind. The pit management claimed that the Dyke, which was proved to be 14 feet thick, was a sufficient barrier to prevent flooding in the Redding Pit. They alleged that the cause of the disaster was the presence of an old sump in it, cut by the miners of the old water-logged pit and not shown in the plans of the workings. Had the existence of this sump been known, no disaster would have happened for they would not have stripped the coal from its face. They contended that the disaster was a pure misadventure.

Reference was made to an old suggestion that the owners of the pits in the area should combine to sink a shaft and pump the whole area dry. The miners in other pits in the vicinity were said to go in daily fear of their lives through fear of flooding. Much comment has been caused by a statement made by Sir Andrew Nimmo at the time of the disaster. He said that he was unable to understand it, as the pit was an abnormally dry one. Most of the evidence at the inquiry hinged on whether the notorious wetness of the pit arose from surface drainage, or percolation from the water-logged pit above.

MORE STRINGENT RULES NEEDED.

One of the witnesses called was Sir Richard Redmayne, the former Chief Inspector of Mines. In his opinion the only way to prevent a recurrence of the disaster was to pump out all the water from the disused workings above the Dyke. Mining M.Ps contend that there should be much more stringent regulations to ensure the safety of workers in British coal pits. Disasters of one kind and another are getting steadily more common and a good deal of the evidence given in the subsequent inquiries is very disquieting.

In the whole of this tragic story there is only one redeeming feature and that is the way in which the humble rescuers stuck to their self-imposed task when everyone else had abandoned hope. The measure of success that crowned their efforts will be a beacon in the future to all those who hope when hope is dead, and fight on undismayed when reason whispers that the battle is lost.

HUGE SEA MONSTER

Sea Serpent 30ft. Long and Head as Big as a Horse's Seen in Fiji

A message from Suva, Fiji, dated January 25, says:—Once again the giant sea serpent, so often seen, or reported in story and legend, has come to light. On this occasion there seems no reason to doubt the authenticity of the informants. Nurse Davis was on a professional visit to the Methodist Mission station on the island of Taviuni in October. At 2.30 on October 9, she was looking out over the Somo Straits, which lie between the island of Taviuni and that of Vanua Levu, when she was horrified to see a huge head, like that of a horse, rear itself out of the water. The head was followed gradually by a big burly body, thick, and of a dull brown colour, until some 30ft. of this fearsomt thing reared and swayed above the waves. Nurse Davis' cries brought the Rev. Mr. Lelean to the scene, and through his field glass he had an excellent view of the serpent. Slowly and silently the huge monster slid underneath the waves, while the spectators stood in awestruck silence. The lady was shortly afterwards removed on business to the Lau Group, and only lately had an opportunity of bringing the news to the capital. From the description the snake is very like that reported not long ago near Noumea by a sailing vessel.

WRITING DONE BY PLANTS

Wonderful Device of Indian Scientist

Sir Jagadis Bose, the famous Indian scientist, well known for his discoveries of the sensibilities of plants, has devised an apparatus by which the plant itself is able to write its own digestive history!

A "Daily News" reporter was privileged to inspect the apparatus in London. A section of a plant is contained in a small bottle of liquid, in which is carbonic acid gas. A glass pipe leads from the bottle and ends in a mercury valve. This is connected electrically with an automatic recording machine.

When the plant assimilates food it gives off oxygen. The oxygen forces up the mercury valve, establishes an electric circuit, rings a bell, and operates a pen upon a moving roll of paper.

The spectacle of a plant ringing its own bell after each mouthful of food is sufficiently remarkable, but the results which may come from it are more remarkable still.

WATCHING GROWTH.

At the Bose Institute in Calcutta experiment are being made with this instrument combined with a second apparatus which magnifies the rate of growth of the plant a hundred million times. Thus the exact effects of food on plants can be measured.

In this way it is hoped to increase the rate of growth of plants, to find manures which will increase fertility and food values. It is really an attempt to produce something like that which H. G. Wells imagined when he wrote "The Food of the Gods."

Photography shows the last words of a tree. It is the chart of the tree's heart-beat. An arrow shows where chloroform was administered. The heart suddenly stimulated beat faster at first; the dose increased, the heart beat slows down until the heart stops beating. The tree is poisoned.

HUNGER AND UNREST.

Sir Jagadis recognizes that the world's problem is largely one of food. Unrest is mainly hunger Any solution of the problem of the world's food supply must have a great effect on unrest everywhere.

Especially is this the case in India, where a single dry year means starvation for many hundreds of thousands. That was one of the reasons for the foundation of tht Bose Institute, where the fruits of research can be thrown open to the world free, where problems are considered as world problems, and their solutions made available to all.

Sir Jagadis is now busy on the proofs of a new book dealing with these researches. Soon he will return to India to carry on his search for the "Food of the Gods," or, as he more exactly puts it. "to discover some way in which science may help us to utilise the inexhaustible resources of India for the benefit of humanity."

THE HEART OF VOLTAIRE IN A PEDESTAL

Investigation of Paris Mystery

London, Feb. 20.

In the presence of the Minister of Fine Arts, a bronze plate bearing the inscription "the Heart of Voltaire," found on a pedestal designed for a plaster statue of the great French thinker in the National Library, was removed this afternoon and disclosed a hollowed space containing a small wooden box. This being opened, a large gilded wooden heart was found inscribed "Heart of Voltaire—died Paris—May 30, 1778."

When the receptacle was shaken a liquid was heard in its cavity, undoubtedly that in which the heart is preserved. The Minister refrained, however, from opening the wooden heart. The bronze plate bore an inscription indicating that the pedestal in which the heart was found was given to the National Library by the heirs of the Marquis de Villette, in 1864. —Reuter.

JAPANESE opinion on the action of the British Cabinet with reference to Singapore is well shown in the following extract from the "*Yomiuri*":—The abandonment of the Singapore naval base has shown that Mr. Macdonald is a courageous and able statesman. Although the Labour party is in a minority in the House of Commons, it has achieved a splendid work on such a great question. It is an object lesson to statesmen that even a minority can do anything if it is thoroughly determined.

The Daily Risk of Blood Poison

ZAM-BUK THE GREAT ANTISEPTIC HEALER.

HOW often do you hear of limbs being crippled and lives sacrificed through neglect or improper treatment of everyday injuries?

To promptly dress all cuts, scratches, wounds, etc., with Zam-Buk prevents dangerous complications. Zam-Buk is the powerful herbal antiseptic balm which *kills* and *excludes* disease-germs, and prevents festering and blood-poison. Other properties in Zam-Buk soothe away pain and grow healthy new skin in a wonderful way.

For eczema, heat sores, ulcers, ringworm, piles, bad legs, sore feet, abscesses, bites, stings, burns, etc., Zam-Buk is equally valuable. all dealers.

Zam-Buk

ZAM-BUK Alone Saved His Arm!

Mr. J. D. McCormack, 30, Egan St., Newtown, Sydney, says:—"Some time ago I slipped and fell, severely injuring my elbow, and gashing my forearm. Blood-poison set in and the arm became terribly swollen and inflamed. For eight months I suffered agony, but nothing would heal the wound. Hearing about Zam-Buk I decided to try the balm. It stopped the swelling and inflammation in a wonderful way, and soon had all poisonous matter drawn out of the wound. Zam-Buk's remarkable healing, without a doubt, saved my arm."

FREE FROM ALL ANIMAL FATS. I.Z. 400.

Agents:—Messrs. Wakefield & Co. (China), Ltd., S. Y. Sheng Building, Szechuen Road, Shanghai.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

RELIGION AND OUR MENTAL POWER

A Sermon Preached by the Rev. A. N. Rowland in Union Church Shanghai, on March 23, 1924

"(Jehovah) smote the men of Bethshemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the Lord." (1 Sam. 6, 19). "And the ark of Jehovah remained in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite three months, and Jehovah blessed Obed-edom and all his household." (2 Sam. 6, 11).

This is the first of a short series of talks on the faculties of our mind and their bearing on religion. Various powers contend or co-operate within us and two of [illegible] and Awe. One seems to gain at the other's expense, and true religion depends upon their equilibrium, each having its proper place and pull. The subject is illustrated in these mysterious stories of the ark, how it blessed the house of Obed edom because he treated it with reverence, how it brought a curse upon the people of Bethshemesh because they peered into it with curious eyes.

What then is curiosity? It is the desire of effort of the mind to find the whereabouts or wherefore of things: it prompts the eager questions of early boyhood, it leads youth on to the highroad of learning. By following the spirit of inquiry and experiment nations like the Greeks have proved to be the creators of civilization and the benefactors of mankind. But when curiosity has been neglected peoples have grown dull and idle and have sunk into decay.

FORBIDDEN FRUIT.

Curiosity then is an indispensable element of human progress, yet the Bible connects it pointedly with the root of sin. It was the curiosity of Eve that led her astray. "She saw the tree was to be desired to make one wise." She and Adam both longed to know the result of eating fruit that was forbidden to become wise in their own way and at any cost. The result was a knowledge they would have given anything to forget.

Even the Greeks, with their bent towards curiosity, had a legend akin to the story of Eden, how Psyche (the soul) was loved and visited by Eros, but forbidden to seek his face or to probe his secret. At length, however, she yielded to her curiosity and lit her lamp one night. Alas, her pleasant dream was shattered, her delight for ever lost. There is then a boundary to certain kinds of knowledge, which if we cross we come to harm. And the other side of that boundary is the realm of awe.

Let us look at Awe for a moment, that is called in Proverbs "the fear of the Lord." It is the consciousness that we are in the presence of a secret that is beyond the reach of curiosity where probing hands and peering eyes are out of place. Under the sway of curiosity we take off our coat to free our hands, but under the spell of awe we take off our hat and fold our hands instead. Our mind turns from the picture of Eve lingering by the tree and gazing at the thing forbidden, to the picture of the Seraphim who, in the presence of the Almighty, veil their eyes and feet in reverence. Human [illegible] known the presence of these [illegible] forces, and the taste and art of mankind is to give each its rightful place and function.

DANTE AND ULYSSES.

First a place must be allowed to curiosity. Though it may mislead us it can not be displaced for curiosity is the servant of reason and has God's own work to do for us. And may [illegible] by keeping the mind empty and unemployed. In primitive religions many things are taboo, are kept within the fiery circle of awe, and curiosity is counted sacrilegious. The Church has kept the ceiling up with its "dim religious light." Dante was a typical thinker of the Mediæval Church and he passed a characteristic judgment on the genius of the Greeks by depicting Ulysses among the crooked people in the eighth circle of the Inferno, the foul pit of Malebolge. It was his love of exploration that condemned him. No influence, no love of home and wife

> "Could overcome within me the desire
> I had to be experienced of the world,
> And of the Vice and Virtue of Man kind."

So he and his travel-worn company passed the point "where Hercules his landmarks set as signals that man no farther onward should adventure." Thus he came to a bad end. It was against this kind of prejudice that Columbus had to fight.

MORNING STAR OR WRECKER'S FIRE.

In the same spirit the Church of the Middle Ages checked research. When Wycliffe examined the doctrine of transubstantiation and inquired as to the primacy of the Pope, he was thought to be inspired of hell and his followers were burned at the stake. Where we see the morning star of the Reformation, his contemporaries say the deceitful light of the wrecker's fire. Later on the experiments of Galileo and the expositions of a Colet or Erasmus were alike counted for sin because they diminished the realm of awe.

It is plain enough to us now that these pioneers opened a way for the central and abiding truths of our faith to shine more brightly. They were wise in their curiosity, and our lesson is that it is dangerous to cover with a cloud of awe anything truth bids us deal with. For if our Godgiven reason is refused its rights it will revolt from awe as the minister of darkness and stupidity. Let us beware of meeting all religious questions with an answer of awe as if they were unseemly and unbelieving. It is by the full use of all our human powers that we most truly serve Him, Who gave them.

II.

But having vindicated the place of curiosity for a life that is balanced and full. I am anxious to remind you that it is only one of two keys to life's wisdom. There is a knowledge accessible to all, but only by the gateway of awe and the path of obedience. Life does not hold less mystery because we know more facts. Eternal Truth is like Immortal Love in Whittier's lines

> "Forever full, forever flowing free,
> Forever shared, forever whole
> A never-ebbing sea."

The path of science always leads to the brink of mystery. Just as the climber of the peak in Darien saw an expanse of ocean where he expected his goal and reckoned there was no more sea, so when the scientists arrived at the atom, expecting it to be the limit of creation, they found it brought them to the brink of another world.

SUPPOSE SCIENCE WINS.

Peak rises beyond peak in the realm of knowledge. But suppose [illegible] knowable in time; suppose curiosity were to win its complete triumph in the physical world and all the universe become an open book, each branch of science contributing its chapter, don't you see that the case for awe would be stronger than ever? For these two problems would be left for the thinking mind. (1) How do you account for the fact that the universe, being only partially within the sight and extent of the conception of man, is yet completely subjected to law; and (2) How do you account for the fact that the powers of thought within those fragile brains of ours correspond with these remotest parts of nature? How can unity be revealed in a manifold world unless it is the work of One? And how can we think God's thoughts after Him (to use the phrase of the astronomer Herschell) unless we are the sons of God?

A CONSUMING CURIOSITY.

Moreover, the moral life depends, as much as the intellectual, on the recognition of the rights of awe. The adolescent is moved by a consuming curiosity, and is tempted to the defiance of awe which leads on to the transgression of law. Dissatisfied with Eden he gives it up for a mere mirage. And there is many a man carrying remorse with him, like a perpetual shadow lying cold on his heart, because he paid the cost to satisfy his curiosity and determined to be knowing in regard to life's secrets. And this reminds us of the responsibility lying on parents and teachers to allay this inherent curiosity as far as may be by wise instruction. A little knowledge may be a dangerous thing, but too much awe is also dangerous. I mean that it does not make for chastity of mind to have the mysteries of nature cloaked by the false awe of prudish conventions. There is only one true defence, and that is to be awake to God and his righteousness as Joseph was, who protested in the hour of temptation, "How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"

LEADS TO MISCHIEF.

This brings us finally to the sphere of religion, for there alone is the realm of true awe. As I have said, there is a prejudice against religions in many minds on the ground that it has so often hindered the knowledge that is given in answer to curiosity. "Religion," says Dr. Reinach, "is a collection of scruples which impede the free exercise of our faculties." Hardly a wise word! For you might as well say that the S.V.C. is a service for keeping young men out of church, which is equally nonsense.

But let us look at the problem more carefully. We shall at once admit that in spite of all the gains to civilization from the satisfaction of curiosity, it has also brought an immeasurable loss of happiness and peace. The history of the world and its present situation bears witness to the fact that unfettered curiosity leads to a world of evil. What then is the philosophy of the Bible? The Bible bids us understand that beyond the many things that may be known there is One Who is to be obeyed. There were many trees in the garden of Eden for the use and delight of man, but one stood for a different kind of knowledge—knowledge of Him Who walked in the garden in the cool of the day. To know Him is life eternal, but the organ of this knowledge is not curiosity. We cannot by searching find out God. He comes to us Himself and we know Him by listening, receiving, obeying.

> "O yes, I deem that there are powers
> Which of themselves our souls impress.
> That we can feed these minds of ours
> With a wise passiveness."

Things that are hidden from the wise and prudent. Those who live by curiosity and reason, are revealed to babes—to the childlike, who are willing and happy to receive and obey.

The dictates of conscience, which is the organ of awe, have fully the same rights over us as the arguments of reason. Indeed, it is more important to be afraid of sin than of ignorance, for it is this makes us miss God's world, that shuts out the vision of God Himself. It was a wise Jewish Rabbi, Chananiah, who said, "Whenever in any man his fear of sin comes before his wisdom his wisdom endures, but whensoever a man's wisdom comes before his sense of sin his wisdom perishes."

THE HARMONIOUS LIFE.

I would plead this morning for the large, balanced life that gives due place both to awe and to curiosity, and gives full weight both to conscience and reason. The life that only cultivates awe may become empty and gloomy, but the life that depends on curiousity is sure to be shallow and hard. Happy is the man who is alive in both sides of his nature.

> "Let knowledge grow from more to more,
> But more of reverence in us dwell,
> That mind and soul according well
> May make one music as before,
> But vaster."

Here is the universe with its wonder to challenge our curiosity, and poor is the unresponsive life.

But far more impoverished is the life to whom this outward nature is all in all, who is untouched by the fact of God within and God o'erhead. The herald of His presence is the awe of our conscience, and He makes Himself known through the fellowship between His love and our obedience which is mediated by Jesus Christ.

"A TRIFLE TOO"

She was a pretty little sprite,
My dinner partner Tuesday night;
A trifle old for sweet sixteen—
In manner and in speech, I mean.

Her waist was cut a trifle low—
They're wearing them that way, you know;
Her skirt, perhaps a shade too high.
Such length of leg as met the eye!)

Her cheeks were just a bit too red—
The rouge had been thickly spread;
Her nose too white; her eyes too black;
A colour sense she seemed to lack.

Her voice was pitched a little loud,
To make it heard above the crowd.
She told me things that, really, well,
I blush to think of, much less tell.

It may be I am getting old—
I'm just about eighteen, all told;
But the young girls I've lately seen,
In social haunts where I have been,
Seem, as I pass them in review,
Each one to be a trifle "too."

G. K. D.

CHINA'S SKIES FOR APRIL

By Sirius.

2 Uranus in conjunction with the moon, 2 p.m. Uranus 1°.0 N.

3 Venus approaches the Pleiades.

4 New moon ●, 3.3 p.m.

5 Chinese festival of Pure Brightness, Ch'ing-ming 淸明.
Mercury in conjunction with moon, 5 p.m. Mercury 5°.8 N.

6 Jupiter stationary in the heavens, 9 a.m.

8 Venus in conjunction with moon, 1 p.m. Venus 8°.0 N.
Moon in apogee, 11.0 p.m.

9 Occultation of Aldebaran in Taurus, 3.59 a.m.

12 First quarter (moon) ☽, 6.58 p.m.

14 Mars in quadrature, 1 a.m.
Venus passes near Aldebaran.

17 Mercury at greatest elongation East (19°.52), 8 a.m.

19 Saturn in opposition to sun, 5 p.m. Distance from our earth 813,030,000 miles.
Full moon ○, 9.57 p.m.
Saturn in conjunction with moon, 9 p.m. Saturn 1°.7 S.

20 Sun enters Taurus, 4.59 p.m.

20-22 Meteoric showers in the Lyrids.

21 Moon in perigee, 4.1 a.m.

22 Venus at greatest elongation East (45°.40) 3 a.m. The planet henceforth approaches the earth.

23 Jupiter in conjunction with moon, 6 a.m. Jupiter 4°.1 S.

26 Last quarter (moon) ☾, 0.14 p.m.
Mars in conjunction with moon, 5 a.m. Mars 3°.8 S.

27 Mercury stationary in the heavens, noon.

28 Neptune stationary, 7 p.m.

29 Uranus in conjunction with moon, 10 p.m.

30 Meteoric showers in the Draconids.

PHASES OF THE MOON.

	Day.	Hour.	
New moon	● 4	3.3 p.m.	Peking time
First quarter	☽ 12	6.58 p.m.	
Full moon	○ 19	9.57 p.m.	
Last quarter	☾ 26	0.14 p.m.	
Moon in apogee	8	11. 0 p.m.	
„ perigee	21	4. 1 a.m.	

RISING AND SETTING OF THE SUN AT INTERVALS OF 5 DAYS.

	Rises	Sets
1	5.50 a.m.	6.18 p.m.
5	5.45 a.m.	6.20 p.m.
10	5.39 a.m.	6.23 p.m.
15	5.34 a.m.	6.26 p.m.
20	5.28 a.m.	6.29 p.m.
25	5.23 a.m.	6.33 p.m.
30	5.18 a.m.	6.36 p.m.

In this month the mornings increase 32 minutes (at Greenwich 62); and the afternoons 18 minutes (at Greenwich 48) making a total of 50 minutes for the month.

ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPAL PLANETS.

MERCURY.—An evening star, visible for about 2 hours after sunset in the middle of the month. Well placed for naked eye observation.

In conjunction with moon on 5th; at greatest elongation East (19° 52′ on 17th; stationary on 27th.

Sets on 13th at 7.59 p.m.; on 20th at 8.04 p.m.
„ 27th at 7.47 p.m.

VENUS.—An early evening star, crossing Taurus (near Aldebaran on 14th), and increasing in [illegible] as it approaches its greatest Eastern elongation. Visible for over 3 hours after sunset, and setting at the end of the month a short time after 10 p.m.

In conjunction with moon on 8th; at greatest elongation East (45° 40′) on 22nd.

Sets on 1st at 9.52 p.m.; on 16th at 10.11 p.m.
„ 30th at 10.20 p.m.

MARS.—An early morning star; crossing Sagittarius, and reaching Capricornus towards the end of the month. Rises about 1 a.m., and becoming more and more brilliant.

In quadrature on 14th; in conjunction with moon on 26th.

Rises on 1st at 1.30 a.m.; on 16th at 1.09 a.m.
„ 30th at 0.44 a.m.

JUPITER.—A late evening star in Scorpio, rising a short time before midnight in the first part of the month, and at the close about 10 p.m.

Stationary on 6th; in conjunction with moon on 23rd.

Rises on 1st 11.32 p.m.; on 16th at 10.32 p.m.
„ 30th at 9.34 p.m.

SATURN.—An early evening star in Virgo, visible the whole night, and being near the earth may be well observed throughout the month.

In opposition to the sun on 19th, and near the moon on the same date.

Rises on 1st at 7.38 p.m.; on 16th at 6.34 p.m.
„ 30th at 5.32 p.m.

VENUS AT GREATEST ELONGATION EAST.

Venus, now crossing Taurus, will approach Aldebaran on the 14th. The planet attains its greatest swing to the East, or elongation (45° 40′) as it is called, on the 22nd. This circumstance makes Venus extremely brilliant, and as it sets later and later, about 3 hours after sunset towards the close of the month, it may be well observed in the evening sky.

After the elongation, Venus moves westwards, approaching nearer and nearer to our earth. It will maintain its brilliancy till early June, when it dims rapidly owing to its conjunction with the sun.

SATURN IN OPPOSITION.

Saturn rises this month in the early evening, and will be in opposition to the sun on the 19th on this date. it may be observed in the East, as the sun sets. Its distance from our earth is 813,030,000 miles, a little further away than in 1922 and 1923. During this month, the planet is visible throughout the whole night, its setting taking place on the 16th at 5.59 a.m., and on the 30th about 5 a.m.

CHINA'S FESTIVAL OF PURE BRIGHTNESS—CHING-MING 淸明

The cold, dreary atmosphere of winter has at last disappeared, and is succeeded by pure and bright skies, which rejoice the eye, and give you a touch of glorious Spring weather. This is known as the festival of *Pure Brightness*, and is celebrated with picnics, outings and gathering of peach blossoms throughout all China. It falls this season on the 2nd of the third Lunar month, corresponding to April 5 of the tropical year.

Modern schools take a holiday on the occasion, and plant trees, hence it is also known as *"Arbour Day."*

"TWINKLE, TWINKLE, LITTLE STAR"

(As it might have been written.)

"Scintillate, scintillate, globule vivific,
Fain would I fathom thy nature specific,
Loftily poised in ether capacious,
Strongly resembling a gem carbonaceous.

"When torrid Phoebus refuses his presence,
And ceases to lamp us with fierce incandescence,
Then you illumine the regions supernal,
Scintillate, scintillate, semper nocturnal.

"Then the victim of hospitless peregrination
Gratefully hails your minute consumation.
He could not determine his journey's direction,
But for your bright scintillating protection."

THE TRADEMARK BUREAU AT WORK

Allegations of Inefficiency Already Being Made: Complaints Both by Chinese and Japanese Firms: Instructive Notes from the Chinese Press

Herewith we reproduce a summary of various articles dealing with the Trademark Registration Bureau which have appeared in the Chinese newspapers. They speak for themselves, and a perusal of their contents must serve to emphasize the danger which foreign firms will run should they have to submit to the new Chinese Law. A summary of articles published in the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" and the *Shun Pao* on March 25, calls first for attention. It is to the following effect:—

S. Suzuki & Co., Ltd., a Japanese firm, claim that they were granted patent rights in Japan (about 1910), and also in Great Britain, United States of America, and France, over a certain kind of food (powder sauce) called "Vi-Tsing," and that the Japanese Consul has certified that the trade mark "Vi-Tsing" has been in use in China for over 10 years. Suzuki & Co. also claim that the trademark "Vi-Tsing" was first put on the market by a Chinese firm—the Tienchu Manufacturing Co.—last summer.

In September the Tienchu Manufacturing Company applied to the Trademark Bureau to register its Trademark "Fu-Shou." The mark consists of a device and on it appear the words "Vi-Tsing" in Chinese and English. The mark was examined by the Bureau and passed, and was published in the Trade Mark Gazette dated November 15, 1923.

Some time in November Suzuki & Co. gave 24 names to their sauce powder, including the name "Vi-Tsing" and applied to the Bureau for registration of these names as trademarks. These so-called Marks—23 of which consist simply and solely of Chinese characters (varying from 2 to 5), were examined and passed by the Bureau and published in the Gazette dated February 15, 1924.

AN EARLY PROTEST.

In December Suzuki & Co. lodged a protest with the Bureau against the use of the term "Vi-Tsing" by the Tienchu Manufacturing Co. on the ground that the registration was a breach of Article 2 (5) and Article 3 of the Trade Mark Law:—

Art. 2.—Any of the following cannot be registered as a trade mark.

(5) Devices which are identical with or similar to a mark belonging to another person and generally known to the public as being used for identical goods.

Art. 3.—When two or more persons apply separately to obtain registration for an identical or similar trade mark which is to be used for identical goods, only that person who actually first used such trade mark shall be granted registration; but registration shall be granted to a person who shall first make application, provided that no one of the applicants has used such trade mark before or provided that a former user cannot be established. If the applications are of the same date, the mutual agreement of the applicants shall govern; if they do not agree, none of such trade marks shall be registered.

According to the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" dated March 21, 1924, the Tienchu Manufacturing Co. have now protested to the Bureau claiming that "Vi-Tsing" was a special product of that company, that their trademark "Fu Shou" (in which the name "Vi Tsing" was incorporated) had been passed by the Bureau and published in the Trademark Gazette for November 15, 1923, and that they had applied for its registration before Suzuki & Co.

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS.

It is amusing to see, however, an Article on the same question which appeared in the "*Shun Pao*" on March 20, 1924. That paper quotes a letter sent by the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce (apparently on behalf of the Tienchu Manufacturing Co.) to the Trademark Bureau in which they state in effect:

That the trademark of the Tienchu Manufacturing Co. was "Fu-shou" and not "Vi Tsing," which being the name of a kind of food or commodity did not fall under the category of a trademark; that "Vi-Tsing" should not be registered as a trademark any more than the words "tooth powder" could be. They ask the Bureau:

(a) If the characters "Vi-Tsing" are to be registered as the name of a commodity, why did the Bureau violate Art. 15 of the Trade Mark Law (which provides that the effects of a trademark right do not extend to . . . . the name . . . quality or nature of the goods) by permitting Suzuki & Co. to register them as a trade mark.

(b) If the Bureau regard the characters "Vi-Tsing" as a trade mark why did it permit Suzuki & Co. to register them when they had already been examined and passed as the trademark of Tienchu Manufacturing Co.

YET FURTHER COMPLICATIONS.

But the comedy goes further when we read in the "*Shun Pao*" of March 25, 1924, what purports to be a letter addressed to the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce by the China Chemical Works (a Chinese firm).

To put it shortly, the China Chemical Works complain that on November 17, 1923, they applied to the Bureau for the registration of a Mark which consisted of the Chinese characters "*Mei Vi Shu*" in connexion with sauce powder. That they received a reply from the Bureau on November 22 refusing registration on the ground that the proposed Mark was "in plain characters and did not have a specially distinctive appearance, and as it was merely the name of a commodity it might be used by all who sold the same kind of goods. The Bureau advised them to change their mark. This the company did, and re-submitted the mark for registration on December 1.

On March 8, the China Chemical Company received a reply from the Bureau stating that the mark could not be registered because it was identical with a mark of Suzuki & Co. which had been examined and passed, and had been published in the Trade Mark Gazette for February.

The China Chemical Co. ask "how the Bureau interpret Art. 3 of the Trademark Law (above quoted) by approving an "identical trade mark used on Indentical goods of those people who first made the application."

It should be noted that Suzuki & Co.'s Mark, as advertised in the Gazette, consists of three plain characters, and is one of the 24 marks complained of by the Tienchu Manufacturing Co. before mentioned.

CHINESE COMPANY'S PROTEST.

In connexion with this case it is next of interest to read the protest of the Tienchu Manufacturing Co. with the Bureau of Trademarks which was published in the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" on March 21. It reads as follows:—

The Vi-tsing of the Tienchu Manufacturing Company in port has won the favour of society since its appearance in the market. Last autumn, the above company applied to the Trademark Bureau for the registration of the exclusive right of using its Fu-shou trademark. The mark has passed an examintion made by the Bureau. In spring of this year, the S. Suzuki & Co. Ltd., a Japanese firm, applied to the Bureau for the registration of the term Vi-tsing and over 20 others as the associated trademarks of kind of food known as Ajimonoto. Without looking into the matter carefully, the Bureau passed all the terms as trademarks. Taking the Trademark Law as basis, the Tienchu Manufacturing Co. has lodged a protest, containing the following words, with the Bureau:—

"In order to show that our product was manufactured by ourselves, we submitted to you, in September last year, a picture of our trademark and the name of our product referred to as No. 44 class of goods under Article 36 of the detailed Regulations on the Trademark Law, and applied to you for its registration. In November, last year, we received from your Bureau an order (No. 158) granting our application and a paper of decision (No. 117). The Bureau has also published our trademark and the name of our product in the Trademark Gazette, dated November 15, 1923. We were surprised to find in the Trademark Journal, dated February 15, 1924, that among the trademarks that had passed the examination of the Bureau, Vi tsing was one which was used by S. Saito, an agent of a Japanese firm named S. Suzuki & Co. Ld., as the trademark of an article similar to our Vi-tsing. Vi-tsing is the name we use for a special product of this company. If the same two characters are used by that Japanese merchant as the trademark of the same kind of food, how can consumers distinguish one from the other? What that merchant has done is not only detrimental to our trade rights but also an act of swindling. To use fraudulently the name of a special product of other people as a trademark of a similar kind of commodity, will seriously affect the interests of the people concerned, so we cannot help protesting against it. We submit you this petition and request you to protect our rights and stop swindling by abolishing the Vi-tsing trademak of that Japanese Company."

THE JAPANESE PLEA.

Under the heading "Suzuki's agent protests against the use of the term Vi-tsing by the Tienchu Manufacturing Co." the "*Shun Pao*" of March 25 gives further details of the matter. A rough translation is to the following effect:—

On the following grounds, S. Saito, an agent of S. Suzuki & Co. Ld., has lodged a protest with the Bureau of Trademarks, against the using of the term Vi-tsing by the Tienchu Manufacturing Co.

"S. Suzuki & Co. Ld., were granted the patent right on Ajimonoto, Chomiseifun, and Vi-tsing (names of goods—Translator's note) by the Japanese Government in the 41st year of Meiji (about 1910). The same right has also been given to the company by Great Britain, the United States, and France. The trademarks of the above three goods have been used in China over 10 years. The Japanese Consul General has issued a certificate to the above effect.

"The trademarks of the above goods have been used for years, in China, and are well-known to the public, so in accordance with Clause 5 of Article 2 of the Trademark Law, no one shall be allowed to use any mark identical with or similar to any of the marks of the above company.

"Article 3 of the Trademark Law provides that when two or more persons apply separately to obtain registration for an identical or similar trademark which is to be used for identical goods, only that person who actually first used such trademark shall be granted registration. Wang Tung-yuan (proprietor of the Tienchu Manufacturing Co.) did not begin to use the trademark Vi-tsing (the Japanese merchant regards Vi-tsing as a trademark of Tienchu Manufacturing Co. -Translator's note) until last summer. So S. Suzuki & Co. Ld., used that mark first.

"Taking advantage of the provision of Article 15 of the Trademark Law, Wang Tung-yuan has used Vi-tsing, the name of one of the products of S. Suzuki & Co. Ld., as a trademark. But he should not have done it, because Vi-tsing is not only the name of that product but also its trademark."

(The above protest was lodged before the Tienchu Manufacturing Co. did, when the Japanese merchant found that the term Vi-tsing had appeared in the Trademark Gazette, dated November 15, 1923. He did not send the samples of his trademarks to the Bureau for registration until November 19, 1923.—Translator's note)

IS IT A TRADEMARK?

Next in order comes the protest of the China Chemical Works against the action of the Trademark Bureau with reference to the trademarks of Suzuki & Co. This is contained in a letter addressed to the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce which is published in the "*Shun Pao*" of March 25. A rough translation is a follows:—

"General Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai.

"All people in business and industrial circles appreciate your kindness in making efforts to protect their rights by sending the letter that appeared in yesterday's newspapers, to the Bureau of Trademarks. We have also been affected by the action of S. Suzuki & Co. On November 17, last year, we took all procedure necessary and sent five copies of samples and a cut of our Mei Vi Shu trademark to the Bureau for registration. On the 22nd of that month, we received an order from the Bureau, which quoted Articles 1 and 15 of the Trademark Law and said that the mark could not be registered because it was in plain characters and did not have a specially distinctive appearance and, as it was merely the name of a commodity, it might be used by all who sold the same kinds of goods. The Bureau advised us to have our mark changed. So we changed the picture of our Mei Vi Shu trademark and sent it to the Bureau on December 1 for registration. On March 8 of this year, we received an order from the Bureau, saying that our mark could not be registered because it was identical with one of the marks of S. Suzuki & Co., which had been examined, found agreeing with the Law, and published in the No. 6 Trademark Gazette, and advising us to change it again.

INCONSISTENCY.

"The Bureau has been inconsistent with itself. It would not let us register our Mei Vi Shu trademark because the mark was in plain characters, had no specially distinctive appearance, and was the name of a common article. But th Mei Vi Shu Trademark of S. Suzuki & Co., which is also in plain characters and a name of a common article, has passed its examination.

"Article 3 of the Trademark Law provides,

'When two or more persons apply separately to obtain registration for an identical or similar trade mark which is to be used for identical goods, only that person who actually first used such trade mark shall be granted registration; but registration shall be granted to a person who shall first make application, provided that no one of the applican's has used such trademark before or provided that a former user cannot be established.'

The first order, which we received from the Bureau, said only that in accordance with the Trademark Law the characters Mei Vi Shu could not be registered as a trademark. It did not say that S. Suzuki & Co. had applied for the registration of the same trademark. That is an evidence that we applied earlier than S. Suzuki & Co. did, for the registration of the Mei Vi Shu Trademark. How did the Bureau interpret Article 3 of the Trademark Law by approving an identical trademark used on identical goods of those people who were not the first who made the application? With regard to Articles 1 and 15 of the Trademark Law, what explanation would the Bureau make in passing the Mei Vi Shu trademark of S. Suzuki & Co., which is in plain characters, has no specially distinctive appearance either, and is also a common name of a commodity? The above action of the Trademark Bureau has violated the Trademark Law and will seriously affect the registration of trademarks, so we request you to send a special letter to the Bureau, asking it to explain its actions in accordance with the Law."

THE ALPHABET OF THE EAST

(From the point of view of a Shanghai-lander)

A are those useful old creatures the Amahs,
whose clothes so resemble a pair of pyjamas.

B stands for Betelnut, Buffalo, Bar,
and Boy without whom we can't get very far.

C are the Chits which we sign for our drinks,
also Chop-sticks, and China—the land of the Chinks

D are the Dollars we're wanting to earn,
and the Drinks we partake of wherever we turn.

E is the East with the Eastern Exchange,
where the dollar from two bob to six bob may range.

F is the Fighting we get every spring,
for the Tuchuns, you understand, must have their fling.

D stands for Gordius, eager to fight,
though his bark, so 'tis said, is much worse than his bite!

H is the sect which we call Holy Rollers,
'tis also the Harbour of which we're controllers.

I is the Ice we have most of the year;
on the ice we put soda and water and beer.

J is the Junk—the Chinaman's home,
and the Joss-house you see wheresoever you roam.

K is the Kerosene sold by young "fellers,"
and also the Kittysols, known as umbrellas.

L are the Loans for which China's the debtor,
Legations would also come under this letter.

M is the Mandarin, now but a name,
M's also the Mango of world renown fame.

N 's the North China, a jolly good rag;
in spite of her years, the "Old Lady's" no hag.

O stands for One o'clock, time to close down,
if you dance any later, our Councillors frown.

P is the Pumelo, tasty to chew,
Persimmon, Pagoda, and Paddyfield too.

Q is the Quorum which Parliaments lack,
and the Chinaman's Queue which we miss from his back.

R 'is the Republic of which there're two Presidents,
and also the Race-Course, the pride of our residents.

S are the Sinologues, just a bit mad.
and Sapajou's drawings which really aren't bad.

T are the Tuchuns, of China the course;
yet our tramcars and telephones sometimes are worse!

U is the Uproar which sometimes is heard,
when we're told that the payment of loans is deferred.

V stands for Very, (or should we say "Velly"?)
'tis also in V that one finds Vermicelli.

W doesn't have much of a chance,
Wonk's about all I can find at first glance.

X is an Xception, I don't mind admitting,
I can't find a word that's in any way fitting.

Y is the Yamen, the home of officials,
who place on a pass both their chops and initials.

Z stands for Zikawei, home of the priest,
where heavens are scanned by Wise Men of the East.

C.M.P.

THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

For some years past the Bishop of London has been in the habit of recommending a book for special Lenten reading. The volume selected this year is "Personal Religion and the Life of Devotion," by Dr. W. R. Inge, the Dean of St. Paul's.

∴

A new book of essays by Mr. Augustine Birrell is to be published shortly, under the title "Last Obiter Dicta."

∴

Jack Hobbs, the Surrey cricketer, has written "My Memories." It is a book that will be eagerly looked for by enthusiasts of the game.

∴

It is half a life time since Mr. Fergus Hume thrilled the English reading world with his "Mystery of a Hansom Cab." He has been writing ever since, and now he promises us another story under the title, "The Whispering Lane," and it also is full of "thrills." It has a villain, who is a doctor, with a touch of black blood in him, and the heroine is a nurse whom this villain persecutes. For the rest, wireless and spiritualism provide a very up-to-date means of working out a very up-to-date plot.

∴

There is something of tragedy in the recent suggestion that that Whitaker of European royalty, "The Almanach de Gotha," will be published no more. The Habsburgs, the Romanovs, and the Bourbons have suffered greatly during the last decade, and the suspension of a publication that dealt largely with these personages would be a curiously dramatic event. A German production, it is printed in French, that being the *lingua franca* of royalty. Formerly the Almanach contained very fine steel engravings of sovereigns who had succeeded to their thrones during the year, but it is again significant that the last few editions have lacked these illustrations.

∴

"Reflections on the Napoleonic Legend" (Unwin, 15s.), is an entertainingly written and epigrammatic study of Napoleon as he was and as he forced himself on the imagination of the world. "A conscious fraud? A delusion? Who knows?" the clever author, M. A. L. Guérard, observes; and he suggests that the Napoleonic will in action "had the qualities of a bestseller: it was obvious and forcible." He earnestly prays that "if the Emperor were prancing again down the Champs Elysées, we might not be found among the shouting crowd."

∴

Mr. Frank A. Mumby, in "The Youth of Henry VIII." and other volumes, showed how fascinating history may be made when skilfully combined with biography and letters. Out of a mass of material he has pieced together in "George III. and the American Revolution. The Beginnings" (Constable, 21s.) a story which is told with such drama and conviction that the reader almost feels that he is a witness of contemporary events.

∴

Among the many compliments which have been paid to Sir Hall Caine in the course of his life, there is one on which he always looks back with a pardonable and romantic pride. As a very young man he was invited to a party, the guests at which included many of the most prominent literary men and women of the day. To use his own words, he was "sitting quietly and shyly in an obscure corner," when the door opened and Lord Houghton was announced. As he entered, the famous patron of letters happened to catch sight of the future author of "The Deemster," and disregarding the numerous friends who had risen to welcome him, walked across the room to where Hall Caine was sitting. "My young friend," he said, "I don't know what your name is, but you are the very image of the poet Keats!"

LOCKE FALLS OFF

By Achilles.

"Moordius & Co." is one and the same book as "The Lengthened Shadow," the former being the title of the latest novel of Locke in Great Britain, the latter in America. It is very confusing that a book should have two titles—doubtless a distinction with a commercial difference. Another example is the latest work by John Paris, author of the somewhat undeservedly popular "Kimono." His new novel has been advertised in some places as "Chopsticks and Rice," in others as "Sayonara."

"Moordius & Co." is a very non-committal title. There are many who will naturally like the book, and as they have started off to read it prejudiced in Locke's favour, will think it quite up to the high standard they expect from him. It is, nevertheless, an annoying book from some points of view. We feel that Locke is too complacent on some of the pages; we positively loathe the poser Moordius, who is even by the author admitted to be a "bad egg," despite everything he says in favour of this rascal; and there is a stupid use of French of the kindergarten kind, or, what is worse, of a banal sort, which is irksome, and also of easy Latin; this sort of thing: *la pome forte et dure, fons et origo*, a *sic transit* smile, *jeune fille bien élevée*, and *fait accompli*. It is perfectly all right to break into little variations like this, but is there any good reason why more direct phrasing could not be employed? The chief argument in favour of this linguistic trickery is that poetically, or by conveying an exacter meaning, it is a vindication of itself. "Origin" instead of "*fons et origo*," and an accomplished fact for "*Fait accompli*" are however, surely as good.

"Is it not very *triste* dining alone?" enquires Moordius. Comment on this is superfluous, but it is hard to resist the temptation to say in this connexion that absurd remarks like "I have lost my *argent*," or "My *chi tan* (eggs," in Chinese) were not to my liking this morning," are equally justified, even if it is generally accepted that "*triste*" is in the nature of an idiomatic synonym commonly permissible in the sense used. One feels, nevertheless, that Dr. Johnson, if he were a contemporary of Locke to-day, would say: "No, sir: I cannot support you in this practice." A "*sic transit*" smile sounds quite funny!

The character Timothy does not belie his name. Locke is fond of telling us that "Timothy did not know what on earth they were talking about." Suzanne and Moordius are discussing music, and have mentioned Meilhac and Offenbach. Timothy is not to be blamed or even pitied for not understanding, any more than is W. J. Locke to be laughed at for the natural ignorance he must have regarding many simple Chinese subjects. "The world is so full of a number of things" that we cannot possibly embrace half of them.

But Locke must be commended for this excellent statement he puts in the mouth of Moordius: That love is not the only romance, that just as there is the romance of love, so is there the romance of business, of ambition, of benevolence, of revenge. And as a Celestial friend of mine likes to add to this: Also the romance of truth. Philosophy and speculation may not sound romantic. They can be, nevertheless, as some of us knew.

Still, one cannot compliment Locke on the net result of his most recent labours. Wells may have deteriorated with his "Mr. Britling Sees it Through," as some people think. It is to be hoped others will not find that Locke degenerates with "Moordius & Co." This certainly is not the Locke of "Marcus Ordeyne" memories; not even the Locke of the "Usurper," and how far removed from the Locke of that adorable master piece, "The Beloved Vagabond!"

GERMANY'S REVENGE ON THE WORLD

The Present State of Germany. By J. H. Morgan. University of London Press.

This little book is a reprint of a lecture, with an introduction added, delivered at the London University last November by Brig-Gen. J. H. Morgan. who served for four years on the Inter-Allied Military Commission of Control in unoccupied Germany after the War. It is a compact survey of the political, economic and social conditions of present day Germany most interestingly and instructively presented by a trained observer who had unique opportunities of gaining his information at first hand all over the country and from the best possible sources. He attempts, as he says, to diagnose the maladies of a body politic by methods of clinical observation and experiment, and he undoubtedly succeeds in putting forward facts and opinions which are well worth the consideration of each one of us who takes any thought for the future. He endeavours to trace the steps by which the German national consciousness has reached the conviction that the Allies have sought and still seek her ruin. He attributes this conviction mainly to the Treaty which saddled Germany with unliquidated damages for a generation and more and to the economic exploitation of the Ruhr by the French; and he shows how the militarist and monarchist party, humbled as it was by the revolution which brought the republic into being, is now doing all it can to encourage and exploit popular feeling for its own ends.

The instrument of this policy has been currency inflation, one result of which — the ruin of thousands of their countrymen—is regarded with callous indifference by those responsible. Just as the people were made "cannon-fodder" during the war, so now they are "mark-fodder" during the period of reconstruction; and in both cases the sacrifice has been equally deliberate. Political convulsions produce new forms of national government but they do not change the character of a nation: under the republic there is the same ruthless disregard for the individual as there was under the monarchy; the same cynical belief that the end justifies the means.

TRADITION STRONGER THAN TREATIES.

The principal business with which the author had to do during his four years in Germany was disarmament; and his observations in regard to this phase of the Commission's activities are specially valuable. He points out what many of us fail to realize, namely, that the effective disarmament of a nation with a strong military tradition is a practical impossibility. Four years' experience have convinced him that you cannot hope, by anything short of military occupation of the whole country, to limit the military effectives of such a nation unless you carry the opinion of the people with you. After great efforts the Commission secured the abolition of conscription. They destroyed 35,000 big guns and some millions of rifles. They demolished fortresses and blew up powder factories. They dismantled Krupps'. They forced compliance with clause after clause of a covenanted treaty designed to crush the military spirit. And at the end of it all they find—what? The old Corps of German Officers —under another name, of course —the strongest caste in the world and the most proud, even down to its old regimental messes and its courts of honour: the cadre of N.C.Os: the regimental associations, numbering millions of men, organized on a mobilization basis and affiliated to the Treaty Army: bands of students all over the country marching in military formation: highly articulated secret or semi-secret societies which are one of the most disquieting features in Germany to-day. But with all their destruction and the lack of effective results obtained from it, there were three things the Allied Commission never succeeded in destroying, nor could destroy—men, industry, science. You cannot destroy men in times of peace. You cannot destroy science. And in these days, when war has become so technical; when every large workshop is a potential arsenal; every laboratory, every manufacturing plant a potential source of war material, can you destroy the industry of a nation that is an essential part of its armament for war? You cannot, of course; and so you cannot bring about its effective disarmament, for no nation is "disarmed" if it still retains its men, its science and its industry.

BACK TO BERNHARDI.

And so, the author thinks, while it may not be necessary for us to sympathize with Germany, it is of supreme importance that we should understand her. The sands are running out and every day makes her reconversion to the gospel of force more certain. For urging his plea of moderation the author makes no apology: he is naturally very far from being what is called "pro-German," but he speaks from a ripe experience which few others have had. In full sympathy with the difficulties of the French, he cannot agree with the view held by some of them that a state of anarchy in Germany will secure the peace of France or of Europe. He thinks that if the conditions imposed by the Allies are so harsh and unconscionable that Germany cannot fulfil them, it is idle to expect that any Government attempting to carry them out will remain long in power. In that case the new republic is doomed and the advent of an undisguised dictatorship, accompanied perhaps by a total repudiation of the Treaty, will not long be delayed. In the continuance of constitutional government in Germany, he thinks, lies almost the only hope of peace in Europe. But at the moment he sees Germany, like the captive giant in the Temple of Gaza of old, driven to desperation, putting forth her hands in agony to grasp the pillars on which European civilization rests, determined to drag all Europe down with her into the abyss. "Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just;" and when a great nation is animated like one man, with a common feeling that it has been grievously wronged and that its quarrel with the world is just, then the author sees in that nation one that may take captivity captive and, bursting the fetters which bind it, sweep all before it in the assertion of its right to live. Peace cannot be assured by treaty: nothing but a change of heart in the sons of men can achieve it. Material disarmament can never be certain or complete until moral disarmament has made it unnecessary; and it is, it would seem, principally in order to drive home this all-important, this vital fact, that this little book has been published. It is one cordially to be commended to thinking men of all nations: one which few can read without much profit to themselves.

A.H.J.

THE CHINESE ST. PAUL

Prof. Giles' Translation of Fa hsien's Historic Record

"The Travels of Fa-hsien." (399-414 A.D.). Re-translated by H. A. Giles, M.A., Cambridge University Press. 5/- net. Shanghai, Kelly & Walsh Ld.

The alternative title is "Record of the Buddhistic Kingdoms." The work has been translated several times and once before indeed by Professor Giles (in 1877). It is evidently a record which has a great appeal for him, as it must have for all students of Buddhism and of China. The present translation has attempted to correct all the errors of the former ones and, with experience of the painstaking work of Professor Giles, one cannot doubt that as a translation is as nearly perfect as an English record may be. There is a map at the end of the book which clearly shows the course of the "stupendous journey" of Fa-hsien and his friends. The object of the journey and its intended scope is shown in the first paragraph of the Record:—

"Formerly, when Fa-hsien was at Ch'ang-an, he was distressed by the imperfect state of the Buddhist Disciples; and accordingly in the second year of the period *Hung shih*, the *chi-hai* year of the cycle (A. D. 399), he entered into an agreement with Hai-ching, Pao-cheng, Hui-ying, Hui-wei and others to go together to India and try to obtain these Rules."

Their tremendous journey by land and sea is recorded in simple language, a journey which, as Giles says in his short introduction, was "a supremely dangerous expedition, in the glow of which the journeys of St. Paul melt into insignificance."

"For Fa-hsien, the hero of this adventure and the records of his own travels, practically walked from Central China across the desert of Gobi, over the Hindu Kush, and through India down to the mouth of the Hoogly, where he took ship and returned by sea, after manifold hair-breadth escapes, to China, bringing with him what he went forth to secure—books of the Buddhist Canon and images of Buddhist deities."

The fascination that has led Giles to re-translate the work is very easily understood. It is an enthralling record.

J.L.

A NOVEL OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

"Wine of Fury." By Leigh Rogers. (Grant Richards. 7s. 6d.)

Walking through the streets of Paris, one sometimes sees that the French, admirable window-dressers though they are, can make an odd mistake. In the middle of a window of astonishingly life-like artificial flowers they put a pot of cyclamen or a blossoming azalea. The softness and freshness of the living beauty make the clever imitations seem stiff and unnatural. Something rather like that happens in Mr. Rogers's novel about Russia, "Wine of Fury." Among the invented characters, David Rand the American banker, Naritza the dancer, Rodkin the spy, and Natalie the war-worker, two created characters, warm, living, touching and beautiful, appear. Foma Ivanovitch, the peasant soldier and unconscious revolutionary, Masha, his love, and their simple story makes the others, with their plots and intrigues, seem unreal. This would be a very serious fault if Mr. Rogers had not taken for his real hero that strange, formless, changing terror, the Russian Revolution. The stiffness of David and the others rather helps to make them symbols of the Russian and the American spirit, like the masks worn by the actors in Greek tragedy—the Revolution is like the Greek idea of Fate.

To have made the Revolution live is no small feat for a first novel. Mr. Rogers gives us scene after scene from the Petrograd streets which show admirably the changes caused by the Revolution and its ever-increasing effect. Some of the pictures of the dreadful, futile street-fighting will bear comparison with Stephen Crane's.

David Rand is the most damaging portrait of the American business man yet given us, even by his young fellow-countrymen. Babbitt is a hero beside him. He has great energy and common business honesty, but his lack of humour and imagination is so complete that he is able to break his word to the woman he loves, betray his assistant to the police, refuse a great opportunity to help the Russian people, and finally to abandon his beloved in Russia, and still think of himself as a fine fellow doing his duty and making the proper sacrifices to the great American idol, Business Success.

CHINA Journal of Science & Arts, edited by Mr. A. de C. Sowerby and Dr. J. C. Ferguson, is a bi-monthly, profusely illustrated magazine. It contains authentic articles written by experts on the Arts, Literature and Science of China. The annual subscription is $10.00 Shanghai currency, or $6.00 gold for U.S.A. and Canada. Office:—Room 102, the Ben Building, Shanghai. Central 3247.

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

SHANGHAI MOTHER GOOSE

By Elizabeth Pepys.

SHAMING YOUTH.

There was a little girl
Whose head was in a whirl.
A wrinkle in the middle of her forehead.
Said she: "This year
It's stylish to be queer;
And if you are good, it is horrid!"

PAST TIME.

Hickory, Dickory, Dock
They'll move the old Customs Clock
It makes us blue,
What shall we do
Without that convenient, kind Clock?

ACCURACY FIRST.

There was an Old Lady who lived on the Bund.
Of information she published a fund,
Correspondence, cartoons, too, and all realize
That she's the Old Lady who never told lies.

TO THE TOURIST.

Globe-trotter, Globe-trotter, where have you been?
I've been all over, the whole world I've seen.
Globe-trotter, Glober-trotter, was it worth while?
Bored me most awfully; but then, it's the style!

DREAM LORE.

Eeny, Meeny, Frenzied Freud
Calls your dreams, "sex, unalloyed."
If you show you are annoyed,
That just proves the truth of Freud.

PROHIBITION'S AGENTS.

Shanghai Simon met a dry man—
This was in the States—
Said the dry man to Shanghai Simon,
"Got whiskey at good rates?"
"Lots," said Simon, "but it's high, man,
Come through with the 'kale.'"
But the dry man, hateful spy man!
Clapped him into jail.

FOOLS: APRIL AND OTHERWISE

"Fools are my Theme."—Byron

By Elizabeth Pepys.

Since most of us may enrol with the "twenty-seven millions, mostly fools," of whom Carlyle wrote it is but natural that there should be a predilection towards foolery in the world. We may none of us fancy being "writ down an ass," but ever since school and college days, when to be assigned to the ranks of the studious as a "swat" or a "grind" was direst ignominy, we have side-stepped the imputation of unco wisdom or highbrowism, feeling with Selden that "no man is the wiser for his learning."

Fools and children are reputed to speak the truth, but that could hardly acount for the popularity of the simpleton. It may be that the buffoon gains the esteem of others because he adds to their superiority complex, it being a pleasing pastime to look down on those around one, but on the whole it is more likely to be a feeling of being among one's peers, those who because of some harebrained action of their own to-day will not too harshly judge one's own potential lapses of to-morrow.

Then too, we approve the practice of foolery as being in the long run the truest wisdom, and when we assume the cap and bells, sustain ourselves with quotations of "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," relaxing the bow, nodding Jove-like and the rest of it. Inspired foolery we all recognize as the height of humour, and who would own that he cannot understand or take a joke. Kipling has fittingly commemorated the "way-side jape," and Darwin declared "I love fools' experiments. I am always making them."

HEAVENLY FOOLS.

But dearest of all to us are those "fools by heavenly compulsion" who fly straight in the face of reason and fling away every practical consideration. We all know those honest fools who refuse to enrich themselves at the expense of others, even when it might be done quite safely. There are the altruistic fools who will not accept happiness while others are miserable, the clear-visioned fools who will not take the sham for the reality.

There are the fools who sacrifice everything for an ideal or a whimsy. How derided Columbus must have been! What preposterous idiot first advanced the theory that the world was round or that the earth moved round the sun? For the fools of all the ages, who have refused to believe the sensible, to act practically, to accept the comfortable, but have gone on estranging the world, wounding themselves, faithful only to the spark of divine foolishness which urged them forward, we are grateful and say reverently: "The fools, God bless them!"

THE VERSATILE SCARF

Ubiquitous and Uniformly Useful

"What ho," cried the efficient Shanghai girl, "worrying about clothes? Not a bit of it. My simple and saving inspiration is to rip off my belts and tie on some scarves in unexpected places and call it a wardrobe!"

Alas that spring outfitting is not as simple as that but much, very much may be done with the aid of printed silks, chiffons, woollens, or ribbons. As "Vogue" says:

"A gay wisp of nothing—that's a scarf. A thick, bundling length of soft wool—that's a scarf, too. And, between the wisp of nothing and the length of wool, Paris has taken all the silks of China, all the magic patterns of the loom, any—every—fabric that has struck her vagrant fancy, and we call them all scarves.

Scarcely ever has the scarf been long absent from the mode. Lovely ladies have worn them, in one version or another, languidly draped about their shoulders for almost as long as lovely ladies have existed. And why not? Nothing, unless it is the fan, is more truly feminine, more gracious, more exquisitely a part of the poise that is so essential a part of sophisticated elegance than the versatile scarf.

For a few years, to be sure, it was in darkest, deepest oblivion. Paris would have none of it. Then one day, or perhaps, one evening it reappeared, and, since then, it has once again assumed a definite, important place in the mode."

You may have a separate scarf which may be worn in various ways with different costumes, or one which is detached, and yet a part of one particular ensemble and again one which is an integral part of the dress. The dress-scarf traces its pedigree to Vionnet's fashion of finishing a frock with long ends tied carelessly across the shoulders, a variation of the bateau neck which has gone far.

Beginning with coats the scarf collar, drawn about the neck or flung carelessly back in cape style is capable of infinite variation, and the scarf tie to match the hat is a favourite spring device, and has been effectively used by Shanghai modistes. The sports scarf, bright bordered or vivid throughout, is effective, particularly with white frocks. It may be draped to suit its wearer or the necessities of the moment and is practical as well as distinctly ornate. Outlining the neck, with a bow on the shoulder and long floating ends, tight about the throat with an end on either shoulder, crossed in front and thrown back, fastened with some brilliant shoulder ornament or gardenia—its addition makes a new costume.

A RENOVATOR.

The resourceful Shanghai damsel quoted above has made over several evening gowns with the aid of some chiffon and georgette and her own clever fingers. For one she took a length and a half of wide georgette, letting it flare in a circular flounce at both ends, but leaving it a straight, plain panel from girdle to the square decolletage of the gown over which it was draped. Slashed at the throat to admit the head it flared out again in a cape effect falling to the waist line in back, and giving an entirely new effect to the dress. It should fall below the hem of the dress in front so as to give the floating effect so desired in ball rooms this season. A long plain scarf of a cleverly contrasting colour may be used in many ways, or a straight long piece perhaps 18 inches wide may be tacked to the top of the square decolletage or stretched from shoulder strap to strap with the ends floating free.

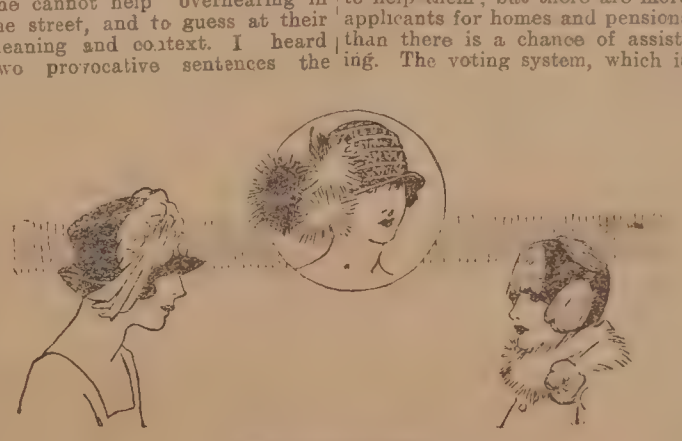
More elaborate arrangements suggested are to draw a narrow end of a scarf across one shoulder and let a wider length hang in a panel down one side, falling over the arm and attached at the hip. Or again, an afternoon dress may have a pleated front section added and a scarf trimmed with pleating at the back and ends may be knotted round the shoulders. A long scarf slit half-way up its length, tied at the throat, with the rest hanging in a cape-back effect alters the line of a frock, too.

E. P.

THE ELDERLY WOMAN

What Can She Do?

It has always amused me to notice the scraps of conversation one cannot help overhearing in the street, and to guess at their meaning and context. I heard two provocative sentences the other day. "She is sixty." "Oh! A bit on the old side."



EARLY SPRING HATS

I passed on, having decided to what they were referring. Of course they may have been discussing some lady of sixty who was "a bit on the old side" to undertake a walking tour from Land's End to John o' Groats, or to marry a young man in his twenties, or even to wear a white muslin frock. I could not possibly know. But I thought the most likely, the most obvious, explanation was that "she" was being recommended for some post by the one talker and dismissed as "a bit on the old side" by the other.

THE PROBLEM.

It set me thinking. Probably the one speaker was true enough. A younger person might have been better for the work she was considering; but oh, how it suggested the tragedy of dozens of lives in the present day! It is a tragedy which modern civilisation and modern philanthropy seem totally incapable of tackling satisfactorily. What are the older women to do in these days, when every post is given, if possible, to the young?

Short of deciding to pole-axe every woman of sixty who is not possessed of an ablebodied husband or a private income, I often wonder how we can solve the problem.

TRYING TO LOOK YOUNG.

I remember one brave little elderly lady, lacking any particular personal vanity, who regularly dyed her hair "because I should never get any work if they saw how grey I was." Hundreds of others have "official ages," and tremble for fear the real number of years they have lived in this often cruel world should be discovered by their possible employers.

WORK, NOT CHARITY.

Splendid efforts are being made to cope with the difficulty, but the most courageous helpers own themselves daunted by the impossibility of getting work for the average woman on the "shady side of fifty." The woman—and especially the educated woman—who has got any grit or pride in her composition wants "work, not charity," so long as she can drag her tired body about or force her weary brain to answer to her will-power.

It was for such a fine specimen of British womanhood that I sought help a few months ago. "She doesn't want money, she wants help to earn it," I explained to a sympathetic lady.

"But we so seldom have any openings for women over sixty." I recounted the number of languages she wrote and spoke fluently—I think there were eight—the work she had done in the past, her very considerable knowledge and attainments in many directions. "I know, it does seem hard, but her age is against her."

ADEQUATE PENSIONS.

Until the State can provide really adequate pensions for women of sixty—and we seem a long way off the probability of such an advantage—what is to be done? The world nowadays is for the young, the gloriously, splendidly young. Cannot there be a corner for the older people?

YOUTH AND AGE.

Youth is a wonderfully vital force; but are we not in danger of forgetting that age has a few advantages—wisdom, experience, and a keener sense of balance?

And the elderly women who are struggling now—what of them? Numerous excellent societies exist to help them; but there are more applicants for homes and pensions than there is a chance of assisting. The voting system, which is so largely employed, often means such long delay that death steps in before the goal is attained. I write from experience. The attempt to get help for elderly women, even in this charitable century, is absolutely heart-breaking.

FLORENCE PLAYER.

HIDDEN HUSBANDS

Indication of Suppression of Man Himself

Once upon a time, the unmarried female, the spinster Miss of any household, felt her maiden name to be no particular title of dignity—quite the contrary, in fact—and would accept the addresses of the first eligible man countenanced by her family rather than face a future in which she never wrote herself down "Mrs." As a middle-aged woman, she might even triffe with the temptation of pretending to such a title if she found herself in surroundings where its assumption carried weight. As a bride, she bore the name of her husband like a precious possession, proudly and tenderly. Most certainly, it would never have occurred to her that she lost distinction by so doing.

But to-day, among ladies both socially and professionally occupied, one often comes upon instances of the unused or the repudiated married cognomen, and, possibly, one is going to come upon them oftener. Bright stars in any artistic firmament are to be pardoned for publicly holding to appellations which they have made famous or otherwise. In the business world, brilliant heads of many departments, continue, quite uncriticized, to hold their under which they originally took them. But the fine lights of the Domestic Hearth—that sacred spot—seem less understandable when they decide to crash through the lanterns of their husband's patronymics. And crash they do, here and there, so that no man knows when splintered glass may be about to fall upon his cringing crest.

THE MAN'S REACTION.

Sometimes, of course, he does not cringe; he smiles, or he shrugs his shoulders, or he gallantly appears to admire his mate's spirit. Honestly and truly, does he like it? One wonders, in spite of the fact that some of the husbands of the most spirited have declared that they do and have defended the idea in its entirety. Others feel, reasonably enough from the great American trade point of view, that if their lady-wives make better going of it in business hours as Miss than as Mrs., they had better make it. Provided it is really Mrs. Placid who returns to her pleasant house, what, says Mr. Placid, need he care that, by her earlier designation of Miss Tempest, she has been stirring the office atmosphere into proper activity all day long? Not half-a-dozen perons who meet her professionally know of Mr. Placid's existence, but Mrs. Placid probably cherishes her married name all the more that she puts it on with her hat to go home. It is the woman who makes the leaving off of it a challenge, who has come to regard her single title as a banner worth flaunting just because it is hers, for whom we have, as yet, very little sympathy.

Lively uneasiness is occasioned in the breasts of passport officials (never the most trustful of mortals) when requested to furnish papers for ladies and gentlemen purporting to be married, yet travelling under separate names: and the feelings of steamship clerks (notoriously modest men) are harrowed by demands for staterooms where their emancipated occupants announce themselves to be Miss and Mister. Does any normal man look any other normal man in the eye and not feel like a fool when he has to say, "Yes, this *is* my wife, even though she does call herself Miss Carnivora Fandango or Miss Jane Anne Smith?" Of course, he doesn't. And he must suffer the torments of the derided, which are, if anything, worse than those of the damned, when attempting to register at a decent hotel.

"TORMENTS OF THE DERIDED."

For the three classes who put up with it—those who bow and bear, those who are too sophisticated to care, and those whose attitude of intellectual admiration seems a little ahead of the occasion—, there must be three times three who regard it as poppycock! They know that real individuality does not need to depend upon idiosyncrasies for notice in the world, that true freedom is not so concerned with wearing the red cap of liberty on its head as with thinking clearly and acting frankly beneath it, and that the ordinary young woman who is savagely determined to be known by the signature in her book instead of the family name of her children is, at the moment, just a trifle ridiculous in a country where family names are customary.

Perhaps, this will not long be so. The idea of wedlock is getting to be more and more the idea of a partnership of two entities continuing to be two entities, not the union of two halves to make a domestic whole. It may be for the best. It may be logically wiser to do away with the old notion altogether and adopt a new one in character with the ardent self-expression of modernity and its married maidens. Family-founding, as such, is no longer the ostensible end and aim of matrimony. If, then, the family is not to be the unit and the individual is, why bother about the family name? Why should not children be called after whichever is the important parent? And if this is, as it seems about to be, the mother, why mention the father at all? Why should he ever assume responsibility without authority? Let husbands remain hidden; it may very well prove their safest course. Let them remain hidden and be thankful that wives do not adopt the practice of the Praying Mantis and put an end to them altogether before their ancient spirit returns to them in all its ancient strength.

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

Per H.A.L.S. Haverland Apr. 5
Per O.S.K.S. Alabama Maru „ 6
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia „ 7
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jefferson „ 7
Per N.Y.K.S. Iyo Maru ... „ 8

OUTWARD

For Marseilles, London, etc. –
Per N.Y.K.S. Haruna Maru Apr. 5
Per B.F.S. Glaucus ... .. „ 9
Per M.M.S. Amazone ... ... „ 10
Per L.T.S. Frume L. ... ... „ 11

For Japan, Canada, U.S.A. & Europe :
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Russia Apr. 5
Per N.Y.K.S. Kaga Maru „ 6
Per T.K.K.S. Korea Maru „ 11
Per P.M.S. President Lincoln „ 11
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jackson „ 12
Per O.S.K.S. Alabama Maru „ 17

For Manila, Australia and New Zealand via Hongkong :—
Per N.Y.K.S. Haruna Maru Apr. 5
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia „ 7
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jefferson „ 8

PASSENGERS

INWARD

Per N.Y.K.S. Katori Maru, March 28. From London.—Mrs. D. J. Ed[illegible] and five children, Mrs. D. F. Weston and two children, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Nowell, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Harris and child, Mrs. M. Munter, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Harris, Mr. W. S. O'Neill, Miss J. R. Goldman, Mr. K. Yebara, Miss M. U. Shields, Mr. F. M. Hood, Mrs. A. S. Parendtezen and child, Mr. L. G. Lamport, Mr. and Mrs. A. Riley and three children, Mr. G. Kennedy, Mr. H. R. Harling, Mr. R. S. Moore, Mr. M. Shinohara, Mr. T. Nishiyama, Miss S. M. Potterton, Mrs. T. A. Hamyn, Miss F. I. Fowle, Miss M. E. Clayton, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Lewis and child, Mr. and Mrs. Vanderborght and child, Miss E. Junod, Mr. J. Rees.

Per str. Hsinchi, March 28. From Ichchow.—Mr. A. Hetherington, Mrs. [illegible], Mr. Gowdy, Mr. [illegible].

Per str. Pakhoi, March 30. From Hongkong.—Bishop Scott.

Per str. Kingsing, March 29. From Chefoo.—Rev. C. E. Patton.

Per str. Tuckwo, March 30. From River Ports.—Mrs. W. C. Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. F. Borgmann, Messrs. G. R. [illegible], N. F. [illegible], S. Cato, Mr. and Mrs. T. Isbell, Mrs. O'Brien Butler.

Per str. Kiangyang, March 31. From River Ports.—Mr. R. Scheibler.

Per str. Whangpu, March 31. From River Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. Rawlinson.

Per str. Fengtien, March 31. From Tientsin.—Messrs. A. Parkhill, L. Gresab, Bennet, Mr. and Mrs. Adlington and child, Mr. and Mrs. Murphy and child. From Chefoo.—Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Gillingham. From Weihaiwei.—Mr. H. P. Wilkinson.

Per str. Kutwo, April 2. From River Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Bartlett.

Per str. Tatung, April 2. From River Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard and Mr. Deas.

Per str. Kiangan, April 2. From River Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. Emeloff and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Arnoux, Messrs. P. Peterson, F. N. Divers, Messrs. Brown and Search.

Per str. Nanking, April 3. From River Ports.—Mr. F. Sennett.

Per str. Loongwo, April 3. From River Ports.—Master and Mrs. S. A. Vincent, Messrs. Schlenter, R. H. Bataza, L. Warren, J. H. Vogel, Miss M. Cornaby.

Per str. Sansing April 3. From Canton and Hongkong.—Mrs. A. C. Young, Bishop Banister, Rev. S. H. Littell, Rev. C. M. McDowall, Messrs. K. Amakai, Kishiyama.

Per str. Shuntien, April 3. From Tientsin.—Mrs. A. J. Heal, Mr. and Mrs. Martinek. From Chefoo.—Misses M. Polhill, V. Polhill, Messrs. N. T. Jeanes, A. Rouse. From Weihaiwei.—Miss M. C. Cooper.

OUTWARD

Per str. Wuchang, March 28.—For Chinkiang.—Mr. A. Leung.

Per str. Shantung, March 29.—For Tsingtao.—Mr. Gross, Mr. W. A. Adams.

Per str. Sinkiang, March 29.—For Hongkong.—Mr. J. B. Hongren, Mr. J. C. Wright, Mr. A. A. Krynoff.

Per str. Tungchow, March 29.—For Chefoo.—Mr. and Mrs. L. Kovalsko. For Tientsin.—Mrs. Stuck and two children, Mrs. A. M. Forrest and child.

Per str. Poyang, March 29.—For River Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Bowen, Misses James, French, Messrs. Cazals, Mowat, Messrs. Cameron, Turner, Messrs. Allen, Power, Mr. and Mrs. C. Thorne, Miss A. Rothwell, M. and Mrs. Mackinnon, M. and Mrs. Amoreck, Messrs. Gratton, E. Hall, R. B. Sandner, G. W. Sheppard, J. L. Cafferata.

Per str. Nanning, March 30.—For Swatow.—M. L. H. Hemet.

Per str. Wenchao, March 31.—For River Ports.—Mr. D. H. Bunker.

Per str. Ichang, April 1.—For Canton.—Mr. J. W. Bassett.

Per str. Luenyi, April 1.—For River Ports.—Miss A. Leary, Mrs. Ginter and child, Mrs. M. Faure, Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Langhland and child, Mrs. W. L. P. Cook, Miss Cook.

Per P. & O. S. Khyber, April 1.—For London.—Mr. and Mrs. N. Denison, Master Denison, Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Walter, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. G. Tweedhe, Mr. L. Fernie, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Bowes-Smith and child, Miss M. D. Bowes-Smith, Mr. C. M. Billings, Mrs. K. W. Tribe and child, Mr. E. Thornton, Lt. Sandie, Mr. A. James, Cpl. Hodgson, Messrs. S. H. Peck, W. J. Hutton, G. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. W. N. C. Allen, Messrs. A. E. Seddon, C. W. Mumford, R. A. Gowen. For Marseilles.—Messrs. A. G. A. Jamieson, P. L. Hutchinson. For Singapore.—Mrs. T. Jones, Messrs. D. L. Cameron, J. Hodge, G. W. Petre, L. G. Lamport, W. G. Ball. For Hongkong.—Lady Stubbs, Miss Addis, Mr. T. J. E. St. Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Perry, Mr. A. Baxter, Mrs. C. D. and Master K. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. B. I. Graves, Lady Hotung, Miss J. Hotung, Mr. S. J. Bum, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Rawlinson, Messrs. A. H. Ginman, H. W. Kingdon, H. J. R. Edmonds, S. M. Bhesania, R. S. Newawalla, J. T. Williams, T. Nishiyama, L. A. Blok, J. H. Underwood, Captain J. S. Mann, Messrs. J. C. Horner, I. B. Henfrey, T. T. Carter, S. Biggain, W. Williams, C. J. Pitts, J. C. Wright, R. S. Chuddley, A. R. Autao, F. J. Nock, A. Aziz, I. A. Fernandes, R. W. Skinner, P. Troller and N. Westwood.

Per str. Fengtien, April 2.—For Chefoo.—Miss T. Severin.

Per str. Wahsien, April 3.—For Ichang.—Mr. F. La Grande.

Per str. Changchow, April 3.—For Canton.—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Samples, Miss Samples.

Per str. Tatung, April 3.—For River Ports.—Bishop Banister, Messrs. Storey and Ibotson.

Per str. Chengtu, April 4.—For Antung.—Mr. and Mrs. Chipperfield, Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard.

BIRTHS

HOWES.—On March 29, 1924, at Dr. Fearn's Sanatorium, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Marvin Howes, a son, Lawrence Marvin.

LIDDELL.—On March 31, 1924, at 273 Avenue Haig, Shanghai, the wife of P.W.O. Liddell, of a daughter.

LOVELL.—On March 29, 1924, at Nanking, to Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lovell, a daughter.

MARTIN.—On March 29, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Martin (née Florence C. Thompson), a daughter.

MEAD.—On March 30, 1924, at No. 6 Hu Pu Chieh, Peking, the wife of E. W. Mead, Central Salt Administration, of a son.

RATCLIFF.—On April 1, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. William F. Ratcliff, a son (William Alexander George).

MARRIAGES

DUMBARTON—TRUEMAN.—On March 29, 1924, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Very Rev. C. J. F. Symons, M.A., Nora, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Trueman, 547 Avenue Foch, Shanghai, to George Frederick, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Dumbarton, of Dulwich, England.

MACKINNON—SWEET. — On March 29, 1924, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral by the Very Rev. C. J. F. Symons, M.A., Norah, daughter of Mrs. F. Rayden, 25 Yu Yuen Road, Shanghai, to John MacDougall, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Mackinnon, Innellan, Argyllshire, Scotland.

MARTIN CAMACHO.—On April 4, 1924, at St. Joseph's Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Father Macdonald and afterwards at H.B.M. Consulate-General by Sidney Barton, Esq., C.M.G., Mary Erwin, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Anthony Camacho of New York, to Arthur John, second son of Mr. T. P. Martin, of Muswell Hill, London.

MITCHELL—HIGH.—On March 27, 1924, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral, by the Very Rev. C. J. F. Symons, M.A., Jean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. High, Arbroath, to Charles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, Arbroath, Scotland.

POCK—ARNOVICK.—On March 29, 1924, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, and afterwards at the Union Church, Mary Magdalena Pock, second daughter of Mrs. Maria Pock, of Riga, to George Arnovick, of London.

QUIN—PATERSON.—On April 2, 1924, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral by the Very Rev. C. J. F. Symons, M.A., Kathleen, daughter of the late Robert Paterson and Mrs. Noble, Rock Ferry, Cheshire, to James Quin, of Shanghai.

DEATHS

CHRISTIE.—On April 2, 1924, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, Elizabeth Auguste Wilhelmine (*née* Schneider), beloved wife of H. Christie, Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, and mother of Mrs. Bruce S. Jenkins, aged 54 years.

CLOUGH.—On March 29, 1924, at the China Inland Mission, Yangchow, Emma Sarah Clough, from heart failure following on pleurisy.

D'ALMEIDA.—On March 29, 1924, at 4 Yuenfong Road, Shanghai, Milly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. d'Almeida, aged 4¼ years.

JOSEPH.—On March 30, 1924, at Dr. Fearn's Sanitorium, Shanghai, Isaac Joseph. Hongkong and Japan papers please copy.

LAVINGTON.—On March 30, 1924, at 116 Avenue Road, Shanghai, John Henry Stuart, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Lavington, aged 9½ months. Funeral on Tuesday, April 1, at 5 p.m., at Bubbling Well Cemetery.

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SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer 9 A.M.	Wind Att'ed Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
Mar. 28	30.30	51.8	E	3	49.8	44.1	52.5	43.5	O.
„ 29	30.06	51.6	E	3	48.0	47.3	50.9	43.5	O. D. R.
„ 30	20.20	54.4	E N E	1	50.5	47.7	59.2	45.5	O.
„ 31	29.98	52.3	E	3	51.6	50.0	54.1	47.0	O. D.
April 1	29.62	53.6	S S E	2	57.4	54.8	62.8	50.9	O.
„ 2	29.77	54.1	N W	2	57.4	54.0	61.2	53.8	O.
„ 3	30.19	53.6	N	1	49.1	42.3	55.8	41.7	O. C.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Rainfall Inches 1923
Mar. 28	45.0	51.0	50.0	56.8	Trace	0.48
„ 29	44.2	47.0	50.0	62.0	0.79	Nil.
„ 30	46.0	46.8	55.0	61.5	0.01	Nil.
„ 31	46.0	45.0	55.0	62.0	0.03	Nil.
April 1	51.2	49.8	61.6	78.6	0.31	Nil.
„ 2	49.8	51.0	59.0	58.2	Nil.	Nil.
„ 3	43.6	47.0	53.6	55.0	Nil.	Nil.

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The new Governor of Kiaochou does not believe that the Treasury exists for the personal advantage of superfluous officials

147 OFFICIALS UPROOTED IN TSINGTAO BY NEW GOVERNOR

Kao En-hung's Drastic Reforms: No More Fat Jobs and No Work for Them: Dismay Among the Limpets and Tite Barnacles

Tsingtao, Apr. 1.

Mr. Kao En-hung, the new Tupan of Kiaochou Territory, received a royal welcome when his private car rolled into the Tsingtao depôt the other evening at the rear of the regular day express from Tsinan. Hundreds were at the station to greet him, including scores of school children, who waved flags and held aloft multi-coloured Chinese lanterns. They formed a lane through which the Governor smilingly walked. The police band also blared its welcome. Mr. A. G. Major, the British Consul, and many officials of the former administration also greeted the new Governor. A motor-car procession formed and proceeded to the Governor's residence, where a banquet was served.

Governor Kao was subsequently the guest of honour of the officials of the late régime of Governor Hsiung Ping-chi, about 50 occupying seats at the tables. Mr. Tsao Wen-wei, acting Tupan in the interim between the Hsiung and Kao administrations, was chairman of the affair. The Tupan voiced his pleasure in occupying his new post. He did not dwell on his plans, although indications pointed to a pretty general "shake-up" and all officials were somewhat anxious.

OFFICIALS BADLY SURPRISED.

On his first day in office to-day, Governor Kao shattered the peace and quiet of the long marble corridors of the Administration Building by wholesale ejections and new appointments. Many officials of the Hsiung Administration, lulled to a false sense of security by the misconception that friendship for the Shantung Tupan would avail them, were suddenly awakened to realities by the firm, but polite, announcement that their services would be no longer needed.

It was a decidedly exciting day in the yamên, quite the most interesting of its long existence under three flags.

Chief among the dismissed men were the 147 advisers and other officials of the Hsiung Administration. With the mere signature of his name to an order abolishing these places the new Tupan destroyed a pernicious system which last year cost Tsingtao more than $60,000 in salaries. The Governor took this drastic step not many minutes after his arrival at the yamên. It fairly took away the breath of the officials and attachés.

TRANSPORTATION CO. DISSOLVED.

Just previously he had dissolved the Kiaochou-Tsinan Transportation Company, acting as intermediary between the Harbour Department and wharf coolies. Local businessmen hailed this act with hearty approval. Harbour matters have been a thorn in the side of the native and foreign business communities. Governor Kao arrived at his desk promptly at eight o'clock, and five minutes later the Transportation Company, in which officials of the Harbour Department figured prominently, was a thing of the past.

"Why have a transportation company?" Governor Kao said to Reuter's correspondent. "Is not the Harbour Department qualified to handle its own coolies?"

Reports of the irregularities in the Harbour Department have been circulated frequently of late. The Tupan said that he had received scores of letters about the inefficiency of the Harbour Department, particularly with regard to handling cargo. He deposed the present head and appointed Mr. S. C. Yao in his place.

Other appointments announced this afternoon by Governor Kao to Reuter's correspondent are:

Director of the Waterworks, Mr. Chang Yang-fu; Director of the Telephone Department, Mr. K. Y. Yao; Director of the Finance Department, Mr. P. C. Hu.

ENERGETIC AND INDUSTRIOUS.

The new Governor appears to be energetic and industrious, and a man of quick and decisive action. His initial day at the helm of the territorial administration has left official circles fairly gasping.

He told Reuter's correspondent that he was determined to have efficiency and co-ordination in the conduct of affairs, no matter what the consequences.

"I intend," he said, "to see that the operations of the Finance Department are strictly supervised. I am going to see that all irregularities cease. There will be no occasion for the complaint that has arisen in the past. The saving to the revenue by the dismissal of the 147 advisers and other officials is no small one. The money can be used far better elsewhere. I am also going to see that our faithful employees are not compelled to wait for months for their wages. That practice has got to stop. Moreover, I intend to economize in many other ways. Of course, I am not well acquainted with general affairs yet, but I shall lose no time in acquainting myself with all that is going on."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SPRING THREATS OF WAR IN CHINA

Chen Chiung-ming Asking for Money to Withstand Dr. Sun Yat-sen

WU PEI-FU ANNOYED WITH HUNAN AND SHENSI

Peking, Apr. 3.

According to unofficial Chinese reports General Chen Chiung-ming has made an application to the Military Council at Peking for funds to carry on his campaign against Dr. Sun Yat-sen. It is stated that this message has been referred to Marshal Wu Pei-fu for his consideration.

In other directions "Spring" movements are also reported. In Hunan, General Chao Heng-ti's failure to cancel the autonomy of that province creates a situation unfavourable to Marshal Wu's plans. It is reported to-day that Marshal Wu will shortly send some of his Loyang troops to Hunan, and that if General Chao does not quickly make up his mind on which side his interests lie, he will be driven out of that province.

From Shensi it is reported that Tuli Liu Chen-hua has not carried out Marshal Wu's orders for him to hand over to a subordinate the command of the division of Chen-sungchun, which he has retained since being appointed Tuli, but has been recruiting at Tungkuan to fill up vacancies in the division. Marshal Wu's chief object in depriving all provincial rulers of their individual military commands is said to be that of making them more dependent upon the Central authority and placing them in a position in which they can be easily thrown out if they fail to obey orders.

Reports of serious troubles facing the Northern forces in Szechuan have recently been as insistent as the late rumours of the death of President Tsao. Yesterday it was reported again that the Szechuanese had been supplied with arms and ammunition and were gathering in great strength to recapture Chungking. Foreign reports from Szechuan, on the contrary, indicate that the Northern troops are steadily carrying on their subjugation of the Szechuanese, and that the latter are principally concerned in avoiding the invading troops. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, Apr. 4.

It is reported that Gen. Cheng Teh-sheng, who is the present head of the forces to be used against Canton, has arrived at Loyang from Tayuling (Kiangsi border) to report to Marshal Wu. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

TRADEMARK LAW

Legations Cannot Advise Acceptance: Treaty Rights Must Be Respected

Peking, Apr. 7.

The Diplomatic Body, replying to the Chinese Government's Note of March 20, in a Note presented on Saturday evening said that the Chinese Government's Note was not sufficient for the Diplomatic Corps to advise their Governments to recognize the Chinese trademark law and advise their respective nationals to register their trademarks with the new bureau.

The Diplomatic Body point out that whether or not their nationals register, in case of complaints these will have to be dealt with in accordance with the stipulations of the treaties concerning the settlement of diputes between Chinese and Treaty Power nationals.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

HOW PEKING RUINED ITS CHANCES WITH SOVIET RUSSIA

Dr. C. T. Wang's Triumph in Negotiations Over Karakhan: Cabinet Interference Which Gave Soviet Envoy Chance to Escape by Means of a Diplomatic Rudeness

From Rodney Gilbert

Peking, Apr. 4.

Every morning the local English language papers here come out with two or three column headlines making the portentous announcement that the Russo-Chinese negotiations are still deadlocked. Every day there is a new account published of the Cabinet dispute over the Wang-Karakhan agreement and new motives are daily assigned to the Cabinet ministers who opposed the endorsement of this document. Interest seems to be unflagging and no one tires of making wild guesses, but in spite of the interest displayed by all and sundry, there appears to be less hope from day to day of any sort of an agreement between Karakhan and the Cabinet which will not entail a great loss of face to one party or the other.

Those who share the writer's opinion that Mr. Karakhan sent in his ultimatum of March 16 because Moscow would not endorse the "general principles" that he and Dr. Wang had agreed upon see no hope of a resumption of relations unless a new Cabinet is formed with the express purpose of knuckling under and giving Russia unconditional recognition. Dr. C. T. Wang himself says that no theory can possibly account for the ultimatum, so-called, which Mr. Karakhan sent him two days after the initialling of the agreement, except that Moscow was displeased with the terms and ordered Mr. Karakhan to break off the agreement if possible. As he says, if he had not got very much more from Mr. Karakhan than the latter had intended to give, the Soviet Government would not only have been content to wait patiently for ratification but would have gone to no little pains to coax ratification from the Government no matter how long it took.

KARAKHAN'S ONLY ESCAPE.

Karakhan must have known that to force the issue could only culminate in forcing a breach, and all sensible observers are bound to assume that he deliberately forced a breach because Moscow felt that he had yielded too much. In other words, Dr. C. T. Wang registered a victory on tactics which was really brilliant but which the Cabinet threw to the winds by giving Karakhan time to get in his ultimatum.

The writer reported some days ago on what he thought was good authority that the principle difficulty in the Cabinet discussions was Mr. Wang Ko-ming's effort to protect the security of the 11th Year bond issue and the issue of treasury notes secured on the Russian Boxer Indemnity. It now transpires that this dispute played no part in the final feud which broke down the Wang-Karakhan agreement. Dr. C. T. Wang himself says that he settled this point definitely and to the complete satisfaction of Mr. Wang Ko-ming and the other members of the Cabinet. Mr. Karakhan recognized that it would be most embarrassing to undermine the security for these domestic loans and agreed that they be given a position among the claims upon the Russian Indemnity prior to the assignment of the indemnity to educational institutions. Mr. Wang Ko-ming, as Minister of Finance, therefore had no further ground for objecting to the preliminary agreement.

THE FRENCH INTERESTS.

From other Cabinet officials the writer has learned, however, that both Mr. Wang Ko-ming and Dr. Wellington Koo did raise the most strenuous objection to the agreement on their own famous "three points." While Dr. Koo has made a very strong case for himself in his latest note to Karakhan and has made the latter look like the petulant child which he probably is, this is only expert camouflage in the sight of the majority of the Cabinet members. Upon this Dr. C. T. Wang has refused flatly to comment, but various members of the secretariat say that it was obvious throughout all discussions of the Wang-Karakhan agreement that Mr. Wang Ko-ming's sole interest was the protection of French interests while Dr. Wellington Koo was concerned solely with the task of discrediting C. T. Wang so that he himself might carry on and complete the negotiations and thereby pave his way to the premiership.

This explanation of what happened is undoubtedly the one accepted by all the provincial militarists and accounts for the storm of telegrams which have been coming in supporting C. T. Wang, denouncing Wellington Koo and Wang Ko-ming and insisting upon the Government's endorsement of the Wang-Karakhan draft agreement. A few of the Chinese papers have been remarking lately that Wu Pei-fu and his satrap colleagues had cooled down a bit and were taking less interest in the subject. The writer learned yesterday from an official in close touch with the Presidential Palace that was not the case. Wu Pei-fu is wiring more frequently and in stronger terms than ever and the reason that we hear nothing of these wires is that they are so strong and so violent in tone that the President dares not give them out for publication.

DR. KOO'S FACE-SAVING.

Meanwhile it has developed that Dr. Wellington Koo's excellent note to Mr. Karakhan was a face-saving device. Dr. Koo, having got Dr. Wang out of the way, proposed to sign the Wang-Karakhan agreement after a few days of bogus negotiation. The representative of the ultra imperialistic Union of Socialist Soviet Republics took pleasure in reiterating his former statement that nothing short of unconditional recognition could reopen negotiations. It was therefore up to Dr. Koo to put the Russian in the wrong by making fresh demands upon him publicly which would make him look foolish and this Dr. Koo did in masterly style. It forces Karakhan to admit, by refusing to consider further proposals, that he was badly taken in by C. T. Wang, that his Government will not endorse his terms, and to announce that China has lost a splendid opportunity to take advantage of his simplicity and inexperience.

At the same time Dr. Koo is admitting publicly that having wrecked the Wang-Karakhan agreement so that he could sign it himself he cannot get it signed, which exposes him to the violent wrath of the militarists and seals his fate so far as Wu Pei-fu and Ch'i Hsieh-yuan are concerned.

Karakhan cannot now save himself. Neither can the Cabinet. The Russian envoy has received the most peremptory telegraphic orders from Moscow to carry on no negotiations whatever on the basis of his agreement with Dr. C. T. Wang. Wu Pei-fu insists with reiterated violence that Koo must get a document endorsed which Karakhan can no longer endorse. When it is clear that the Russian cannot sign the agreement which the Cabinet refused to ratify, what will be Wu Pei fu's attitude towards the Cabinet?

CHANG TSO-LIN EQUALLY ANGRY.

The Chinese papers have grasped the fact that an explosion is imminent. Mukden will be as angry as Loyang. Chi Hsieh-yuan is in complete sympathy with Wu Pei-fu in this, if in nothing else. The Chinese papers are therefore already guessing about the personnel of the next Cabinet. They say C. T. Wang will be Premier. Sun Tan-lin will again be Minister of the Interior. Pai Chien-wu, the famous Machiavelli of Wu Pei-fu's camp, will be Minister of Education, and so forth. The writer has got from Dr. C. T. Wang a flat denial that he has been offered or is contemplating the premiership. It is also reported in the Chinese papers that he is going away. He denies this rumour flatly. He says that his major ambition at the moment is to demonstrate his detachment from the whole squabble. He gives no interviews, makes no statements and deplores the fact that he has been kept busier with callers and telephone calls since the failure of his negotiations than before. He hopes to stay here in retirement and hopes for nothing else. In short he is "fed up," as anyone else who has done a good job and has seen his work shot to pieces would be.

In the sight of the Chinese militarists, the Wang-Karakhan agreement is something to be revived and endorsed. In Moscow's sight it is something to be buried and forgotten. Wellington Koo's fate and the fate of the Cabinet depend entirely upon having this agreement exhumed and revivified. The best judges of such things in Peking feel that this is out of the question. Floral offerings for Dr. Koo and his political colleagues are therefore in order.

Moscow Weary of China's Delays and Demands

Peking, April 6.

M. Karakhan has received a reply from Moscow regarding Dr. Wellington Koo's Note of April 1. It is understood that it amounts to refusal to accept the Chinese suggestions. M. Karakhan has not yet communicated with the Waichiaopu in that connexion and there is reason to believe that further communications are passing between M. Karakhan and Moscow.

Meanwhile, it is reported that M. Karakhan will visit Canton prior to returning to Moscow if the negotiations finally terminate but it seems likely that further efforts will be made before he acknowledges complete failure.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE LINCHENG OUTRAGE

Compensation Claims $363,301: Outstanding Eight Months: No Sign of Payment

Peking, Apr. 4.

The Diplomatic Corps last night forwarded to the Waichiaopu a written inquiry as to their claim to indemnity in connexion with the Lincheng outrage.

The estimates of the indemnity as laid down by the Diplomatic Corps in their Note dated August 10 of last year amount to $354,220, including sums from $143,639, which is demanded by the United States and is the maximum of all the amounts claimed by the six Powers whose nationals fell victims to the Lincheng outrage, down to $6,799, which is demanded by Denmark.—Eastern News Agency.

Official Figures of Claims

Peking, Apr. 7.

Reuter's Agency is informed that the previously published lists of the claims made by the Powers concerned in connexion with the Lincheng agreement are inaccurate, and has been requested to issue the following authoritative statement:—

United States of America.	
A.	$91,389.20
B.	52,250.00
Total	$143,639.20
Denmark.	
A.	$6,299.85
B.	500.00
Total	$6,799.85
France.	
A.	$14,147.20
B.	11,650.00
Total	$25,797.20
Great Britain.	
A.	$13,352.50
B.	52,700 00
Total	$66,052.50
Italy.	
A.	$99,769.17
B.	9,500.00
	$109,269.17
Mexico.	
A.	$4,543.50
B.	7,200.00
Total	$11,743.50
Total A.	$229,501.42
Total B.	133,800.00
Grand Total.	$363,301.42.

—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FRANCE'S WARNING TO PEKING SHE IS NOT TO BE IGNORED IN SINO-RUSSIAN NEGOTIATION

Her Claims to Be Consulted Over Disposal of Russian Concession at Hankow: Soviet News Agency's Indignation

Peking, Apr. 4.

Prefacing the publication of the Note from M. A. J. de Fleuriau, the French Minister, to the Waichiaopu regarding the Russian Concession at Hankow (the first report of which first appeared in the "Far Eastern Times"), the Rosta News Agency says, in connexion with the official denial by the Waichiaopu on March 29 regarding the French Note, that the Russian Mission states that the French Legation communicated the Note to M. Karakhan through the French Military Attaché. The Mission fully appreciates M. Fleuriau's personal courtesy, but it holds a different opinion with regard to this step of the French Legation. "There is no doubt that France, having sent a second Note regarding the relations between Russia and China, is endeavouring practically to obstruct a *rapprochement* between Russia and China."

The French Minister's Note says that he feels it a duty to invite the attention of the Chinese Government to the status of the Russian Concession at Hankow. The territory of this Concession was originally a part of the territory which the Chinese authorities in 1864 promised to France, but by virtue of the agreement between China, France and Russia in 1896 it was divided between the French and Russian Concessions. According to general usages, agreements thus entered upon cannot be modified without the consent of all the parties concerned. As early as October 8, 1920, the French Consul, on the strength of instructions received by his Legation, called the attention of the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs to the matter. The Commissioner of Foreign Affairs probably communicated with the Waichiaopu on the subject. The position of the Russian Concession at Hankow (continues the French Minister's Note) cannot be changed without the consent of the French Government. Therefore, beforehand, I make reservations regarding all stipulations affecting the territories of the Russian Concession at Hankow which would take place between China and Russia without the French Government being consulted.

Tht Waichiaopu's denial was given on the morning of April 2 and the "Far Eastern Times" publishes to-day a statement by the Secretary to the Waichiaopu to the effect that M. Fleuriau personally handed the above Note to the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs in the evening of April 2.

The "Far Eastern Times" comments caustically on "Governmental institutions issuing blanket denials without being aware of the facts of the case."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

RUSSIAN BANK AND C. E. RAILWAY

Waichiaopu's Reply to French Memorandum of Protes Against Change of Railway Management: Concurrence of Russian Bank Not Necessary:

Peking, Apr. 10.

The Waichiaopu, in reply to the French Minister's Memorandum of March 29, points out that China contributed Tls. 5,000,000 to the establishment of the Russian Bank, the nationality of which was Russian. The constitution and management of the Chinese Eastern Railway was entrusted to that Bank under the direction of a Chinese President. In 1920 a revised agreement was reached between China and the Russian Bank, whereby China took over control of the C.E.R. pending China's recognition of the Russian Government and the agreement between China and the Russian Government regarding the Railway. The present negotiations between China and Russian are strictly in accordance with the 1920 agreement, which, the Waichiaopu points out, contains no provision requiring previous concurrence of the Russian Bank in any agreement concerning the C.E.R. which may be reached between China and Russia.

The Waichiaopu further points out that the said Bank is a purely Russian concern and no other country has a right to interfere in its affairs. If, owing to the political disturbances in Russia, the said Bank has been placed under French protection, the Waichiaopu in 1920 gave the French Legation reasons why China could not recognize such protection.

Only Chinese and Russians Concerned.

The French Memorandum declared that the French Government would protest against alteration in the existing management of the C.E.R., but, according to the agreement of 1896, Article 1, stocks of the C.E.R. can only be held by Chinese and Russians. The renewed agreement of 1920 makes a similar provision. If any other party has any dealing with the Russian Bank, it is a matter of their own concern and the Chinese Government regrets that it cannot accept such a protest.

The French Memorandum refers to Dr. Wellington Koo's declaration at the Washington Conference regarding the C.E.R. The Waichiaopu points out in that connexion that such declaration referred to China's position from the point of view of China's legitimate sovereign rights and China's responsibilities. In short, the C.E.R. is an enterprise in which Chinese and Russians only are concerned. This is provided for in the agreements and the Chinese Government is acting in accordance with these agreements and believes that the French Minister will appreciate its position.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FINANCE MINISTER'S RESIGNATION

Mr. Wang Ko-ming Going

Peking, Apr. 10.

Mr. Wang Ko-ming, the Minister of Finance, resigned this afternoon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

OTHER CHANGES.

At yesterday's Cabinet meeting, says the Eastern News Agency, it was decided to appoint Mr. Chang Kuo-kan as Minister of Justice and Dr. Wang Chung-hui, the present Minister of Justice, who is now travelling abroad, as Minister of Education.

LEADING ARTICLES

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THE REDDING PIT DISASTER

Apr. 7.

The story of the Redding pit disaster, which we published in a letter from our Trade Union correspondent last week, is one of the most poignant in the long record of mining tragedies Modern industry is built on a foundation of coal; commerce is linked with industry and on these two depend world progress and civilization. Coal is the foodstuff on which manufactures feed and a dearth of coal is almost as terrible in its consequences as one of the great famines that periodically depopulate whole tracts of territory in India or China. We grumble at the cost of the fuel for our domestic comfort but the price paid by the collier who, in his own expressive phrase, "wins" the coal from the bowels of the earth is terribly illustrated in our news columns. Scarcely a week passes in which we have not to chronicle a mining disaster in some part of the world and the heart would be callous indeed that did not thrill with pity for the poor fellows entombed in the mine and threatened with inevitable death by one of several dangers, all of which are but a choice of horrors.

The writer was travelling between Glasgow and Edinburgh while rescue operations were proceeding at Redding pit. "There were four men in the carriage and we were the usual quaternion of unsociable stoics that travel in British trains; each was ensconced in his corner, engrossed in his own concerns and not one had stolen a second glance at his neighbour. Suddenly one man jumped up and, pointing excitedly, said "That is Redding pit!" We were all on our feet in a moment and, crowding round the window, caught a fleeting glimpse of an ordinary pithead around which some fresh scaffolding had been erected. We were wideawake now and our fellow traveller told us that he was a manager of a mine in the north of England and had been summoned to Scotland to assist with his counsel in the rescue operations. Five men had been brought to the surface a few days previously, alive and well, after having been nine days entombed. Being without means of judging the passage of time they had guessed the number of days they had been incarcerated by the growth of beard on their chins and, what astonished us most, was that the highest guess was five days or just about half the actual period. They sat in the highest part of the workings their backs against the wall and the hungry water lapping at their feet: now advancing an inch or two—they measured it by placing bits of coal a span's length from the edge and tested it from time to time by the breadth of their hands—and then slowly receding as the pumps drained it off. It seemed to us that every day passed in that black darkness should have been an eternity but strangely enough the men were amazed when told they had been nine days in the pit. They did not suffer much from hunger and had a super-abundance of water at hand to quench their thirst.

Our friend was a religious enthusiast and showed us a photograph of one of the rescued men who told him that when they had given up hope of rescue they knelt and prayed together. When they had risen from their knees one remembered that there was an old roadway behind the seam of coal against which they leaned their backs. On the off chance that that passage might be free of water and someone possibly in it they knocked with their picks at stated intervals on the wall. It chanced that a mine inspector had penetrated into this part of the working and was wading thigh deep as far as it was possible to go. He heard the knocking and signalled back that rescue was near. Our informant held that it was a certain miracle and none of us was inclined to question the assertion. One could wish that an artist had sketched the scene at the pithead where there was always a crowd of volunteers standing in their "graith," eager to descend the shaft and fight their way to the help of their mates. These men knew the perils they were facing. They had to work at clearing away the silt, in a narrow passage, waist deep in mire, and conscious that the removal of some obstruction might release an inrush of water that would fill the tunnel up to the roof and drown them in its inky flood. Yet not only was there no flinching but when the management declared that no more workers were wanted as they would only impede the labours of those already at work they angrily declared that those in authority were not earnest enough nor willing enough to take risks for the sake of the men below. Ordinary rough colliers they were, but surely heroes though they would have poured derision on any man bold enough to apply that term to them in their presence. And she was surely fit to be a hero's wife who kept her kettle boiling for nine days that her man might have his tea when he came—as at last he did come—to the surface.

TELEPHONE CO. AND COUNCIL

Apr. 8.

THE supplement to the Municipal Gazette issued last Saturday and dealing with the affairs of the Telephone Company deserves to be carefully studied by ratepayers, because it contains the germ of an idea which might govern the Council's relations with all public utility companies. In December last the Company wrote to the Council explaining that they were anxious to substitute the automatic telephone throughout Shanghai for the manual; that this, however, would involve considerable capital outlay; and that, as the franchise possessed under the agreement made with the Council in 1907 constituted the principal security for the shareholders, they would request an extension of this franchise beyond the year 1937 in which it expires. Further correspondence deals with the appointment of a representative by the Council to discuss the question with the Company, with evidence supplied by the latter that the automatic telephone has thoroughly proved its utility in other countries, and with a request by the Company for the most prompt decision possible, in order to avoid expense that must ensue from any protracted uncertainty as to which system, manual or automatic, is to prevail. It may here be emphasized that the correspondence shows that all negotiations have been conducted in the greatest amity, the Council expressing themselves as "much impressed by the conciliatory spirit shown by (the Company's) directors and officials throughout."

In the concluding letter published we come to the gist of the matter. The Council agree to the automatic telephone, to the extension of the franchise and to revision of the tariff. But they also desire to revise the agreement in other particulars. It is, the letter says,

> the Council's considered opinion that the agreements under which the public utility companies of Shanghai at present operate do not allow for an adequate measure of control being exercised by the ratepayers' representatives over certain vital matters of financial and general policy.

How this control might be secured is set out in a memorandum whose main principles are to identify the directors' interests with those of the Council; to provide adequate interest for shareholders and maintenance of property; and to make the subscriber's interest and not the shareholder's the incentive for economical running—obviously a difficult matter if the shareholder's dividends are to be limited. The attached memorandum shows that the tariff would be so revised as to secure to shareholders a dividend of eight per cent., while building up an equalization of dividends account and a reserve account (under certain limitations). The yearly surplus would be transferred to an account which would accumulate during five-year periods, at the end of each of which the tariff would be revised, it is hoped in a downward direction. Quarterly reports would be submitted to the Council and the Company's books would at all times be open to their inspection. They would also nominate one director. The agreement would be revised for periods of ten years at a time, at the end of any of which the Council would have the right to buy out the Company on a fair valuation, arbitrators to be called in if necessary.

Now there can be no question that most people will agree with the principle laid down in the paragraph quoted above in small type. The Council must control the doings of the public utility companies. We are not wholly prepared to say that any very great degree of mischief has as yet arisen from the present position of affairs; but there has at least been an insupportable amount of friction and, with the continuous growth of the Settlement, ratepayers may well wish that the Council's authority should be more clearly defined. At the same time we believe the general feeling is against purchase outright. The success made by the Electricity Department affords no analogy. For that undertaking was built up by the Municipality from very small beginnings. If the Council had, from the beginning, put in its own water supply, trams and telephones, the case would have been quite different. To take over any of these concerns now would not only mean enormous outlay—and we have quite enough loans outstanding—but might very well entail actual loss, for, in the case of the Waterworks Co. at least, there are profitable side lines which the Council would have to pay for but which it might very likely not be allowed to operate, through fear of unfair competition with private firms. Therefore the desideratum is control without purchase. Does the memorandum secure it? In the case of the Telephone Company it might do so, because that is a "mutual" concern and only two years ago, we think, at the annual general meeting objection was raised by one speaker to the size of the dividends on the ground that all earnings beyond a certain sum ought to be used for a downward revision of the tariff. But with other public utility companies, the prospect of an immovably fixed dividend, however much the business of the concern increased, might be discouraging. It may be said that this matter is provided for by the Council's having a director on the board. But it has first to be ascertained whether the Company, whatever it was, would accept the whole arrangement as set forth. The memorandum unquestionably contains the nucleus of a good scheme—the best yet advanced. But we do not feel altogether certain that, as it stands, it would secure what it is meant to achieve, if the party of the other side were inclined to be contumacious.

WATERWORKS AND COUNCIL

Apr. 9.

FOLLOWING so closely upon the Council's scheme as regards the Telephone Company that the two are clearly part of one comprehensive idea, another supplement of the Gazette has been issued dealing with the Waterworks. Seven years have elapsed since the terrible controversy between this Company and the Council began; both sides are utterly weary of it, and so, assuredly, are the public. But now at last there appears a real prospect of settlement. Both parties have offered forms of compromise which have sufficient in common to afford hope of agreement. What is, perhaps, even more important, they have got to the point of a round-table conference. There are, we may hope, to be no more letters, which really, in cases of this kind, are, far more than money, the root of all evil.

It is not necessary to go further into ancient history than the Council's letter of January 18 to the Company and the latter's reply of February 22. In the former the Council quoted the opinion of two eminent barristers to support their contention that a price based upon the net maintainable income of one year would be a fair sum to pay for the purchase of the Company. The latter replied with the opinion of two other barristers, possibly even more eminent (at least, one of them has since been made a judge), that such a suggestion was farcical and showing that, whereas the Company ask for some fifteen millions, the Council's offer would mean less than eight. At the close of their letter, however, the Company suggest a compromise in the form of profit-sharing, a fixed rate of interest being secured to shareholders, the Company to be permitted to instal meters and charge for its water by them and the Council to be represented on the Board of Directors. Now we come to the supplement issued yesterday. The Council object to the Company framing any scheme of compromise on the lines just mentioned

> for the reason that the questions at issue are so numerous and serious and the viewpoints so dissimilar that any scheme prepared by your Directors would be unlikely to fully provide for the requirements considered necessary by the Council.

Those requirements, as stated yesterday in connexion with the Telephone Company, are that the Council must, in ratepayers' interest, exercise an adequate measure of control over the operation of public utilities. The Council, therefore, enclose a memorandum "continuing the undertaking as a Limited Company subject to control by the Council over certain essential matters," very similar to that sent to the Telephone Company. The shareholders in the Waterworks would be guaranteed nine per cent. interest; special provision is made to meet difficulties arising from the fact that the Company's capital is in gold but their revenue in silver; the plumbing and fittings department would be transferred to a subsidiary company; and the Council would have two nominees on the Board of Directors. The desired charge by meter is accepted.

Of this scheme we would repeat what we said yesterday in connexion with the Telephone Company, namely, that it appears by far the best arrangement yet put forward; it would ensure a large measure of control by the Council; and all that is necessary for its success is a reasonable amount of goodwill on each side, which it is sincerely to be hoped will be born when the two parties actually meet in conference instead of bombarding each other with letters. And this hope is supported by the fact that the Council's scheme and that suggested by the Company are not, on broad lines, violently discrepant.

One point, however, in the Council's letter calls for comment. Early in it we read that the Council will at the forthcoming Ratepayers' Meeting again ask for authority to proceed with the purchase negotiations, fully realizing that this will result in the submission of the question to arbitration.

At the end we find that, as an alternative to the purchase resolution, an alternative clause will be introduced at the forthcoming ratepayers' meeting,

> requesting authority (as an alternative to purchase) to proceed with the negotiations for revising the Agreement of 1905 on the lines indicated in the Memorandum (summarized above).

Now there cannot be the slightest necessity for the Council to seek powers to negotiate. What else does it exist for? Certainly it must ask the ratepayers' approval for any line of action it wishes to take as the result of negotiation: but the preliminary discussions are entirely a matter for its own discretion. On the other hand, the proposed pur

chase resolution appears to us highly dangerous. We do not for one moment think that ratepayers desire to buy the Waterworks; it is very much open to doubt whether they can afford to do so; the one certainty about arbitration is that it would fix the purchase price higher than what the Council offer; and it is always on the cards that a snap vote would compel the Council to buy. We strongly urge that the purchase resolution be dropped. Matters have reached this point that all the wearisome correspondence of the past seven years can be pitched into the waste-paper basket; the two parties are to meet in conference, and each one is prepared with a scheme of compromise sufficiently alike to give hope of agreement. We cannot see that for the present anything more is needed.

RUE DU CONSULAT

Apr. 10.

A year or two ago when traffic problems of the Settlement were being discussed in these columns, a correspondent wrote suggesting that if the buildings on either side of Nanking Road were arcaded, a great deal would have been done to solve the difficulties of the case. The principle was that by this method a convenient means of passage for pedestrians would be provided and by removal or at any rate curtailment of the present pavement space more room for vehicular traffic would be available. Nothing has come of the suggestion so far as Nanking Road is concerned, and although one well-known establishment has since arcaded its frontage the proportions of the arcade indicate that it was done with the object of improving the amenity of those desirous of inspecting its shop windows rather than as a way of offering a solution of the traffic problem. It will further be realized that unless carried out along the whole distance of the thoroughfare no real relief would come about. In view of the suggestion then made, it is interesting to learn from the *Bulletin Municipal* that the French Municipal Council means to put it into force in the case of one of its main traffic arteries, the most important one, Rue du Consulat. The matter of communication with their western areas has been the subject of as much hard thinking to the French authorities as to those of the Foreign Settlement, and it has been obvious that Rue du Consulat is the thoroughfare where the spending of money will be productive of the best results.

Rue du Consulat is in a distinctly more unfavourable condition than Nanking Road. Except at a very few points there is enough room in the Maloo for motor cars and rickshas to pass the tramcars, and it only requires the demolition of a few properties to make that condition general over all its length. This is not so in the case of Rue du Consulat, and there are whole stretches where all traffic is limited to the speed of the tramway and has practically to stop when it stops. How to obviate this has been a matter for the gravest consideration. The ideal scheme would be to undertake road widening on an heroic scale—a scale calling for wholesale expropriation of property belonging to owners of street frontages on either side, but it would require such an enormous sum to do so that hardly a set of Councillors would be found to suggest it. Yet something has got to be done, and for some time past the French Council has been at work on this scheme of arcades on both sides of the street from the Bund to Boulevard de Montigny. A short notice in the *Bulletin Municipal* last week gave the information that the plan had been approved, and now comes the further information that the Council has come to an agreement with the proprietors concerned for its accomplishment. The result will eventually be that the present pavements will be abolished, thus making room for the heavy vehicular traffic which Rue du Consulat has to bear, and every building will be provided with an arcade of like breadth and height, thus affording a covered-in passageway for pedestrians. The height of the arcades will be twenty-one feet which will make them light and airy, and when the scheme has been completed it should make Rue du Consulat quite an attractive thoroughfare. Even if it does not turn out to be picturesque, though very probably it will, as apart from the arcade there will be no limitation to the design of buildings, it will prove a boon to all traffic.

In view of the fact that a similar suggestion has been put forward for Nanking Road the details of how the agreement between the Council and the proprietors has been reached will be found of importance to those on this side who are interested in civic matters. The agreement stipulates that as compensation for landowners who thus surrender what would otherwise be part of the ground-floor frontage of their buildings, the Council will make a payment to the amount of one-third of the assessed value of the land called for and will reduce the taxation to that extent. Furthermore, the Council will bear the cost of the erection of the arcades. This seems a perfectly equitable arrangement, and doubtless the Council will recoup itself as time goes on in the way of an increased assessment owing to the improvement in property values. One great regret there will be, in that the alteration cannot be brought into force all at once: it will only be possible to do it by degrees as the present buildings are demolished and new ones erected in their stead. And so before it is completed it is likely that about ten years will elapse. Meanwhile, wherever a new building goes up an arcade will appear, and it is understood that we are to see the first instalment in the course of a very few months. This will be at the west end of Rue du Consulat in the vicinity of Boulevard de Montigny. Building operations are also shortly to be undertaken opposite the French Consulate at the Bund corner, and under the new regulations this will have its arcade, and once these examples are before the public it should gain in popularity and hasten rebuilding. Meanwhile as the French Council has not changed the name of any of its streets for about six months, a witty Frenchman suggests that there is now a fitting opportunity for a pursuit of this popular pastime and that Rue du Consulat might fittingly be named Rue d'Arcade or Boulevard des Arcadiens.

MUSSOLINI'S TRIUMPH

Apr. 11

As a result of the Italian elections which have just been concluded Signor Mussolini may look forward to a five years' term of office in which to bring his many schemes to a condition approaching fruition. It is very important for Europe that the elections should have resulted in this way, for Italy to-day is one of the leading Continental Powers and her attitude on every question of international politics makes its effect felt. That the Fascisti with Signor Mussolini at their head would again be returned to office was generally accepted; nevertheless there must be a feeling of thankfulness that no untoward event has occurred to impair their power, and we may rest assured that in European politics Italy for the coming years will be all for sanity and moderation. The reason for the elections just concluded was that Mussolini, notwithstanding his majority, felt that the Italian Parliament did not represent the people, and with an honesty and courage all too rare in politics but of which Mr. Baldwin, the late British Prime Minister, gave an example, he went to the country. He has fared better than the Conservative leader in Britain, and he deserves his success. In an article written a few months ago, Lord Rothermere alluded to Mussolini as the saviour of western Europe from Bolshevism, and the facts of the case bear him out. When the Fascist movement took shape Italy was in process of being painted a revolutionary red, and it required the efforts, often unconstitutional, of the Fascisti to put that manifestation down. It was not, however, killed until Mussolini himself went to the electorate and with his band of young men marched into power at the head of the polls.

The amazing thing is that Mussolini is not a politician as such, and in fact wants to eliminate politics as much as possible. He does not want a Parliament of professional office-seekers to do his behests, but he wants a Parliament of experts representing the different industries and classes in the country. How far he has succeeded in doing this we do not as yet know, but we may be certain that he has gone some distance along this path, for all the Fascist candidates have been chosen by him personally because of their qualifications in the direction mentioned. He did not insist that the majority at which he aimed in these elections should be purely Fascist, but intimated a preference for a party that would follow him representing the broad national spirit of Italy. Thus it was that he brought Signor Orlando into his fold and persuaded Signor Salandra, another ex-Premier to accept the Fascist point of view. Fascism required support in Sicily, for instance, and Signor Orlando, who is a native of the island, influenced people there as well as in southern Italy where the movement was of slow growth. It was not that support alone that he wanted, but to get all the best elements of the country under his wing. It was an ideal which statesmen in other countries have aimed at but failed in achieving, but he succeeded in it. But he did an almost better thing: he declined to tamper with the Socialist and kindred parties in the country. No support was asked from them; rather it is believed that he considered that they would provide a thoroughly useful opposition which would direct a searching scrutiny on all his work. In this he was very wise, for nobody in power to-day in any country would wish to be without his opposition. Its actions give homogeneity to a party without which it would probably disintegrate and the dissatisfied themselves provide a much more inconvenient force against which to contend.

In a necessarily brief review of what Signor Mussolini has done since assuming office we find first of all a striking improvement in Italy's financial condition. The incidence of taxation in Italy formerly was very unequal, some people paying hardly any taxes and others being overtaxed. Mussolini introduced no new taxation, but revised the whole principle and generally increased the revenue. On luxuries the imposts were enlarged, and an improvement in the national balance was effected by a wholesale dismissal of unnecessary government officials. His first year of office saw a saving of a milliard and a half of lire, and the budget deficit for the year ending next June (1923-24) will, it is expected, be no more than seven hundred million lire. The 1924-25 budget is expected to balance. This is being done notwithstanding a heavy deficit on the railways and the interest on a large internal loan floated to relieve the inhabitants in the devastated districts. Nor is this all, for to reduce the price of bread the former profitable tax on imported wheat has been removed, while succession duties for those in direct descent have been abolished. This latter is one of the most striking manifestations of the policy of the man. As in England to-day, death duties were formerly so heavy in Italy that a son upon succeeding to his father's estate generally found himself compelled to sell out after paying them. Mussolini was in his early days a Communist, but he has travelled far since then, and it is not surprising to see a great patriot realizing the tragedy of the break-up of families in this way. Accordingly between father and son, brother and sister succession duties have been abolished, although where property goes out of the direct line they still exist. But for the removal of these duties the budget in the past two years would have been readily balanced, but, having seen the great estates of Great Britain gradually pass away, often into the possession of war profiteers, we can readily sympathize with Signor Mussolini's feeling in the matter. It will help to keep the country together, and a Premier with a policy of this sort will command the confidence of Europe.

If Sun Yat-sen is not actually embracing Bolshevism, some of his supporters are dangerously flirting with it. The old saw of "playing with fire" has equal force in this case, for recent developments are widening the rift between capital, as represented by the merchant classes and landed gentry, and labour as represented by the Guilds. It had not inspired confidence in the merchants to realize that in the work of propaganda for the spread of this cult a prominent part is being taken by Tse Ying-pak, a notorious Marxist who has taken no trouble to conceal the fact that he is essentially antagonistic to capital.

CHINA AND FAMINE RELIEF

Apr. 12.

With its vast area of over 4,000,000 square miles and with means of communication between one district and another still in a very primitive condition, except for two or three lines of railway, it is not surprising that China should be frequently visited in one part or another by famine. The usual causes are prolonged drought, floods, hail, frost and locusts. During recent years the disasters of nature have been aggravated by brigandage and lawlessness generally. Appeals for help to the destitute are made by various charitable associations and always meet with a generous response from foreigners. In 1921 the principal of these associations combined to form the China International Famine Relief Commission. Its purpose is not only to relieve the hungry multitudes but also to prevent the recurrence of famines. The Commission has now published its second annual report. It is a pleasure to note that the various financial statements are given in full and have been properly audited. It would be well if the same care were exercised by every department of the Chinese Government, and by all Chinese public companies and benevolent associations.

The greatest amount of relief work done during the year was in the province of Chêkiang, where three typhoons in rapid succession had devastated the country-side and brought death and desolation in their train. At one time it was estimated that 250,000 people were face to face with starvation, whilst 400,000 others possessed insufficient means of subsistence. It has been found by experience that by far the best way to relieve the famine-stricken is to spend immediately all the money received in the purchase of maize, which is then distributed. This method is superior to money doles as it prevents leakage and steadies the price of food stuffs. Food is given freely to the aged, infirm, and to children and widows without support. All others have to work for their food. Praise is given to the Shanghai Committee for the energy it displayed in organizing and conducting a campaign to raise the needed funds. Altogether it collected the generous sum of $1,009,252.10. Of this amount, $713,252.10 was raised by public subscriptions, and $296,000 was allocated from the Maritime Customs surtax. In the provinces of Honan, Shansi and Shensi there were also districts which suffered from drought, but in each province the situation quickly improved.

Human nature being what it is, as soon as the worst was over, there were new difficulties. Numerous Chinese made requests for aid because of losses not always traceable to famine. The local committees stood firm, refusing to swerve from the original purpose of the organization, especially as they knew that to grant money doles would only have a demoralizing effect on the recipients. In its provincial report the Honan Association writes:—

"After three years' work in the famine relief in Honan, this Association feels that the situation at the present time calls for very serious thought. We have organized on a permanent basis, which means that the Association

should be constantly functioning along the line of its objects, viz. famine relief and famine prevention. But we now begin to see that having a permanent committee for famine relief means that for every little setback through rain, hail, frost, drought locusts, bandits or soldiers, appeals from all districts are received requesting help. There seems to have developed a spirit of dependency upon the Association, which is almost akin to a pauper spirit. In view of this, we are strongly in favour of refusing to function for famine relief, except in cases of very great urgency, which should be determined by the Commission in Peking; and, on the other hand, we should as a permanent agency, concentrate our efforts upon famine prevention only."

The Commission now intends to devote its energy mainly to engineering projects for the prevention of famines. The most important of these is the Huai River Conservancy scheme, which it is expected will bring under cultivation 50,000,000 mow of land, capable of producing rice to the value of $375,000,000 yearly, in addition to the 62,000,000 mow of land inundated a year ago which resulted in a loss of rice production amounting to over $613,000,000. Hence it is said to be "one of the world's biggest conservancy schemes." Many influential Americans are interested in it and it has been suggested that the whole, or a part, of the balance of the American share of the Boxer indemnity, amounting to some $15,000,000 (U.S. currency) should be devoted to this purpose. Unfortunately there are Chinese who do not regard the scheme with favour if the expenditure of this fund is to be under foreign control. The motive of some of these objectors we may be certain is not pure and disinterested; they do not care for the poor but they would like to "carry the bag." Others are very sensitive and think they will "lose face" unless Chinese have full control, and rather than "lose face" they would prefer to see the whole of the money disappear as the dew on a summer morning (according to a Chinese proverb, "there is dew for every blade of grass,") without conferring the slightest benefit on their land or people. Whatever the motive, this opposition exists. The American Chamber of Commerce in its recent report makes the statement :—

"It has come to the attention of the Board that an organized campaign is being conducted in America to obtain remission of this fund to be administered by a committee, the majority of whom are non-Americans."

Its own opinion is, that any expenditure of this Indemnity fund should be closely supervised by an American committee composed of representatives of the United States diplomatic or consular services and of the American business and missionary organizations in China. We are certain that nearly all foreigners in China will heartily agree with the American position. The Chinese have not yet learned that public office is a public trust. Until they do learn, full confidence cannot be felt in their control and disposition of public funds. It is very discouraging to see a magnificent scheme for the permanent benefit of thousands of Chinese people, imperilled by cupidity, foolish pride, and indifference to the sufferings of the poor.

BUCHAREST, Apr. 6.—Prince Naruhiko Higashikuni has left for Paris.—Reuter.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Prohibition Results

A correspondent has sent us the following extract from the report of the Washington Convention, on the results of prohibition in the United States, during its first four years of operation.

The first four years of prohibition, in spite of the organized resistance of the outlawed liquor traffic, have brought these encouraging results:—

Over 873,000 lives were saved by the reduction in the death rate during the four years of prohibition, giving to insurance companies a "gain in mortality" of $678,769,000.

The ratio of drunkenness arrests to population has fallen throughout the nation to a point equivalent to 500,000 fewer such arrests in 1923, or a decrease of 2,000,000 in the four dry years.

Penal institution commitments have decreased, as shown by the lower ratio per 100,000 population, by 20,000 in the four dry years.

Reports from typical charity societies indicate that $74,000,000 is available for constructive welfare work from funds formerly used to care for destitution caused by drink.

Industrial accidents have decreased by a quarter of a million annually, lowering production costs and adding to human values.

The billions of dollars formerly spent destructively for liquor are now turning many mill wheels of industry and business.

Over $5,000,000,000 were expended for automobiles in 1923. Over 4,000,000 new automobiles were made and sold during the year in this country. Alcoholized drivers of these machines would have made our roads into shambles of death if prohibition had not intervened.

Over a billion dollars was added to our saving accounts and over eleven billion dollars to our insurance policies during 1923 alone.

Home building in 1923 averaged 2,000 more new homes per month than in 1919, in spite of labour costs.

The churches have known a new Pentecost on each of the 365 days of 1923, adding 2,500 new members per day to their rolls.

High schools and colleges are unable to care for the throngs of youth able to seek higher education since the saloon drain on the family purse has been eliminated.

The outlawing of 177,790 licensed saloons which sapped the health, drained the ambition, emptied the purses of their victims, has made possible much of these gains.

Prohibition does not claim the entire credit for all of these results but only a nation that was sober could have experienced this uniform development of all helpful things or the accompanying decrease of the harmful forces.

These are just the first fruits of prohibition. They have come in spite of the imperfections of enforcement. When wet politicians are no longer allowed to place accomplices in appointive positions, when propagandists of liquor are no longer allowed to incite men to violate the Constitution, when law and order are supreme, then in wealth, health, character, power and achievement America will show the world to what heights a self-governing people can rise when freed from the chains of alcohol.

That the condition of big cities like New York is no indication of the state of the country as a whole, we may well believe. And we should be the very last to deny the benefit of bringing up thousands and millions of children never to know the taste of alcohol. Yet we cannot get away from the feeling that prohibition is a vicious infringement of liberty and a confession of weakness. It appears to be a case of doing evil that good may come and in this instance at least we have not yet lived long enough to see the final result.

Prohibition

The letters received to-day on the subject of prohibition reveal the usual inability of enthusiasts to think clearly. We are told that if we remove the embargo on alcohol we must equally allow people to steal, to be cruel, to be loose-livers. But there is no analogy whatever between these and taking alcohol. To be loose in sex relations, to steal, to be cruel, are either anti-social, immoral or both. But there is nothing whatever morally or socially wrong in taking alcohol. If there were, should we find in the Bible the miracle of Cana in Galilee, and St. Paul distinctly recommending Timothy to drink wine? We hesitate to bring in sectarian considerations. But the Roman Catholic Church, than which no institution has more closely studied questions of public and private morality or has stricter laws concerning them, has never prohibited alcohol. Again, whether alcohol is a sedative or a stimulant has nothing whatever to do with the case. The one is not more injurious than the other if taken in excess. And that is the whole point of the question. The old, old distinction between moderate drinking and drinking to excess, which applies with almost equal, sometimes greater, force to practically everything that man does. We called the prohibition enactment a vicious infringement of liberty because we think it is. What we choose to do as a matter of our own convictions is our own affair. But we have no right to force those convictions on other people where neither crime nor immorality is concerned. To do that is tyranny and if tyranny does not deserve to be called vicious we do not know what does; and tyranny, even if exerted for good ends, is apt to breed its own crop of evil results. The Washington Convention claimed 873,000 lives saved in four years by reduction of death due to prohibition: to-day, a correspondent in America quotes insurance records of 200,000 deaths annually from drinking bootleg whiskey,—in other words, attributable to prohibition. Let it not be thought for one moment that we defend drinking. As we said above the fact that millions of children are being brought up ignorant of the taste of alcohol is a great good. The sorrow that drunkenness brings does much to convert one to prohibition. But not all. Intolerance appears to be a foible of America judging by the extent to which it is castigated in American plays, books and films. The parent of prohibition, it is also directly fostered by it and we have yet to see in what other directions it will break out. This was what we meant by saying that we have not yet lived long enough to see the final result of prohibition.

More Piracy

An interesting note on "a new form of Chinese piracy" appears in the "Textile Mercury" of February 23 and deserves that attention should be called to it. The item is as follows:—

Morals are considered by some philosophers to be relative. Certainly humanity has no fixed standard and what to one people is highly moral conduct is to another race the final depth of infamy. Brigandage is in some Christian countries still looked upon by many as a highly respectable means of livelihood. Not so many centuries ago many of our ancestors were following highly esteemed professions which to-day would undoubtedly be described as piracy. We are inclined to think that the admiration so many have for the gentlemanly brigand or pirate is not altogether without substantial moral foundation.

To-day there are other forms of piracy, which have no redeeming feature. The piracy of ideas by underhand, or any other, means is something that cannot be tolerated. Most countries have laws specially made to prevent such a form of theft so that to-day in nearly every civilized country there are patent and copyright laws. The Chinese have always had a very high standing for their commercial integrity; the more experience one has of Chinese as a class the more one comes to admire their strict honesty. From information we have received this week it would appear that Chinese are running a grave risk of losing their reputation for honesty.

Messrs. Youlten Openers, Ld., have been demonstrating their new machine in China, and have given every facility for the machines to be tried on Chinese cotton, even to the extent of allowing their machines to be erected on approval in local mills. Evidently some unscrupulous Chinese have taken advantage of such generous treatment, and after making complete measurements of the machine have now commenced to manufacture pirated copies. The extraordinary feature of this moral backsliding is that a local Shanghai paper describes this as "A Chinese Enterprise."

The "Textile Mercury" mentions the name of the Chinese firm concerned in this matter and the paper which reported so favourably on their work. We do not propose to advertise such enterprise, but those who want the information may find it in the "Textile Mercury."

Wireless on Coasters

The subject of fitting wireless aboard ships trading on the China Coast is revived by the news of a scheme in Hongkong for training Chinese as operators. Two of the leading shipping firms there are supporting the project to establish a training school, and we may trust that all shipping firms may sooner rather than later see their way to do likewise. Once a school for Chinese operators has been set going and is turning out competent men in numbers adequate to the demand, there will be no excuse for any of the local coasting vessels not possessing wireless communication. This is a matter which has been the subject of much animadversion for the past few years, and one argument used against its introduction was the expense which shipping companies would have to bear in employing foreign operators. Even so, the leading firms considered generally that this was desirable and have gradually been moving in the direction of providing the larger of their steamers with the necessary apparatus and personnel. In the case of the smaller craft, however, it has not hitherto been found feasible. The difficulties in the way will surely now be largely removed by the provision of trained Chinese, hence we may look forward to seeing it adopted on a large scale. A very well-known officer on the China Coast, writing in these columns shortly after the Hong Mow disaster on the Lammocks, described wireless as the finest life-saving device ever invented, and there is no doubt that he was right. We see it to-day in the case of the pilgrim ship Frangestan whose passengers but for that must have been in a sore plight.

South African Politics

Genuine disappointment appears to be felt by all political parties in South Africa upon the news of the postponement of the Prince of Wales's visit. When the political crisis arose and Gen. Smuts suggested the postponement in question, the matter seemed to possess a very grave significance in view of the political atmosphere in the country. One section of the populace is frankly separatist and their policy is to drop out of the British Empire whenever a convenient opportunity occurs, while another is said to be Bolshevist in a very wholehearted way. Against these two is the party formerly led by Gen. Botha and now under the command of that very able statesman and soldier, Gen. Smuts. A defeat of this latter party might always provoke serious consequences in the country, and the possibilities of the case could by no means be overlooked, and in such a condition of affairs a visit by the Prince of Wales would be unthinkable. Mr. Hertzog, the leader of the Nationalist Party, has now made it more or less clear that no matter what party is returned at the coming elections, the invitation to the Prince will be renewed, and it is very satisfactory to hear this expression of sentiment. It must go a long way to allay the fears which from time to time have been expressed concerning South Africa.

Chinese Education

While the correspondence on the education of Chinese children shows signs of petering out, it may be well to recall people's minds to a point which was overlooked in Mr. Lockwood's letter and has continued to be overlooked by most advocates of universal education for Chinese children by the Council ever since. Most of them write as if the Education Commission had reported against the Council's doing any more in this direction. It did exactly the reverse. It suggested to the Council "that their aim should be to make good citizens of the Chinese," and it advocated a scheme of grants-in-aid to Chinese schools on the same lines as the grants given to St. Francis Xavier's and some other schools: and further than this we read that the Commission is "strongly in favour of a school for Chinese girls, a school of higher primary and middle grade. As schools for Chinese boys have been instituted and stand as models for future schools that may be instituted by the Chinese themselves it is desirable that a Chinese Girls School should also be established as a model, provided that the Chinese themselves cooperate with the Municipality as they have already done in the various schools for Chinese boys that already exist." These quotations are enough to show that the Commission considered the question of Chinese education very carefully and was in favour of the Council's doing considerably more than has yet been done. But it stopped short at any idea of Council schools for all Chinese children in the Settlement, certainly not fewer than 150,000, possibly twice that number. The Commission took strong exception to the assumption that "it is the duty of the Council to see that primary education is within the reach of the children of all ratepayers" whether foreign or Chinese. And those who realize the difference between the Council's position and that of other governing bodies will probably agree with it.

Trademark Law

Great satisfaction and relief will be felt by business men generally at the strong tone adopted by the Diplomatic Body in their latest note to the Waichiaopu on the Trademark Law. Whereas at the beginning of February they appeared prepared to accept the Law on "three considerations and one essential condition," none of which, however, touched the all-essential point of the preservation of extraterritorial rights, they have now written to inform the Waichiaopu that its note of March 20 is not sufficient to enable the foreign Ministers to advise their Governments to recognize the law. Furthermore the Diplomatic Body point out that, whether or not their nationals register, any case of complaint "Will have to be dealt with according to the stipulations of the treaties concerning the settlement of disputes between Chinese and Treaty Power nationals." This is really the whole crux of the matter. Insistance on this point at once invalidates the projected system under which appeals from the Trademark Bureau were only to be heard by Chinese courts and no diplomatic representation could be made in respect of them until the process of all the three designated Chinese courts had been exhausted. So much, we feel bound to add, for the advantages of publicity. There is little doubt that the Diplomatic Body had not, at the beginning of February, been perfectly informed by their advisers as to the full bearings of the Trademark Law. The tremendous agitation conducted in Shanghai and prosecuted at considerable expense in London, supplied them with a point of view which had not up till then been put before them and at the same time strengthened their hands in rejecting the specious subterfuges of the Waichiaopu.

The Invisible Ray

The invisible ray discovered by German and British scientists which is claimed to be able to bring motor cars and aeroplanes to a standstill must now be claiming the closest attention of military authorities throughout the whole world. If it is found workable it means that tanks and a great deal more of the paraphernalia of the late war will be now obsolescent. That, however, will not put an end to war. As soon as the principles of the invisible ray are fully known it will be the business of other scientists to find means to neutralize it, and inevitably an antidote will be produced. It will then be once more the old contest between the heavy gun and battleship armour which has never ceased, although the Washington Conference may have for the time being reduced its intensity. Further, it will make war still more a business for scientists than ever before, and no doubt will have a very great effect on its character. It is thus given us to speculate anew as to whether Sir Percy Scott may not now justify himself in his contention that the capital ship is antiquated. Hitherto he has worked on the theory of the coming supremacy of the submarine, but these new invisible rays may prove infinitely more potent when once developed.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

CHINESE GOVERNMENT'S REBUKE TO THE SOVIET ENVOY

Karakhan Accused of Deliberately Raising Technical Points so as to Escape Further Discussion: China Always Ready to Negotiate Treaty on Three Essential Stipulatons

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, April 2.

I have received from the Waichiaopu the following translation of the full text of the Chinese Government's reply to Mr. Karakhan's memorandum of March 24, which was forwarded last evening:—

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has received the Memorandum of the Extraordinary Plenipotentiary Representative of the U.S.S.R. to China. In reply, it desires first of all to refer to certain points of misunderstanding which may have been the cause of his failure to appreciate the sincerity of the Chinese Government for an early restoration of normal relations between China and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics

1. Without the least intention of drawing the Soviet Envoy into a discussion of the authority of the Chinese Representative, the Ministry wishes to call the attention of the Soviet Envoy to the fact that the communication of March 28, 1923, upon the strength of which Mr. Karakhan signed the preliminary texts of certain agreements with the Chinese Delegate, merely stated that Dr. Wang was authorized by Presidential Mandate to prepare for, and carry on, the Sino-Russian negotiations. There was nothing in the communication to warrant Mr. Karakhan's assumption that the Chinese Delegate had authority to sign.

The Soviet Envoy has rightly admitted in his memorandum that the documents so signed on March 24 are preliminary texts of the agreement subject to the approval or rejection of the Chinese Government. But the Ministry cannot share his view that such preliminary texts should be looked upon as precluding all possibility of modifications. For, as Mr. Karakhan well knows now, the termination of such negotiations by signature on the part of the Chinese Delegate was not authorized.

KARAKHAN SEEKING ESCAPE.

If Mr. Karakhan should persist in declining further discussion on the ground that all negotiations have been terminated, it would seem that he was bent more upon taking advantage of an incident in the course of the negotiation than trying to avoid a possible *impasse* in the settlement of Sino-Russian relations.

Moreover, the position of the Chinese Government is all the more justifiable in view of the fact that the negotiations between Dr. Wang and Mr. Karakhan had been in the nature of informal conversations, as Mr. Karakhan had insisted on avoiding all formal negotiations.

2. The Ministry is gratified to learn from the memorandum of Mr. Karakhan under reply that the three-days limit was not meant to be an obstacle to getting a settlement, but to hasten such a result. But it is most surprising that the Soviet Envoy, after having set the time-limit, should turn round and blame China for not having asked an extension thereof. The view of the Chinese Government is that it was a mistake on the part of the Soviet Envoy to have set a time limit at all, for it appears to be an unprecedented procedure for one party to set a time limit to the other in the nature of a threat when both were engaged in a common task of establishing friendly relations. The Chinese Government did not ask to prolong it, because they could not recognize that the Soviet Envoy had any right to impose a time limit to the Chinese Government.

THIRD PARTY INTERFERENCE.

3. As regards the assertion on the part of the Soviet Envoy concerning the alleged interference of a third Power in the negotiations for the re-establishment of normal relations between China and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, it is entirely beside the point. The Chinese Government must decline to discuss with Mr. Karakhan China's relations with other Powers. It would suffice to reiterate here what the Ministry had already stated in previous communications that the Chinese Government will not permit its policy *vis-à-vis* of the Sino-Russian negotiations to be interfered with by any outside influence.

4. The Ministry desires equally to point out that the Chinese Government had not disavowed any agreement formally concluded, as Mr. Karakhan himself had admitted that the signed documents are but preliminary texts of the proposed agreements. If he should refuse to discuss such modifications with a view to the completion of the proposed agreements and insist upon returning to the position of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics at the beginning of his conversations with Dr. Wang, it would merely be another proof that the responsibility for the delay rested with the Soviet Government and not with the Chinese Government.

ESSENTIAL MODIFICATION.

5. As regards the proposed agreements, the Chinese Government are ready to approve and sign them provided the following modifications be effected in the preliminary text of the proposed agreement on general principles:

(a) In paragraph 2 of Article 4 of the preliminary text of the proposed agreement, it is apparent that there is a serious omission concerning the obligations of the U.S.S.R. While the Chinese Government declare all treaties, agreements, etc., between China and any third party or parties affecting the sovereign rights or interests of the U.S.S.R. null and void, the obligation of the Soviet Government concerning the same principle is limited only to those treaties, agreements, etc., concluded between the Tsarist Government and any third party or parties. No mention is made of treaties, agreements, etc., between Russia since the Tsarist Government and any third party or parties affecting the sovereign rights and interests of China. It would certainly conform to the principle of reciprocity and equal treatment if the Chinese and Soviet Governments should make reciprocal renunciations of the same nature and scope. This is a point to which Mr. Karakhan can have no serious objection for it is in full harmony with the policy of the U.S.S.R. as enunciated in the two Declarations of the Soviet Government.

(b) The withdrawal of Soviet troops from Outer Mongolia should be made a more definite undertaking on the part of the U.S.S.R. It should not be made conditional, though necessary details to carry out the withdrawal may be arranged later at the Conference. In other words, the wording of the said provision should be so modified as to make it clear that there is no intention to prejudice the principle of inviolability of territorial sovereignty.

(c) As the Government of the U.S.S.R. have not yet furnished the Chinese Government with necessary information concerning the size, nature, number and location of the different Orthodox Churches in China, the proposed exchange of Notes providing for the transfer of the church properties to the Government of U.S.S.R. ought best to be left in abeyance; the question can be more fully discussed at the Conference. A fuller discussion of this question is the more necessary in view of the fact that the holding by foreign Powers or individuals of landed property in the interior of China is prohibited

These are the three points which the Chinese Government wish to discuss with the Soviet Delegate with a view to a satisfactory readjustment. They cannot believe that Mr. Karakhan, if he is really sincere to re-establish friendly relations between China and the U.S.S.R., can have any objection to reach an agreement with the Chinese Government on these points. Should Mr Karakhan see insurmountable difficulties in modifying the preliminary text of the proposed agreement on general principles the Chinese Government, animated by the spirit of conciliation and an earnest desire to see the early re-establishment of official relations between China and the U.S.S.R., are prepared to agree to having these modifications effected through a supplementary exchange of Notes to be signed along with the agreements.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

6. As regards the question of the re-establishment of normal relations as a preliminary step the Chinese Government wish to draw the attention of Mr. Karakhan to the fact that the very first article of the proposed agreement on general principles provides for the immediate restoration of diplomatic and consular relations between China and U.S.S.R. The completion of the draft agreement, with the proposed modifications and by formal signature of duly authorized representatives, would at once achieve the object which Mr. Karakhan has most in view and which the Chinese Government are equally desirous to see fulfilled. The inauguration of such relations is not an end in itself. The essential point is that such relations should be re-established on a new basis of friendliness and good understanding. The present texts of the proposed agreements can serve as a basis if the three points to which the Chinese Government are attaching great importance can be given adequate consideration and suitable changes are effected, either by revision of the texts or through additional exchange of Notes.

AMERICAN PATROL OF YANGTZE

Six New Shallow-draft Gunboats for Upper River to Keep Desperadoes in Order

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Apr. 2.

A recent despatch from America, quoted by various news agencies, conveyed the disappointing information that the United States Government had reduced the naval appropriation for river gunboats in China so that, instead of six shallow draft boats for the upper river, the Yangtze patrol was to get two only.

Later advices have happily proved that this is too gloomy an interpretation of what happened in legislative circles in Washington. The appropriation, it would appear, was not reduced by the Appropriations Committee in Congress but was rejected altogether because the appeal for funds to build six new boats had not come from the proper routine source. The bill should have passed through the Navy Committee and been endorsed by it before going to the Appropriations Committee. Through some oversight the Navy Committee, which is already wholeheartedly pledged to six new gunboats, was not given an opportunity to pass upon the bill, so it was rejected quite properly, but purely as a matter of form, by the Appropriations Committee.

Not only is it likely that six new boats will be built for the upper river, but there is now hope of getting a 60-foot motor patrol boat, lightly but effectively armed, for the Chungking-Suifu run, since trade is pushing further west and the need of adequate protection travelling with it.

When these new ships have arrived the shallow draft boats now on the upper Yangtze will be sent to the West River and the two mine-sweepers which are being fitted up as gunboats but draw too much water for the rivers will be added to the coastwise patrol.

HUAI RIVER CONSERVANCY

Peking, Apr. 4.

After consideration by the Cabinet of the despatch from Marshal Chi Hsieh-yuan pointing out the necessity for immediate attention to the Huai River Conservancy, a mandate was issued last night appointing Marshal Chi Tupan of that conservancy work, as a concurrent post. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

AMERICAN ROUND THE WORLD FLIGHT

Interesting Information as to Personnel, Machines and Itinerary

Peking, Apr. 1.

The official start of the American round-the-world flight is due to be made from Seattle to-day, and the four aeroplanes engaged in it are expected to reach the China coast toward the end of next month. Their first stop in China is to be made at Shanghai, and after resting there and overhauling their machines, they will fly south to Amoy on their way to Calcutta. Some interesting details of the flight were obtained this morning from Lieut. M. S. Lawton, who has come from Manila to supervise arrangements over that section of the route lying between Shanghai and Calcutta. Lieut. Lawton arrived here yesterday, and will return to Shanghai to-morrow.

The American expedition is not a military one, although the pilots and mechanics have been furnished by the Army. Its objects are purely scientific, the intention being to explore the possibilities of air transit between Europe, Asia and America, and to study flying conditions over the route covered. The party consists of four pilots and four mechanics, under the command of Major Frederick L. Martin, the three other pilots being Lieuts. Lowell H. Smith, Eric H. Nelson and Leigh Wade. They are to make their journey in four Douglas aeroplanes, machines of a commercial type with a wing-span of 50 feet, a useful load of 4,500 lb. and a flying radius of 2,000 miles. From Seattle to Calcutta, these aeroplanes will be equipped with pontoons for landing on water, but from this point onward they will carry landing-gear, as much of the journey from there to London will be done overland. The radio equipment which they were originally to have carried has been removed for the sake of saving weight.

THE ROUTE.

The itinerary, which has been divided into six sections for the purpose of organization, is roughly as follows:—Leaving Seattle, the party will hug the Canadian coast as far as Alaska, and then turning west will follow the Aleutian Islands to their western extremity. From here a long "hop" must be made across the North Pacific to Cape Lopatka at the southern end of the Kamchatka Peninsula, and this promises to be the most hazardous part of the journey across the Pacific. Once Kamchatka is reached, the expedition will alter its course again, and follow the Kurile Islands down past Hokkaido to the coast of Japan proper. A stop will be made at Yokohama, and another at Nagasaki, when land will once more be left behind in a straight flight for Shanghai. This is an alteration of the original plan, which was to include Chemulpo and Tsingtao. From Shanghai the party will fly, viâ Amoy, Hongkong, Haiphong, Touraine, Saigon, Bangkok, Rangoon and Akyab, to Calcutta. Thence they are to cross Northern India, viâ Delhi, to Karachi, and their course then leads them northwest to Bagdad, Bucharest, Belgrade, Vienna, Paris and London. Continuing up the east coast of England and Scotland, and leaving Kirkwall behind, they will proceed to Iceland, thence to the east coast of Greenland, and thence, viâ Labrador and Newfoundland, to New York, for their final lap across America to Seattle.

CARE OF THE MACHINES.

The task of preparing for the care of the planes on their long journey is one of no small magnitude, particularly across the North Pacific, where they will have to rely on their own personnel for any work to be done at the depots. These depots in the Pacific will consist of stores of fuel, provisions and spare parts, deposited at suitable harbours where the machines can land and overhaul in safety. In the Pacific, the Navy will co-operate and destroyers will be stationed between landing-points to safeguard the airmen against loss at sea. Once this continent is reached greater facilities for repairs will be available and even new machines are being distributed along the route in case they are needed.

It has, naturally, been impossible to make any close estimate of the time the flight will occupy; it will probably require the entire summer. In the course of it the airmen will pass through three continents and 22 countries. Every possible provision has been made against mishap, and the organizers are confident that it will be carried out successfully.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

New York, Apr. 6.

A telegram from Seattle states that the aeroplanes engaged in the world flight have left for Prince Rupert.—Reuter's American Service.

Prince Rupert, B.C., Apr. 6.

The American world-fliers have arrived at Prince Rupert.

Apr. 7.

Pending repairs to two struts of his machine, which were broken as he alighted here, Major Martin is at present unable to name a date for resumption of the world flight.—Reuter's American service.

DESTROYERS TAKING SUPPLIES TO KURILE IS. BASE.

Tokio, Apr. 10.

The American destroyers Pope and John D. Ford (Commanders Frost and McLaren) have volunteered for the trip to the Kurile Islands and left Yokohama to-day with supplies for the American aviators who are flying round the world.

The John D. Ford will go to Kashiwabara Bay in Paramushir Island, while the Pope will go to Bettoboi in Yetorofu Island.

Both destroyers carry Japanese military and naval officers, the latter acting as pilots, and also American language officers, as well as journalists.

Four Japanese destroyers are leaving the naval station of Ominato for the same destination.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE PEKING OCTROI AND BAD PAPER

Dismay Among Holders of Treasury Notes: Who Is Making Money

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Apr. 4.

The Peking Octroi is a gate tax of three per cent. to which no reference has ever been made in any known treaty. It is therefore a tax which the Chinese authorities are entitled to raise and lower as they like but which they cannot abolish because certain foreign loans are secured upon it. The various institutions which have lately come to feed upon this source of revenue are the President's Office, the primary schools, the Christian army, the unhappy police, the emaciated gendarmerie and a few other lesser groups.

Among the holders of Chinese paper none has ever been so nervous as the holder of a Treasury Note of the Republic of China. Treasury notes were once particularly good; then after Li Shih-hao's occupation of the Ministry of Finance they became particularly bad. The writer knows of a case in which an official actually had to pay the dustman to gather up his vast collection of bad paper and trundle it off the premises. Then, thanks to the Octroi, it went up a bit.

For a long time past the Octroi has served the Government and the public by accepting 20 per cent. of all payments in treasury notes at face value. The notes so taken were destroyed. The Chinese and foreign importers profited because they bought up these notes at a fractional figure —something like 15 or 20 cents on the dollar—and paid them in at face value when they had to clear incoming consignments. Naturally the Chinese came out with an unannounced order on the night of March 31 saying that from that date no more treasury notes would be accepted in payment of Octroi. Some one is, of course, making money out of the collapse which followed, and the legitimate trader is of course paying through the nose as usual.

HOW THE BOLSHEVIKS HAVE LOST THEIR KOREAN PUPILS

Extraordinary Tale of Red Gold Expended Among Korean Revolutionaries: Converts to Communism Turned to Bitterest Hostility by Soviet Treachery

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Apr. 3.

That the Soviet agents are amateurs in diplomacy has never been more clearly shown; and their devices have never been made so transparent than in their dealings with China. They are all clever men of course, but no one is so sure of it as they are. They are so sure of themselves that they walk on their own feet in their haste to take time by the forelock. They go so fast and surely after their objectives that they meet themselves coming back and bump with a crash. But in no part of the world have they made as fine a mess of their diplomacy by propaganda and subversion as they have with the Koreans. They have disillusioned no other people to whom they have offered the Red blessing so completely.

KOREAN INDEPENDENTISTS.

The Korean independence movement is of course as much alive as it ever was. The recent statement made by an American missionary bishop that it was dead was more than absurd, as the Japanese would most cheerfully testify. The Korean revolutionaries have not been wasting their strength, but have been looking for friends and in their search for friends it was inevitable that a certain number should turn to Soviet Russia, the advertised saviour of oppressed peoples, and should pin their hopes upon the Communists. It will be remembered that about three years ago the Bolsheviks established a bureau in Irkutsk, well endowed with gold, with the avowed purpose of overturning, through propaganda, the existing orders in Mongolia, Korea, China and Japan. Korean agents were sent into China and Manchuria with generous supplies of Russian gold and the usual line of Communist patter at the end of their tongues. One of them, Kim Lip, was killed in Shanghai after having disposed of something like $400,000 of Russian money. The level-headed Korean leaders looked askance at Red propaganda but a number of enthusiasts in Shanghai, Peking, Manchuria and Siberia accepted the Soviet's half promises as definite pledges of help against Japan and were very eager to have the Korean revolutionary movement put under the red flag. This went so far that at an interminably long conference in Shanghai last year, the old Korean revolutionary organization there was broken up, a communist government was formed and Pak Yung-man, who was not in attendance and who was bitterly opposed to the whole manœuvre, was elected the Lenin of the supreme executive committee.

RED TREACHERY.

In Siberia the Reds made more headway with the Koreans. After the Japanese invaded the Hunchun district and patrolled it with gendarmes, thousands of Koreans poured across the Russian border, taking their arms with them. To these the Reds were at first hostile but later very conciliatory. They promised them strong support in a revolution against Japan and cajoled them into participating in the campaign in the Maritime Province. Twenty-five thousand Koreans were under arms in the campaign in which Harbarovsk, Iman, Nikolsk and Vladivostok were taken. The Russians participating in the campaign were very few. Several thousand of these Koreans were native Siberians and had served with the Russian armies on the German front. The rest were from Fengtien and Kirin.

When the fighting was all over the Russians brought in their own Red troops, split up the Korean units into small detachments, distributed them as widely as possible and then, without warning, disarmed them and disbanded them, turning them adrift without pay, food or clothes.

YET MORE PROPAGANDA.

Still the propaganda among the Koreans in China and Korea went on and gathered strength. One of the chief agents in this work was Mr. Slepak, director of the Rosta Agency in Peking, who has just gone to Japan to dole out propaganda there. Everywhere it was being hinted to the Koreans that if they would get together with the Soviet folk they would be supplied with money, arms and ammunition in unlimited quantities for a revolutionary movement against Japan. Some believed this and some did not, but when a definite invitation was finally issued to all the leaders of all Korean factions, to assemble in Vladivostok and talk it over, the conservatives were persuaded by the radicals to attend and practically every Korean political faction, religious body, secret society and clique from every part of the Far East was represented. All those Korean leaders whose names are well known to foreigners in the Far East were there. A certain percentage of them professed to be communists, others were ready to be converted and others were radically opposed. The conference lasted about a month, opening about the middle of January and closing about the middle of February, with the result that there are at this moment no Korean revolutionary leaders above the sod who have any use whatever for a Red Russian or any of his doctrines. The only tangible result of much talk with the Soviet agents and much more talk among themselves was the drafting of a resolution imploring Great Britain, America and China not to recognize the Soviet Government. This, of course, could not be got past the censorship.

THE WORM TURNS.

The result of the conference was *nil*. The more important delegates were met at Pogranitchnaya by communist agents, were provided with special cars and were taken to Vladivostok in ambassadorial state. Once there they were turned over to a certain Mr. Fineburg, a Hebrew communist who was born and raised in London and whose English was much better than his Russian. This Mr. Fineburg was head of the Bureau of Korean Affairs in the representation of the Third International in Vladivostok.

After the 20 odd Korean delegates had assembled Mr. Pak Yung-man was elected chief of their council and Mr. Fineburg called upon him and opened negotiations. In conventional Soviet fashion the Koreans were presented with a fixed set of demands, or rather conditions. They were told that Russia would sympathize with them if they would sign a certain document in which they pledged themselves to certain policies. It would be impolitic to publish this document at the moment; but it can be stated definitely that the first Russian condition was that the Korean revolution should be declared a *communist* revolution, and that Red propaganda should go ahead of the independence movement.

All the promises of help with money and arms which had previously been made became very vague and intangible indeed at this conference and the whole Red energy was expended upon shoving a Bolshevist revolutionary programme under the noses of the Korean delegates and upon forcing them to endorse it. The same tactics were adopted as in the Karakhan ultimatum to Dr. C. T. Wang. The Koreans have not much to stand on, but they do have sufficient backbone to resent bullying. The would-be communists, the near communists and the anti-communists in the Korean delegation promptly united on the only possible stand, that they could not have their programme dictated to them. After all the good gold that had been spent upon the subversion of the Korean revolutionary movement, Mr. Fineburg thought it very unreasonable on the part of the Korean delegates to take such a stand. But after much dispute he wired to Moscow to Mr. Voijinsky, who is the head of the department of Oriental Revolution, and asked him for advice. Mr. Voijinsky wired back that if the Koreans would wait for him, he would take the next train for the Far East.

ALL KOREANS EXPELLED.

All of this sounds like a hashish dream but it is literally true, as the writer can prove if need be. After Mr. Voijinsky's telegram had been received the Koreans were of two minds. Some were so thoroughly sick of Bolshevik perfidy that they voted to get out before they were obliged to deal courteously with another professional deceiver, and others—particularly soldiers who had served with the Russians on the German front—were inclined to wait and give Voijinsky a chance to prove himself.

The disgusted ones prevailed, however, and on February 17 the bigger leaders got their passports and left. This was of course reported to Moscow and, on February 20, an irate mandate came back to Vladivostok ordering the local authorities to turn all the Koreans in that part of Siberia out of the country. As a result thousands of Koreans are pouring into Manchuria over diverse routes and all of them are so anti-Bolshevik that all the Russian millions spent upon revolution in Korea are sheer waste. Communism as a Korean faith is so thoroughly dead that no force can revive it. It never did amount to much any way. Among 16,000 Koreans along the railway from Pogranichnaya to Vladivostok the recently dissolved Korean committee managed to find about 80 professed communists.

FREE SHOOTING AT VLADIVOSTOK.

According to their account, it is easy to tell a communist from an ordinary human being. The communist is not only permitted but is encouraged to carry arms, so all communists carry revolvers and execute their enemies when the whim seizes them. While the Korean diplomatic committee was sitting in Vladivostok, no less than 15 Koreans were shot by agents of the Cheka and their bodies so disposed of that they were reported "missing." All Japanese are under police surveillance and are to all intents and purposes prisoners. The Chinese are making money in every community as expert smugglers, not of opium and arms, as in the motherland, but of cotton goods and food. A foot of cotton cloth in Vladivostok is worth more than an ounce of opium. The Soviet administration has announced that opium growing will this year be free and unrestricted except for a trifling tax, the proceeds of which will be, according to official estimate, Gold Roubles 10,000,000 in the Maritime Province. The member of the communist party, entitled to carry weapons, never fails to avail himself of his right. Teachers in primary schools work at the blackboard with Mausers strapped on them and when they meet a stranger in the streets whose complexion they do not like they have a pot shot at him for which no court can call them to account. "No government, no law, no justice!" say the Koreans who rode in special cars to Vladivostok under Red auspices.

JAPANESE OFFICERS OF YIHYANG MARU

Still Captive: Ransom Money of $50,000 Demanded

Peking, Apr. 3.

The two Japanese officers are still in the hands of the Szechuanese forces. Payment of $50,000 for their release was arranged by the Japanese Consul at Chungking and the representative of the Central Government with the Szechuan leader. This sum was to be paid by the Chinese authorities, but local officials pleaded inability to provide that sum and asked for it to be forwarded from Peking. This caused some delay and it appears likely that the Japanese will have to advance the money if they want the officers to be released soon. As the captors demand ready money further delay will occur in transporting the ransom from Chungking.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Eng.-Capt. H. S. Garwood, who is appointed to the light cruiser Coventry, flagship of the Atlantic Fleet destroyer flotillas, as squadron engineer officer, served from May, 1921, to last July in the Hawkins, flagship of the China Station as fleet engineer officer.

OMINOUS SIGN OF WAR BETWEEN CHANG TSO-LIN AND WU PEI-FU

Coolies Emigrating to Manchuria Held up and Forced to Choose between Enlisting in Wu's Army or Returning Home

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsangchow, Chihli, Apr. 4.

A recent trip through the neighbouring counties of Yensan, Ching-yun and Laoling revealed an interesting indication of the preparations afoot for the anticipated outbreak of hostilities between Chang Tso-lin, and Wu Pei-fu, despite assurances to the contrary in the native Press.

As is generally known, immediately after the Chinese New Year holidays, there is a great exodus of coolies from their homes in Shantung and Chihli to the Manchurian provinces, where labour is plentiful, and wages good. Special cheap excursion trains are run by the Peking-Mukden line for the benefit of these emigrants, and these are patronized by hordes of coolies, in some cases accompanied by their families.

Large numbers appear to have passed through Shanhaikuan safely, and proceeded on their journey until a date about three weeks ago, when suddenly all the travellers were held up, and collected into big enclosures by Wu Pei-fu's troops, guarding the barrier. They were given the alternative of enlisting in the army, or of returning home. The younger members accepted the offer, and exchanged their civilian kit for a uniform and a rifle, reluctantly handing over their wadded quilts and miscellaneous belongings to the military authorities. Others of more mature age returned home, grumbling bitterly at the fruitless expenditure of so much of their hard-earned savings. They state that it is now impossible to proceed to Manchuria by any of the recognized routes, either by sea or land, and that those who have already succeeded in passing through Wu Pei-fu's lines have been pressed into military service by the rival commander. This certainly looks like business, and it was not surprising to find the country-side humming with excitement at the impending clash.

The price of labour in Manchuria is likely to be pretty high until this renewed struggle between Chang and Wu is over, and decisively settled. For the moment Wu has scored in securing tens of thousands of young and strong recruits for his armies, but it is doubtful whether, in their raw condition, they will materially affect the situation. Meanwhile considerable hardship is inflicted upon the labouring classes in the villages of north China, who have been debarred from their annual excursion to Manchuria. If this uncertainty or the actual conflict is prolonged into the summer, an intolerable strain will be put upon literally millions who are living near the hunger line in these Northern Provinces, a fact which may eventually have some bearing upon the political situation.

PAINS AND PENALTIES OF BIRTHDAY FEAST

Hupeh's Tuchun on the Morning After: Arbor Day and Trees That Invariably Die

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Hup., Apr. 1.

Our respected Governor was (to put it politely) "upset" after his birthday feast last week. However, western medical skill was called in to put right what had been caused, (in all probability) by western concoctions, and the Tuchun was soon upon his feet again, having fitly crowned by this escapade his first half-century of glorious life.

The next public excitement will be the planting of trees at the season of Ch'ing Ming, which since the Republic has become the national Chinese Arbour Day. The road that leads out to the ground, a mile or more outside of the city, where the trees are planted, has been, according to annual custom, given a little furbish-up by the simple means of having a few coolies chuck down piles of earth or ashes and spread them roughly over its surface. As usual, a fall of rain has succeeded the accomplishment of this meritorious deed, and the last state of the highway resembles more a pigstye than a main-road. Along this well-prepared avenue, next Saturday the carriages of our Governor and all his chiefs of department will roll, and the grand ceremony will be duly performed in the presence of many of the leading citizens, and schoolboys from the government schools in the city.

Unfortunately, this tree-planting in former days has not been an unqualified success. In fact most of the trees have died, and autumn comes to see the ground more conspicuous with the whitepainted wooden pillars, bearing the names and titles of the celebrities who have put into the ground the shrivelled and decaying remnants of what should have been trees. This year, an effort is being made to bring the people to realize more what is the purpose and ideal of an Arbor Day. Notices posted up around the city exhort the people everywhere to follow the example of their officials, by putting in trees whenever and wherever they can, and especial advice is given to the farmers, instructing them about the value of trees and the necessity of preserving them as well as planting them, and ways in which this can be done. All this is excellent, and will bear good fruit in time, if only the inertia and subservience to old habit can be overcome.

The (Wu-Han Athletic Sports, which were to have been held last Friday and Saturday, had to be postponed because no preparations had been made. Two or three days before the date fixed for the meeting, the only signs of preparation to be seen on the ground, were a small group of women and girls just beginning to weed in one corner of the vast campus. Coolies were bringing burdens of large stones and dumping them in piles half way across the ash running track,—for what purpose was not apparent.

Another official notice posted in the city warns the populace that certain Japanese warships which have come up the Yangtze are going to have some target-practice, but the merchants need not therefore conclude that their native land is being invaded.

The Hankow International Recreation Club has awarded and just signed the contract with Cheng Chong & Co., contractors for the construction of a two storey reinforced concrete grandstand and a two storey jockey and club house. The Pacific Trading Co., are the engineers, and the work will be under direct charge of Mr. Go Khek-ghee B.SC. (Glasgow) A.M.I.C.E., who served his time with Walker & Duncan, C.E., Aberdeen, and was some time with Warren & Stuart, C.E., Glasgow, and Sir William Arrols Ld., Kilmarnock.

TSINGTAO GOVERNOR'S APRIL FOOL'S DAY JOKE ON SUPERFLUOUS OFFICIALS

The Peculiar Swindle of the Kiaochou Transportation Co: Too Many Leeches

From Our Own Correspondent.

Details of Mr. Kao En-hang's root and branch policy have already been published, but the following message expands them and throws much light on their importance.

Tsingtao, April 1.

The biggest April fool joke ever perpetrated in this country is undoubtedly the product of Mr. Kao En-hang, the new Director of Kiaochou Territory, whose arrival here from Chefoo was reported by telegraph in the "North China Daily News." Shortly after assuming his post officially at eight o'cock this morning, Mr Kao dispatched to 147 advisors and officials attached to the former administration a notification of dismissal. It is considered highly improbable that the recipients of this circular notification will appreciate this colossal joke in the same light as the outsiders. Another April-fool joke of Mr. Kao, which just took five minutes to accomplish, was the dissolution of the coolie monopoly hitherto held by the Kiaochau Transportation Company. This latter concern had a most extraordinary working arrangement with the Harbour Department, which caused not a little inconvenience and no end of losses to shippers and shipping companies. Under this arrangement, the company had the monopoly over the loading and unloading operations of ships in port, charging the Harbour Department so much per ton, the latter in turn charging a different figure to the shipping companies, and pocketing the difference. Protests from the shipping companies elicited no satisfaction, until finally the respective consuls were appealed to for aid, but before the old Administration could come to a definite understanding with the protesting business community, the political broom swept it helter skelter out of power. It was felt that the whole process would have to be repeated from the ground up but Mr. Kao belied all expectations. He walked into his office at eight o'clock this morning, scanned the protest previously sent in by Mr. Major, the British Consul, and at five minutes past eight an order was signed, dissolving the coolie monopoly. Before nine, the transportation company had heard the worst. It was quite a good joke indeed, so far as business men were concerned.

WHAT DID THEY ADVISE?

In regard to the dismissal of the 147 advisors and officials, the new Director General said he had failed to ascertain what was the nature of the advice proffered by the advisors, and just what were the duties of the officials. Through this wholesale crop of dismissals. Mr. Kao expected no end of antagonism but affirmed he did not not mind it at all. In an interview which he granted to your correspondent this afternoon, he said the trouble with the old Administration was that it had too many leeches sticking around. They drew from $200 to $400 a month. "Think of it!" exclaimed the new Director General. "Why: it has cost the old Administration at least $60,000 annually in the support of a bunch of people who did nothing!"

A special department will be inaugurated for the purpose of keeping track of all lands disposed of by the former *regime*. "My predecessor caused the disposal of countless plots of ground and it is feared that many transfers of property have not been registered. We propose having all title deeds either registered for the first time or re-registered, free of cost to the holders. This is the only way to inaugurate a system of efficient recording."

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION FORETOLD.

The opinion of the foreign community seems to be now somewhat favourably inclined towards the new Administration, although it is not doubted that friction between the Japanese and Chinese over the matter of the Railway revenue will from now on become acute, for whereas the former Administration was largely composed of pro-Japanese officials, the present *regime* is influenced by Wu Pei-fu, between whom and the Japanese there is'nt much of an olive branch.

The interview which Mr. Kao granted to foreign newspapermen is considered significant in that it was granted on the very day he assumed official charge of the Administration. Throughout the interview, Mr Kao spoke freely on his plans, and his secretary, Mr. T. C. Kuo joined in the discussion of pertinent matters. A significant remark was to the effect that the question of Municipal Government will be forthwith investigated, so as to bring into effect the provision in the Washington Treaty that foreign representation "in matters that may directly affect their welfare" will be secured. The other points which the new Administration will solve have been outlined as follows:—

(a) Riesha traffic control, (b) Public works, (c) Salt monopoly, (d) Port facilities, (e) Police reorganization.

It is now learnt that amongst the officials replacing the old departmental chiefs are Mr. Chang Ying-fu, who becomes Director of Waterworks, Mr. S. C. Yao, who becomes Director of the Harbour Department, Mr. P. C. Hu, who becomes Director of the Finance Department and Mr. K. Y. Yao, who becomes Chief of the Telephone Department.

NINGPO MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

Pleasant Meeting and a Successful Concert

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ningpo, Apr. 4.

The Ningpo Missionary Association held its spring gathering on Tuesday in the home of the Principal of the Methodist College. The Rev. W. P. and Mrs. Bates proved most genial and hearty as host and hostess.

The programme was musical throughout, and gave unqualified satisfaction. The following were the chief items rendered: Pianoforte duet "Dussek's Sonata," Miss F. Honey and Mr. Bates: musical reading, Mr. Wilcox: solo "The nightingale's Song," Miss Stewart: pianoforte solo, Miss Honey: vocal duet "Gentle Spring" by Mrs Bates and Miss Stewart: cornet solo by Miss Hill: solo "Rejoice Greatly" by Mrs Bates, Pianoforte duet "Stabat Mater" by Mrs Shoemaker and Miss Stewart: double trio by Miss Bates, Mrs. Wilcox, Mrs. Benjamin, Miss Cressey, Mrs. Decker and Miss Hill: trombone solo by Mr. Benjamin: solo "O Thou that Tellest" by Miss Stewart: solo "O Lovely night" by Mrs. Bates: pianoforte solo, Grand Offertoire, in F minor by Mr. Bates: vocal duet "Stars of the Summer Night" by Mrs Bates and Miss Stewart: pianoforte duet, selections from "Il Trovatore" by Miss Honey and Mr. Bates: comic item by Miss Cressey. It would be invidious to name any one person when all were exceptionally good. The President, the Rev. Wm. Tremberth, expressed the thanks and deep appreciation of the gathering for such a varied and inspiring programme and thanked Mr. and Mrs. Bates who had not only prepared for our comfort, but had borne such a large share of the music.

On Sunday morning Ningpo welcomed to her new home Mrs. Handley Derry the wife of H. M. Consul, Mr. F. H. Handley Derry who succeeded Mr. Savage about 12 months since. Their two boys have been left behind at school in England.

ENDLESS TAXATION IN CANTON

Protests from Merchants and Bankers: Landed Property a Costly Investment

Canton, Mar. 29.

For the past few days, Dr Sun Yat-sen's followers in Canton have been celebrating the reported success of Gen. Chang Ching's army at Changchow in Fukien. It is believed that Gen. Chang has come completely over to Dr. Sun and that his success will affect the situation on the eastern front in Kuangtung. There has been fighting for the last few days on the eastern front between Gen. Chen Chiung-ming's troops and Dr. Sun's forces, but so far there has been no important engagement. The Yunnanese are now being replaced by Hunanese on this front.

M. Borodin, the Soviet representative in Canton, who is now visiting Peking, has telegraphed to Dr. Sun stating that the concessions made by Russia in the preliminary agreement, signed by M. Karakhan and Dr. C. T. Wang, are in accord with the foreign policy of the Kuomintang and that the unwillingness of Peking to ratify the pact must have been brought about by the influence of outside imperialistic Powers. All the Kuomintang newspapers advocate recognition of Russia on the basis of this agreement.

Pressing of coolies and the poorer classes into the military transport service is again taking place, in spite of the assurance, given recently by Dr. Sun's reconstruction committee, that persons buying an exemption ticket for $1 would be freed from forced labour.

Gen. Hsu Chung-chi has recently returned to Hongkong from Shanghai, but has not resumed his command of the Cantonese troops here.

BANKERS SUSPENDING BUSINESS.

The native bankers in Canton, numbering about 350 firms, will suspend business on March 31 as a protest against a recent Government order requiring them to use stamped paper for their business transactions. The Government expects to realize $50,000 a year out of this new duty. The native bankers claim that they are already paying $52,000 a year in likin and should be exempt from further taxation. Moreover, the syndicate, to which the tax has been farmed out at a large margin of profit, are seeking the privilege of making an investigation of the transactions of the native banks in order to enforce the order, which is strongly resented by the bankers and others concerned.

The Government Department of Finance is not only unpopular with the bankers, but has also aroused great antagonism on the part of the merchants. A recent order requires all persons carrying more than $50 from the port of Canton to obtain a permit, the rate charged being 1½ per cent. of the money carried. The silk merchants are most affected by this order, as they have to pay for their goods from the silk producing districts in silver, millions of local currency being transferred to these districts every season.

Another new tax, levied this time by the Municipality, is one of 1 per cent of the value on soda-water. The Municipality expects to raise $15,000 a year by this tax, the remainder of the money raised being profit for the syndicate to which the tax-collection has been farmed out. The object of the tax is stated to be popular education.

Landlords in Canton have been asked for the fourth time in the past ten months to surrender a month's rent to Dr. Sun's war pected to amount to about $1,-200,000.

LANDOWNERS HEAVILY PENALIZED.

An investor in landed property in Canton in these days, though he will prove his eagerness to help his Government, is looking for trouble for himself. For every stage in the transaction the Government has a duty fixed. When completing the purchase of the land, the deed must be registered and certified by the Government and two taxes must be paid, one for the seal of the Bureau of Finance and the other for registration of the deed by the District Court. There is also the fee for the duty stamp on each of the documents. Before building can be undertaken, plans must be submitted to the Municipal Department of Public Works and another fee paid. On completion of building, a tax of 4 per cent. is charged for improvement, or the value of the house built on the land. In addition to the foregoing, seven and a half per cent of the rent collected each month goes to the Government as police tax, besides 5 cents to $2 a month to the Department of Public Health for a sanitary tax. The landholder may have to pay a tax of 2 per cent. on the investment as a business tax, if it is his business to buy lots for building. After all his trouble, too, he may find his rents seized by the military authorities as a contribution to the war funds.

But the fate of the land investor is lighter than that of the man raising hogs for the market, who has to pay more than 15 different kinds of taxes.

Firewood probably holds the record for being the most taxed article in Canton since the return of the military rule. Some 50 forms of likin and tribute have to be paid to troops and bandits before the wood reaches the market. Firewood selling at 30 cents a picul on the hill-side costs $2.50 a picul in the Canton markets.

OPIUM OFFICIAL IN TROUBLE.

Mr. Yang Saae-arm, who was known as Mr. Yang Wei-pin when Chinese Consul in Honolulu, has been dismissed by Dr. Sun from the post of Director-General of the Opium Bureau on charges of corruption, filed by Mr. Wang Nan-mie, an assistant director of the Bureau. It is alleged that Mr. Yang has been guilty of usurpation of authority,, appropriation of public funds, keeping loose women in the official quarters, and extorting heavy fines from alleged offenders under the anti-opium regulations without referring the case to the courts for regular trial, and other offences. The Anti-Opium Bureau, in spite of its name, is really an agency for the sale of the drug and not for the suppression of the traffic.

The Kuomintang are organizing branches amongst the farmers as well as amongst the labourers and students. Policemen and soldiers will also have Kuomintang clubs.

The assets of the Canton branch of the Bank of China, which was recently forced into liquidation by an order of Dr. Sun, will be taken over by the Government, regardless of the claims of local depositors and creditors, according to a statement by Mr. C. Y. Chen Kiewoon, the Canton Municipal Commissioner of Finance, who has advised the creditors that he, as liquidator, will dispose of the bank's assets to cover the Government's claim, leaving other claims to be settled between the bank and its creditors.

A DENIAL OF BOLSHEVISM.

Dr. Sun, through his private secretary, Mr. Eugene Chen, has issued a denial that Bolshevism will be adopted as the economic and political system of Canton, at least for the present. For a time it was thought that Dr. Sun would yield to the instances of the Bolsheviks now working in South China. Mr. Chen also denied that Dr. Sun had received any financial aid from the Russians.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

News has reached the Colony, says the "Hongkong Telegraph" of the suicide, at Canton, on March 30 of Mr. E. K. Vizer, second officer of the B. & S. str. Liangchow. The deceased shot himself through the head with a revolver about 11.30 in the morning, shortly after the ship had berthed. He was carried to the Canton Hospital, where he died about a quarter past seven the same night. An inquest was held on board the next day, and the verdict was "suicide during temporary insanity." The deceased, who was quite a young man, was buried at Canton the next evening.

AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF TIENSIN

1,000 Owners But Only 75 Members: How to Control the Elusive Chauffeur

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, Apr. 3

The North China Motor Club held its annual general meeting last night in the Gordon Hall, electing officers for the coming year and discussing matters pertinent to the interests of motor-car owners in Tientsin. The Secretary's report showed that of the thousand residents owning cars registered here only 75 were members of the Club and the meeting decided upon efforts to interest non-members in the benefits of the Club and to aid it in bringing about progressive measures. It was decided that a badge of membership would be an excellent thing to place in a conspicuous position on the cars of members and would be an inducement to others to join. Badges for chauffeurs were also considered.

The question of control of chauffeurs was discussed. It was stated that the British Municipal authorities had objected to the Club exercising control over drivers. The B.M.C. had pointed out that it was impossible for any organization to control chauffeurs unless they also had powers properly to investigate their records, register them and administer punishment for breaches of regulations and law. The B.M.C. Police Department have an elaborate system of checking up past records of chauffeurs, by co-operation with Shanghai, Hankow, Harbin and other ports. They have 2,800 photograph plates on file, complete with finger-print records and lists of any offences committed by chauffeurs. Drivers, whose licences have been suspended or revoked in other ports on conviction for breach of regulations are thereby unable to transfer themselves to Tientsin to carry on their activities until such time as they may resume driving in their original port. Inasmuch as this system was conducted in co-operation with the Police departments in other ports it was considered impossible for an organization such as the Motor Club to exercise sufficient, if any, control.

The meeting elected the following to serve for the ensuing year: Chairman: Dr. O'Neill; Secretary: H. St. Clair Knox; Committee: L. O. McGowan, Major Garibaldi, J. Elliott, Lieut-Colonel Ralph Lulu.

QUICK AND THE DEAD IN HANGCHOW

All Motor-Cars Prohibited Because One Runs Down a Pedestrian

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hangchow, April 5.

The motor cars have again been running over the stupid and ignorant who as yet do not believe in the "quick and the dead," and as a consequence the cars have been forbidden to run for the present, and so for one man's carelessness many have to suffer.

The *tufei* have been busy lately near the Five Cloud Mountains. They are sent from Shanghai by the Dzen Yizn residents there. They are after the spoils of the pilgrims, who are visiting the temples in thousands these days adorned in their Sunday best with lup of gold rings and Earongs etc.

This is "pure brightness" Ching Ming—and many trees are to be planted near Tien Tsoh. Unfortunately it is not bright but cold and rainy. Wang Yong Dzien and an American railway magnate are here on a visit just now. The Hon St. Main Forester has just been paying his old friend Dr. Duncan Main a visit. He left to-day for his work amongst the Chinese students in Japan.

BEATEN ARMIES OF SZECHUAN

A City Full of Disorganized Soldiery: Robbers Adding to General Dismay

From Our Own Correspondent.

Luchow, Sze., Mar. 14.

In my letter of February 21 I spoke of the siege of the city by the first army. It lifted two or three days after that when the first army, owing to shortage of ammunition, retreated to Hoziang and vicinity. Since then there has been considerable fighting along the big river between here and that city and all kinds of rumours have been afloat. At one time the second army were apparently very hard-pressed, for they retreated in haste into the city, crossing the river in a constant stream all night long. Apparently only the timely arrival of divisional commander Tang and his men from Fushuen saved the city from capture by the first army.

Since that, more soldiers have been pouring in and now the city is literally packed with them. This city is being made the base of the second army operations. Tang arrived about a week ago from Fushuen, having come in a circle viâ Suifu from Yiunning, where he has been since the defeat of the second army last October. General Yuan arrived from Chungking with his Kueichow forces only a couple of days ago—the Kueichow men are easily distinguished from the Szechuanese soldiers by the German-style soft hat which they wear. To-day they are preparing for the arrival of no less a personage than Liu Hsiang, one of the three chief supporters of the northern cause in Szechuen, during the past year. Some say he has come to take charge of the Luchow district, others say that he is simply coming to direct the attack against Hsiong Keh Wu. Time will tell. If all the soldiers of both sides, and the robbers, in this little corner of the province could be numbered, they would number a vast host. I would not like even to venture a guess, but certainly it would be well over 100,000.

THE OLD FOX OF SZECHUAN.

Hsiong is evidently in rather a tight corner for rumour has it that his way is not open into Yunnan. From past experience one wonders whether they will really block his retreat if he decides to go and even if they do decide to try to trap him, the old fox of Szechuan will not be easily trapped. He has been in many a tight corner before and has always managed to squeeze out, so one imagines that he will be able to do so again if and when he feels that further resistance is useless for the time being.

Meanwhile the local robbers continue their depredations throughout the country districts, keeping the people of certain localities in constant alarm. Rumour is always rife, but rumour is always many times worse than the actual conditions. One of our outlying market towns was reported to have been burned to the ground by robbers, but when I had occasion to visit it a few days ago I found that, while considerable damage had been done and quite a number of houses burned, still the town was there. The people were not despairing but were building mud towers in the outskirts, behind the walls of which they intend to ward off further attacks by the marauders. At another place, where I spent the night, my host filled my ear with tales of impending attacks on the town and of loss of sleep through anxious waiting. In order to ensure rest for me he told me just before I retired that an attack was expected that very night and that when it came I must get up and dress. I slept, nevertheless, and neither heard nor saw a robber.

Making all allowances, however, for unnecessary scares and for exaggerated stories, the people in the outlying places are in constant dread of the soldiers passing through and helping themselves to whatever is handy and of robbers coming and either taking their goods or carrying their children or themselves off for ransom.

EMBARGO ON LAND PURCHASES

Curious Phenomenon in Central Kiangsu Recalling Years Before Boxer Rising

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsinkiangpuku, Apr. 4.

The older missionaries in this section say, that conditions now compare favourably with those obtaining in 1898 and '99. Not in outward gestures against foreigners, but a possible undercurrent. One thing is in itself significant. For the past two years persistent efforts have been made to purchase property in various parts of the city, and we have been willing to pay more than a reasonable price to obtain land. Many of the tracts desired have been owned by very poor people, and yet, not one piece has been purchased and there does not seem the slightest hope of getting any in the near future. The "middle men" who are approached on the subject try earnestly to put through a deal, then quietly seem to lose interest and stop. I am sure there is something behind this and I believe it would be interesting to hear reports from other parts of this and other provinces.

With other parts of China as disturbed as they are, your correspondent takes pleasure in reporting that conditions here seem normal. Seasonable weather has given a good prospect for the wheat and while bandits are active north of us, they seem to be in smaller bands than for several years past. The saving element in the situation in this part of China, humanly speaking, is the flat country, making it impossible for large bands to secret themselves with their captives and plunder, as they do in Hunan and other provinces.

Any danger which may be lurking in our section, and I do not believe it is negligible, comes from the soldiers themselves. To the average observer it would seem that the local soldiers are under less control than formerly. The prestige of the local defence commissioner is certainly lessened, and it would take only a sufficient pretext—war in other sections for instance—to cause a revolt here.

NEW BUILDINGS.

A great deal of building is being done here among the Chinese and foreigners. A new building for the mission Girl's School is now under construction, and a new dormitory for the Boy's School starts this week.

The biggest single advance is being made by the General Hospital. At the present time a tubercular ward is under construction, to which we will admit patients affected with tuberculosis, and try to teach them how to take care of themselves, and protect others. Plans are now about complete for two new large buildings, to be known as the "Houston Unit" of the hospital. This will consist of an Administration building containing offices, laboratory, X Ray rooms, a complete operating suite with two operating rooms, and a large chapel, and a new Woman's Hospital with four wards and a number of private and service rooms. These buildings are made possible by the gift of the members of the First Presbyterian Church in Houston, Texas. When completed this will give the hospital a modern plant with about 175 beds.

A wooden case, landed recently at Kowloon from the str. Aachen, a German vessel from Hamburg, was found on examination by Revenue officials to contain 118 Mauser automatics and 13,800 rounds of ammunition. At the Magistracy, Mr. Hamilton made an order for their confiscation.

A CURIO COLLECTOR OF TIENTSIN

Lo the Poor Indian: And the Still Poorer Holders of Numerous I. O. U.'s

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, Apr. 4.

R. K. Surman, a native of India, and sponsor, founder and sole proprietor of the "International Commercial Museum" (China Section) recently left Tientsin. Before leaving he managed to bring into being a number of interesting museum relics. Holders of these specimens of antiquity, both commercial and otherwise, have spent a good deal of time recently in comparing the value of each article. They seem to have come to the conclusion that the value of each will not improve with age.

At present it appears that the total value of the specimens approximates $1,000, among which may be mentioned a hotel bill of $190; a promissory note for part payment of a printing and advertising bill worth $150; an employee's monthly salary account of $150; a tailor's bill for $80 and a rent bill for about Tls. 195.

As to the International aspect of this museum, there can be no question, for Chinese, Japanese, Americans, French and British are all interested. Some of the less permanent relics are a prospectus for a 25 cent. Guide to Tientsin and an Important Announcement that Mr. Martin is coming with a large assortment of commercial relics. "When Martin Comes," if his arrival should be anything like that heralded in a well-known funny story by that title, he should meet with a profuse welcome.

Perhaps the principal relic in the Tientsin Section of the International Commercial Museum, is a telegram from the Bombay branch of a large India Bank, which was given as a guarantee and which upon being questioned by cable, replied "International Commercial Museum Quite Unknown To Us."

FAREWELL TO HANKOW HARBOUR MASTER

Parting Presentations from Foreign and Chinese Colleagues

A pleasant gathering of members of the foreign executive staff of the Hankow Customs took place at the Customs Club on the 29th ultimo on the eve of the departure of Mr. E. Hubbard, Chief Tide-surveyer and Harbour Master, when he was presented with a gold wristlet suitably inscribed. A letter signed by the members was then read and handed to him, reading:—

Sir,—In asking you to accept this small gift on the eve of your departure for Antung, we wish you to know that one and all have been actuated by sincere esteem for yourself and through this means wish to acknowledge many kindnesses received during your period as Chief Tidesurveyer at this port.

While wishing you Godspeed and all happiness, we trust that good fortune may again favour us with renewed experiences of mutual co-operative service in the near future.

Mr. Hubbard replied that he very much appreciated the gift but much more appreciated the spirit in which it was given. He regretted not having been with them longer and was pleased to be able to say that, during his 12 months in Hankow he noticed that the executive staff co-operated heartily with him in carrying out the various duties pertaining to the department. He hoped to have the good luck to meet some if not all of those now present before he was retired.

Another gathering of the Chinese members of the executive staff took place in the Chief Tidesurveyer's office, when he was presented with a silver shield suitably inscribed, mounted on blackwood also a letter reading:—

Dear Sir,—We the undersigned members of the Chinese outdoor staff beg to bring forth before you a small gift as a token in memory of the time we have been under your leadership, and hope that you will be pleased to accept same which you have won from us. We cannot express in words our admiration of your fairness in dealing with our duties, and we are at a loss to see that the man whom we respect so much is going to part from us.

We sincerely hope that you will enjoy yourself at your new port and that prosperity will go along with you.

Mr. Hubbard replied that although he did not place much worth in gifts he would be very pleased to accept this token (*Shih ching chi, pu shih tung chi* as the Chinese say) but what appealed to him more was the wording of the letter just handed to him. He was glad they appreciated his fairness, that if he couldn't be fair he wouldn't be anything else.

He wished the native officers every success and hoped to have good news of them. He emphasized the fact that a good steady officer doing his duty conscientiously was bound to get on in the service and that on the other hand the one who did not stick to the straight path would sooner or later come to grief as they have had occasion to see.

PERILS OF LIFE ON THE WEST RIVER

Death-trap Steam-Launches: Overloaded, Underpowered, with Cabins None Can Escape from: How Bad Government Makes Matters Worse in This Too

From Our Own Correspondent.

Liuchow, Si., Mar. 13.

The Kuangsi military launch Number 6 while coming down the West river from Tsinchow was wrecked on the Kuyung rapid and went down with some ten of the passengers and crew on board. The river here is not considered dangerous but the cross currents are treacherous and it was in one of these that the launch was caught. The helmsmen tried to steer the launch out into the open stream, but the launch would not respond to the rudder and as she listed heavily she took in water and went down.

The authorities are now using every effort to refloat the launch. Native junks have been secured and a large gang of men are daily at work, but it is a slow process and as yet only the funnel is to be seen protruding through the water.

THE DANGER OF LAUNCH TRAVEL.

Launch travel on the West river and its various branches is very dangerous. Not only are the cross currents hard to determine, but they change continually with every rise or drop in the water so that a spot which on one trip presents no difficulties, on the next trip abounds with danger. Seldom a year passes without its serious wrecks and toll of lives lost. Last year the motor launch Tungming while transporting Yunnan soldiers from Liuchow down to Wuchow went down with nearly everyone on board. Later the Tungloh met a similar fate with a heavy loss of life and since that time there have been other wrecks with less serious consequences. These yearly wrecks with their accompanying loss of life can be attributed largely to the present form of government, or lack of government as the case may be.

TAXATION MAKES MORE DANGER.

Extortionate likin customs and heavy military dues are levied all along the river. Since the disorganization of a proper government increased customs stations have been opened at various places, and other customs stations have been sold out to the highest bidder. This increases the "Squeeze" as the manager must make a comfortable living for himself, relatives and retinue and at the same time lay aside something for a rainy day or a change in the administration. One would think judging from the way the duties are levied that the proprietor is preparing for, not a rainy day, but a rainy season. This excessive taxation forces the launch owners to put on the launches loads which they were never made to carry and in addition a tow boat or two is pulled along behind. These launches with their tows are loaded down to the gunwale so that the least lurch causes them to take in water and go down. Moreover the loads of the launches are so heavy that the strength of the engine is taxed to its limit to make the rapids or ascend where the current is extra swift. Consequently, often ropes must be used to capstan the launch up the stream. Occasionally when half way up the rapid and the boatmen are straining every nerve to make the grade, the huge towline breaks and down the launch is carried in the grip of the current. At such times a wreck is almost inevitable. If the launches were not loaded so heavily the engine could drive her up the stream without the help of ropes, or if ropes were used there would be less danger of breaking. Moreover if the launches were not loaded so heavily and the ropes did break their own engines would have power sufficient to keep them under control.

Carelessness is also a noticeable feature that enters into some of the wreck. On some launches that ply the West river the crew are not allowed to gamble on board while the boat is running and this makes carelessness less liable to occur. On the majority of launches, however, gambling is the order of the day, and night too. Watching a gambling game instead of watching the channel has been the cause, on more than one occasion, of a boat getting into difficulties. At other times the launch gets into trouble before the boatmen who have gambled all night are wakened and called to their posts.

LAUNCHES AS DEATH TRAPS.

When wrecks occur no matter what the cause may be, the construction of many of the launches adds greatly to the loss of life. The openings along the sides and the windows in the cabins are so small that it is almost impossible for many to crawl out and escape. When the motor launch Tungloh went down those in the tiny cabins lost their lives like rats in a trap. Some of the recently constructed launches have made noticeable improvements along this line. The cabin windows are large and can be opened easily in cases of emergency while the larger room in which the bulk of the passengers travel are also arranged so that escape is possible in cases of real danger. If all launches were built in this way, and a law were passed, as in Hongkong, and other enlightened and well governed, ports, forbidding overloading and caring a little for the lives of those who must travel, the loss by drowning on these rivers, which has to be reported so often, would be brought down to a minimum.

SMUGGLING AND SLOW TRAVEL.

A few years ago a journey which took but from five to eight days is now lengthened out to ten days or two weeks. The increased customs stations and the extra red tape where the customs are rented out to private individuals has much to do with this slow travel, but the practice of smuggling by members of the crew and the private business carried on by many is a big factor in many of the delays. The launch anchors early, because the boatmen say, "There is no place to anchor if we go further," when in reality they have private cargo which they want to take on board and which will need all the evening to carry down to the boat. This form of smuggling and private enterprise not only causes innumerable delays along the road, but increases by hours the time taken to pass the various customs stations. The customs men know there is smuggling cargo on board and in order to find it and receive the fees which its discovery will bring, the launch is often held up for hours while a regular search is made. Recently a journey which in the balmy days of peace and quietness could be made in less than three days has come to occupy as much as 18. And this without a break or a mishop. How the various shipping firms can rectify this is a matter which has not yet been solved.

MR. G. M. Young has been appointed a Director of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation in the place of Mr. G. T. M. Edkins.

A VISIT TO TOKIO'S "NIGHTLESS CITY"

The Yoshiwara Rebuilt and Flourishing: Public Opinion Awakening: Buddhist Teaching Outraged

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Mar. 25.

People have expressed astonishment at the rapid manner in which Tokio has been, and is being, rebuilt. These, however, have referred to the business and residential portions of the city. They must, however, pay a visit to the Yoshiwara (Tokio's main red-light district) and their astonishment would increase a thousandfold. Even to a few of us Tokio residents for years, who had seen reconstruction develop from day to day, the rehabilitation of the Yoshiwara was astounding. There is no part of destroyed Tokio that has been resurrected so artistically, so effectively and so thoroughly as the Yoshiwara.

To re-locate the spot gave us a great deal of trouble. To be sure it is behind the famous temple of Kwannon, the Japanese goddess of mercy, but once there we were still at a loss as to where the entrance to the "Nightless City," began. The curious looks and supercilious smiles that accosted us made us certain that we were in the neighbourhood of the place and finally we decided to ask a diminutive policeman who, in his cage-like "police box," was warming his hands over a *hibachi* (Japanese fire-box) although it was a rather warm day in early Spring. He condescended to leave his official shelter and, with a broad grin occasioned perhaps by the thought that these queer foreigners visit "Nightless Cities" by day, walked with us to what was formerly the main entrance to the officially segregated district. Here he bade us goodbye and ventured the hope that we would have a merry time.

WHERE HUNDREDS WERE BOILED.

Our steps first took us towards the large pond, situated in the shadow of multifarious tutelary gods and goddesses sacred to the courtesans, where hundreds of these girls perished on that terrible afternoon of September 1 last year. Those women who escaped from the crashing houses and the devouring flames sought shelter in this shallow pool, perhaps some 50 feet by 30 feet. There was soon hardly elbow room. The flames continued to rage. The water became tepid, then hot, then rose to a temperature far above the boiling point. When, the following day, squads of soldiers and workmen came to gather the bodies, that portion above the surface of the water was charred black, while the parts below the water surface were cooked. The pond had become a seething cauldron in the conflagration.

A granite stone, with Chinese ideographs carved on it roughly, recalls the tragedy to those able to read the characters. On the stone is a brazier and the smoke of incense rises intermittently—let us suppose it is a tribute to those unfortunate girls.

FINE HOUSES: GOOD STREETS.

The houses in which are now quartered other courtesans—there seems to have been no especial difficulty in securing women for this degrading "necessity"—are some of the finest in Tokio, certainly much finer than the domiciles erected for the people. The "barracks" put up for the homeless are worse than pigs' styes compared to these. The wooden floors have been polished until one can see one's reflexion in them; trees have been planted giving the place a sense of quiet and dignity; the streets are straight, clean and broad—something that important portions of commercial and industrial Tokio haven't got. The houses are artistically constructed, with that blending of Chinese and native Japanese architecture that makes Japanese houses so picturesque. Inside are miniature landscape gardens as in the days before September, 1923, with little altars where a lantern or a candle is burnt by devout or superstitious—it is hard to distinguish between these words—*oiran* (courtesans) to solicit the favour of the gods. Everything seems to be the same as before, the only innovation being that zinc plates have been used for the roofing of the houses instead of the heavy tiles.

From the windows kimonos of all hues are spread out to dry. The shrill falsetto of a musically-inclined courtesan comes from some hidden room. Street vendors of all sorts of things—from gaudy tinsel to raw fish—peddle their wares from door to door, dwelling eloquently on the radiant looks of the women who now come out and telling them how much more beautiful they would be if they only had this or that ornament affixed to their hair or their clothes, the while the *oiran* drinks in all the flattery apathetically.

"BUSINESS" FLOURISHING.

In front of each house sit two men zealously warming their hands and scanning every passer-by with furtive eye. The glance of one rests on us. Won't we come in? Yes, the women here are the best; they only came yesterday. We talk Japanese. Ah, then, the honourable strangers have been for some time in Japan! Aren't foreigners clever to talk a language so well in such a short space of time?

A few deft questions and a liberal offering of cigarettes inspires one of these keepers to talk business."

"Yes," he says, "everything is now flourishing, for we are giving the public what they want. We have been able to get all the houses to agree to a flat rate of Y.1.50 an hour, and many a fine young fellow has to leave regretfully because of lack of accommodation."

BUDDHISTS AWAKENING.

It must not be imagined that all the Japanese endorse this manner of re-building the capital—of beginning with the Yoshiwara first. The Buddhists are beginning to ask—happy augury—whether it is necessary that the task of clearing society of the evils of alcohol and prostitution should be left to Christians alone, for these were two of the weaknesses of mankind that the Buddha condemned in no less peremptory and condemnatory a manner than did Jesus Christ. Just at the present time, when keepers of these dens in Kioto and Osaka have summoned a meeting to discuss what steps should be taken to prevent Christians and Christian missionaries from jeopardizing their "trade," a union of zealous Buddhists and fervent Christians to rid the land of recognized public prostitution, which works infinite harm to the spiritual and educational culture of the Japanese, is especially desirous. Questionable hotels—quite apart from the licensed places of which the Tokio Yoshiwara is a model—abound in every city of Japan, and a large number of the people are rightly connecting this lowering of tone with the State-recognized Yoshiwara.

THE TIENTSIN WOMEN'S CLUB

Flourishing Institution of 16 Nationalities: Annual General Meeting

Tientsin News Service

Tientsin, Apr. 4.

A membership of 201, representing 16 nationalities, and a credit balance of about $500 at the end of the first working year are the more substantial facts disclosed at the annual general meeting of the Tientsin Women's Club yesterday.

After hearing reports of the various department and executive secretaries the meeting elected officers for the coming year as follows:

Executive Board: Mrs. E. K. Lowry, President; Mrs. E. C Young, Vice-President; Mrs. A. G. Robinson, Recording Secretary; Mrs. A. E. Capstick, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. J. B. Wolfe; Treasuurer; Member-at-large for one year, Mrs. G. E. Nathan; Member-at-large for two years, Mrs. Paul Young.

Balloting Committee: Mrs. F. W. L. Dreckmeier, Chairman (also ex-officio member of the Executive Board); Mrs. R. H. Chandless, Mrs. R. C. Guernier, Mrs. F. S. Williams, and Mrs. Dan Chung.

Departmental heads of the four main divisions will be elected later at meetings of those departments.

Among new business it was decided to inaugurate a series of special study circles in subjects not covered by the four main departments, each circle to have a minumum of eight members. Such subjects as Physical Culture, Drama, Parliamentary Law, will hereafter be conducted under this scheme. It was also decided that the Executive Board shall appoint a special Entertainment Committee to conduct programmes not regularly coming under any of the main departmental activities, such as promotion of membership drives, campaigns and the like. Hereafter every Tuesday will be club day, either the entire club or one of the departments meeting on that day.

From the report of the Executive Board, drawn up by last year's Recording Secretary, Mrs. Robinson, some of the more interesting facts have been extracted as follows: The Tientsin Women's Club was formed in the spring of 1923 after several meetings of those interested, including members of the then existing Mothers' Club. The constitution was drawn up and officers elected at a meeting in the Gordon Hall on May 30, when 51 signed the original constitution. The new club then invited about 300 ladies of the port to join, arranged to rent the Masonic Hall for meetings, and bought various furniture, tea service, etc., and planned out a Club programme for the year. During the year the Club held seven monthly meetings, with an average of 100 present at each, a Christmas Party for children at the Gordon Hall, a luncheon at the Astor to hear Miss Kendall, a Valentine Book Tea, a reception to meet Dame Adelaide Anderson and a mahjong party and dance at the Gordon Hall, which incidentally netted $200 towards the building fund.

The report further states that the 16 nationalities include 1 Dutch, 1 Japanese, 1 Swiss, 1 Italian, 1 Norwegian, 1 German, 3 French, 5 Russian, 18 Chinese, 62 British, including English, Canadian, Australian, Scotch and Irish, and 107 American.

The enrolment in each department is: Home and Children: 131; Social Service: 70; Music Study: 50; Literature: 142.

Among things planned for the coming year are a Rummage Sale at the end of April, an open evening by the Music Study department in May, Chinese Shadow players' entertainment, very shortly, as well as the regular operations of each of the four departments and the newly planned circles.

THE DOCTOR'S GOWN

An Ingenious Theft by Bogus Patient and a Cold Tea Party

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wusih, Ku., April 3.

The following incident came to my ears to-day and seems fully worthy of the Mixed Court in Shanghai. An old lady took a dollar to a Chinese doctor and asked him to follow her for the purpose of treating her master. She took the doctor to a tea house in the public garden and generously supplied him with tea. There she also communicated to him the intelligence that her master did not wish his family disturbed by a knowledge of his illness, and therefore preferred to meet him in the tea house. Saying that she would now call her master, she left the doctor to enjoy a prolonged wait. Instead of going for her master she hastened back to the doctor's house and told his wife that, the weather being colder than her husband anticipated, he urgently needed his long squirrel fur gown and a warm wadded jacket. These the good lady gave her, but took the precaution of sending a slave girl to carry them for her. The wary old lady led the way to a photographer's shop, where remarking that the doctor was upstairs, she kindly relieved the slave of the garments. After remaining some time upstairs, she came down and gave the girl 20 cents, telling her to take a ricsha home, and that her master would follow shortly.

In the meantime the doctor having enjoyed a fruitless period of waiting, consoled himself with the thought that at least he had earned a dollar, and went home. In consequence of the circumstantial evidence produced by the dovetailing of his and his wife's narratives, a hurried search was made among the pawnshops, in one of which the missing garments were found, having been pawned for $18. The resourceful old lady is still missing.

ARMED ROBBERS AT NINGPO

Chinese Officials Evading Responsibility by Forbidding Foreigners to Travel

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ningpo, Apr. 4.

This city, riding on the crest of a "peaceful" wave for a long time, suffered a severe shock a few days ago by the visit, in a gray afternoon, of a small band of roobers. It seems that a particular family living outside the West Gate, and marked for attack, is known to be rich. The men were well dressed, and they aroused no suspicion anywhere until they boldly entered the house, asked for the master, and demanded money. The alarm was raised, and the street watch were soon on the spot. It was then found that the men were armed, they shot right and left and four of the wounded have since died. A young man and a boy were caught, and carried off by the robbers before 200 people who dared not lift a hand to rescue the victims for fear of being shot down. At Passan, later, a watchman attacked the robbers single-handed. He was speared badly and has since died. A letter has been sent from the bandits' hiding place demanding a ransom of $30,000, but no address is given. So Ningpo is sharing the fellowship of suffering

The Chinese authorities are pursuing the usual course of asking foreigners not to travel in the affected areas. The Consul has sent a circular letter round to British subjects stating that he has told three officials that they cannot divest themselves of their responsibilities by merely closing certain areas. No foreigners to our knowledge have been molested, in any way in this district as yet. It is stated that the Defence Commissioner is taking steps to put down the robbers.

GOING A-FAIRING IN SZECHUAN

Another Tale of Glory Departed: The Romance and Business of Twenty Years Ago

From Our Own Correspondent.

Mienchow, Sze., Mar. 17.

The story of the looting of the Mission Hospital at Mienchu was not correct. It had, however, a foundation in fact, as there has been considerable looting in the vicinity.

For the first time in three years the Tsetong fair has come to Mienchow. It is an ancient institution, and everyone looks forward to the excuse for a day off, and a chance to spend some money on a few needs for the year that can only then be conveniently supplied. There are of course many of the things that one can always buy.

The fair, however, is hardly more than a pious effort. We went as usual and sought things in their accustomed haunts, but they were not to be found. Twenty years ago we went with an elegant scholar of local fame to a large temple where ink-slabs and such-like things were sold. I see again in imagination the experience and dignity with which he tapped and scratched among the various slabs till he found one that he thought might do for a would-be scholar.

A DEGENERATE AGE.

Those days are far away, and so are the flourishing, crowded fairs that then were the fashion. I could find no ink-slabs, and have met no one who did. After 20 years one manages to dispense with a teacher's help; but the gain is not unmixed. Gone is the new and vivid curiosity which all things Chinese then aroused: but there remains a placid interest in everything, and if the spirit with which I can *"kan kuei"* partakes somewhat of that of the Chinaman, that is all to the good.

Twenty years after! The kind of things one sees at the fair are the same, except the soldiers. There is the same capacity to harangue the people from poster and proclamation. One large proclamation says: "Things are now in better order, and all officials are intending to do their duty. Let everyone help to establish the country!" Another said awful penalties would be meted out to those who, contrary to the treaties, persist in growing opium.

The rice market looked fairly well supplied. Trade of all sorts was brisk and everyone seemed busy. One man's signboard seemed to strike a familiar note: "The one and only Liu" he called himself. I remember how full in those far away days the stalls and temples were of silks, pictures, flowers, shrubs, and pens and books, aye, and ink-slabs! After 20 years I wanted a new ink-slab but found none in the proper "fair" style—hundreds spread out in array. I might have fumbled around, and scratched and tapped as my friend did 20 years ago. But who wants to buy things in a shop on "fair" day? Not I!

SOME OF THE PRICES.

We found the shrubs after much searching, hidden in an out-of-the-way temple. It may interest Shanghai people to know what we paid up here for some things we bought. For a blossoming japonica we paid 45 dollar cents; for a Buddha's hand tree and a pink flowering hibiscus 25 cents each, and for a small oleander 20 cents. Iron hoes were selling at 800 cash per catty. Large native scissors sold at 320 cash each. A kind of iron dibble for gardening cost 320 cash. We bought scroll pictures very cheaply. For instance: eight scrolls depicting the 24 examples of filial piety sold at 40 cents. The dollar is changing at 3,100 cash.

THE wedding of Mr. Duncan Millar, of the Chartered Bank, and Miss Gwen Forbes will take place about the middle of next month, says the "Straits Echo."

MOTOR-BUS COLLISION IN HONGKONG

Four Passengers Killed and Six Injured

Hongkong, Apr. 7.

A serious collision between two motor-buses occurred yesterday afternoon in the New Territories. One of the buses contained a party of boy scouts of the Seventh Saiyingpun School troop, who were proceeding to their camp. The buses, which were travelling in opposite directions, met head on on a long bridge. Ten persons, all Chinese, were killed or injured. Two boy-scouts received fatal injuries and one girl and one woman were killed.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE JAPANESE NAVAL COLLISION

Tokio, Apr. 4.

It is understood that the Nagato, which at the time of the collision was engaged in towing the Mutsu was only very slightly damaged. No details are at present available.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FIRST CHINESE NURSES OF SHANSI

Local Product of Which the Province Is Justly Proud

From Our Own Correspondent.

Taiku, Shan., Mar. 29.

To-day an event unique in the history of Shansi has occurred here. It was the graduation of a class of six nurses, men, from the Nurses' Training School of the Smith-Barton Hospital of this city. This is, I believe, the first class of nurses ever to finish training in this province. Four of the six young men passed with credit the examinations of the Nurses' Association of China and received the diplomas of that organization as well as those of the local school. Great credit for this result must be given to the head of the training school here, Miss Alma M. Atzel, R.N., and to her colleague, Miss Helen Dizney, R.N., as well as to the medical men on the staff of the Smith-Barton Hospital, Dr. W. A. Hemingway, Dr. W. P. Tien and Dr. C. L. Wen. All these workers have co-operated in the training of these young men, some of whom have spent six years in preparation.

The address to the graduates was given by a veteran Shansi missionary, Dr. E. H. Edwards, who has recently returned to Taiyuanfu from his home in England. The address was a clear and helpful exposition of the function of nursing in mission medical work, and was aptly illustrated by stories of early medical work in Shansi, in which Dr. Edwards himself was one of the pioneers. The representative of the graduating class, Mr. Chao Yi, R.N., gave a remarkably effective statement as to the real place of the trained nurse, in his relation to the medical staff, to the patients, to the technical work of the hospital, to the home and to society. The graduating exercises were also enlivened by several appropriate musical numbers.

It is gratifying to learn that all six of the young men who were graduated to-day have positions awaiting them, and, indeed, the demand is in advance of the supply. The promoters of this training school have a right to feel that it is meeting a real need in Shansi.

MISSING MILLIONS OF TSINGTAO

Officials of Old Regime Held Up and Compelled to Render Account

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, April 5.

One sensation now follows on the heel of another, the latest being the frustration of an attempt on the part of Mr. Tsou Wen-wei, the former Director of General Affairs, to slip out of town unobserved. He has been under surveillance ever since the advent of the Kao Administration although he was in all probability unaware of it. In any case, when he attempted to slip out of town on the evening of the 3rd, he was politely requested not to do so again.

The present Administration intends to hold Mr. Tsou strictly responsible for the millions which have disappeared from the Treasury here. When the archives of the old Administration were taken over, the chief of each department thought it was only necessary to hand over the existing records together with whatever money was available, without giving a strict accounting. Mr. Kao En-hung apparently thought otherwise, for he required the old records to be fully gone into.

As already reported, there have been wholesale dismissals, only a couple of men of the old *régime* being taken over by the new Administration. They include Mr. D. Y. Lin, the Chief of the Agriculture and Forestry Bureau. This is, undoubtedly, a wise decision, for Mr. Lin is not only an expert in his line and well acquainted with the foreigners here but a strictly honest official.

He has had to encounter no end of difficulties as a result of his refusal to mortgage the trees under his jurisdiction. In fact, just prior to the Chinese New Year he had to escape to Peking in order not to be compelled to sign a mortgage on all trees in this district. Mr. Tsou Wen-wei at that time called together the chiefs of the various departments and required them to raise money the best way they could, so as to tide over the critical period; but Mr. Lin strenuously objected, affirming that inasmuch as he had no part in the process of making millions disappear he saw no reason why he should worry over the financial situation.

The new Administration begins work each day at eight in the morning and does not terminate before that hour in the evening. This is certainly an improvement upon the old system under which the various department chiefs rarely turned up before one in the afternoon.

BLESSING THE SILK WORMS

Seeking Luck at Feast of Pure Brightness: Wusih's Big Loss in Recent Years

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wusih Ku., Apr. 3.

The Tsing Ming, or annual feast of spirit worship, comes this year on April 6. The Wei Sun, or Sacred Mountain, is a famous goal for pilgrims at this season, and if the weather is good the worshipers will probably number between five and six thousand. The pilgrims invariably include an astonishing number of women, many of them of the upper classes, whom one would believe to be physically incapable of the steep climb to the summit of the mountain. Seen from the city the mountain presents, on the principle day of the feast, the appearance of an ant hill with its columns of tiny figures moving up and down it.

An interesting feature of this festival is that the raisers of silkworms put the eggs into their clothing and thus enable the embryonic worms to make the ascent with them. It is to be expected that this ceremony will be observed with unusual care this year as it is believed to bring good luck to the cocoons and the silk market has been particularly short of that commodity during the past year. As a matter of fact the average loss sustained by each silk filature last year amounts to $20,000. The reason given is that the worms were underfed and ill cared for, and therefore produced an inferior quality of silk. It is feared that the number of merchants coming to buy in Wusih will be much smaller this year than formerly. Therefore in addition to the pious pilgrimage of the eggs, the country people are being carefully instructed in the best possible methods of sericulture.

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF GEN. SUN LIEH-CHUN

Peking, Apr. 6.

A Fengtien dispatch reports that Gen. Sun Lieh-chun is seriously ill and fears are entertained of his recovery. Gen. Sun is said to be suffering from consumption. As he is too ill to attend to his official duties, Marshal Chang Tso-lin is consulting with the Kirin Provincial Assembly regarding the temporary appointment of a Deputy-Commandant of Peace Preservation in Manchuria, the post given to Gen. Sun after the Chihli-Fengtien war. It is expected that Gen. Pao Kuei-ching will be given this post. Reuter's Pacific Service.

INQUIRIES made by the Tientsin News Service at the Kailan Mining Administration elicit the information that the bodies of 50 men recently entombed by a cave-in, have not yet been recovered and that some time will elapse before the operators can reach the place where they were buried.

THE AXE IN JAPAN'S CIVIL SERVICE

Superfluous Bureaucrats Fearful of Discharge: Y. M. C. A. Plans of Rebuilding

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, April 2.

Since 1920 when Japan felt the full force of the reaction following the war boom, the civil servants of the Empire have been haunted by the spectre of the retrenchment axe. The number of civil servants had grown out of all proportion during the days of the European war and armies of clerks were employed in the existing Government departments and bureaux and in the large number of new ones that were then established. The depression of 1920 brought Japanese realists in the Treasury Department face to face with the need for immediate retrenchment and furnished ample opportunities for the Government to dismiss a large proportion of the army of civil servants, oportunities that the authorities were not slow to take advantage of. Then came the Washington conference which resulted in the economy axe cutting deeper furrows. The earthquake of last September has again made it imperative to deflate the civil service once more and Viscount Kiyoura is credited with a firm determination to cut down expenses wherever such can be done

The tendency to increase the number of government employees has been a prominent evil in this country. As a new Ministry comes into power jobs are sought for its supporters and the dependents of its supporters. The earthquake gives the Premier, Viscount Kiyoura, ample excuse for sweeping out the non-indispensable elements in the Government service, but how far he will carry his retrenchment policy is not known yet.

It is generally believed that the Premier will wait till after the general elections before he takes any extensive step in this direction partially because the dismissal of Government employees, possessing the franchise might result in these out-of-office men throwing the weight of their support on the side of Opposition. What is definitely known of the retrenchment programme of the Premier is that he proposes to effect not merely a reduction of expenses, but also to justify the dismissal of employees by showing an increase in efficiency. The Government's scheme includes a thoroughgoing reorganization of the administrative machinery, one of the outstanding points in this plan being the unification of the administration of all departments pertaining to transportation by creating a new Department of Transportation. It is also reported that the Government proposes to unify the departments of War and Navy under one new Department of National Defence.

Y.M.C.A.'S IN JAPAN.

"The Beautiful God Village" is the new name given by Japanese to the temporary location of the Tokio Y.M.C.A. The Y.M.C.A. organizations of Tokio and Yokohama lost all their buildings in the September catastrophe, but from almost the very hour that people regained a measure of normality these organizations have been alleviating distress and aiding reconstruction.

The former gymnasium of the Tokio Y.M.C.A., of which only the shell is remaining, is the abode of a group of 75 refugees who have called their temporary home "The Beautiful God Village". The old bowling alleys in the Tokio gymnasium have been transformed into a night school, attended regularly by 375 students, while the Y.M.C.A. city association in Yokohama is one of the busiest spots in the rapidly-reviving port city.

Japanese business men have long ago discovered the value of the Y.M.C.A. organization and have pledged all possible assistance in the efforts made to resurrect these institutions. The reconstruction programme will require about Yen 3,000,000, and it is proposed to erect an even better structure than existed prior to the catastrophe. All the buildings connected with the work of the Y.M.C.A. in Tokio were burned, including the national headquarters of the city association and central auditorium, the gymnasium, the Y.M.C.A. building in the Imperial University grounds, the Japanese student building, the Chinese Student Building and the Korean student building.

All the buildings of the organization in Yokohama were swept by the fire, the frames of reinforced concrete stood intact and a few days after the calamity afforded places of refuges to homeless people. No less than 450 persons found temporary homes in this manner.

The manner in which the Y.M.C.A. got to work to succour the sufferers has just won praise from the Government and municipal officials. Amongst the relief work done was the distribution by Y men of milk for 2,000 children for many weeks following the disaster. The milk was supplied by the Tokio municipality. The tents that the Y had also assisted many refugees to find their relatives, for which special bureaus were established. Employment agencies and bureaus to provide free legal advice to small property owners regarding landown ership rights are still being conducted under the aegis of the Y. M. C. A.

The emergency following the earthquake proved to be a test through which the Y. emerged with flying colours and the respect in which these organizations have ever been held in Japan has increased all the more to-day.

The rebuilding fund for which Yen 3,000,000 will be needed is to be raised both in Japan and in the United States. Contributions already made in Japan amount to Yen 250,000, but the campaign has not commenced in earnest as yet.

The new city building planned for Tokio is to be a much larger one than the building destroyed and is to cost, according to present plans, about Yen 1,000,000.

FAMINE PRICES FOR KANSU WOOL

Prospective Bankruptcies When the Usual Slump Comes

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sining, Mar. 19.

News has arrived that a certain wool agent of German nationality travelling in Tibet has been attacked by robbers and two of his escort killed.

Two years ago wool could be bought at $5 per picul, now it has run up to Tls. 20 and some as high as Tls. 22 per picul and at this price it is quite probable that some will find themselves nearly ruined when they come to dispose of it again. There are about 40 different agents this year buying wool in Huang-yuen and it is a harvest-time for the Tibetans. In Sining three Russian firms have opened up agencies. About four years ago wool ran up to Tls. 28 and Tls. 30 per picul; many of those who purchased were ruined. The following year little wool was bought because the old firms would not give the price, and their competitors failed to come back the next year, so the Tibetans had to keep their wool until they were willing to come down to the price of the buyer.

This inrush of new agencies is a curse to the steady trading which has been going on for some scores of years, and it is quite possible the older firms, disgusted with the fluctuations, may transfer their energies to more hopeful fields. To do so would be a great blow to these border cities which have become accustomed to the yearly incoming of tens of thousands of taels. Over Tls. 10 million catties of wool are sent from this district every year. Just now scores of carts are carting the wool down to this city every day, whence it is sent down to Lanchow on rafts and from there on a larger rafts to Paot'ou and Tientsin.

MANILA, April, 5.—Justices Elias F. Johnson and William S. Johns of the Supreme Court are passengers on the President Jackson for the United States.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SHEEP AND GOATS ON RACE COURSE

Tientsin Classifying All Ponies as Pure China or Half Breeds

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, Apr. 7.

Consternation, modified slightly by the leaven of inevitableness, and all that sort of thing, reigns in racing circles here to-day as a result of the classification of old race ponies this morning into the "sheep" and the "goats"; otherwise into China ponies and half-breeds.

Fifteen men, elected by the "voting" members of the Tientsin Race Club gathered early this morning at the course and stood in solemn judgment on the ancestral lines of most of Tientsin's famous quadrupeds.

Fourteen ponies, among them Champions, ex-Champions and many times winners, passed provisionally into "B" Class, and will remain there permanently unless very good gencalogical proof is forthcoming within 24 hours, to obtain revocation. They are The Rambler, Champions winner last spring and second to Rolls Royce in the autumn; Capella Eyes, winner of the last Kiangwan Leger and third in the last Kiangwan Champions; Kismet, winner of three races last season; Touchsand, Meeko, Arab, Oklahoma, Silver King, Sunbeam, Sunset, Gobi Son, Kavoshima, Etamim and Bellatrix.

Hereafter, these half-breeds are condemned to participate in but two races on each day of the coming Spring Meeting, and to remain out of the premier race, the Champions. They will not have even a Champions event of their own.

A few old ponies have not yet been brought to judgment, notably Symphony, which is perhaps the fastest three-quarter mile pony in the north, and which was expected to break the all-China record this spring. There are those who think this pony will also suffer exile to "B" Class. The new string of 1924 "griffins" have yet to be judged, and from what we are able to discover, there will be some excitement when decisions are given.

No little surprise was caused this morning when the judges declared Kismet to be a half-breed, and not the least surprised was the owner, who is an ardent advocate of the exile. The pony stands only 13.1, which is about what a China pony should stand, but there was possibly something uncanny in Kismet's consistent winning, or a nasty, "horsy" look in his eye. An even smaller pony, Arab, measuring only 13 hands, was also declared of mixed parentage. Possibly the Mendellian theory was operative in this case.

WEST RIVER PIRATES

Portuguese Steamer Assailed: Captain Wounded: Three Guards Killed

Macao, Apr. 5.

The Portuguese steamer, Seixal, was pirated to-day near Kaukong in the West River district. The captain was wounded and three of the guards were killed. The port of registry of the steamer is Canton.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Honkgong, Apr. 6.

The three guards killed by the pirates on board the Seixal were all Indians. Another guard was wounded by two gun-shots and was taken to hospital at Macao. Captain Assis was wounded in the head by the butt of a revolver besides being severely beaten. The Portuguese chief engineer, Mr. Jorge, had a narrow escape, a bullet grazing his face. The loot taken by the pirates consisted of over $8,000 cash besides cargo and passengers' belongings valued at over $30,000. Some Chinese passengers were taken to be held for ransom. Collusion between the pirates and the crew of the Seixal is suspected. A gunboat has gone to Samshui from Macao.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PERILS OF THE POST IN KANSU

Couriers Killed by Goloks: Revenge for the Drubbing of Two Years Ago

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sining, Mar. 19.

Since the opening of Jyegundo as a Postal Station, owing to the loneliness of the way and the danger in passing through the Golok country, three men are sent together with the mail. The men, though paid by the Post Office, are soldiers belonging to the General. During the last journey the Goloks waylaid them, shot two of their horses, and wounded one of the men.

It will be remembered that, over two years ago, a large expedition was sent against the Goloks and they were badly beaten and had to pay a heavy indemnity. Some of them escaped and refused to submit. It would have been a wild-goose chase to pursue them in such a vast country where no food can be procured and to be harassed continually by small bands of fugitives hidden in the mountains.

The reason of that expedition was to punish the Goloks for stealing 5,000 yaks belonging to the High Commissioner.

It is an 18 days' journey from Jyegundo to Sining, and the greater part of the way lies through the Golok country. It now remains to be seen what punishment they will receive for this attack on the couriers.

ANOTHER COURIER WOUNDED.

Two years ago the route from Sining through Huang-yuen, Ch'a-puh-ch'a Dulan-sz to Chang and Barong was considered quite safe for merchants, explorers, etc., and postal couriers have been running regularly, but a courier has just been waylaid, his horse stolen and himself wounded somewhere between Dulan-sz and Huang-yuen. Not having turned up at the proper time, another courier was despatched with the mail, and on the way came across the wounded man. He went for help, but before help arrived the man was dead. In future, probably it will be necessary for the postal authorities to send two men at a time, instead of singly, as in the past two years. No matter how carefully this route is guarded there are sure to be attacks made now and again on travellers, as the distances between places are so great that before help arrives the robbers can be miles away.

C.P.O. A BOON TO MERCHANTS

Our first Chinese Postal Commissioner has asked leave for a year and is going to take a world tour, visiting the chief places in England and America. This is his first holiday since entering the Post Office over 25 years ago. He was one of the first few young lads that entered the Post Office at the commencement and by faithful service has risen from the ranks to be one of the First Chinese Commissioners. We wish him a very happy holiday and a real pleasure trip wherever he goes.

The New Commissioner is Mr. Doodha, Mr. Doodha is a native of India, a Parsee I believe. We give him a heartly welcome to this far off province. A letter came through from Shanghai the other day in 14 days. Quick work. Not so very many years ago, letters took two months.

When in the border city of Huang-yuen the other day I saw a great pile of bundles containing furs ready to be sent off to Peking. The merchants find it is to their advantage to send their furs through the Post Office, paying customs and likin here, for it ensures their quick transit down country. The Post Office is a real boon to the merchant also, who gets his supplies from Shanghai or Peking.

ADMIRAL WEN'S NAVY

Distribution of the Fleet

Peking, Apr 6.

According to Chinese reports, the vessels of Admiral Wen Chou-teh's squadron will be distributed between Tsingtao, Chefoo and Chinwangtao, the Haichi remaining at Chinwangtao, the Chowho at Tsingtao and the remaining five vessels at Chefoo. The marines will be stationed in the forts at Chefoo.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ANNUAL INSPECTION OF SHANTUNG RAILWAY

Peking, Apr 6.

The first annual inspection of the Shantung Railway since its restoration by Japan has just been ordered by the Ministry of Communications. Mr. Chuan Liang, with two foreign experts and a staff of assistants, left Peking by a special train yesterday afternoon and were due at Tsinanfu to-day. It is stated that all details of equipment and administration will be examined. Reuter's Pacific Service.

MR. LIANG SHI-YI IN LONDON

China's Need of More Railways: Foreign Capital Welcome on Certain Conditions

London, Apr 5.

Mr. Liang Shi-yi, the former Chinese Premier, interviewed by a representative of Reuter's Agency to-day on questions dealing with Chinese finance, said that foreign capital would be welcome, but only on conditions which must benefit both parties and not be one-sided. He expressed the opinion that preference should be given to Chinese products, but he did not object to the employment of suitable labour from abroad. Mr. Liang Shi-yi advocated that the Government should build railways and that the people should provide rolling stock and locomotives. Thus, even with their present capital, the Government could construct twice the present length of line and save time.

A banquet will be given in honour of Mr. Liang Shih-yi by the Legation and by Chinese students.

He will stay six weeks in England, make a tour of the Continent, and return home *via* America.—Reuter.

ARBOR DAY IN PEKING

Tree-Planting Ceremony at the Temple of Heaven: Address by Dr. W. W. Yen

Peking, Apr. 6.

Yesterday being the feast of Ching Ming, the annual tree-planting ceremony took place at the Temple of Heaven, Dr. W. W. Yen, Minister of Agriculture, officiating on behalf of the President. The Premier was represented by Mr. Wang Chi-tseng, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and Dr. Wellington Koo by Mr. Shen Jui-ling. Most of the other Ministers were present in person.

As Dr. Yen planted the tree, the national anthem was rendered by the Presidential band. Dr. Yen then gave an address, in which he dwelt on the significance of the ceremony in a country whose chief industry had been agriculture for centuries. It signified also, he said, the support which the Government intended to give to agriculture and he pointed out the importance of co-operation among all classes in this important sphere of national activity. In conclusion, the speaker cited several classical illustrations of the prominent part played by hubsandry in China's history.

Presidential guards of honour were furnished for the occasion by the police and gendarmerie, and the streets along which Dr. Yen and his escort passed on their way to the temple enclosure were lined with guards. The public were admitted, and quite a number of visitors were present to witness the ceremony. The Department of Agriculture and Forestry was represented by its Chief, Mr. Huang Hsi-yi.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

A PROVINCE FREE OF BANDITS

And Where Soldiers Do Not Fight Each Other: Some Good Points in Kansu

From Our Own Correspondent.

Lanchowfu, Kan., Mar., 22.

I suppose readers at the coast come to weary of our inland conditions, where banditry, opium-growing and other evils are so prominent. So that for a change let me tell of a few of the good things we come across in our province. At the same time, I must report that opium-growing, on a scale even larger than last year, is in full swing, and prices are steadily rising in consequence, whether for food or wages.

We are practically free of bandits throughout the province. It is not easy to tell why, considering the fact that the rulers of our different districts are largely independent, and frequently defiant of each other. Recently we heard that M. Vinokouroff, of the Harbin firm of that name, was killed by Moslem robbers, who took Tls. 5,000 of booty. However, it is all a mistake. It was not the merchant but his servant who was attacked, and slightly wounded. Still, in any part of China, especially on the Tibetan border, it is advisable not carry Tls. 5,000 in specie about with you, unless you want to create and invite robbers.

Our soldiers do not fight each other. This is the second great advantage of Kansu. The thoughtful reader may imagine that they do not fight each other because they do not fight at all. This is quite a mistake. In all China, Kansu soldiers, especially Moslem ones, are regarded with respect because of their courage and soldierly qualities.

Then again it is planned to have a provincial university here, to be known as the "Northwestern University." Kansu has a number of educated men, keen as can be on the welfare of the people. The late Mr. Wang, of Kongchang, who died in England a couple of years ago while on an educational mission to the West, was one of them. A memorial school is to be put up now to his memory in his native city. He was one of the nicest men we knew.

Everyone knows, let us charitably suppose, that our communications with the outer world are bad. High mountains, and sandy wastes, hem us in on most sides. But various of our more enterprising leaders are determined to end this state of things. It is no easy task to build good permanent roads through loess clay, or over the mountains. But there seem reasonable hopes that a motor road will shortly connect us with the railway, or to Shanchow on the Lunghai line. A motor-car has just been brought up for Governor Luh. He does not like it, though it is the first car in Lanchow, for he fancies a limousine, and this is a touring car. But what will you? With roads such as Kansu possesses, the choice is really between a Chinese springless cart and a bicycle. And, oh, the glory that shines even round this mudspattered, road-battered car that has made such a trip as this to Lanchow.

CHIHLI PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY

Distant Districts' Desire for Separation

Peking, Apr. 4.

Finding that the Chihli Provincial Assembly was an unwieldy body, and in response to a desire in some of the distant districts for separation, the districts of Jehol, Chahar, Suiyuan and the Metropolitan Area are to be separated, each to have its own District Assembly. Mr. Liu Meng-kung, Governor of the Metropolitan Area, held a meeting yesterday, which was attended by the Chairman of the Peking Chamber of Commerce and a number of influential residents, to discuss measures to prepare for this separation.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING BUREAUCRATS' PLEA FOR SOME MONEY

Peking, Apr. 3

It is reported that the staff of the four bureaux under the Cabinet Office are planning to approach the Premier to-morrow with a request for the payment of arrears of salaries.

At to-day's meeting of the Cabinet the Minister of Finance reported that he had raised $2,900,000 toward the Government's expenses for February, and that the allotment of this money would be made shortly.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

UNACCOUNTED FUNDS OF TSINGTAO

Ex-Director-General Called on to Explain the Whereabouts of $3,000,000

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, Apr. 4.

The former Director General was stopped at the station last night when, it is said, he was trying to slip out of the town, by officers of the new Administration, who demanded that he should account for $3,000,000 of which it is alleged there are no records.

All of the former officials have now been dismissed by the new Governor, Mr. Kao En-hung, except the Chief of the Forest Bureau.

PEITAIHO CONFERENCE

Arrangements for the Housing of Visitors: Programme for the Month

A Conference for foreigners will be held at the Conference House at Peitaiho from July 16 to August 13. Three main buildings are equipped for housing guests. The buildings are plain, but comfortable. The grounds consist of about 55 mow with an ocean frontage. Fine trees and vegetation afford delightful surroundings. The kitchens and accessory buildings are screened; and the necessary sanitary measures have been provided. The auditorium affords a fine cool place for meetings in summer. There is no charge for accommodation, but a daily rate of $1.25 is charged for board. There are some rooms especially set aside for families; so that a limited number of children may also be accommodated. We hope to have a special programme for children, including music and games. Children under ten years of age are charged half price for board.

The programme for the month is divided into three sections of one week each, with intervals of two days for rest, so that those for whom this is an only holiday may not become too tired. There will be a special theme for each section, and all of the meetings of the day will bear upon that theme. The messages will be planned so as to minister to the personal spiritual need, and also to give inspiration and suggestion along the lines of service.

There will be four sessions daily:—an early period of united intercession before breakfast; two periods in the morning, one of which will be for Bible study; and an inspirational message in the evening. There will be no afternoon sessions. Much time will be left free for exchange of thought and experience which was one of the most helpful and delightful features of the Conference last year. Speakers from abroad will be present, and missionaries in China will also assist in the Conference programme.

A committee, consisting of Dr. J. Walter Lowrie, Miss Bess Combs, and Miss Ruth Paxson, have charge of this Conference. All correspondence concerning the Conference should be addressed to Miss Ruth Paxson, 9 Ave. Petain, Shanghai.

As the accomodations is limited, registrations will be made in the order of application. Arrangements can probably also be made for those who signify their desire to remain for a period after the Conference closes.

STUDENTS' STRIKE IN PEKING

Demand for Investigation of Administration of Peiyang University

Peking, Apr. 7.

It is now three weeks since the students' strike at Peiyang University commenced, and no settlement has yet been reached. The trouble followed the dismissal of four of the students' representatives by Mr. Feng Hsi-yun, acting President of the University, with whose administration during the past five years, the students express great dissatisfaction.

The students, the majority of whom are in Peking, state that they have succeeded in arousing much sympathy here in educational and parliamentary circles and have been given liberal support. They further assert that the Chihli Provincial Assembly is considering an investigation of Mr. Feng's administration, and that the students of the National University, Tangshan University, the Technical University, the Conservancy University at Nanking, and other institutions have declared themselves in sympathy with the strikers at Peiyang. The China Students' Union at Shanghai and the Peking Students' Union are said to have issued circular telegrams to the same effect.

Thanks to the support they have received, the students declare that they will disregard the acting President's ultimatum that any of their number who had not returned by to-morrow would be struck off the roll, and will refuse to resume work while Mr. Feng remains in office. A number of senior students who had remained to complete preparation for their graduation have now, it is said, decided to join the strikers if the petition submitted to Dr. Wang Ching-wei four days ago is not granted.

Interesting developments are expected in the near future.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT & CHANG TSO-LIN

Peking, Apr. 4.

Regarding the report of a conference to be held between representatives of the Central Government and Marshal Chang Tso-lin, it is stated in reliable quarters that Marshal Chang will be offered the post of High Commissioner (Ching Lueh Shih) of Fengtien, Kirin, Heilungkiang and Jehol, the last-named region to be included on condition that Marshal Chang recognizes the control of the Central Government over Outer Mongolia.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE REGENERATION OF CHINA

An Interview with Sir Robert Ho-tung

London, Apr. 7.

Sir Robert Ho-tung, interviewed by a representative of Reuter's Agency on his latest efforts in furtherance of his scheme for the regeneration and unification of China, expressed the hope that the idea would prove successful, but recognized that it would take time, as all of China's principal men realized that the task was one of the utmost difficulty. A very influential body were carrying on the work in China while he was here.—Reuter.

MARSHAL WU'S BIRTHDAY

Peking, Apr. 7.

Gen. Chang Hsi-yuan, Tutung of Suiyuan, Gen. Ma Fu-hsiang, Tutung of Chahar, and Gen. Teng Ching-lin, Assistant Tutung, who arrived in Peking yesterday, will leave here for Loyang to-day to offer personal congratulations to Marshal Wu on the occasion of his birthday. It is understood that the situation in Outer Mongolia will be discussed with Marshal Wu. Reuter's Pacific Service.

HARBIN PRESS'S LATEST

Public Fooled on April 1: A Radio Canard: Clerk of the Weather Has Joke Too

From Our Own Correspondent.

Harbin, April 2.

Yesterday was the first of April, and as usual one of the local Russian papers played a joke at the expense of the public, which however was not so successful as it might have been owing to a bigger joke played by the clerk of the weather, in the form of a heavy snowstorm falling all day long.

Some little time ago there arrived in Harbin the French Rear-Admiral Masset who is connected with French radio companies and who has made a trip to the Far East in order to link up the radio-stations out here with those in France. The papers had already announced that the French officer had pourparlers with the director of the local radio-station with regard to the receiving of French news that is now being broadcast from Paris, Bordeaux, Lyons and other French stations. Hitherto the local radio has given but little French news, but a great deal of German propaganda from Nauen. Following these conversations, Admiral Masset left for Mukden, the headquarters of the Administration of the Manchurian Radio Stations.

The "*Kopeika*" in its issue of yesterday announced that the gentleman has just returned and had installed for the convenience of the public a specially equipped radio-telephone in the office of the Wagon Lits Co. The paper said that arrangements had been made for the public to make use of this radio-phone for speaking with their friends in public from noon yesterday at a charge of $3 for five minutes conversation, and that Mr. Ostroumoff, General Manager of the C. E. Rlwy., Mr. Buianoffsky, Manager of the Russo-Bank and Mr. S. L. Skidelsky, a local magnate, had announced their intention to converse with Mr. Poutiloff, the head of the Russo-Asiatic Bank in Paris. It was further stated that at one o'clock at the same place the public would have the opportunity of hearing music rendered by the band of the Yenesei Regiment broadcast. Had it been fine weather no doubt large crowds would have collected at the Wagon Lits, and no doubt the staff would have been worried more than a little by a great crowd of curious people.

The hoax is nearly as good as that one penetrated on the public a few years back by the "*Novosti Zhizni*," which announced that a Japanese torpedo boat fleet which was at Habarovsk at the time would arrive in the Sungari early in the morning of the 1st, and on which date literally thousands of Russians made their way to the banks of the river to see this sight and waited in vain.

RECORD SNOW FALL.

Snow has fallen continually for the last 30 hours in Harbin and along the C. E. Rlwy. According to the local meteorological station a new record has been created, as 28 centimetres of snow has fallen during this period, the former record being on April 16, 1911, when 11 centimetres was registered. A strong wind accompanied the snowstorm and made things generally unpleasant. Snow drifts are reported at certain points along the railway and there have been blocks in the railway traffic. The temperature at Hinghan fell to—12° R.

A 10-YEAR WALK.

Sergius Saburoff, aged 35 and a former Lieutenant-Colonel of the Imperial Russian Army is to set out in a few days on a round-the-world walk, his object being to beat the French record. Saburoff who was born in the Altai Mountains district, has already had considerable experience as a mountaineer in Russia. He speaks fluent French, German and a little English. He expects that it will take him 10 years to accomplish his task and will support himself by the sale of post-cards and giving lectures on his experiences

SZECHUAN SEES HOPE OF PEACE

Hsiong Keh-Wu' Reported to Haye Gone to Canton to Confer with Dr. Sun

From Our Own Correspondent.

Luchow, Sze. Mar. 19, 1924.

Since my last letter was sent off a few days ago things seem to have cleared up here politically. The local branch of the Commercial Press, which has been carrying on business behind boarded-up windows and partially-closed doors for months, is full open for business this morning.

The persistent report, which would appear to be true, is that Hsiong Keh-wu and his faithful henchman Dan Mung-hsin have left the province with a small bodyguard for Yunnan or Kueichow and most likely ultimately for Canton to confer with the Kuo min-tang chieftains who have so lately declared in favour of the Soviet system. They have left their men, it is said, under charge of Lai Hsin-huei, Cheo Hsi-chen and the other first army generals. The second half of this same persistent rumour is that there has been a conference between these generals and Liu Hsian and his second army generals and that an agreement has been reached, supposedly whereby the remnants of the first army turn over to the northern party.

If all this is true, then peace would seem to be assured for a while at least, if the victors do not immediately begin to quarrel over the spoils of battle, as has so often happened under like circumstances in all lands where there is lack of stable government. Of course Hsiong is expected back and the most sanguine only allow for two years of peace.

The river, which has been very low this winter, is now rising and we are expecting and rather anxiously awaiting the arrival of the little steamers—we have had none since before the New Year. It is now reported from Chungking that one of Mr. Barrie's boats left yesterday for our city. It cannot come too soon, for there are four foreign ladies have been waiting here for more than a month to get to Chungking and from thence to Shanghai and home. They wisely did not care to trust their pretty little furlough souvenirs and nicknacks to the tender mercies of the "gentlemen of the road" (and river) who have reigned so supreme between here and Chungking all winter. Allow me to repeat what your Junghsien correspondent so naively remarked a few weeks ago: "Small chance of running away from stations in Szechuan anywhere west of Chungking, especially in winter."

FRENCH FLIGHT TO JAPAN

Tokio, Apr. 10.

According to a Paris despatch, the French Army has decided to carry out a through flight between France and Japan, and the flight will be made by a Lieutenant and an engineer aboard a military aeroplane. In this connexion, the French Embassy officials in Tokio state that the French aviator believes he can easily complete his flight over the distance between Paris and Tokio in 20 days.—Eastern News Agency.

A strong tide setting down the Hongkong harbour was responsible for a collision in the early hours of March 1, which was happily without serious results. The str. President McKinley was being towed from Taikoo Dock to buoy A 27, at 4.30 a.m., and in spite of all efforts by the tugs manoeuvring her, the tide swung her so as to strike the Blue Funnel liner Perseus rather heavily aft. As a result the poop railing and deck fittings of the Perseus were rather badly damaged. The damage to the McKinley was small and she sailed the same evening.

EDUCATIONAL RALLY IN N. KIANGSU

Movement to Find Volunteer Teachers for Province's Illiterates

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hsuchowfu, Ku., Apr. 5.

The past week has been a gala one for the student population of Suchowfu and vicinity, the occasion being an educational rally in which all of the schools of the eight districts in this section were asked to participate. There were more than a thousand people in attendance. All the high schools in the city gave holiday for the week in order that their teachers and students might attend the conference. Many schools from other places sent teachers and groups of students.

The delegates began to arrive in the city on Monday March, 31, the conference opening next morning. It will continue until April 6. The meetings have been held in the Wu School.

Perhaps the best known speaker on the programme was Mr. Hwang Yen-p'ei, who has several times been head of the Educational Association of the province. There were also speakers from Southeastern University, as well as a number of speakers from the Provincial Education Board.

As an out-growth of the meeting there is already under way a campaign to set up the Popular Educational Movement in this city and vicinity. It is hoped that hundreds of the students will have caught the spirit of service and will be willing to give their time to the teaching of illiterates among their own people.

IN THE SOOCHOW HILLS

Only a little violet,
Only a butterfly blue,
Only a bright spring morning,
But the colour scheme is true.

Only a town-worn vagrant,
Only a change of air,
Only a tired man's fancy,
But the breath of life is there.

Only a country ramble
O'er hill and dale and field,
Only the world's bright gladness,
Its freshness aye must yield.

So let's away to the hillside,
Where butterflies are blue,
And the violet blooms in springtime
Its message ever true.

Arthur de C. Sowerby.

SENDING ARMS TO CHINA

Attempts to Persuade British Shippers to Transport Munitions

London, Apr. 10.

In the House of Commons last night in reply to questions, Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, stated that he was aware that attempts were being made to ship from a European country large consignments of arms and ammunition for war purposes in the East and that attempts had been made to persuade a British shipping company to transport these munitions. The attention of Lloyd's had been drawn to the China arms embargo.—Reuter.

LONDON, Apr. 6.—A man's heartbeats, broadcast from Pittsburgh, have been heard in London.—Reuter.

LITTLE PIMPLES ON BABY'S HEAD

Became Sore Eruptions. Hair All Fell Out. Lost Rest. Cuticura Heals.

"When my baby was a month old his head broke out with little pimples which became large, sore eruptions. The hair around the eruptions all fell out. He lost his rest at night on account of the irritation, and I had to tie his hands to keep him from scratching.

"I sent for a free sample of Cuticura Soap and Ointment. After the first application he got relief so I purchased more, which healed him." (Signed) Mrs. Louisa Harris, 47, Orchard Pl., Poplar, London, E. 14, England.

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Soap 1s., Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. Sold throughout the Empire. For sample each free address: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27, Charterhouse Sq., London, E.C.1. Also for mail orders with price. Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

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SHANGHAI NEWS

MR. WIDLER, PRISONER OF CHUNGKING

Arrival in Shanghai After Six Months Imprisonment and Barbarous Usage in Szechuan: Repeatedly on Verge of Death: Life in a Chinese Gaol

Mr. Elly Widler, of Chungking, who had been a prisoner in the hands of Gen. Yang Sen's First Szechuan Army for more than six months, during which time he received most barbarous treatment, was released on March 14 and arrived in Shanghai a few days ago. In an interview with a representative of this paper, Mr. Widler gave a brief account of some of his experiences and of the treatment he received while a prisoner.

Born in China 35 years ago, Mr. Widler for the past 12 years has carried on business in Chungking as an export and import merchant and latterly was also the proprietor of the Cosmos Club there. About 10 a.m. on September 10, 1923, a number of soldiers of the Second Army, accompanied by some of the staff of the Foreign Office, entered the Cosmos Club and arrested him. He was taken to the Foreign Office and afterwards bound and taken across the Small River to the Magistrate's Yamen in Chungking City. There he was unbound and put into a room, where he remained for five days. He was told that he would be shot for having assisted the First Army, under Gen. Hsiung Keh-wu. After five days' confinement he was taken before the local Magistrate, Yu Shing-fu, and when questioned protested that the court had no jurisdiction over him, as he was under Swiss protection. The Magistrate said that did not matter; he could have the prisoner bambooed or shot, as he thought fit. Then noticing Mr. Widler's keys attached to his belt, he demanded possession of them, giving his personal guarantee that his property would not be molested. He was told that he was charged with rendering assistance to the First Army, and replied that even if that were so, he had rendered far greater assistance to Gen. Yang Sen, who was his personal friend. The Magistrate, producing a telegram, asked, if that were so, why had Gen. Yang Sen ordered his arrest. Mr. Widler was then marched back to his cell, a filthy hovel.

A FIERCE BATTLE.

On September 22 the First Army attacked Chungking and there ensued one of the fiercest battles in the history of Szechuan. The First Army had been reinforced by 12,000 Yunnanese troops, armed with modern guns, and these were posted on the hilly side of the River, opposite the City, which was bombarded from Futukuan fort, about 15 li to the north and on the road to Chengtu. The firing usually lasted from 2 to 4 a.m. and thousands of men were killed. Finally the Second Army ran short of ammunition and had to make bayonet charges. In the meatime Mr. Widler was transferred from one yamên to another, his captors fearing that if he remained too long in one yamên he might get on friendly terms with the gaolers and bribe them to allow him to escape. He was given no food, but managed to obtain some through the kindly offices of one of his servants, who was on friendly terms with some of the soldiers.

Early in October he was taken to Gen. Yang Sen's headquarters to attend a court-martial held in camera by the chief of staff, named Li, a deserter from the Yunnanese army. The court room was lined with soldiers and Mr. Widler was practically forced to answer questions. Finally, Li announced that he was sentenced to be shot for assisting the First Army. Mr. Widler pointed out that he was a friend of Gen. Yang Sen, but was told that did not count. It was pointed out to him that in Chinese military affairs, as well as in politics, there was always a way out, and it might be possible to avert the death sentence on certain conditions. He had been in business for 12 years and was reputed to be a very wealthy man, in fact a millionaire. By paying a large sum of money or supplying the Second Army with large numbers of arms, it might be possible that the sentence of death would be revoked. Mr. Widler replied that he had no money and no source of supply of arms. He was then handed back to the guards and placed in the military prison at headquarters.

THE RETREAT FROM CHUNGKING.

On one occasion he was moved to the yamên of the head of the police for a period of six days, and whilst there a military Lieutenant came to see him and told him that his case was hopeless, that he might be shot at any moment. He suggested that Mr. Widler should pay a ransom of $200,000 at once and offered to convey a note to the latter's friends. Mr. Widler suggested that a telegram to the Swiss Consul in Shanghai would be better, but the Lieutenant replied that that would cause too much publicity.

Then came the day of the retreat from Chungking. At 3 p.m. on October 16 he heard sounds of men running and shouts of excitement. Soldiers entered his cell and bound his hands tightly behind his back. He was then taken to the courtyard and was afterwards marched out of the City with the retreating army. Ten minutes later the First Army entered Chungking. He was taken over the Small River by a bridge of boats and on the other side the soldiers lined up in the form of a hollow square. There was also a firing party. Gen. Yang Sen was present and advanced towards Mr. Widler as though he were about to speak to him. At that moment members of the First Army appeared on the City wall and began to fire. There was a brief conference between Gen. Yang Sen and Generals Liu Hsiang and Yu Tsu-ming (Kueichow) and meanwhile men were dropping right and left. Then the order was given for the retreat down river. They marched that day from 3 p.m. to 3 a.m. without a rest, and every day there was a forced march.

A FAMOUS AMAZON.

There was no food, for the army groups under different leaders numbered 60,000, including 4,000 under the famous woman leader, Lieut. Lan Liu-tsang or Lan Da Jo Ba (Big—natural—Feet).

Mr. Widler remarked parenthetically that Lan Da Jo Ba is a robust and attractive woman, 30 years of age, and of very strong character. She travels in a two-men chair and is always accompanied by her daughter, aged 15, who runs alongside and is armed with a Mauser pistol. The latter is a very beautiful girl, of strong and healthy appearance, due to her outdoor life and vigorous exercise.

On the third day of the march Mr. Widler became very weak and his ankles were badly swollen. He lay down on the road and absolutely refused to proceed any further. The soldiers prodded him with the butts of their rifles and threatened to shoot him, but he told them that he would be glad if they would do so and put him out of his misery. Some of them said, however, that he was too valuable a prize to lose. The Captain of the unit which was guarding him at last took pity on him and lent him the use of his litter, whereupon the soldiers jeered at the prisoner, shouting, "We lost Chungking through you." "We lost the Yihyang Maru and our arms and ammunitions through you."

Throughout the retreat to Wanhsien they slept in paddy fields and were generally without food, except when they came across farmers' huts. These had been deserted by the men, only the women remaining. The soldiers commandeered pigs, fowls and anything upon which they could lay their hands, promising payment the next day and pointing out the fact that they had a foreigner with them was a guarantee that they were honest men. This led to Mr. Widler being pestered by the women for payment, and he had to explain to them that he was a prisoner in the soldiers' hands. On one occasion he became very depressed. He was clothed only in a ragged shirt and pants, it was winter time, and it was pouring with rain. So miserable did he feel that he begged of the soldiers either to shoot him or to take him to Gen. Yang Sen to have him shot. This was reported to Gen. Yang Sen, who replied that the prisoner must be taken to Wanhsien.

ILLNESS AT WANHSIEN.

The retreat to Wanhsien lasted 10 days, and on arrival there Mr. Widler was placed in a temple under guard. He was then moved to the Magistrate's yamên and put in a room together with Yang Sen's guards. For food they used to bring him dirty, black rice, containing some gritty substance. He refused to eat this, but was told that he would get nothing else. During his confinement there, Gen. Yang's staff officers used to come and converse with him. They advised him either to pay something or to supply arms. Gen. Yang's brother-in-law (Tsen) was friendly disposed to the prisoner and supplied him with a sweater and some provisions. He also promised to try to get him free, but said that if he succeeded in doing so the other Generals would suspect him of having received a large bribe. Mr. Widler said that it would be impossible for him to give them money or supply arms unless they set him free, but the reply was that if he were set free he might again assist the First Army.

Mr. Widler contracted dysentery and was so ill for four or five days that he begged for foreign medical aid. Finally the Rev. Darlington, of the China Inland Mission, was allowed to attend him. Mr. Darlington insisted upon the prisoner having better food and better treatment. Then orders came from Marshal Wu Pei-fu for the advance upon Chungking again. Gen. Yang Sen left Wanhsien and left Mr. Widler in the charge of the Magistrate (Lai Hung-tsao), from whom he received more humane treatment. Mr. Widler asked if he could be put into a room in the yamên, but the Magistrate said that he dared not take the risk. If his prisoner escaped, he would lose his head.

INNER LIGHTS ON CHINESE.

Mr. Widler saw no more of Gen. Yang Sen or any of his army and thenceforward until the time of his release was confined in a common prison. Among the prisoners were ex-officers, ex-officials, and the scum of the criminal class. The prisoners conversed with each other freely and during the three months he was in this prison Mr. Widler says he learned more of Chinese methods than in the whole of his 15 years of travel in the interior of China. One of the prisoners was the son of wealthy parents and had been imprisoned because the people of his village had been unable to supply the soldiers with rice. He was seized by the soldiers and imprisoned and a ransom of $20,000 demanded. $8,000 was paid at once, but the man was kept in prison until the balance was paid. No food was supplied to the prisoners, but they could buy from the hawkers who came to the bars of the cell. Those without money could starve. It was the custom, however, for the prisoners to share their food, and as Mr. Widler had no money during the first two months of his incarceration here, he was indebted to the young man held for ransom for his daily sustenance. When, after two months, he received $50 from friends, he felt like a prince and was able to return the previous hospitality of his fellow-prisoners. The women prisoners, in another cell, had mostly been imprisoned for various trivial offences. Those who could not buy food were often supplied by outsiders who then claimed them, body and soul, in return for the money they had expended.

FREE AT LAST.

At 8 p.m. on March 14 of this year Mr. Widler was taken out of prison by two runners, who conducted him before the Magistrate. The latter said that he had received a telegram from Gen. Yang Sen ordering his unconditional release, and from that evening Mr. Widler was a free man. After remaining in Wanhsien a week, in order to recover his strength, Mr. Widler came to Shanghai, arriving here on the 1st instant. To whom or what to attribute his release, Mr. Widler does not know. It might have been due to the efforts of the lawyer engaged on his behalf, to the efforts of his friends in Chungking and Shanghai, or to representations from the Japanese Government, for Gen. Hsiong had threatened that if any harm befel Mr. Widler he would put to death the two Japanese officers from the Yihyang Maru whom he was holding for ransom.

ROBBED OF ALL POSSESSIONS.

In spite of the personal guarantee of the Chungking Magistrate that his property would be kept intact, $3,000 was removed from the Cosmos Club, $4,000 worth of wines, a quantity of valuable curios, a number of Keystone watches and clocks, and 20 rolls of ruberoid; while when he was in prison at Wanhsien he learned from Gen. Yang's little son that the General was wearing his gold watch and chain with gold medal attached—the medal being one that was presented by the late Queen Victoria, through her representative, Sir Scott Moncrieff, to the late Mr. David Widler (Mr. Elly Widler's father) for self-sacrificing labours in aid of destitute Jews in Palestine. The little boy also told Mr. Widler that they had in the house one of Mr. Widler's most valued possessions—a gold canary, said to have been at one time the property of the late Tsar of Russia and stolen from his palace at the time of the revolution.

In previous articles we have described briefly the filthy conditions of the cells in which Mr. Widler was confined and the inhuman treatment to which he was subjected. In our interview he mentioned especially the enormous number of rats that infest the cells and eat the food even when it is placed in a basket suspended from the ceiling by a string. These rats have no fear, for it is understood in the prisons that to kill one brings bad luck.

An assistant laodah who arrived in Shanghai last Friday reported that the junk on which he was employed, when within easy reach of the Huangpu, on a voyage from Fukien, was captured by 40 or 50 pirates in three boats. They took off the whole of the valuable cargo and also carried away the chief laodah, for whom they said they would demand a ransom of $1,000.

ILLEGAL TAXATION IN THE TREATY PORT OF SHANGHAI

Cigarette Merchants Reported Willing to Accept Compromise on Tax Offered by Kiangsu Authorities

During the week-end the struggle between the Tobacco Dealers' Guild and the provincial authorities of this province in regard to the cigarette tax appears to have reached a temporary compromise. The members of the Guild are reported to have agreed to buy stamps for the goods that they sell, and the authorities to provide them with stamps at a discount of 55 per cent. A nominal tax of 20 per cent. will thus amount in practice to about 9 per cent., and even that 9 per cent. will be evaded wherever possible. No tax is likely to prove very effective in China when it is known to be contrary to the law of the land as well as to the treaties with foreign Powers and to various contracts concluded by the Government of China.

The compromise has been received with a great deal of ridicule, and the prestige of the Kiangsu authorities in Shanghai, which had already been considerably weakened by recent events, will not be improved by this arrangement, especially as the Guild is reported to have refused to accept the verbal promises of the Governor and to have delayed acceptance until it received a written pledge in regard to the discount on stamps.

The tax cannot, of course, be enforced inside the Settlement, but every effort is being made to make it effective in the Chapei, Nantao and Paoshan areas which are part of the Treaty Port of Shanghai. The decision to enforce this illegal tax in the Treaty Port itself shows a cynical disregard of China's national obligations which will not be lost upon her neighbours and is likely to have an unfortunate effect upon her credit. Some relaxation of the immunities and safeguards now attaching to the Settlements and Treaty Ports is constantly being urged. But the Chinese business community is not likely to lose sight of the fact that the Shanghai Settlement is a place where national obligations and private contracts are still binding, and where security and credit can accordingly be found. The provincial authorities of Kiangsu will no doubt continue to meet with constant opposition to this illegal tax, which cannot prove a financial success in the face of organized opposition. It will greatly weaken the prestige of the Nanking authorities, and also of the Chinese Government, which is apparently unable to make good its obligations even in so conspicuous an area as the Treaty Port of Shanghai, with one of its own adherents—the Tuchun in Nanking.

MIECZYSLAW MUNZ

We are certainly in the way of becoming spoilt in Shanghai. we have an orchestra giving such concerts, for a quite nominal entrance fee, as are only to be got in the biggest towns of the West; and in the past two years we have heard some of the greatest musicians in the world—Kreisler, Zimbalist, Elman, Heifetz, Godowsky and Pavlova, who is indeed to be reckoned with them as being music made visible. To this unforgetable list is now to be added Mieczyslaw Munz, who gave his first recital at the Town Hall on Tuesday. He chose an extraordinary programme, most of it unfamiliar, all out of the usual run. But it fitted his nature well. For a Pole he is more quiet in his methods than most musicians of that nation, but he is a perfect master of the piano. In nothing was this better shown perhaps, than in Lizt's "Sonetto Valse" a piece of appalling difficulty, of which many pianists make, in the main, a test of their listeners' nerves. Munz took it at prodigious speed yet with exquisite delicacy and clearness. His touch is beautiful and caressing and there is something of the same hypnotic quality that is so marked in Mischa Elman. The piece "Naila" was a conspicuous example of this and the third encore given at the end of the programme a most eerie and appealing piece of music. In the first part of the programme Sgambati's melodious Gavotte was naturally very popular and M. Munz's own arrangement of Kreisler's "Liebesfreud" which is very bright and joyful. Among the encores, of which M. Munz was generous, one recognized a great favouritd Godowsky's "Alt Wien." The older musician knows the younger one well and thinks as highly of him as the latter deserves. M. Munz's technique is quite beyond description; Rosenthal himself could not exceed it. There can be nothing of which the piano is capable too much for his amazing hands. But he uses his powers very quietly. His playing is mature beyond his years and he never attempts to turn the piano into an orchestra. Altogether it was a very finely rendered programme, rich and varied and yet always with a certain sense of restraint, a suggestion of many things left unsaid though fully realized. Perhaps the best item of all was the second of the two Chopin Etudes. It augured much for the Chopin recital promised for Saturday.

The audience were enthusiastic. And as one has seen at one or two previous recitals, at the end of the programme nobody moved. They sat until they got some more.

A BURGLAR IN THE HONGKONG BANK

Early Morning Entry and Exit Through Windows and an Exciting Chase

A highly sensational drama was enacted in the vicinity of the Bund at an early hour last Friday. A Chinese burglar gained entrance to the premises of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, and being seen by the watchmen on duty made a very hurried exit. He followed this up with a wild attempt at escape but before going very far was intercepted in his flight by the police.

The burglar selected his point of entry at a spot where he considered he would best escape observation. This was a window on the north side of the building where the wall of the Customs compound would assist him in eluding the notice of police and watchmen. Apparently he did his work rapidly, for before anybody was aware of what was happening he had cut a piece out of a plane of glass, inserted his arm and opened the window. The moment that he set foot in the banking hall, however, Nemesis awaited him. His information as to the possibilities of successfully robbing a bank seems to have been badly at fault, for he quite overlooked the fact that the bank in question is not only patrolled outside but watchmen and detectives are stationed in the interior.

INTO THE FOWLER'S NET.

No time elapsed between the burglar's entry into the bank and his presence being spotted by the guard. The latter were immediately on his track, and then ensued on the part of the intruder a desperate attempt to flee and an equally hot chase after him.

The burglar apparently knew the bank premises well, and instead of doubling back he made straight for the compradore's department which lies to the rear of the banking hall. A door with glass panels barred his access to it, but the man either dived through one of the panes or had a hammer which enabled him to smash the glass and then pass through. He seems to have been a very athletic individual, for counters and desks were taken almost in his stride, and he reached the north wall of the bank. This is close to Messrs. Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co.'s premises and here a passageway gives on to Foochow Road.

The fugitive repeated his previous performance with one of the windows here, dived through and was at length out in the open. What is more he had passed through the broken glass unscathed.

CHASE AND CAPTURE.

His pursuers were hard on his heels, and now he had in addition the outside patrol of the bank to contend against. He bolted into Foochow Road and at top speed made his way westward along the street. A Sikh policeman, however, had caught sight of him and set off hard in pursuit, meanwhile blowing his whistle as loudly as possible.

The end now came. A Chinese constable on duty at the corner of Foochow and Szechuen Roads responded to the Sikh's whistle, intercepted the man's passage and between the two he was firmly collared. In his possession, it is understood, was found a long knife which he is said to have concealed in his sleeve. He was duly taken to the police station.

AT THE MIXED COURT.

Later in the morning the accused man appeared before Mr. Ferrajolo, Italian Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan in the Mixed Court on a charge of office breaking, in that he did enter the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation's building on the Bund with intent to commit a felony.

Det.-Sgt. Tinkler told the Court that the accused was brought to the Police Station at ten minutes past four in the morning in the charge of a Chinese constable. He had obtained entry into the bank by means of a window and while he was in there the Sikh constable on duty heard a noise but could not locate it. He was joined by a Chinese constable later and together they searched the premises chasing the accused into the compound. Here he made a dive for the compradore's office. There he broke another window and dropped into Foochow Road where he was arrested by the Chinese policeman.

Mr. Stephenson, custodian at the bank, told the Court that it was at first thought the accused was an employee of the bank's contractor but subsequent inquiry proved that he was not employed by the bank at all.

On application of the police a remand of two weeks was granted. The accused is stated to be wanted on charges of breaking into Medhurst College, the Chinese Post Office in Peking Road and a number of other offices.

The automatic telephone throws on the subscriber responsibility for any mistakes in making a call, which, in cosmopolitan Shanghai, may be disastrous.

WEDDINGS

Moore—Benson

A very pretty wedding took place on Thursday of last week in Holy Trinity Cathedral, The Very Rev. Dean Symons and the Rev. T. W. Hall officiating, when Miss Helen Margaret Benson, daughter of Mr. C. Benson, of Lyme Regis, Dorset, became the bride of Dr. W. B. A. Moore of the Hongkong Government Medical Service. The bride, who was given away by Sir Skinner Turner, looked charming in a blue silk marocain trimmed with beige lace and hat of a deeper brown lace, and carried a sheaf of lilies. Masters Colin Paul and Roderick Moffatt, dressed in white sailor suits, acted as pages. The bridegoom was attended by Mr. W. A. Willis as best man. The honeymoon will be spent in Peking.

Martin—Camacho

A very quiet but pretty wedding was celebrated last Friday morning at St. Joseph's Church, Father Macdonald officiating, when Miss Mary Erwin Camacho, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Anthony Camacho of New York became the bride of Mr. Arthur John Martin, second son of Mr. T. P. Martin of Muswell Hill, London. The bridegroom is the Senior British Assessor of the Mixed Court and a member of the Consular Service.

The bride, who was given away by Mr. C. T. Birdwood, wore a charming gown of white ivory satin, made in *moyen age* fashion, with puffed hip paniers, with an apron effect of silver brocade lace and long floating sleeves. The long silk net veil was caught with orange blossoms and the shower bouquet was made up of orange blossoms and roses. Mrs. C. T. Birdwood, who acted as matron of honour, wore black chiffon velvet with a grey cloche and carried a shower bouquet of roses and carnations. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. Christopher Hodgson as best man.

The official ceremony at the Consulate-General, at which Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., officiated, took place after the church service and was attended only by intimate friends. Mr. Barton gave a bridal tiffin for Mr. and Mrs. Martin at which the following guests were present:—Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Birdwood, Mr. Christopher Hodgson, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Moss, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Dollar, Mr. F. L. Cudlip, Mr. H. J. Brett, Mrs. T. J. Eldridge, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Whitamore, Mr. E. C. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. H. Osborne, and Mr. Kuan Chun, Senior Magistrate of the Mixed Court.

The honeymoon will be spent in a housebcat trip about Ningpo. The bride's going away dress was a sports costume of beige embroidered jersey with a hat to match.

Byrne—Keily

On the 3rd instant, in St. John's Church, Hankow, the marriage was solemnized of Sylvia May, daughter of Mrs. and the late Henry A. Keily, to Mr. Ernest Godfrey Byrne, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Byrne. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. C. S. Trivett, M.A., B.D. The church was beautifully decorated with marguerites and bamboo, with arches of apple blossom in the chancel. The bride was given away by Mr. H. C. Pearce, and wore a charming ivory crêpe georgette grown, heavily beaded with crystals. Her hat was of georgette and lace. She carried a large bouquet of white carnations and fern, and her only ornament was a diamond and platinum pendant, the gift of the bridegroom.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Pearce, 15 Wha Cheong Road. Mrs. Pearce wore a three-piece gown of burnt sienna morocain. When the coatee was thrown back the beautiful brocade top of the dress was seen. Her hat was nigger brown with a large two toned plume.

Among the guests were Mrs. E. T. Byrne, of Shanghai, gowned in pleated tan georgette trimmed with red; Mrs. Cyril Bell, in heavy silk embroidered silver grey coatee and pleated georgette skirt; Mrs. Maze, in silk net lace and grey georgette with touches of apple green; Mrs. Trivett, in burnt orange silk jersey trimmed with squirrel; Mrs. Perry, in dove grey silk morocain with small hat to match, and Mrs. Frazer, in cocoa brown lace and small gold hat.

The health of the bride was proposed by Mr. Keed and suitably responded to by the groom. Later, Mr. and Mrs. Byrne left for Peking, the bride going away in a smart canna crêpe georgette frock with small hat to match.

The groom was supported by Col. E. C. Fry. The ushers were Mr. L. T. Beddow, Mr. F. C. Keed, and Mr. W. H. Lovatt, Mr. H. F. Baker officiated at the organ.—"C. C. Post."

AMERICAN AVIATORS' WORLD FLIGHT

Arrangements for Landing and Overhaul in Shanghai

The American aviators in their round-the-world flight will arrive in Shanghai about the end of the month, said Lieutenant Lawton, advance agent for the squadron, to a representative of the "North-China Daily News" on Monday afternoon. "It is highly probable" said Mr. Lawton, "that the flyers will remain in Shanghai at least 36 hours and it may be that engine mechanics will require that their stay shall run to over two full days and nights. All along the route, at principal points, we have provided spare motors which can be installed if the need be apparent, and after their long Pacific flight it may be necessary to give the machines a thorough overhaul in Shanghai."

After a survey of the local situation with reference to landing places, the officer stated that it was almost certain that Black Point on the Pootung side would be utilized for that purpose. The weather at this time of the year will be such that this spot can be used with facility, while its proximity to the oil installation stations adds a noteworthy adjunct to the usual requirements. As the machines are equipped with pontoons and it is much safer to land on water than on land, no matter how ideal climatic conditions may be, this site has been selected as the best of those inspected. Lieut. Lawson was of the opinion that unless unforseen circumstances arise, the final choice would be Black Point.

Captain W. I. Eisler has been appointed local representative, to complete such arrangements as Lieut. Lawton will be unable to make and to take active charge of the squadron on its arrival in the Huangpu.

THE American Consulate-General will be pleased to receive any information as to the present whereabouts of Mr. Frank Leo Kaliski, who was in Shanghai on or about September 1,

JUDGE PURDY OF THE U. S. COURT

Arrival in Shanghai: What is the Real Meaning of Extraterritoriality

When seen on Tuesday afternoon at his temporary apartment at the Astor House, Judge M. Purdy, newly appointed to the U.S. Court here, told a representative of the "North-China Daily News" that he had been the most voracious reader imaginable on things Chinese, but as he steamed past the Bund on Tuesday morning on the str. President Garfield, he could hardly believe that this was Shanghai as he had seen it before.

But getting to the question of extraterritoriality, which was the first one propounded to Judge Purdy, the conversation took up a definite, yet most vague turn for he said, "That is not for me to say, You know in law schools, every student knows that somewhere he has heard someone say something about this, but what it really is, he does not know. Since my appointment several months ago, I have read treaties, treatises, books, journals, articles; yes, I have studied what Judge Lobingier has written, but I must confess that I am very vague, though I am approaching my stay in Shanghai with an open mind.

"You know, I believe my first experience with this subject of extraterritoriality came when I was Assistant District Attorney in Minneapolis 30 years ago. It was my duty to enforce the new dairy law, which required that farmers outside the city limits must permit inspection of premises by city inspectors before their product could be sold in the city. This was an application of law outside the actual jurisdiction of the municipality—yes it was extra-territorial."

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE LOBINGIER.

Judge Purdy was most eloquent in his praise of Judge Lobingier who left for Japan, *en route* to America last week. "His decisions show a remarkable clarity of legal vision and precision, all the more significant because he had no precedent to fall back on. It is his interpretation of treaties, thought out with a marvellous clearness that has advanced the Court to its present status, ranking as it does above the similar bodies in America. All his work was done, though it is not finished, during a formative period. We who are here must work without legal assistance on the part of our fellow jurists and one must work single-handed."

Judge and Mrs. Purdy will take up their quarters in the Court building as soon as the renovation has been completed.

THE SUNKEN WARREN

Hopes of Salvage

Hopes are entertained that the str. Warren, which turned turtle and sank alongside of the International Dock in the Huangpu in the early hours of the morning of March 20, can be salvaged and refloated. Negotiations are in progress with the owners and the Tokio Salvage Company, whose agents in Shanghai are the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha Line, for the work of raising the vessel, and divers have been down over the week-end, together with a couple of engineers from Japan, to gauge the extent of the damage. What has been the result of their efforts is not known precisely, but we understand the company have every hope that salvage will be possible. Application has been made to the Harbour authorities for permission to block up that particular side of the Pootung Channel while the work of salvage is in operation.

The Warren, our readers will remember, has had a most unfortunate career recently, fire and wreck following each other in the Huangpu in quick succession. What damage has been caused by the last disaster or what was the cause of it is not yet known.

Mr. William Kerr, of Ilford, marine engineer, formerly commodore engineer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, left gross estate of the value of £31,055, with net personalty £31,024.

A FOREIGN POLICE CONSTABLE SHOT

Search Party's Exciting Duel with an Armed Gang: Several Chinese Wounded

Another desperate affray with armed Chinese robbers occurred on Saturday evening, affording further proof of the great dangers following upon the sale of arms to the Chinese and the immense risks run by members of the Municipal Police. As a consequence of this affair, Police Constable Bennett is in the General Hospital with several nasty wounds and one bullet in the head, but fortunately it is expected he will recover, whilst several Chinese also are receiving treatment for pistol shot wounds.

A gang of robbers, believed from the information available to number at least seven men, whom some of their victims declare to be Shantungese, started operations about 7.30 p.m., when they broke into a rice shop in the Chodahkoh village, on the bank of the Soochow Creek, off Gordon Road. The plunder was small, for only a little over $70 went into the robbers' possession. However, the robbers met with unexpected resistance as they were leaving, when the proprietor and some of his assistants attempted to detain them. Shots were fired and the proprietor was badly wounded. In spite of the confusion caused by this incident and the whole village being alarmed, the robbers burst into another shop, where they collected $20, scaring the people there by firing a shot into a wall, but not injuring anyone. Yet a third place then was broken into —another rice shop—shots again were fired into the air, and whilst the employees were held up against pistols, a safe was rifled of $100.

Such a number of people by this time had collected and, encouraged by their numerical superiority, were assuming such a menacing attitude, that the gang took to flight, turning several times to fire in the general direction of their pursuers, but it is said that no one was hit. The robbers turned into a path running along the creek and, crossing Gordon Road, got into Haiphong Road. It happened that a search party of three Sikh and three Chinese policemen, in charge of P. C. Bennett, were combing the district that evening, and the robbers had a shock when they ran straight into the party.

Before any of the policemen could do anything, one of the robbers standing only a few feet from Bennett, fired a pistol at him point blank. The constable had a miraculous escape, for the bullet smashed into his pistol holster and remained embedded in the pistol. Profiting by past experiences and coming to a quick realization of the circumstances, the police immediately dropped to the ground and brought their carbines into play. The robbers followed suit and for a few minutes there was a brisk exchange of shots, during which Bennett got a bullet in his head. Later on, when he was examined in hospital, he was found to have several wounds on his head and body and he is believed to have been hit four or five times, but only one of the bullets remained in his head. Soon the robbers, realizing that, between the armed police and the many Chinese who were waiting in convenient shelter, ready to rush them when opportunity occurred, they had very little chance, sprang up and bolted. They went individually in different directions, but with the willing assistance of the outraged villagers the police were able to arrest three of them, all without weapons.

P. C. Bennett and several Chinese who had been wounded in the final duel promptly were taken to hospital and it is reported that all are making good progress to recovery.

Seven Men Arrested After Desperate Encounter

On Tuesday, members of a gang believed to have participated in the Gordon Road affair were traced to a house in Yates Road, and the place was raided by a party of Chinese officers under the direction of Chief [illegible] appearance of the police, and it was only by the merest chance that further casualties have not to be recorded. One of the gang attempted to shoot the Inspector at point blank range, but fortunately the weapon—the usual automatic pistol—jammed, and the man behind it got a blow which effectually put an end to further part in the struggle. Other men drew revolvers but were prevented from using them, and after a strenuous fight the police were successful in arresting four of the men. Later in the day, another raid was made in the [illegible] district, and three more members of the gang were captured.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SOCIETY

Annual Boat-race Night Dinner

The members of the Oxford and Cambridge Society met for their usual dinner on Boat-Race Day at the Shanghai Club on Saturday evening. Thirty-two members were present and the guests of the Society was Mr. Stirling Fessenden, Chairman of the Municipal Council.

In the absence of Mr. Duncan McNeill, the President, the chair was taken by the Very Rev. Dean Symons, who performed the duties of his office to everyone's satisfaction. Many thanks are due from the Society to Dr. Goode, who lent for the occasion a quantity of very valuable brass and other ornaments, and the table really looked charming. The colour scheme was appropriately worked in violets and forget-me-nots. The latter, it must be confessed, were rather more like spinach than the Light Blue; but everyone felt that Dr. Goode had done his best and was not responsible for Nature's contrariness. He also ordered an excellent dinner. When speech time came on, it was decided to send a message of remembrances and good wishes to Mr. Duncan McNeill, the President, and Sir Havilland de Sausmarez, the former President. Special mention was also made of what the Society owes to the late Mr. Bathurst Walker, to whose initiative and energy the whole idea and foundation of the Society in 1909 is due.

The toast of "Alma Mater" was proposed by Mr. O. M. Green, that of the "Guest of the Evening" by Mr. Mossop, and "The Proctors" by Mr. Mansel Reece. Mr. Fessenden proved himself as usual a prince of after-dinner speakers. He regretted that he was "compelled to speak in the American language which was never spoken and only imperfectly understood in the cultured atmosphere of Oxford and Cambridge;" and after much excellent wit he went on in more serious vein to press for unity and co-operation between the English-speaking peoples of the world. He told the story of the founding of Harvard University by 70 old Cambridge men in the early seventeenth century and he quoted from Cecil Rhodes's will, to illustrate how the influence of Oxford and Cambridge Universities had extended to America. It was a great speech.

Before the evening ended, through the kindness of Reuter, the results of the race were known, but they occasioned no bitterness. It was always practically a certainty that one or other side must win.

With Mr. Fessenden as guest, those present were:—

Very Rev. C. J. F. Symons, Mr. M. Jaffee, Mr. J. A. Cresswell, Mr. H. F. Buchanan, Dr. W. L. New, Mr. Tycho Wing, Mr. C. Hastings, Mr. J. L. Hutchison, Mr. H. C. Pope, Mr. C. H. Arnhold, Mr. M. R. Harris, Mr. R. F. S. Gregson, Mr. H. E. Ward, Dr. G. E. Goode, Mr. T. Addis, Mr. J. L. Beaumont, Dr. C. L. Moore, Mr. A. D. Bell, Mr. H. W. P. McMeekan, Mr. J. E. Baddeley, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Mr. V. Priestwood, Mr. P. Gold-ring, Mr. C. M. Reece, Mr. F. A. Long, Mr. Shao Ying-ch'ih, Mr. A. G. Mossop, Mr. R. Ross, Mr. C. T. Shen, Mr. C. S. Chen, Mr. S. P. Simpson, Mr. R. A. P. Hill and Mr. O. M. Green.

WHAT MADE THE GREAT WALL

American Scientist's Discovery Between Its Bricks: Why Egyptian Paint Lasted So Long

Dr. Maximilian Toch, an American gentleman of a singularly versatile nature, has been in Shanghai this week on his way to Peking at the invitation of the Chinese Government to give a series of lectures at the Peking Technical College. Dr. Toch is the vice-president of Messrs. Toch Bros., the well known New York manufacturers of paints colours and varnishes, and he also is the Cooper Union Professor of Industrial Chemistry, and an expert in photography and cement processes. Formerly he was president of the New York Chemists' Club and his attainments have gained him recognition also in Great Britain, where he is a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, a Fellow of the Chemical Society, a vice-president of the Paint & Varnish Society of London and a vice-president of the London Society of Chemical Industry.

Even those not particularly familiar with commercial matters will know that one of the most valuable of China's products is wood oil, or, to give it the proper name, tung oil, one of the component parts of Messrs. Toch Bros'. wares. China's exports under this head average $100,000,000 a year, but, as is the case with so many things in China, the industry is managed in such a crude way that it is on the road to extinction. Already, in America, experimental areas have been established with a view to transferring the industry to that country, but the Chinese, for once showing a degree of advancement, have appealed to Dr. Toch, who wrote the first treatise on the subject, to explain to them the most up-to-date methods of clarifying, refining, shipping and everything else to do with the industry. Dr. Toch says that there is no doubt that, unless the Chinese acquire some such information and act upon it, they will lose this industry. He has no intention of establishing a branch paint and varnish factory in this country. He has been invited to do so, but says that the sources of the necessary raw materials are so widely separated and the means of transportation so slow and uncertain that the finished product can be shipped from other countries more speedily and cheaply than it could be manufactured here.

FROM COLOUR TO CHEMISTRY.

In Peking Dr. Toch will lecture on colours and pigments, cement, photography, rubber, varnishes, oils and industrial chemistry. So far no arrangements have been made regarding Shanghai, but Mr. J. J. Keegan, the firm's special representative here, hopes to arrange with engineering and other societies for a course of lectures. Dr. Toch also proposes to investigate the Chinese cement industry, in which he is greatly interested. During the interview a casual remark happened to be made regarding the curious effect China mud seems to have on motor car mudguards, apparently eating into them. Dr. Toch was all in terest in a minute and said he would make some experiments under that head also.

During the Great War, Dr. Toch was appointed chief of the United States camouflage service and he superintended the camouflaging of one-fifth of the American ships and all the fortifications. He tells some very interesting stories of this work and says that he would not have exchanged that 18 months experience for all his previous life, as it was the most fascinating employment he could imagine.

ANALYSING THE GREAT WALL.

During a momentary lapse in the conversation, the Professor exclaimed, "By the way do you know that the Great Wall of China has been analysed in our laboratory? A sample of the mixture was sent to us and I applied chemical agents to it and found that it was originally dolomite, not the American compound which contains two or three per cent. of iron, but without a trace of the metal. To the layman it might be styled burnt dolomite or magnesium, but the chemist would more readily recognize it as (CaCo2MgCo3-), one molecule made up of all the elements. The artificial slackening process brought about by the addition of water (H2O) and carbon dioxide Co2 broke down the single molecule into two more complex substances—CaOH20 or Ca(OH)2 and MgOH20 or Mg(OH) 2 plus Co 2, on the outside from the air.—as it now is. This remarkable compound, made up dissolubly, accounts for the stability of the Chinese Great Wall." Prof. Toch was not pressed for an opinion of the Chinese chemistry of that period, but he did give them great credit for what had been done in those days.

EGYPTIAN PAINTS.

As far back as 1914, Professor Toch was asked to conduct investigations into the composition of the paints found on the Tomb of Perneb, an ancient Egyptian potentate who died 4,500 years ago. This mausoleum had been brought to New York, but strange to say did not undergo the same deterioration as did the marble pillar of the time of Cleopatra. The latter of solid stone was affected by the moister New York weather. When the paint protected the contents, curiosity was aroused and it was due to his efforts that the metallic composition of the original materials was determined. "It was a very simple laboratory test, purely qualitative, in which the results were published in a rather exhaustive treatise, but I may say that the white was common limestone, the black charcoal or burned bone, the blue turquoise, the red ovide of iron (Hematite) and the green nothing but copper. It seems that white of egg or slackened lime was the liquid which carried the ingredients." Pressed as to how the paint had been applied Prof. Toch stated, "One of the brushes is in the Metropolitan Museum and it was given me to scrutinize and I found under the red paint, wood fibre, and what do you suppose, bamboo, still in a good state of preservation."

NINGPO VARNISH TOO.

As all residents of the Orient know, Ningpo Varnish is such a pest and trouble to many who are affected by the proximity of it, and as Prof. Toch is primarily a paint man, the question was put, "Why is this substance poisonous, how can one avoid being afflicted with sores and rash?"

"I examined and analysed Ningpo varnish, known in Japan as Irisha as far back as 1906 and really found that if one wore gloves when applying it, no poisonous after-effects would be experienced. As you know the oil of varnish in drying breathes as does the human being, absorbing oxygen and exhaling carbon dioxide. It is this gas that makes people ill. If one is unable to survive a surplus of this compound, the varnish in drying will affect them. Sometimes the odour affects others after months; it is supposed that formaldehyde, a poison, though this is not sure, is the basis for the ill feeling."

Professor Toch, with Mrs. Toch and Miss Maxime Toch, left for Peking on Wednesday, but will return to Shanghai within six weeks by way of Hankow, and on his return he has been requested to deliver a lecture by the Engineering Society on the "Corrosion of Iron and Steel." They will then continue on their way round the world, which though Mr. Toch has made 54 ocean voyages, crossing the Atlantic no less than 12 times, will be the first time he has visited that continent by way of the Orient.

Mr. Percy Cox returned to Shanghai by the R.M.S. Empress of Russia on Saturday after an absence of between two and three years, principally spent at Hongkong. He is taking charge here of the office of the Canadian Pacific Steamships as general agent, as Mr. N. Lees-Smith is proceeding Home on April 21 by the Empress of Australia.

A TRAVELLER TO TIBET

American Explorer in Shanghai: Up-to-Date Ways of Conquering the Wilderness

Among the passengers by the Dollar Line str. President Garfield who passed through Shanghai this week were Mr. and Mrs. William F. Alder, Mr. Alder who is a regular contributor to the "Century Magazine" on travel subjects and who has written many books on the little known regions, among them the "Isle of Vanishing Men," treating of the cannibals of New Guinea, and "Men of the Inner Jungle" and the "Artificial Empire," is now on his way to the City of Lhasa. His expedition is scientific and he proposes to survey the vicinity and make topographical maps of the roads, paths and waterways as well as secure a mass of photographic evidence, taken both with still and motion cameras.

When asked on Thursday by a representative of this paper whether he would have any difficulty in getting into this forbidden section of the world, he said that the American Government had taken up the matter with Downing Street and that he expected a smooth and easy way ahead of him.

Mrs. Alder, who usually accompanies Mr. Alder on his trips, is proceeding as far as Darjeeling, where she proposes to await his return. The party will be rather large and to secure safe transit for his many instruments, including sextants, theodolites, transits, and chronometers with further special meteorological appliances, in addition to the cameras, he proposes to engage a force of 100 natives. Usually, in the past, expeditions of this nature have been out of communication with the civilized world for a time, but science is coming to the fore and a high-power wireless set is included in the equipment and at no time will they be more than a second or two from Calcutta, from which station Mr. Alder will receive daily reports so as to set his chronometers for weather research.

When asked, "Don't you ever have any thrills on your searching parties, such as falling from a precipice and being rescued in mid air by the ever convenient aeroplane?" he said "We do not allow them to happen. I would just love to have a thrill, but on a properly organized expedition they do not occur. I crossed Borneo, (through all the wild men) with but a single white companion and never had a thrill."

"But something out of the ordinary, not in every-day life, must take place?"

"Well, when in 1920 we were approaching Borneo, the ship struck a reef about a mile from shore, so we just got in the dinghy and were rowed to land. It's all in the day's work."

Don't you sometimes run short of food or water when cast on desert islands?" came the query.

"No, I always take along enough provisions to last me twice as long as I expect to be stranded."

If we may be permitted to comment, either Mr. Alder was not in a reminiscient mood or he is no Baron Munchausen, or he is too modest. But we will await his new book on Tibet with interest.

Further Chinese "public" bodies have recorded their indignation at the rumours of the proposed extension of the Foreign Settlement and the proposed increase of wharfage dues. The appeal is in every case the same—that China's sovereign rights are being impaired and that any extension of the sort proposed, and any increase of taxes would be of incalculable harm to Chinese merchants and businessmen. Among the bodies concerned in the outcry are the Shanghai Commerce Maintenance Association, the Fukien Road Street Union and the Canton Road Street Union. The latter union considers that any extension of the Settlement would mean that Shanghai would be placed in the same position as Korea, India and Formosa, and that the freedom of the Chinese press would be injured.

CHINESE CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONAL ASSN.

Series of Important Meetings in Shanghai: Additions to the Staff

Educators from all parts of China gathered in Shaghai last week to consider the problems of Christian education. They met in connexion with the annual meeting of the China Educational Association, which represents the Christian schools and colleges organized in ten provincial associations. The meeting was one for reporting and planning for the work in these institutions. There were no public gatherings; all the time was spent in business sessions.

At the recent College Conference in Nanking, a Council of Higher Education was appointed. Its first organizing meeting was held on April 1. In the absence of the Chairman, Dr. Harold Balme, Tsinan, Dr. T. H. Lee, President of Futan University, took the chair. The chief matter discussed was a plan to standardize the Christian colleges and to bring them into closer relation with the Government institutions. There are at present nearly 20 institutions of college grade under Christian auspices with an enrolment of 3,700 students. In order to avoid undue competition and to secure better results in teaching through the restriction of departments and the possible federation of institutions in the same area, this Council plans to study the whole field. It has no power over any institution, but being representative of the colleges, its proposals will undoubtedly carry much weight. The services of a well-known Christian leader are being sought as secretary for the Council.

On April 2 and 3 the Advisory Council of the Association met at 20, Museum Road. The President, Dr. F. L. Hawks Pott, gave a valuable historical sketch of the Association. It began as far back as 1877, as a "School and Text Book Series Committee," which later developed into the present Association in 1880, with Dr. C. W. Mateer as its first President. During the 34 years of its history it has held a number of important triannual meetings. It has published text books, which in their time have had great influence in the development of modern education in China, and for a time it led in the preparation of modern terminology in Chinese. It has for a number of years published the "Educational Review," which is the only journal in China published in the English language that is devoted to education. From 1905 to 1912, the Rev. J. A. Silsby acted as General Secretary of the Association. Since 1912 the position has been filled by the Rev. F. D. Gamewell, LL.D., to whose untiring energy and ability is largely due the present influence of the Association throughout the country.

GOVERNMENT AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS.

An interesting address was give by Dr. W. T. Tao, Director of the National Association for the Advancement of Education in Peking, on the subject of relationships between Government and Christian educators. Dr. Tao spoke of the co-operation during the past year in the National Survey of the intelligence and educational achievements of school children which was conducted jointly by the National Association for the Advancement of Education and the China Christian Educational Association. It was financed by the former body and the Director, Prof. E. L. Terman, is connected with the Christian University in Peking. Teachers in Government and Christian schools worked together to make a success of the survey. At the present time a proposal is before both bodies for the organization of a Science Commission to draw together teachers of science in China for a common study of their problems and the improvement of science teaching. Dr. Tao also referred to the proposal that a Chinese Associate General Secretary be secured for the China Christian Educational Association. He believed that such a step would greatly increase the opportunities for co-operation with Government educators.

ADDITIONS TO THE STAFF.

During the past year the staff of the Association has been strengthened by the coming of Dr. E. W. Wallace, who has had experience is union educational work in West China. The Advisory Council sanctioned the securing in addition of a Chinese Associate General Secretary, and also of a secretary of religious education.

Thanks to a generous gift from the Institute of Religious and Social Surveys in America, and the contributions from mission boards, the Educatiosal Association is enabled to enlarge the sphere of its usefulness by securing these additions to its staff. These secretaries will make special studies of different phases of education in their application to the conditions of the Christian schools and colleges in China. They will also, as in the past, spend much time in the field, visiting institutions, conferring with principals and teachers and holding special conferences. If Christian education is to serve the Church and the Chinese people, it must keep abreast of the best developments in educational work in China and in other lands. During the past year the General Secretary, Dr. Gamewell, has spent some months studynig education in India. Other members of the staff have also made special studies in this country. A beginnisg has been made of the publication of "Educational Bulletins." The Association co-operated in the holding of a special conference in Shanghai during the last week in March to consider special problems in religious education.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

A report was given of an important conference on agricultural education that was held in February under the auspices of the Association. Sixty persons were present, representing agricultural missions in all parts of China. Reports were given of special schools that have been organized to meet the needs of country children. A text book is in process of preparation to teach children in primary schools the principles of gardening and farming, in order to enable country boys to receive an education that will interest them in farming and make them satisfied to spend their lives on the farm. The work of the extension department of the agricultural colleges, particularly in the elimination of silk worm disease and the remarkable improvement in the grade of cotton raised, is performing a remarkable service in raising the economic conditions of farmers. The country church is being made the centre of this welfare work and the farmers are beginning to look to the church as their best friend. At this meeting it was reported that the latest movement is to enlist the co-operation of doctors in mission hospitals in making surveys of health conditions in rural districts in preparation for campaigns for better sanitation and health conditions. Remarkable results have been achieved through the use of exhibits in farming villages and of simple dramatic performances. These carry to the illiterate farmers in all parts of the country the message of modern improved agriculture and home conditions.

Valuable reports presented by committees on curriculum, religious education, and adult and extension education will be fully reported in the "Educational Review." The Commercial Press was the host at tea on one afternoon and the manager, Mr. H. H. Wong, gave an interesting account of what the Press is doing for education.

On April 4 the Executive Secretaries of the ten provincial associations met for a day's conference to plan their work for the coming year. Through such common planning, rather than by any attempt to legislate, the educational work of the missions and of the Chinese church is approaching common standards and is greatly increasing its effectiveness.

The officers of the Association for the coming year are:—President, Rev. F. L. Hawks Pott; Treasurer, Mr. M. P. Walker; Recording Secretary, Rev. D. C. Baker, Taian. The Executive Secretaries are the Rev. F. D. Gamewell, General Secretary, and the Rev. E. W. Wallace, Associate General Secretary.

THE CARES OF CONSERVANCY

Dr. Chatley Wonders Why the Woo Sung Whangpoo

FRENCH MUNICIPAL LOAN

Coming Flotation of a Million Taels for Extraordinary Budget

It is learned that the French Municipal Council intends shortly to float a loan of about a million taels. Details of the flotation have not yet been made public, nor has the rate of interest been fixed, but the required particulars will be given out in due course.

The greater part of the sum mentioned is understood to be required for the completion of projects of improvement in the Concession which have been embarked upon in previous years. Certain new roads have to be brought to completion, these including Avenue Petain which will be carried as far as Siccawei. It is not contemplated to open up further roads for the present.

Another matter for which the Council hopes to use the loan is Koukaza. Here are situated barracks, established in the Boxer year by the French Government for the accommodation of its troops, and which are now used to house soldiers of the Tientsin garrison when passing through Shanghai. Negotiations are proceeding with the Minister of War in Paris for the acquisition of the barracks and land, the proposal of the Municipal Council being to acquire land elsewhere upon which new barracks can be constructed and to make use of the land at Koukaza for the enlargement of the French Park. It is hoped that the negotiations may be brought to a successful issue at an early date.

A further scheme which the Council has in view is the establishment of a plant for the manufacture of asphalt-concrete, so that it will be able to make its own road material.

While these are the principal objects for which the loan will be utilized, the Council is considering the advisability of erecting a plant for the destruction of household refuse. The problem of the disposal of this refuse has now become one of great magnitude, the amount in two years having risen from 40,000 to 107,000 tons, and at present considerable payments have to be made to Chinese contractors for its removal. The question at issue is whether the establishment of an incinerator for burning it would not be cheaper. It will not be possible to reach a decision on this matter for some months yet—not until the arrival of estimates—so that the scheme will hardly come within the scope of this year's extraordinary budget. Should the incinerator plan be adopted, the heat generated will be duly utilized, and an electric plant of about 600 K.W. be installed in conjunction with it.

OPPOSITION TO PRESS BY-LAWS

Chinese Publishers' Deputation to Council Secretary

A deputation consisting of representatives of the Commercial Press and the Chung Hwa Book Co., and the secretary of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce on Thursday morning called on Mr. E. S. Benbow Rowe, acting Secretary to the Shanghai Municipal Council, to present their side of the case with regard to the suggested new Press Licensing By-laws, namely, that they would be unjust and would inflict hardship upon those represented by the deputation.

The delegates said that they had made a very minute examination as to the meaning which should or could be placed upon every clause of the proposed regulations, and they took strong exception to the provision requiring that "any person who should cause to be printed, etc.," which they held would constitute an undue restriction as to the authorship of various articles.

It was explained in reply that the Council in no way wanted to control the writers of articles, but that it was necessary to have registration of those who published articles.

Another objection included the possibility of printing work being done outside the Settlement and distributed within it. It was explained that it was precisely to cover this and similar points that the regulations were drawn up. In the course of the interview the deputation were reminded of the Presidential Mandate governing such publications in Chinese districts, which contains possibilities of a drastic nature, inasmuch as the police are given full and complete power over all publications and the manner of their distribution, whilst the registration of the press and the compulsory inclusion on printed matter of the name of the publisher would be regulations of a very mild character compared with those which obtain in practically all civilized countries.

BY-LAWS NOT TO BE RE-DRAFTED.

At the close of the interview it was made clear that, whilst the Council would not at the present time alter the proposed new by-law as the result of the representations made by the deputation, none the less hereafter if those interested considered that they suffered any hardship in the matter of the registration of printers, the Council was at all times ready and willing to listen to any grievances and, in accordance with its policy of governing the Settlement in a liberal and fair-minded spirit, would take steps to rectify any legitimate cause of complaint.

MOTOR CAR HOTEL SCHEME

Mr. Maurice Benjamin in Part to Carry Out Mr. C. R. Burkill's Suggestion

The suggestion that a huge garage be constructed for the daily housing of cars which are at present parked on every available inch of space in our all-too-narrow streets has met with a prompt and practical response, a scheme of this character having been conceived by Mr. Maurice Benjamin and being now well advanced in its preliminary details. The new garage will be part of a big scheme for developing the Ben property which has its main frontage on Avenue Edward VII and Rue Montauban, and the whole of the buildings now standing on this extensive area will be demolished to make way for the modern structures which have been designed. On the Avenue Edward VII front it is proposed to build a hotel of five of six storeys, with flats on the upper floors and arcades on the ground floor.

The motor garage scheme is not so ambitious as that suggested by Mr. Burkill at the Automobile Club meeting, which would call for a very considerable outlay and a very extensive area of land, but still it is sufficiently comprehensive to afford some relief from the present parking congestion. Plans have been completed for the construction of a garage of six storeys in the back area of the property. A lift measuring 10 by 10 ft. will convey cars to the various floors, each of which will have clear garage space of 26,720 ft., and it is estimated that 200 cars can be accommodated. The roof will be occupied by repair and painting shops, which will offer additional convenient facilities for users of the garage.

The place will be available for daily or permanent use, and it will be possible so to arrange matters that owners will be able to get their car at a few minutes notice at any time of the day. In every respect, the scheme promises to be an extremely useful one, and it is an idea which is sure to have developments if this initial enterprise meets with success. The number of cars which can be accommodated is, of course, but a tithe of the mass which is crammed into the Settlement every day, in such number that one might almost describe every street in the Central District as a motor garage. The new scheme will not cope with the whole problem, but it will show the way to a simple method of easing the acute traffic problem. In another respect, also, use of the garage should commend itself to car owners, since it will put an end to the activities of thieves who are fond of walking off with a spare wheel and a bag of tools now and again.

It is believed that the general public will appreciate this enterprise. The idea has certainly been received with considerable favour, and an indication that it is engaging the interest of ratepayers is contained in the following communication which has reached us:—

At a meeting of the Shanghai Fabian Society held last Thursday evening, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That we heartily approve of the suggestion made by Mr. C. R. Burkill at the meeting of the Automobile Club of China on March 31, that the Shanghai Municipal Council should erect a huge centrally situated garage with numerous floors and elevators, in order to avoid the additional congestion in the streets caused by parking and ranking motor cars. That we urge the Council to obtain consent for this at the forthcoming Ratepayers' Meeting."

It has been urged that the local American Chamber of Commerce, along with other Oriental American Chambers, extend an invitation to Mr. Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, to visit this section.

The str. Frangestan, which has just burned to the water's edge near Port Soudan and whose passengers were saved under most exciting circumstances, was in Shanghai last month. While in port she was surveyed by Messrs. Eisler, Reeves & Murphy, who stated yesterday, that she was in perfect condition.

THE A. D. C.

"Fanny's First Play

CAST.

Count O'Dowde ...Mr E. R. Monsarrat.
Fanny, his daughter ...Miss Marjorie Serebriannikoff.
Mr. Gilbey .....Mr. Leigh Turner.
Mrs. Gilbey .....Mrs. Graham-Barrow.
Bobbie (their son) ...Mr. Lawrie-Smith.
Mr. Knox .....Mr. A. J. Daniels.
Mrs. Knox .....Miss Guiston.
Margaret (their daughter) ...Miss Eileen Millard.
Dora Delaney ...Mrs. Chris Wingrove
M. Duvallet .....Mr. Louis Lienard.
Juggins (a footman) ...Mr. Herbert Langley.
Savoyard .....Mr. J. J. Keegan.
Gunn .....Mr. F. G. Renwick.
Flawner Bannal ...Mr. C. F. Ashton.
Vaughan .....Mr. Donald Stewart.
Trotter .....Mr. S. F. Mackenzie.
A footman .....Mr. R. Rhyss Jones.

Act 1 and 3—a room in the house of Mr. Gilbey.

Act 2—a room in the house of Mr. Knox.

Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Jack Raynes.

Furniture by Messrs. Weeks and Company.

Stage manager, and scenery, Mr William Armstrong.

The play produced by Mr. E. P Graham Barrow.

To the producer it must always be a question of how much G. B. Shaw an audience is prepared to stand. In comparison with him Barrie may be called universal, whereas Shaw is invariably Shavian. When "Fanny's First Play" was produced in London, a certain amount of the epilogue—so we are informed—was cut out. The producer felt that the play was at an end, the audience were ready to go off to supper, and there should be no hindrance to their departure. For a variety of reasons the same procedure was adopted by the A. D. C. on Saturday night.

As we have said, "Fanny's First Play" is Bernard Shaw throughout. To start with, the curtain rose at 9.15 p.m. promptly, but for the succeeding minutes Shanghai and not Shaw was in the ascendant. The audience continued to troop in while the prologue was being recited, and so most people missed its all important points. At the end of the play is the epilogue—a coterie of critics discussing the show—and as produced on Saturday it was much less than the book would have it. Mr. Graham Barrow doubtless felt impelled to follow a lead given elsewhere and minimize this part. Unless perfectly done it would drag and that would be fatal to the success of the piece. As it was, however, there was a distinct success scored, so he was justified. Whole-hearted admirers of Shaw may suggest that the omission of the full epilogue means that the play is no longer as the author would have it, and such being the case it might be worth while to try it in full. It is an experiment but it is not to be attempted rashly.

The production of "Fanny's First Play," judged by its reception on the part of the audience, can only be regarded as a highly successful effort on the part of the A. D. C. The cast was well chosen, and outstanding among the ladies was Mrs. Wingrove in her part of Dora. There could be no question about her talent and, as has been noted on many an occasion previously, she gave a wonderful pourtrayal of an interesting part. Miss Eileen Millard made her first appearance in a "big" part in Shanghai and it is with pleasure that we congratulate her. She will certainly advance in the ranks of amateur theatricals, but one point must be noted. A more extensive use of arms and hands in the way of gesture would add greatly to her work and remove a very slight awkwardness which is at present somewhat noticeable. Miss Guiston as Mrs. Knox gave a very fine performance, indicating a rare insight into the requirements of a not by any means easy rôle.

The grumbling shopkeeper, Gilbey, was played by Mr Leigh Turner with a distinct amount of skill. Gilbey is one of the very ordinary people whom Shaw loves to write about and whom he shows up in the worst middle-class light, and for the average man this is one of the most difficult parts imaginable. Mr. Turner succeeded in it, and conveyed to the audience the notion of a commonplace grouser—the type of man who exists in large quantities the word is used advisedly—in this imperfect world of ours. Mr. Langley was excellent as the footman, and another of the cast who must be mentioned was Mr. Lienard as Duvallet. He was particularly good in the difficult task of a speech on Anglo-French relations in the third act—an interesting piece of satire.

We understand that the play was of necessity curbed in its rehearsals by the presence of the "Quaints" in Shanghai, and there is no doubt that additional rehearsals would have been all to the good. For instance a gap occurred at the end of the second act which spoilt the finale there. Another thing has to be pointed out. The play is brimful of good stuff—very funny things cropping up all over it—but the actors hardly gave time to the audience to enjoy them. Rather they were on to the next sentence or piece of repartee while a murmur of appreciative laughter was drowning their voices. This laughter was so keen and spontaneous throughout the whole evening that there could be no question of the delight of the audience regarding the piece and how it was played, and there is no doubt that all concerned in the production must be congratulated.

Hongkew bookbinders struck on Wednesday for higher wages. Some 400 men and boys, employees of nine establishments, state that they have been earning an average daily wage of 40 cents for piecework, and desire that the price be raised to enable them to make a further 20 cents.

THE PAPER ROADS MOVEMENT

The Settlement Isolation Party Sheds its Skin and Returns in Disguise: Vast Totals of Letters and Pamphlets, but an Absence of Roads

Any man with two good ears, if he lives in the Settlement, will hear every day of his life in the one ear, "Shanghai is not what it used to be for it has grown out of all recognition. In my day there were no houses beyond Thibet Road" (or Hungjao Road, according to whether Mr. Brodie Clarke or a griffin arrived by the Empress of Australia is telling the story). And in the other ear he will hear, "China is the great country of the future, but what she wants is roads." Only last week two exclusive radio services received here announced that Mr. Henry Ford had declared, "My eyes are on China. It is the big country of to-morrow." Mr. Ford manufactures "motor cars, automobiles, or whatever you call them," as K.C.B. once wrote, and roads are essential to his further prosperity, so it can be imagined what he will tell China if and when he comes here.

Many people have talked about building roads, several have collected money for that purpose, and a few in our neighbourhood have put down some rather splendid bridle paths which would be quite good for ponies if ponies were allowed on them. About the only people who steadily have continued to build real roads to the limit of their resources have been the International and French Municipal Councils and they would have done a great deal more if unsurmountable obstacles had not been put in their way. One must refer again to one or other of the very oldest inhabitants in order to find out when the Road to the Hills was first discussed, for it was before the time of all but a very few now living here. The Municipal Council always have been willing to build that road and still are, and arrangements have gone so far that the work could be commenced almost any day, but it is impossible because of the opposition of the Chinese. Other similar instances could be noted.

THOSE SOVEREIGN RIGHTS.

It will be remembered that a year or more ago a body styled the Good Roads Movement earned somewhat unenviable notoriety, at least amongst the foreigners in whose Settlement it was functioning, by working on the startling suggestion to build a Chinese road around the Settlement. The good roads movers were an estimable body of gentlemen who were highly perturbed and the heads of Municipal departments were alleged to be spending most of their time wandering about the outskirts of the Settlement looking for stray sovereign rights temporarily left about by honest folk, who for the moment were engaged in armed robberies, fomenting strikes, worshipping before the photographs of deceased Russian Communists, etc. A road round the Settlement would effectually protect all the sovereign rights and as the foreigners were not attempting to prevent the Chinese squeezing them out of the foreign Settlement, the eventual result was obvious—soon there would be no one left to go searching for sovereign rights.

It sounded easy; but unfortunately the wrong sort of publicity was given to the plans of the Good Roads Movement and it died a natural death. A few weeks ago, we received a form inviting admission that we were male or female and asking other impertinent questions, all of which were a part of an oath ever more to act in "compliance with the constitution and by-laws of the National Road Construction Association of China." Nothing much else was asked, except that one should pay a trifle in the way of an annual subscription on the following scale:—Common member, $1; special member, $5; assisting member, $10; approving member, $20; maintain (*sic*) member, $50; honorary member, $100. Surely any one of the titles is worth the price! Chekiang was said to be the strongest branch, with 44,000 members and funds of $60,000, which suggests either that the treasurer had been unable to collect many subscriptions, or else very few wanted even to be special members. As a whole the association only claimed 97,000 members and funds of $110,000, so "maintain" members must have been very few. The main trouble appeared to be that someone wanted cosy headquarters, there being an urgent appeal for something more than $110,000, for the existing headquarters had various defects, "regardless of its unsanitary effects during summer time and unprovided with a board room, exhibition room, deposit room, parlour, dinning room, etc." The "djnning" room presumably being where all the noise was invented. So one was asked for "any help financially or spiritually from you or anybody who feels willing to purtake this big enterprise."

BUT WHAT ABOUT ROADS?

Such a touching appeal could not be pigeon-holed. Inquiries were made and it transpired that this new association is but the old road round the Settlement concern under a new name. Its chief is Mr. C. T. Wang, who was prominent in the Shantung negotiations, who has been trying to bring about the deal with Karakhan and who was the head of the Good Roads Movement. This concern now has sent in a report of its activities. One notices singularly little about the actual building of roads, but it is recorded that the association circulated more than 116,000 copies of new and old constitutions (which ought to be about enough, as there are 97,000 members), received 127 foreign letters and 13,700 Chinese, but only answered 7,300 of the latter, although it sent out 230 English letters, and also despatched 78,000 parcels, of printed articles and 23,000 letters to members.

One might hazard the suggestion that a better start would have been made had all this wasted money been spent on helping the Municipal Council to build the Road to the Hills. The scattering of paper broadcast over China will not build roads, and if one has a taste for receiving letters and pamphlets, they can more easily be obtained for $100 a year than by becoming an honorary member of the National Road Construction Association of China.

THE CUSTOMS CLOCK LYING IN STATE

Dismembered Parts on View in the Compound: Sold for Re-erection in Peking

A disciple of Hood proclaimed on Thursday that the Customs clock had "lost face." It might have been better to say that its dismembered parts held a public reception, or possibly that they were lying-in-state. Any way, various portions of Shanghai's famous old friend spent the day scattered about the Customs compound, and scores of people dropped in to have a closer sight of them than they ever have had. One of the dials, somewhat damaged in its descent, rested against a wall and was an object of great wonder to the Chinese. A foot rule was not available, nor any official statistics on the subject, but at a guess, as judged by one's own height, the clock face is quite 10 ft. in diameter, which may be small as compared with Big Ben, but is not bad for what Shanghai was when the clock was put up. In another corner of the compound were the bells—a big one some 2 ft. high and about as much across its mouth, and three lesser ones. An inscription showed that they were cast in 1893 by Gillett & Johnston, of Croydon, England, and all were in perfect condition. Elsewhere reposed an intricate arrangement of wheels and levers more suggestive of a big launch engine than the works of a clock.

The old clock was put in the Customs tower in 1894 and has been running faithfully ever since. To-day it is pronounced to be in as good condition as ever and it is to be commissioned for further services. The purchasers were Messrs. Dominic & Co., and it is understood that they already have sold the clock in Peking, one rumour being that it will grace the tower of the Waichiaopu building.

Meanwhile, The Bund is timeless and the public much inconvenienced. The authorities recognising this, have decided to fire the time-gun from the Customs Pootung signal tower at noon every day, instead of at noon on Mondays and Fridays only. In the old days it was customary to fire this gun whenever a mail boat entered the port, but mailboats became so numerous that the gun would have been going all day if the practice were kept up, so it was discontinued.

OBITUARY

Mr. A. C. Z. Frisenette

An esteemed member of the Danish community, Mr. Adolf C. Z. Frisenette, died last Friday in the Isolation Hospital, the cause of death being spinal meningitis. The deceased, who was 45 years of age, joined the Great Northern Telegraph Co. in Denmark 25 years ago and arrived in China in 1901, remaining on the Shanghai station for the greater part of his service. He was a very popular member of the staff and had many friends among the foreign community, particularly as a member of the Shanghai Club.

Major M. W. Buck

We deeply regret to announce the death of Major M. W. Buck, R.E. (T), who passed away on Wednesday in the General Hospital at the early age of 43. He died of peritonitis following on an operation.

Major Buck, then a Captain in the Territorials, came to the Far East, to Hongkong, first in 1912 for the firm of Siemens & Co. He was an electrical engineer. On the outbreak of war he was called up to the Royal Engineers in Hongkong where he served all through the war and was one of the most popular officers in the garrison. After the war he joined the China Mutual Trading Co. as a director, which company had to close in consequence of the collapse following the short post-war boom. In March 1922 he joined Sulzer Bros. & Co. where he had been acting manager for the last six months. He was a Lieutenant in the Maritime Co., S.V.C. He was a Freemason of high rank, a Past Master of Victoria Lodge, Hongkong, and of Cosmopolitan Lodge in Shanghai, and D.G.J.W. of the District Grand Lodge of Scottish Freemasonry in North China. Major Buck was one whom everybody that knew him most deservedly liked and his death will be deplored by many friends.

Mrs. W. H. Poate

On April 8, at Wykcham House, Stanmore, England, Mrs. W. H. Poate, another of Shanghai's old residents, passed away.

Mrs. Poate, as Miss Clara Gilfillan, came to Shanghai in November, 1887, for work in connexion with the London Mission. On January 6, 1891, she was married to Mr. W. H. Poate, of Messrs. Mackenzie & Co.

Until she and her husband left Shanghai in 1907, Mrs. Poate made their home here a centre of much kindly hospitality. She was interested in all movements for the welfare of the less fortunate in our midst, and was from the first, and for many years, treasurer of the Children's Refuge, continuing her practical help even after leaving Shanghai.

In England, Mrs. Poate, among other activities did much work for her old school, Milton Mount, as its treasurer. For years she also took a personal interest in baby welfare work in the East End of London, regularly visiting the mothers in these poorer districts.

Her thought was constantly of others and many here will deeply mourn her loss and miss the welcome she always gave to her friends visiting the homeland.

Much sympathy is felt for her husband, her sisters and members of the family in Shanghai.

SMART DISCOVERY OF ARMS ON RIVER

Pistols and Ammunition Thrown Overboard for Drag Boat: An Astute Watchman

A gun-running venture was scotched by the River Police on Wednesday. Whilst patrolling the river shortly after 9 a.m., Sgt. Benson observed two small Chinese drag boats, on the Pootung side near Jardine's west wharf, followed by a sampan in which was a Sikh watchman from the str. Celtic Prince. The watchman cried out that the Chinese had arms and ammunition on board, and without more ado the Sergeant got the Chinese craft to the police hulk, where a search revealed several hundred rounds of revolver ammunition.

The watchman gave information that about 8 a.m. on Wednesday he saw a Chinese leave the galley of the Celtic Prince, go to the side and throw overboard two suit cases and a sailor's bag, and these being supposed to contain arms and ammunition, police were set to drag the river near the ship's side. One of the suit cases was bought up and found to contain 22 long-barrelled revolvers of .38 calibre and bearing a mark of Spanish manufacture, and another package recovered contained 8,900 rounds of revolver ammunition. The Chinese members of the crew were afterwards lined up, but the watchman failed to identify the man who threw the cargo overboard. It has been noted that one man who went ashore during the day without permission, leaving a considerable sum of money behind him, has not yet returned.

The trick of dropping contraband overboard and afterwards dragging for it is an old one, but on this occasion was not performed with customary neatness.

IMPURE BLOOD
brings on Bad Legs, Abscesses, Ulcers, Glandular Swellings, Eczema, Boils, Pimples and Eruptions, Piles, Rheumatism, Gout. To obtain complete and lasting relief, the blood must be thoroughly cleansed. Clarke's Blood Mixture quickly expels the impurities, that is why so many lasting recoveries stand to its credit.
Clarke's Blood Mixture
Of all Chemists and Stores.
"Everybody's Blood Purifier"

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

Money and Exchange

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, Apr. 11.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/2⅜=Tls. 6.25 at 71.7=$8.72	
Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 69¼=Tls. 144.40 at 71.7	
Mex. Dollars, market rate	71.925
Native Interest	05
Copper Cash	262,000
Bar Silver	33
Bank rate of Discount	4%
Paris on London	Frs. 72.25
New York on London	G.$4.33¼

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/2¼
Demand	3/2⅜
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	69
Demand	69¼
PARIS—	
Demand	1163
INDIA—	
Demand	227½
HONGKONG—	
Demand	74
JAPAN—	
Demand	60¾
BATAVIA—	
Demand	191
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	73½

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/2 7/16
4 m/s. Credits	3/4¼
4 m/s. Docs.	3/4½
6 m/s. credits	3/4⅝
6 m/s. Docs.	3/5¼
NEW YORK—	
Demand	70½
4 m/s. Credits	72½
4 m/s. Docs.	73
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1240
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/2 7/16
New York T.T.	69½

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR APRIL

Hk. Tls. 5.49 at 3/3¼	£1
,, 1 at 1631/8	Frs. 18.17
,, 1.28 at 69⅞	Gold $1
,, 1 at 62⅜	Yen 1.79
,, 1 at 233½	Rupees 2.60
,, 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
,, 1 at 16.35	It. Lire 18.21
Marks and Roubles no quotation	

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates, Apr. 11.

It. Lire 15.50	Tl. 1
Swiss Frs. 3.92	Tl. 1
It. Lire 9.30	Y. 1

Week's Exchange Notes

Apr. 12.

At the close of business on the 9th instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 32,931,000 and $44,960,000.

These figures include Tls. 8,840,000 and $28,210,000 in Chinese banks in which there were 933 bars.

BAR SILVER.

Arrivals were:—
1,086 bars from America
929 ,, ,, London

2,016 bars

Shipments were:—
15 bars to Hongkong

SYCEE.

There were no movements of sycee during the week

DOLLARS.

Arrivals were:—
$100,000 from Soochow
100,000 ,, Chinkiang
50,000 ,, Wenchow

$250,000

Shipments were:—
$50,000 to Tungchow

SILVER.

The price came yesterday as 33d. ready and forward, showing rises of 1/16d. ready and ⅛d. forward, compared with last week's prices. The market has been reported generally as quiet. India bought and China is reported both as a buyer and a seller.

Bars in stock 4,331, including silver yen 10 lakhs. The stock is 2,000 bars higher than last week. Stocks of sycee and dollars are estimated at Tls. 309½ lakhs and $447½ lakhs, and show increases during the week of Tls. 20 lakhs and $2 lakhs.

The price of dollars has risen to 71.925.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange left off last week at T.T. 3/2½d. where it still remains. The market during the week was quiet and steady, with forward quotations at times higher than for early delivery.

Banks generally would sell T.T. 3/2 7/16d. for April/June delivery, 3/2½d. forward; Gold $ T.T. 69½ April/May and 69⅝ June forward. And 4 m/s. L/C paper offering could be placed at 3/3⅛d. and Gold $ 71¼. Business is very dull.

LONDON BULLION

Samuel Montagu & Co.'s Report

In their report of February 27 on the London bullion market Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on the 20th instant amounted to £126,270,560, as compared with £126,259,895 on the previous Wednesday.

Nearly all of this week's moderate supplies of gold was shipped to the United States of America.

In our letter of the 6th instant, we referred to the relief which would be given to the congestion of gold in the United States of America if greater encouragement were given to imports of goods. The following extract from a lecture on "American Dependence upon Foreign Products" by Professor A. P. Brigham of Colgate University, U.S.A. delivered on the 25th instant before the Royal Geographical Society, as reported in the "Times" yesterday, is worthy of note:—

"Through most of the 19th century, American attention was turned inward upon themselves. The 20th century was changing all that. They were getting a new understanding of the philosophy of trade. They were rid of the delusion that trade could be one-sided. They began to know the fallacy of the so-called 'favourable balance of trade.' There must be mutual advantage and service."

The Southern Rhodesian gold output for January, 1924, amounted to 48,979 ounces, as compared with 55,268 ounces for December, 1923, and 56,603 ounces for January, 1923.

Indian trade figures (private account) for January, 1924, are as follows:—

(in lakhs of rupees)	Exports.	Imports.
Merchandise	3,695	2,261
Gold	½	230
Silver	10	233½
	Net Exports.	Net Import.
Merchandise	1,434	—
Gold	—	229½
Silver	—	223½
	Total Net Exports	981.

Owing to rather sharp fluctuations in the U.S. as well as the China exchanges, the market has been disposed to vacillate. The fact that most of the buying came from bears, and varied in amount considerably on different days, naturally increased the irresolution of the market. America was inclined to sell freely yesterday and the tendency of prices to be checked at any marked advance is evident. The Continent is not at present figuring as a factor.

The following illuminating passage occurs in an article in the "Engineering and Mining Journal Press" of New York alluding to the London silver market:—

"It is those three machinery appliances—cheap money rates, exchange centralization, and superlative brokerage organization (largely the first) that made, make, keep and will keep London in control of the world's silver market. Her imperial trade necessities require that she keep a grip on the silver exchanges, via silver. Similarly, the London market rules wheat, cotton, and other commodities which Britain does not produce, but which the machinery of British finance and cheap money permit Britain to 'carry,' and dominate."

Miss O'Reilly, assistant to the Director of the Mint, in her evidence before the U.S. House Committee on Appropriations, when reverting to transactions under the Pittman Silver Purchase Act, said that when the United States sold to Great Britain 259 million standard silver dollars, the Government not only collected the price of the silver at a dollar an ounce, but charged England an additional 1½ cents per ounce, which has been used for recoining silver dollars. England was also charged for the cost of copper in the transaction, and the fund therefrom has amounted to $3,333,000.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

Overtrading In Woollens for the Spring Trade: A Heavy Bankruptcy

Apr. 12.

All markets are more or less stagnant, and interest seems to centre in the bankruptcy of a Chinese woollen merchant whose liabilities are believed to be heavy.

A slight improvement has again been shown at the piece goods auctions, but other business has been dull.

All branches of exports are in an uninteresting condition.

PIECE GOODS.

A very small amount of business has been registered in piece goods this week, but orders have been coming in only in driblets, these consisting principally of Greys and Whites for Hankow and Ningpo. Owing to the increasingly great scarcity of stocks, prices for these are rather firmer, but Fancies are entirely neglected. The Manchester market is very strong on account of the ascertained shortage of cotton, and manufacturers are in a very healthy position owing to the reduction of hours to 26½ per week. They are therefore more or less in a position to dictate to consumers, but as China declines to buy the result here is not apparent.

In woollens the market is very quiet, and the principal feature appears to be the bankruptcy of a Chinese dealer who had large commitments to meet. For the Spring trade there has been undoubtedly over-buying, and this appears to have brought about the present condition of stagnancy. The Home market remains strong, and no new business worth talking about is taking place with China.

As far as the auction business is concerned there is little change to note. The undertone remains strong, and while actual demand for Italians has fallen away the speculators are now again active so that the probabilities are all in favour of an appreciation of prices. The demand for Greys and Whites continues to be extremely good, and stocks are decreasing rapidly. The Changsha market appears to be the strongest for Whites, but all other centres are as a fact interested. The recent dock strike at Home has had this effect on the situation that exports from England have been curtailed, and at a time when heavy clearances are expected arrivals of cargo are going to be very small.

COTTON AND YARN.

China Cotton—China cotton has advanced about a tael during the past week, and mills have been buying only for their immediate requirements, this at prices which show a heavy loss on yarn. The complaint is made that cotton becomes steadily poorer in quality and the added moisture is increasing. It is now said to be 17 per cent. whereas the natural moisture should be about 8 per cent. On the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange, where remark is made on a shortage of supply, the prices are as follows:—April 47.80; May 47.35; June 46.65; July 46.20; August 45.05; September 41.70 Spot quotations are as follows:—Tungchow 48.50; Shanghai 45.50; Shensi 47; Hankow 45.

Yarn—A certain amount of business is proceeding in yarn at prices which show a slight improvement here and there. Stocks are very small indeed and any big demand will find the spinners in a very strong position in regard to price. So far, however, this demand has not manifested itself, and the result is that while several Chinese mills are closed, foreign mills are considering a further curtailment of output. Cloth has been lifeless during the week. On the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange prices advanced on shorts covering and bulls trying to change over from the near months' position to far months' deliveries. Quotations on the Exchange are as follows:—April 178; May 176.80; June 175.20; July 174.30; August 173.20; September 171.90.

SILK.

The silk market appears to be dead both in Lyons and New York. The local market is weaker and lower prices are expected.

Some of the Chinese dealers are anxious to contract for new season's silk, but are unable to find buyers.

PRODUCE.

The produce markets remain stagnant, and there is nothing of interest to report. Local prices continue high and beyond the ideas of Home buyers. The easier exchange rates prevailing during the past week have not affected the volume of export business to any extent.

QUEENSLAND LOAN

Particulars of London Flotation

London, Apr. 4.

The first Queensland loan issued in England since December, 1919, is being underwritten for conversion of the 3½ per cent. 1924 Loan of £4,765,000 and also of the 4 per cent. loan of £7,939,000, which is due on July 1.

Holders of these loans are offered in exchange 5½ per cent inscribed stock, redeemable in 1926 to 1929, on cash payment of 10 shillings per cent. Cash applications will be received at 99½ per cent. on payment of 10 per cent. on application and 89½ per cent. on July 1.

This is a sequel to the success of the efforts of Mr. Theodore, Queensland's Socialist Premier, to raise the embargo on Queensland loans since the passage of the Queensland Pastoral Leases Act of 1920, which, British financial concerns having large property holdings complained, was inimical to their interests. The concessions made by Mr. Theodore with regard to the offending statute have removed all differences.—Reuter.

Dutch Internal Loan

Amsterdam, Apr. 5.

The "*Handelsblad*" understands that a bankers' syndicate in Holland have offered the Government a loan of 60,000,000 guilders with interest at six per cent., issuable at 97 per cent. The paper adds that there is every likelihood that the Government will accept the offer.—Reuter.

Japan's Trade With China

Tokio, Apr. 7.

The Finance Department announces that for the month of March, Japan's trade with China amounted to Y.30,887,000 in exports and Y.12,009,000 in imports, the balance being Y.18,878,000 in favour of exports.

Coal Output

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending March 29 amounted to 93,108 tons and the sales during the same period to 106,878 tons.

SUN LIFE OF CANADA

Important Arrangement with New York Life

Arrangements have just been completed under which the business in the United Kingdom of the New York Life Insurance Co. will in future be administered by the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada. This follows on a similar arrangement made a few months previously under which the business in the United Kingdom of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York was reassured and taken over by the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada.

Under the recent arrangements made between the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada and the New York Life Insurance Company, and also between this company and the China Mutual and Shanghai Life Insurance Companies, the assets of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada will be increased by about G.$25,000,000, making the total assets G.$240,000,000.

U. S. Freight Rates

New York, Apr. 5.

The American Continental Steamship Freight Conference confirms that rates will be advanced from 15 to 25 per cent. as from May 1.—Reuter's American Service.

FOR SALE

Petrol Electric Light Plants.

1 Plix Electric Light Set: 32 Volts, suitable for 65 Lamps each of 20 Watts, including full set of storage battery. Set not quite new but in guaranteed good working condition. Recently overhauled.

1 Entirely new Lumen Electric Light Plant: 32 Volts, suitable for 50/48 Lamps, each of 20 Watts, including full set of storage battery. Measurement: 39 c.f. New York's Invoice price=G.$554.68 c.i.f. Shanghai.

Selling both Plants (each separately) very cheap. BEST OFFER ACCEPTED. Must reach on or before May 18. Terms: cash, ex godown Shanghai. Forwarding expenses for Buyer's account.

Apply to Standard Machine Supply Co., 123 Szechuen Road. Tel. Address: "Stanmasup."

THE STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE THROUGHOUT THE EAST

WHO'S WHO PAINT

Varnishes, Enamels, etc.

Large Stocks Kept in China

Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark

SHANGHAI—HONGKONG

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary, Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury S., Rhodesia.

The giving of advice to prospective settlers will be facilitated if applicants will advise the Board in detail of their circumstances and the amount of capital they would be prepared to invest in a suitable venture.

COMPANIES NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Anglo-Java Estates, Ltd.—The 14th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Monday, April 14, 1924, at 4 p.m.

A final dividend of 30 cents per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 7 to 14, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Java Consolidated Rubber & Coffee Estates, Ltd.—The 14th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, April 17, 1924, at 4.30 p.m.

A final dividend of 75 cents per share, making Tls. 1.25 per share for the year will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 12 to 17, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Bute Plantations (1913), Ltd.—The 11th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 2 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, April 15, 1924, at noon.

The Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.—At the approaching annual general meeting of shareholders the Directors will recommend that a dividend be declared for the past half year at the rate of 14 per centum and a bonus of 6s. 3d. per share free of income tax (equal to 20½% per annum).

The Dominion Rubber Co., Ltd.—The 10th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 2 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, April 15, 1924, at 4 p.m.

To pay a dividend at Tls. 0.10 per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 7 to 15, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ltd.—The 14th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 33 Peking Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, April 17, 1924, at 11.30 a.m.

A dividend of 7 per cent. will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 14 to 20, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Cheng Rubber Estates, Ltd.—The Transfer Books will be closed from April 10 to 16, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Malay Rubber Estates, Ltd.—The 14th Annual General Meeting will be held at No 23 Peking Road, Shanghai, on Monday, April 14, 1924, at 11.45 a.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 10 to 11, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ltd.—The 21st Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 36 Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, April 15, 1924, at 5 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 8 to 15, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Gordon & Co., Ltd.—The 8th Annual Meeting will be held at No. 7 Peking Road, Shanghai, on Monday, April 14, 1924, at 5.30 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 7 to 15, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Semambu Rubber Estates, Ltd.—The 11th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, April 24, 1924, at 11.30 a.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 16 to 24, 1924, both days inclusive.

Share Report for Week Ending April 11, 1924.

No. 24/14

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Codes in use: A1 Code
A.B.C. 5th and 6th Editions
Bentley's Complete Phrase Code
Telephone Cent. 171 & 174.

Members of Shanghai Stock Exchange.
Land, Estate & Insurance Agents.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building,
1st The Bund
Post Office Box No. 244, Shanghai.

The local share market has been very quiet and depressed during the week with very few transactions recorded of any consequence. "Rubbers" are a stagnant market as a result of the continued low price offering for the raw product. Hongkong & Shanghai Bank shares have steadily improved and are quoted in London at £132½ business done. "Langkats" (Combined) have again changed hands for both cash and forward delivery but at a considerable drop in price. All sound local investment stocks are wanted but not easy to secure at present quotations.

London interest quotations have ceased of slightly since last week and the following are the latest prices quoted us by cable this week:—

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Loan 1913. B.I.	£ 71. 10. 0	(Middle Price)	
" " " " " " F.I.	69. 10. 0	"	ex B.R.I.S.
" " " " " " R.I.	65. 3. 9	"	
Chinese " " Lung Tsing U. Rai Rly	51. 10. 0	(Sellers)	
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"	3. 3. 0	(Middle Price)	
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Estates, Ltd.	1. 10. 3	"	
Shanghai-Nanking Railway & Tramways, Ltd.	0. 3. 0	(Sellers)	
Pekin Syndicate, Ltd. Ord Shares	0. 10. 3½	(Middle Price)	

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/24.

Shanghai, April 11, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

APRIL	5th Cash	5th June	7th Cash	7th June	8th Cash	8th June	9th Cash	9th June	10th Cash	10th June	11th Cash	11th June
RUBBERS												
Consolidated Rub. Co., Ltd. Tls.	2.27½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kali Gilidik Coffee Est., Ltd. "	..	..	0.15	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..
Kroowook Rub. Est., Ltd. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
S'hai Dock & Eng. Co., Ltd. Tls.	..	..	95	..	6½	..	..	..	..	6½	..	6½
S'hai Loan & Invest. Co., Ltd. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ltd. "	..	..	..	..	7½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lanekats (combined) .. .. "	..	..	..	..	26½	..	..	..	..	26	..	..
Hall & Holtz Ltd. .. .. $	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	7	..	..
S'hai Exploration & D. Co., Ltd. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	20½	..
Chinese Eng. & Mng. Co., "B" "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
COTTONS												
DEBENTURES												
S. M. C. 6% 1905 Debs. .. Tls.	97	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 6% 1923 " .. .. "	99	..	..	105	..	105	..	..	..	..	105	..
" 7% 1922 " .. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

FORWARD SETTLEMENTS FOR 1924.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, APRIL 11, 1924.

STOCK	Last business done.		Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc.	Financ. year ended	Last Dividend etc.	Paid or Due
BANKS.										
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Cor.	$ 1160	1165		61)	400,000	H $125	(a H $3,350,212	Dec.	Final £3 & Bonus £2 (mkg. £3 1923) less I/T	25-2-24
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. ..London	£ 19				600,000	£5	(b H $65,123,831	Dec.	Final 7s. & Bonus 6s. 3d. (mkg. £1 0s. 3d.)	
							(a £222,201			
							(c £3,800,000	Dec.	free of I/T, 1922	5-4-24
INSURANCE.										
Union In. Society of Canton, Ltd.	H $ 240			55)	200,000 d	£4	(ar £437,386		Final 16s. (mkg. 19s.) ex 1921 Work. a/c.	
							(b £69,500	Dec.	Interim 24% & Bonus to Contributors, 20%.	20-3-24
North-China Insurance Co., Ltd.	T 138				10,000 e	£5	(c £3,374,054		ex 1922 Work a/c	
							(ar T61,887	Dec.	Final 15s. (mkg. 35s.) ex 1921 Work. a/c. and	
							(e T4,782,885		Interim 15s. ex 1922 Works. a/c.	30-6-24
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ltd. ..	$ 27	28½		21)	250,000	$10	(ar $1,921,666			
							(au $2,108,636	Dec.	$2 (or T1.40) ex 1922 Work. a/c. payable in	
							(c $4,663,242		Taels at Exchg. 75	30-5-24
Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ltd.	T 22			1)	50,000	T20	(ar T519,346			
							(au T201,193	Dec.	T1.20 ex 1922 Work. a/c.	30-5-24
							(e T9,361			
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.	H $ 720				10,000	f H $100	(ae H $2,172,899	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $40) ex 1921 Work. a/c.,	
							(e H $6,649,892		and Interim H $18 ex 1922 Work. a/c. ..	11-3-24
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. ..	H $ 550	525			8,000 g	H $50	(au H $1,103,105	Dec.	H $35 ex 1922 Working a/c.	28-3-24
							(c H $1,547,811			
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	H $ 145				20,000 h	H $20	(ar H $1,328,926	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $3 ex 1921 Work. a/c.	23-3-24
							(c H $5,523,650			
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	F 500				14,000	F500	(a F101,368	Dec.	None, Floated 1918	....
							(e F3,784,330			
SHIPPING.										
Inst. China S.N. Co., Ltd. .. (6% cum. pref.	H $ 38	38½		2)	120,000	£5	(a £2,167			
(def. ord.	H $ 110			2)	120,000	£5				
							(c £2,103,182	Dec.	Prof. 6s. at Exchg. = $2.4 London Warrants	
									less I/T a/c., 1922. Def. Ord. Nil	15-6-23
Shell T'sport & Trading Co., Ltd. .. (ord.	'B'		£24:13:0	£4:16:0	56) 30,000,000	£1				
(6% cum. pref.	£				28) 300,000	£10	(a* £2,029,050	Dec.	Interim 2s., free of I/T, Coupon 12	5-1-24
(7½% cum. 2nd pref.	£				57) 10,000,000	£1	(c £5,000,000			
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd. (ord.	T 85				20,000	T25	(a T23,571	Dec.	Final Ord. T1.50 (mkg. T1, 1923)	11-3-24
(7% pref.	T 51½	52½			10,000	T50	(c T410,000		Final Pref. T1.75 (mkg. T3.50, 1923)	11-3-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.										
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld. ..	T 95		95	47)	55,700	T75	(a T102,335	Apr.	T7.50, 1922-23	27-7-23
							(c T1,948,660			
Hongkong & W'pao Dock Co., Ld	H $ 155			‡	60,000	H $50	(a H $10,750	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkg. H $9, 1923)	21-3-24
							H $4,061,625			
New Eng. and Shipbuilding Works, Ltd. .. .. .. (ord.	T 5½	5¼		42)	500,000	T5	(a T25,500		Ord. T0.25, 1923	10-2-24
(8% pref.	T 4.95			65)	500,000	T5	(b T300,000	Dec.	Pref. T0.40 1923	10-2-24
							(c T1,311,015			
							(a T3,480			
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co., Ld.	T 132½		121	131)	40,000	T100	(b T200,000			
							(c T1,075,231	Dec.	Final T10 (mkg. T13, 1923) H	4-3-24
H'kong & K'loon W. & G. Co., Ld. ..	H $ 168		167		80,000	H $50	(a H $290,819			
							(b H $300,000	Dec.	H. $6 & Bonus H. $3, 1923	26-2-24
							(c H $59,240			
MINING.										
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ld. ..	$ 12/-			24)	500,000	G. $10	——	June	G $0.50, 1920-21	26-7-23
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ld. (Bearer).	T 20½	20½		†364)	2,000,000	£1	(a £10,537	June	Final 3½% (Coupon No. 23) free of I.T.	
	£	£3:7:3	£3:10:9				(c £252,000		1922-1923	11-12-23
London										
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ld. ..	H $ 5				200,000	£1	(a £23,613	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	21-5-10
							(c £4,875			
LANDS AND HOTELS.										
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld. ..	T 118			‡)	78,000	T50	(a T34,410			
							(b T275,000	Dec.	Final T3 & Bonus T2 (mkg T8, 1923)	21-3-24
							(c T2,276,317			
H'kong Land Invest. & Agcy. Co., Ld. ..	H $ 117		117		240,000	H $25	(a H $157,536	Dec.	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares	
(New Reg.)							(b H $250,000		(mkg. H $5, 1923) H $2.50 on 40,000 new shs.	28-1-24
Humphreys Est. & Finance Co., Ld. ..	H $ 24				150,000	H $10	(a H $158,299			
							(b H $50,000	Dec	H $0.80 and Bonus H $0.80, 1923	9-2-24
							(c H $121,153			
Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld.	T 6				3,674	T20	(a T2,946	Dec.	T1.20, 1923	13-2-24
							(c T7,000			
							(a T9,269			
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld. ..	T 115½			‡23)	18,000	T100	(b T20,000	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg. T5, 1923-24)	3-4-24
							(c T375,000			
		2s old						Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000	
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld. ..	H $ 13 new			33)	500,000	H $10	(a H $85,238		shares (mkg. H $2 (old) & H $1.75 (new),	
							(c H $4,953,767		1923)	14-2-24
Carlton, Ld.	T 53			14)	10,000	T50		Mar.	Floated April 1, 1922	
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	G $ 100			‡18)	10,000	G $100		Dec.	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware	
									1922, 7%	4-1-23
Haven Trust Co., Inc. .. .. .. (ord.	G $ 15	12½			**100,000	G $10				
(pref.	G $ 10	10				G $10	(		Ord. Pref. 1st gr. 1923, 1½%	4-1-23
PLANTATIONS.										
Alma Estates, Ld.	T 5½		6		70,000	£1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23	19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld.	T 0.25	0.20		‡62)	500,000	T1		Oct.		
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld. ..	T 2.15	2		12)	100,000	10s.	a T30,242	Dec.	T0.20, 1923	1-4-24
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T 5.85			4)	500,000	10s.	(a T129,151	Dec.	Interim T0.25 a/c. 1923	14-9-23
							(c T378,570			
							(a T16,223			
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld.	T 21			27)	30,000	T10	(b T22,000	Sept.	Final T2.00, (mkg. T2½) 1922-23	28-12-23
							(c T80,960			
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld. ..	T 0.75				400,000	T1	a T22,777	Dec.	T0.05, 1923	11-1-24
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T 1.12½	1.02½			500,000	T1	a T20,402	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	29-7-17
Bute Plantation (1913), Ld.	T 0.75				300,000	T1	a (Loss)T13,076	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	29-3-17
Clonee United Rubber Co., Ld.	T 0.35				400,000	T0.90	(a T17,973	Dec.		
							(c T12,000		Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)	3-1-24
Chempodak Rub. & G'bier Est., Ld. ..	T 4½			39)	35,000	£1	a (Loss)T13,435	Oct.	2nd Interim, T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17)	16-10-17
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ld.	T 1½				135,000	T5	a T4,120	June	T0.20, 1916-17	1-11-17
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ld..	T 2.12½			25)	500,000	2s.—T0.75	a T16,988	Dec.		
							(c T60,000		Final T0.15 (mkg. T0.21, 1923)	9-4-24
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T 1.05			19)	350,000	T1	a T13,813	Dec.	T0.40, 1919	18-5-20
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T 8			†48)	750,000	(21;450,000	(a			
						(5s; 200,000	(c		2s. less I/T 4s. 7½d in £ (Coupon 21) .. — ..	15-4-24
Jaya-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee, Est., Ld.	T 11			8)	85,000	£1 at 2/3½	a T54,465			
Kali Gilidik Coffee Estates, Ld.	T 6.15	5.90			70,000	T5	c T650,113	Dec.	Interim, T0.50 1923	3-9-23
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld. ..	T 9.40			35)	15,000	T10		....	Incorporated 1923	....
							(a T6,977		(T0.50, 1922	19-4-23
Kasan Rubber Estate Co., Ld.	T 4				25,000	T10	(c T4,023	Dec.	(Interim 1923, T0.50	17-7-23
							(a T3,008			
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Ld. .	T 0.75				390,000	T1	(b T30,000	Mar.	T0.60, 1922-23	1-6-23
Kroowook Java Plantations, Ld.	T 12			20)	70,000	£1 at T8.60	a (Loss)T28,203	June	....	....
					50,000	T10	(c T13,246			
Rasah Rubber Co., Ld.	T 2½				200,000	T10	(c T48,200	Dec.	T1 (mkg. T1.50, 1923) .. —	8-3-24
							(a T4,139			

The following telegraphic advices have been received:—

Singapore, April 10, 1924.

Spot or April	... ...	42¼ cents
May/June	... ...	43 ,,
July/Sept.	... ...	43¾ ,,
July/Dec.	... ...	45 ,,

Market steady at the decline.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
S'hai Municipal Council	1905	6 to 20	5-4-24	T97	d 320,000	6	June-Dec.
	1907	do.	24-1-22	T94	500,000	6	do.
	1909	do.	11-3-24	T99	670,000	6	do.
	1909	do.	13-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
	1910	do.	11-5-23	T99	313,800	6	do.
	1911	10 to 30	3-4-24	T99	350,000	6	do.
	1912	do.	3-1-24	T99	310,000	6	do.
	1913	do.	3-5-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
		10 to 50	8-5-22	T78	500,000	5½	do.
	1914	10 to 30	11-4-24	T89	900,000	5½	do.
	1915	do.	11-3-24	T94	800,000	5½	do.
	1915	do.	11-4-24	T98	1,100,000	6	do.
	1916	do.	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
	1918	10	4-12-23	T104	1,703,300	7	do.
	1919	10	8-4-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
		10 to 30	29-3-24	£104	£750,000	6	do.
	1921	do.	18-2-24	$110	$1,000,000	8	do.
	1921	do.	4-1-24	T110	T5,096,400	8	do.
	1922	do.	8-4-24	T105	T8,000,000	7	do.
	1923	do.	11-4-24	T99	a T6,000,000	6	do.
French Municipal Council	1911	do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914	do.	12-2-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
	1915	do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
	1921	do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8	do.
	1923	do.	17-12-23	T95	a T800,000	6	May-Nov.
S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	1921	10 to 30	2-10-23	T112	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
S'hai Gas Co., Ltd.	1922	do.	6-6-22	T108	T500,000	8	do.
	1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
	1901	do.	2-4-23	T94	e 800,000	6	do.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld.	1905	5 to 20	31-8-22	T96½	T250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1909	do.	1-4-24	T98	750,000	6	do.
	1911	do.	26-9-22	T92	250,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
	,,	do.	23-3-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
	1912	do.	2-4-24	T98	250,000	6	Jan-July
	1913	do.	3-4-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct.
	,,	do.	11-1-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914	do.	22-3-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct.
	1916	5 to 25	3-4-23	T98	350,000	6	June-Dec.
	1922	do.	12-2-23	T98	650,000	5½	do.
	1922	do.	10-1-24	T98	750,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
Shanghai Club	1907	20	1-2-24	T93	350,000	6	May-Nov.
Country Club	1901	Perpetual			455,000	6	do.
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	1914	5 to 20			139,000	6	June-Dec.
	1915	do.			130,000	6	May-Nov.
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld.	1911	do.	7-6-23	T98	110,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
					250,000	6	June-Dec.
					300,000	6	do.
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld.	1923	10 to 20	27-2-23	T95½	h 270,000	6	do.
S'hai Race Club	1923	25	11-3-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
Culty Dairy Co., Ltd.	1915	10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
Hall & Holtz Ld.	1914	5 to 20	14-10-22	$92	230,000	7	Jan.-July
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	1922	5 to 20	..	..	T500,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—b—Tls.65,100; c—Tls.51,100; d—Tls.34,100; e—Tls.68,500; f—Tls.262,400; g—Tls.189,500; h—Tls.12,300; i—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1923: Jan.	1923: Feb.	1923: Mar.	Total output this fin.yr. to date
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Alma	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	246,648	8.87d	68,000	22,000	18,000	17,000	125,000
Amherst (New)	,, 250,000	Oct.	72,442	80,092	90,751	*4.83d.	19,020	8,214	8,475	14,662	50,371
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	650,000	510,000	600,000	8.45d.	..	61,000	50,000	65,000	176,000
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,524,411	183,000	1,550,000	6.95d	184,000	164,100	187,000	185,000	535,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 300,000	Sept.	369,447	58,042	360,000	†0.24.41	..	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam	,, 400,000	Dec.	258,510	217,322	185,793	9.01d.	..	12,500	11,500	15,000	39,000
Bukit Toh Alang	,, 500,000	Mar.	309,254	305,645	345,000	7.54d.	222,682	25,500	No.	..	248,182
Buto	,, 300,000	Dec.	230,067	174,350	159,516	10.11d.	..	17,000	16,800	13,600	47,700
Chemor United	,, 360,000	Dec.	330,794	267,627	..	*3.44d.	..	27,200	23,300	9,500	60,000
Chempedak	,, £35,000	Oct.	145,760	163,003	..	1/5.42d.	30,700	14,000	4,400	1,000	50,100
Chersonese	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.09d.	102,014	10,500	9,700	11,800	134,014
Consolidated (1914)	,, 375,000	Dec.	669,239	648,778	761,500	7.47d.	..	53,000	56,779	44,437	149,216
Dominion	,, 350,000	Dec.	271,150	323,110	306,867	11.04d.	..	28,032	27,654	15,999	71,685
Gula-Kalumpang	£500,000	Dec.	1,113,000	933,003	1,215,000	1/0.7d.	..	85,000	78,000	66,000	232,000
Java Consolidated	£85,000	Dec.	675,500	620,500	..	7.03d.	..	68,500	60,900	72,300	201,500
Kapayang	,, 150,000	Dec.	189,239	146,710	..	†28.90	..	10,592	8,315	7,636	26,543
Koran	,, 250,000	Mar.	111,875	101,783	84,000	8½d.	60,067	8,148	6,448	4,915	79,578
Kota Bahroe (1921)	,, 300,000	June	158,330	137,070	..	..	100,918	29,136	26,949	19,180	176,103
Kroewoek	,, 450,000	Dec.	449,000	383,581	549,000	0/7.24d.	..	59,000	55,000	59,000	173,000
Langkat	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	842,589	943,000	975,000	Gls.0.28	179,300	82,500	71,500	70,000	413,300
Padang	Tls. 500,000	April	209,711	220,232	..	10½d.	120,600	19,700	11,100	8,600	159,900
Pengkalan (1921)	,, 150,000	Mar.	172,022	135,253	176,088	†10.19	..	..	2,780	..	2,780
Permata	,, 250,000	Oct.	..	98,503	..	0/8½d.	17,585	8,050	6,053	..	31,668
Rejah	,, 375,000	Dec.	68,584	217,087	..	..	..	17,100	8,700	15,900	42,000
Samagaga	,, 600,000	Sept.	361,819	250,814	..	..	120,509	8,500	11,000	10,500	150,509
See Kee (1918)	,, 100,000	June	179,065	142,000	115,183	11.37d.	..	13,466	13,400	7,600	34,466
Semanco	,, 300,000	Dec.	161,135	215,593	158,264	0/9.37d.	..	..	14,500	16,400	30,900
Senawan (1921)	,, 375,000	Jan.	272,500	275,100	..	*†7.35d.	..	..	8,700	8,000	16,700
Shanghai Kedah	,, 400,000	Sept.	313,444	216,542	..	8.12c.	67,625	21,196	17,259	17,021	126,194
Shai-Klebang	,, 315,000	Dec.	126,104	103,034	..	11.35d.	..	8,700	8,000	..	16,700
Shai-Malay	,, 600,000	Dec.	373,111	289,156	392,000	..	..	22,782	21,474	16,254	60,510
Shai-Pahang	,, 300,000	June	209,881	188,016	..	9½d.	100,973	16,432	14,475	14,845	146,726
Shai Serambau	,, 325,000	Dec.	171,213	147,112	..	9.82d.	..	14,400	13,300	7,100	35,100
Shai-Sumatra	,, 600,000	Oct.	661,338	673,716	650,000	Gls.0.38	111,341	61,110	51,170	43,537	267,158
Sua-Manggis	,, 300,000	Dec.	115,880	27,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungala	,, 750,000	Mar.	39,279	167,757	..	†7.20	14,010	8,892	..	..	22,902
Sungei Duri	,, £10,000	June	208,073	296,568	229,000	11.61d.	126,409	23,698	22,272	10,048	182,427
Taiping (1913)	Tls. 200,000	Dec.	107,011	102,689	99,000	*†30	..	8,184	6,572	..	14,756
Tanah Merah	,, 750,000	Mar.	415,000	389,000	..	7.52d.	234,900	21,900	22,200	24,700	303,700
Tebong	,, £150,000	Jan.	630,835	723,000	717,725	0/7.06d.	..	..	64,000	66,000	130,000
Ziangbo	,, £150,000	Dec.	514,566	523,600	600,000	7.24d.	..	67,500	58,200	58,000	183,700

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expenses. † Straits $ cents.

S'hai Pahang Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.75					63)	300,000		T1								
S'hai Serambau Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.60					67)	100,000		T1								
S'hai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ld.	T	105			110	7)	30,000			T20	a	T1,183	Sept.	T0.05, 1922				
Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ld.	T	3				30)	56,000			T5	a	T12,023	Dec.	T0.05, 1919				
Sungala Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.30				$5)	100,000			T1	a	T19,124	Dec.	(Ord. T0.60 for 9 months ended 31/12/16				
Sungei Duri Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	7½					40,000		£1 at T8.50					(Pref. T0.10, for 6 months ended 31/12/22				
Taiping Rubber Estates (1913) Ld.	T	0.50					200,000			T1								
Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ld.	T	0.60				32)	750,000			T1								
Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	1.05				£54)	750,000			T1								
Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ld.	T	2½				32)	200,000			10s.								

COTTONS, ETC.

Ewo Cotton Mills, Ld.	T	11½	11½			15)	1,000,000			T5	a	T3,257						
(8% cum. pref.	T	105	106			43)	10 000			T100	b	T1,400,000						
											c	T2,802,920	Dec.	Ord. T0.55, 1923			5-3-24	
Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ld.	T	8					80,000			T10	a	(Loss)T86,057		Pref. T8, 1923			5-3-24	
Oriental C. S. & W. Co., Ld. ord.	T	5				60)	500,000			T3	b	T120,000	Dec.	Final T2, (mkg. T4, 1921)			8-3-22	
pref.	T					S)	5,000			T100	a	(Loss) T85,530						
Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ld. (Shanghai Boshoku K.K.) ord.	T	£1 old 30new	59				80,000			T50	b	T200,000						
							40,000			T50	c	T2,551,750	Dec.	Final T0.50 (mkg. T1.50, 1921)			25 3-22	
											a	T50,375						
											c	T1,270,000	June	T3.50 1922-23			24-8-23	

INDUSTRIAL.

British-American Tobacco Co., Ld. ord.	£		£5 3/8	£5 1/16		66)	13,000,000			£1	a	£3,531,846	Sept.	Final Ord. 1922-23, 9% (mkg. 25%) free of I/T				
5% cum. pref.							4,500,000			£1	c	£2,251,649						
China Im. & Ex. Lumber Co., Ld.	T	350					5,000			T100	a	T161,833					11-1-24	
											b	T300,000	Feb.	T8, 1922-23				
China Sugar Refining Co., Ld.	H $	243					20,000			H$100	c	T2,100,000					31-5-23	
Gordon & Co., Ltd.	T	25				37)	3,000			T25	a	H $40,763						
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.	H $	34			27 old $10 new		400,000			H$7.50	b	H $600,000	Dec.	H$10, 1923			1-4-24	
Maatschappij, &c., In Langkat	T	10					200,000			Gs.10	c	H1,200,000						
											a	T19,695		Div. T2.50 & Bonus T0.62½				
											c	T130,015		1922-23			5-7-23	
											a	H $93,634		(Final H $1.50 (mkg. H $2, 1922)				
											c	H $1,000,000	Dec.	(Interim H $0.50 a/c, 1923			24-2-23	
											a(Loss)T158,133		Oct.	T0.50, 1918-19			18-9-23	
											c	T190,164					30-3-20	
Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ld.	T	6½	(comb. T26)	(comb T26)	(comb. T)		250,000			T5	a	T35,698						
											c	T300,000	Dec.	T0.50, 1923			5-2-24	
S'hai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.	T	11		10½			250,000			T5								
Major Brothers, Ld.	T	5				10)	6,000			T20	a (Loss) T13,341		Dec.					
John Richards & Co., Ld.	T	10				11)	25,000			T10	a	T6,941	Dec.					
											c	T70,000						
Shanghai Gas Co., Ld.	T	41	41			:)	24,000			T50	a	T3,130	Dec.	10% 1921			24-6-22	
											c	T30,000						
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.	T	136				49)	50,000			£20	a	T21,325	Dec.	T4.00, 1923				
											b	T50,000					11-4-24	
											c	T65,231						

STORES.

Hall & Holtz, Ld.	$	7	7			$16)	28,000			$20	a	$116,937	Feb.	$2, 1917-18				
											b						1-5-18	
S. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.	$	30					1,200			$60	a	$10,697	Dec.	$6, 1922				
S. Moutrie & Co., Ld.	$	50				17)	10,000			$30	c	$26,000					12-5-23	
Weeks & Co., Ld.	$	11				$50)	30,000			$20	a	$323,105	Mar.	(Final $2 & Bonus $4 (mkg. $9, 1922-23)				
											c	$37,633	Feb.	(Int. 6%, 1923-24			2-6-23	
											a	$210,000		$1.60, 1922-23			30 11-23	
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	$	102	106			$)	2,500			$100	a	85,539					3 -5-22	
											b	$20,000		$8, 1922-23				
											c	$250 000					24-5-23	

MISCELLANEOUS.

Culty Dairy Co., Ld.	T	13		12			10,000			T10	a	Loss)T26,956	Oct.	T0.60, 1921-22				
											c	T119,293					30-12-22	
S'hai Electric Construction Co., Ld., "B"	T	16½	16¾								a	£17,022						
London	£1		£2:12:0	£2:15:0			40,000			£1	b		Dec.	1st Int. 1923, 12s.-(Coupon 23)				
											c	£114,315		2nd Int. 1923, 12s.-(Coupon 24) both less I/T at 4/7½ to £			1-10-23	
S'hai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ld.	T	50					6,400			T50	a	T14,548	Dec.	T5, 1922			1-2-24	
											a	T216,257					20-1-23	
Shanghai Mercury, Ld.	T	25					3 000			T50			Apr.	T1 50 1913-14			31-3-15	
Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co. Ld.	T	76½	76			£49	40,000			T50	a	T10,285	Mar.	T4.50, 1922-23			31-5-23	
											b	T70,000						
											c	T920,016						
Oriental Press (L'Imprimerie Francaise)	$	100					910			$100	a	$109,513	Mar.	$10, 1922-23				
											b	$3,000					5-7-23	
											c	$21,101						

For all Dollar shares quoted on the Shanghai Stock Exchange the Exchange rate is fixed at 73.

REFERENCES.

a Carried forward at last Ann. Genl. Meeting.
b Dividend Equalization Reserve.
c General and Other Reserves.
d Uncalled liability £5 per sh.
e ,, ,, £10 ,,
f ,, ,, Tls.50 ,,
g ,, ,, H $100 ,,
h ,, ,, £12 10 ,,
i ,, ,, Tls. 25 ,,
w Working Account 1923
x Working Account 1922
y Working Account 1921
† Registered: or Bearer (idem. "B").
†† Issued Capital: 7% Cum. Pref. 24,461 shares; Ordinary, 10,270 shares.
‡ Debentures Issues also.
‡‡ Subject to Estate Managers' Commissions
* Subject to E. P. D. and Corpn. Tax.
• Continental liability for Interest on 12% Cum. Pref. Shares of Tls. 5,989
1—14,000 sh. unis'd.
2—70,411 ,,
3—5,000 ,,
4—4,000 ,,
5—19,182 ,,
6—50,000 ,,
7—10,761 ,,
8—10,000 ,,
9—10,470 sh. unis'd.
10—500 ,,
11—15,200 ,,
12—50,000 ,,
13—1,357 ,,
14—3,063 ,,
15—100,000 ,,
16—1,662 ,,
17—3,822 ,,
18—5,580 ,,
19—184,668 ,,
20—15,000 ,,
21—100,000 ,,
22—10,000 ,,
23—5,000 ,,
24—70,410 ,,
25—125,000 ,,
26—60,000 sh. unis'd
27—8,721 ,,
28—10,000 ,,
29—4,683 ,,
30—2,000 ,,
31—4,000 ,,
32—50,000 ,,
33—125,000 ,,
34—102,370 ,,
35—200 ,,
36—180,000 ,,
37—1,443 ,,
38—7,695 ,,
42—200,000 ,,
43—1,360 ,,
47—500 sh. unis'd.
(Note.—Issued or less than 50 ea 67—66,057 ,,

In order to ensure accuracy of the above details, Agents and Secretaries of Companies are requested to notify Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. of any alterations, errors or omissions.

COMPANY MEETINGS

SHANGHAI KLEBANG RUBBER ESTATE

The Annual Meeting

Mr. C. J. L. Stewart presided at the annual meeting of the Shanghai Klebang Rubber Estate, Ld., held at the offices of Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co., Ld., last Friday, supported by Messrs. A. K. Craddock, H. E. Rigge (directors), W. S. Royston (representing Messrs. Wattie & Co., the secretaries and general managers) and other shareholders.

The Chairman—The report and accounts have been in your hands for some time and with your permission I will take them as read.

Since I last had the privilege of addressing you, we have had an opportunity of weighing the pros and cons of enforced restriction. Whilst the scheme as originally drafted had its faults, these are being gradually remedied and loopholes for leakage stopped. Undoubtedly restriction in British areas is solely the reason of the enhanced prices the industry enjoyed last year and if the Dutch Indies had only seconded British efforts to save the rubber-growing industry from the ruination which threatened it, we should to-day have been seeing our product fetching a much higher scale of prices. As it is, the Dutch Indies have produced almost pound for pound what the British have restricted.

The report and accounts are clear and fully detailed. The estate very easily produced its restricted allowance and could easily have produced far more, for the trees are in good condition and are with a few exceptions good yielders. Restriction bears heavily on this small company with all its separate overhead charges to meet, still the point is that it is better to sell 95,000 lb. at almost 15d. per lb. than 140,000 lb. at 7d. which would surely have been the case without restriction. Meantime, our trees are getting the advantage of light tapping, whereas to get their big production, I believe most of the native estates in the Dutch Indies are intensively tapping. Intensive tapping means disease and cannot be kept up for very long. Our cost of production is naturally dearer than last year, being divided over a smaller crop and enhanced also by a duty of 2 cents per lb. The estate is in first class condition and nothing more need be said on that point, except that, during the year, 40 acres of our line young trees were brought into tapping for the first time.

I am sorry the accounts do not show better results. The year yielded only a small profit of Tls. 4,920.62 which makes the balance at credit of profit and loss account Tls. 12,032.53. Of this, the directors recommend that Tls. 490.84 be written off development account and the balance of Tls. 11,541.69, all of which is represented by cash or stocks, be carried forward to next year's account. Since the closing of the books, the rubber stock has all been sold and has realized over $4,400 more than the amount at which it is valued in the balance sheet. The average rate of exchange for the year, at which the conversion of Straits currency into taels was made, was 74, whilst the closing rate for rubber in stock was 69, against 69 and 76¼ for 1922.

This is all I have to say, gentlemen. Before putting the resolutions to the meeting, should you wish to ask any questions, I shall endeavour to answer them to the best of my ability.

No questions were asked and the following resolutions were agreed to:—"That the directors' report and statement of accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923, as presented, and the disposal of the balance at credit of profit and loss account, as recommended, be received and passed."—Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. H. E. Rigge.

"That Mr. H. E. Rigge be re-elected a director of the company."—Proposed by Mr. A. K. Craddock and seconded by Mr. C. G. Copley.

"That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors to the company for the ensuing year."—Proposed by Mr. W. G. Royston and seconded by Mr. A. J. Welch.

KAPAYANG RUBBER ESTATES

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Kapayang Rubber Estates Company, Ld., was held at the Company's offices, 23 Teking Road, on Monday at noon.

Mr. E. T. Byrne took the chair, supported by Messrs. G. D. Coutts and R. J. Marshall (Directors) and Mr. R. N. Swann (of Beck & Swann, Secretaries to the Company). There were 5,625 shares represented.

The Chairman presenting the annual report and accounts, said:

Gentlemen,—With your permission I will take the report and accounts as read. The accounts require very little comment on my part: you will note we now have a reserve account of Tls. 2,500 which is represented by Municipal debentures and your directors propose to invest a similar amount again this year. Our cost of production has naturally gone up with the lower output under the restriction act and I fear will be still higher this year as the new scheme hits us somewhat heavily, and as far as Kapayang is concerned restriction is by no means an unmixed benefit, as we have no way of reducing our overhead expenses. As I have said before, restriction is fostering the production of rubber in Java, Sumatra and elsewhere at the expense of Malaya, and I believe the small native estates or holdings in the Dutch Indies are now producing on a very large scale, a factor that has had a considerable effect in reducing prices. Our manager Mr. Knott, who has done extremely well, goes home on leave shortly and it is possible we may get the temporary services of Mr. Wise, who is a very experienced planter and one of the promoters of this company. Our estate is in first class condition and I am sure everything possible will be done to bring the cost of production down, but it is rather disheartening to think we are producing less than half of what we are capable of doing. The price of rubber as you all know has not been maintained at anything like the figure that was expected i.e., 1s. 6d. at which we started off last year with hopes of even higher. Stocks, too, in London have not evaporated to the extent we hoped—although a decline of 16,000 tons is something to be thankful for, leaving 56,138 tons on hand, which is too much. However 4,009,323 cars were produced in America in 1923 against 2,560,613 in 1922 whilst the stock of tyres declined from 4,876,352 at the end of October, 1923 to 4,659,329 at the close of the following month and as stocks of crude rubber there are light we may find that 1924 has a better future than 1923. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be glad to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

There were no questions.

The Chairman proposed, and Mr. G. D. Coutts seconded the adoption of the annual report and accounts. The motion was carried unanimously.

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Coutts, the following resolution was carried:—

That a final dividend of six per cent. (6%) for the year ended December 31, 1924, be and is hereby declared, payable to shareholders on the books of the company on March 31, 1924.

On the proposition of Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Byrne, Mr. G. D. Coutts was re-elected a director of the company.

On the proposition of Mr. Coutts, seconded by Mr. Marshall, Messrs. Mortimer, Reid and Shewere re-elected auditors of the company.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

ZIANGBE RUBBER CO.

Declaration of a Dividend

The annual meeting of the Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ld., was held on Monday in the offices of Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co., Ld., secretaries and general managers. Mr. A. J. Welch presided, supported by Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie, G. Grayrigge and C. J. L. Stewart and the attendance represented 42,800 shares. After Mr. Stewart had read the notice convening the meeting, and the auditors' report, the Chairman said:—

Gentlemen, The report and accounts have been in your hands for the prescribed period and, with your permission, I propose to follow the usual course and take them as read.

The accounts before you demonstrate most clearly the benefit that the rubber industry as a whole has derived from the enforcement of restriction of output in British Colonies, the profit earned being larger than in any year since 1919. The severe slump that preceded restriction was also not without its useful lessons, since it has enabled the cost of production, on many estates, to be reduced to a figure that would have been considered impossible of accomplishment a few years ago. As an illustration of my meaning, I may say that the 1923 harvest of this company was 335,485 lb. or 40 per cent. less than the 1919 output, but in spite of the much smaller quantity over which the overhead expenses could be divided, the average cost of production was only 6.84d. as compared with 8d. per pound four years ago. The unsold stock of rubber at the end of the year has again been valued at the cost of production and on realization should produce a surplus of approximately Gldrs. 40,000. Last year the stock when sold realized Gldrs. 49,217, more than the value placed upon it in the 1922 accounts. Capital expenditure during the year was negligible, and I can see no other items in the accounts that call for special comment.

If you pass the appropriations recommended by your directors, the company will start the year with a surplus of liquid assets over liabilities of approximately Tls. 38,250, plus a potential further asset of Tls. 20,000, in the probable surplus on realization of the stocks of rubber. This is not too strong a position for a company of this size, but, I think, is adequate to see us through any financial stringency that is likely to arise in the near future. The policy of your directors is to gradually strengthen the company's reserves without unduly penalizing the distribution of dividends.

It is not possible to tell you at this juncture what the output of rubber for 1924 is likely to be, since the basis of assessing standard production is in process of revision in the Straits Settlements and we do not yet know whether our present allowance will be affected or not, but I think, if anything, we shall be better off under the new scale than in 1923. In connexion with this subject, you are doubtless aware that for some months past there has been a lot of agitation and correspondence in the Straits papers with the idea of inducing the Dutch Colonies to join with the British in compulsory restriction of output and a very representative meeting of those interested in the rubber industry in Java was held at Djocdja on February 20 at which this question was thoroughly discussed. The meeting was not an official one, but certain resolutions were passed at it, the gist of which was:—

Firstly, that the owners of rubber estates in the two countries should strive for the most efficient cooperation with a view to preventing the price of rubber falling below the average cost price.

Secondly, that the respective Governments should lend their assistance to this cooperation both in fostering and strengthening its object and [illegible] the sphere of cooperation the owners of native [illegible]

[illegible], that with the utmost promptitude an inquiry should be carried out with a view to obtaining a close insight into the position [illegible] of native grown rubber in the Dutch Indies.

The meeting, on the whole, may be said to have received sympathetically the idea that something should be done in the Dutch Indies, as a necessary preliminary to which, however, it was essential to ascertain approximately what the area of native rubber in the Dutch Indies was. It may interest you to know that the output of rubber from the Dutch Indies during 1923 was approximately 36,000 tons greater than in 1922 and of this increase

	tons.
Java was responsible for only	2,400
Sumatra responsible for	23,200
Borneo and outer possessions responsible for	10,400

The above figures include native grown rubber which amounted to 53,000 tons as compared with 25,000 tons in 1922, or in other words 28,000 tons of the increase was due to native rubber. From these figures it is obvious that the Dutch planter is not the chief sinner and that very little can be hoped for unless the Dutch Government will take steps to control the output from Native holdings and from the very large American plantations in Sumatra. The final decision on restriction must therefore be with the Government in Holland and it behoves all those interested to use their utmost endeavours to induce it to cooperate with the Governments of Malaya and Ceylon.

As regards the condition of your properties, Bando Ardjo Estate was again a very cheap producer and the condition of its trees leaves nothing to be desired. The standard of tapping was first class, bark consumption kept well within the prescribed limit and bark renewal is reported to be fast and even. 210 acres of the 1915 planting were brought into the tapping rounds during the year. On this estate Mimosa, as a soil enricher and lallang exterminator, has proved an unqualified success, and there are now 1,534 acres under this cover plant. Manufacture gave a little trouble at one period during the year, but the fault has been discovered and preparation is now in order. Kali Minggir Estate, which has suffered considerably at various periods in the past from neglect by its managers, is gradually being nursed back to proper condition and with the exception of certain scattered patches estimated to aggregate 350 acres, is responding well to treatment. These 350 acres were also showing a steady improvement in growth, bark renewal and crown development until the drought came, but thereafter they ceased to improve and "die back" has become fairly prevalent. This has been a great disappointment as the trees would undoubtedly have come right if the drought had not intervened. Efforts are still being made to save these trees, but it may be found necessary eventually to gradually replant the worst areas. If replanting does become necessary the loss of crop will not be noticeable as the work can be carried out gradually and any condemned areas can be tapped intensively prior to elimination.

There are certain areas of native land on the borders of the estate, the total being somewhere between 300—350 acres, which can now be purchased for from Gldrs. 15 to 17 per acre, and your directors have sanctioned the purchase of any of this land that is available with the double purpose of preventing the encroachment of lallang into our gardens and of substituting an area of good rubber for any acreage that it may possibly be found necessary to replant in the future. Mimosa on this estate has unfortunately not been the success that it has proved elsewhere. This is probably due to the heavy clay soil which makes it very difficult for the seeds to germinate. Tapping under the present management is good and bark consumption kept within the required limit. Manufacture is satisfactory and pests or diseases gave very little trouble during the year.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I would like to say a few words of praise and thanks to the two managers and their staffs as well as to the visiting agent and the agents in Java to whose efforts the satisfactory result of the year's working is entirely due. That is all I have to say, gentlemen, but if any one has any questions to ask, I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability before formally proposing the adoption of the report and accounts.

The following resolutions were unanimously passed:—

"That the directors' report and statement of accounts as presented be adopted and passed."—Proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch and seconded by Mr. E. S. Kadoorie.

"That a dividend of 25 candareens per share be paid."—Proposed by Mr. A. J. Welch and seconded by Mr. E. S. Kadoorie.

"That the appointment of Mr. E. S. Kadoorie as a director of the company be confirmed"—Proposed by Mr. A. K. Craddock and seconded by Mr. C. J. L. Stewart.

"That Mr. G. Grayrigge be re-elected a director of the company"—Proposed by Mr. C. J. L. Stewart and seconded by Mr. A. K. Craddock.

"That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors to the company"—Proposed by Mr. G. Grayrigge and seconded by Mr. A. K. Craddock.

THE CONSOLIDATED RUBBER ESTATES

The Results of Restriction: An Increase in Profits of over Tls. 55,000

The annual general meeting of the Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914) Ld., was held in the offices of Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. E. T. Byrne (Chairman) presided and was supported by Messrs. A. W. Burkill, J. R. Moodie, and G. M. W. Hummel (Directors).

There were 61,150 shares represented.

The Chairman, proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, said:

Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some time I will, with your permission, follow the usual course and take them as read.

The result of the year's working shows an increase of over Tls. 55,000 over the profit for the previous year which I think you will agree is very satisfactory indeed. This gratifying result is principally due to the improved sale price—the effect of restriction—also to the satisfactory forward sale made last year for the delivery of four tons monthly, July-December, 1923 at 66⅔ cts. per lb.

Our output for the year exceeded the estimate by some 71,178 lb. but I might say that the crop figures include two quarters' allowance which were taken over from a neighbouring estate. With regard to the current year's crop, the estimated amount of 761,500 lb. as shown in the report is subject to revision under the re-assessment of Standard production. The exact details of the scheme as affecting our estates are not yet to hand but it is quite likely that our allowance will be less than the amount stated.

BRITISH AND DUTCH POLICY.

While on the subject of restriction, the directors of this company would like to associate themselves with the remarks made by the chairman of the Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations at the recent annual meeting of that company regarding the attitude of the Dutch East Indies *vis-à-vis* restriction. It is well known that while British producing countries reduced their 1923 outputs by some 40,000 tons, the Dutch East Indies increased theirs by an almost equivalent amount, thus greatly nullifying the benefits which we all hoped to derive as the result of restriction. After nearly 18 months' working, I think it can be safely said that the scheme has been found to be practicable and it is to be hoped that our Dutch friends will see their way to fall in line rather than benefit themselves at the expense of the British producers. The rubber market at the present time is none too bright and I consider the future largely depends on the outcome of the efforts to secure co-operation of the Dutch producers.

The estates have made good progress during the year and the visiting agent's reports indicate a highly satisfactory state of affairs. Health conditions have been uniformly satisfactory and diseases and pests gave no cause for anxiety. Thinning out was proceeded with throughout the year on all the company's properties, 7,400 trees being re-

moved. The stand per acre is still very much above the average and further and further thinning out will take place during the current year.

THE ACCOUNTS.

The accounts call for no special comment. The profit for the year amounted to Tls. 108,170.01 which, added to the amount of Tls. 23,192.35 brought forward from last year, makes a total of Tls. 131,362.36. After deducting the amount of Tls. 22,500 Interim dividend paid on October 15 last, there remains a balance of Tls. 108,862.36 to be dealt with and I hope you will approve of the Directors' recommendation for the appropriation of this amount as shown in the report.

Before concluding, the directors wish to express their appreciation of the good work done by the managers and their staffs and they feel sure that the proposed bonus will be readily agreed to by the shareholders.

If any shareholder has any questions to ask, I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability.

Mr. A. W. Burkill seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. J. R. Moodie, the following resolution was carried unanimously:

"That the following recommendation as to appropriation of balance at credit of profit and loss account be accepted:—

	Tls.
Pay final dividend of Tls. 0.15 per share (making 28 per cent. for the year)	56,250.00
Place to general reserve	30,000.00
Pay Bonus to estate staffs	3,000.00
Write off buildings	92.88
.. ,, machinery	79.82
.. ,, telephone	646.58
.. ,, motor vehicles	1,564.42
.. ,, Live stock	240.45
Carry forward to next year's accounts	16,988.21
Tls.	108,862.36

On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. G. M. W. Hummel, Mr. E. T. Byrne was re-elected a director of the company.

Messrs. Lowe Bingham and Matthews were, on the motion of Mr. Moodie seconded by Mr. Hummel, re-elected auditors of the Company.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

TAIPING RUBBER ESTATES LD.

Annual General Meeting

The annual meeting of the Taiping Rubbers Estates, Ld., was held on Wednesday at the offices of secretaries, Messrs. Hopkins, Dunn & Co., Ld., Kiangse Road. Mr. Brodie A. Clark presided, supported by Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie, G. Grayrigge, P. C. Inglis and J. Frost. There were 87,603 shares represented.

The chairman said:—

Gentlemen, The report and accounts were posted to you on the 27th ultimo, and I will, with your permission, take them as read.

Our visiting agent, Mr. MacDermot, in his last report remarks as follows:—"The property is greatly improved by the removal of useless trees. It is in a better position as regards bark than it was some years ago, and if the manager expedites his thinning out further improvement can be expected." He expressed his satisfaction with the appearance of the property on the whole. The crop allowance under restriction is the same as last year, viz: 99,900 lb.

My anticipations of an average selling price for the past year of 50 cts. per pound were not realized, solely on account of the Dutch companies increasing their output by practically the same quantity as the British companies reduced theirs. I believe, however, that they are beginning to realize the benefits of restriction, and it is possible that before very much longer it may be adopted by them, in which event we may anticipate a stabilized price for our product that will ensure dividends to investors.

There is, I think, nothing in the accounts that calls for special remark, our estate is a small one, and naturally with a restricted output of one-third of our capacity, all-in costs rise proportionately, hence the increase in all-in cost over 1922 from 20 cts. to 42 cts. Straits currency per lb. Under these conditions I think you will agree that a profit of Tls. 4,944.71 for the year may be considered fairly satisfactory.

There were no questions.

The following resolutions were formally adopted:—

That the report and statement of the company's accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923, as presented to the meeting be approved and passed—proposed by Mr. Brodie A. Clark, seconded by Mr. J. Frost.

That Messrs. Thomson & Co., a director and Mr. E. S. Kadoorie's appointment by the board as a director of the company be confirmed—proposed by Mr. Brodie A. Clark, seconded by Mr. P. C. Inglis.

That Messrs. Thomson & Co., successors to Messrs. G. H. and N. Thomson, be elected auditors of the company for the ensuing year at a fee of Tls. 250 per annum—proposed by Mr. J. F. Messer, seconded by Mr. Han Yung-keng.

That in accordance with paragraph 55 of the company's articles of association the next annual general meeting shall be held in the month of April or May, 1925—proposed by Mr. Brodie A. Clark, seconded by Mr. J. Frost.

SHANGHAI GAS CO.

Annual Meeting: 60th Report Since Company's Formation: A Satisactory Review

The annual meeting of shareholders in the Shanghai Gas Co., Ld., was held on Thursday at the offices of Messrs. Scott, Harding & Co. Mr. L. E. Canning (the Chairman) presided, supported by Messrs. P. Peebles, A. D. Bell (directors), F. W. Potter (engineer-in-Chief), W. Gater (secretary) and the following shareholders:—Messrs. J. Ambrose, B. Anderton, L. J. Cubitt, E. H. Dunning, W. J. N. Dyer, H. Martin Little, J. W. Mackay, G. H. Potts, R. E. Sedgwick, A. B. Trodd, S. M. Joseph, H. D. Bondfield and J. Mason, there being represented altogether 10,071 shares and 1,846 votes.

The secretary read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report, and the Chairman said:—

The report and accounts have been in your hands for some days now and I will with your permission, take them as read. It is interesting to record that this is the sixtieth report since the formation of the Company, and, as we are presenting you with what I consider a satisfactory one, I feel that I must transgress a little and give you some facts concerning your undertaking.

It was on February 26, 1862, that a prospectus was issued calling for a subscription of Tls. 100,000 wherewith to purchase a gas plant capable of supplying 500 street lamps, 100 foreign houses with 20 lights each and 1500 miscellaneous lights. The sale price of the gas was specified at 20s. per 1000 cubic feet or 1s. 1d. per hour for an illumination equal to 200 wax candles, whereas, the advancement in gas lighting now provides for 200-candle power at a cost of less than one half-penny per hour under the high pressure system.

The first shipment of the Plant arrived in Shanghai on Christmas Day, 1863, but it was not until November 1, 1865, that gas was first supplied to private consumers and has continued uninterrupted. By December 31, 1865 the Company had 58 meters in use, the total length of mains being 4.887 miles, whereas at the end of the year 1923 we had 8,636 meters in use and our mains cover a distance of 141.18 miles, while in addition 1671 lamps are supplied direct from the mains. Throughout the period the price of gas has fluctuated in comparison with the cost of coal, commencing at $4.50 per 1000 cubic feet in 1865 and declining to $1.50 in 1912 and, subsequently, gradually advancing again until it now stands at $2.25 per 1000 cubic feet, a reduction on the 1922 rate of 25 cents. To provide for additional plant to meet the growing business of the Company the capital has naturally been increased until it stands to-day at Tls. 1,200,000 augmented by a share premium of Tls. 483,724.57 and a debenture issue of Tls. 731,500 making a total of Tls. 2,415,224.57.

CHEAPER RATES FOR GAS.

With regard to the working of the Company for last year, you will have noticed that it was not so profitable as compared with 1922, due in the main to a reduction in gas rates, which occasioned a sacrifice by the Company, in favour of the consumers, of approximately Tls. 43,767, the increase in wages and salaries and the Company's contribution to the Staff Provident Fund. In spite of severe competition I am glad to state that there is a small but satisfactory increase in the amount of gas sold of 3½ per cent. accounted for by the larger output of gas for cooking and heating, which has more than compensated for the loss in lighting and power. The manufacture of water gas has now been definitely stopped, only 14 million feet were made last year, and unless it becomes necessary to relieve the coke market, water gas will no longer be manufactured, the cost being higher than that of coal gas at the present prices of raw materials. The quantity of coal carbonized exceeded the previous year by 4,679 tons and shows an increased cost of Tls. 28,614.37. Manufacture, distribution, management and general charges all show an increase over the previous years expenditure due to wages and salaries, repairs to mains, the Company's contribution to the Staff Provident Fund and the cost of holding a series of cooking lectures, a combined increase of Tls. 52,684.03 as compared with 1922.

Turning to the credit side of the account, gas sales show a decline of Tls. 39,559.19 due entirely to the 10 per cent. reduction in the gas rate, to which reference has already been made. The sale of residual products exhibits a gain of Tls. 64,477.50, more coke being sold than during the preceding year and the price of Tar and Pitch having advanced. Working Account shows a decrease on that of the previous year of Tls. 34,077.46 while our Profit & Loss Account reveals a net profit of Tls. 220,205.41, a decline of Tls. 45,743.63.

INCREASED DIVIDEND.

In dealing with the amount at credit of Profit & Loss Account your directors are not called upon to provide so liberally for contingencies as was the case last year and therefore are able to recommend the payment of an increased dividend.

Concerning the assets of the Company, a strip of land measuring Mow 0.3.2.6 fronting Seward Road was sold to the Municipal Council for road widening, which reduces the area of land owned by the Company to Mow 54.0.2.3.5 with an assessed value for taxation of Tls. 781,684.50 whereas the cost as shown in the books is only Tls. 168,248.25. In part payment of the Company's contribution to the Staff Provident Fund, a transfer was effected, from our investments to the Fund, of Tls. 40,000. Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld. 7 per cent. Debentures. An additional Tls. 25,000 of our own Debentures were purchased bringing the total of our investments to Tls. 170,155 as appears in the balance sheet. The manufacturing plant has served us well throughout the year but your Board, upon the advice of the Engineer, is considering the desirability of purchasing new charging and discharging machinery for the retort houses as the present machines are somewhat overtaxed in winter, and, furthermore, efficient machinery is to be obtained which would result in further economical working. The Council's new sewerage scheme, entailing as it does the cutting of deep trenches on all the main roads, has been the cause of many fractures in mains and services resulting in considerable losses of gas, but with the amicable working arrangements with the staff of the Public Works Department many of these mains have been relaid.

CHINESE WAGES INCREASED.

An increase of wages has been granted to all Chinese workmen, in view of the increased cost of living, and this appears to have been much appreciated. I am pleased to be able to report that the work of the whole staff has been most satisfactory and with the Staff Provident Fund now fully secured we have attained that mutual co-operation between employee and employer that is the backbone of any industrial undertaking. I will be pleased to answer any question, with regard to the report and accounts, to the best of my ability before proposing the formal resolution that they be accepted and passed.

No questions were asked and the following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

"That the report and accounts as presented be accepted and passed."—Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. A. D. Bell.

"That a dividend for the year ending December 31, 1923, be paid to the shareholders at the rate of Tls. 4 per share."—Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Peebles.

"That the balance at credit of profit and loss account after payment of the dividend as passed at this meeting be appropriated as recommended by the directors in their report for the year 1923."—Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. A. D. Bell.

"That Mr. L. E. Canning be re-elected a director of this company."—Proposed by Mr. H. Martin Little and seconded by Mr. A. B. Trodd.

"That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors of the company."—Proposed by Mr. L. J. Cubitt and seconded by Mr. W. J. N. Dyer.

The Chairman—That is all the business before the meeting and I thank you very much for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be posted this evening.

Mr. W. J. N. Dyer—I should like to propose a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his interesting history of the company.

The Chairman—Thank you.

CLUB AND SOCIETIES

SHANGHAI BASEBALL CLUB

A Good Season in View but Expenses Heavy: More Members and Money Imperative

The annual meeting of the Shanghai Amateur Baseball Club was held last Friday in the American Club, Mr. F. McIntyre (president), presided, supported by Messrs. H. B. Gallop, Walter Holliday and W. Wilson (secretary). There was a good attendance and hopes of a successful season were expressed.

In giving his report for the year, the President commented on the depleted condition of the treasury, there being but $73 with which to begin the new year, which, if it be in accordance with last year, would require an expenditure of $15,000. Twelve months ago more than $1,200 was in hand for initial outlay, and while at that time there were 595 members on the books, there were now 613. The series with the visiting teams had cost the Club approximately $8,000 to finance, which sum was just about taken at the gate in the form of paid admissions, though the attendance at the games when the Fort Mills and Marines teams played, was none too good.

Two big items of expense last year were the erection of a new stand, costing $1,500, and the purchase of new players' suits, but the latter costs would not have to be repeated this year, though it would be necessary to raise Tls. 1,150 for additional new stands again, the old one having worn out entirely and not being worth repair—the new one to be 128 ft. long and six tiers high.

It was to be hoped that the annual drive for members would result in the approximation of their goal of last season, namely, 1,000—to have the most successful season, they must have this number on the rolls.

PROSPECTIVE MATCHES.

The prospects for the success of the team were good, four Japanese teams desiring to come to Shanghai, including the Dai Mai, Keio, Waseda and the South Manchurian Railway team from Dairen, as well as the Peking Marines and the Championship Army team from the Philippines. Then the Navy could be counted for a number of games during the four months. There was a wealth of new material among aspirants and as good a team as 1923 could be had.

Mr. H. B. Gallop's (manager) report dealt in detail with the problems connected with the erection of the stands and funds. It was imperative that additions be made and funds must come by means of a drive among the Americans, results not to be placed in the general treasury, but should be earmarked for that purpose alone.

The anomaly of having 98 suits for players, but being unable to equip nine men alike faced the Club in 1923, but happily the purchase of new uniforms, made locally at half the cost of imported suits, had met the problem satisfactorily. Many of the old uniforms, as well as 134 old balls and a number of mitts and other equipment had been given to the Y.M.C.A., thus furnishing them for charitable purposes sundry worn-out stuff, no longer usable by the Club.

Mr. Gallop laid stress on the team's need of new pitchers and several competent catchers, but was of the opinion that the remainder of the team would be no less powerful than a year ago. The candidates now on hand were men of experience, who could be counted to give Shanghai fans a good run for their annual payment of $10.

On the proposal of Mr. C. Wentworth, the same committee as served last season, with Mr. C. J. Smith taking the place of Mr. F. Bills, on Home leave, was elected, and now consists in addition to this new member of, Mr. F. W. McIntyre, Mr. W. Holliday, Mr. H. B. Gallop and Mr. C. S. Franklin.

It was further resolved to appoint a committee for the "New Stands Drive" and that the annual contribution of $200 to the Recreation Trust Funds Committee be made. Mr. A. West was requested by the Chairman to approach Admiral Washington on the part of the Association to station a vessel in port throughout the summer with a good baseball team on board and the secretary was instructed to draw up a letter expressing the sympathy of the Club to Mr. "Obie" O'Brien (umpire) who is seriously ill in the Victoria Nursing Home.

THE NAVY LEAGUE

Commander-in-Chief to Open the Union Jack Club: The Singapore Base

The annual general meeting of the Navy League (Shanghai branch) was held at the Shanghai Club on Thursday. Mr. S. Barton, C.M.G. (H. M. Consul-General) presided and amongst others present were Sir Edward Pearce, Dean C. J. F. Symons, Messrs. W. H. Trenchard Davis, E. F. Mackay, J. Prentice, N. Lees Smith, A. Brooke Smith, A. J. Welch, G. L. Campbell, A. C. Clear, H. J. Brett, and many others.

The President said that unfortunately there had been a slight falling off in revenue, but their expenses also had decreased. They hoped to see an increased revenue arising from an increased membership and one item in the report he thought furnished good cause for the hope that they would get an increased membership. He referred to the Union Jack Club, which now was nearly completed and it was hoped to open at any rate the first three floors early next month. The Commander-in-Chief had been asked to fix a date on which he would be in Shanghai and do them the honour of opening the club. It had been built out of the fund arising from the sale of the old recreation ground, together with generous assistance received from the Race Club. The Stewards of the Race Club had appointed a sub-committee which was acting with members of the League's committee in making arrangements for the completion of the club, its furnishing, the opening, and the method of running it. When it was opened it would be a very tangible proof of the existence of the Navy League in Shanghai. No one in Shanghai—a place which owed so much to the Navy—would be in any doubt as to the need for such accommodation

for the men of the Navy, and he hoped the sight of the club would be an inducement to more people to join up and take an interest both in the club and the branch of the Navy League which was responsible for it.

The report and accounts were adopted and the following were elected:

President: Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G. Vice Presidents: The Presidents of St. Andrew's, St. George's, St. David's and St. Patrick's Societies. Committee: Dean Symons, Sir E. C. Pearce, Messrs. A. Brooke Smith, E. F. Mossop, P. L. Knight, John Pearce, P. A. Cox, F. F. Peirman and E. S. Wilkinson. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:

SINGAPORE FETE.

Mr. E. F. Mossop [illegible] a telegram [illegible] by the Singapore people to the citizens of the Shanghai business [illegible] of the Navy [illegible] of the week on the Singapore [illegible] a present [illegible] and it is a [illegible] to get an [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

school, I am glad to think, and consequently never imbued the theory that manual work is degrading. The least of them earn $25 a month, the best $200. They have been recruited from a class of Chinese who rarely get the opportunity of going to school, but are ready and willing to be educated in a trade much as seven-eighths of the population of America and Britain are being educated to-day.

I have tried to get some of these school-educated Chinese to apprentice or article themselves, for but a year or two, to a trade that is quite highly esteemed in Anglo-Saxon countries—not a laborious or exacting one by any means, or one that calls for longer hours than they would work as office boys—but without success.

Ask the Old Dock what they will pay for good fitters, with no school education; or the General Electric Co. for good electricians; or probably yourselves for good printers. The answer ought to make the Chinese "clerk" and those that produce him aware that something is wrong with their educational theories. It won't, of course, because this type of Chinese would rather starve than doff its long coat.

Shanghai does not need more half-baked clerks, shroffs, embryo brokers and elusive "dealers." What it does need are more skilled mechanics and artisans: cabinet makers who can make a door that will fit; motor mechanics who can sometimes work without a hammer or a file; machinists who can locate a knock; and electricians who can be trusted not to botch if unwatched.

Can Mr. Lockwood, or some other expert on education, educate the Chinese to prefer a spanner to a fountain pen, or a micrometer to an abacus? If so he will be doing Shanghai a real service and, incidentally, providing poor Chinese children with an education that will be worth more than the word itself.

I am, etc.,
T. SQUARE.

Shanghai, April 10, 1924.

PROHIBITION.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—A very surprising statement appears in your "Notes and Comments" of yesterday's issue. After listing the benefits that have resulted from the Prohibition enactment (as reported at the Washington Convention recently held), you give voice to the opinion that you "cannot get away from the feeling that prohibition is a vicious infringement of liberty". . . . . ! A strange aberration of the human mind to consider the infringement of liberty *vicious* when, to quote the report, such an infringement has been instrumental in saving *over 873.000 lives* during the four years (or about *17 times* the number of Americans killed in the World War); when industrial accidents have decreased by a *quarter of a million annually;* when about $74,000,000 has been released for constructive welfare work from funds previously used on drink—destitutes; when penal institution commitments have decreased by 20.000, to say nothing of the other benefits mentioned.

Of course Prohibition is an infringement of individual liberty, but is it right to call such an infringement vicious? Quite the contrary, Sir. To insist on personal liberty when that liberty costs the nation over 873.000 lives in four years and hundreds of thousands of industrial accidents—to say nothing of the moral evils and the indirect misery caused—*that* would be sheer viciousness. Must we insist on personal liberty at the expense of Human Welfare? Then annul the laws against theft, for a man should certainly have the right to take his neighbour's goods if he has a mind to do so; annul the laws against cruelty, for a man or woman should certainly have the right to cripple his own children, or a man to beat his own wife; annul the laws against illicit sexual relations, on the grounds that men or women may do anything with their bodies that they please! To carry this idea of personal liberty to its logical conclusion would be to let our already miserable civilization go down still further into the mud. It would then cease to be Liberty; it would be licence.

No. Sir, let not personal liberty be our ideal, but Human Welfare, and let us not delude ourselves with such beautiful-sounding words as Liberty. Let us not sacrifice Human Welfare to our own selfish ends, lest we degrade that god that for ages has inspired men under the name of Liberty. For that Liberty stands for Liberty-for-Humanity, for a Nation, not for an individual human being; it means *Liberatism* from misery, from degradation, and not liberty of self-satisfaction. We should be glad to sacrifice our little so-called liberties, when they contribute to the Liberatism of the race; we should deem it a crime to fight for personal liberty when such liberty tends to enslave the nation or the world. The eventual well-being of the whole should be our aim, not the temporary gratification of the part; let us be liberators, not libertines.

I am, etc.,
A. HORNE.

Shanghai, Apr. 8, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I was greatly interested in the extract from the report of the Washington Convention on the result of prohibition in the United States that you published last Monday in your "Notes & Comments" column, under the heading of "Prohibition Results." I think, Sir, there is a sting in the tail. A comment that is not quite fair.

It seems to me from this report, and from many reports I have seen in American papers that the people of United States, as a whole, have greatly benefited by prohibition, and that a great deal of poverty, misery and crime has been done away with. Now, Sir, can good come out of evil? I contend that if good has come out of it, it cannot "be a case of doing evil that good may come." "By their fruits ye shall know them. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?" No, Sir, they do not. Good cannot come out of evil.

Again you say: "You cannot get away from the feeling that prohibition is a vicious infringement of liberty and a confession of weakness." Why prohibit anything, why not let everybody have absolute freedom? What would be the result? In my humble opinion it would spell anarchy, and we could say good-bye to civilization. Ever since man began to herd together he had to prohibit to protect himself against his vicious and selfish fellow-creatures. "Thou shalt not kill; thou shalt not steal; thou shalt not bear false witness" are all prohibitions; and the more civilized we become the more restrictions we have put upon us. We must, in a civilized state, prohibit many things to protect us from various evils. All laws are prohibitive more or less. How, Sir, can you make out that the prohibition of alcoholic beverages enforced on the people of the United States—by the consent of a large majority—is "a vicious infringement of liberty?" Is the prohibition of opium and other narcotic drugs an infringement of liberty? I maintain that if it is right to prohibit opium, any nation, by a vote of the people, has an equal right to prohibit alcoholic beverages. Alcohol is as much a narcotic drug as opium is. It is a narcotic drug that depresses and paralyzes the nerve centres. Most people believe it to be a stimulant, but it has been proved to be a narcotic poison.

In November, 1916, the Central Control Board (Liquor Traffic) appointed an Advisory Committee "to consider the conditions affecting the physiological action of alcohol."

The members of the Committee were as follows:—

Lord D'Abernon, G.C.M.G., (Chairman), Chairman of the Central Board (Liquor Traffic).

Sir George Newman, K.C.B., M.D., (Vice-Chairman)) Principal Medical Officer to the Board of Education, Member of the Central Control Board (Liquor Traffic).

Professor A. R. Cushny, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of pharmacology at University College, London.

H. H. Dale, M.D., F.R.S., Head of the Department of Bio-Chemistry and Pharmacology under the Medical Research Committee, National Health Insurance.

M. Greenwood, M.R.C.S., Statistician to the Lester Institute of Preventive Medicine, and Reader in Medical Statistics in the University of London.

W. McDougall, M.B., F.R.S., Reader in Mental Philosophy in the University of Oxford and Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

W. C. Sullivan, M.D., Medical Superintendent of the Rampten State Asylum for Criminal Lunatics.

F. W. Mott, M.D., F.R.S., Pathologist to the London County Asylums, Consulting Physician to Charing Cross Hospital.

Professor C. S. Sherrington, M.D., F.R.S., Waynflete Professor of Physiology in the University of Oxford, and Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford.

Now, Sir, no one can say: a body of scientific, medical gentlemen such as the above are a lot of tub-thumping, tectotal cranks, and kill-joys. I take it they formed an unbiassed committee whose findings should command respect. In their report: Alcohol—Its action on the Human Organism" on page 125 we find:—

"Action of alcohol narcotic and not stimulant.

A further conclusion of capital importance which emerges with equal clearness is that the action of alcohol on the nervous system is essentially sensitive, and with the possible exception of its direct influence on the respiratory centre—is not truly stimulant. The popular belief in the stimulating properties of alcohol, as regard reasoning and other functions seems to be of purely subjective origin and illusory: it is in the main, if not wholly, an effect of the narcotic influence of the drug, for, as we have seen, it dulls the drinker's perception of unpleasant conditions in himself and his surroundings, and may make him feel better, more efficient and stronger than he really is."

"Effects which are apparently of a different character—effects such as the increased loquacity and freer gesticulation produced by alcohol—which are usually interpreted by the drinker, if not by those about him as evidences of stimulation, are really narcotic effects; they result from the removal of the control exercised by the higher nervous centres, a control which enables the individual to weigh his words and acts, and render himself self-critical and solicitous as to the impression he is making on other people."

I think people should know that alcohol is a narcotic drug, and not a stimulant; and that a country has a perfect right to prohibit the use of all drugs except for medicinal purposes.

I am, etc.,
A TOTAL ABSTAINER.

Shanghai, Apr. 7, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

Sir,—You say in your leaderette this morning "that millions of children are being brought up ignorant of the taste of alcohol is a great good."

This statement denotes an entirely wrong conception of the state of affairs in America to-day, and it would be far more correct to say that millions of children are being brought up cognisant "of the taste of alcohol," a taste which they satisfy now with frequent nips of bad whisky which the boys carry in flasks in their hip pockets, and the girls in dainty bottles in their satchels. That is the most crying pity of all the pities that have arisen out of this wretched law, and no one realizes and regrets it more than the large number of sound thinking men and women one meets in America—people whose common sense, however, carries little weight against the rantings and ravings of the intolerants.

A prominent American business man—himself a strict teetotaller—told me in New York some months ago that not only is the moral of the adult population becoming steadily lower through the bribery, bootlegging, wholesale drinking of bad liquor, knowledge that this law of the land can be openly flouted (and is actually flouted by many of the very law makers themselves), but that, more serious still, the youth of this nation is being debauched not only by actual widespread drinking in itself but also by witnessing in the homes the hourly defiance of the law by their elders. I have heard young girls openly boasting in New York of the amount of "hooch" they had put away the same morning, and one young man told me that he had been to his old school the day before and was horrified to see the amount of secret drinking going on amongst the boys.

One can quote no statistics in proof of the above facts but one can quote the statements of seriously minded Americans in their own country, and one can believe the evidence of one's own eyes and ears. The moral degeneracy which I was told is going on in the growing generation will prove vastly more injurious to America in the future than the mild and sensible amount of drinking one sees in England.

I saw more out-and-out "drunks" in 10 days on the New York public streets than I saw in six months in the whole of England.

I am, etc.,
MODERATE.

Shanghai, April 10, 1924.

KULING COOLIES.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I have just read in your estimable paper a letter from Kuling about the threatening attitude of chair coolies; and I feel I must vouch for the alarming results that might occur if the situation is not seriously taken in hand. I spent four months of last summer in Kuling and trouble with the chair coolies was the usual occurrence, in fact generally considered as inevitable. I know of two cases of smashed windows.

I myself preferred to walk any distance rather than to be confronted with an awful row at the "End of a Perfect Day."

Enclosing my card,
I am, etc.,
N. C.

Hankow, April 2, 1924.

THE MIN RIVER.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The issue of the "North China Herald" for March 29 contains a Reuter's Pacific Service item, dated Peking, March 24th, under the heading "Conservancy of the Min River," substantially correct, except that the British Consul is stated to be the Chairman of the Conservancy.

This is not the case. The Chairman of the Conservancy is Mr. Ch'en P'ei-k'un, Finance Commissioner of Fukien; the Consuls of powers represented at Foochow being, with representatives of other interests, members of the Board. The Executive Committee consists of the Chairman, the Commissioner of Customs (who is Treasurer and Secretary), and one of the resident Consuls in rotation. The present Consular representative is my French colleague, who succeeded me at the beginning of March this year.

I am, etc.,
WALTER J. CLENNELL.

Foochow, April 4, 1924.

Skin Cleared of FIERY ECZEMA BY Zam-Buk

Mr. H. Jarvis, J.P., of Bickham Park Road, Plymouth, England, says:—"A distressing burning eczema, which extended over the whole of the fleshy part of my legs, defied all the usual medical treatment. A near relative got me to apply Zam-Buk. Next morning my skin did not seem quite so red or angry, and I persevered. Zam-Buk caused new healthy skin to grow, and the eczema disappeared as by magic."

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and its germ-killing properties are never found in fatty ointments and salves. Zam-Buk's powerful herbal essences *penetrate* to the very root of skin disease, killing off germs and removing poisonous impurities. Zam-Buk is equally marvellous for ulcers, ringworm, piles, abscesses, bad legs, sore feet, poisoned wounds, cuts, insect bites and stings, etc. Obtainable in handy size boxes of most store dealers everywhere.

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SPORTS AND PASTIMES

THE SPRING RACES

Considerably Reduced Entries

The race book for the Spring Meeting of the Shanghai Race Club will be very much smaller this year than it was in 1923. There has been a remarkable falling off in entries, there being only half as many in several races as there were last spring. However, this should not make a great deal of difference to the fields, for whether there are 82 entries for a single event, as there were for the Poumating Cup last year, or 52, which is the biggest entry this time, in the same race, it will be as difficult to find more than about a score of jockeys. Reduced numbers do not mean a lack of quality, for the griffins are counted very good this time and all the best of the old ponies again are entered. The difference in numbers probably is due to the fact that, instead of coming down more or less in one mob, the griffins have been brought down in batches and the later arrivals or those markedly behind in condition necessarily have had to be held over.

The entries for individual races, with the comparative figures of last spring, follow:—

	1924.	1923
FIRST DAY.		
Chefoo Cup	19	33
Criterion Stakes	22	25
Griffins' Plate	44	67
Cathay Cup	21	35
Poumating Cup	52	82
Hart Legacy Cup	21	27
Nanking Cup	30	43
Kiangan Cup	17	20
Eclipse Stakes	45	67
Hankow Cup	20	23
Hongkong Plate	25	40
SECOND DAY.		
Chukaza Cup	36	44
Race Club Cup	16	22
Shanghai Derby	31	59
Mongolian Cup	31	32
Siccawei Cup	25	39
Grand Stand Stakes	43	75
Chinese Cup and Shanghai Stakes	17	25
Spring Cup	18	35
Scurry Stakes	50	74
Tientsin Plate	33	35
Peking Cup	34	49
THIRD DAY.		
Great Northern Plate	40	49
Rubicon Plate	44	73
Pari-Mutuel Stakes	26	39
Racing Stakes	34	40
Yangtsze Cup	41	39
Foochow Cup	15	24
Jockey Cup	26	54
Ames Cup	40	76
Champion Sweepstakes	—	—
Swatow Cup	18	18
Newchwang Cup	46	74
FOURTH DAY.		
Spring Griffins' H'cap ("A" and "B")	51	52
Spring H'cap ("A" and "B")	47	43
Grand National Steeplechase	15	18
Pootung Cup	26	57
Consolation Cup	32	52
Manchu Stakes	45	69
Nil Desperandum Cup	26	50
Griffins' Nil Desperandum Cup	45	66
Mafoos' Race	—	—

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL

Army Championship Won by Belgium

London, Apr. 3.

The Belgian Army team beat the British Army by three goals to one in the International Triangular Association Football Tournament at Wembley to-day. Having also beaten the French Army, the Belgians won the Championship.—Reuter.

AMATEUR 10-MILE RUN

British Championship at Stamford Bridge

London, Apr. 5.

The Amateur Athletic Championship 10-mile run at Stamford Bridge to-day was won by H. Britton (Derby and County Harriers) in 52 min. 48 1-5 sec. E. Harper (Hallamshire Harriers), the holder, was second in 52 min. 50 sec. and C. Gibbs, (Surrey Athletic Club) third with a time of 53 min. 21 1-5 sec.—Reuter.

INTERNATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Dr. Lasker Now Leading

New York, Apr. 4.

The position of the leaders at the end of the thirteenth round of the International Chess Tournament is as follows:—

M. Reti; 7 games won, 3 games lost, 2 games drawn;

Dr. Lasker, 5 games won, 5 games drawn;

M. Capablanca, 4 games won, 1 game lost, 7 games drawn.

Dr. Lasker has two games adjourned.

Apr. 5.

In the thirteenth round of the International Chess Tournament, M. Boguljubow resigned the adjourned game to Dr. Lasker.

In the fourteenth round, Mm. Boguljubow, Tartakower and Capablanca defeated Mr. Edward Lasker, Mr. Marshall and Dr. Lasker respectively, Dr. Lasker resigning after 50 moves. M. Alekhine drew with M. Maroczy.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 6.

The scores at the end of the 14th round of the International Chess Tournament are as follows: M. Capablanca 8½ points, M. Reti 8 points, Dr. Lasker and M. Alekhine 7½ points each. Dr. Lasker has two games adjourned which he is expected to win.—Reuter's American Service.

Apr. 6.

In the 15th round of the International Chess Tournament, MM. Alekhine, Boguljubow and Capablanca beat Mr. Yates, M. Tartakower and M. Janowski, respectively. The match between M. Maroczy and Mr. Edward Lasker was adjourned.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 7.

The leading positions in the International Chess Tournament at the end of the 15th round are as follows:—M. Capablanca, 9½ points; Dr. Lasker, 8½ points (with one game adjourned); M. Alekhine, 8½ points; M. Reti, 8 points. Mr. Yates is last with 3½ points and one game adjourned.—Reuter's American Service.

Later.

In the adjourned games Dr. Lasker, M. Maroczy and Mr. Yates won their games against M. Janowski, Mr. Edward Lasker and M. Janowski respectively.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 8.

In the sixteenth round of the International Chess Tournament, Dr. Lasker beat M. Reti, M. Tartakower beat M. Janowski, M. Alekhin drew with Mr. Edward Lasker and M. Capablanca drew with Mr. Marshall.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 9.

By defeating Mr. Yates in the 17th round of the International Chess Tournament, Dr. Lasker has drawn well into the leading position in view of M. Capablanca only drawing with Mr. Marshall.

Apr. 10.

By defeating Mr. Yates in the 17th round of the International Chess Tournament, Dr. Lasker now holds the commanding lead of a game and a half over M. Capablanca, each having only five games to play.

Later.

In the 17th round of the International Chess Tournament, Dr. Lasker beat Mr. Yates, M. Janowski beat M. Maroczy and M. Reti beat M. Tartakower. Mr. Marshall drew with Mr. Edward Lasker.—Reuter's American Service.

RACING IN FRANCE

Sir Galahad III Defeated

Longchamps, Apr. 6.

Sir Galahad III, the winner of the Lincolnshire Handicap, only secured the third place in the Prix de Sablons, a ten furlong race. Massine, with Sharpe up, won by a neck from Saint Hubert II, with Sir Galahad a length and a half behind.—Reuter.

CAMBRIDGE WIN THE BOATRACE

Betting for Once Upset: Oxford Heavier but Cambridge Very Stylish

London, Apr. 4.

The 'Varsity crews have concluded their training for to-morrow's boat-race under the same icy conditions, with a bleak northeaster, which have prevailed throughout the week.

With the advantage in weights Oxford, who have registered a marked improvement recently, start favourites, the betting being 6 to 4 on. Cambridge have developed a very stylish crew but they lack speed. Much may depend on the choice of station.

The start is timed for the unusually early hour of two o'clock.

Apr. 5.

Cambridge won the inter-'Varsity boat race by four lengths.

Later.

The official distance by which Cambridge beat Oxford was four and a half lengths, and the time was 18 min. 41 sec.

There was sunshine and a very light northeasterly breeze, while the water was smooth.

Cambridge won the toss and chose the Surrey station.

Oxford, rowing a slightly faster stroke, led at the start, but at the mile post Cambridge was slightly ahead. The time was 4 min. 4 sec. The Cambridge crew, rowing beautifully, held a length advantage at Hammersmith Bridge, which they reached in 7 min. 36 sec., and three lengths at Chiswick Church, in 11 min. 28 sec. Soon after, Oxford spurted and gained on the leaders, but the crew were ragged in their work. Cambridge reached Barnes Bridge in 15 min. 31 sec., two and a half lengths ahead, and ultimately won by four and a half lengths.—Reuter.

GOLF IN AMERICA

British Champion Beats American

New York, Apr. 5.

Arthur Havers, the British golf champion, beat Bobby Jones, the American open champion, in a thirty-six hole match here to-day by 2 and 1.—Reuter's American Service.

INTERNATIONAL TENNIS

New York, Apr. 3.

Mr. Macpherson of Queen's Club, London, defeated Mr. Cutler in the semi-final of the National Court Tennis Championships. Mr. Macpherson will meet Mr. Hewitt Morgan in the final round to determine who will play Mr. Jay Gould in the challenge round.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 5.

In the National Court Tennis Championship Jay Gould to-day successfully defended his title, defeating Howitt Morgan 6/1, 6/1, 11/9.—Reuter's American Service.

BOXING IN BERLIN

Berlin, Apr. 5.

The German heavyweight boxing champion, Koerner, defeated the British champion, Frank Goddard on points in a 10-round contest here last night.—Reuter.

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MUNICIPAL GAZETTE NEWS

Ratepayers Meetings.

Enquiry has recently been made into the question of the qualifications required of speakers at Ratepayers Meetings, and it is noted that the following declaration by the British Bar in on record:—

Shanghai, March 20, 1914.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to inform you that at a Bar Meeting held yesterday at H.B.M. Supreme Court it was unanimously resolved:—"That no member of the British Bar should speak at a Ratepayers' Meeting in his professional capacity."

Your obedient servant,
H. P. WILKINSON,
Crown Advocate.

The Shanghai Municipal Council.

Volunteer Corps.

Reserve of Officers.—Lieut. W. J. Hawkings resigns his commission.

Shantung Road Hospital.

From the Report and Accounts for 1923, it is noted that the Foreign subscriptions to the Hospital total $38,000, whilst those from Chinese sources amount to $7,000 only. The apparent lack of interest in this Hospital on the part of the Chinese population is regretted and the matter will be taken up with the Treasurer of the Institution.

Telephone Agreement.

Correspondence relative to the proposal to revise the terms of the existing agreement with the Telephone Company.

Shanghai, December 20, 1923.

DEAR SIR,—You are of course aware how rapidly the Company is growing and how constantly extensions are called for, and will appreciate how these extensions call for more and more capital outlay. Moreover it is the wish of the Directors now that the automatic is sufficiently perfected to be suitable for this place to substitute it for the manual in the future, so that all extensions and replacements would be on that system, and in the course of a comparatively short time it would take the place of the manual throughout; but the automatic costs a great deal more than the manual to instal and consequently the large capital expenditure necessary in any case will be greatly increased if it is adopted.

The franchise has now only some 13 years to run and it is the franchise that forms the principal security to the Public for the money it may put into the Company, so that its extension in some form or another is a matter which calls for most serious consideration before the Company can invite the Public to subscribe further capital, and my Directors therefore suggest that a representative from your Council should be appointed to go into the matter with them, and if possible to arrive at a solution which will satisfactorily meet the case.

A precisely similar letter has been addressed to the French Municipal Council.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP H. COLE,
Engineer-in-Chief & General Manager,
The Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld.

E. S. B. ROWE, Esq.,
Acting Secretary,
Municipal Council.

Council Chamber,
Shanghai, January 21, 1924.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 20, alluding to the rapid growth of the Company's business, and the desire of the Directors of your Company to substitute an automatic system for the manual system and suggesting an extension of the telephone franchise.

I am directed therefore to inform you that in accordance with your suggestion the Council will appoint a representative to go into this matter with you.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
E. S. B. ROWE,
Acting Secretary.

The Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld.

Council Chamber,
Shanghai, January 29, 1924.

SIR,—With further reference to your letter of December 20, on the subject of the adoption of the automatic system by the Telephone Company, and to my reply of January 21, this to inform you that Mr. Wilson has been requested to act as the representative of the Council.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
E. S. B. ROWE,
Acting Secretary.

P. H. COLE, Esq.,
Engineer-in-Chief and General Manager,
The Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld.

Shanghai, April 1, 1924.

DEAR SIR,—Further to our informal conference in the Administration Building on March 24, when your Chairman expressed his wish to have particulars as to the extent to which the automatic system is in use, I have been able to collect the attached data, giving the number of lines in use in each country, the total being almost one million, excluding extension telephones. London, New York and Tokio have also given orders to commence the change to this system.

As regards the installation of an automatic system in Shanghai, it appears to be most desirable for the following reasons:

1. Increasing difficulty in manual operating owing to language difficulties.

2. Greater safety in the event of riots or other disturbances.

3. Quicker and better service when the subscribers have mastered the dialling.

As regards the present manual system, in accordance with Clause No. 9 of the franchise, owing to the increased cost of materials and labour a small increase in the present rental is asked for, and a message rate tariff for hotels, clubs, teashops, etc., whose calls per day are many times greater than the average number of calls per ordinary subscriber. This matter has already been fully discussed with the Council's representative, and is referred to here for purposes of record.

In conclusion I would point out the necessity of an early decision as to the system desired as although we have spare capacity at our exchanges at present, orders for extensions should be placed at once, the time taken to manufacture, deliver, instal and open for service being at the present time about two years.

Should it be decided to continue with the manual system and later on a change to automatic is desired, it will mean erecting new buildings for all our exchanges, with increased capital cost and therefore higher rates.

As will be readily understood before a change can be made it is necessary for both systems to be working simultaneously and at present we have room for this in our buildings.

The capacity of our present buildings would be doubled by the introduction of an automatic system.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP H. COLE,
Engineer-in-Chief and General Manager,
The Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld.

E. S. B. ROWE, Esq.,
Acting Secretary,
Municipal Council.

Council Chamber,
Shanghai, April 3, 1924.

SIR,—I am directed to refer to your letter of December 20 last, to the informal conference which took place on March 4 between Sir E. C. Pearce, representing your Company, Mr. Wilson, representing the International Council, and Mr. Le Bris, representing the French Municipal Council; to the subsequent discussions that have taken place between the Secretary of your Company and the Treasurer and Comptroller, and to your further letter of April 1 explaining the necessity for an early decision on the Automatic Telephone question.

The Council has given careful consideration to the various matters raised by your Company and is satisfied (1) that the automatic system is suitable and desirable for Shanghai, (2) that the Agreement of 1907 should be extended, and (3) that the Tariff of Charges is in need of revision.

I am directed to add that the Council desires to take advantage of this opportunity to revise the Agreement of 1907 in certain other particulars. It is the Council's considered opinion that the agreements under which the public utility companies of Shanghai at present operate do not allow for an adequate measure of control being exercised by the ratepayers' representatives over certain vital matters of financial and general policy. Certain of these matters are provided for in the accompanying Memorandum, which contains an outline of the Council's views in connexion with the proposed revision of the Agreement of 1907. The main principles underlying these proposals are (1) to identify the interests of the Directors of the Company with those of the Council in such a manner as to remove any possible source of friction arising in the future; (2) to provide for an adequate return to shareholders and the proper maintenance of their security, i.e., the assets of the Company; and (3) to substitute the interests of the subscriber for those of the shareholder as the chief incentive for the affairs of the Company being conducted on the most economical lines.

In laying down these principles the Council does not wish your Directors (or the Public) to infer that any serious difficulties have arisen in the past in connexion with the operations of your Company. Indeed, the Council has been much impressed by the conciliatory spirit shown by your Directors and officials throughout the recent negotiations. The fact, however, remains that under the existing agreement there is always the possibility that a change in the personnel of the Directors or Executive may cause serious issues to arise at any time.

I am to conclude by stating that should your Directors agree in principle with the Council's views as outlined in the accompanying Memorandum, a resolution will be introduced by the Council at the forthcoming Ratepayers Meeting requesting authority to proceed with the negotiations on the lines indicated in the Memorandum.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
E. S. B. ROWE,
Acting Secretary.

The Engineer-in-Chief and General Manager,
The Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld.

MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED REVISION OF THE AGREEMENT OF 1907 AND MATTERS INCIDENTAL THERETO.

(1) That bonus shares be issued to the shareholders of the Company in respect of that portion of the Reserve Account which is represented by premia on shares.

(2) That the Tariff of Charges be amended on such a basis as to provide for:—
- (*a*) a dividend not exceeding 8 per cent. on the share capital of the Company;
- (*b*) the maintenance of an Equalization of Dividends Account limited to 8 per cent. of the share capital, no transfer thereto in any year to exceed 1½ per cent of such share capital;
- (*c*) the maintenance of a Reserve Account limited to 10 per cent. of capital outlay, no transfer thereto in any year to exceed 2 per cent. of such capital outlay;
- (*d*) the yearly surplus to be transferred to an account to be called "Tariff Revision (Suspense) Account."
- (*e*) the Tariff of Charges, including all the matters incidental thereto (excepting only the limitation of dividend to 8 per cent.), to be subject to quinquennial revision, when the balances of Tariff Revision (Suspense) Account, Equalization of Dividends Account, and Reserve Account shall be taken into account.

(3) That the books, financial records and minutes of the Company be open at all reasonable times to the inspection of Accountants nominated by the Council.

(4) That no addition to the Company's share or debenture capital be made without the written approval of the Council.

(5) That quarterly reports be submitted to the Council, to include such information as may be subsequently decided upon.

(6) That the Board of Directors shall include one person nominated by the Council.

(7) That the Agreement of 1907, as revised, be extended for periods of 10 years as from March 31, 1937, and that the Council be entitled at the expiration of these periods, provided two years' notice of its intention so to do has been given to the Company, to purchase the Company's business and undertaking and all the land, buildings, plant and machinery, at a price to be fixed by arbitration if a mutual understanding has not been arrived at, and in arriving at such price the arbitrators shall have regard to the fair market value of the undertaking as a going concern, but without any allowance being made for compulsory purchase or goodwill.

Wafer Supply.

Correspondence with the Waterworks Company in continuation of that published in the Gazette of February 28:—

Council Chamber,
Shanghai, March 28, 1924.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 22, the contents of which are receiving the Council's careful consideration. The Council's reply is now being prepared and will be ready in the course of a few days. Particular attention is being given to the remarks contained in the penultimate paragraph of your letter in which you indicate that provided the undertaking is continued under Company management, your Directors are now prepared to concede certain principles which were outlined by the Council in previous correspondence.

As the Council is willing to explore every possible means of solving this long outstanding question, I am directed to forward the enclosed memorandum outlining a scheme which in the Council's opinion may lead to a revision of the existing Agreement satisfactory to both parties. Many of the complications dealt with in the scheme are occasioned by the fact that the share capital of the Company is in sterling while the revenue is in silver. It is suggested that your Directors should seriously consider the feasibility of placing the share capital of the Company on a silver basis.

I am directed to add that the Council has no objection to a frank exchange of views between the officials of your Company and those of the Council.

Will you kindly note that the memorandum now forwarded will form an integral part of the Council's official reply to your letter of February 22, and that until this letter has been despatched to you, it is not proposed to publish the contents of the memorandum.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
E. S. B. ROWE,
Acting Secretary.

F. B. PITCAIRN, Esq.,
Engineer-in Chief & Manager,
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.

Council Chamber,
Shanghai, April 7, 1924.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 22 further on the subject of the proposed purchase of your Company by the Municipality.

The Council notes with regret that your Directors are unable to accept the basis of valuation suggested in my letter of January 18 last which was supported by a joint opinion of two eminent counsel whose advice was sought by the Council. It is noted that your Directors have consulted probably equally eminent counsel, whose opinion more or less conflicts with that of the Council's advisers. Under the circumstances it is apparent that no useful purpose will be served by proceeding further with the attempt mutually to agree upon the basis of valuation, and I am therefore directed to inform you that the Council will at the forthcoming Ratepayers' Meeting again ask for authority to proceed with the purchase negotiations, fully realizing that this will result in the submission of the question to arbitration.

With regard to the remarks in the 4th paragraph of your letter under reply, I am directed to state that the Council has re perused the file of past correspondence with your Company, with the result that it has definitely reaffirmed its opinion as to the necessity for the Municipality, to control all essential matters connected with the water supply of the Settlement, and is in general agreement with the opinion expressed by the Second Special Waterworks Committee to the effect that "the Committee desires further to place on record its opinion that the differences between the Company and the Council, as disclosed by the data submitted to the Committee, are such that no really satisfactory settlement would be likely to eventuate even were negotiations to this end continued."

Looking at the matter from another viewpoint, the Council is of the opinion that the continually increasing duties and responsibilities that have to be borne by Members render a continuance of the lengthy negotiations of the past a matter of physical impossibility. In expressing this opinion, the Council does not wish your Directors to infer that the protracted correspondence that has taken place on practically every matter which has arisen in connexion with the water supply is considered to be the particular fault of either party, but simply that the different interests involved under existing conditions have conclusively been shown to be impossible to reconcile.

The Council is nevertheless willing to explore every possible means of solving this long outstanding question, and has therefore given particular attention to the penultimate paragraph of your letter under reply, in which an indication is given that provided the undertaking is continued under Company management, your Directors are now prepared to concede certain principles which were laid down by the Council in the past. Your suggestion that a scheme should be prepared by your Directors embodying these principles does not, however, commend itself to the Council for the reason that the questions at issue are so numerous and serious, and the viewpoints so dissimilar that any scheme prepared by your Directors would be unlikely to fully provide for the requirements considered necessary by the Council. In order, however, that the fullest consideration may be given to this new aspect of the question, the accompanying Memorandum has been prepared by the Council (a draft copy of which has already been forwarded you) outlining a scheme which it is hoped may lead to a revision of the Agreement of 1905 on lines satisfactory to both parties. In this connexion, I am directed to refer to a recent decision recorded by the Council to the effect that "it is the Council's considered opinion that the agreements under which the public utility companies of Shanghai at present operate do not allow for an adequate measure of control being exercised by the ratepayers' representatives over certain vital matters of financial and general policy." The Council's Memorandum covers certain of the matters referred to in the preceding paragraph, but it must not be inferred that the Memorandum is considered in any way comprehensive. The main principles underlying the Council's proposals are (1) to identify the interests of the Directors of the Company with those of the Council in such a manner as to remove any possible source of friction arising in the future; (2) to provide for an adequate return to shareholders and the proper maintenance of their security, *i.e.*, the assets of the Company; and (3) to substitute the interests of the consumer for those of the shareholder as the chief incentive for the affairs of the Company being conducted on the most economical lines.

I am to conclude by stating

that after making some slight modifications [illegible] copy of the Memorandum sent you on March 28, the Council is of the opinion that the revised Memorandum accompanying this letter should prove a satisfactory basis for solving this long outstanding question. The Council proposes, therefore, to add an alternative clause to the Purchase Resolution to be introduced at the forthcoming Ratepayers' Meeting requesting authority (as an alternative to purchase) to proceed with the negotiations for revising the Agreement of 1906 on the lines indicated in the Memorandum.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
E. S. B. ROWE,
Acting Secretary.

F. B. PITCAIRN, Esq.,
Engineer-in-Chief & Manager,
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.

SHANGHAI WATERWORKS COMPANY.

Memorandum outlining a Scheme for continuing the Undertaking as a Limited Company, subject to control by the Council over certain essential matters.

(1) That bonus shares be issued to the shareholders of the Company in respect of that portion of the Reserve Account which is represented by premia on shares.

(2) That the whole of the assets and liabilities of the Plumbing and Fittings Department be transferred to a subsidiary company on terms to be subsequently arranged.

(3) That the Tariff of Charges be amended, subject to the approval of the Council, to allow for the introduction of meters, and be framed on such a basis as to provide for:—

(a) A dividend not exceeding 9 per cent. on the share capital of the Company, subject to the further limitation that the Revenue Account of any year shall not be charged with more than the cost of such dividend at exchange 3s. 2d.

(b) The maintenance of an Equalization of Dividends Account under the following sub-headings:—

(1) *Gold Reserve.*—This account to be credited or debited with any surplus or deficit that may be occasioned by the rate of exchange at which the dividend is declared being over or under 3s. 2d. Any balance now at credit of Equalization of Dividends Account in the Company's books to be transferred to this heading.

(2) *Silver Reserve.*—This account to be limited to a total of 9 per cent. of the share capital converted to a silver basis of exchange [illegible] to this account to exceed 1½ per cent. of the share capital calculated on the same basis.

(3) The balances at credit of these accounts from time to time to be used ex[illegible] for which the Reserve is created, the Gold Reserve to cover fluctuations in exchange, and the Silver Reserve to cover variations in the silver revenue of the Company.

Explanatory Note.—The share capital of the Company is in sterling, and the revenue is in silver. Clause (*a*) above is to ensure that not only will the sterling dividend to shareholders be limited, but that the resulting charge to the consumer (in silver) to pay this dividend will also be limited. Clause (*b*) ensures that all reasonable provisions will be made to cover fluctuations in exchange and variations in the silver revenue of the Company. Thus, assume:—The share capital to be £10,000 (which at exchange 3s. 2d. equals Tls 63,158). The profit to be Tls. 9,500. The rate of exchange at which the dividend is paid to be 3s. 4d.:—

A dividend of 9 per cent. at exchange 3s. 2d would absorb Tls. 5,684, but at exchange 3s. 4d. only Tls. 5,400 would be required. It is proposed that the difference of Tls. 284 should be credited to the Gold Reserve, and that Tls. 946 (1½ per cent. on Tls. 63,158) should be transferred to the credit of the Silver Reserve.

(*c*) The maintenance of a Reserve Account limited to 10 per cent. of capital outlay, no transfer thereto in any year to exceed 2 per cent. of such capital outlay.

(*d*) That the yearly Surplus be transferred to an account to be called "Tariff Revision (Suspense) Account."

(*e*) That the Tariff of Charges, including all matters incidental thereto (excepting only the limitation of dividend to 9 per cent.) be subject to quinquennial revision when the balances of Tariff Revision (Suspense) Account, Equalization of Dividends Account, and Reserve Account, shall be taken into account.

(4) That the books, financial records and minutes of the Company be open at all reasonable times to the inspection of accountants nominated by the Council.

(5) That no addition to the Company's share or debenture capital be made without the written approval of the Council.

(6) That quarterly reports be submitted to the Council, to include such information as may be subsequently decided upon.

(7) That the Board of Directors shall include two persons nominated by the Council.

(8) That the revised agreement remain in force for a period of 20 years and that the Council be entitled at the expiry of this period, provided two years' notice of its intention so to do, has been given to the Company, to purchase the Company's business and undertaking, and all the lands, buildings, plant and machinery, at a price to be fixed by arbitration if a mutual understanding has not been arrived at, and in arriving at such price the arbitrators shall have regard to the fair market value of the undertaking as a going concern, but without any allowance being made for compulsory purchase or goodwill.

April 7, 1924.

The following letter has been received subsequent to approval by the Council of despatch of the foregoing:—

Shanghai, April 4, 1924.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge [illegible] your letter of the 28th ultimo, from which it is noted that the Council is willing to explore every possible means of solving the outstanding questions relating to Water Supply. It is further noted that the Council's reply to my letter of February 22 is being prepared and will be ready in the course of a few days.

My Directors are willing that an exchange of views between the officials of the Council and those of this Company should take place, and I am directed to ask you to be good enough to let me know on what date it would be suitable for a conference to be held.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
F. B. PITCAIRN,
Engineer-in-Chief & Manager,
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.

E. S. B. ROWE, Esq.,
Acting Secretary,
Municipal Council.

CHINA Journal of Science & Arts, edited by Mr. A. de Sowby and Dr. J. C. Ferguson, is to be monthly, profusely illustrated magazine. It will contain articles written by experts on the Arts, Literature and Science of China. The annual subscription is $10.00 Shanghai currency, or $6.00 gold for U.S.A. and Canada. Office: Room 102, the Bon Building, Shanghai. Central 3247.

LAW REPORTS

A PORTUGUESE-INDIAN PARTNERSHIP

Claim Against a Range Road Hotel

Last week at the Chess Club the Imperial Hotel, Range Road, appeared in H. M. Supreme Court before his Honour Judge Peter Grain on Monday to answer a summons brought by the Greatlight Electrical Company claiming the sum of $296 for work done in the Imperial Hotel. The defendants were Gujan Singh, Bishan Singh and Sucha Singh.

Mr. R. C. Faithfull represented the plaintiff company.

The Chinese proprietor of the plaintiff company, in evidence, stated that the work was done in November of last year. He was employed by a Mr. da Silva, the fourth partner in the concern. He was not suing him in this Court owing to the fact that Mr. Silva was a Portuguese citizen. The total amount incurred was $396, but of this sum Mr. Silva had paid $100.

In reply to Gujan Singh witness said he knew the defendants were partners in the firm because he had seen Gujan Singh himself hand over the $100 to da Silva, which had been paid on account.

The defendants pleaded that though they were partners with da Silva there was some dispute over the partnership and they did not feel that they should be liable for the expenses he incurred. He had refused to allow any of them on the premises so that they could not see the books and had no idea whether the concern was paying, or losing money. When they did enter the hotel he told them to get out because the guests would be annoyed if they saw Indians there. They did not know what work was done in connexion with the electricity and whether or not da Silva had paid up the balance.

The Judge pointed out to the defendants that they had their remedy open to them by suing da Silva in his own Court. If they consented to judgment in this case it would be better for them in any case they might bring in the Portuguese Court inasmuch as the judgment would prove partnership and would prove that the bill really did exist and that da Silva was liable for his share of it.

Defendants agreed to this course and judgment was given accordingly.

A DANGEROUS GANG

Four Chinese concerned in an attempted burglary during the last week in March, in the Yangtszepoo district, came up for sentence at the Mixed Court on Monday before Messrs. Whitamore and Loh. Three of them were sent to goal for two months, while the fourth, an old offender, was ordered to be incarcerated for six months, after which he is to be re-expelled.

Det.-Sgt. Douglas told the Court that at 3.30 a.m. on March 23 a gang of nine men placed a ladder against the wall of a house and one man was climbing it when a Chinese constable came into sight. The gang made off, but the constable caught one of them. On information it was learned that the remainder might return and a detective and a constable went to the spot and hid themselves. In a few minutes the marauders came back and were hailed. One was taken into custody and someone in the gang shouted, "Shoot, shoot," and the detective, thinking that they meant it, drew his own pistol first and fired four shots, but all the men made off. Two hours later, a coolie put in an appearance at the Yangtszepoo Station and said that he was walking along the road when a bullet struck him, which upon investigation was found lodged in the wrist. Not believing his story the police made further inquiries and the victim was identified as one of the gang, while a fourth was caught a week later.

The Chinese constable corroborated the Sergeant's evidence.

MR. W. WALLACE CONVICTED

Ex-Company Manager Gaoled for Nine Months and Expelled

Of the four charges of fraud against Mr. W. Wallace, former manager of the China Pacific Trading Company, three were dismissed by Mr. Martin, British Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan in the Mixed Court on Wednesday. The case has engaged the Court's attention for some time past and has aroused a good deal of public interest.

The early part of the day's proceedings were occupied by the cross examination of defendant by Mr. Ho Fei, appearing on behalf of one of the Chinese complainants.

Questioned with regard to his nationality, accused claimed that he was an American. He was not the only foreigner employed with the company, the others being Messrs. Becon, Howell and Schiller, and witness's position was that of manager. He had nothing to do with the company's finance at all, excepting that he signed the cheques.

"I am the victim of my Chinese colleagues" said Mr. Wallace later, "those people who are no longer to be found in the Settlement."

Dr. Fischer, appearing on behalf of the accused, in his address to the Court, pleaded that Wallace's statement that the Chinese were responsible for the frauds was backed by the fact that they were no longer to be found. The conduct of the accused himself was very different. As soon as he heard that the police were looking for him he at once turned up to face the music. A case of this kind was not brought to Court with the object of getting a man sent to gaol, but rather in the hope the complainants would get their money back. Therefore he asked that the accused be not sent to prison, but that the cases be transferred to the civil courts. If this were done there was a possibility of the money being returned and a man's life would not be ruined,—at least as far as the East was concerned. Admittedly Wallace had been careless, but he had done nothing criminal. All the allegations amounted to were that he had obtained credit and when the time came to pay had been unable to find the money. When a similar case came before the British Court a few months ago it had been pointed out that conditions in Shanghai were very different to conditions in England as far as credit was concerned, and if every person in Shanghai who had obtained credit under similar circumstances was to be arrested, there would not be gaols here large enough to hold them. The case he referred to was the one in which Norman Bowler had been tried. In that case Mr. King (the Magistrate) had dismissed the charges and contented himself with describing the prisoner as "an extravagant young ass."

Quoting from the "North China Daily News" report of the case, Dr. Fischer read:

> "The Magistrate, summing up, remarked that as he had elected to deal with the case summarily it was his duty to address himself as to a jury. There was a considerable amount of difference between life in England and life in Shanghai and he had to consider this when applying the law in Shanghai. 'In England you cannot get credit unless you are exceptionally well known. On the other hand you can get credit in Shanghai as a rule and not as an exception.'"

The Assessor interrupted Dr. Fischer at this point and asked for the paper to be handed up. He (the Assessor) then continued to read, aloud:

> "If Bowler had found himself within the walls of the Amoy Road Gaol the Magistrate would have had no sympathy with him. It was his duty to discharge him. The case would be dismissed."

Mr. Fischer agreed, and continued. He submitted that the case should be transferred from the criminal to the civil courts.

The Court then adjourned to consider its decision, and after half an hour's deliberation returned. They found accused guilty of the charge of obtaining 250 cases of Beehive brandy from Mr. Arbuthnot, by false pretences, and not guilty on the other three charges. He was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, to include the six weeks he has been held in custody during the trial.

On the application of Superintendent Vaughan, prosecuting, an order was made for accused's expulsion from the Settlement at the conclusion of his imprisonment, and a further order was made for him to be handed over to the French Police at their request.

The Court expressed its thanks to Superintendent Vaughan and to Dr. Fischer for the very able and efficient way in which they had conducted their cases.

Dr. Fischer remarked that he was defending purely out of charity and was charging nothing for his services.

"LONG LIFE PILLS"

Case Brought Against Chemist Under Presidential Mandate Dismissed

Judgment was handed down in the Mixed Court early in the week in the charges proferred under Presidential Mandate, promulgated against traffic in narcotics, in the case of the S.M.P. *v.* Dzaung Yoong-fah. Defendant was further accused of obtaining money under false pretences, by placing labels on medicine to the effect that the contents were certified by the Municipal Laboratories to induce longevity. Mr. E. T. Maitland prosecuted and Dr. O. Fischer apppeared for the defence. The charges were dismissed on the first counts, but accused was fined $200 on the last.

During the hearing Det.-Sub. Insp. York told the Court that he with a squad of men armed with a search warrant had raided accused's premises and found nine tins containing pills, of which heroin was a compound. He had sent samples to be analysed.

Mr. E. O. Wilson, analyst in the Public Health Department, presented the findings of Dr. Walker and declared that there was eight times too much drug in the pills than was specified in the Mandate, which permitted 0.1 per cent., the analysis revealing 0.82 per cent. There was absolutely nothing in the official report even to suggest that these pills could produce long life. As a matter of fact if four pills were taken they might prove an overdose with harmful effects, but on the other hand if taken under medical supervision they could be beneficial under certain conditions. Each pill contained 2 mg. and four would be 8 mg., which constituted an overdose of heroin.

Dr. Fischer argued that .0022 was the content and not .82, but Mr. Wilson declared that drug content was stated in per cent. and not in weight. He had tested 370 pills and found .82 per cent., whereupon the Assessor declared that the certificate showed that the certificate stated clearly the per cent. figure.

FINED ON FALSE PRETENCES CHARGE.

Dr. Fischer contended that the pills had been made according to the best medical advice available from English, American and German books, authorities on the subject, while Mr. Maitland argued that the charges had been brought under the Presidential Mandate. He wished that the Court order confiscation of the pills.

In passing sentence the Bench stated that a fine of $200 would be imposed on the charge of obtaining money under false pretences and that the pills should be returned to defendant to be remade according to the law, a bond of $500 to be given to ensure this, and that the advertisements be destroyed by the police.

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"Three Castles"

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

GOVERNMENT AGAIN DEFEATED

Debate in Commons on Evictions Bill: Amendment to Clause I Strongly Crit cized by the Opyosition: An Admittedly Hurried Bill

MR. MACDONALD NOT INTENDING TO RESIGN

London, April 4.

In the House of Commons today Mr. J. R. Clynes, the Deputy Leader of the House, settled doubts regarding the Government's way out of the *impasse* in which it found itself on Wednesday with regard to the Evictions Bill.

He stated that the Government proposed to submit an amendment to Clause I in committee providing that, before a court makes an order for possession in case of non-payment of rent, it shall first be satisfied that the tenant has had a reasonable opportunity of obtaining relief from the local Poor Law authorities. He was advised that such an amendment was within the scope of the present bill and did not require a money resolution. Therefore the Government proposed to take the bill as the first business on Monday.

After some Liberal and Conservative criticism of the proposed procedure a Labour member, Mr. Kirkwood (Dumbarton), excited Opposition laughter and cheers by a heated speech in which he described the Government as "jelly-fish calling themselves Socialists." He said that the time had come for the Government to prove its usefulness. Tenants were threatened with eviction, particularly in Scotland. The parish councils were already overburdened. The Government should say whether it intended to introduce a money bill to recoup them.

Mr. Clynes replied that the charge on the community must at first be met through the local authorities. He had said nothing to indicate that the Government was opposed to recouping them from State funds.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 7.

The Government was defeated in the House of Commons to-day on the Evictions Bill by 221 votes to 212.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, made it clear that he does not contemplate resignation in consequence of his defeat.

Later.

The Evictions Bill was discussed by the Cabinet for three hours to-day and also at a special meeting of the Liberal Party. The matter cropped up at question time in the House of Commons, when the Opposition pressed for the postponement of the Bill till the statistics of the numbers of evictions were available.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, replied that the urgency of the question precluded its postponement.

When Mr. W. M. R. Pringle, Liberal Member for Penistone, resumed the debate on the second reading, there was an imposing array of Conservative and Liberal front-benchers, while Mr. Ramsay MacDonald was leading the House instead of Mr. J. R. Clynes. Mr. Pringle declared that the Government's amendment to Clause I meant nothing. The clause might as well be withdrawn. It was important to know whether the Government meant that the cost of relieving the tenants would fall on the State or on the local authorities.

The Premier's Speech.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, who received an ovation from the Labour Members, said that this emergency measure was necessitated by the alarming increase of evictions in industrial towns, where unemployment was rife, some being due to the Act passed by the late Government. Most unseemly scenes were occurring and still more unseemly ones were probable. It was the Government's intention that the House should shape the Bill in Committee. The Government would gladly co-operate in relieving property owners of a burden which the community should share. He admitted, amid ironical cheers, that it was a hurried Bill, pressed upon the Government when their hands were uncomfortably full.

Mr. MacDonald's speech was greeted with Opposition laughter and ironical cheers and interruptions, demanding that he should clarify the position with regard to the source of relief, to such an extent that the Speaker intervened, saying that these were unfair to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Stanley Baldwin, the leader of the Opposition, said that the Government would be well advised to drop this futile and unhappy clause until the Government knew what they wanted to do.

Mr. Asquith's Criticism.

Mr. Asquith, the Liberal leader, said that for once he associated himself with the "stupid party." He had not the remotest idea what the Government's proposals were. To postpone the incidence of the cost of relief to a vague and remote readjustment of local and Imperial burdens was trifling with the House. (Loud Opposition and Liberal cheers.)

After the defeat of the Government on their amended Clause I to the Evictions Bill, Mr. Baldwin asked the Government's intentions with regard to the Bill.

Mr. MacDonald accused the House of declaring against all the clauses of the Bill (Opposition cries of "No!"), instead of amending Clause I in committee. He suggested that Mr. Baldwin should ask the question to-morrow and in the meantime there should be a consultation as to how a bill was to be got through, if produced at all.

Liberal and Conservative spokesmen followed and made it quite clear that they had not voted against the principle of any clause except Clause I, the obscurity of which had not been illuminated by Mr. MacDonald's speech.

Forty Liberals voted with the Labour minority. The others voted with the Conservatives, while most of the Liberal leaders abstained.—Reuter.

A Second Defeat.

Later.

The Government sustained a second defeat at to-night's session, when Mr. W. Graham, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, submitted a resolution to validate certain wartime charges by Government departments in connexion with the control of supplies and prices of certain commodities.

Sir Douglas Hogg, Conservative Member for St. Marylebone, moved an amendment, the effect of which was to withhold the validation of charges in respect to certain milk contracts.

The amendment was carried by 207 votes to 170 and the resolution was adopted as amended.—Reuter.

Evictions Bill Not to Be Reintroduced: Liberal Bill Substituted

London, Apr. 8.

The House of Commons opened [illegible]. The Benches were sparsely occupied. There was no sign of yesterday's dramatic events until, replying to Mr. Stanley Baldwin, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald stated that the Government's Evictions Bill would not be reintroduced during the session, but the Government, though it was possible satisfactorily to amend the Bill of Mr. E. D. Simon, Liberal Member for Withington, which passed its second reading last night, the passage of which the Government would facilitate after it had been satisfactorily amended. The Government had not abandoned the proposal to make assistance to the unemployed a public charge, but "public funds" would be local funds.

Mr. E. D. Simon's Bill is almost identical with the Government's Evictions Bill, except the clause on which the Government was defeated.

At question time, Mr. Sidney Webb, the President of the Board of Trade, stated that the Government had decided not to introduce legislation extending the duration of the provisions of Part Two of the Safeguarding of Industries Act, which provides for duties to meet the case of depreciated currencies, and these, accordingly, would lapse on August 10 (Liberal and Labour cheers). The Government had carefully considered the report of the committee recommending a duty of 33-1/3 per cent. on lace, embroidery and silk, but he did not propose to ask Parliament to impose the duties (Ministerial cheers).—Reuter.

Another Evictions Bill

London, Apr. 9.

In the House of Commons today, a new Evictions Bill was introduced by Captain Wedgwood Benn, Liberal Member for Leith, prohibiting eviction of distressed tenants and providing for reimbursement of claims by local authorities. A tenant will be provided with a certificate of immunity from eviction. The local authorities will investigate the resources of the applicant and, if necessary, supplement them sufficiently to enable him to retain his home and will be entitled to claim a refund of part of the money they have spent from the Treasury.

The Bill was read for the first time.—Reuter.

POLITICS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Parliament to Dissolve at Once: Prince of Wales's Visit Postponed

Capetown, Apr. 8.

In the House of Assembly today, General Smuts announced that, in view of the defeat of the Governmental candidate by a Nationalist at the by-election at Wakkerstroom, Parliament would be dissolved in a few days.

Later.

The Government has decided on dissolution in June and has consequently asked the Prince of Wales to postpone his visit to South Africa.

Later.

The scene in the Legislative Assembly this afternoon was most dramatic. The galleries were crowded. There was great cheering and counter-cheering when the Premier, General Smuts, Mr. Hertzog and other leaders of parties entered and also during the announcement of the election of the nationalist candidate, Mr. Victor, at Wakkerstroom, which culminated in such an uproar that Mr. Creswell, the Leader of the Labour Party, who followed General Smuts, had to speak at the top of his voice.

General Smuts, announcing the dissolution, said that the Government were doubtful after the Wakkerstroom election whether they still enjoyed the confidence of the country, which was essential in order to carry out their policy.

Mr. Hertzog, the Nationalist leader, said that he was sure that the public would welcome the opportunity to express their views.

Mr. Creswell, speaking amid an uproar of cheers and countercheers, declared that the Labour Party accepted the Government's challenge and he was confident that the people would reject the present Government.—Reuter.

A Sensation in London.

London, Apr. 7.

The postponement of the Prince of Wales's visit to South Africa has created a sensation in London, where it is surmised that it is due to the possibility that any function arranged in honour of the Prince might be turned to political account by one or other of the parties fighting the election. General Smuts's decision to dissolve is delived to be a strategetic move to rally the electors in his support against the Dutch Nationalist and Labour Party combination.—Reuter.

Capetown, Apr. 8.

The dissolution will take place immediately and the elections in June.—Reuter.

Invitation to Prince of Wales to be Renewed after the Elections

Capetown, Apr. 8.

In the House of Assembly today, the Nationalist leader, Mr. Hertzog, said that he hoped that the announcement of the postponement of the Prince of Wales's visit was not equivalent to saying that the Prince would not come at all (cheers). He hoped that he was voicing the feelings of all sections when he said that, if the Prince visited South Africa in future, he would be greeted with respect and warmth worthy of his high position and the South African people (cheers).

The Premier, General Smuts, replying, said that the Prince was assured of a most royal welcome by every shade of opinion. It was only the proprieties of the case that induced the Government to advise him to postpone his trip during the turmoil of the election. General Smuts hoped that the invitation would be renewed when the elections were over.—Reuter.

SHIPBUILDING LOCKOUT

To Affect All Unions Whose Southampton Members Still Stand Out

London, Apr. 5.

Notices of the lock-out, on April 1, have been posted by the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation to take effect on April 10 in respect of members of all unions whose Southampton members have not returned to work by April 8.

The Federation in a statement says that this limitation will enable the executive representatives of the various unions to employ the full week-end in bringing their Southampton members into line with what the executives recognize to be the proper procedure.

The Boilermakers' Society, whose members at Southampton have not gone on strike, is not involved in the lock-out, but fifteen other unions will be affected.

Apr. 6.

The ship-building labour dispute has assumed a brighter aspect. The Employers' Federation have issued a statement that a conference of representatives of the Executive and the Southampton local committee have arrived at a basis of arrangement, which will be recommended to a mass meeting tomorrow, when it is hoped that it will be accepted. It is understood that both sides are hopeful of a settlement early in the coming week. The engineers did not take part in the conference.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 7.

The Southampton shipyard workers have decided by an overwhelming majority to refuse to resume work, hence a national lock-out is inevitable.

Later.

A very slight hope of averting the shipyard lock-out is contained in the decision of the unions to take a ballot of the strikers today, asking specifically whether they are prepared to accept the authority of the executives, after which steps will be taken to enforce the authority of the unions.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 8.

The shipbuilding unions have suspended the whole of the 1,200 members of three recalcitrant branches at Southampton. The balloting of the remainder is proceeding.—Reuter.

Lock-Out Suspended

London, Apr. 9.

A conference in London of the shipyard unions involved in the Southampton strike has reported that there was not a two-thirds majority for continuing the strike. The executive of each affiliated union has ordered the men to return to work to-morrow. It is hoped that this will avert the lock-out.

The lock-out notices have been withdrawn in the case of the Shipwrights' Society, which expelled its 1,200 Southampton members. Operation of the lock-out has been suspended in the case of the other shipyard unions till April 11 to give the Southampton members a further opportunity to resume work.—Reuter.

FRESH TROUBLE BREWING IN THE RUHR

Growth of German Secret Societies: Extensive Counter-Operations by French: Seizure of Important Nationalist Documents: M. Poincare's Warning to German Ambassador

London, Apr. 5.

That further trouble is brewing in the Ruhr and the Rhineland is indicated by Reuter's correspondent at Coblenz, who states that, on the orders of General Degoutte, a vast combined operation has begun throughout the Ruhr and the Rhineland with the purpose of suppressing German secret societies. Up to the present 61 arrests have been made, and important documents have been seized.

Reuter's correspondent in Berlin reports that a conference of the Imperial Coal Council and of the Coal Association adopted a resolution declaring that the burdens imposed on the mining industry of the Ruhr by the M. I. C. U. M., otherwise the Franco-Belgian Mission of Control of Mines and Factories, are intolerable, because they have swallowed up the working capital of the industry and are responsible for a disturbed state of mind among the workers.

Reuter's Paris correspondent states that, according to "*Le Journal*," M. Poincaré and the German Ambassador discussed the agreements of the Ruhr industrialists with the M. I. C. U. M. It is reported that the Premier warned the Ambassador that a fresh conflict would have fatal consequences, the first of which would be suspension of all the present working arrangements. M. Poincaré is said to have added that recent utterances of German Ministers might interfere with the participation of the occupied territories in the German elections. It was impossible to refuse Germans the right to vote, but the Allied authorities could not permit unrestricted Nationalist propaganda.—Reuter.

Berlin, Apr. 4.

It is reported from Essen that the French have extended the occupation to the northern outskirts of Elberfeld.—Reuter.

Paris, Apr. 5.

The reported extension of the French occupation to Elberfeld is officially denied. It is added that no such operations have been carried out nor are they being considered.—Reuter.

Customs Barriers May Go But Not Military Grip.

London, Apr. 4.

The French Chamber's vote of confidence in the Government yesterday evening followed an important statement by M. Poincaré indicating that a distinction would be drawn between military and economic occupation of the Ruhr.

It is anticipated that the expert committee under the presidency of General Charles G. Dawes will report in favour of restoration of the economic unity of Germany. In that case the present economic barriers, instituted as part of the occupation, would be abolished, but the military occupation would continue until payment had been completed.

The size of the Government's majority appears to be accounted for by the facts that the Deputies who support the occupation of the Ruhr interpreted the speech as meaning that France's Ruhr policy would not be altered, while those who are against the occupation deduced that the Ruhr would be evacuated completely except for a corporal's guard.—Reuter.

HOW GERMANY HAS DODGED PAYING HER FOREIGN CREDITORS

Enormous Flight of Gold Abroad: Huge Sums Made by German Capitalists by Sale of Paper Marks: Every Device to Evade Meeting Her Obligations

Paris, Apr. 9.

The report of the expert committee inquiring into the flight of German capital, under the presidency of Mr. Reginald McKenna, estimates that the value of German capital abroad at the end of last year was between 5,700,000,000 and 7,800,000,000 gold marks, making with 20,000,000 gold marks' worth of foreign money held in Germany a grand total of 8,000,000,000 gold marks.

It states that the principal method of acquiring foreign capital was by negotiating in paper marks abroad, and declares that inquiries at the principal German banks, assisted by chartered accountants, show that the Germans thus made a net profit of 7,000,000,000 to 8,000,000,000 gold marks. The report enumerates other methods adopted for the export of capital, like the sale of merchandise, securities, bullion and bills of exchange.

Stop Inflation.

In order to stop the flight of capital, the report recommends abolition of the cause, namely, definite cessation of inflation. It attributes the flight of capital principally to the failure to balance the Budget, causing capitalists to translate their money into foreign denominations to avoid loss through depreciation of their own currency, and declares that the flight was accentuated by the attitude of the German people towards the payments which Germany was called upon to make to her war creditors.

The committee refers to the recommendations of the Dawes committee for establishing German money on a stable foundation, thus facilitating the return of a large amount of German wealth abroad to ordinary commercial channels. It proposes for the period of transition that persons liable to penalties under the existing law should be pardoned and that advantages should be offered to Germans to subscribe to loans in foreign currency.—Reuter.

What Germany Should Pay.

Paris, Apr. 8.

The report of the two Committees of Experts on reparations will be published to-morrow. It is a huge document of 60 pages. According to a forecast, it proposes that Germany should immediately pay 16,000,000,000 gold marks and also make annual payments between a minimum of 1,400,000,000 gold marks and a maximum of 2,000,000,000 gold marks. Alternatively, she should pay 1,000,000,000 gold marks in the first year, 1,200,000,000 gold marks in the second and third years, 1,750,000,000 gold marks in the fourth and 2,460,000,000 gold marks in the fifth year and onwards. After the sixth year the Reparations Commission would demand supplementary payments, calculated on the basis of Germany's prosperity, amounting to several hundred million gold marks.

German Railways.

The German railways should be handed over for 50 years to an international company with a capital of 26,000,000,000 gold marks, of which the Reparations Commission should hold 11,000,000,000 gold marks 6 per cent. debentures, giving an annual yield of 660,000,000 gold marks after the fourth year.

Without entering into the question of military occupation of the Ruhr, the Committees of Experts express the opinion that Germany's economic restoration can be lasting only if her economic unity is fully re-established and suggest that a permanent committee of five experts, with a President nominated by the Reparations Commission, should regulate the movement of German capital and administer the capital left temporarily to Germany.—Reuter.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF ALLIED EXPERTS

Scheme Based on Hypothesis of Restoration of Fiscal and Economic Unity of the Reich: Assigned Revenue to be Under Allied Control

Paris, Apr. 9.

The official report of the committee of experts, under the presidency of General Dawes, with regard to measures to balance the German budget and to stabilize German currency, while recognizing that political considerations have set certain limits within which a solution must be found if it is to have any chance of acceptance, emphasizes that the committee have been concerned with the problem of debt recovery and not with imposition of penalties. As businessmen, they consider it hopeless to build any constructive scheme except on a basis of good faith and they submit a plan, relying on all parties carrying it out on such a basis. The committee have come to the conclusion that there is no method of balancing the German budget temporarily or permanently under the present limitations of Germany's fiscal and economic rights over part of her territory. They, therefore, are compelled to base their report solely on the hypothesis that the fiscal and economic unity of the Reich will be restored. The experts emphasize that their forecasts are based on the assumption that economic activity will not be hampered by any form of control organization other than that provided by the scheme. All existing measures hampering such activity should consequently be withdrawn as soon as Germany has taken positive steps towards a plan, such as establishing machinery whereby the assigned revenue should flow through Allied control. Such measures should not be removed except in case of flagrant failure, when the creditor Governments should determine the nature of the sanctions.

A Single Uniform Currency.

The committee propose the establishment of a new issue bank in Germany or re-organization of the Reichsbank as an essential agency for creating a stable currency. The bank would have a monopoly of the right of note issue in Germany for 50 years. The present paper would be withdrawn and replaced by a single uniform currency, namely, the new bank's bank-notes. This currency would be kept stable in relation to gold, but would not be convertible. At the commencement it would be protected by a reserve of 33⅓ per cent. and other liquid assets. The reserve would be held largely in the form of deposits in foreign banks. The bank would be the fiscal agent of the German Government and would be allowed to make short-term loans to it, but the amount and character of such loans would be carefully limited and safeguarded. The relations of the Reparations Commission towards the bank would be those of a private client. The bank would have a capital of 400,000,000 gold marks, of which 300,000,000 gold marks would be subscribed in Germany and abroad and the remainder would be issued in purchase of the real property of the Reichsbank. A German President and board, composed of seven Germans and seven foreigners, one each of British, French, Italian, Belgian, American, Dutch and Swiss nationality, would be given broad powers. One of its members would be a commissioner who would see that the provisions of the law with regard to the issue of notes and the maintenance of reserves were observed.

System of Gradual Payments.

The schedule of payments by Germany recommended by the experts proposes that Germany should pay 1,000,000,000 gold marks in the first year, 1,200,000,000 gold marks in the second and third years, 1,750,000,000 gold marks in the fourth year and 2,500,000,000 gold marks in the fifth year and onwards. The liability of 1,200,000,000 gold marks in the years 1925-6 and 1926-7 would be reduced or increased by a maximum of 250,000,000 gold marks, if the proceeds from controlled taxes and Customs duties on alcohol, beer, tobacco and sugar should fall short of 1,000,000,000 gold marks by a deficit of one-third or exceed 1,000,000,000 gold marks by an excess of one-third. A corresponding provision is made for reduction or increase of the liability of 1,750,000,000 gold marks in the year 1927-8.

The whole schedule of payments would begin to run only as from the date on which Germany regained full economic and fiscal sovereignty over her territory. The payments would be available not only for reparations, but for all Peace Treaty charges and interest on any loans.

Control of Railways.

The German railways should be handed over for 50 years to an international company with a capital of 26,000,000,000 gold marks, of which the Reparations Commission should hold 11,000,000,000 gold marks 6 per cent. debentures, giving an annual yield of 660,000,000 gold marks after the fourth year. The company would be administered by a board of 18 members, half of whom would be nominated by trustees appointed by the Reparations Commission. The managing director would be a German, but a Foreign Commissioner would be authorized to take measures if the service of the bonds could not be assured.

The Reich should provide 5,000,000,000 gold marks debentures for industrial concerns, carrying interest at 5 per cent., to be administered by a trustee of the Reparations Commission.

The controlled taxes already mentioned would be under a Foreign Commissioner, with a sub-commissioner for each tax.

Deliveries in Kind.

With regard to deliveries in kind, the experts believe that during the first two years deliveries should be automatically limited. After that a programme would be considered by a transfer committee, consisting of a representative of the Reparations Commission and five foreign exchange experts from Britain, the United States, France, Italy and Belgium, who would apply the bank balances deposited in the new issue bank to the account of the agent for reparation payments, to the payment of deliveries in kind and to the purchase of foreign currencies. As far as funds could not be remitted abroad without unduly prejudicing the foreign exchange market, they would be accumulated in Germany up to a maximum of 5,000,000,000 gold marks. When that limit was reached, the annual payment of Germany in her own currency in respect of the Peace Treaty charges would be reduced to an amount which could be remitted abroad yearly. Thus if the annual liability recommended by the experts proved to exceed the export surplus which Germany was able to create, the annual burden would be automatically reduced to the amount of such surplus.

An essential part of the scheme is that Germany should issue in the first year a foreign loan of 800,000,000 gold marks in order to provide stability of currency and to finance deliveries in kind during the period of her economic rehabilitation.—Reuter.

Press Comment.

Later.

Evening newspapers comment favourably on the reports of the Committees of Experts, the value of which they consider is derived from unanimity; they think that the reports justify the French policy.

The *"Temps,"* referring to the experts' recommendation that France and Belgium forthwith abandon exploitation of the Ruhr and the Rhineland pledges, while claiming to substitute completion of guarantees, says that France realizes the extent of the sacrifice asked, but is ready to raise no obstacle to the agreement proposed.—Reuter.

Berlin, Apr. 9.

Early newspapers' views vary from the National *"Deutsche Zeitung,"* which regards General Dawes' letter as distinctly pro-German and anti-French, to the *"Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung,"* the organ of the industrialists, which is at present prepared to concede that a great attempt has been made to solve the reparations questions in a businesslike manner.

Apr. 10.

Political circles regard the decisions of the Committees of Experts, as far as they are already known, as containing a possibility of discussion. The opinion is held that the figures are far too high, but the proposals are assured thorough examination.—Reuter.

Favourably Received in London.

London, Apr. 10.

The reports of the expert committees are received in London as the most prominent signboard hitherto erected on the reparations road rather than as in any way indicating that the end of the journey is near.

Apart from Germany's attitude, the newspapers anticipate that very likely snags will arise, firstly in the matter of the fixation of the total sum payable by Germany, which the committees were forbidden to discuss, and secondly in connexion with the oblique references to the absolute necessity of France abandoning her economic control of the Ruhr, but as a business proposal the reports are hailed as a solid achievement, being moreover, encouragingly unanimous.

Several commentators remark that the payment of £125,000,000 annually would put a severe strain on any nation, but, nevertheless, the consensus plumps for adoption of the reports, in the belief that the terms are well within Germany's capacity to accept.—Reuter.

No Call on Budget Revenue for First Two Years.

London, Apr. 9.

It is noteworthy that under the recommendations of the Committees of Experts, the Allies would make no direct call upon Germany's Budget revenues for the next two years, seeing that the payment of 1,000,000,000 gold marks in 1924-5 would be provided for by means of a foreign loan of 800,000,000 gold marks, and 200,000,000 gold marks from railways. The payment of 1,220,000,000 gold marks in 1925-26 would be obtained from 595,000,000 gold marks from railways, 125,000,000 gold marks from industrial debentures and 500,000,000 gold marks from the sale of the railway company's shares. The payment of 1,200,000,000 gold marks for 1926-27 would comprise 550,000,000 gold marks from railways, 250,000,000 gold marks from the transport tax, 250,000,000 gold marks from industrial debentures and only 110,000,000 gold marks from Budget revenues.

The payment of 1,750,000,000 gold marks for 1927-28 would comprise 660,000,000 gold marks from railways, 290,000,000 gold marks from the transport tax, 300,000,000 gold marks from industrial debentures and 500,000,000 gold marks from Budget revenues.

The experts assume that Germany's financial and economic situation will have returned to normal by the end of 1928-29. The payment of 2,500,000,000 gold marks for that year would comprise 660,000,000 gold marks from railways 290,000,000 gold marks from the transport tax, 300,000,000 gold marks from industrial debentures and 1,250,000,000 gold marks from Budget revenues.—Reuter.

American Press Delighted.

New York, Apr. 10.

The newspapers are of the unanimous opinion that the report of the committees of experts is an admirable document, showing the way to ultimate settlement of vexed questions, while allowing Germany a chance to regain her feet firmly, financially and economically.—Reuter's American Service.

GERMAN TAX-DODGERS

Plan to Catch Those Who Live Abroad in Luxury: Special Tax on Travellers

Berlin, Apr. 4.

The Government have at length taken steps to check the exodus of Germans, who, since marks have been stabilized, have been living in luxury at foreign health resorts.

A decree, which has been signed by President Ebert, states that only 200 gold marks may be taken out of the country. Every German traveller must pay a tax of 500 gold marks, except in the case of traders.

One of the main reasons for this is the fact that 70,000 Germans are at present in Italy, spending roughly 35,000,000 rentenmarks a month. Many are accepting three, instead of the official six Italian lire for one rentenmark, thus endangering the latter's stability.

The decree is criticized as not affecting the rich and interfering with the holidays of people of the middle classes who desire to journey abroad.—Reuter.

Germany's Choice.

Paris, Apr. 7.

Speaking at a Democratic meeting at Weimar, the German ex-Minister, Herr Koch, said that the Government must bring the people to consciousness of realities, especially as regarded their foreign policy. "Vanquished Germany," he said, "must choose between an agreement with a view to fulfilment of the Treaty and continuation of the misery of the last five years."—Reuter.

POINCARE'S BUDGET PROMISES

Absolute Balancing Forecast: Special Powers Only to Effect Economies

Paris, Apr. 4.

Voting as on a question of confidence in the Government, the Chamber of Deputies to-day rejected a Radical amendment to the Pensions Bill by 327 votes to 201. It was a test vote on the same issue that caused the defeat of the late Government on March 26.

The present majority affords a truer reflex of the Government's position than last night's vote on the Ruhr policy, for which M. Poincaré has invariably secured thumping majorities.

Apr. 5.

In the Chamber of Deputies to-day, the Pensions Bill was passed in its entirety by a show of hands.

M. Poincaré stated that the Government desired to achieve an absolute and complete balancing of the Budget, and would not sanction any increase in expenditure or spend a centime over its resources. The decree laws would only be utilized to carry out economies.—Reuter.

DEEDS NOT WORDS

M. Poincare's Terms Upon which France Will Recognize Russia

Paris, Apr. 9.

M. Poincaré defined France's attitude towards Russia in the Senate to-day. He stated that it was not because of Russia's internal régime that France had not resumed relations, but because the Soviet had not agreed to the settlement of outstanding economic questions. This coincided with the attitude of the United States.

The Prime Minister said that he had sent a note to Great Britain regarding the forthcoming Anglo-Russian negotiations, drawing attention to the position of the owners of Russian bonds and submitting that any settlement

reached should apply to the whole Russian debt. He asked Great Britain to have regard to that.

At the same time he had instructed the French Ambassador not to make formal refusals in the event of Great Britain desiring France to participate in the Anglo-Russian conversations. M. Poincaré was quite ready to resume conversations when Russia showed herself disposed to pass from words to deeds.

France was not placing obstacles in the way of private enterprise with Russia.

Anglo-Russian Conversations.

Later.

The Russian negotiators, headed by M. Rakovsky, will arrive in London to-night.

Apr. 10.

Ten Russian delegates, accompanied by numerous secretaries and officials, including women, arrived in London last night to attend the Anglo-Russian Conference to discuss the debts and treaty question.

M. Litvinoff was not present. He is expected to arrive in six or seven weeks' time.—Reuter.

THE ELECTIONS IN ITALY

A Sweeping Victory for Signor Mussolini Almost a Foregone Conclusion

Rome, Apr. 6.

The Fascisti are obtaining a sweeping victory in the parliamentary elections.

Disturbances occurred at Bari, Rovigo and Naples, but are not serious.

Signor Mussolini's success is practically a foregone conclusion, largely on account of the new electoral law, which assigns two-thirds of the total seats to the party obtaining the largest number of votes. A slight element of doubt, however, exists owing to the provision that the winning party must poll 25 per cent. of the aggregate votes cast and some score of parties have taken the field. On the other hand they are mostly small and unorganized and only two of them, namely the Popular Party and the Unitarian-Socialists, are fighting in all electoral districts.

The [illegible] violently antagonistic to the Government, but is disavowed by Signor Mussolini. The latter, which is led by Signor Turati, consists of moderate Socialists, while the dark horse is the so-called Constitutional Opposition led by the former Premier, Signor Benomi, and the former Minister, Signor Amendola, which claims much support in the country, although it is only of recent formation and lacks organization.—Reuter.

Fascists Leading by a Large Majority

Rome, Apr. 7.

The election results up to the present show that 1,437 votes have been cast for the Government and 823 for the other parties. The Catholic Popular Party is heading the latter with 242 votes. The Unitary Socialists have 158 votes, the Maximalists 150, the Communists 57 and the Republicans 39.

It is [illegible] per cent. of the [illegible] the Fascists, who up to the present have a 64 per cent. majority, whereas only 25 per cent. is required by the electoral law to secure the return of the Government list of candidates. Even in a former Socialist stronghold like Milan more than 50 per cent. of the voters supported the Government. [illegible] majority.—Reuter.

Rome, Apr. 8.

The new Chamber of Deputies consists of 375 members of the Government Party against 160 members representing the eleven other parties. The Catholic Popular Party now have 40 seats, having lost 66. The Democratic Socialists now have 25 seats, having lost 57.—Reuter.

GERMAN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

Herr Stresemann's Protest against Passive Resistance

Berlin, Apr. 6.

In a speech opening the electoral campaign, Herr Stresemann reiterated the impossibility of continuing the M.I.C.U.M. contracts. He vigorously protested against Germany's incapacity being made the starting-point for fresh construction of passive resistance, which, he declared, was how Paris threatened to interpret discontinuance of the contracts. Herr Stresemann asked if the old game were to begin anew just when the reports of the Committees of Experts were presented. He stated that Germany favoured direct negotiation between State and State.—Reuter.

BAVARIAN ELECTIONS

Gen. von Ludendorff Taking Part: Nationalist and Communist Gains

Berlin, Apr. 7.

The elections to the new Bavarian Diet were held throughout Bavaria yesterday. The results up to the present show that the extreme Nationalists, Herr Hitler, Gen. von Ludendorff, and their followers, as well as the Communists, gained considerably at the expense of the Moderate and Socialist parties. About 80 per cent. of the electors voted.

Gen. von Ludendorff took a prominent part in the campaign and delivered a speech to his followers in the famous beer cellar where the Hitler revolt was suppressed.—Reuter.

PEACE TREATY WITH TURKEY

"Humiliating and Cowardly:" Mr. Ll. George's Fulminations

London, Apr. 9.

The House of Commons to-day unanimously passed the second reading of the Treaty of Peace with Turkey Bill.

Mr. Lloyd George criticized the Treaty as humiliating, cowardly and possibly calamitous, but Mr. Stanley Baldwin thought that a remarkable feat had been performed in view of the interval which had elapsed between the conclusion of hostilities and the signature of the Treaty.

The Premier, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, winding up the debate, emphasized the desirability of passing the Bill in order that we might be enabled to conclude the ratification forms and regularize our position with Turkey.—Reuter.

TRIAL OF RUSSIAN PROFESSORS

Four Distinguished Scientists Sentenced to Death by Bolsheviks at Kieff

Moscow, Apr. 8.

The trial has concluded at Kieff of a number of well known local intelligentsia, mostly Social-Democrats, on a charge of treason.

Sentences of death were passed to-day on M. Tchebakov, M. Yakoviev, M. Inovsky and Madame Vinogradova, while two brothers named Vasilenko, M. Tcheloensky, M. Smirnov and M. [illegible] to 10 years' imprisonment, Anna Kapoustinskia to seven years and others to five years.

The condemned persons have the right to appeal within 48 hours.—Reuter.

Paris, Apr. 8.

M. Poincaré has telegraphed to M. Clemenceau [illegible] that French public opinion has grave fears that the professors implicated in the trial at Kieff will suffer the death penalty. Their loss would cause great sorrow and be regarded as a diminution of the world's [illegible]. The French Government has asked the British and Italian Governments to make a further appeal.—Reuter.

INDIA'S NEED

Patience, Sympathy and Imagination, Says Sir Roderick Jones: Complex and Delicate Case

Bombay, Apr. 6.

The passengers of the steamer Naldera, which sailed yesterday, included Sir Roderick Jones, completing a seven-months' tour of the United States, Canada, the Far East and India. Sir Roderick has been travelling for the past six weeks in India, during which time he was the guest of the Viceroy at the Viceregal Lodge at Delhi for a fortnight.

Sir Roderick Jones declined to be interviewed on the Indian situation, saying that it was far too complex and delicate for the opinion of a casual traveller to be worth anything. He, however, endorsed the statement recently made by Sir Mohamed Shafi, a Member of the Viceroy's Council, that what were most required in India at the present time were, on one side patience, and on the other sympathy and imagination.—Reuter.

VIVID TALE OF FIRE ON FRANGESTAN

Burnt to a Skeleton But All Passengers Safe: Sharks Defrauded of Prey

Port Sudan, Apr. 4.

Sir Derrick Watson, Bart., was a passenger on the steamer Frangestan. Interviewed by Reuter's correspondent, Sir Derrick, in a thrilling narrative, said that when the wireless operator woke him up with the alarm of fire he regarded it as a joke in retaliation for many that had been played the previous day, but he rose and found the passengers mustered on deck, watching smoke rising from the ventilators. Even then he did not think it serious but later the smoke increased and it was obvious that the fire could not be controlled.

When the flames spread, an aged pilgrim offered his small vessel of Holy Water. He was confident that it would quell the furnace.

Meanwhile the Frangestan was in wireless communication with 47 ships. When the Clan MacIver arrived, the European passengers were first transferred and then the pilgrims and their baggage. Night fell before the transfer was completed. The smoke was then rising in dense clouds. An Italian ship, which was standing by, turned her searchlights on the Frangestan and disclosed the eerie spectacle of the smoking ship surrounded by swarms of hungry sharks led by pilot-fish.

The crew had remained on board and the wireless operator, in spite of the oppressive heat and the smoke, stuck to his cabin till just before the captain ordered the crew to abandon the vessel. The flames had spread from forward, devouring first the saloon and then the bridge, on which the captain was standing at his post. The ship listed heavily and was settling by the head. So intense was the heat that the steel plates fell off like scales, leaving the skeleton silhouetted against the roaring furnace. The Tangistan's lights were sighted at ten o'clock in the evening.

It was then impossible for the captain to remain. As he departed, he paused on the gangway to light a cigarette. At the same time the gangway caught fire.

The proceedings throughout were very orderly. None of the passengers' effects were lost and all were little the worse for the experience.—Reuter.

DESTROYING MOTORS BY WIRELESS

British Radiologist's Discovery of German Secret: Motor Stopped 50ft. Away

London, Apr. 5.

Mr. Grindell Matthews, a British inventor and an expert radiologist, claims to have mastered the method of disabling a motor by means of an invisible ray directed at the magneto, which was discovered in Germany last year and held up to the present been kept secret.

Mr. Matthews yesterday demonstrated the method by stopping a motor 50 feet away. He asserts that the system when developed will not only stop aeroplanes but destroy them, explode powder magazines and destroy practically anything on which the rays rest.—Reuter.

The str. Frangestan, recently burned near Port Sudan, as seen in Yangtszepoo Dock, Shanghai, last January.

THE PLAGUE IN INDIA

Severest Outbreak Since 1918: 25,000 Deaths in March

Lahore, Apr. 5.

The plague epidemic is the severest since 1918. It is estimated that the mortality in March was 25,000. The epidemic is expected to last another six weeks. The Government is supplying additional medical relief. The Punjab University examinations have been postponed for a month.—Reuter.

LLOYD'S SHIPPING RETURNS

Tonnage Launched and Under Construction in Quarter Ended March 31

London, Apr. 8.

Lloyd's returns show that a tonnage of 1,473,000 tons was under construction in the United Kingdom during the past quarter, an increase of 78,000 tons as compared with the previous quarter and a decrease of 19,000 tons as compared with a year ago. The total includes 101,000 tons on which work has been suspended.

The tonnage launched in the past quarter was 361,000 tons, as compared with 114,000 tons for the previous quarter.

The total tonnage under construction abroad was [illegible] tons, including 118,000 tons on which work has been suspended, Germany and Danzig heading the list with 299,000 tons.

The total tonnage launched abroad was 188,000 tons.—Reuter.

BRITISH ROUND WORLD FLIGHT

New Gear for Sq. Ldr. MacLaren: Ready Help by Americans in His Misfortune

Corfu, Apr. 4.

A messenger with new reduction gear for Squadron-Leader MacLaren's machine arrived here today. It is expected that the aviators will depart for Athens on Saturday.

When Squadron-Leader MacLaren was forced to land at Corfu, Americans were the first to come to his aid with a tent, blankets and foodstuffs sent by Colonel Stephen Lowe, the director of the American Near East Relief Orphanage at Corfu.

Apr. 5.

On account of a defective casting, Squadron-Leader MacLaren has to obtain a new engine from England. The resumption of the world flight is consequently delayed for 10 days.—Reuter.

MURDER OF AMERICANS IN ALBANIA

Murderers Rounded Up: Two Killed and One Wounded

Tirana, Apr. 6.

Unknown persons have murdered two American merchants on the Tirana Scutari road.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 7.

A telegram from Tirana gives the names of the two murdered American merchants as Messrs. B. E. Long and Coroman. It says that the Albanian Government deeply regret the crime, which is the first of this kind committed in Albania. They are convinced that it had a political aim and was intended to discredit Albania. The Government have taken strong measures to secure the arrest and punishment of the murderers.—Reuter.

New York, Apr. 8.

The Americans murdered in Albania were Mr. Robert Lou's Coleman, of San Francisco, and Mr. George B. de Long, of New York, the son of the late Senator de Long.—Reuter's American Service.

London, Apr. 9.

It is reported from Tirana that the Albanian gendarmerie have killed two and wounded one of the murderers of the Americans, Messrs. de Long and Coleman. The other three escaped and are being pursued by gendarmes.—Reuter.

COAL MINERS' WAGES DISPUTE

Ballots in North of England

London, Apr. 9.

The results of the North of England miners' ballots on the owners' terms (an increase in the minimum rate of wages from 20 to 34½ per cent. and the appropriation of 87 per cent. of any surplus to wages and 13 per cent. to profits instead of 93 per cent. to wages and 17 per cent. to profits as at present) up to the present show that Northumberland, Yorkshire and Leicestershire favour acceptance by substantial majorities, but the Lancashire and Cheshire returns indicate a large vote against acceptance in consequence of the recommendation of the local federation.—Reuter.

Bucharest, Apr. 4.—Prince Naruhiko Higashikuni, after laying a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier yesterday, made a speech eulogizing the bravery of the Rumanian Army. A great military parade will be held today in his honour, which will be attended by the Royal Family.—Reuter.

AMERICAN OIL SCANDALS

Senator Wheeler Indicted for an Improper Fee

Great Falls, Apr. 8.

The Federal Grand Jury has indicted Senator Wheeler of accepting a retaining fee to influence the granting of oil-land permits after he became a senator. —Reuter's American Service.

Washington, Apr. 9.

In the Senate to-day, Mr. Burton K. Wheeler, Democratic Senator for Montana, who has been indicted by the Federal Grand Jury for accepting a retaining fee to influence the granting of oil-land permits, denounced the indictment as the product of a damnable conspiracy.

Senator Thomas J. Walsh supported Senator Wheeler and introduced a resolution, which was supported by the Democratic leader, Senator Joseph T. Robinson, and carried nem. con., appointing a committee of five Senators to investigate the charges against him.—Reuter's American Service.

OBITUARY

Lady Emily Peel

Peking, Apr. 6.

The death is announced at Florence, on April 4, of Lady Macleay's mother, Lady Emily Peel, after a long illness.

The deceased lady was the widow of the late Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Peel, Bart., G.C.B., and the daughter of the ninth Marquess of Tweeddale and of his wife Lady Susan Montagu, daughter of the Duke of Manchester.

Lady Emily Peel was the youngest of a family of 17 children, and among her sisters were the Marchioness of Dalhousie, wife of the Viceroy of India, and the Duchess of Wellington, who married the only son of the Iron Duke. Among her brothers, the youngest, Admiral of the Fleet Lord John Hay, commanded the British naval forces in the China seas in the 'sixties.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPANESE STEAMER IN DANGER

A Lopsided Cargo of Zinc

Sydney, Apr. 4.

The Japanese steamer Honolulu Maru, from Melbourne to Sydney, has wirelessed that she is urgently requiring assistance, saying that the vessel has heeled over too much and is in a dangerous condition. Several steamers are going to her assistance and a tug has been sent from Sydney. The vessel is making little headway. The captain does not wish to leave his ship. The British man-o'-war Dauntless is standing by.

Later.

The man-o'-war Dragon is towing the Honolulu Maru to Jervis Bay. She was fighting desperately in terrific seas late last night. —Reuter.

Melbourne, Apr. 4.

The Honolulu Maru's cargo of zinc has shifted owing to heavy seas.—Reuter.

Saved in Terrific Sea.

Apr. 5.

An officer of H. M. S. Dauntless, interviewed, said that the Dauntless found the Honolulu Maru rolling at an angle of 40 degrees. The weather was terrific and it was sometimes impossible to see the Japanese vessel. "It was the worst sea we have experienced," the officer declared "I thought time and again that she would turn turtle, but the fact that she was able to keep her port side to windward saved her."

Apr. 6.

The Honolulu Maru anchored safely in Jervis Bay at eleven this morning.—Reuter.

London, April 4.—The War Office announces the appointment of Major-General Sir Theodore Fraser, who commanded the British Forces in Iraq in 1922, as General Officer Commanding in Malaya.—Reuter.

ENGLISH-SPEAKING RACES

Australian Premier's Plea for World Co-operation

New York, Apr. 4.

The former Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Hughes, speaking at a luncheon given in his honour here to-day, appealed for co-operation between the British Empire and the United States to preserve the peace of the world. He referred to the awakening of the East and to Australia as the vanguard of Western civilization in the Pacific.

Mr. Hughes asserted that without Anglo-American co-operation Western civilization was doomed.

In conclusion, the ex-Premier deplored the abandonment of the Singapore base.—Reuter's American Service.

AUSTRALIA'S NEED OF A NAVAL BASE

Advice from Admiral Field

Sydney, Apr. 7.

The British special service squadron which is on an Empire cruise has arrived at Jervis Bay from Tasmania.

Rear-Admiral Sir Frederick Field, interviewed, expressed the opinion that it was undesirable as a consequence of the dropping of the Singapore scheme that Australia should act hastily in establishing an expensive naval base. He declared that England was not aware of Australia's possibilities and he hoped that the visit of the naval squadron would have an educative influence.—Reuter.

"COPEC" CONFERENCE AT BIRMINGHAM

A Comprehensive Programme and Large Attendance

London, Apr. 7.

An International Conference on Christian Politics, Economics and Citizenship, which is dubbed the "Copec," opened at Birmingham to-day, when messages from the King, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Mr. Stanley Baldwin were read expressing sympathy with the objects of the Conference. There are several hundred delegates to the Conference, which is probably unprecedented in scope and purpose and has been preparing for three years. The scale may be judged by the fact that the reports on two subjects for consideration on the first day alone totalled about 120,000 words. —Reuter.

KU KLUX KLAN OUTRAGE

Four Men Shot Dead and 11 Injured

Lilly, Gr., Apr. 6.

The greatest indignation has been aroused throughout the country by a tragedy last night in connexion with a Ku Klux Klan celebration, when four men were shot dead and eleven injured. The Ku Klux Klansmen came entirely uninvited and held their ceremonies in an open field. The townsmen played a fire-hose on their special train. Shooting followed. None but townsmen were shot. The train came from Johnstown. The police have arrested 60 Klansmen on a charge of carrying concealed weapons.—Reuter's American Service.

THE INSURRECTION IN HONDURAS

Capital Still Besieged

Washington, Apr. 8.

Advices received by the State Department depict a serious state of affairs in the capital of Honduras. The ground on the outskirts of the city is strewn with dead. Typhoid and dysentery are raging. No attempt is being made to inter or cremate the dead. The city is still besieged and there has been considerable hand-to-hand fighting.—Reuter's American Service.

STABILIZATION OF THE BELGIAN FRANC

American and Swiss Loans

Brussels, Apr. 4.

According to the newspapers, American banks are prepared to place $200,000,000 at the disposal of the Société Nationale de Crédits, and Swiss banks are ready to grant a loan of Frs. 1,000,000,000 on which the Société could draw as necessary to stabilize the Belgian franc.—Reuter.

BIG WAREHOUSE FIRE

Tons of Tea and Rubbe Destroyed in London

London, Apr. 3.

Thousands of tons of tea and rubber were destroyed by fire in a warehouse at Bermondsey yesterday evening. Two firemen were overcome by the fumes and were taken to hospital.—Reuter.

NORMAL WORK AT WEMBLEY

London, Apr. 4

Work is proceeding normally at Wembley. The additional police are still present in reduced numbers.

The strike position at Croydon Aerodrome remains unchanged. No aeroplanes are leaving.—Reuter.

SIKH FANATICS SENT FOR TRIAL

Lahore, Apr. 7.

Ninety-one Babar Akalis, or Sikh fanatics, have been committed for trial at the sessions. The magistrate pointed out that the leaders had conspired to murder Government officials and loyalists, whom they accused of obstructing the Sikh shrines reform movement, and had surreptitiously procured bombs and arms from the frontier and elsewhere.—Reuter.

NEW QUEENSLAND LOAN

London, Apr. 7.

The Bank of England has issued the prospectus of the new Queensland Loan. The lists will close on April 24.

The loan is being issued for the conversion of the 3½ per cent. 1924 Loan of £4,765,000 and also of the 4 per cent. Loan of £7,939,000, due on July 1. Holders of these loans will be offered in exchange 5½ per cent. inscribed stock due in 1926/29 on cash payment of 10/- per cent. Cash applications will be received at 99½ per cent. on payment of 10 per cent. on application and 89½ per cent. on July 1.—Reuter.

FRANCE'S GOLD RESERVE INTACT

Paris, Apr. 7.

M. de Lasteyrie, the ex-Minister of Finance, speaking at Tulle today, stated that the foreign credits, which were employed to break the offensive against the franc, had been entirely repaid with the result that the gold reserve in the Banque of France remained intact.—Reuter.

M. TROTSKY BETTER

Helsingfors, Apr. 7.

It is officially announced that M. Trotsky has recovered from his illness and will return to Moscow within the next few days to resume his duties as Commissary for War and President of the Revolutionary Council.—Reuter.

GREEK KING'S DEMAND FOR RESTORATION

Bucharest, Apr. 8.

An impassioned despatch to the Greek people from the exiled King George demands that he be restored to the monarchy. He declares that the violent suppression of principles on which the State is founded impels him to protest against the iniquity committed against the nation and to demand free exercise of the rights and duties of Royalty as laid down in the Constitution.—Reuter.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

DEATH OF HERR HUGO STINNES

The Greatest Industrial and Financial Magnate in the History of Germany: A Bitter Enemy of Communism

Berlin, Apr. 10.

The death is announced of Herr Hugo Stinnes, the great German industrialist.—Reuter.

*** With the death of Herr Hugo Stinnes, writes a Continental Correspondent, Germany loses one of the greatest figures in her history. The biggest industrialist and financier produced in an age of such men, Herr Stinnes' life was a remarkable one. A man of quiet, simple tastes, hating luxury with the hatred almost of a fanatic, yet his were the riches of a Croesus. Probably the biggest capitalist the world has ever seen, certainly the biggest in Germany, he was the one man who could drive a motor-car through the poorest and most hard-hit mining areas of the Ruhr Valley without hostility from its starving people. Hating politics with the hatred of a business man, force of circumstances drew him into its meshes and he became one of the most outstanding figures in the politics of the world.

Herr Stinnes was born at Muelheim, on the Ruhr, in 1870, the son of respected parents. His father was a rich coal merchant of Mulheim and possessed a keen business instinct, which was magnified in his son. The boy was sent to school and passed his school days with nothing to indicate the career he had before him. Afterwards he was placed in a business office in Coblenz where he speedily picked up the elements of a business training. Always thorough, he entered a coal mine in the Ruhr as a simple miner and learned the coal business right from the very bottom, afterwards going to a the Academy of Mining in Berlin. This was in 1889, and in the following year he entered his father's firm at Mulheim, founded by his grandfather over a century ago. He remained there but two years and afterwards established a firm of his own, known as Hugo Stinnes, Ld., with capital of Mks. 50,000.

German Big Business.

Then it was that German big business began to feel this young man's hand. From dealing in coal he became the owner of several mines and extended his business to the manufacture of various kinds of fuel. Then his activities began to be felt in the steel industry and many minor industries in the Ruhr district. He turned to shipping and operated a fleet of tugs and barges on the Rhine. His activities in the direction steadily increased and for many years before the war he had a big fleet of ocean-going ships operating between German ports and Newcastle, carrying coal. His ships traded with the Baltic ports, the Mediterranean, the North Sea and Black Sea ports. He imported enormous quantities of English coal to the Continent and held a large interest in certain British coal mines. His fortune before the War was vaguely estimated at several millions of pounds sterling. He was a director of many of the greatest industrial and mining companies in Westphalia, the Rhineland and Luxemburg, to say nothing of numerous subsidiary industries such as tramways, the supply of electric power and light and the control of newspapers. The secret of his success was his strength of will and his power for unity,—always his slogan—unity of direction and the coordination of aims in all branches of business.

When the war broke out he secured an enormous share in the war profits which flowed into the coffers of the great German industrialists. He was consulted by Ludendorff for advice and in the organization of the industrial and coal productions of Belgium —that organization which at the time aroused the reluctant but sincere admiration of the rest of the world. It was his connexion with Ludendorff that led to his becoming an influence, at first behind the scenes, in German politics. During the War he extended his influence in Hamburg by the purchase of several shipping lines and by becoming associated with the Hamburg—Amerika Linie and the Norddeutscher-Lloyd Linie. His newspaper purchases round about that time included the *"Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung."*

In 1921 he was reported to be contemplating something in the nature of a super-trust in Germany, co-ordinating the whole of his interests into one gigantic concern, regulating production, transport and the supply of the German markets and the markets of the whole world, and to further this end he is reported to have expended something like £250,000,000.

An Opponent of Communism.

Stinnes' politics were always moderate. Never at any time would he give his favour to the extreme Right movement. His was always the People's Party, and he was ever an avowed exponent of the policy of give and take. In spite of general belief, those who knew him best will always say that there was nothing Chauvinistic in his character at all. He was a bitter enemy of Marxism and Communism, and was always suspected by his opponents on that score of secret leanings towards Monarchism. If this was so, however, generally he lacked any aspirations towards the return of a Monarchy within his own breast, and if he recognized the Republic as a mixed blessing, yet he threw himself into its activities with the whole-heartedness for which he was remarkable, becoming a member of the Reichstag and devoting all his powerful energies in bringing about unity of the country, and doing all that was possible to set Germany on the road to rehabilitation. Always it was to him the Government went for advice. When the policy of passive resistance broke down in the Ruhr district, his was the first mind to realize that something had to be done, and he told the Government frankly that he had made a private agreement with the French on behalf of his own interests for the working once more of the mines in the Ruhr valley. This action was not altogether relished by the people as a whole, but in the light of events it proves to have been one of the best things done for Germany since the war, and is responsible for setting Germany's trade well on the way to its former success

Herr Stinnes leaves a number of sons, ranging evenly from 8 years to 30. They are said to take after their father, being a party of earnest young men, simple living and hardworking. He leaves his wife to mourn his loss.

The Hugo Stinnes Linien and concerted interests in Shanghai request us to state that they have received no confirmation of the news from Hamburg.—Ed.

GERMAN OPINION ON THE EXPERTS' REPORT

Berlin, Apr. 10.

Herr Sorge, director of Krupp's and Chairman of the Association of German Industrialists, interviewed by Reuter's correspondent, expressed the opinion that the reports of the reparation experts must be accepted, in spite of the enormously heavy burden imposed. He thinks that better terms are not likely to be obtained. Herr Sorge said that an absolute prerequisite was the full restoration of Germany's economic sovereignty. The experts' proposals were only possible if an international loan could be raised, as to which he was sceptical.—Reuter.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

AN ENGLISH WANDERER IN AMERICA

The Other Side of Prohibition: Insurance Companies' Warning of Death-rate from Bootlegger Whiskey: America's Prosperity: New British Ambassador

From Our Own Correspondent.

San Francisco, Mar. 5.

Whenever a person in an apparent healthful state of mind takes his own life by swallowing a dose of carbolic acid or strychnine, he is said to have committed suicide; but when a man goes on what he calls the spree and drinks sufficient of the abominable bootleg whiskey that represents an overwhelming proportion of available supplies now in this country, they merely say that he died of drink. To the old China hand on leave in the United States it is a distinctly dispiriting circumstance that he cannot get a drink when he wants it—and every man in the Orient will agree that, human nature being what it is, a man will want a drink about 45 times as much when it is not available as when it is—but if he would play safe he must be teetotal. To be sure, there is an abundance of liquor. Curiously, too, every man claims that he has a number one bootlegger, and that what he gets is unfailingly "good liquor," but if you are a newspaper reader you will be able to see through a long array of obituary notices that a lot of people have been fooled on this point. It is apparent that the joke is decidedly on the consumer and not on the bootlegger, who is reaping a harvest of gold while the cemeteries are filling up faster than they should. I saw statistics the other day written by an insurance company purporting to prove that at least 200,000 "sane individuals are departing this life yearly from slow poisoning by drinking bootleg whiskey in one form or another."

Bootleg whiskey cannot be told so much by any great difference to the palate, but for its after effects it will beat anything that "Hongkew whiskey" can do. The following will show how bootleg is made:

> Methyl alcohol is used freely in moonshine, and is known for the danger that it brings to the drinker. Denatured alcohol contains a varying percentage of methyl alcohol, ranging from two to 10 per cent. Acetaldehyde is the name of the poison that helps the alcohol give the kick to the imbiber of bootleg, moonshine and unaged liquor. It is a rapid intoxicant, inducing profound stupor and deleterious after effects. The ranker the liquor the higher the aldehyde content: it may contain as much as 100 per cent. Acetic acid, a sort of half brother to acetaldehyde, is the lurking demon in home-made wine. Salicylic acid, the use of which has been prohibited for years, is now being used to arrest fermentation in some grades of wine.

Sudden deaths from indulgence in bootleg whiskey are now so common as to be an everyday occurrence, but I suspect that the American public does not hear of the multitude of deaths that are caused by the slow effects of acetaldehyde. There seems to be no doubt that it will become increasingly difficult as time goes on to get a drink of the real "crater" in this country, and possibly the most effectual campaign of education to demonstrate the harmful physiological effects of the various forms of illicit liquor is being undertaken by the victims themselves, for no better proof can be given the public than a conspicuously high death-rate therefrom.

CONTINUED PROSPERITY OF AMERICA.

In spite of the fact that oil and other scandals in Washington are on the increase, and also that this is the Presidential year, when everyone expects a bad year, economists say that America is steering straight for its biggest industrial and business year in 1924. Prospects [illegible] better for a record business year, and financial and business men East and West are as optimistic as can be wished for, and there is no uncommon enthusiasm. In reviewing an intricate chain of conditions a few days ago, I found that the only "black spot" in the entire country is in the Dakotas, Iowa and Idaho, where over-time speculation and crop failures have crippled the finances of the farmers. The financial interests of the country have not lost faith, however, that the Middle West will eventually pull through and share in the nation's prosperity. So convinced are they that conditions in the "black spot" referred to can rapidly be improved, that York and Chicago interests have formed a pool of $10,000,000 "to enable the stricken individuals and organizations to tide over their difficulties."

On the Pacific Coast, and particularly around the Bay Region of San Francisco, business is on an extremely firm basis; indeed, the Western part of America did not feel to any great extent the pinch of hard times which were common during and after the slump years. And regarding the present "Black spots," it is, as one writer has said, a gratifying phenomenon when financiers back up their statements with hard cash, as I indicate above has been done, for then we have the best evidence that the talk about prosperity is not idle chatter.

CONTROLLING RADIO WAVES.

I remember years ago, as a struggling sub-editor on a Far Eastern paper, receiving the message that Marconi had succeeded in sending his first trans-Atlantic message from Poldhu in Cornwall. Our enthusiasm in those days scarcely knew any bounds, but even the best informed could not look forward in imagination to the possibilities of the radio. I notice by this morning's paper, for example, that the wireless wizard, Guglielmo Marconi, who has been devoting a couple of years to the possibility of controlling radio waves so as to focus them on any given point, has finally succeeded. Marconi claims that he can now concentrate and direct these electrical waves pretty much as light is controlled and directed by a searchlight, and if he desires to radio to a specific country or locality, he can do so, by the operation of certain controls in the sending station, without the chance of anyone listening in.

In a private letter from a friend in London, I also learn of another kind of air defence. This is an important scheme which is being prepared by the British Air Ministry and the War Office under the direction of Colonel Edward B. Ashmore, who, your readers will remember, commanded London's defence during the war. The scheme, so my informant writes, comprises a sky defensive extending to more than 40,000 feet above the ground. Colonel Ashmore will take great areas of the sky and "mine" and net and barrage them from the earth level to an altitude of more than three miles, that aerial raiders will find it impossible to live and move there, while above that will be an area of bursting shells and other defensive measures. New squadrons of [illegible] air fighters will patrol the air to an altitude never before attained in aerial fighting. I suppose that you may possibly have received telegraphic information regarding this, for I take it that my London friend has not the monopoly of such vitally important news. But it may have escaped the eye of the many in China who will remember with horror the bombing of London during those dark days.

So we move along and find that science is teaching us first to harness the air, and then to enter upon an absolute control.

FREEDOM OF THE PHILIPPINES.

"The Government of the United States would not feel that it had performed its full duty by the Filipino people, or discharged all of its obligations to civilization if it should yield at this time to mere expectations to national independence." A condensed report of the letter from President Coolidge to Manuel Roxas (head of the Philippine Independence Mission), of which the above is an excerpt, will doubtless have been supplied Shanghai by Reuter's, but the matter is so vital to American and other interests in the Far East that further information will doubtless be opportune.

In the President's opinion the time has not yet come for separation of the Islands from the States, and he states officially that the United States government "has full confidence in the ability, good intentions, fairness and sincerity" of Governor General Wood. It cannot be said that the Mission created much sympathy in the United States. I have personally met the head of the Mission and heard him speak on the subject, and must confess that I was impressed with his eloquence and apparent sincerity of motive. But, generally speaking, in this country interest fell flat,, or rather could not be keenly aroused, in the matter. The President's letter was written in reply to resolutions passed by the Island legislature, which, as many of your readers will be aware, asked for independence and attacked Governor Wood, who, the President now declares, intended "to act and has acted within the scope of his proper and constitutional authority." And the United States, thus convinced, is determined to sustain Him. Looking at the whole situation fairly and impartially, the President announced that one cannot but feel that if the Filipino people cannot cooperate in the support and encouragement of as good an administration as has been offered under Governor-General Wood their failure will be rather a testimony of unpreparedness for the full obligations of citizenship, than an evidence of patriotic preparedness to advance their country. And the President's letter gives advice to the Filipinos in this way, pointing to the possibility of either economic or political disorders, calculated to bring misfortune, if not disaster to the people of the Islands unless they are strongly supported:—

> By reason of their assurance against attack by any power, by the reason also of that financial and economic strength which inevitably accrues to them, by reason of the still expanding opportunities for industrial development, the Filipino people would do well to consider most carefully the value of their intimate association with the American nation. . . . Had the Philippines not been under the protection of the United States, they more than probably would have been involved deeply in the world war, and their independence and nationality would have become, as did those of many other peoples, pawns in the great world reorganization.

President Coolidge, however, does not close his eyes to the fact that his letter will not settle this matter, nor stop the agitation in the Islands for their independence. He indeed admits in his official document that there are many Americans at home who believe that the immediate independence of the Philippines would be best for both peoples, but he makes it unmistakeably plain that in his judgment the strongest argument that has been used in the United States in support of immediate independence is not the argument that it would benefit the Filipinos, but that it would be to the advantage of the United States.

THE NEW BRITISH AMBASSAODOR TO THE U. S.

When Sir Auckland Geddes was considered by some to have unduly hastened his resignation at Washington, in order that the Conservative Government might fill the post with a man whom it would regard as safe from the standpoint of its own imperial views, fears were expressed that the successor would be hard put to it to follow a man so undeniably popular as Sir Auckland. He so well understood how to live happily in the United States, and was so entirely at home in the atmosphere of Washington. His successor, Sir Esme William Howard, is a man of entirely different training. He has had a long diplomatic career, having been Minister to Switzerland before entering on service as Minister to Sweden from 1913 to 1919, after which he was promoted to the position of Ambassador at Madrid.

Sir Esme is 60, looks 50, and will soon complete the 40th year of his connexion with the British diplomatic Service, which he entered in 1885. He has had an exceptionally wide and varied diplomatic experience. He was in Dublin a year with the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, following this with two years in Rome, then becoming secretary of Embassy at Berlin, where he remained several years. Returning to the Foreign Office in London, he again went to Rome, and from 1908 8 was Counsellor of Embassy at Washington, and thereafter was successively Consul-General for Crete, Consul-General at Vienna, and Consul-General for Hungary. He became Minister to Switzerland in 1911, and then went to Sweden two years later, and was a member of the British delegation at the Paris Peace Conference. It will therefore be seen that his present ambassadorial appointment at Washington crowns a lifetime of training in international affairs that is surely almost unrivalled in extent and variety. He is, moreover, what the Americans call a "good mixer."

OPINION OF BRITISH LABOUR LEADERS.

To a surprising extent the press of the United States, even far away in the Middle West and the South, are devoting space to biographical matter regarding the British Labour leaders and the party. One rarely finds anything but somewhat extravagant eulogy. Take this—not that it is not true, for it unquestionably is:—

> "Men like Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Snowden might be well taken as examples by some of our noisy American radicals in politics, whose fulminations against business in the corporate form and against capital, under private control are on low levels of intelligence, and seemingly not on the highest levels of sincerity. In contrast, English labour leaders like Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Snowden make strong appeals to popular intelligence, whether or not one accepts their views: and as to their sincerity and integrity there is ample testimony from the foremost leaders in the ranks of their Conservative opponents. . . ."

Among the real Americans straight through the country there is a strong feeling that British politics and American politics are of entirely different species, and I think I am right in saying that, although he may not know his subject any too well, the average intelligent American realizes that their is no political atmosphere in the world to compare with that of Great Britain.

The following sketch of Ramsay Macdonald may be of interest to the Scottish community of the China ports—I forget where it appeared, but that does not matter much:—

> So far as his features go, Ramsay Macdonald is not bad-looking. An abundance of steel-gray hair across the top of a wide forehead, wide-set brown eyes deep under his brows, a strong Scotch nose and a strong chin; no, Ramsay Macdonald is not bad looking; C. F. G. Masterman once said of him that he was the handsomest man in the 1906 Parliament. The chin is particularly strong. It is the sort of chin they grow in Scotland. It drops straight down from the lower lip and it has a crease across the middle of it and a dimple at the square-thrusting bottom of it. Scotch Presbyterians run to that sort of chin, and Scotch Presbyterians are men to be looked upon with something very like respect.
>
> There is also a moustache to Ramsay Macdonald's face, a great spreading moustache which almost completely conceals his lips except when he mounts a platform and lifts his rich baritone voice to the back of the gallery. When you hear him, you will be reminded again of Scotland. On English lips, the Labour Party frequently becomes the "Labah Pahty," but to Ramsay Macdonald there are any number of r's in Labour. This is not to say that he burrs up the language as some of his Glasgow friends do, but still there are moments when he slips into "there's no the least use."

BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER

Empress of Australia's Great Services During Japanese Earthquake Worthily Recognized: The Chinese Commission: Where Cats Cannot Face Rats

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver B. C., Mar. 20.

"As Canadian citizens we are proud of the fact that the splendid service rendered by the ship at the time of the great Japanese earthquake was performed by a Canadian vessel, operated by a Canadian company, and that her captain, officers and crew were not forgetful of their duty to humanity."

With the above words Chief Justice MacDonald, acting Governor-general for British Columbia, presented to Captain A. J. Hailey, acting on behalf of Captain S. Robinson, O.B.E., commander of the C. P. R. Liner Empress of Australia, a bronze tablet. The pleasing ceremony took place aboard the liner in dock here two days ago. The tablet was subscribed for by the passengers who were on the ship and witnessed the splendid service rendered in Yokohama at the time of the disaster last September. The presentation took place in the sumptuous dining hall on the ship and was attended by influential and representative citizens. Mayor W. R. Owen, the president of the Board of Trade, and representative men from shipping and commercial organizations were in the gathering. Mr. Justice MacDonald paid a lofty tribute to Captain Robinson, and officers and crew for discipline and courage shown amid constant dangers of shocks, burning oil and explosions, and for the magnificent assistance rendered refugees which resulted in the saving of many lives. Traditional short speeches of seamen were given in reply.

The tablet, which is being set up in a prominent part of the vessel, reads:

> "Presented to R.M.S. Empress of Australia by the passengers to commemorate the heroic work performed by Commander Robinson R.N.R., O.B.E., and all the officers and crew in saving the lives of all on board and rescuing survivors of the earthquake and fire which devastated the district of Yokohama, September 1. 1923. The ship, for nine days a veritable haven of refuge, sheltered and succoured thousands of homeless and wounded."

Commander Robinson is at present skipper of the Empress of Canada on her trip around the world. The Empress of Australia sailed to-day for the Orient.

CHANG CHIEN'S COMMISSION.

Among the saloon passengers who sailed to-day on the Empress of Australia for China was the High Commissioner Chang Chien Jr., and his staff of six engineering and industrial assistants from Nantungchow. On their return to China they will report to the Peking Government on industrial and economic conditions and methods in the leading countries of the world. Branches of cotton textile engineering and coal mining have been the chief subjects of interest to the commission who spent several months touring the United States, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Holland and Italy.

RATS INVADE PORTLAND.

Thousands of big brown and grey ship rats have suddenly invaded the waterfront at Portland, Oregon, and so serious has the menace to edible cargoes become, Captain J. Spier, harbour master there came specially to Vancouver in quest of ferrets to trace them to their nests. So many and so vicious are the rats in Portland just now that cats have been chased off the wharves and even sporting dogs are practically useless in combating the pest. Captain Spier has left an open order with anybody and everybody in Vancouver to send down to Portland all the ferrets they can get.

MANILA, April 5.—Senators Quezon and Osmena and four others will sail for the United States on April 6 to present their plea for Independence to Congress and President Coolidge.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MANILA, April 5.—It is reported that the appointment of Mr. Ben Wright, the Insular Auditor, as General Manager of the Philippine National Bank has been agreed upon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

OUR PARIS LETTER

French Effort to Revive Franc: A Deal in Oil Shares With Disastrous Results

From Our Own Correspondent.

Paris, Feb. 22.

After a stormy sitting, the Chamber of Deputies adopted the second of the two principal measures which the Government has devised to rescue the franc from its unmerited depreciation. This measure was, in brief, an authority to increase all direct taxation by 20 per cent. The Socialists opposed it tooth and nail, bringing forward amendment after amendment and making long speeches in the hope of exhausting M. Poincaré's majority, but it remained faithful to him. The vote has not yet produced any improvement in the franc, probably because the whole series of fiscal Bills will have to go before the Senate after the Chamber has finished with them, and because foreign opinion does not yet realize, or believe, that France is prepared to go to extreme lengths to put her public finances in order. Moreover this determination on her part cannot really be proved unless the general election in May results in favour of the present majority, whose interest clearly is to support M. Poincaré, in view of his promise that the Government's influence would be exerted in their favour during the electoral period.

Meanwhile the Government continues to act in a manner suggestive of panic. It has closed the Produce Exchange, in the hope of preventing the public from being disturbed by high quotations for wheat and other necessaries. The inevitable result is to make people believe that the situation is much worse than it really is. The laws of supply and demand continue to operate in spite of all artificial precautions, and prices are still going up.

A NEW ROAD FOR ALBION.

The popularity of the British in France has not been increased by newspaper stories to the effect that a group of clever and unscrupulous people in London have "done" French investors out of quite a respectable number of millions of francs. The head and front of the offending is that large blocks of shares, which have since fallen considerably in value, were sold to French buyers, and endeavours are now being made to prove that these shares, or the bulk of them, were smuggled into France in defiance of the law.

Proceedings have been taken against an Englishman, Capt. Langton, formerly secretary of the Travellers' Club and head of the British Passport Office in Paris, who subsequently established himself in business in Paris as a banker. The inquiry into his operations dates from the beginning of 1922 and has therefore occupied the experts for two years before sufficient evidence to justify a prosecution was obtained. During the war, decrees were passed prohibiting, under heavy penalties, the export of capital and the import of securities without the permission of a special body known as the Commission des Changes.

According to the prosecution, large quantities of Mexican Eagle, Shell Transport and Royal Dutch shares were smuggled over the frontier, chiefly by aeroplane. They were then presented at the Stamp Office to receive the 2 per cent. stamp without which no foreign share certificate can be dealt in on the Paris Bourse. As it was no part of the business of the Stamp Office to inquire how these certificates came into the country, the Office collected the fees and stamped the certificates, which were then put on the market. Mexican Eagles found buyers in France at one time as high as Frs. 700 when the pound sterling was worth barely Frs. 40. They are now quoted about Frs. 95 and have been as low as Frs. 70. Taking the fall of the franc into account, the man who bought Mexican Eagles when they were near their highest point would have lost 80 or 90 per cent. of his money, assuming of course that he kept them.

ONE PLAIN EXPLANATION.

The presence of part of the shares complained about is accounted for by a Paris banker, who paid stamp duty on over 100,000 shares. They formed part of an issue of fresh capital, were taken up by French people who already had holdings, and were brought into France by written permission of the Commission des Changes. As there was at the time a general prohibition against importing foreign securities, it would appear that the Commission des Changes simply overrode the law—an event which now possesses a merely historic interest. It is quite possible that other persons who put Mexican Eagle, Shell and Royal Dutch shares on the market may be able to produce equally good authority for what they did.

THE RIDDLE OF THE SPHINX.

M. Maurice Rostand's new drama in verse, "The Secret of Sphinx," just produced at the Théâtre Sarah Bernhardt, is an ambitious work on a big subject—the inability of genius to attain its ideals and materialize its artistic visions. His hero, a young Italian poet, has written a drama which, according to rumour, is a masterpiece. The night of the première has arrived, and we see the Roman public in the theatre, waiting for the curtain to rise. The manager comes before the curtain and announces that there will be no performance, as the poet-dramatist has withdrawn his work suddenly at the last minute. The clamour of the spectators brings the poet himself before the curtain. He explains that his drama does not satisfy him. He asserts his right to destroy it, tears up the manuscript and walks off. This scene is typical of M. Maurice Rostand's disregard for reality. Tearing up a manuscript does not destroy a play when the actors have learnt and rehearsed their parts. Moreover the incident has little or no bearing on the title, and seems to have been invented chiefly to give the poet an opportunity to tell the public and the critics what he thinks of them.

Subsequently we are shown Eglano and a friend in front of the Great Pyramids. In the base of the Sphinx they find the "brooding spirit of eternal wisdom," played very effectively by Mme. Ida Rubenstein (the part was originally written for Mme. Sarah Bernhardt). She whispers the secret of existence into the friend's ear, and he falls dead. She also whispers in Eglano's ear, but he escapes with a shock, because the Sphinx told him only part of the truth. The last act takes place on the stage of the Roman theatre where Eglano's tragedy of the Sphinx has just ended (whereby we again miss the masterpiece and have to take it on trust). The act is, in the main, merely another duel between the author and the public. He treats with contempt or indifference the spectators who come on the stage to congratulate him and the journalist who comes to interview him. The scene is full of wit and biting sarcasm and is brilliantly versified.

NINE-TON TELESCOPE

Instrument for the Soviet Government

A reflecting telescope, originally ordered by the Imperial Russian Government, is now being completed for the Soviet Government by Sir Howard Grubb Sons' works at St. Albans. It has an aperture of one metre (nearly 40 inches), and a focal length of five metres.

The mirror, which is of glass, is 40½ inches in diameter and eight inches thick and weighs about 900 pounds and has been polished and figured under the personal supervision of Sir Howard Grubb. All the motions of the telescope and dome are electrically worked and operated by means of push buttons from any convenient position. The moving parts of the telescope weigh between four and five tons, the weight of the complete instrument being about nine tons.

The height from the base of the telescope to the top of the tube, when the latter is pointing to the zenith, is about 30 feet. The steel hemispherical revolving dome is of 32 feet internal diameter, and is carried on steel pillars 16 feet high. The spaces between the pillars will be filled in with brickwork or concrete when the instrument is erected in situ.

NEW WAR HORSE

Tank that Will Take Artillery into Action

One day a few weeks ago a strange monster pushed its nose outside the works of a British armament firm, and, to the amazement of passers-by, began to make its way to a hill close by.

It was the first of the new "war horse artillery Tanks," out for a trial of its possibilities.

People stared open-mouthed as the new war horse, after crawling slowly at first, began with a great din to run at a surprising speed. Those in charge of the operations were delighted with the behaviour of the new pet.

These new war tanks are designed to be not only self-contained fighting units, but to take field artillery into action. War experience showed that repeatedly artillery attacks were crippled owing to the horses being killed before the guns were got into position, and suggested that a steel "horse" would be preferable.

Outstanding features are that by a new system of springing, the jolting of the old type of tanks has been almost eliminated while as a result of a new method of making the caterpillar wheel, it can cover 1,000 miles without requiring new "caterpillars," as against 500 miles for the old tanks.

It appears to be about 25 feet long, and has a speed of 23 miles an hour.

TELEPHONING TO LINERS

Ships to be Connected to Land Exchanges

Following experiments conducted along the German coast last year, the German telegraphic authorities are now making preparations to establish wireless telephonic communication between liners at sea and telephone systems in Berlin, Bremen, Hamburg and other German towns.

It may be possible shortly, under favourable atmospheric conditions, for a passenger on a liner in the English Channel or some distance out in the Atlantic to ring up (*viâ* a coastal receiving station) a telephone subscriber in one of these towns, or *vice versa*.

Since the German wireless stations, at Norddeich, Cuxhaven, and Swinemunde were equipped last year with wireless telephonic apparatus continuous experiments have been made with a view to ascertaining at what distances it is possible to maintain wireless telephonic communication with vessels at sea.

Particularly successful results were obtained with the s.s. Cap Polonia, *en route* to South America, and the liner Albert Ballin, bound for New York. It was possible, by means of the five kilowatt transmitter at the Norddeich station to send messages which were clearly intercepted by the vessels when they were several days' journey south and west of the English Channel.

PROUD SHANTIES

Shanties, silvering themselves
along the beaches,
Like heaps of old shells that
the tide washes in,
The coarse grasses and the sea-
gulls' screeches
And the sound of the sea have
scraped thin.
Shanties are sure that they are
shells when sunset-tinted,
Or filmed by fog in an opales-
cent swirl—
And in moonlight, when every
grain of sand is glinted,
It's plain that they feel capable
of pearl.

WINIFRED WELLS in
"New Republic."

COMING OF AGE OF AIRCRAFT

Celebrated at Empire Exhibition: 21 Years Since First Flight

Considering the wonderful advancement that has been made during the past few years in all forms of aircraft construction, it does not seem possible that the airship has only just reached its majority. But such is the fact, nevertheless, for it was 21 years ago practical air flight became possible, and although the first flight was not accomplished by British airmen, much of the important pioneer work was contributed by British effort. Hence it is appropriate that the event should be celebrated in connexion with the Exhibition at Wembley.

Speaking of the special aerial exhibit at Wembley, the "Army and Navy Journal" says:

In the section allotted to the Air Ministry in the Government Pavillion the opportunity will be taken to present as comprehensive an impression as possible of the field of aerial activities, and the exhibit will convey a striking idea of the possibilities of aircraft, both as a weapon of defence and as an aid to commerce. It will show the valuable co-operation afforded by aircraft to the Navy and Army, the potentialities of aircraft as an independent arm, and the beneficial services that aircraft can render in time of peace.

HISTORICAL ASPECT.

For those who wish to study aircraft from the historical aspect a comprehensive series of scale models, complete in every detail, of pre-war, war, and post-war types of aircraft will be provided. For those, again, who wish to visualize the part played by the aeroplane in war there will be displayed ingenious mechanical and other models illustrating the utility of the aerial arm working in combination with other arms. Here will be presented a realistic demonstration of the victory wrought by British aircraft in Palestine; elsewhere the advance of our tanks and infantry over shell-stricken ground in France, and yet again the sea-going aircraft operating with the Navy over the sea. A scenic spectacle of London being attacked by a hostile air fleet is to be on view in the theatre in the Government Pavillion. What is meant by aerial attack and by aerial defence will both be shown. To carry it out the latest devices of the scenic artist and the lighting experts are to be employed. Many ingenious and elaborate models are also being constructed to illustrate other phases of service and technical aviation.

CIVIL AVIATION.

To demonstrate the development of civil aviation, a large scale model of the South of England and the North of France has been made, on which the air route between London and Paris will be shown. A second model will give a complete representation of Croydon aerodrome, the air port for London, as it will be in the near future. With the first of those models it will be possible to visualize the advantages of air travel over the combined train and steamship service to Paris. Besides the various British services operated in Europe, an air mail service is being run by the Royal Air Force between Cairo and Baghdad. A model of this route will also be exhibited. The speeding up of communications is one of the most urgent of the problems confronting the Empire today. Special interest will, therefore, be taken in a working model of a commercial airship base in which full details of the organization of airships will be displayed.

Other interesting exhibits at Wembley will include an illustration of some of the methods emhensive meteorological exhibit examples of aircraft engines and accessories, specimens of the work of Royal Air Force apprentices, a collection of paintings of aeronautical subjects, and a comprehensive meteorological exhibit descriptive of the important help given to many branches of industry by the Meteorological Office.

IN MEMORY OF ZOLA

Captain Dreyfus Present at Paris Tribute

A commemorative plaque which has been fixed to the humble dwelling house in the Rue St. Joseph, a squalid little sidestreet off the Rue Montmartre, where Emile Zola was born, was publicly unveiled on January 26 amid a large gathering of the great writer's admirers. The central figure in the gathering, perhaps, was that of Captain Alfred Dreyfus, the hero of the memorable controversy which many years ago rent France in twain, and which elevated Zola in the minds of thousands of English people to whom his books were anathema to the grade of champion of justice and right. Others present included the novelist's son Georges Zola and his daughter Madame le Blond, the President of Paris Municipal Council, M. Lalou, President of the Société des Gens de Lettres, and the leaders of several other organizations.

M. Lalou in an eloquent analysis of Zola's works referred to the large part which Paris played in those books. In the four works "Travail," "Fécondité," "Vérité," and "Justice"—the supreme expression of Zola's thought—it was Paris, he said, which played the leading rôle. "but a Paris, which was a city of labour, the foundation of the modern city which, when it shall have been organized according to scientific and human laws, will become the principle of all health and all virtue—Paris the arch-saint of modern civilization, the cradle of the Revolution, the home of Liberty, Progress, and Justice."

SNAP SHOTS OF OUR STATESMEN

Readers of the "Saturday Westminster" were recently invited to compose epigrams upon Statesmen of the day, and the following specimens are among those which caught the Editorial eye:—

MR. LLOYD GEORGE.

Thrice gifted actor, prodigal of power!
Protagonist on many a sounding stage!
Hadst thou forgone the plaudits of an hour,
Thine might have been the triumph of an age.

Imada.

SIR FREDERICK BANBURY.

By "talking out" Sir Frederick loved to kill
Each eager private member's harmless Bill.
Will he contrive to learn, in lordly leisure,
From "listening-in" to gain an equal pleasure?

Philosopher.

MR. BALDWIN.

A simple child a pretty mug possessed;
A new one might be bigger, that's confessed!
The simple child threw down the mug—and broke it.
Put that, dear Stanley, in your pipe, and smoke it!

Janik.

M. POINCARE.

A comma tailed, a colon round
To call a halt are useful found;
But utterly to block the way
There's nothing like a *point carré.*

Deva.

MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD.

Behold this man who kisses hands with kings,
Rich in audacious thought, and dream-caressed;
Shall he, like Prospero, do magic things
And win sweet justice for the dispossessed?

J. M.

OVER HALF A CENTURY REPUTATION
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INVALUABLE for DISEASES of these IMPORTANT ORGANS, GRAVEL, BACKACHE, GOUT, RHEUMATISM
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SPECIAL ARTICLES

MR. C. K. CHESTERTON

Notes of a Sermon preached by the Rev. C. F. Darwent in Union Church, Tientsin, on Sunday Evening March 9, being one of the Monthly Series of Biographical Sermons

Text: Numbers XI 29: "And Moses said to him (Joshua), Enviest thou for my sake? I would God that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit upon them!"

What a great man Moses was! Surely the greatest! He is the Old Testament, and Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, the New Testament. What more need be said? These are the only two books in the world to be clear wholly by themselves, and he is the hero and centre of one of them. And it is humanly as we see how great he is as well as in spirit. Despite what there was of the commonplace in the character of the man. The unassuming way, with the inherent pride of race, had actually vexed his brother and sister. The spot in one case, and jealousy in the other, of the Midianite blood were fanned into flame. Moses was wounded on the tenderest point. And Joshua, too, who ought to have had more sense, said to Moses, Forbid them. He evidently quite expected that the great man would promptly put a stop to Eldad and Medad, the building prophets, and teach them a lesson. But Moses was that rare kind of man, incapable of jealousy. He knew that

It is a matter
Being upon the Lord's part or mine?

He had not a atom of it in him. He tells Joshua that he is more jealous for him than he, Moses, is for himself. "Envyest thou for my sake." Let them go on prophesying, never try to dry up the fountain of youth, let them prophesy, and then he says one of the most tender and beautiful things ever said. "Would God that all the Lord's people were prophets." Do gifted people always wish that their gifts were widely shared by their fellow men? Not always. There has always been jealousy, even among writers, musicians, preachers. When John Wesley let laymen preach the Gospel, what a pother there was among the regular preachers! When Carey went out as a missionary from the cobbler's bench the Rev. Sydney Smith sneered at "consecrated cobblers." Moses did not. He prayed that all cobblers and masons and labourers should be consecrated too. How beautiful! That is being in order, to have truth revealed from God to you, and to utter it, for prophesying is not foretelling, it only is telling forth the truth now.

SOME MODERN PROPHETS.

Now happily, God has always had his Eldads and Medads in the world, outside the regular prophets. In the last century there was one John Ruskin, whose books ought to be gone through by someone. They would make the best of dissertations of Sermons. To-day we have another. He is Mr G. K. Chesterton. He was born in London, a man that has gathered more than all other capitals in the world. Ruskin was a Londoner too. There is not much to be said about Chesterton's life. He went to St Paul's, then on to Journalism and book writing. He is a big man, of a hearty appearance, with a hearty appetite against all fads, and foibles. He would have enjoyed Dr Johnson, who liked a "meaty book." He is something like Father Faber, whose hymns are so tender that we always think of him as a slim ascetic weekly figure, whereas he was a twenty stone man. The bulk and healthiness of such Eldads and Medads is, no doubt, a handicap against them in the eyes of the public, which still is inclined to identify piety with a pale face and a thin body. However, Mr Chesterton has got over that. His books are widely read, and anticipated with eagerness by discerning readers. "Orthodoxy." "Heterodoxy." "What's Wrong with the World?" and his recent books on Jerusalem and the United States are a pure joy. If you cannot read them with pleasure, you are not fit to have any books at all.

THE PARADOXES OF CHRIST.

Before we proceed to learn two lessons from him we are bound to consider the one accusation, that is ever being made against him. That is that he is too fond of paradoxes. That is the everlasting fault, that is found in his works. They say "If he only would stop his flow of paradoxes." Then he would be just about all right." But is he? Look into that. What is a paradox? Here is a definition of it from the "Oxford Dictionary," an authority that is good enough for most people. It is a seemingly absurd though really well founded opinion." The sentence meaning is obscured, the real meaning sound truth. Another definition is one-sided. I think Mr Gerald Duff once gave it as "substantial sense in verbal nonsense." As so many people seem incapable of seeing only by "verbal nonsense," they take Mr Chesterton to be a kind of acrobat clown, who dances on a literary table to please them. But how utterly wrong this is! Who is the great Master of Paradox? Jesus Christ Himself. Of course. He is, we have been fed spiritually on paradoxes all our lives, but we have got so used to the Lord's ways that we have not recognized them as the tremendous paradoxes that they are. Such are "To him that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath:" "the first shall be last and the last first:" "unless a seed of corn die it cannot live:" Where are all Mr Chesterton's paradoxes beside these? Or this "My burden is light" or this "he that findeth his life shall lose it." That paradoxes are dangerous is proved by the fact, that it was a paradox, that as far as human causes operated brought Jesus to the cross. They never forgave Him for saying, that he could "destroy the temple" and "build it again in three days." It was brought up against Him at His trial. The paradoxes of Jesus Christ were dangerous to Him: they have been misunderstood all through the ages by many people: But in spite of that, would any of us wish, that the Lord had taught and put His thought into the ordinary dry and colourless form? Certainly not. This therefore must be sufficient justification for the paradoxes of our modern Elidad.

SAYINGS WITH A STING.

We will take a few samples of them. "Men invent new ideals, because they dare not attempt old ideals." There is a great deal more truth in that than one likes to admit. It may account for a good deal of current difficulty in accepting the Gospel. Its ideals do not across very cherished prejudices of mankind. Where would many of us be, and where would the French nation be if we really tried to put into practice the ideal Jesus gave us of "forgiving our enemies." Becket wore a hair shirt under his gold and crimson, and there is much to be said for the combination. For Becket got the benefit of the hair shirt, while the people in the street got the benefit of the gold and crimson. It is better than the manner of the modern millionaire, who wears black and drab outwardly for others, and has the gold near his heart: That is bitter, but has a world of truth in it as many bitter sayings have. And here is a fine saying on home. It is sad that people often get out of their homes as soon as they can. They think there are too many restraints at home: if they can only get to hotels and public resorts, they will enjoy a glorious liberty. Home seems under a cloud. People dine at hotels and entertain their friends there instead of at home as used to be the custom. Mr. Chesterton is excellent on this idea. He says, 'The home is the only place of liberty. In a club or hotel a man has to accept their rules. At home he can have his dinner on the floor if he likes. He can have his breakfast in his dressing-gown. He can't in the Savoy." Yet people get out of their home as if it were a prison. "Common things are never commonplace. Birth is covered with curtains because it is a staggering and monstrous process." That is a very deep saying and this is a fine pin, with which to prick the bubble of priggery and snobbishness. "No man ought to be superior to the things common to men." Yes. It is more than ever true, that "knowledge puffeth up." One hears men and women express a contempt for the ordinary man. They must have "intellectual conversation." They will say, So and So "is so provincial." Yet the Lord's friends were common men, not one a "Varsity man," in the snobbish cant of to-day. And the Lord got on quite well with them. They were His friends which is more than some "Varsity men" can. This is very fine: "The specially unchristian idea of Carlyle is that the man should rule who thinks he can. Whereas the Christian idea is that the man should rule who is humble and thinks he cannot. Much as I used to admire the late Dr Clifford, I cannot deny that he gets a hard knock in this saying. "Dr Clifford wants a man somewhere in the public mind as much as Lord Halifax, only he wants a different one."

A FULL-BLOODED FAITH.

Now we come to the two very important lessons that this man teaches us. There are two things in him which are a perpetual tonic. I find them so. The first is, that he is a *great believer*. It is a mercy, indeed, to read such a man. He is a full Christian. It is not his idea to believe as little as he can, but as much as he can. He is not pleased when he has lopped a branch off the Christian tree, but when he has encouraged another to grow. He finds it easier to believe than to disbelieve as indeed it is. He wants a full faith, a rich, not a skeleton Gospel. He gets sick of apologies for the Atonement and miracles. He says, "When one once believes in a creed, one is proud of its complexity." Of course. When he is told of difficulties, he says, "Of course there will be difficulties." Seeing that we believe, that Christianity is a grand divine administration in which all the mighty and gracious powers of God, the energy of the whole Godhead, the power of the Holy Spirit of God, the energies concentrated in the incarnate and risen Son of God, His life, His blood, His perpetual presence in man, are engaged in winning back the world to God, there may indeed well be difficulties. Indeed. Yes. But that is what we believe. There are difficulties, but not contradictions. He has no difficulty in great passages like this, "Great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified of the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. It does one good to read such a writer. Lately he has joined another church. I have not seen a statement why. But it may be, that he got tired of the naked bareness of so much of the teaching of to-day. His soul yearned for a Christ, a Saviour, who was not tied hand and foot, he got tired of a Christ who couldn't feed a hungry crowd, even if He wanted to do so, couldn't still a storm, or heal a poor blind man, or drive the demons out of a poor demoniac. And I think the world agrees with him. It wants a Saviour to be "the Son of God with power," if it wants one at all. There are only two categories, the created and the uncreated. Was the uncreated, aboriginal eternal life of God, in Jesus Christ, as in no other man? Then, though his humanity was true, what might He not do, that we cannot, He being "God in the flesh?"

HIS LACK TO THE WALL.

Mr. Chesterton is very powerful on all this. Here is a tremendous passage on the very ground idea of the Gospel: "Twice heaven has interrupted the natural order; once when man was created; once when heaven came to save man in the awful shape of a man. That a good man may have his back to the wall we all know: but that God could have *His* back to the wall, was new. Alone of creeds Christianity added courage to the virtues of the Creator. For the only courage worth calling courage means that the soul passes a breaking point. And in the terrible story of Christ's passion and agony, He broke His heart for us." That is magnificent. What a bold, yet pathetically true picture! God, the Creator, "with His back to the wall!" Aye. That is Christianity: "Last of all He sent His Son also." So Mr. Chesterton feels no difficulty about miracles. Seeing, that in Jesus Christ, God is doing all, that even He can, to save us, His Son may well have been able to touch a blind man's eyes, and give the poor creature sight. This is what Mr. Chesterton means, when he says, in a much criticized passage, that "fairy tales are easier to believe than science." Given, as is given in the Gospel, God "with His back to the wall," then "He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"

THE CONTRADICTIONS OF UNBELIEF.

Then, in the second place, Mr. Chesterton is precious, because he is not overawed by the negations and pretensions of modern unbelief, as most of us are. We treat it too seriously and solemnly. He shows it up. He says that in his youth he felt that the unbeliever made out a strong case against Christianity. He then read one book after another, and was surprised to find that they contradicted one another most amazingly. One author got quite bitter over the sad effect of Christianity on a man, making him unmanly, a sort of sheep. Well, he felt, I don't want to be turned into a sheep. But then, he read another infidel book which got very bitter over the awful effect Christianity has had on the world. This author accused it of being the cause of more wars and bloodshed than any other agency on the earth. Well, he thought, this is very queer. The same religion turns some men into sheep, and others into tigers! It must be a most extraordinary religion. Similarly, he found that one rationalist author accused it of filling the world with abnormal gloom, while another said that it is not serious enough: that it teaches forgiveness, and that is a very immoral thing, because it lets a penitent sinner escape the full consequences of his sins, and so makes for cheerfulness. He had no sooner got worked up into a state of indignation with the Gospel for having done one thing, than, on reading another book, he had to get worked up into wrath with it for doing the direct opposite. From which he concluded, that Christianity is just right. As indeed it is.

THE SEED-SHOP

Here in a quiet and dusty room
they lie,
Faded as crumbled stone and
shifting sand,
Forlorn as ashes, shrivelled, scentless, dry—
Meadows and gardens running
through my hand.

Dead that shall quicken at the
voice of spring,
Sleepers to wake beneath June's
tempest kiss;
Though birds pass over, unremembering,
And no bee find here roses that
were his.

In this brown husk a dale of
hawthorn dreams;
A cedar in this narrow cell is
thrust
That shall drink deeply at a century's streams;
These lilies shall make summer
on my dust.

Here in their safe and simple
house of death,
Sealed in their shells, a million
roses leap;
Here I can stir a garden with my
breath,
And in my hand a forest lies asleep.

MURIEL STUART IN "POETRY."

A correspondent in Chungking writes on March 18: General Yang seems to be in control of most of the province now and all is quiet here in Chungking, though there are troops everywhere. The First Army has retreated to the south and is being forced into Kueichow. Brigandage is about as bad as ever on the Big Road and the city of Yungchuan has been robbed three times in about as many months.

THE WORLD OF WIRELESS

I—Progress in Telephony: How China Bars the Way

Under the above title we hope to publish from time to time articles on radio matters, in which an ever-increasing number of people are taking a practical interest, though as this article shows, even interposes causeless difficulties.

The advent of such a truly wonderful means of communication as wireless telephony has proved to be, and the pace to at which such a remarkable degree of perfection has been attained, provide much food for thought on its tremendous possibilities and the benefits which would accrue from its ultimate general adoption for both private and commercial use. Both these applications are without doubt arousing the keenest interest in every country in the world where the incalculable value of reliable speech transmission and reception without wires can be appreciated.

With so many of the commercial applications of scientific discoveries, ultimate perfection was the result of years of painstaking effort, experiment, and research that frequently extended over generations. Not so with with wireless telephony. Prior to the Great War, Various investigators achieved some measure of success in the transmission of speech by a beam of light, and efforts were also made to effect transmission by modulating the electric arc discharge, but one can safely say that the real beginning of wireless telephony came with the evolution of the thermionic valve after its discovery by Dr. Fleming, the British university professor. The full significance and value of that epoch-marking discovery may never be fully known. Certain it is that in the light of our present-day knowledge we can only regard its possibilities as boundless.

ONE BENEFIT OF WAR.

During the Great War, large sums of money were made available for research in wireless telegraphy and telephony, and as a resuly, great progress was made in the design, manufacture, and use of the thermionic valve in its varied applications. The close of the war, then, saw wireless telephony an accomplished fact, although the apparatus in use was largely of an experimental character. Upon the removal of wartime restrictions, improvements and developments followed one another in rapid succession, and the outstanding achievement which attracted the attention of the whole world to this fascinating subject was the advent of broadcasting.

Progress continues apace. The quality of the trasmission of musical items from the leading broadcasting stations is very near to perfection. In England, the whole movement is under the control of the Post Office authorities. Wave-lengths and times for transmission are allotted to all broadcasting stations and to experimenters, while revenue from the licences issued to "listeners" provides the funds for operating the broadcasting stations. The whole scheme is in smooth and efficient operation.

CHINA'S BACKWARDNESS.

What have we in China? A government that does not understand wireless telephony and attempts to prevent its development by foreigners in banning the importation of apparatus. Exactly what this government expects either to gain or prevent in instituting such a ban is difficult to see. The futility of it is obvious on a first investigation. There are regular broadcast transmissions in both Shanghai and Hongkong, and apparatus continues to arrive in the country in increasing quantities. That the ban is hampering progress one cannot deny but it can never prevent it. Sooner or later we are bound to have in Shanghai an efficient broadcasting service maintained by a revenue system possibly similar to that obtaining at home, with transmission for several hours daily. The project needs energy, enthusiasm, and leadership even more

...rn capital. These qualities are ...reat asset in the initiation of ...heme of this nature while in ... where we have unusual ... to overcome, are essen-...

...strictions and barriers have ...en placed against progress with ...very great scientific discovery in ...s early stages, by authorities ...ho have been prejudiced against ...ese innovations and who did ...ot understand them. So with ...ireless telephony. Its progress ...ay be hindered, but it can never ... prevented. The great mass of ...he public in every civilized coun...ry in the world knows its possi...ilities and awaits with wonder...ng interest their materialization.

II—Long Range Reception: Shanghai Well Placed

Although here in Shanghai we experimenters are somewhat handicapped by the difficulty of obtaining apparatus, much very useful and interesting work may be done by co-operation in experimenting, and the use of improvised components to supplement the inadequate and, moreover, expensive equipment available.

Concerning long-range reception, one does not hear of many experimenters making serious attempts at reception of the San Francisco broadcasting. The writer believes that in both Peking and Tientsin this has been occasionally accomplished, but has no information of similar success being achieved in Shanghai. Yet Shanghai is almost ideally situated for experiments with this object in view, as the surrounding country is flat, while the nature of the soil on which it is built makes a very efficient earth connexion easily obtainable at small cost. The importance of this point for successful long-distance reception cannot be over-emphasized.

Concerning the type of receiver most suitable for an experiment of this nature, the writer is of the opinion that five valves should be employed—the first two operating as radio-frequency amplifiers, the third as rectifier, and them two stages of audio-frequency amplification. The radio-frequency amplifiers should preferably have reactance-capacity intervalve coupling, and should have incorporated the neutrodyne principal introduced by Prof. Hazeltine. Regarding the type of tuner to employ, a selective loose-coupled design should, of course, be used, and of these, probably the most efficient and selective is that employing "plug-in" honeycomb inductances. Variable grid leaks are extremely desirable, while extension handles on all turning condensers will be found indispensable.

A receiver of this type is naturally an expensive proposition, but where there are several enthusiasts attracted by the experiment, resources in the way of apparatus might be pooled, when the actual construction of the receiver would be a simple matter. Additional interest is given to an experiment of this nature when strong signals are obtainable, for it would be quite possible by use off a suitable amplifier to re-transmit the San Francisco broadcasting in Shanghai.

CO-OPERATION IN LOCAL WORK.

With reference to local experimental wireless telephony, there is undoubtedly a great opening for useful work among the enthusiasts, provided the essential co-operation is maintained. At present, however, there seems to be little opportunity for discussion and the inter-change of ideas, although the inclination for, and value of such co-operation is evident. Five watts is ample power for this local work, and some excellent results have been obtained with this low output. The same difficulty concerning the supply of apparatus still arises, but of all the essentials for a transmitter of this type, the high tension D. C. supply is undoubtedly the most difficult to obtain. Several methods are in regular use, and these may be divided into three classes:—the motor-generator unit, which is probably the best but the most expensive—the storage battery method, and the rectification of alternating current supply from the public mains after transformation up to the desired voltage. While the first-mentioned method involves the highest capital outlay, it is the least expensive in upkeep costs and gives very little trouble.

EXPERIMENT WITH FAN MOTORS.

In this connexion the writer has been investigating the possibility of utilizing two electric fan motors, one A.C., and one D.C., for the construction of a motor-generator set for small-power transmission. The fan motors arranged to run off A.C. supply are usually of the squirrel-cage synchronous type, and may be employed as the motor of the unit without change. The D.C. fan motor will, of course, have to be rewound to function as a high-tension generator, and while this is not a difficult job, yet it is most important that the proper number of turns of wire of the correct gauge for both field windings and armature should be correctly calculated first. The writer has had no opportunity as yet of carrying out a practical test on a generator so arranged, but hopes to do so in the very near future, when figures will gladly be furnished to those who are interested.

With regard to the storage battery and rectifier methods of obtaining the high tension supply, it may be possible in the near future to publish details of the manner in which these means are employed, but as both systems are relatively more complicated than the motor-generator, a proper description of each cannot be given in the space here available.

OAK AND OLIVE

Though I was born a Londoner,
And bred in Gloucestershire,
I walked in Hellas years ago
With friends in white attire:
And I remember how my soul
Drank wine as pure as fire.

And when I stand by Charing Cross
I can forget to hear
The crash of all those smoking wheels,
When those cold flutes and clear
Pipe with such fury down the street,
My hands grow moist with fear.

And there's a hall in Bloomsbury
No more I dare to tread,
For all the stone men shout at me,
And swear they are not dead;
And once I touched a broken girl
And knew that marble bled.

But when I walk in Athens town
That swims in dust and sun
Perverse, I think of London then
Where God's brave work is done
And with what sweep at Westminster
The rayless waters run.

I ponder how from Attic seed
There grew an English tree,
How Byron like his heroes fell,
Fighting a country free,
And Swinburne took from Shelley's lips
The kiss of Poetry.

And while our poets chanted Pan
Back to his pipes and power,
Great Verrall, bending at his desk,
And searching hour on hour
Found out old gardens, where the wise
May find a Spartan flower.

When I go down the Gloucester lanes
My friends are deaf and blind:
Fast as they turn their foolish eyes
The Maenads leap behind,
And when I hear the fire-winged feet,
They only hear the wind.

Have I not chased the fluting Pan
Through Cranham's sober trees?
Have I not sat on Painswick Hill
With a nymph upon my knees,
And she as rosy as the dawn,
And naked as the breeze?

But when I lie in Grecian fields,
Smothered in asphodel
Or climb the blue and barren hills
Or sing in woods that smell
With such hot spices of the South
As mariners might sell—

Then my heart turns where no sun burns,
To lands of glittering rain,
To fields beneath low-clouded skies
New-widowed of their grain,
And Autumn leaves like blood and gold
That strew a Gloucester lane.

Oh well I know sweet Hellas now,
And well I knew it then,
When I with starry lads walked out—
But ah, for home again!
Was I not bred in Gloucestershire,
One of the Englishmen!

From "The Golden Journey to Samarkand."

By James Elroy Flecker.

NORTHERN ASIA THE CRADLE OF MAN

French Priests' Researches into the Antiquities of Mongolia: Discovery of a Prehistoric Kitchen: Lecture in Tientsin

Specially Translated for Tientsin News Service.

An extremely interesting lecture summarized as under, on the results of a French Palæontological Mission in Mongolia was given recently in Tientsin by the Rev. Father Teilhard de Chardin, S.J., Docteur of Sciences, Professeur de Géologie a l'Institut de France, Charge de Mission Scientifique par le Museum de Paris, and by the Rev. Father Licent, S.J., Docteur of Sciences, en Mission Scientifique en Chine.

Father de Chardin, explained that palæontological interest in Northern Asia lies in the fact that this land represents an exceedingly ancient continent. While over the site of the southern Asiatic mountain ranges, the Himalayan for example, a vast Mediterranean had continued to exist until a comparatively recent epoch, the regions corresponding to modern southern Siberia and northern China had emerged much earlier; that is to say, they constituted, for a much longer period, land upon which developed mobile animals, reptiles and mammals. During this immense continental period, stretching over millions of years, thousands of generations of living beings have succeeded each other on this broad expanse of territory. Therefore, one could not despair of finding in these ancient geological deposits some new elements for the solution of the great problem of the History of Life.

Attracted by this hope, many palæontologists have, during the past few years, undertaken the work of exploring China, principally the desert regions, where cultivated earth does not hide the deep fossil beds, and where the hand of man has not for a long time disturbed them. Geology has a predilection for "unfruitful" ground.

The Geologic Service of Peking has concentrated its principal efforts on the interior provinces of China, while Americans have undertaken exploration of Western Gobi, where they have made some really marvellous discoveries. Father Licent, faithful to his programme of exploring the Yellow River basin, has carried his researches into the interior of Mongolia, especially in the Ordos country. It was towards this region that the explorers directed themselves when the Paris Museum and the French Government, upon the recommendation of M. Boule, decided to subsidize a palæontological campaign in China.

The object of this lecture, said Father de Chardin, is to give a summary of the first part of the campaign, the second part of which will commence this spring. The idea was to reach the Sjara Ossos Gol, where fossils had been found in 1922 by Father Licent. The journey could be divided into two stages, the first from Pao Tùi, the terminus of the Peking-Suiyuan Railway, to Sjara Ossos Gol, the second from there to the country of Yufungt'ui, in Northern Shansi.

The explorers left Pao T'ui on June 22, 1923, with a caravan of 10 mules and two soldiers, the latter as an escort. The first stage of the journey brought them in contact with the most advanced spurs of the sub-Gobian mountain ranges, which rise progressively, like steps, to the altitudes of the Gobi Desert. These chains have a particular feature in that they form rocky barriers perfectly delimited and rising up abruptly in the midst of the surrounding plains. Between the mountain ranges there are large flat valleys, filled with *débris*. Each chain is crossed from north to south by torrents that fall from one level to the other. The traveller sees before him abrupt ridges of naked rock, interlined here and there with stripes of white marble. The explorers reached the level between Oula Chan and Sheiltan Oula through a transverse valley. They had the pleasure of seeing the first herds of gazells in this large plain.

A BARREN LAND.

The lecturer then described the features of this severe country of scanty vegetation, the charm of which is, nevertheless, profound for geologists. When nearing the edge of the Lang Shan they turned into the Santaoho, a broad low plain between the river and the Lang, Chara and Oula mountains. The plain is exceedingly monotonous, scarcely a living thing can be seen, save a few hares and pheasants. After a further march of several days they reached their objective in the Ordos country. The Ordos is a well defined area bounded on three sides by great loop of the Yellow River, and on the fourth by the Great wall, which follows a line of low hills of yellow earth.

For 36 hours the explorers wandered in the stony desert, intersected by dried-up rivers, strewn with clusters of lignous plants, until a transient Llama monk directed them to a more favourable locality—a vast hollow, 80 metres deep, formed by erosion in earth of a dark red colour. It was absolutely barren land with ravines, mounds and cliffs. Here they discovered many fossils and after filling two cases with them they struck camp and continued their march towards Santaoho.

Among the fossils were bones of rhinosceros, ostrich egg shells, ancient flints and bones of animals no longer denizens of this country. This discovery was proof that man lived there before the deep crust of yellow loess soil was formed.

The expedition had, upon reaching the Ordos on its Northern edge, skirted the northern and western boundaries, finding the fossils near the northwest corner. It now proceeded to skirt the eastern edge travelling in a south-easterly direction, following the Yellow River. After five or six days it reached the Sjara Ossos Gol, where natives assisted them to further discoveries. The country was extremely barren, inhabited by a few Chinese, Mongols and an assortment of bandits. Pheasant and hares were the only game and seemed to be plentiful. The country was all steppe and except for rare canals and artificial irrigation there was no cultivation.

Crossing over the Yellow River into the Ordos country, to which they were attracted by the violet tinted hills, strongly reminiscent of Sinai, in the Holy land, they prospected unsuccessfully for several days until another Llama shepherd directed their path to fossil deposits in a tertiary bed of white sand. Here they discovered all sorts of remains, among which were rhinoceros, elephants, rats, and bones of many smaller animals. In this pocket, about 80 yards in diameter, they camped for as short a time as was necessary to collect the more valuable fossils, for the climate was unhealthy and the water supply scarce.

Turning the caravan southward they arrived at a transverse valley leading towards the Gobi desert. A river had cut deeply into the soil and in the stratum of red earth below the yellow top-soil, they found more fossils. Here they found the mountain ranges of an interesting structure previously unknown. Two ridges crossed were formed as though two concentric circles had been thrown out by the Ala Mountains, and the earth between the two was of calcareous formation. Many Llamasseries were noticed in the region, marked by the conspicuous "obos", but while they were picturesque at a distance upon closer acquaintance they lost much of this in their state of extreme filthiness.

Passing through this country the travellers discovered more fossils and flints. After traversing the Argo Ossos they came to a fortified town on the edge of the Ala mountains, in a country rich in orchards. The caravan then turned eastward to follow the Great Wall, a natural frontier dividing the steppes from the mountains of Northern Kansu.

A PREHISTORIC KITCHEN.

About 20 kilometres from this town, near Ninghsiafu, the explorers made their greatest discovery. After following a small river they came to a cliff of yellow earth, in which they saw sticking out, a horse's tooth. Working carefully around this they discovered several flints and then other materials which belonged to a prehistoric kitchen. They discovered indisputable evidence of a man, of the quartenary period, who had hitherto been unknown in China or anywhere in the Far East north of the Himalayas, although previously identified in Hindustan and in the Yenesei district. The evidence is considered complete as the kitchen was discovered on a horizontal surface well down in the cliff. The river flows through the steppe cutting a ravine nearly 200 feet deep, in places quite vertical, and the valley is interesting to the geologist because the strata are so very clearly revealed. The yellow earth in this district is most valuable to the palæontologist for large animal fossils, such as rhinoceros and bison, are found here in a well preserved state. They were shown by a Mongol a bed of sand, wherein were scattered, at the extreme bottom of it, many broken bones belonging to stags, horses, antelopes and cattle, such as might have been used by prehistoric man for food. Confirmation was supplied in the discovery of more flints, supporting the idea of the spot having been used as a place where animals had been killed for food, in other words, a kitchen. Sixty metres of earth lie above this stratum, which belonged to the quartenary period.

This discovery practically brought the Mission's quest to an end, but the caravan pushed on into Shensi. Here the Great Wall has almost disappeared, being covered with drifting sand, and only the towers are visible. The loess covers the land to a depth of about 100 metres, but is torn into ravines by previous upheavals of the earth. Remains of fossils are found in the red stratum throughout this district, especially three-toed horses, rhinoceros and other fauna. Man did not exist in this tertiary period but flints are found at the bottom of the loess stratum, indicating his presence at the beginning of the deposits of losess. Among future problems is to find some connecting link.

After traversing nothern Shensi, the expedition returned by boat down the Yellow River, in order to avoid bandits, and the possible loss of their fossils. Reaching Suiyuan, the "Blue City," they transferred to train and came back to Peking.

Fathers Licent and de Chardin left Tientsin yesterday to continue their searches on behalf of the institution they represent.

SAXON SONG

Tools with the comely names,
Mattock and scythe and spade,
Couth and bitter as flames
Clean and bowed in the blade—
A man and his tools make a man
and his trade.

Breadth of the English shires,
Hummock and kame and mead,
Tang of the reeking byres,
Land of the English breed—
A man and his land make a man
and his creed.

Leisurely flocks and herds,
Cool-eyed cattle that come
Mildly to wonted words,
Swine that in orchards roam—
A man and his beasts make a
man and his home.

Children sturdy and flaxen,
Shouting in brotherly strife,
Like the land they are Saxon,
Sons of a man and his wife—
For a man and his loves makes a
man and his life.

By V. Sackville-West, in Georgian Poetry, 1920-22.

Dr. Rabindranath Tagore, the Indian poet and philosopher, arrived in Singapore on April 2 by the Ethiopia and received an affectionate greeting at the dock from a tremendous crowd, representing all communities, including European, Indian, Chinese and Japanese. Dr. Tagore motored round the city and lunched at an Indian leader's home, before taking the Atsuta Maru for Hongkong, whence he will journey to Peking to lecture at the University.

THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

M. Klotz, who was Finance Minister in the Clemenceau Cabinet, has written a book on the present relations between England and France. M. Klotz can hardly be regarded as a very great man. Clemenceau's policy was to form a Cabinet of mediocrities in which he might rule supreme. He was asked why he had selected M. Klotz as Finance Minister, and he replied that he was the only Jew in Europe who knew nothing about finance.

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Although published only a few weeks ago, the demand for "The Shoreless Sea," the novel written by Miss Mollie Panter-Downes, the 16 year old author, has been so great that Mr. Murray has just issued a second large impression.

∴

Miss Katharine Pleydell-Bouverie's "January" (Heinemann, 7s. 6d. net) is taut and trim in workmanship, and concentrated in its effects. There are qualities unusual in a first novel, and promising. As a story it has one essential weakness, which is not its War associations. From the prejudice against these in novel and play signs of a reaction are already evident. It lies with the authors of either to make the War scene acceptable. Much more difficult of acquiescence is the "odd" circumstance in story, such as the relationship of uncle and niece between Miss Pleydell-Bouverie's hero and heroine. Matters are not really helped—for it is the reader's delicate illusions that count—when Bill and Jan are discovered not to stand in such relationship after all. Noreen's infidelity, which explains that, is resented as curious artifice.

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Mr. Hilaire Belloc's literary gifts are so wide and varied that one is not surprised to hear he has written a popular book on economics—"Economics for Helen." As one might suppose from that title, it is done in simple language so that Helen, or anyone else aged 16 or thereabout, may understand the intricacies of economics.

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Readers of the "Weekly Westminster" were recently asked to name what they considered to be the ten most notable books published in Great Britain since 1900, and the following list gained the prize:

Morley's "Life of Gladstone."
Strachey's "Life of Queen Victoria."
"Scott's Last Expedition."
Norman Angell's "Great Illusion."
Hardy's "Dynasts."
Masefield "Everlasting Mercy."
Bennett's "Old Wives' Tale."
Galsworthy's "Forsyte Saga."
Shaw's "John Bull's Other Island."
Wells' "Outline of History."

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Dr. Gore's concluding volume on The Reconstruction of Belief, entitled "The Holy Spirit and the Church" is announced for immediate publication by Mr. Murray. The success of the two previous books in the series was phenomenal, and it is confidently anticipated that there will be an equally big demand for this new study, in which Dr. Gore shows how his conclusions bear on present day problems.

AMERICAN TRADEMARKS IN CHINA

"American "Trade-marks, Trade Names, Copyrights and Patents in China," is the title of a booklet of some 26 pages which has just been issued by the "China Weekly Review," of Shanghai. The booklet was written by Mr. R. T. Bryan, Jr., an American attorney in Shanghai, and as its title indicates deals with the situation of American trademarks in China in view of the new Chinese Trademark Law which was adopted by Parliament on May 3, 1923. The booklet begins with a consideration of the present situation from the standpoint of the treaties and contains in the appendix a copy of the Chinese Law of 1904, the new Law of 1923, and the regulations of the 3rd year of the Republic dealing with Trade Names. The price of the booklet is $1 a copy, postage paid.

THE LONG ROAD

A New Study of the Chinese and Their History

"China Yesterday and To-day." By Edward Thomas Williams. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company.

Professor Williams writes his book from the standpoint of the foreigner noting the characteristics and features of a country which differ from those of his own. In spite of his first hand experienre during his term as American Charge d'Affaires at Peking, he manages to retain the detached attitude in regard to things Chinese which is considered to be a typically British trait. Of modern books his must surely be the most comprehensive in its subject. There is hardly anything Chinese that he does not touch upon, and in most cases he shows the result of an observation which has been, besides minute and pains-taking, extraordinarily shrewd. History, geography, customs, religion, politics, crafts, trades, upon all these subjects he has much useful information to impart. That is the principal value of the book, the useful information which makes it a book of reference of considerable service. There are several photographic illustrations and enclosed in a pocket in the outer cover of the book is the Rand, McNally Standard map of China and Japan. The work also abounds with references.

The author lived in China during the interesting period which saw the downfall of the Manchu Dynasty and the establishment of the Republic, and he saw the beginning of "the great reforms which have wrought such havoc with old-time manners and conditions." With all his research and knowledge his book is nowhere marred by the certainty of judgment which so often spoils our reading of such works. In his preface he says: "There may be instances in which he has unintentionally described as universal certain customs which are known only in the regions with which he is familiar, and there may be other cases in which the changes that have taken place are much greater or less than as described."

It is the work of a very thorough student and a very valuable contribution to Western knowledge of China and her great change.

John Lofting.

RAGGED TALES

"Ragged Tales." By Nigel Vau Biene; author of "The Sibilant Whisper." With preface by O. M. Green. — Lettercraft Publishers, Shanghai.

"Ragged Tales" is the second effort in publication by an ambitious and ingenious youth, resident in Shanghai, whose work has already met with appreciation. These half dozen tales are much in the vein of "The Sibilant Whisper," discovering a penchant for occult, bizarre subjects, and more than the skill of a beginner in dealing with them. "Dawn" is a pretty piece of mysticism, "The Grey Hat," a crime story with a touch of broad comedy, and "The Mightiest Despot," a tale illustrating the power of imagination. The whole six, while of unequal interest, have some touches of merit and, on the whole, the little volume shows promise. Essentially, the tales depend on narrative for their interest, and are very skilfully constructed, but there are crudities in style which betray a too facile pen, and characterization as yet shows no outstanding feature in this delicate art. These blemishes apart, "Ragged Tales" have points of real interest, and we shall look to the young author to provide us with further entertainment of more than average quality.

IN A FINE FRENZY

"Candour: First Poems": By A. E. Tomlinson. Elkin, Matthews, Ld. 5/-net.

There is an attractive portrait of the author in khaki uniform as a frontispiece. It is a very misleading picture. For it shows us a young good-looking man of a very gentle expression. And his poems generally are so violent as to make even the most turbulent stuff of young America seem mild in comparison. Some of the work seems indeed to display only a frenzy, an unbridled passion that swamps and drowns the expression. The author is of course very young; and it is the common thing to say in such a case (it has indeed been said in most of the earlier reviews of this book) that his work shows great promise. But it is doubtful if this kind of criticism can be applied to poetry. For surely youth is an essential of poetry. And Mr. Tomlinson's poems strike one as of the sort that could not be written except in the heat of their enlivening passion. It is, nevertheless, cheering to read the words "First Poems" as a subtitle. For the author is a poet, beyond question, and we will look for his further work. Even among these poems which are, for the most part, so uncontrolled in utterance, there are one or two which show that he can reduce his thought to a form, to a dignified, finished expression. This is noticeable in the first poem, called "Peace" and in the third, called "March Past." If this can be done Mr. Tomlinson should give us some good poetry. His is a very fertile imagination and he has a wide vocabulary. A greater control over both (many of his words even are his own and not properly England's) should produce some excellent work.

John Lofting.

BY WHAT AUTHORITY?

Complete Works of Samuel Butler. The first four volumes: "A First Year in Canterbury Settlement, and Other Early Essays," with a Biographical Sketch of Butler by Henry Festing Jones. "Erewhon," "The Fair Haven" (published to-day), and "Life and Habit" (published to-day). The Shrewsbury Edition, edited by Henry Festing Jones and A. T. Bartholomew, and published by Jonathan Cape. Complete in 20 volumes at 20 guineas, in 750 numbered sets.

Foreigners say sometimes that the English people have made a god of authority. No-one travelling from Continental towns to London but is impressed by the quietude with which the city's millions move about their streets. Here is authority in a wise sense. The people hand over the regulation of their city to an authority they are prepared to obey, and they are left free to ponder quietly on their own engaging affairs. But the charge goes deeper. It is asserted that we will take no man's word for anything unless we feel it is backed by authority; then he can do no wrong. We are accused of disliking brilliant ideas and many-sidedness, because we argue that no man has time in life for attainment in many diversities.

Mr. R. A. Streatfeild, in an introduction to the 1913 edition of "Fair Haven," says that the book did Samuel Butler grave harm in the literary world. Deceived by irony and mystification, his critics ignored his later works, thinking discretion the better part of valour. But there may have been another reason for Butler's failure. He was too brilliant, too greatly interested in too many subjects. How could he pour forth upon them all? He wrote of New Zealand, of religion, of science and philosophy, of the Odyssey and its origin, he translated Homer, considered Shakespeare's sonnets, wrote a novel and many essays.

But it was this gift of absorbing easily and reflecting well and wisely that should endear him to the average man and woman. He brought, as they must do, his experience of life to bear on all problems. Specialization he left to the specialists, but he seems to say, "you are interested in the deeper ways of life, wishing for a rounded philosophy which may help you to view it sanely, I think I can help you." True he had to work with the ideas common to his age, the Victorian period, and in a sense he is limited by them. We no longer argue philosophically on the Darwinian theory, nor burst with indignation if anyone pulls at a thread in the rich garment of Christianity. But Samuel Butler infused his arguments with a breadth of thought which carries his works through his own generation into future days.

It is a belief in his usefulness that has produced this edition. In one of his essays Butler says, "The essence of Christianity lies neither in dogma nor yet in abnormally holy life, but in faith in an unseen world, in doing one's duty, in speaking the truth, in finding the true life rather in others than in oneself, and in the certain hope that he who loses his life on these behalfs finds more than he has lost." Not an entirely original point of view, but one that commends itself to the wisdom of most men and women of to-day. But he is a spur against inactivity and to individual thinking. Mr. Cape has made a bold venture in presenting this definitive edition, so admirably edited by Mr. H. Festing Jones and Mr. Bartholomew. Each volume is charmingly bound in blue and white, decorated with gold lettering. Each is easy to handle and hold. The memory of a great Victorian is honoured in this edition, which enshrines his thoughts so worthily. —"Morning Post."

GENTLE DISPUTATIONS

Conversations in Ebury-street. By George Moore. William Heinemann, Ld.

Mr. Geodge Moore has always been the candid and confidential friend of all his readers, but he has never before been so frank and outspoken (except when telling us about his many *bonnes fortunes* with the air of an occasional Casanova) as in this volume of parleyings and opinions. The first of his conversations in the street that has been so unkindly called "the Edgware-road of Mayfair" introduces a delightful American disciple who went down a coal-mine, when he left Harvard, because he wanted to get in touch with life. Had he lived in Europe, he could have gone to Paris, but, being in America, there was nothing else for him to do but go down a coal-mine. Unlike Mr. Moore, he had not the courage to descend into the oubliette of his own heart or somebody else's, which would have been a far more profound and perilous adventure. We suspect Mr. Husband (for such was his name) of being one of those abnormal Americans of whom, speaking of a similar case, a compatriot said: "There must be something radically wrong with him—he's never been divorced." Mr. Husband having hurried home to see his wife again, we begin to meet some of the artists who exist to console Mr. Moore for the death of Manet—we feel quite angry with Manet for dying at a time that did not suit the convenience of Mr. Moore. Before they enter 121, Ebury-street, however, we are indulged in the inevitable panegyric on Balzac, whose two thousand men and women are intimate friends of the author of "A Mummer's Wife," or, if you prefer it, of "Evelyn Innes." The critics of Balzac are ruthlessly criticised. "Sainte-Beuve's failure to appreciate Balzac's genius," we are assured, "will assure him of the sneers of many a generation, and *the pot of paint flung in the face of the public* will survive Ruskin's finest prose passage." Mr. Moore quotes with admiration some of the epigrams from the "Curé de Tours," insisting that four out of seven translated into English, which is better than the original French, could hold their own against the best to be found in La Rochefoucauld. We cannot agree; there is the packed substance of wisdom in two of them:

Celibates replace sentiments by habits

If we do not always know where we are going, we always know the fatigues of the journey—

but neither has the witty, weighty brevity of the famous maxims which have the ring of gold pieces, whereas Balzac's thoughts lack even the muffled jingle of nickel coins. After Mr. Moore's master has been duly acclaimed, George Eliot is praised with faint damns, and then, oh then, there is a murderous onslaught on Mr. Thomas Hardy's art. A passage out of "Far from the Madding Crowd" is ridiculed, word by word, sentence by sentence, and the story of "Tess" is described as *coco* (which Mr. Moore translates as "Mother Goose"). When Mr. Freeman, that faint, elusive poet who takes part in this discussion, says that the Wessex novelist has helped the ordinary man to realize pessimism, the reply is that pessimism is no new thing in literature and that Mr. Hardy has "coaxed his readers into drinking from an old tin pot a beverage that had hitherto only been offered to them in golden and jewelled goblets." This candid critic will not see that it is truth, not beauty nor even elegance, much less the tact and taste of the elder French novelists, which is sought in the joyless quests of the greatest of our living men of letters. How could you expect him to understand! For it is a hand-mirror, framed in silver and stolen from some lady-Muse's dressing-table, which Mr. Moore holds up to the artificialities of the life he knows—and whether he poses in front of it as an English Zola or an Irish Balzac, the face of his indomitable *ego* is always the amplest reflexion in the glass.

Still, we all love him for his carefully-managed peccadilloes and petulances—most of all, perhaps, for the gay, defiant air with which he flaunts the tattered cloak of "ninety-ish" superior-mindedness in the astonished eyes of the post-war generations. With him it was never merely Art for Art's sake; it was Art for the Artist's sake, for ever and ever, amen! Wilde was a clumsy bourgeois, waving a podgy hand and saying things to amaze his own kind, in comparison with the delightful egoist of Ebury-street, who confesses he always has time to talk about Art, meaning the Artist—meaning, of course, himself! And Shaw, in comparison, is a limping interloper; with the "knocker-kneed" literary gait which his spirit has inherited from ancestral flesh. And Yeats, compared with him, is an umbrella blown inside out, showing the frail, iron ribs of his artistry; as, indeed, Mr. Moore depicts him, hiding in a cloak the budding of his latter-day rotundity (like that of Meredith's "Wise Youth") at a windy street-corner in Dublin. For this eremite of Ebury-street never forgets that he himself is really and truly an Irish gentleman, though with a distinguished complaisance he quite often allows the reader to forget it.—"Morning Post."

A WELSH SINGER

"Poems of Wales." By A. G. Prys-Jones. Blackwell. 2s. 6d.

This little volume will appeal to Welshmen and to all lovers of melodious verse. Mr. Prys-Jones is proud of his native land, saturated with memories of its ancient glories. "A Song of the Welsh" is a stirring tribute to the ancient Cymric race, with its unexhausted vitality; and in a poem on the lovely valley which is adorned by the ruins of Talley Abbey are such touching lines as:

Along that road I could have sworn
I heard
Ap Gwilym, lithe and laughing, in the brake,
Calling on Morfudd — and for
Morfudd's sake
Outpouring songs of passion, like a bird.

An "in memoriam" tribute to the late Owen Edwards gives thanks to God for "our deathless dead":

Prince, Poet, Peasant—those who made
For us this heritage of pride,
Building with sword and song and spade
A land where freedom never died.

There are also charming poems about fairies, clouds and waters, containing such lines as:

When, like a lantern, glows the moon
Upon night's high roof-tree,
When dusk has closed the eyes of June
And sleep is on the bee:
If you go gently through the dell
And hide in dewy grass—
Maybe you'll hear the fairy-bell
And see the fairies pass

One is not surprised to learn that several of these melodious poems have already been set to music.

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

SHANGHAI MOTHER GOOSE

By Elizabeth Pepys.

THE MORNING AFTER.

Diddle, diddle dumpling, my son John
Went to bed with his stockings on;
A dark brown taste, head weighed a ton,
O a wild, wild night had my son John.

REDUCING.

Little Miss Muffet
Sat on a tuffet
Eating curds and whey;
But a neighbour said "No,
Too fat you will grow,"
And frightened Miss Muffet away.

HIGH FINANCE.

There was a crooked man, who worked a crooked deal
And made some crooked money in a very crooked style.
He formed a monster company—of course it wasn't real—
But it brought them wealth aplenty for a long, long while.

CHITS WE SHOULD LIKE TO SEND

To the Caller Who Hasn't Time to Sit Down

By Elizabeth Pepys.

Miss Janet Calliday
Primrose Terrace, Shanghai

My dear Jan:

I tried to expostulate with you the other day when you kept a whole roomful in a flutter of perturbation for precisely twenty-two and a half minutes while you protested you hadn't time for a cup of tea, for a scone, or even to sit down. You had some reason for coming in, but what it was I *never did find out*. My one recollection is a series of "I'm just going—really can't sit down—haven't time for tea—don't let me interrupt you."

But of course you did interrupt us. Not only the men who stood at attention while their teas cooled, not only those of us to whom you talked in your darting, inconsequential, bird-like conversational flurries, but the whole room kept waiting for you to go or to stay and it was impossible to resume any connected social intercourse until you had finally departed, after many false starts.

Do you remember in "Old Lady 31" how Sarah Jane says of "Blossy," "She always could hold the door open longer than any other living being?" As you advanced to the door, accompanied by charging gallants, then returned to fling a chance remark across the room, pivoted, and were off again without the answer, only to return again and yet again, I'm sure that remark crossed the minds of those present.

THE DISTURBING ELEMENT.

It's not that we wished to hurry you off, Jan dear, but the state of suspense is trying. You would neither stay with us nor go. Instead of being a delightful diversion you were an irritating intrusion. With twenty-two minutes at your command you might have had a dish of tea with us in an atmosphere of peace and leisure instead of imposing your tenseness upon us all.

We've seen you do it before this, and latterly I've timed your incursions when you simply couldn't stay a moment. They vary from seven minutes—you were catching a train that day—to half an hour. Surely 30 minutes is enough for a placid entrance, an easing of the nervous tension which not only emanates from you but puts us all into a fidget. If you must go, —go, and be brisk about it; but don't allow youself to fall into the fallacy of thinking you are busier than you honestly are. Bustle is not a virtue to be cultivated.

Agitatedly yours,
Flustered Hostess.

VISITING ARTIST

Miss Amy J. Drucker of London Sketching in China

Miss Drucker, whose work is doubtless familiar to many artists in Shanghai who visit the exhibitions of the Royal Academy, the Royal Institute of Oil Painters, or the International Society of Sculptors, Painters and Etchers when at Home, is now in Shanghai, making a collection of Chinese types, and it is hoped that an exhibit of her work may be arranged while she is here.

MISS PEGGY LOVELL OF THE "MIDNIGHT FOLLIES"

While this talented artist has brought with her only a part of her studies the writer saw enough to get an excellent idea of the versatility and strength displayed in the various mediums of oils, water colours and pastels, mainly the latter, and a showing could not fail to be of general interest. Miss Drucker's main line is portraiture and among her sitters have been H. R.H. Prince Henry, Colonel Bramley, now Attorney General of Palestine and formerly Chief of Police, the former head of the Board of Works in Palestine, Stephen McKenna, Cynthia Stockley, author of "The Claw," Rosita Forbes, the explorer, and other well known persons. While in Shanghai she is painting likenesses of local people.

VARIED TALENTS.

Miss Drucker's work includes a large number of types as she has travelled extensively and her interests are equally wide in range. With Mrs. Dawson Scott she organized the "Land Girls" and later started the "To-morrow Club," a literary circle in London. She also writes and has published some of her reminiscences in "Time and Tide." Lithography and colour printing after the Japanese method are other art branches which she has taken up and she taught the latter subject in the Tagore School of Indian Painting in Calcutta.

The most appealing thing in the paintings which Miss Drucker has with her in Shanghai were, in the judgment of the writer, a group of child studies in pastel, some exquisite bits of restrained colouring and sympathetic interpretation. Besides these there are some admirable landscapes, luminous and striking, other portrait studies, notably a series of rapidly sketched sailors, some lovely prints of London and bits of Yorkshire. Miss Drucker comes to Shanghai from Italy and expects to return to England via Taishan and Peking and thence across Siberia.

E. P.

CHINESE CAMPFIRE GIRLS

At the second annual conference of the Northwest Campfire Girls of America, held in Seattle in March the 13 Chinese girls composing the membership of the Tanda Group were especially invited to be guests of Mr. Goon Dip, the Chinese consul in Seattle. This is the only Chinese Campfire group on the Coast, so far as is known. The organization is similar to the Girl Guides and these Chinese high school students are carrying on in different surroundings much the same type of work that the Chinese Girl Guides of Shanghai are doing.

HOME HUMOURS

Dorothy: How long is it to my birthday?

Mother: Not very long, dear.

Well, is it time for me to begin to be a good girl?

—"Life"

SHELVED.

Mother: Why did you drop that young man who took you to all the football games?

Daughter: The football season's over.

SPRING COSTUMES.

PUT TO THE PROOF.

Little Lucy (to guest): Do you like that cake, Mrs. Brown?

Mrs. Brown: Yes, dear, very much.

Little Lucy: That's funny, 'cause Muvver said you havent't any taste.

—"Life"

TELEPHONE MANNERS.

The Telephone: I'm afraid it's the wrong number. Very sorry to have troubled you.

Horace (politely): Oh, not at all. Thank you for having me.

Cambridge Granta.

PERTINENT QUESTION.

"I give my husband no cause for fault-finding."

"Does that help matters any?"

Louisville Courier-Journal.

THE LITTLE TRUMPETERS

I met the herald jonquils
Amid the grass to-day
They trooped, the little trumpeters.
In glad and green array;
Each held a golden bugle,
And each a spear of green,
They said that they were messengers
From April's misty queen.

Spring gave a swift direction,
A hidden countersign,—
Mayhap it was the blue bird's pipe,—
They straightened up in line;
There came a rushing whisper,
A mystic sudden breeze;
It tossed their little horns on high,
Their trumpets to the trees.

They blew a golden message,
A shout of love and spring,
A tip-toe blast of just one word—
A word for stars to sing;
They tossed their living trumpets,
The word they blew and blew—
And the word, O Lord of Life, the word
Was You! You! You!

Margaret Prescott Montague, in The "Atlantic."

SENEX IRRITANS

When I was twenty the world was a daisy,
Blue were the skies as the eyes of a girl:
"Elders and betters" were no less than crazy—
Day was a jig and the night was a whirl.

When I was forty the world was a melon,
Every one out to make sure of his slice
Juicy enough to get sick and get well on—
Ready to buy and to pay the full price.

Now I am sixty the running is faster—
Not a whit daunted, I step just aside
Watching the race, and avoiding disaster,
Smiling superior, clothed in my pride.

Oh, for the zest of it! Forty and twenty
Each had his fling—but for sixty remains
Only remembrance, and echoes in plenty.
Still—there's some pleasure in using your brains!

W. S. M., in "Life."

EARLY SPRING

I said a quiet thing to-day.
I said: "And who would care
Though every breeze is like the way
A hand feels on your hair?

"And who would mind a day so new
And so sweet with the south,
That it seems reaching out for you
And feeling for your mouth?

"O who would give the flip of a string,
Or the blowing of a feather,
At any time for anything
So trivial as weather?"

Annis Higgins, in "New Republic"

VEGETABLE RECIPES

Peas in French Style.

796 Total Calories
28 Protein Calories
2 quarts green peas
4 tablespoonfuls butter
1 tablespoonful flour
1 teaspoonful sugar
2 teaspoonfuls salt
¼ section white onion, chopped
½ teaspoonful chopped parsley
½ cupful boiling water

Shell the peas. Melt the butter over a moderate heat; add the salt and sugar, and then the peas. Cook slowly until the skin of the peas begins to wrinkle. While cooking, shake the pan frequently, but do not stir the peas with a fork or spoon. When sufficiently cooked, dredge with the flour and shake the pan until the butter and flour are blended. Then add the onion, parsley, and the boiling water. Cook until the peas are tender.

Squash Petites.

716 Total Calories
54 Protein Calories
1 summer squash
1 egg
1 tablespoonful cold water
½ cupful cracker crumbs
3 tablespoonfuls butter or drippings
Salt to taste

Select a very small squash; remove the outside covering unless

THE "PERIOD FROCK."

the squash is very tender. Cut into inch-square pieces. Place in salted water and boil until tender; then drain. Beat the egg and mix with the cold water. Dredge the squash in cracker crumbs, then in egg, and again in cracker crumbs. Sauté in the butter or drippings.

Cucumber Vinaigrette.

138 Total Calories
24 Protein Calories
1 good sized cucumber
1 egg
2 tablespoonfuls mild vinegar
½ teaspoonful sugar
Salt and pepper to taste

Pare the cucumber, cut into small pieces, and cook in boiling, salted water until tender. Drain. To make the dressing, beat the egg and add the vinegar, sugar, salt, and pepper. Boil until slightly thickened. It should be served hot poured over the cucumbers.

TO POETRY

Thou lady of my dreams awake or sleeping,
Thou enemy of work, and peace, and play,
Thine eyes are turned forever from my seeking,
Both night and day.
Waking I dream, and dreaming I awaken,
The years are passing as a flight of stars,
And in the darkness now I am forsaken
Behind these bars.
I meet in thee my last, my only lover,
I find in thee my first unfailing friend,
And yet I know I never shall discover
How to unbend
Thy subtle form and delicate surprising,
Or wrest from thee one secret of thine art
Ere with unanswered question and surmising
I too depart.

Everest Lewin, in London "Mercury"

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

Per I.K.K.S. Shinyo Maru ... Apr. 16
Per M.M.S. Chile ... ... „ 17
Per A.O.L.S. President Grant „ 19

OUTWARD

For Marseilles, London, etc —

Per N.D.L.S. Nurnberg ... Apr. 14
Per H.A.L.S. Oldenburg ... „ 15
Per P. & O.S. China ... „ 15

For Japan, Canada, U.S.A. & Europe:

Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jackson Apr. 13
Per O.S.K.S. Alabama Maru „ 17
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia „ 21
Per N.Y.K.S. Iyo Maru ... „ 21
Per T.K.K.S. Shinyo Maru... „ 23
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jefferson „ 25

For Manila, Australia and New Zealand via Hongkong —

Per O. & O. S. China ....Apr. 15

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per str. Nagasaki Maru, April 2. From Japan. Miss L. Lorens, steerage, E. C. Pomercy, A. Ribert, A. C. M. M'Clough, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Fuller.

Per H.A.L.S. Cobenz, April. 4. From Hamburg. Mr. Ft. Wandtke, Mr. K. Seltin Dr. and Mrs. Kleid, Mrs. O. Wantor, Mr. G. Helles, Mr. R. Bossen, Mrs. H. Heyse, Mrs. H. Oertel and children, Miss S. Radunski, Mr. H. Peltner, Mrs. M. Funke, Mr. W. Schirmer, Miss Wiedemann, Mr. A. Sielden Mrs. D. Arndt, Miss M. Teindt From Genoa Miss R. de la Camp, Mr. [illegible] Wagner, Mr. N. Peliakoff, Mr. and Mrs. K. Grove, Mr. and Mrs. R. [illegible] From Rotterdam. Mr. and Mrs. Krebs. From Batavia. Mrs. H. Saito. From Singapore. Mr. and Mrs N. Livermore, Mr. T. G. Fenby, Mr. and Mrs. N. Isse. From Hongkong. Mrs. I. E. Costa, Miss M. de Figueiredo, Mr. and Miss de Figueiredo, Mrs. Tilburn, Mr. and Mrs. Ehan, Mrs. I. Golding, Mr. and Mrs C. Harder.

Per R.M.S. Empress of Russia April 5. From Hongkong. Mr. J. R. Collins, Miss D. L. Glassford, Mr. R. L. Moore, Mr. J. O'Leary, Dr. A. Schwarzhaupt Mr. and Mrs P. A. Doan, Mr. L. T. Lamont, Mr. A. [illegible] Mrs. C. Weld, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. N. [illegible] Mr. and Mrs. G. P. McKee, Mr. E. P. Lemon, Dr. R. E. Bowen, Mr. C. K. [illegible] Miss M. Cayen, Mr. and Mrs. A. Clare, Mr. C. E. Davies, Mr. J. F. Dorsey, Capt. D. Fraser, Mr. J. [illegible] hay, Mrs. G. Harvey, Mrs. D. F. Henderson Mr. and Mrs H. T. Kain, Mrs. C. H. Bruce, Mrs. M. [illegible] Mrs. Joy, Miss [illegible] Mr. D. Jones, Mr. H. M. Kenyon, Mr. A. [illegible] Mrs. J. L. Mackenzie, Mr. E. Mayhew, Mr. J. Medeiros, Mrs. A. Moutrie, Mr. J. Nakayama, Mr. E. D. Nelson, Mrs. M. Pilcher, Miss G. Ranzer, Mr. E. C. Robinson, Mr. E. G. Smith, Mr. M. Schreiber, Miss P. Spicer, Mrs. [illegible] Stantz, Miss N. Swartz, Mr. T. Thomas, Mr. T. Vanderbeek, Mrs. B. Wall, Miss S. Wilson, Mrs. H. Wise, Mrs. D. Wise, Mr. E. W. Bunnell, Mr. P. A. Cox, Mrs. J. L. Nelson, Miss [illegible] Mr. E. [illegible] Mrs. J. S. Ayers, Mr. D. M. Bunnell, Mrs. [illegible] Mrs. N. D. Bunnell, Mrs. [illegible] W. Bunkley, Master B. Bunkley, Mrs. M. O. Carlson, Miss J. Carlson, Mrs. C. A. Cabanies, Mrs. R. B. Crichton and child, Mrs. H. H. Gee and child, Mrs. A. H. [illegible] nings and child, Mr. T. [illegible] Mrs. S. B. Deal, Miss M. K. Dunn, Mrs. G. E. Derk and child, Mrs. C. D. Evans and child, Miss M. Evans, Mrs. E. L. Finster, M. C. Goodrich, Mrs. N. W. Cress, Mrs. W. E. Goodhue, Miss J. Gerstime, Miss L. M. Grennan, Mrs. M. Grennon and child, Miss M. [illegible] Mrs. [illegible] Miss P. Hess, Mrs. J. H. Hoge, Mrs. E. Hoge, Mrs. G. F. Helse, Mrs. C. W. Hughes, [illegible] S. E. Jackson, Miss J. S. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Jansen, Mrs. C. Jones, Miss J. L. Jones, Miss D. L. Kenney, Miss [illegible] H. Lucas, Miss C. Lucas, Mrs. C. G. Miss [illegible] Mrs. [illegible] Mrs. W. Mees, Mrs. Mellon, Master F. Mallen, Mrs. H. C. Obea, Capt. and Mrs. A. Orrill, Mrs. W. J. Pennell and child, Rev. A. L. Ryan, Mrs. K. S. Schilling, Mrs H. L. Smith, Mrs. C. Weaver, Miss C. Weaver, Mr. J. A. Bailey, Miss V. Barger, Miss E. Dores, Mr. A. R. Eichler, Mr. E. L. V. Forster, Mr. L. Da Silva, Mr. J. Simpson.

Per str. Suiyang, April 6. From Hongkong and Amoy. Mrs. Hotchhiss, Mr. Hotchkiss.

Per str. Kungwo, April 6. From River Ports. Mr. Banker, Mr. H. Van der Veen Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Allen and [illegible] children.

Per str Tungchow April 7. From Tientsin. Mr. and Mrs. Dermotte and four children, Captain Lepler, Mrs. S. E. Watts, Dr. and Mrs. Ayres.

Per R.M.S. Empress of Australia, April 7. From Vancouver, etc. Mr. and Mrs. B. D. F. Dieth, Mr. R. Berlinger, Mr. R. Blumenthal, Mrs. L. Brodie, Miss E. Brodie, Mr. R. K. Cameron, Miss M. Esser, Mr. R. E. England, Miss M. Furness, Mr. H. B. Gobeatiel, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Goddard, Miss Goddard, Mr. K. T. Gurney, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Hammond, Mr. J. R. Hargreaves, Miss P. Hoffel, Mr. and Mrs. G. Houser, Mr. E. L. Hunter, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mr. V. T. Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. R. Brodie, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Cooper, Mr. W. E. Gillis, Mrs. Hunter, Mr. H. C. Lamond, Dr. A. Mann, Mr. W. H. Merzan, Mr. M. Munz, Mr. H. J. Nairn, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Nazer, Mrs. P. Norman, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. A. Perlin, Miss E. Platts, Captain E. Y. Sassoon, Mrs. S. J. Sharpless, Mr. and Mrs. M. Simmons, Mrs. S. Simmons, Master L. Simmons, Mr. G. J. Wijtanburg, Mr. J. B. Swain, Mrs. I. Terrano, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Struble, Master F. Struble, Master P. Struble, M. M. Shumaker, Miss Gibbs, Miss [illegible] Mr. O. A. Hall, Mr. [illegible] McMullan, Mr. I. Mankowitz, Mrs. R. P. Oakshett, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Oakshett, Mr. I. Morita; Mr. and Mrs. W. Y. Baxter, Mr. and Mrs. S. Stani and two children, Mr. K. Taki, Mrs. C. S. Upson, Miss P. Upson, Miss E. V. Upson, Mr. A. J. Wearner, Mr. R. Watanabe, Mr. K. Nakamura, Mr. and Mrs. A. Sakai, Master K. Sakai, Miss K. Sakai, Master H. Sakai, Mr. P. H. Ieuch, Rev. M. Tjader.

Per str. Szechuen, April 8. From Hongkong. Miss M. T. Price, Mr. and Mrs. G. Murray.

Per str. Hsinchi, April 8. From Foochow. Mrs. Putnam, Miss Putnam, Miss Rowatree.

Per str. Soochow, April 8. From Hongkong. Mr. and Mrs. G. V. [illegible] Miss G. M. [illegible] Mr. E. W. [illegible]

Per str. Kiangwah April 8. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] Miss [illegible] and child, Miss Lindsay, Messrs. Morris, Rannon, Reed, Schwarz.

Per P. & O. S. Soudan, April 8. From Bombay. Mr. and Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Dagel. **From Colombo.** Mrs. Piercy. **From Singapore.** Miss McLellan, Mrs. Cameron, Mr. Crabb, Mr. C. Tripp, Mrs. Mott, Miss H. Camp, Miss C. Camp, Mr. and Mrs. Johns and two children. **From Hongkong.** Mrs. Bristow and two children, Miss A. Sampson.

Per P. & O. S. Kashmir, April 8. From London, etc. Mr. and Mrs. Andersen, Mr. J. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Barrow, Mr. and Mrs. M. Barrow, Miss Saddler, Mr. J. Bentley, Mr. [illegible] Mrs. Westbury, Messrs. F. and B. Westbury, Mr. D. Barr, Mr. Charki, Mr. [illegible] Mr. Drake, Mr. H. Depreer, Mr. Hyndman, Mr. W. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Hotchkiss, Mr. W. P. [illegible] Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] Mr. Napier, Mr. Purdon, Mr. [illegible] Miss D. and Miss E. Bur[illegible] Mr. H. Zirkel, Mr. Zirkel, Mr. C. Dowell, Miss I. Dowell, Rev. [illegible] Mr. and Miss Allen, Mr. [illegible]

Per R.M.S. President Garfield, April 8. From America, etc. The Hon. Judge and Mrs. D. Purdy, Miss F. Purdy, Mr. and Mrs. M. Toch, Miss Toch, Mr. A. Bennett, Mr. W. R. Dockrill, Mr. [illegible] Mr. and Mrs. E. Westbury, Mr. B. and Mr. E. Westbury, Mr. W. H. Arnold-Forster, Misses F. and M. Cullinane, Mr. P. E. Saumon, Mr. and Mrs. P. H. A. Borrow, Mr. I. G. S. Barrow, Misses C. E. and I. E. Doxell, Mr. [illegible] Mrs. W. Thomas, Mr. J. P. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. L. Deacons, Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] Miss [illegible] Marquis and Marchese Tokugawa, Mr. T. [illegible] Mrs. J. B. Pardee, [illegible] Mrs. J. P. Cameron, Mr. E. W. Foster, Mrs. C. Mott, Mr. C. H. Tripp, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Gill, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. [illegible] Mrs. M. Kyle, Judge and Mrs. W. B. [illegible] Mr. E. T. Gregg, Mr. C. C. [illegible]

Per str. Kanchow, April 9. From Canton and Hongkong via Swatow. Mr. and Mrs. Hicks and two children.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, April 10. From Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs. Hubert, Mr. Kuff, Mr. Wolsiffer, Mr. Poleat and child, Mr. and Mrs. Ballgwan and child.

Per str. Fengtien, April 10. From Tientsin. Dame Adelaide Anderson, Mr. Twogood. **From Chefoo.** Mr. F. [illegible] Mr. [illegible] Master O. Adams.

Per str. Tuckwo, April 10. From River Ports. Mr. E. F. Ratti, Mr. C. Love, Mr. Tippard, Mrs. J. S. Adams, Mr. Ost, Mr. de Ridder, Mr. M. T. Alexander, Mr. A. Dixon, Miss Dunphy, Miss Norman, Miss Loggin, Mr. A. F. Barnes, Mrs. Gundey.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Hsin Peking, April 4. For Ningpo.—Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Martin, Mr. F. Schimming, Mr. and Mrs. P. P. Bakeman and child, Messrs. Poteat and child, Lee.

Per str. Luchow, April 5.—For Tsingtao.—Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Berthel and two children, Mr. Wagener.

Per str. Suuning, April 5.—For Hongkong.—Mr. and Mrs. T. Y. Pearson and child, Mr. W. S. Cruickshank.

For Amoy.—Messrs. G. T. Hanwell, F. I. Robbins and Rasmussen.

Per str. Sunning, April 5.—For Chefoo.—Miss D. Stark, Master D. Parry, Messrs. J. J. Sheridan, J. P. Lawrie, Mrs. G. N. Courtney and two children. **For Tientsin.**—Miss Allian, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. de Silva, Mr. E. Hine, Miss S. Feika.

Per str. Woosung, April 5.—For River Ports—Mr. C. E. Burdett, Mrs. D. Henderson, Mr. W. G. L. Sell, Mr. V. G. Smyth, Mr. G. E. Stewart, Mr. A. J. Hughes, Mrs. M. Faure, Mr. and Mrs. J. Martinek and child, Mr. [illegible] N. Wilson.

Per R.M.S. Empress of Russia, April 5.—For Vancouver, etc.—Mrs. N. Adair, Miss A. Adair, Miss E. Adair, Mr. G. A. Briggs, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Brooks and child, Mr. Oscar Benz, Capt. J. Barrett, Mr. and Mrs J. W. Bradley, Miss T. and Miss A. B. Bradley, Master T. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Dawe, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Gillingham and child, Miss Frances Guy, Mr. F. M. Hood, Mrs. H. B. Hoff, Mr. J. Hope, Miss C. Hamilton, Miss T. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs C. J. G. Hill, Mr. T. Iens, Mr. C. Ioannou, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Le Breton, Master Robert Le Breton, Mr. J. F. Mewson, Mr. K. MacKenzie, Miss L. S. McRae, Mr. J. Morley, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Maassen, Mr. W. H. Porritt, Mr. L. Rondon, Mr. A. Reuss, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Stanstead, Master Arthur and Master Richard Stanstead, Mr. G. E. P. Lewis, Miss A. Thornton, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Taylor, Master Alfred Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Townsend, Rt. Rev. W. C. White, Mr. M. H. [illegible] Miss H. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hudson Brownnall, Adjutant and Mrs. E. Brandt, Master C. Brandt, Miss E. Couche, Mr. R. Conduit, Mrs. D. B. Davenport, Master Donald Davenport, Master Richard Davenport, Master Russell Davenport, Miss Marion Davenport, Mr. L. L. Dzu, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Doherty, Mr. J. H. Farquharson, Miss J. Farquharson, Mr. W. S. Featherstonhaugh, Miss M. Giesfeldt, Mr. W. Grant, Mr. F. [illegible] Mrs. M. D. Hopkins, Miss A. V. Harris, Mrs. S. Koff, Miss L. Koff, Miss D. Koff, Miss T. Peterson, Miss V. Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Rogers, Rev. and Mrs P. Stevens, Miss Nada Stevens, Mr. T. Schneider, Mr. M. T. Simmons, Mrs. W. Smith, Rev. and Mrs. W. Stobie, Miss M. Stobie, Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Sama, Master O. Sama, Master A. Sama, Mr. T. K. Voronovsky.

Per str. Shantung, April 6.—For Canton—Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Adlington and child. **For Hongkong** Mr. and Mrs J. V. Murphy, Master Murphy, Miss Sith. **For Swatow**—Mr. Hakine.

Per str. Shengking, April 7.—For Tungchow—Dr. J. B. Grant.

Per str. Wanliu, April 8.—For Ichang—Mr. G. A. Meszkovski.

Per str. Wuchang, April 8.—For River Ports—Rev. G. A. Clayton.

Per str. Suiyang, April 8.—For Amoy. Mrs. G. Cole, Mrs. Buss, Mr. F. Ecker, Miss S. Heyreisu.

Per str. Szechuen, April 9.—For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Byrne, Mr. A. J. Fellingham, Mr. A. M. Bourne, Mr. L. A. Whittaker. **For Canton** Mr. W. S. H. Fuller.

Per str. Tungchow, April 9.—For Chefoo—Mr. R. W. Wingrove. **For Tientsin**—Miss C. Harding, Miss Allian, Mr. and Mrs. O. Mannen and two children.

Per str. Poyang, April 9.—For River Ports—Mr. G. T. Nelson, Mr. Wilden.

Per M.M.S. Amazone, April 10. —For Marseilles—Mrs. Claudon and child, Mr. and Miss Vittori, Mr. and Mrs. Bauik and three children, Mr. E. Bougeard, Miss Remond and child, Mr. [illegible] E. Steiger, Mrs. H. [illegible] Messrs. J. Bonnet, Messrs. J. [illegible] Cadas, R. Allix, A. Vakatia, Ropin, Favoureou, J. Vandamme, J. M. Bouche, J. Jolivet, Mrs. A. E. Muellenmer, Mrs. A. Gautier and two children, Miss Rishkevich, Mr. B. Vanow, Mrs. G. V. [illegible] and two children, Rev. Pere Seals, Dr. Hardiollier, Mr. Serjensky, Mrs. Sherer, Mr. and Mrs. R. [illegible] Mrs. A. Szulcenko, Mrs. M. Patrykowska, Messrs. C. Lacomb, J. Gualicelli, J. Bertho, J. Vicilas, P. Vessere J. Verzin, J. Haccart, L. Bernard, R. Gauthier, L. Louveau, P. Wandelle, Kouznetoff, Mrs. Plikta and child, Mr. I. Erbank, Messrs. P. Portier, L. Garner, L. Laure, Pages. **For Baroath**—Mr. M. Frankel. **For Port Said**—Mr. R. M. de Welle. **For Colombo**—Mr. R. Marr. **For Saigon**—Mr. and Mrs. Deseams. **For Singapore** Mr. R. Light, Mr. M. H. Kavrama, Mr. C. Van Dyk, Mr. R. A. Hutchinson. **For Hongkong**—Mr. R. S. Moore, Mr. A. R. Scott, Mr. F. X. Cuccio, Mrs. O'Kelly and child.

Per str. Kanchow, April 11.—For Amoy Mr. and Mrs T. C. Brown and child, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. C. Anderson, Mr. W. S. Lawton.

SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attchd Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
April 4	30.34	53.4	S S E	2	53.0	47.3	63.5	39.6	C.
„ 5	30.21	53.6	S F	2	53.4	46.8	57.0	43.3	C.
„ 6	30.03	54.0	S E	1	58.1	52.7	65.0	44.2	B.
„ 7	30.07	54.7	E S E	2	60.3	53.8	70.6	44.4	C.
„ 8	30.36	55.9	E N E	2	60.8	51.4	67.5	47.1	C.
„ 9	30.23	56.1	S E	2	56.0	53.4	72.0	47.1	C.
„ 10	30.12	57.5	S E	1	67.5	59.9	79.1	51.8	B. C.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Inches 1923
April 4	43.0	51.0	58.8	67.0	Nil.	Trace
„ 5	46.0	47.5	54.8	58.0	Nil.	0.62
„ 6	48.0	43.5	61.0	64.2	Nil.	Nil.
„ 7	58.0	50.6	66.8	73.0	Nil.	Nil.
„ 8	49.0	52.0	63.0	64.8	Nil.	0.05
„ 9	48.0	45.0	67.8	68.8	Nil.	Nil.
„ 10	54.6	58.2	74.4	63.8	Nil.	0.57

BIRTHS

FUXMAN.—On Monday, April 7, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Fuxman, a daughter. Australian papers please copy.

KIMBALL.—On April 6, 1924, at Maternite, St. Marie's Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. A. Fleming Kimball, a son.

MILLINGTON. — On Tuesday, April 8, 1924, at Dr. Fearn's Sanatorium, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Millington, a daughter.

UNDERWOOD.—On April 6, 1924, at Paris, to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Underwood, a daughter.

MARRIAGES

MOORE–BENSON.—On April 3, 1924, at the British Consulate, Shanghai, and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Dr. W. B. A. Moore, Government Medical Officer, Kowloon, Hongkong, to Helen Margaret Benson, daughter of C. Benson, Lyme Regis, Dorset, late I.C.S. Madras.

ROSSE—THOMAS.—On April 10, 1924, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Very Rev. Dean Symons and the Rev. John Magee, Dorothy Jansen Thomas, eldest daughter of Mrs. H. J. Everall and the late H. R. H. Thomas, to George Morton Rosse, son of the late Dr. and Mrs. Irving C. Rosse, of Washington, D.C.

SILVER WEDDING

CLENNELL—SHARPLES. — On April 12, 1899, at H.B.M. Consulate General and at the Cathedral, Shanghai, Walter J. Clennell, B.A. (H.B.M.'s Acting Consul, Wuhu), second son of the late Walter C. Clennell, B.A., London, to Edith Sarah, elder daughter of John Sharples, Esq., of Birkenhead and Shanghai.

DEATHS

BAILEY.—On April 9, 1924, at 4 Peitaiho Lane, Shanghai, Doris, the beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. H. Bailey, age one year and four months.

BUCK.—On April 9, 1924, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, Morton Ward Buck, of Messrs. Sulzer Bros., aged 43 years.

FRISENETTE.—On April 4, 1924, at the Isolation Hospital, Shanghai, Adolf C. Z. Frisenette, Great Northern Telegraph Co., aged 45 years.

GALE.—On February 15, 1924, at Sunnyside, Woodbury, Devon, England, Phoebe, widow of the late S. R. Gale. Deeply regretted.

LETHIN.—On Sunday morning, April, 6, 1924, at Shanghai, Lois Linnea, Lethin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Lethin, aged one year and one month.

LOPES.—On April 10, 1924, at the Isolation Hospital, Shanghai, Eugenie Josie, at the age of 47. Hongkong, Canton and Macao papers please copy.

LOVELL.—On April 4, 1924, at Nanking, Brenda, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lovell.

POATE.—On April 6, 1924, at Wykeham House, Stanmore, Middlesex, England, Clara Gilfillan Poate, beloved wife of Mr. W. H. Poate, late of Shanghai. Deeply regretted.

SEREDKIN. — On April 6, 1924, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, Mrs. Klavdia Artemievna Seredkin, of Manchouli, aged 57 years.

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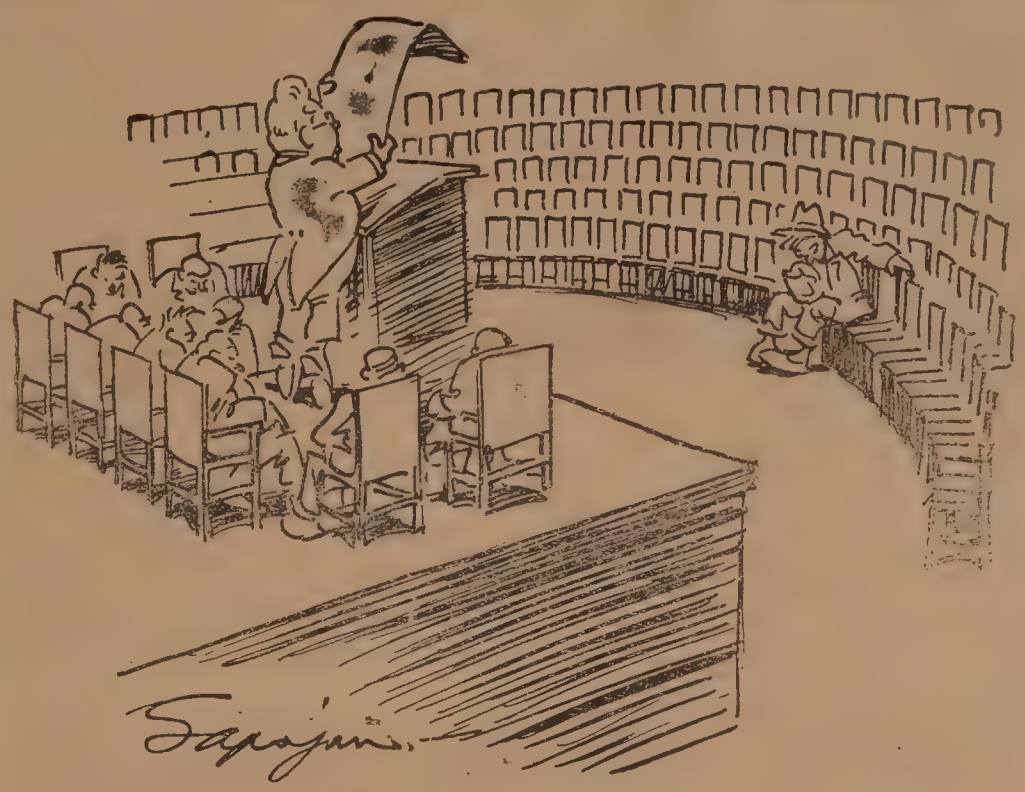

The Chairman—Yes. The Council can confidently rely upon the public feeling of the whole body of ratepayers . . .

THE CUSTOMS SURTAX

Powers Still Disinclined to Reply to China's Request for a Conference

Peking, Apr. 9.

No reply has yet been given by the Legations to the Chinese Government's request for a preliminary conference to discuss the increase of two and a half per cent. of Customs duties provided for in the Washington Nine Power Treaty.

It seems probable that separate replies will be sent, and here is no doubt that the French Government will make participation in such a conference contingent upon a satisfactory settlement of the gold franc case.

Several of the Legations have not yet received final instructions from their Governments about the matter.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LINCHENG OUTRAGE

Further British and American Claims Filed: Others Likely to Follow

Peking, Apr. 10.

The British and American Legations have now submitted some additional claims, supplementary to the list recently published in connexion with the Lincheng outrage.

On behalf of its nationals, the British Legation claims an additional $70,800, while the American Legation claims a further $47,991.37 on behalf of eight of its nationals and may submit further claims later on behalf of the other Americans who suffered through the outrage.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING, Apr. 7.—The Sze Koo Chuan Shou, the four-volume library of the Manchu House, is to be sent to Shanghai for reprinting by the Commercial Press. Special arrangements are to be made for the transportation of this valuable collection. It is understood that these works will subsequently be offered for sale.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PREMIER NOT INTENDING TO RESIGN

Peking, Apr. 8.

The Chinese press to-day states that there is no truth in the reports that have been appearing in the Chinese newspapers off and on for weeks that Premier Sun Pao-chi would resign and a new Cabinet be formed by Mr. Wang Yu-chih, Chief Secretary of the Presidency. The papers say that on the contrary Mr. Wang is urging Premier Sun to ignore propaganda intended to undermine their friendship, and to carry on the Premiership, assured of the support of Mr. Wang and other friends whose names have been mentioned in the press as intriguing for the downfall of the Cabinet.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CABINET CHANGES IN PEKING

Vice-Minister of Justice Intending to Resign

Peking, Apr. 11.

It is reported to-day that Mr. Hsueh Tu-pi, Vice-Minister of Justice, intends to resign, and it is understood that the Cabinet contemplates transferring Mr. Chang Kuo-kan from the Ministry of Education to that of Justice; for this it would be necessary to transfer Dr. Wang Chung-huai from the Ministry of Justice to that of Education. Mr. Hsueh Tu-pi apparently desires chiefly to surrender the position of Acting Minister of Justice, and it is thought likely that he would be agreeable to retain the Vice-Ministership if a Minister of Justice took over the affairs of that department. A mandate containing these changes was sent to the President yesterday, but it has not yet been signed. President Tsao indicated the intention to discuss the matter with Premier Sun Pao-chi before taking action.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINESE MOHAMMEDANS AND PARLIAMENT

Peking, Apr. 11.

The Mohammedan gentry of Pengpu have submitted a request to the Ministry of the Interior that Chinese Turkestan be granted representation in Parliament. They have been asked to submit their petition to Parliament direct.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MORE PEKING PAPER

To Pay Salaries in Government Colleges: Finance Minister Anxious to Resign

Peking, Apr. 9.

It is learned from a semi-official source that, in order to meet the teachers' salaries and other expenses of the eight Government colleges, the Government has decided to issue $1,000,000 worth of treasury bonds secured on the suspended Russian Boxer indemnity.

It is semi-officially reported that the Minister of Finance, Mr. Mr. Wang Ko-ming, having fulfilled his undertaking to tide the Government over its immediate financial difficulties, is about to resign. Mr. Wang is expected to tender a report to the Cabinet at to-morrow's meeting and then tender his resignation to the President to-morrow evening.

April 10.

It is understood that Mr. Wang Ko-ming tendered a report on the financial situation and informed the Cabinet of his intention to resign. It is anticipated, however, that his resignation will be rejected by the President.

The members of both Houses of Parliament yesterday received 70 per cent. of a month's salary, and, as a result the bill of impeachment against Mr. Ko-ming has been laid over indefinitely.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN NEGOTIATIONS

Moscow Not Pleased at Being Found Out

Moscow, Apr. 17.

Disappointment is expressed at Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's speech at the Anglo-Russian Conference.

The *"Izvestia"* says that under the cloak of a Sunday sermon appear the hard demands of the British bankers, acceptance of which would change the whole socialistic Soviet system.—Reuter.

RENDITION OF THE MIXED COURT

Diplomatic Body Ready to Consent if Other Outstanding Questions Are Settled

IMPORTANT MATTERS REGARDING SHANGHAI

Peking, Apr. 12.

The Diplomatic Body informed the Waichiaopu on April 10 that it was prepared to discuss the rendition of the Shanghai Mixed Court, but in agreeing to such discussion, to which the Chinese Government attached much importance, the Diplomatic Body desired to point out that there were other outstanding matters affecting the welfare and development of the International Settlement of Shanghai, to a speedy solution of which the Diplomatic Body and the foreign communities of Shanghai attached no less importance.

Among these were enlargement and improvement of the port, extension of the present boundary of the Settlement and the question of Chinese and foreign representation on the Municipal Councils of the International Settlement and the adjoining Chinese areas.

The Diplomatic Body, therefore, asked the Chinese Government to embark in negotiations affecting these matters as well as the rendition of the Mixed Court.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE SELECTION OF A VICE-PRESIDENT

Possibility that Marshal Wu May Be Offered the Position

Peking, Apr. 8.

The *"Hsingpao"* is responsible for the report that Dr. C. T. Wang will leave here this evening for Loyang to offer his congratulations to Marshal Wu Pei-fu in connexion with the latter's birthday. The paper says that Dr. Wang will take advantage of this opportunity to put before Marshal Wu his views regarding the Sino-Russian negotiations.

Other Chinese papers say that a group of members of Parliament, under the leadership of Mr. Li Tsai-hung, started for Loyang last evening, and that it is generally believed that their visit is to pave the way for the selection of a Vice-President. They hint that Marshal Wu will be asked to accept the post himself. Other papers are of opinion that either Marshal Wu or Marshal Chi Hsieh-yuan will be appointed Vice-President. They suggest that Marshal Wu wants the post and believe that Marshal Wu merely put forward the name of Gen. Lu Yung-hsiang in order to arouse opposition to General Lu's rival at Nanking.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

EX-DIRECTOR OF TSINGTAO

Caught Again After Leaving City: The Missing $3,000,000

Tsingtao, Apr. 17.

Mr. Tsou Wen-wei, former Director-General of Affairs here, who mysteriously left the city last week during the questioning relative to the leak in the Treasury during the Hsiung *régime*, has been found by detectives in Tsinan.

Mr. Tsou was forced to choose between arrest and an immediate return here. He chose the latter alternative.

The investigation of the disappearance of public funds, amounting to $3,000,000, may now continue.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE POSITION IN REGARD TO TRADEMARK LAW REVIEWED

Retrospect of China's Undertakings to Protect Trademarks: The New Law's Sudden Appearance: Strong Foreign Objections and a Generally Unsatisfactory Position

Peking, Apr. 10.

The following is a review of the trademarks question:—The subject has been dealt with by notes and discussions so many times that it is difficult to understand the exact position without going back many years. It was first given an official character by the Mackay Treaty of 1902, when China undertook to afford protection to British trademarks against infringement, imitation or colourable imitation by Chinese. In the same treaty China undertook that the Superintendents of Northern and Southern Trade should establish offices within their respective jurisdiction under control of the Maritime Customs where foreign trademarks might be registered on payment of a reasonable fee.

JAPAN AND U. S. TREATIES.

In the Treaty between China and Japan of 1903 the Chinese Government agreed "to make and faithfully enforce such regulations as are necessary for preventing Chinese subjects from infringing registered trademarks held by Japanese subjects." It was further agreed that the Chinese Government should establish registration offices where foreign trademarks and copyrights, upon application for the protection of the Chinese Government, should be registered in accordance with the provisions of the regulations to be hereafter framed by the Chinese Government for the purpose of protecting trademarks and copyrights."

The Treaty between China and the United States of 1903 states that "China now agrees fully to protect any citizen or corporation of the United States in the exclusive use in the Empire of China of any lawful trademark to the exclusive use of which in the United States they are entitled, or which they have adopted and used, or intend to adopt and use as soon as registered, [illegible] within the Empire of China. To this end the Chinese Government agrees to issue by its proper authorities proclamations, having the force of law, forbidding all subjects of China from infringing on, imitating, colourably imitating, or knowingly passing off an imitation of trademarks belonging to citizens of the United States, which shall have been registered by the proper authorities of the United States at such offices as the Chinese Government will establish for such purpose, on payment of a reasonable fee, after due investigation by the Chinese authorities, and in compliance with reasonable regulations."

The foregoing deals only with infringement by Chinese, but reciprocal protection of trademarks has been arranged between Britain on the one part and Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal and the United States on the other, and by agreement between most of these countries.

A DIFFICULTY TO ADJUST.

The treaties of 1902 and 1903 show that China undertook to proclaim regulations having the force of law for the protection of foreign trademarks in China, but some misunderstanding has arisen in connexion with the "registration" by the Maritime Customs. This was undertaken by the Superintendents of Northern and Southern Trade only as a temporary measure, pending the establishment of registration offices by the Chinese Government. The filing of trade marks by the Customs has not been registration in the technical sense but merely a recording for purposes of future reference. The wording of the Customs Notification on this point is quite clear. It said: "Pending promulgation of regulations governing the registration of trademarks the (Shanghai and Tientsin) Customs accept applications for provisional filing of trademarks. Thus the protection enjoyed by foreign trademarks in China has been derived not from any recording or provisional registration by the Maritime Customs but from agreements in force between the Powers concerned and China and between the Foreign Powers themselves regarding mutual protection of their marks.

From the beginning the Powers were not satisfied with this recording by the Customs, and they kept on bringing the matter of the establishment of registration offices to the attention of the Chinese Government until 1904, when the Government submitted to the Diplomatic Body a set of regulations drafted by the Ministry of Commerce. This draft proved unacceptable to the Powers concerned, and in 1905 the Diplomatic Body sent to the Chinese Government a code embodying the views of their Governments. Some correspondence took place and the matter was then dropped until the end of 1906. The Chinese Government then forwarded to the legations a second draft. This was obviously based on the draft of 1904 and showed little if any consideration for the suggestions made by the Powers the previous year. It was also rejected.

LAW SUDDENLY PROMULGATED.

The subject was subsequently brought forward by the Powers in 1907, 1908 and many other occasions throughout the following 14 years, but no substantial progress was made until 1922, when the Associated British Chambers of Commerce submitted, through the British Legation, the draft of a trademarks law for China. The Chambers had taken great pains in drafting this law to make it acceptable to all the Powers concerned.

The draft was well received by the Chinese Government, and there then seemed a prospect at last of this long-standing question being settled satisfactorily. The Chinese Government took the matter in hand and in May, 1923, the Chinese Trademarks Law was suddenly promulgated. It was undoubtedly based principally on the foreign recommendations, and the first impression created in foreign circles was favourable. Careful study of the Law, however, brought to light several points which were considered potential sources of friction if not of injustice.

GENERAL DISSATISFACTION.

It was keenly felt that the Chinese Government, having taken a long step towards fulfilling its treaty obligations and meeting the requirements of modern trade, would have saved much anxiety and trouble if it had followed its former practice of referring the draft to the Legations before promulgation. That such reference was expected may be seen from the concluding sentence of the passages quoted from the treaty between China and the United States, namely, "and in compliance with reasonable regulations," while the precedent had been established in 1904 and confirmed in 1906.

Strong objection was shown by the foreign Chambers of Commerce at Shanghai and other treaty ports not so much to the Law itself as to the administration of the Law. What the Chambers of Commerce wanted principally was for a foreign expert to be employed in the Trademarks Bureau, but no definite step was taken by the Diplomatic Body until December 1, 1922. A Note was then sent to the Chinese Government requesting a general assurance that the new Law would not operate in a manner detrimental to foreign treaty rights.

THE LEGATIONS' FIRST DEMANDS.

No reply had been received to this Note on January 28, when the Diplomatic Body sent another Note to the Chinese Government giving three considerations and one essential condition on which the Powers would be prepared to accord recognition to the Trademarks Law. The Note objected to Article 10 of the Law, which gives the Trademarks Bureau the right to apply for a change of representatives applying for registration. This was characterized by the Note as arbitrary and useless and one that should be abolished. The second consideration was that foreign expert assistance should be employed in the Bureau in order to facilitate dealing with the complicated questions bound to arise. The third asked for an assurance that the Trademarks Gazette would publish fully and expeditiously all the registrations and all details connected therewith, adding that the value of this would be greatly enhanced if it were accompanied by a translation in English. The essential condition was that the period for registration should be extended so as to give six clear months from the date on which the Trademarks Law should be formally recognized by the Powers.

AN UNSATISFACTORY REPLY.

The Chinese Government took a long time to answer this Note, for the reply was not received until March 20. It was vague and non-committal. It agreed to extend the period for registration arbitrarily until next June. Compliance was expressed with "the request for an English supplement of the Trademarks Gazette," but this would contain only foreign registrations. With regard to the employment of foreign expert assistance the reply was particularly unsatisfactory, as it merely stated that such might be employed when found necessary.

It was found difficult to reconcile this vague reply with the good intentions that have been conceded to the Chinese Government in connexion with the trademarks question. The Legations did not hesitate to describe it as unsatisfactory. They were, however, faced with a *fait accompli*. The position had been complicated by the fact that many foreign firms, principally Japanese and German, had already registered under the Law.

THE REGISTRATION MONOPOLY.

The foreign Chambers of Commerce had been bringing much pressure to bear not only upon their Legations but also upon their own Governments. The concern felt at Shanghai abroad was increased by publication of a statement that the Chinese Government had given a monopoly to one Chinese firm for the issue of registration certificates. This was promptly denied by the Trademarks Bureau, but the report had created serious misgivings regarding the manner in which the Law would be applied, and further representations were made to the Legations at Peking. It became evident that the foreign Chambers of Commerce in China and abroad did not realize how far diplomatic methods towards China had changed in recent years, that the days had passed when peremptory demands would be put forward with the virtual certainty of compliance by the Chinese Government (a change which no one realizes more clearly than the Chinese themselves).

The Legations continued as opportunity offered to discuss the question with the Chinese officials concerned. That met with earnest assurances that the Chinese keenly desired to establish a department whose laws and administration would be fair to foreign trade as well as to Chinese, but throughout the whole of the negotiations the Chinese showed a peculiar disinclination to give a clear and binding assurance such as was asked for in the Note of December 1, and as the matter developed the dissatisfaction of the foreign Chambers of Commerce increased.

During the next two weeks the Chinese reply was considered abroad and in Peking. Further views were sent by the Chambers of Commerce to the Legations in Peking, and the impression created by the Chniese reply seems to have been much the same in all quarters.

INSISTANCE ON TREATY RIGHT.

On April 5 the Diplomatic Body sent a brief Note to the Waichiaopu stating that the assurances given by the Chinese Government were not sufficient for the Foreign Representatives in Peking to advise their Governments to recognize the Chinese Trademarks Law or to advise their nationals to register their trade marks with the new Trademarks Bureau. The Note pointed out that, whether or not their nationals registered their trademarks, cases of complaint would have to be dealt with in accordance with the stipulations of the treaties concerning the settlement of disputes between Chinese and the nationals of the Treaty Powers.

The present position, therefore, is that while the foreign Powers have not recognized the Law foreign firms may register if they feel so inclined but the Trademarks Law will not free China from her treaty obligations to protect foreign trademarks. In the event of cause for complaint being found by foreign firms the aid of their Legations will have to be invoked. Each complaint is thus likely to become a separate diplomatic question, involving trouble and delay to all concerned. The Chinese Government, the Legations, and foreign firms will be saddled with needless work. Official and commercial business will be retarded. The Chinese Government will have to deal diplomatically with questions which ought to be settled expeditiously and satisfactorily by the Trademarks Bureau. The loss of revenue to the Bureau will be a small matter compared with the failure to have the Law recognized by the Powers, and make the Bureau an organ competent to deal finally and satisfactorily with its own affairs.

PLEA FOR REASONABLENESS.

In these circumstances it may be hoped that the Chinese Government will see its way to meet the very reasonable demands made by the Diplomatic Body, take the necessary steps to ensure the efficient administration of the new Law, and thereby set up machinery in China for the protection of foreign and Chinese trademarks, which has become an urgent necessity owing to the industrial development in China.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

DR. KOO BACK AT WORK

The New Danish Minister

Peking, Apr. 11.

Dr. Wellington Koo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has resumed attendance at his office, although he has not completely recovered from his recent illness. The new Danish Minister, Mr. Kauffman, called on Dr. Koo at noon to-day and discussed the presentation of his credentials to the President. The date for this ceremony has not yet been fixed.

The Belgian Minister, M. Everts, who is shortly leaving for home, also called on Dr. Koo this morning to bid him good-bye.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ELECTORAL JURISDICTION IN KIAOCHOU

Peking, Apr. 11.

The Kiaochou Citizens' Association recently sent a despatch to the Cabinet asking for information regarding the forthcoming parliamentary elections. Kiaochou for several years has sent no representatives to Parliament and the citizens of that port did not know whether their elections should be carried out under the jurisdiction of the Hsien authorities or that of the Tupan of the port. The Ministry of the Interior has sent a reply stating that the elections must come under the authority of the Tsimo Magistrate.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MARSHAL WU TO VISIT PEKING

Peking, Apr. 11.

A Chinese local newspaper states that Marshal Wu Pei-fu is expected to come to Peking on the conclusion of his birthday celebrations, which are now in progress at Loyang. It is believed that the object of this rumoured visit would be a discussion with the Government of Sino-Russian affairs and the political situation in the South and West.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

"CIRCULATING NOTES" AND OCTROI DUES

Strong Protest by Chinese Chamber of Commerce as to Non-acceptance

Peking, Apr. 12.

A delegation from the Peking Chinese Chamber of Commerce, headed by Mr. Sun Hsiao-shih, Chairman of the Chamber, went to the Cabinet Office this morning with the object of lodging a protest against the action of the Peking Octroi authorities who recently announced that "circulating notes" would no longer be received in payment of octroi dues. The petitioners request that the order shall be cancelled. Hitherto 20 per cent. of octroi duties could be paid in these notes, which have depreciated greatly in value. A statement on the back of each note states that they are negotiable for payment of telegraph and postal dues, railway charges and octroi dues.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHIHLI PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY

Division of Districts

Peking, Apr. 12

Marshal Wang Chen-ping, Tuli of Chihli, arrived in Peking today at noon and called on the President this afternoon. It is understood that he came here to discuss with the President and the Cabinet the proposal to separate the Metropolitan Area, Suiyuan, Chahar and Jehol districts from the Chihli Provincial Assembly. Marshal Wang will stay at the residence of Mr. Wu Ching-lian during his stay in Peking.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE RESIGNATION OF MR. WANG KO-MING

Peking, Apr. 12.

It is reported that Mr. Wang Ko-ming again forwarded to the President this morning the resignation which was sent back to him yesterday.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, Apr. 13.

It is reported that Mr. Wang Ko-ming, having sent in his resignation again yesterday, will leave for the Western Hills today for a rest from the cares of office.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING'S OVERSTAFFED CIVIL SERVICE

Peking, Apr. 13.

The difficulties met with in providing funds for the Cabinet staff appear to have brought to the notice of the authorities concerned the large number of junior officials, attendants and coolies who are on the pay roll of that department. It is asserted that the number of these employees is three times that of the official establishment. Instructions have now been given for all superfluous employees to be dismissed.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ANTI-SOVIET MOVEMENT IN KIRIN

Peking, Apr. 13.

The Kirin Provincial, Assembly, it is reported on good authority, has issued a circular telegram to the provincial assemblies urging that measures should be undertaken to bring about the recall to Russia of the Soviet representative in Peking. Mr. Huang Ming-lan has filed a bill in the Senate on similar lines. It suggests that the Government should be requested to ask the Soviet Government to recall Mr. Karakhan.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINA AND BOLIVIA

Peking, Apr. 13.

The Chinese Government has decided to appoint Mr. Oyang Keng, Chargé d'Affaires in Chile, its delegate to sign the commercial treaty with Bolivia.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LEADING ARTICLES

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THE MISSIONARY AND HIS CRITICS

Apr. 14.

We are all familiar with the vagaries of the globe-trotter turned author. His effusions are usually interesting to stay-at-homes and frequently add to the gaiety of exiles in the lands he describes, though, occasionally, they raise the question whether, after all, truth is really stranger than fiction. It is seldom that Nemesis so swiftly overtakes the offender as in the case of T. Simpson Carson, who was compelled to render an apology to the Rev. Fred. Brown, formerly a missionary in Tientsin, pay an indemnity and withdraw his book from circulation. The details were published in our issue of the 8th instant. The probabilities are that Mr. Carson sinned in Dr. Johnson's good company through "ignorance, pure ignorance." He may have been unfortunate too, in his friends, for he who takes his Chinese history from the tales of sea captains on the coast or from loungers near "the longest bar in the Far East" *had better imitate* him who was "so wary wise he scarce received for gospel what the Church believed." There are some seven thousand missionaries in China; indeed, we might parody the remark of a recent distinguished visitor to our city and say that China is "infested with missionaries" and yet it is possbile for an innocent globe-trotter to rub shoulders with them and never recognize them. The Shanghai Missionary Association has recognized the gravity of this unfortunate state of affairs and appointed a committee to deal with it. These gentlemen have formed themselves into a "Traveller's Aid Association." They intend to have a notice card hung in the vestibules of all hotels and in a prominent place on the liners which make Shanghai a port of call. These will notify travellers who wish to see something of the missionary work done in this city that if they will ring up a certain telephone number they will have a guide placed at their disposal and trips will be arranged covering a period of from one hour to a whole day, in which they may acquire information that will save them from the fate of the gentleman who was unfortunate enough to give names and dates in his fairy tale of missionary activities in 1900, and so rendered himself liable for an action for defamation of character and was mulcted in heavy damages.

Missionaries are, in a sense, public men and are engaged in an enterprise which cannot be carried on without appeals for public support. They are therefore targets for criticism as are statesmen, municipal councillors and even editors of newspapers. No one in such a position may resent criticism if it is fair and expressed in language of parliamentary propriety. And so we venture to say, with apologies to our missionary friends, that we think there is a certain amount of truth in the popular belief that missionaries are "queer." Long ago Macaulay described the Puritans as men in whom "One overpowering sentiment had subjected to itself pity and hatred, ambition and fear." Now men of one idea are always interesting and unavoidably eccentric for, the mind being dominated by one thought, has little room left for the common trivialities that make up our daily life. The pioneers in the world-wide missionary enterprise which historians will, perhaps, regard as the outstanding characteristic of the century we live in, were men of this type. Read Longford's "Story of Korea" and marvel at the endurance of the Catholic missionaries who, little more than a generation ago, stole into the Hermit Kingdom and, after enduring untold hardships, were tortured and barbarously executed in the market place. And there was never lack of volunteers eager to take the place of those who had thus perished. Or, to take a less gruesome example, it is not so very long since there passed away a missionary in China who was obsessed with the idea that when the gospel had been preached in all the cities of this, then unopened, land the golden age would come. With a single coolie to carry his exiguous luggage he traversed the country delivering what he called his "message" in every place he passed through until the route of his wanderings, when traced on a map, looked like a projected railway line. What the people who listened to this strange apparition of a foreign devil, who talked to them of things utterly beyond their comprehension, thought of him it is impossible to say, but they would certainly have agreed that he was "queer."

This type of missionary, fairly common some thirty years ago, is now rapidly passing away. Indeed, the high water mark of missions in China was reached in April, 1922, when the foreign missionaries in conference assembled in this city of Shanghai formally handed over to the Chinese leaders pre-eminence in the task of Christianizing their own country. Henceforth the foreigner is to be the co-adjutor of the Chinese worker, his friend and fellow-worker, but, not necessarily, his leader. Presumably he feels that the weight of responsibility does not now rest so heavily on his shoulders and the globe-trotter must make haste or the old interesting and "queer" type will be as extinct as the Dodo before he arrives on the scene.

THE TRADEMARKS LAW

Apr. 15.

The current number of the "British Chamber of Commerce Journal" deals at length and most incisively with the trademarks controversy. The "Journal" was so near publication when the news of the Diplomatic Body's last Note to the Waichiaopu arrived, that the fact of that reply could only be recorded. But while the Legations have informed the Peking Government that they cannot recommend their respective Governments to accept the law and that, whether firms register under it or not, complaints will have to be dealt with according to extraterritorial rights, the "Journal" shows convincingly that this does not dispose of all the difficulties which the law involves. In the same issue Mr. David Fraser, writing on the Trademark Law from Peking and (in the "Journal's" opinion) "almost certainly not expressing a personal opinion," says:—

> The whole question seems to be divided into two parts, that relating to registration and that relating to infringement. In case of the latter, foreign firms always have their remedy, as heretofore, under the Treaties, and no legislation by the Chinese can deprive them of it.

In this connexion the "Journal" gives a number of imaginary cases of what would happen if the Law were not recognized and if some firms registered, others did not. These are too long to quote but are very convincingly put and the Journal goes on:—

> What has been said above shows clearly that the matter is not thus (*i.e.* as Mr. David Fraser argues) capable of division into two distinct parts: that the questions of registration and infringement will in practice in most cases be inseparably linked, and that recognition of a law which provides for registration in the manner in which the proposed law provides for it must either abandon certain foreign rights or else, in retaining them, make the law unworkable as far as foreigners are concerned. If the Diplomatic Body can point to a road of escape from this alternative, if they can show that the preceding analysis of the problem is incorrect, it is surely not beneath their dignity to indicate where it is at fault. After all, the interests at stake are considerable. They are in fact bigger than any which the Legations have been called upon to defend since 1900. And the mercantile community will be only too thankful to learn that they have all the time been mistaken. But the mere re-iteration of such phrases as recognition without prejudice to treaty rights will not satisfy them. They sound like mere mumbo-jumbo.

There is rather a suggestion in the above that the Diplomatic Body "opes not its ponderous and marble jaws" as freely as it might and that it might be more communicative as to its opinion of the law and what it means to do about it. Mr. Fraser assures us that "what seems clear is that the Diplomatic Body is not going to be rushed into recognizing the Trademark Law", which is very good news indeed. The difficulty is that the Law is, so far as we understand, already a part of the law of the land. In general principle, the Peking foreign official view appears to be that it is not a bad law and that if China were administered like any other country it could be accepted without demur, while it is impossible for any other nationality to dictate to China what laws she should frame. Unfortunately China is not administered like other countries, if she can even be said to be administered at all; and while foreigners may not be entitled to dictate to China how her laws are to be framed, they are entitled to insist that those laws shall contain ample recognition of the rights secured to them by the Treaties—especially as it is plain that a large number of influential Chinese are determined to ignore, and frustrate those rights wherever possible. However excellent in theory the new Law may be, in practice it is no improvement on anything done in the past thirty years to protect trademarks in China, in fact very much the reverse. The very last amendment acceptable is that there should be foreign experts in the Bureau and foreign Assessors on the bench when disputes arise. But the Mackay Treaty's provision is really best of all, if we can only get back to that.

THE RATEPAYERS MEETING

Apr. 16.

Nothing spectacular offers at to-day's meeting but plenty that is of importance. It is greatly to be hoped that all ratepayers will do their best to be present, in order to provide a quorum at the special meeting. This is the more to be urged because the absentee vote is now so large that it almost becomes a question whether there are enough ratepayers corporeally present in Shanghai to form a quorum for a special meeting, at which absentees do not count, every vote having to be recorded personally. To meet the complaint that men cannot get away from their offices for a meeting at 2 p.m., the Council has fixed this year's parliament at 4.30. Even that may be too early for many; but the opening resolutions are largely formal and as most people can leave their business at 5, they will still be in plenty of time for the most important features. The apathy with which too many ratepayers regard the annual meeting is an indirect compliment to the Council: indeed Shanghai is very well administered for all that may be said to the contrary in the heat of occasional moments. If this be the feeling of those who stay away, as we believe it is, they might bethink them that the Councillors, who give up a great deal of time in the public service, would not be averse to having that compliment paid them for once in the material form of well packed seats.

Of the agenda for the special meeting, the proposed licensing of exchange shops appears to have excited no opposition: there is no reason why it should. Some of the Chinese guilds, as noted yesterday, are opposing the increase of wharfage dues, but their arguments read rather half-heartedly and their appearance in the field looks rather as if they were seeking an excuse for adding something about the registration of printers and publishers. The latter associations have really gone to extraordinary lengths in propaganda against registration. They have received no assistance this year from any foreign newspaper, a contrast with what happened in the first year of the registration being mooted on which they might have pondered with possible profit to their cause. For if their former supporters support them no more, what is the obvious inference but that those who think calmly have found that the by-law is reasonable? We can assure the Chinese printing associations that nothing has so much increased the chances of a quorum being assured this afternoon as their wholly unreasonable and obstinate propaganda. For the plain fact about the by-law is that while experience has fully proved its necessity for the maintenance of good order, it is entirely harmless to respectable people.

Turning to the ordinary annual meeting we find a resolution regarding the Telephone Company's agreement which indicates that the Council's suggestions dealt with by us last week have proved acceptable: those suggestions were, briefly, that shareholders should be secured an eight per cent. dividend, that the Council should be represented on the Board of Directors, that surplus earnings should accumulate for the benefit of subscribers and that the automatic telephone should be approved for general use. It seems a very excellent arrangement. It is likely that the rates will go up at first, but that is hardly avoidable on such a change as from manual to automatic. But there is a clear prospect that in years to come they will be revised down again.

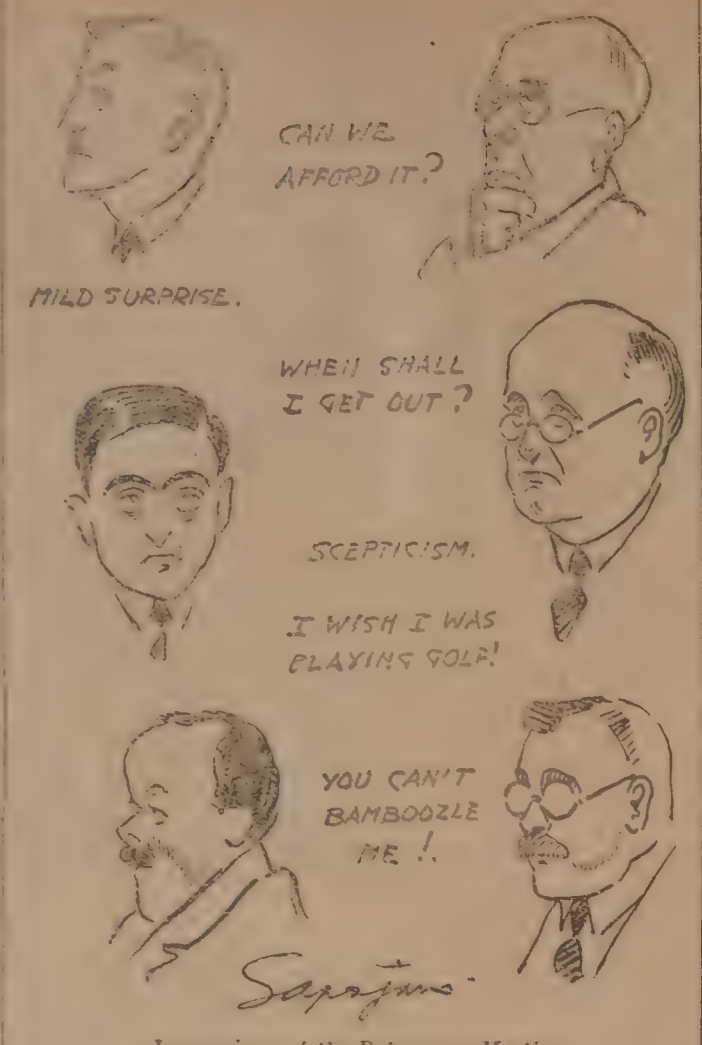
As regards the Waterworks, to-day's agenda presents the alternative of much the same kind of agreement as in the Telephone Company's case, or authorization to purchase. We take it that that authorization would not, indeed could not be exercised without a further confirmatory meeting. This point will no doubt be made clear to-day. The position is one of great dubiety. On the one hand, ratepayers undoubtedly endorse the Council's view that it must exercise a control over the operation of public utility companies, which is by no means assured to it where a large number if not the majority of shareholders are absentees. On the other hand, the prospect of heavy borrowing for purchase is certainly not relished. In this connexion attention may be called to Mr. Bruce Lockhart's letter. We cannot follow him altogether in his argument that big municipal loans mean high cost of living; nor do we think his fears as regards the wharfage dues are well founded. The Council seeks authority to increase these to three per cent. of the Customs duty; but it can hardly be expected that it will immediately jump the dues up to that point from the present one tenth of one per cent. On the other hand, the reason why we can never pay for extraordinary undertakings out of ordinary revenue is that so much of the latter must go in paying interest on loans and every effort should be made to avoid increasing the latter. Fortunately we believe that there is every prospect of the Council and the Waterworks coming to an amicable arrangement at last. They will have the best wishes of all that it may be so.

Apr. 17.

Our Dumb Friends' League—as those members of the House of Commons who were never known in any circumstances to open their lips used affectionately to be known in the Press Gallery—were overwhelmingly in evidence at the Town Hall yesterday. Apart from the official speakers but one solitary voice was heard crying in the wilderness of the ratepayers' benches. It was raised on a technical point—namely, that the fourth clause of the Waterworks resolution really amounted to an amendment of the other three, thus invalidating the whole as a single resolution.

daring to disturb the sacred somnolence of the assembly with silly conundrums (though we believed him to be right), was immediately and successfully snuffed out by the Chairman. And the meeting ended in one hour and five minutes. For the first time in many years we actually heard the names of the gentlemen proposed as Land Commissioner and Hospital Governors. Usually these resolutions are inaudible for the scuffle of people collecting their coats and hats and pushing for the open air. But yesterday it is to be supposed they were under the delusion that a quorum was really present at last. The hall certainly appeared unusually full. In point of fact, there were just half the requisite number of voters. So the Special Meeting "went west" once more, as in another sense presumably most of the ratepayers had gone, and the Chinese publishing associations and Mr. Bruce Lockhart may sleep soundly again. No registration of the press: no extra wharfage dues and added H.C.L.

It was humorously suggested in the hall that the only chance of raising a quorum would be to persuade the Moral Welfare League, when there are no more pretty ladies for them to tilt at, to enlarge their activities and promote a special meeting of ratepayers on the issue that Shanghai immediately "go dry." Then we shall see what we shall see. Meanwhile interest in municipal affairs tends to vary inversely with the size of the Budget. We remember one year when the Budget was actually thrown out and could only be got through by the expedient of a poll, which infuriated all village Hampdens. Nowadays we pass loans for millions with less emotion than was once exhibited over fewer lakhs. And indeed all is very good and the work of administration in the hands of nine devoted volunteers, fortified by as many strong-minded permanent officials, goes ahead most smoothly and efficiently. But for all that, the fact that the requisite 900 ratepayers out of some 2,400 resident cannot be induced to spare an hour or two at the special request of the Council for a matter which, though not outwardly sensational, is of real importance for the cause of good government, is a serious thing. It means that Shanghai, which used to pride itself on its civic sense, is approaching the condition of the average big provincial town at Home, in which municipal affairs are considered beneath the notice of any but butchers and bakers and candlestick makers. No one can wonder then that a shocking lot of back-scratching and log-rolling ensues. In [illegible] always been that our Coun[illegible] been small in comparison with the magnitude of the work. But apart from traffic, while there is a very de[illegible] limit to the number of [illegible] had to be [illegible] of ninety-five years, in order to [illegible]



Impressions of the Ratepayers Meeting.

sent cost or future loss. We know, of course, that it will not do so. Mr. Fessenden gave us some most welcome information as to the conciliatory spirit now visible in the negotiations, of which the first evidence is that all the old bickering correspondence is by mutual consent to be treated as if it had never been and the discussions start *de novo*. All of which, although, as Mr. Fessenden emphasized, the matter is by no means settled, augurs well for the proposed compromise. But the point is that the extensive powers contained in the resolution were granted with no criticism offered but the purely technical one mentioned above. That is a compliment to the Council, which they certainly deserve. But, remembering the prodigious fuss there has been over far less important matters, culverting of the Yangkingpang for instance, we do not think Resolution VII would have gone through so easily in bygone days and it is not a good sign that it should have done so yesterday.

One passage in the Budget speech deserves attention; that in which the chairman of the Council alluded to the difficulty of estimating for prospective road widening and extensions and the extreme probability that more and more would have to be spent on this item. The secret of all civic convenience lies in wide roads. For example: Bub[illegible] could be laid. Therefore by all means let the Council estimate as liberally as possible for roads. But here, too, there is a limit, that of expense, which has also kept the City of London streets to their ancient narrowness. And as in London, the time will come when people will have to be content to ride by tram or bus to the periphery of the business quarter and thence to use Shanks's mare.

WITH THE NONAGENARIANS

Apr. 19.

Among the Chinese the three auspicious stars are those of happiness, wealth and longevity; the three kinds of abundance to be prayed for are abundance of good fortune, of years, of male children; the five felicities are longevity, riches, serenity, the love of virtue, and the crowning of life. Of all these blessings longevity seems to be most valued as it holds the foremost place in the list of felicities. In the West some of these values may be differently estimated, but certainly longevity is greatly desired. We have the proverb, "All that a man hath will he give for his life," and the Chinese bandits act on this assumption when they capture foreigners and hold them to ransom. Apart from external circumstances over which we have no power, what must we do or avoid to attain to a good old age? Whatever the answer is, it should correspond with the actual facts of life.

Instead of reaching *a priori* conclusions, starting off with hypotheses and [illegible] experts in the art of living what were the factors which conduced to their longevity. At first he thought there would be little response and that the replies might not be accurate. Two years experience dissipated these fears. Aged people like to talk about themselves, and their neighbours are proud of them and after critical investigation are glad to furnish whatever information they possess. Over three hundred replies were received, the elaborate questionaire sent to each nonagenarian being filled in with painstaking accuracy. It is hoped that before long one thousand histories will be received. In the meantime, in a paper in the official journal of the American Medical Association careful statistics are given of the first fifty-one. The mean age of the women is 96.98 years; that of the men, 97.98. Twenty out of the fifty-one are centenarians, the oldest, a man, being 105. Twenty-six of the twenty-seven men and twenty-two of the twenty-four women had been married one or more times, so marriage has a very favourable influence. By far the most important factor, however, is heredity. Nearly all were members of long-lived families, the years of both direct and collateral kinsfolk being much above the average. Questions were asked as to the use of alcohol and tobacco. Fourteen (54 per cent.) of the men had used alcohol as a beverage during their lives, one excessively so, and twelve (46 per cent) had been total abstainers. The mean present age of users is 97.2 years, and of the non-users, 97.8 years. As the scientist observes, it is thus evident that it is possible to attain great age either with or without the use of alcohol as a beverage. Of the women, 68 per cent. were total abstainers, with a mean percentage of 98.8 years. Thirty-two per cent. were moderate drinkers with an average present age of 98.7 years. As to tobacco, of the twenty-six men, six smoked, five chewed, and two both smoked and chewed tobacco. The remaining thirteen have never used tobacco in any form. Of twenty-one women, only one has used tobacco and she has smoked all her life. Again, it appears that the use or non-use of tobacco is equally compatible with the attainment of great longevity. We quote one more question. Does the use of alcohol or tobacco blast the prospects of parenthood? The twenty persons who used alcohol as a beverage had 150 children, giving an average of 7.5 children per family. The twenty-five persons who were total abstainers had 169 children, an average of 6.76 children per family. Again the abstainers do not lead. The whole paper is very interesting, and the statements should receive careful and unbiassed consideration.

What is the moral of it all? In the first place, prohibition advocates should not weaken their cause by over-statement. Indugence in alcohol, excessive and habitual, is certainly injurious, but to assert that even to drink in moderation always means financial ruin, [illegible] misery and early death is not in accord with the facts. Secondly, if an inherited predisposition to long life is at least very favourable [illegible] to longevity, as it appears to be, then it is most probable that the majority of persons whose lives are ruined by excessive indulgence in alcohol are of weak, defective stock; consequently from the point of view of practical eugenics the wisdom of perpetuating such stocks by [illegible] seed production is questionable. Thirdly, when a nation deems it necessary to enforce prohibition laws for the protection of the large proportion of the weak and defective, it should not be regarded with inordinate pride if it were evidence of a moral triumph of the whole nation, the substitution of state control for self-control is a confession of weakness. Finally, it is well for all to be modest and cautious. Prohibition is a vast experiment and what the moral and physical results will be individually and nationally, cannot as yet be foretold.

THE INTRUDER

[*After the Chinese of Li-Tai-Po.*]

The plashing of my oars hath broken through
The song the water-lilies sang in tune,
On the green waters of the Lake Nan-hou,
To the beloved image of the moon.

I. G.

The Peking public is surprised by the invention of a new kind of coffin. Hitherto coffins were made of wood and the quality of wood depended upon the financial standing of the dead person's relatives. A certain enterprising coffin shop in the West City has invented a cement coffin lined with hard wood. It will last three times as long as the ordinary wooden coffin and costs only a little more. The fortune tellers have, however lodged a strong protest on the ground that the new coffin separates the corpse from the earth which will materially effect the luck of the posterity.

A very pleasant function took place at the Customs House [illegible] the staff of the appraising department said good-bye to the Chief Appraiser, Mr. E. Watson, who [illegible] for home on Saturday for a well earned holiday. Mr. Watson, who has been in the Customs service for 23 years, was attached to the Customs College at Peking for a long period, where he was very popular with all with whom he came in contact. He has been Chief Appraiser in Shanghai, since 1919, has a very thorough knowledge of imports and exports of China and is the author of the widely read volume called "The Principal Articles of China's Commerce—Imports and Exports." A very beautiful copy of this work decoratively finished in silver with his monogram in gold was presented to him by the appraisers, and he was the recipient of many hearty wishes for a very pleasant holiday in the homeland and a speedy and safe return to China. This is Mr. Watson's first home leave during the 23 years of arduous service.

The statement was made the other day that Mr. Henderson, the Home Secretary, who has two sons who are members of the House of Commons, is the only member of the House of Commons to sit in that assembly with two sons as colleagues. Mr. O'Connell, however, had four sons who were members of the House of Commons, of whom three sat simultaneously with him in that House. Mr. O'Connell's Parliamentary career commenced in 1829 and continued till his death in 1847. Mr. O'Connell's eldest son, Maurice, was a member of the House of Commons from 1833 till 1855; his second son, Morgan, from 1832 till 1846; his third son, John, from 1852 till 1852; and were accordingly members of the House of Commons together for a part of their Parliamentary careers, and sat simultaneously with their father. Mr. O'Connell's fourth son, Daniel, was also a member of the House of Commons, to which, however he was elected in 1850, after the death of his father.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

The Late Herr Stinnes

An interesting story was current some time ago about the great German magnate who has just died, Herr Hugo Stinnes. When he started his steamship line after the war, the story goes, he proposed to christen his ships after the epithets used by the Allies towards the Germans, and one boat was going to be The Hun, another The Bosch, and so forth. Then, it is related, the German Government intervened and delivered an injunction against his doing anything of the kind. We have not the faintest notion whether there is the slightest truth in the report, but give it for what it is worth It certainly contains no reflexion on the man, but on the contrary shows a humour and courage of no ordinary kind. As a matter of fact epithets applied in disdain and anger have in subsequent years become the treasured possessions of the people receiving them. The British, for instance, simply love the idea that they are a "nation of shopkeepers," although no doubt they were extremely annoyed when the phrase was first coined, for it had an infinite amount of contempt in it. And Herr Stinnes perhaps thought along these lines, besides probably wishing to show how little it worried him that these [illegible] should have been used.

Early Closing

The early closing order—cabarets and other places of entertainment at 1 a.m. with certain dispensations until 3 a.m.—is causing, we learn, a certain amount of feeling between proprietors of these establishments in the French Concession and those in the Foreign Settlement. To put the matter bluntly the cabaret keepers of the Concession say that the Settlement authorities are winking at evasions of the regulation, and the Settlement proprietors say exactly the same thing about the Concession. In the circumstances one can only sympathize with authorities concerned who after all are doing their best to enforce a rule which was brought into being with a very good intention, to the effect that the youth of the port should get home at any rate in moderately good time. We do not know how general the complaints are on the part of the proprietors, but we know that they have been made and certain of those concerned in the measure are wondering what to do about it. That any of the authorities have winked at evasions we decline to believe, but there are so many of these places of entertainment that it is quite possible that some have succeeded in prolonging their hours of revenue-making. It must be borne in mind, in thinking of these allegations, that nothing would please a section of the establishments concerned better than a rescinding of the present regulation, and if they could prove it unworkable that might be brought about. But before any such course is taken there must be something more than the mere suggestions that have so far been put forward.

A Chinese Battle

Mr. Thomas Bowen Partington has recently been giving a series of lectures on China at Wolverhampton in which appeared the following delightful account of a Chinese battle.

There was said the lecturer, plenty of fighting in China; in fact, they were always fighting among themselves, but it was of the comic opera variety, and the winning army was the one which made the most noise. After a whole day's noisy firing the casualties would be absolutely nil.

The lecturer gave an amusing account of how, when traversing a certain stretch of country, he came upon a couple of Chinese rival armies indulging in one of their periodical engagements.

"One would be perfectly safe so long as a Chinese soldier was shooting at oneself," he said, "but there was a certain amount of danger when firing at someone else."

Knowing the polite and courteous nature of the Chinese, he sent his servant to the Commander of the nearer force to tell him that an important English gentleman wished to traverse the area of their battlefield, and would they please suspend operations for a short while. This request was immediately granted and both armies stopped all action until he had passed safely through.

The lecturer said that trade unionism had become a fine art with the Chinese. Their unions were called guilds, however, and there was even a Beggars' Guild and a Thieves' Guild.

Mr. Partington said that he subscribed regularly to both these guilds and consequently was never bothered by the presence of beggars on his verandah—one did not have to see them to know they were there, especially in the summer—and had never had anything stolen.

One is not quite certain that the same experience would hold good in all parts of China. What about the shipping in the upper Yangtze? However, perhaps if it practised Mr. Partington's methods the results might be equally favourable. One understands his being able to reassure us as to the Singapore base being in no sense necessary as a defence against the Chinese. The amazing thing to us out here is that there should, apparently, be people who thought it was.

The Paper Roads

The National Road Construction Association of China was not long in replying to our criticism of its organization and methods, but it did not make exactly the kind of reply that had been expected. It explained that its chief aim is not to build roads, but to talk about them, and the obvious reply to that is that it is doing some very expensive talking. According to its own statement it had funds of $110,000 and as it is now making a most touching appeal for more, it is to be assumed that the treasury is empty. The secretary's letter shows, just as did the report which provoked our comment, that the Association's work amounts to nothing more than extending its membership and issuing a flood of pamphlets. Of proof that the Association can claim the honour for any actual road-building there is absolutely none. The appeal now is for funds to build palatial headquarters "with board room, exhibition room, deposit room, parlour, dining room, etc." What is the need? The British Chamber of Commerce can get along with three very moderate rooms and the General Chamber of Commerce with one very dingy one, so why this splendour for a mere talking shop? The real surprise, however, was that the N.R.C.A.C. did not attempt to deny that it is the Good Roads Movement under another name, or else to announce that it had reformed its ways. The Good Roads Movement, meeting at the Y.M.C.A. (an organization financed by foreigners to the extent of many million dollars) proposed to build a road round the Settlements to prevent the foreigners building roads which the Chinese would not build themselves. Has the N.R.C.A.C. done a single thing to remove the opposition which prevents the building of the Road to the Hills, or will it build that road itself If not, why appeal to foreigners for funds for cosy headquarters for pamphlet writers?

The "Morning Post"

For many months past rumours have been current that Lady Bathurst was on the point of relinquishing her proprietorship of the "Morning Post," and although these have been generally denied they are now confirmed. A group of Conservatives headed by the Duke of Northumberland is to take the paper over, Lady Bathurst having announced that she has sold it because of the heavy taxation it has to bear. Thus ends the family connexion and control which has existed ever since the paper was founded. It was a Scotsman named Borthwick who founded the "Morning Post," the lure of London having carried him to the metropolis as so many of his countrymen, and not only did he play an important part in political journalism but his successors as well, their names recurring constantly in the biographies of statesmen. The last male in direct descent from the founder was created Baron Glenesk, and, the male line becoming extinct, the proprietorship descended to his daughter, now Lady Bathurst. One always regrets that a great paper such as the "Morning Post" should leave private hands and become the property of a public limited liability company, for it is so often too much to be feared that the tradition it has carried with it for years may at length disappear. The caprices of numerous shareholders or their clamour for greater dividends may readily cause a change in policy or, what might easily prove worse, in style, and so a great institution might be no more, at least its generation of readers would fail to recognize it. In the present instance these fears will not be so pronounced as would be the case had the paper fallen into other hands. The Duke of Northumberland, who is at the head of the Conservative group making the purchase has for long been a constant contributor to the columns of the "Morning Post," and it is safe to say that while he is at the head of affairs it will maintain its pure conservatism and rare literary flavour.

Foreign Protests

The British Consul-General in Canton has just protested against the latest act of the Kuangtung Government in imposing a tax on alcohol and another on soda water. To-day the Chinese Press tells us that H. M. Minister in Peking has delivered a further protest against the cigarette tax in Chêkiang and Kiangsu and proposes to hold the Central Government responsible for any damage or loss which British firms may suffer in consequence. A third communication, somewhat by way of protest, is also mentioned in the Chinese Press, this being on the part of the Netherlands Minister, who is said to have called the attention of Peking to the grave depreciation of the copper coinage and asked that an order be issued to stop the minting of further coins. This latter case is different from the other two only in degree, for as a matter of fact the minting of underweight coins has imposed for several years past practically a surtax on an important foreign company here—the Tramways. How many other foreign firms it has also affected it is difficult to say. What the man in the street is incuined to ask to-day is how much tangible good these protests can do, for as the arm of Peking's authority is not long enough to reach the provinces there is only a slender hope that any effect will be exercised. Some day, however, things are bound to be different, and it may be trusted that when these protests are pointed to as being on record the injustices may be remedied.

[Matters of Pronunciation

A couple of correspondents of the "Glasgow Herald" have latterly been dealing with the subject of the different pronunciations adopted by Englishmen and Scotsmen, and when it is considered what these amount to it presents a fascinating study. One of the first examples given are "tied" and "tide," which the writers say the English pronounce alike while the Scots very strongly differentiate between them, the former word being given a long intonation and the latter a short, sharp one. We are next told that what an Englishman would describe as a "morning caller," a Scotsman would pronounce a "morning collar," which is rather bad and suggestive of that very pernicious matutinal beverage known as a "horse's neck." Then comes the subject of water, which one of the writers says is pronounced in Scotland "wotter." This is rather a surprising statement, as we were always under the impression that the majority of Burns's countrymen spoke it as "wa'er," this being accomplished by choking the "t" away up at the top of the back of the throat. Scotland, however, seems to have got England badly over one word, and that is "bow-wow," which the authority in the "Herald" says is how all decent dogs talk and is the way Scotsmen pronounce it. On the other hand Englishmen make this particular word rhyme with the "miaow" of a cat, and that must surely be wrong.

A Restive Electorate

A telegram on Tuesday mentioned that the electorate of Kiaochou were distinctly restive. For a long time no member of Parliament has represented Kiaochou, nor have any elections been held, and worst of all it is not quite certain how elections should be held there. So Kiaochou shows distinct annoyance, but we do not know that the district is any worse off than any other constituency in China, for it must be confessed that Chinese M.P.'s as a whole have not made a conspicuous success of their job. Their history has been one largely composed of journeyings between Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai and Canton according to the prospects of emolument in the different centres, and their legislative achievements have not benefited the country in the very least. Kiaochou might also remember that in other constituencies elections have been absolutely lacking for years past, and it is doubtful whether some of the present members were ever elected at all. In fact one authority goes the length of saying that when a member has vacated his seat for whatever cause it might be, somebody else has quietly slipped into it without even the semblance of obtaining popular approval. In the circumstances Kiaochou need hardly excite itself over its lack of an M.P., for at the worst it means one less individual to batten on the country's revenue.

A Scottish Snowstorm

Scottish papers just to hand denote that that country has been visited by a snowstorm of a character which it is difficult for those who live in milder climes to realize can take place so close to England. It is in certain respects the same surprising sort of thing which occurred there last year when rivers burst their bounds and swept whole tracts of railways away. This latter storm occurred after a perfectly sunny and more or less warm week-end at the beginning of March, but then a terrible blizzard followed, during which four people met their deaths. The most remarkable of these tragedies occurred in Banffshire where a woman was suddenly caught by a terrific gust of wind in a gully. It took away her breath; she fell to the ground unconscious; and died almost immediately from suffocation. The wind must have been of the utmost violence, for it is reported that motor-cars were blown across roads, while it was inevitable that in these circumstances pedestrians should have been knocked down. At the same time the snow seems to have been of an appalling heaviness, for before many hours had passed snow wreaths had gathered in the Highlands, and it was in these dreadful accumulations that the other fatalities occurred. Near Aberdeen a man drove a motor lorry into one of them, and exhausted by his efforts to get it out lay down and perished. The snow ploughs were quickly at work, but even so trains were arriving at their destinations a day late. The Hebrides were cut off entirely, and the distress prevalent there which has already brought the inhabitants to the verge of starvation was greatly accentuated. It has been described as probably the worst storm since the Tay Bridge was blown down, and bearing in mind that catastrophe and such subsequent occurrences as the Elliot railway disaster, it must be considered a fortunate circumstance that no more serious consequences occurred.

Homing Pigeons

We publish certain facts to-day about the destruction of homing pigeons, apparently by "sportsmen," which must make the majority of the fraternity blush for the sins of the minority. It ought to be a criminal offence to kill one of these birds, and this for two outstanding reasons. Nobody who goes shooting should be ignorant of the difference of appearance between one of these, or any other tame pigeon, and the well-known wild variety, and a man who would shoot a tame creature is a vile animal. The second principal reason is the amazing utility of the birds. How many lives did they not save during the war? There is that thrilling story of the naval airman who was forced to descend with his seaplane in the North Sea, and liberated his homer with a message giving his position and the probabilities of how long his machine would float. The bird was wounded on the way home, but—he must have been a gallant creature—got in in time with his message, utterly exhausted through loss of blood. Destroyers went out, and the airman was saved. And it is a great thing to think that the pigeon who did that job of work was doctored and attended to by the finest possible skill, recovered and is believed to be still alive. He deserved a decoration. It is the same class of creature that is in such serious danger to-day in the vicinity of Shanghai. Some of them have done flights from Nanking to here, and if for the time being they constitute merely the sport of a few fanciers, let us never forget what they may do for us.

Bolshevik Diplomacy

The Bolsheviks are really the most extraordinary people. Not perhaps an original observation but that they appear never to have exhausted their faculty for surprising us. Their proneness to make a mess of things diplomatically has been vividly illustrated in this country. Both Joffe and Karakhan at the time of their arrival were represented as being something quite out of the way. They certainly were, though not in the sense implied by their press agents. Joffe bungled everything both in Peking and Tokio; Karakhan's failure is too fresh in every memory to need repetition. But neither of these gentlemen's exploits can compare with that of Trotsky in the speech at Tiflis reported yesterday. Trotsky, be it remembered, is Commissary for War and President of the Revolutionary Council, altogether "the big noise" in Bolshevism. After the usual tirade against France and Poland, he addressed himself to Great Britain as follows:—

"Mr. MacDonald's Cabinet has absolutely no principles, nevertheless the success of the Anglo-Russian conference would strengthen its position."

At the moment this choicely insulting remark was made the Soviet mission must have been landing in England, to negotiate an agreement with the British Government of which from its own point of view the most important part is to obtain business credits and if possible a loan. In actual fact it does not really much matter what Trotsky says, because credits and loans are not going to be supplied until the Bolsheviks give back the British property that they stole, pay for what they cannot restore and give convincing proof that henceforward they will duly regard the sanctity of contracts. But that Trotsky should choose the precise moment to insult Mr. Ramsay MacDonald when he is trying to get something out of him is marvellous.

PUBLIC organizations in Manchuria have wired to the Cabinet and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, urging them to demand of Moscow the withdrawal of M. L. Karakhan and the despatch of another envoy to Peking in his place, reports a Peking telegram to the Dah Tong News Bureau. The Cabinet and the Ministry are now considering the matter.

THE obsolete four-funnel cruiser Susie which was sold to a London firm of steel merchants to be broken up, sailed from Rosyth for Belfast with eight men aboard recently. She ran into a gale, broke adrift from her attendant tugs and disappeared and was still wandering in the North Sea on March 12. The vessel was seen over a week previous off Frane Islands and then disappeared. She was seen a few days later 60 miles off Peterhead. Tugs were frequently sent to look for her but unsuccessfully owing to storms and fogs. It is believed that the men aboard have plenty of food.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

TSINGTAO'S BUSINESS GOVERNMENT

Mr. Kao En-hung in Conference with Commercial Groups: Big Harbour Improvements Projected: Financing the Southern Squadron?

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, Apr. 9.

Mr. Kao En-hung, the new Tupan, convened a meeting on Friday (the 7th instant.) and another this afternoon at which various business groups attended, for the purpose of discussing ways and means to improve local harbour facilities.

Mr. Kao said that inasmuch as the coolie monoply hitherto held by the Kiao-Tsi Transportation Co., has now been dissolved, the Administration welcomed any suggestions which local business men might wish to make.

None were advanced on Friday, however. The various groups retired for the purpose of discussing the whole issue amongst themselves. This afternoon, the Tupan received a group of foreign merchants and heard their views. The suggestions of the Japanese will be received later. One foreign merchant suggested the following:— (1) Allotment of special wharves for ocean steamers; (2) Special facilities for coal loading; (3) Facilities for transfer of cargoes from railroad cars to steamers and *vice versâ*; (4) Reduction of delay in loading and unloading to a minimum.

The opinion in some quarters appears to be that a foreign expert should be attached to the Harbour Department who could be engaged in the process of reorganizing the functions of the Department to the entire satisfaction of the business community. Two further suggestions were that special bonded receipts should be issued by the Department that will be accepted by local banks as negotiable instruments, and that some efficient system of protection against fire should be inaugurated.

Local mercharts have been very favourably impressed with the business-like attitude of the new Administration. Improvements in various directions are foreseen.

ADMIRAL WEN'S SQUADRON.

But there is just one point in which the business community is greatly interested and which has not yet been cleared up: the question of the maintenance of Admiral Wen's squadron at the expense of public utilities. It is feared that the idea of the new *régime* is to reduce necessary expenditure to a minimum and increase in various ways the sources of revenue for the purpose of using a portion of the surplus for the upkeep of the men-o'-war from the South. I have endeavoured to obtain a statement from Mr. Kao on this matter, but have so far only elicited the promise that such a statement will be made in a few days. Mr. Kao, the Governor's Chief Secretary and Director for General Affairs, pointed out that a good deal of the rumours circulated in connexion with the alleged intention of the new administration to milk the earnings of public utilities for the support of Admiral Wen's squadron were without foundation, for example, the one that the administration was endeavouring to mortgage the telephone system so as to raise money for this purpose.

It is now learnt that Mr. Kao is pressing the Railway Administration for either the return of the Headquarters Building and ground or payment therefor. The Japanese cashier's idea is that inasmuch as Admiral Wen had already secured $150,000 out of the treasury of the Railway, the whole matter can now be called square. It is opined by outsiders that Mr. Kao will value the property at a figure considerably higher than the foregoing sum.

LAND SOLD TO JAPANESE.

The greatest problem the new Administration has to face is undoubtedly the property question. The old Administration sold countless plots of land and it is an open secret that plots in central districts have been sold to Japanese at ridiculous figures in the hurry to raise money with which to patch things up. The old administration's property cow has been milked fairly dry by Chinese and Japanese ever watchful of opportunities to get something for almost nothing, although it must be admitted that the Japanese consular authorities have maintained a very fair attitude, refusing to press the claims of their nationals when such claims are not substantiated by lawful documents. Broadminded Japanese admit that fully 70 per cent. of land held by their countrymen cannot be substantiated.

SOOCHOW'S CITY WALL

Another Picturesque Relic of the Old China in Absolute Disrepair

From Our Own Correspondent.

Soochow, April 8.

There is an old local saying, "Six gates and six dialects," because after the Taiping Rebellion thousands moved into Soochow from other parts of China, thus creating many dialects, so that even to-day the question is often asked, "What is the pure Soochow dialect." This local saying must now go into the "junk file," for two new gates are being opened through the city wall.

One is being opened in the west wall south of the Chang Men, the busiest city gate. This will connect with a new bridge, that was built two years ago, across the outside moat, and also the main canal outside the city. This new gate will leave the Chang Men free for pedestrians, for all ricshas will now take the route through this new gate.

The more important new gate is being opened in the north wall just opposite to the railway station. In the years to come this promises to be the busiest gate of the city, for practically all the traffic from inside the city walls, to the railway station, will pass through this gate. This north gate has been under discussion for 18 years, ever since the Shanghai-Nanking Railway was opened as far as Soochow, in the summer of 1906; but business interests around the Chang Men have long fought this plan, fearing that turning this volume of traffic from the Chang Men would mean a great financial loss. However, for the greater convenience of the entire city, the business men inside and outside the Chang Men have been forced now to yield to the opening of this new gate. The work on both of these new city gates will probably be completed in the early summer.

The bridge over the small inside moat, at this new north gate, is also now being built, but funds are still wanted for the very long bridge across the outside moat, connecting this new gate with the station: so that for the present a ferry will be used. When this new bridge is built, it will be wide enough to carry carriages: and there is a plan to open a carriage road inside the city to the Big Pagoda.

Another carriage road is planned straight south through the western part of the city, by filling in a little used canal. Fifteen years ago this canal was dredged, but since the city canals are chiefly used as a dumping place for all refuse, this canal was soon again blocked at many points, and in the present low state of the water, its fragrance ascends to high heaven, and its waters in colour and consistency remind one of printer's ink. Filling in this canal for a "horse road" will be a municipal gain rather than a loss.

WITHSTOOD SIEGE BY GEN. GORDON.

There are really a dozen places in Soochow's city wall where one may ascend or descend on the outside with the greatest ease, for the noble old wall is gradually falling down for lack of repair. In the days of the old Empire the wall was kept in a state of good repair, but since the Republic was established, public funds are required for official private gambling debts, and other such necessities, so that there are not enough funds for public works. It seems sad to see this picturesque old bulwark falling into ruin, but from a modern viewpoint it has past its days of usefulness, even though 60 years ago it could withstand the siege of "Chinese" Gordon and Li Hung-chang.

Tradition has it that some of the old foundations are the original foundations, and some semi-mythological histories make the date of these foundations to correspond with the founding of Rome. These same histories state that the city originally had 12 gates instead of six, and that the Chang Men suburb ran 15 miles to the northwest; half way to Wusih. And the Bur Men suburb stretched 12 miles to the south, linking up with the city of Wukiang. However, this may be, from the old ruins, Soochow must have been indeed a vast city in the centuries long past, and even modern New York and London would not seem very great in comparison.

HONGKONG SENSATION

Portuguese Captain's Arrest on Attempted Murder Charge: Said to Have Been Accidental

Hongkong, Apr. 13.

Capt. Silvares, a visiting Portuguese army officer from Macao, has been arrested by the police on a charge of attempted murder.

Capt. Silvares and his wife and Lt. Costa Sequeira returned from Repulse Bay Hotel at 1.30 this morning, and, while alighting from the motor-car, outside the Astor House Hotel, it is alleged that Capt Silvares drew his pistol and shot his wife and Lt. Sequeira. The latter collapsed, wounded in the arm and leg. He is expected to recover. The lady was wounded in the stomach. Both were taken to hospital.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Hongkong, Apr. 13.

Lieut. Costa Sequeira and Mrs. Silvares, who were wounded in the shooting affair yesterday, declared that the shooting was accidental. After a conference between the Portuguese Consul-General and the Criminal Investigation Department, Captain Silvares, who was proceeding to Portugal, was allowed to go.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

AMERICAN OUTLAY IN CHINA

Tsingtao Critics of the Return on Educational Expenditure

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, April 6.

Mrs. Elizabeth Dadisman, the Principal of the Tsingtao American Academy, gave a dinner on Friday night to the advisors and teachers of the Academy and their wives and husbands as well as guests, the object being to ascertain in what way the Academy could benefit from the movement now in progress amongst Americans in the Far East for the support of American schools out here.

At the conclusion of the dinner, Mrs. Dadisman outlined the purpose of the gathering. After detailing the efforts of Tientsin Americans to arouse interest in American schools in China, Mrs. Dadisman declared that in order to attend a conference of teachers to be shortly convened in the north, she proposed leaving for Peking in a few days, and will convey to Americans in Tientsin any expression of opinion that those present may make.

There was then some discussion, opinion being divided as to whether the American Chambers of Commerce in China should support the American schools in this country, or whether the United States Government should do so. Mr. Sears thought it should be up to the Government to aid the schools inasmuch as Americans in the Orient were paying their taxes to the Government without being able to obtain the same privileges which Americans at home had. Mrs. Dadisman declared that to some extent Americans in China did not get a good return for their money. Mr. Adams thought a special law would have to be passed before Government aid could be secured. At the present time, each State supported its own schools, so that it would mean waiting for some considerable period before the desired object could be achieved. Mr. Jernigan's idea was that the American Chambers of Commerce in China should support the American schools in this country. The taxes paid to the Government were in lieu of the protection it gave to American citizens in the Orient.

Nothing definite was arrived at, but undoubtedly the whole point will be discussed again, after further details of the movement in Tientsin and Shanghai had become available.

Those present were:—Mrs. Elizabeth Dadisman, Mrs. M. Bergen, Miss G. Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. T. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. P. Jernigan, Mr. and Mrs. D. Y Lin, Mr. Sears, Mr. and Mrs Hendry, Mrs. Gatrell, Mr. and Mrs. Telberg, Mr. James Giauque, Mr. Wong and your correspondent.

SIGNS OF WAR IN KUANGTUNG

Troop Movements on West and East Rivers: Crime in Canton and Short Money

From Our Own Correspondent.

Canton, April 7.

The situation in and around Canton shows signs of developing. The movements of troops to the East River are continuing, and it is expected that shortly the situation there will be in hand. The troops under Chen Chiung-ming appear to be withdrawing from Poklo and Waichow to Swatow and Amoy, and the advance of the Sun troops to Poklo is announced.

The reason for this withdrawal of the Chen troops is not very clear, but it is probable that the advance of Tsang Chi-p'ing from the Fukien border may have some connection with it. On the other hand it is believed by supporters of Chen Chiung-ming that this withdrawal is being conducted in order to concentrate his forces and shorten the line of operations preparatory to an advance.

On the West River during the last week there was also a certain amount of activity, culminating in the disarmament of Gen Chau Chi-ching by the troops under Liu Yu-shan at Dosing. At the same time there were reports to the effect that Wuchow was again in danger of being retaken by Lu Yung-t'ing, but up to the time of writing nothing further has been received, and it is claimed in Canton that the situation is well in hand.

DISORDER IN THE CITY.

In the City conditions continue to be somewhat disturbed, and murders and robberies are daily occurrences. The murders in nearly all cases are committed by soldiers quarrelling over gambling, and are carried out in the most cold-blooded way, the corpses being left lying in the streets. At the same time the number of troops in the City is decreasing and it is to be hoped that that it will not be long before as many as possible have been removed from its precients.

The question of money still remains an urgent one and it is reported that Cheng Hung-nin, the Commissioner of Finance has handed in his resignation. As has already been reported the Opium Commission are finding the greatest difficulty in carrying on in the face of the opposition from the troops, and now the whole question of opium is in the hands of a Hunanese General, Lo Tik-p'ing.

FORCED COLLECTIONS.

The fourth month's house rent is now being collected by the Police for the Military expenses, and a certain amount of difficulty is being experienced in its collection. This is the fourth time during the last year that a month's rent has been collected by the Government.

General Li Fuk-lam continues his operations against the pirates in the Delta and during last week several successful raids were made resulting in the shooting of five well-known pirates, and the apprehension of many others.

SHAMEEN NEWS.

The fine new building which has been in course of erection for the accomodation of H.B.M.'s Consular offices and Vice-Consuls quarters is now practically finished and the offices are now being transferred to the new building.

CHINA AND JAPAN

Conference on Manchurian Questions in Peking

Peking, Apr. 9.

The Japanese Consuls in China meet once a year to exchange views on various questions such as the education of Japanese children in China, the imposition of illegal taxes, protection of Japanese lives and property in China, and general trade matters. Hitherto meetings have taken place at Mukden, where Japanese Consuls in Manchuria met, at Tientsin of Consuls throughout North China, at Hankow of Consuls in Central China and at Taihoku, Formosa, of Consuls of South China, This year an alteration of this procedure has occurred. The meeting in Mukden concluded on the 7th instant and the Consuls of North China will meet at Peking for a week's session beginning tomorrow. The Manchurian Consuls have come on to Peking and will attend the conference here. The place of meeting was changed from Tientsin to Peking so that the Legation could receive reports from the Consuls of North China and Manchuria. Eighteen Consuls of North China and five of Manchuria will attend the Peking Conference. — Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPAN AND THE SOVIET

Recognition Demand a Barrier to Trade Agreement

Peking, Apr. 9.

The Japanese Minister had another meeting with Mr. Karakhan yesterday. The discussions between the Japanese and Russian representatives have not yet been concerned with the question of Japanese recognition of the Soviet Government.

The Japanese view is that recent incidents that have arisen between Japan and Russia should be settled before recognition should be discussed, whereas the Russians want to discuss recognition first. With this confliction of views no real progress have yet been made.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The Emperor of Japan, through the Japanese Ambassador in London, has sent to Lady Moore a pair of large silver vases, with the Imperial crest inlaid in gold, as a token of his appreciation of the valuable services rendered by her late husband, Sir Edward Cecil Moore, while Lord Mayor of London last year, in alleviating the distress caused by the earthquake in Japan by raising a Mansion House Fund which realized over £250,000.

UNJUST TAXATION IN CANTON

Native Bankers' Successful Protest: Two Offending Measures Repealed

Canton, Apr. 4.

The suspension of business by the native bankers of Canton on March 31 has led to the final repeal by the Administration of the two offending new taxes—the requirement for bankers to use stamped paper for their business transactions in addition to the ordinary revenue stamps on negotiable papers, and the levy of 1½ per cent. extra duty on the export of subsidiary coins from Canton. The latter tax had been made more intolerable by the ruling of Dr. Sun Yat-sen that export included carrying coins from the City of Canton to the country districts of the same province. This would practically have cut off business transactions between the city and the country, as farmers bring their produce into the city in the morning and return home with the money for what they have sold, thereby "exporting" coinage. Other taxes repealed during the past few days include the common welfare tax, collected from the boat population in Kuangtung. The boat people in Canton and the district are now paying more taxes than they can possibly afford. In Canton, for example, they have to pay the police tax, the fee for the annual registration and numbering of their craft and similar taxes, which amount to a considerable sum.

H. M. CONSUL-GENERAL'S PROTEST.

The main outstanding taxation question is now the alcohol tax, to which the British Consular authorities in Canton have taken exception on the ground that it is simply a further duty on the goods, as alcohol and similar articles are mostly imported from abroad and thus have already paid duty.

The British Consul-General has also protested against the recently created tax on soda-water. *The Watson Factory*, the largest concern in Canton manufacturing aerated waters, is very seriously affected. The Canton Government has imposed a tax of one dollar for every 120 bottles sold by the wholesale merchants to the retail shops, which will be authorized to collect one cent extra for every bottle sold to customers.

POLICE COLLECTING RENT.

All tenants have been ordered by the police to pay their April rent to the police instead of to the landlords of their houses or shops. Persons who own their own homes or shops and are doing business in their property are required to pay 6 to 10 per cent. of the value of their property. This is the fourth time the people of Canton have had to pay this levy. The proceeds will go towards Dr. Sun's military budget. The military commanders of every district in Kuangtung are doing the same thing in their own districts. Last week the rival commanders in the West River districts had a dispute over the division of territory for the collection of taxes, which resulted in the practical annihilation of a regiment under Gen. Chen Tien-ti, of the Kuangsi army.

THE NORTHERN EXPEDITION.

Mr. Yang Shu-kan, the Civil Governor of Canton, has written to the most prominent Cantonese still remaining in the city to ask them to assist the Government in the raising of funds for the Northern Expedition, which Dr. Sun intends to undertake against Peking. He adds that the followers of Gen. Chen Chiung-ming, who are "unfriendly" to Dr. Sun, on the eastern front will shortly be routed. There has been fighting on the eastern front for months past, but so far the Northern Expedition has failed to make any advance.

PROTECTION OF FOREIGN SHIPPING.

The new commander of the Kuangtung Coast Defence force has made his headquarters at Whampoa instead of Kongmoon, which has been the headquarters of the gunboat flotilla for nearly a year. The river flotilla is the only naval force left to Dr. Sun since the recent desertion of Admiral Wen Shu-teh and his squadron to the North. In Canton Harbour one now sees very few gunboats flying the Chinese colours. The larger boats at Canton are all foreign. At present the U. S. S. Helena, the U. S. destroyer No. 217, H.M.S. Foxglove, the French gunboat Craonne and a Japanese destroyer are stationed at Canton. The British river gunboats, including the Cicala, Moorhen, Tarantula, Moth and Robin, are patrolling the West River to protect British shipping.

Some British shipping companies are arranging for their own protection in Kuangtung waters, in addition to the aid they may expect from the Hongkong Government. The Hongkong and South China Launch Company, which has many vessels to protect, has chartered an armed boat, the Ilha de Dom Joard, with Indian watchmen on board under European officers, to follow up their vessels.

CO-OPERATION AGAINST PIRATES.

Piracy is so common these days in Canton waters that nothing but self-protection will be effective. The river steamers plying between Hongkong and inland towns have adopted a co-operative system, by which they will travel together and render assistance when one is in danger. Travelling on the tow-boats on the rivers of the Delta is exceedingly dangerous because of the number of military stations and pirate strongholds the craft have to pass. In order to make their way through, the boats sometimes have to pay as many as 35 tributes, likins and other contributions to the bandits and troops as well as the regular tax-collectors.

M. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, will visit Canton about April 23 in the interest of trade between the two countries. He will be accompanied by the Presidents of the Chambers of Commerce of Saigon and Hanoi and other prominent personages of the two cities. The Chinese merchants in Canton, through the General Chamber of Commerce, have appointed a committee to prepare for the reception of the distinguished visitors.

JUDGE NOT A POLITICIAN.

Dr. Chao S. Bok, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of South China, has been relieved of office by mandate of Dr. Sun because of his unwillingness to become a member of the Kuomintang while in office. Dr. Bok believes that a judge in office should take no active part in party politics.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

NO ROOM IN JAVA FOR JAPANESE

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, April 5.

That there is no room in the Dutch East Indies for Japanese immigrants because the chief island, Java, is already overpopulated and the Dutch colonial government is, in consequence, devising ways and means of sending the superfluous population to Borneo and Sumatra, was a hint thrown out by General J. C. Pabst, Netherlands Minister to Tokio, when Japanese press men interviewed him on the subject.

"Java is densely populated," he said, "almost as bad as Holland, my own country. As a result of the rapid increase in the population, the area of uncultivated land in the Dutch East Indies is growing smaller and smaller every day, and even the bush lands of Sumatra and Borneo have been transformed into rice fields at amazing speed. There is no possibility of the Dutch East Indies, therefore, receiving immigrants from other countries."

Referring to the dropping of the bill for the expansion of the Dutch Far Eastern navy by the Dutch parliament recently, General Pabst said: "Luckily or unluckily, the bill was beaten by 50 to 49 in the Lower House, 100 members absenting themselves because the opposition to the bill became very strong owing to the present financial difficulties of the Netherlands. The Japanese earthquake helped to strengthen the hands of the elements opposed to an augmentation of the Dutch fleet in the East."

KIAOCHOU-TSINANFU RAILWAY

Managing Director Transferred to Lunghai Railway: an Interchange of Posts

Tsingtao, Apr. 9.

Mr. Liu Kun, the Managing Director of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway, has been transferred to the Lunghai Railway as Manager. The Manager of the Lunghai Railway, Mr. Shao Hung-chun, is succeeding Mr. Liu Kun and is expected to arrive here tomorrow. Mr. Liu Kun will leave for Peking for instructions prior to taking up his new post.

The order from Peking was not unexpected as Mr. Liu's administration has been the object of several attacks lately. He was responsible for the transference of $150,000 from the coffers of the railway to Admiral Wen Shu-teh's treasury for the upkeep of the naval detachment in the bay, it is stated at the instigation of Marshal Wu Pei-fu. It is also said that he was endeavouring to find a way to transfer additional sums to the squadron, but had been baulked by the Chinese chief accountant and the Japanese accountant. Fault was also found with the line of his conduct of the case of Mr. S. S. Keh, the district engineer at Changtien, who was murdered by bandits.

The new Managing Director was formerly President of Chao Tung University and was once Chinese Consul at Vladivostok. He is a close personal friend of both Marshal Wu Pei-fu and Governor Kao En-hung and formerly was a member of the staff of the latter when Mr. Kao was Minister of Communications. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

Commission of Inquiry into Its Affairs: Foreign Experts Among Members

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, April 10.

Co-inciding with the arrival of the new territorial governor, the Railway Commission especially appointed to investigate and report upon the conditions of and along the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway has arrived. The Commission is divided into several sections, Mr. Kin, the Director-General of the Kirin-Changchun Railway being Chairman, Mr. P. D. Griffith, Assistant-Manager of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, in charge of engineering matters, Mr. Chuan, formerly with the Peking-Hankow Railway, in charge of Traffic matters, Mr. G. E. Baker, advisor to the Ministry of Communications, in charge of Financial affairs, and Mr. Sheng Chi, Technical Expert to the Ministry of Communications, in charge of Technical matters, such as workshop operation etc. Mr. Chuan replaces Mr. Chow, of the Tientsin-Pukow Line, who is unable to attend owing to a death in the family.

The Commission is fully empowered to institute an investigation into the economic and financial resources of the Kiao-Tsi Railway and to ascertain how to introduce reforms. Furthermore, measures will be devised for the effective protection of the interests of both China and Japan until the former has fulfilled her obligations in accordance with the provisions of the Washington Treaty. Mr. Koo, the Chief Chinese Accountant of the Railway, has been persuaded by the Ministry of Communications to remain at his post. It is considered that there can be no question that the Kiao-Tsi Railway if efficiently managed, and freed from all attempts to have its earnings support the fighting units of one Tuchun or another, could itself meet the obligations with Japan at the expiration of the 15-year period prescribed in the Sino-Japanese agreement concerning its amortization.

The Railway Administration is now under the Managing-directorship of Mr. Shao Hun-chung who has replaced Mr. Liu Kun, since dismissed. The dismissal of the former Managing-Director came in an order from the Ministry of Communications and caused not a little surprise in view of the fact that Mr. Shao is a Wu Pei-fu man. This is considered as complicating matters for the Commission is supposed to be here for the purpose of submitting a report to show why the Railway would not bear any straining of its resources for the support of Admiral Wen's squadron taken over by Marshal Wu Pei-fu. Had Mr. Liu Kun been replaced by a non-Wu Pei-fu man, the whole position would have become clear, but in appointing Mr. Shao as Managing-Director of the Railway, the Ministry of Communications has given a puzzle to the people of this territory.

PIRACY IN HONGKONG WATERS

Str. Tailee Assailed: Sunning to Rescue: 3 Pirates Killed and One Passenger

Hongkong, Apr. 12.

While the steamer Tailee was voyaging from Kongmoon to Hongkong yesterday evening, a number of pirates disguised as passengers rushed to the engine-room. Simultaneously confederates on the river bank opened fire on the steamer with rifles. The Tailee blew its whistle and fired a rocket and a Verey light.

The steamer Sunning, answering the calls, proceeded to the assistance of the Tailee. A European police sergeant and four special and six Indian guards returned the fire of the pirates. Several passengers were wounded.

The pirates jumped overboard and swam to the shore, three of them being killed. A Chinese woman passenger on board the Sunning was killed by a stray bullet. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

Hongkong-Kongmoon Steamer Service Suspended by Ships' Officers

Hongkong, Apr. 14.

A combined meeting of the China Coast Officers' and Marine Engineers' Guilds at noon yesterday decided to suspend the service on the Hongkong-Kongmoon run until naval escorts are provided against piracy.

Later.

It has been arranged that armed naval launches shall escort steamers on the Kongmoon run. H.M.S. Tarantula and H.M.S. Cicala have been assigned to the duty.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FOREIGNER ASSAULTED IN PEKING

Unprovoked Attack on British Visitor by Member of the Chinese Guard

Peking, Apr. 13.

Another case of assault against a foreigner by a Chinese soldier occurred near the Water Gate on the Tartar Wall this morning, when Mr. A. P. Campbell, a British subject who is visiting Peking on business, was the victim of an unprovoked attack by one of the guards of the Ministry of War. His assailant is in the hands of the Legation Quarter Police.

Mr. Campbell had left the Wagons-Lits Hotel for a walk on the wall and met the soldier in question near the top of the rampart. The latter halted in front of him and endeavoured to bar his way. Not understanding the man's intention, Mr. Campbell brushed past him and went on his way, but had only gone a few steps when the soldier struck him on the jaw from behind. Mr. Campbell promptly knocked him down, but the man rushed him again and struck him on the head with a handkerchief full of coppers which he was carrying. Again Mr. Campbell retaliated, and again his assailant struck him with his awkward weapon, this time inflicting a nasty cut on the jaw.

The encounter had been observed by the police at the Water Gate and also by an American soldier, and they promptly came to Mr. Campbell's assistance and placed the soldier under arrest. There is no indication of what the latter's motive in making trouble can have been, but he is reported to have interfered with another foreigner earlier in the day, and it is evident that for some reason he was spoiling for a fight.

An investigation is proceeding. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPAN'S INTEREST IN RUSSIAN FISHERIES

New Agreement: Japan Paying Rent and Submitting to Restrictions

According to information so far available, the number of Siberian fishing grounds to be leased by Japanese fishing interests from Russia on a three-year contract is 232 against last year's 268. Notwith standing this decrease, the rent shows an increase of some Y. 160,000, the price agreed upon for the present year being Y.1, 450,000. As Japanese fishing interests will be called upon a pay Y. 400,000, together with interest thereupon, which amounts to some Y.20,000, representing a portion of the unpaid rent falling due in October, the total sum to be paid by them under the new agreement this year will reach Y.2,420,000. Besides the above disadvantages, they are to put up with restrictions upon the amount of catches, methods of fishing, etc. In such circumstances, some Japanese are complaining that it is impossible to carry on.

The Government, on the other hand, thinks that the contract concluded was the best that could be obtained under existing circumstances. Japan's insistance upon her terms would have rendered the conclusion of a general contract impossible, with the result that the Japanese would have been obliged to take "French leave." The practice of free fishing might not have produced very serious consequences in the days when the Vladivostok Administration stood on a weak basis, but the pursuit of such a course at the present time would not fail to affect relations with Russia to a serious extent. All Japanese residents in Siberia might then be forced to withdraw from that territory. The conclusion of the present agreement has obviated the possibility of such contingencies, and consequently, the authorities believe, it cannot be regarded as a failure.

Japanese fishing interests are going to ask the Government for financial aid to enable them to carry on operation without loss. The rent under the new arrangement is Y. 920,000 higher than the price which they think proper, and they desire that the Government may come to their help to that extent for three years. It is estimated that the free fishing during the last three years involved the Government in an outlay of some Y.5,000,000 in the dispatch of warships and the provision of other safeguards for the protection of Japanese interests. The arrangement just made saves the Government this expenditure, and consequently, they argue, they are justified in their claim of the Government's financial help to save from losses which may be caused by the new contract.—"Japan Chronicle"

JAPAN'S FISHERY IN RUSSIAN WATERS

Secured from Vladivostok So No More Use for Karakhan

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Apr. 16.

It is reliably reported here today that the Russo-Japanese negotiations have been completely broken off.

The Japanese, it is rumoured, have secured the fishery rights, which are their chief economic interest, from Vladivostok by independent purchase. They are therefore indifferent to M. Karakhan's proposals and are satisfied to break off the negotiations.

JAPAN'S EXPANSION ABROAD

Finance Minister's View of Earthquake Consequences: The Fall in Exchange

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, April 5.

Declaring that the Government will make every effort to assist Japanese in Manchuria, China and the South Seas "because attempts to assist them will eventually lead to expansion of Japan abroad," Mr. Shoda, Minister of Finance, exhorted merchant princes of Osaka, Japan's commercial metropolis, to cooperate with the Government in this direction. "It is important and essential for Japan to expand abroad," declared Mr. Shoda, "for Japan's population is already too large and she lacks important natural products."

The Japanese press interprets Mr. Shoda's speech as part of a pro-Government electioneering campaign, and asks why the Finance Minister was not more explicit in declaring what ways and means will be taken to establish Japanese expansion in foreign lands.

Touching on the depreciation of the yen Mr. Shoda said that he intends to stabilize the rate on America at 42 or 43 cents to the Japanese unit of currency. He declared that the more the yen rises, the better is it for importers and the worse for exporters and that the Government is trying to reach a point which will prove favourable both to importers and exporters.

"I regret that the unfavourable terms at which Japan's foreign loans were closed have led to a fall in exchange," said the Minister of Finance, who then went into an explanation of the "difficult circumstances under which the loans were negotiated."

"As the result of the earthquake last year," went on Mr. Shoda, "the budget for the fiscal year of 1924 has swollen to an enormous sum. The Government seeks to secure an understanding with Kwansai (Western Japan in which Kobe and Osaka are situated) business men, now that Osaka has become the source of Japan's industrial and commercial activity."

Mr. Shoda concluded by urging Kwansai business men to buy Government domestic bonds to the full extent their exchequers permit.

SINGAPORE AND HAWAII.

"If the fortification of Singapore by Great Britain is to be regarded as contrary to the spirit of the Washington conference for the limitation of naval armament, then the fortification of Pearl Harbour, in Hawaii, by the United States should also be regarded as such," declared Vice-Admiral Kenkichi Ide, of the Japanese Navy, who returned to Japan yesterday after a trip abroad.

Vice-Admiral Ide was Vice-Minister of the Navy under the late Premier Tomosaburo Kato when the latter held both the position of Premier and Navy Minister after he returned from Washington where he was Japan's chief spokesman during the armament limitation parleys.

"I have heard various reports regarding the possibility of President Coolidge calling another arms limitation conference," said Vice-Admiral Ide to your representative, "but, in my opinion, there is no need, under the present circumstances, for convening such a conference. The nations which sat at the round table conference convened by President Harding are faithfully fulfilling their obligations, and if there is any attempt to pile up armaments, this is only being done in the realm of aircraft, and, as aircraft made to serve peace purposes can be converted overnight for combatant purposes, how can restrictions be imposed. In the matter of auxiliary vessels, there is no contravention at all.

Reverting to the Singapore base question Vice-Admiral Ide said: "It is strange that the Japanese people are talking so much about Singapore which is outside the scope of the agreement reached at Washington, so that Great Britain is perfectly free to do as she likes with Singapore. If the erection of a naval base at Singapore is to be regarded as contrary to the spirit underlying the Washington Conference, then the fortifications being thrown up at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, should also be so regarded, yet no comment is being made in Japan regarding Hawaii. Now, however, since the Singapore base plan has been temporarily dropped, there is no need to talk about it, for it is, for the time being, a dead issue."

PEIYANG STUDENTS ON STRIKE

185 Now Expelled: Attempts to Intimidate Those Who emain at Work

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, Apr. 9.

A proclamation issued this afternoon by the Peiyang University and posted in a prominent place on the Campus dismisses 185 students for failing to return to classes yesterday, or to apply for official leave. This leaves 164 students on the rolls, 62 of whom have been in continuous attendance and 102 of whom have obtained leave of absence.

The proclamation mentions each student by name and cites the University's reasons for dropping him from the rolls. The University caused to be published in the Chinese press during the past few days a notification requesting striking students to return or apply for leave by yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock. This notice also mentioned each student by name.

In an effort to intimidate students remaining at their studies a delegation of strikers visited the campus three days ago. They met with no success except that several faithful students, afraid of what might happen to them if they acted otherwise, obtained official leave of absence for a few days until the situation becomes calmer.

Some non-striking students, who took advantage of the temporary lull in school activities to visit their families in Peking, were prevented from returning at the Chien Mên station by striking students in the capital. It is reported that some were also turned back at Tientsin Central and East Stations.

It is learned that the students have petitioned the Provincial Assembly, with a long recital of grievances, most of which are considered [illegible]. It is reported that the students have received some financial assistance from Peking and Tientsin student associations as well as from other interested sources.

In response to the closest inquiries this service is informed that the University, which includes the Chihli Governmental authorities behind it, is resolved to maintain its stand *vis-à-vis* of the students without the slightest suggestion of compromise. It is felt that an Institution which spends $350 per annum per student, who pays back only $30 has some right to determine its own schedule and system of education.

ENGLISH CHURCH IN JAPAN

Movement to Raiee £30,000 for Restoration Fund

London, Apr. 10.

The Japanese Ambassador, Baron Hayashi, and other distinguished personages to-day attended a meeting at the Mansion House, presided over by the Lord Mayor, in support of the movement to raise £30,000 for the English Church in Tokio and Yokohama restoration fund, of which the Prince of Wales has agreed to become patron.

The Japanese Ambassador presented the Lord Mayor with a book containing the signatures of a thousand leading Japanese in Tokio and Yokohama as an expression of gratitude for the help afforded by the Lord Mayor's earthquake fund.—Reuter.

COSSACKS STRANDED IN MANILA

Anxious to Secure Entry into United States But Prospects Poor

Manila, Apr. 3.

A dozen Russian Cossacks, who came to Manila from Shanghai to give exhibitions in horsemanship during the annual carnival in February, are stranded and are now living on charity. They had expected to continue their voyage to Singapore, where further exhibitions were to be given, but their plans did not materialize.

The Cossacks, like Admiral Stark and his 250 countrymen who have been quartered at the Olongapo naval station for more than a year, believe their difficulties would be ended if they could reach the United States. In company with Mr. Teodoro R. Yangco, philanthropist and former resident commissioner at Washington, the Cossacks called on Governor-General Wood to enlist his aid in securing their entry into the United States. The Governor-General held out little encouragement to the refugees in view of strict immigration regulations, but told them he would present their case to the authorities at Washington through the War Department.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

GOVERNOR OF ANHUI PUBLICLY SNUBBED

Students' Opportunity to Take Vengeance for Educational Funds' Disappearance

From Our Own Correspondent.

Anking, April 8.

The annual tree-planting festival which for some years past has taken the place of the usual grave dressing rites or Ch'ing Ming, was celebrated with the usual display and vainglorious show here on Saturday, April 5.

All the schools of the city marched out in fine order with flags flying and drums beating to the appointed place on the neighbouring hills. Here a large canopy of gay bunting had been erected in a natural amphitheatre which affords an advantageous view of the surrounding country. After setting out a few trees by way of ceremony the long lines of students each school—both girls and boys—in some uniform colour, drew up in good order in front of the canopied stage in the hot sunshine to listen to the many speakers who were better sheltered.

Long lines of soldiers guarded the place as though trouble might momentarily be expected, while all along the road were stationed single sentinels with fixed bayonets doubtless affording ample protection for the thousands of city folks who flocked out in the wake of the students and officials. But protection of the existing trees was apparently not a part of the guards' duty for ruthless crowds spread over the country in all directions despoiling fruit trees of their blossoms, climbing into the branches and tearing off every flower in reach, leaving only the bare denuded trees.

STUDENTS' SNUB FOR GOVERNOR.

Toward the end of the ceremony the Governor, Ma Lien-chia, appeared upon the scene heavily guarded by trusty troops all carrying bayoneted rifles in which cartridge clips had been placed, ready for any emergency which a guilty conscience always fears. However, one thing he had not taken into account and that was the "non-cooperative" attitude of the students themselves. In spite of the fact that schools have been open and running for a month, even though short of funds, the students apparently had not forgotten the rebuffs of last year, or else they did not want to lose an opportunity to discredit the present military *régime*. Whatever their motive, concerted action must have been previously decided upon for no sooner had the Governor mounted the platform and begun his speech than the students turned their backs, fell into line and marched off the hill; and without so much as turning their heads nor stopping the din of their instruments at once set off on the return march to the city as though the affair, for them at least, was all over. Enraged and chagrined the Governor returned to his yamên and refused to see anyone for the rest of the day. What the result will be no one seems to know, but the teachers, the payment of whose salaries is already uncertain, fear that the consequence may fall upon them.

SOLDIER POLITICIANS OF JAPAN

Candidates for Elections: The Meiji Era Upheld: More Secret Influence

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, April 5.

Retired army and navy men, thirsting after political glory, have emerged from the obscurity of being on the inactive list and have thrown their hats into the political arena of the coming general elections. They include three retired admirals and three retired generals. In addition, a number of officers of lesser rank of the army and navy have come forth as candidates seeking election to the Diet. About 150 general officers on the retired list have organized a political body and propose canvassing actively on behalf of the candidates from the fighting forces.

In the course of a statement they declare that, in supporting candidates from the Army and the Navy, it is their object "to bring forward the illustrious achievements of the late Emperor Meiji and to follow and extend the august wishes of the Reigning Emperor."

Among the sailor candidates out to secure legislative honours is Admiral Tochinai, a former Vice-Minister of the Navy and commander of the Japanese squadron in the South Seas during the European war. Admiral Tochinai proposes to run from Morioka city, the home town of the late Premier Hara.

Vice-Admiral Keizaburo Moriyama, who was recommended by the artisans of Kure as Japan's delegate to the international labour conference last year, will run from the naval port of Kure.

Rear Admiral Ichizen Yamaji, son in law of former Premier Count Yamamoto, himself a naval man holding the rank of admiral, also proposes to take the field. Admiral Yamaji was commander of the Japanese squadron in the Mediterranean during the recent war.

General Horiuchi, who played an important part in the operations conducted by the Japanese army against the Germans at Tsingtao, is the chief Army figure desirous of entering politics. Another well-known Army man is General Tsunekichi Kono, famous here for his brilliant essays on military life who is regarded as the "new type" of Army man in Japan.

The significance of the Army and Navy men seeking political office is not only that they are entering politics, for they have exercised political influence from behind the scenes through the War and the Navy offices, but that they are drifting away from the career of a professional fighter. The inelasticity of naval and military pay envelopes is largely responsible for this and even more the waning prestige of careers that once were held as the most honourable in the land. For the past half a century, the Army and the Navy offered the quickest and surest road to fame, to rich marriages, to social and other distinction. Of late, and especially since the end of the recent war, this glory has become dimmed and the once despised commercial man and merchant is now the ambition of the youthful aspirants of Japan.

A lawsuit brought in Mukden regarding the rouble notes issued by the Russo-Asiatic Bank, has led to a speculation in the Russian notes by local Chinese. From 200 to 300 million roubles worth changed hands in a day.

A NEW PROVINCE OF NORTH WEST CHINA

With a Most Unromantic Name: Cannot Government Find One More Appropriate?

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sining, Mar. 19.

"Kan-pien"—By the side of Kansuh. Surely a more interesting name might be found for this most entrancing New Province. Ch'wan-pien for the New Province to the West of Szechuan is very tame indeed for that weird land with its scores of tribes, but it is now too late to change. But the Government surely can find a better name than "Kan pien." Far better stick to Ch'ing-hai, which gives it a halo. The very name of Ch'ing-hai creates a longing in the heart to pierce into the wilds and survey the wonderful sea and all its surroundings whereas "Kan-pien" seems like a dry log, no beauty in it.

Critics may say that Kan-pien has a similarity to the names in the other provinces such as Hopeh, Honan, Shansi, Shantung, etc. Quite true. These homely names seem appropriate for the quiet, easy-going, industrious matter-of-fact Chinese. But we want a name for that fascinating, mysterious, weird land of Northern Tibet, something partaking of its character and that retains an enchantment about it.

Will not the Government authorities try again and find a better name? In the event of their failing, why not retain Ch'ing-hai?

STEADY ADVANCE.

The High Commissioner is steadily making headway in bringing the New Province into life. Already the city wall of Dulan-sz has been built by the soldiers and a magistrate appointed. The office is certainly not a very opulent one. Most of the inhabitants at present are soldiers, who are not accustomed to pay taxes. We might well call the official a Hermit Official, for he has nothing to do but sit in his yamên all day long meditating how long it will be ere he will be transferred from his lonely position to an office where he can afford to keep his family from poverty's door. Such a position as his would be a unique place for the official who finds in Buddhism a balm for his longing soul.

Jykegundo is a little more lively than Dulan-sz, for there are a few Shansi merchants there, and 100 soldiers. The city is small but there is a large district inhabited by Tibetans and several important Lamaseries.

Labrang and Paongan districts are to be made into Hsiens.

A fine new barracks has just been erected outside the east gate of Huangpien, which has given a more imposing entrance to that border city.

AN ENTERPRISING OFFICIAL.

When an official devotes nearly all his time and energy for the benefit of the people under his care, it gives one much pleasure to cheer him on, as we find so few that care for little else than what they can get out of their position. Mr. Ch'en Tseh-fan has been the Huang-yuen magistrate for four years, and during his office has been just and upright, seeking the welfare of his people. He also has made the plans and superintended the building of the New Schools, which are a model for other schools. Recently he has been removed to Nienpeh Hsien, and no sooner has he taken up office, than he has had men employed to repair the mule road in the Laoya pass, which has been in a dangerous condition owing to past floods Though over 60 he is still very active. A native of Ch'angsha, he has spent most of his time in the New Dominion, having held office in Kashgar.

JAPANESE SUBMARINE DISASTER

Tokio, Apr. 13

The submarine which sank on March 19 has been towed into Sasebo harbour, which the work of raising it will be made easier. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPANESE NEWSPAPER EDITORS

Irresponsibility that Needs to Be Curbed: Typical Cases in Tsingtao

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, April 10.

The irresponsibility of Japanese newspaper editors has been the subject of comment on the part of foreigners from time to time. This is not only true of Japan but is also a feature here. Since the advent of the new Administration, foreigners in Tsingtao have been furnished with two examples of this irresponsibility, and in one case a denial issued by the American Consulate in connexion with a grossly misleading and harmful report is published without any expression of regret.

The first report was that Mr. W. Adams, the American Consul, had approached Mr. Kao En-hung with the recommendation that Mr. D. Y. Lin, Chief of the Bureau of Agriculture and Forestry, should not be dismissed with the 147 advisors and officials who were struck off the pay roll Acting upon this recommendation, the report went on to say, Mr. Kao decided to allow Mr. Lin to remain at his post.

Foreign residents are surprised that it did not occur to the Japanese editor who passed this report that it was inconceivable how a foreign official could interfere with a domestic Administration in the matter of its personnel, unless it directly concerned the foreign community.

The other report was that since his assumption of office, Mr. Kao had gone out of his way to befriend the white people. This, unquestionably, is an untruth. The fact of the matter is that Mr. Kao had conferred on several occasions with foreign business men over the question of harbour facilities, following the dissolution of the coolie monopoly hitherto held by the *Kao-Tsi Transportation* Company. There was no attempt to "befriend the white people" at the expense of the Japanese at all. The first meeting convened by Mr. Kao was also attended by Japanese business men, but the latter, following their usual custom, retired for the purpose of deliberating amongst themselves and, unquestionably, for the purpose of conferring with their consular authorities for it is quite well-known that Japanese business men seldom take a decisive step in a substantial issue without first reaching an agreement with their Consulate-General. While the Japanese were deliberating, the foreign merchants called on Mr. Kao on several occasions for the purpose of expressing their views.

Then, in the matter of news reports, no Japanese newspaper man would seem to have taken the trouble of calling upon the Administration for information. Unlike your correspondent and other foreign newspaper men, Japanese pressmen would seem to have relied upon reports submitted by questionable sources.

The irresponsibility of Japanese papers do not rest on incidents reported here. Their own nationals are not immune. Some time ago, a series of articles was run to the detriment of the reputation of the wife of a prominent local Japanese, and simply because she and her husband had attended foreign dances. It was claimed that any indulgence in Western forms of amusement was detrimental to the prestige of Japanese women who should observe the rules of *Ryosai-Kenbo* (good wife-good mother). Foreign residents declare that if Japanese editors could eschew the output of *usotsuki* (lying) writers half of the battle would be won.

It must be admitted, however, that the Japanese-owned English-language newspaper has not been a party to this irresponsibility. In connexion with the report that Mr. Adams had recommended the retention of Mr. Lin, it wrote:—"The "Leader" was informed of this report but naturally refrained from publishing it. It occurred to us as being inconceivable that any foreign official representative would deem it his duty to interfere with the Administration in the selection of its personnel, unless it directly concerned the foreign community. In retaining Mr. Lin, the Administration was merely showing its appreciation of his honest efforts when he was with the former *régime*."

TAX ON CIGARETTES IN KIANGSI

Provincial Government Seeking to Raise Funds for Militarist Aims

From a Correspondent.

Kiukiang, Apr. 11.

It is reported that, in order to raise funds, the Provincial Government of Kiangsi intends to impose a tax on cigarettes, following the example of Kiangsu and Anhui.

It was reported in the vernacular press several weeks ago that a group of business men, headed by Mr. Pan Shio-hai, had already applied to the Kiangsi Government for the right to farm such tax on payment of a certain sum of money. As the amount offered was too small, however, and the tax had not then been put into force in the other provinces, the matter was postponed. Now, it is officially reported that Mr. Tsao Er-huei, former Taoyin of Southern Kiangsi, is anxious to secure the monopoly and, in the name of his brother, Tsao Er-tsai, has sent several letters on the subject to Gen. Tsai.

Henceforward the tax on cigarettes will be another effective tool for the strengthening of militarism in Kiangsi.

CANTON NOTES

Soviet Not Recognized Yet: War on Gen. Chen Chiung-ming

Peking, Apr. 9.

Advices from Canton indicate that apprehension that Dr. Sun Yat-sen would, independently of Peking, recognize the Soviet Government, is now abating. The Canton Government is, however, sympathetic toward the Russian delegates in their negotiations with Peking, and the local press is placing the responsibility for failure to reach an agreement on the Chinese Government.

It is stated that an attack on Gen. Chen Chiung-ming is still contemplated, but is likely to be delayed indefinitely owing to the attitude of Dr. Sun's Hunanese troops, who are unruly and troublesome.

An interesting report has it that Dr. Sun has two German military experts in his employ, one of whom is attached to police headquarters and the other to the arsenal where he is said to be giving instruction in the preparation and use of poison-gas.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPANESE NAVAL ESTIMATES

Tokio, Apr. 13.

The supplementary naval estimaes for reconstruction in consequence of the damage caused by the earthquake last September were announced to-day. They amount to Y.92,000,000, of which Y.26,000,000 is for buildings and Y.66,000,000 for armament. The former is spread over eight years and the latter over 10 years.

The appropriation for 1924 amounts to Y.4,000,000, of which Y.1,500,000 is for Yokosuka naval station. There is also an appropriation of Y.6,500,000 for the discharge allowances of 10,000 navy-yard employees who are being dismissed according to the Navy readjustment plans.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

A peculiar effect of an earthquake is reported in messages received from Tayabas province, Phillipine Islands, where many tons of coconuts were shaken to the ground by the waving trees set in motion by a shock. No other damage was done.

JAPAN'S FOREST LANDS

Treeless Hills Appearing: Pressing Need to Replace Timber Felled for Reconstruction

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio: Apr. 2.

The indifferent attitude of the Japanese to afforestation and the large number of trees that have had to be cut down to furnish lumber for reconstruction following the earthquake disaster has resulted in the appearance of a number of treeless mountains throughout the country. This has prompted the Department of the Imperial Household to establish a large forestry experimental station at the base of Mount Takao, near Hachioji, where various saplings are being grown for the purpose of transplanting to forests where the large trees have been out down for lumber. In order recall the attention of the nation to the importance of re-afforestation, the Imperial Household Department has requested an endowment from the Emperor to establish the station. The endowment has just been granted.

One of the first acts in the way of reconstructing Tokio was taken by the Emperor who, in September last, gave direct orders for the cutting down of several stately cryptomeria trees—for decades the pride and joy of Tokio and which the fires failed to reach. These trees could not be felled without direct orders from the Emperor and these orders to utilize them for more utilitarian purposes were issued soon after the calamity through the Imperial Household Department.

The number of trees already felled and to be felled to meet the demands for rehabilitation of the stricken regions are already beginning to tell on the timber supply of the country. and many persons fear that if matters in this direction are allowed to drift as they have been doing Japan will be faced with a timber famine before long.

The authorities are of the opinion that the most glaring cases of neglect in regard to afforestation are to be found in private-owned lands and estates, and steps are to be taken to compel everyone to replace trees cut down by others.

Income taxes on forest earnings are the lowest of the taxes levied on landed property in Japan and are made only at the time the trees are cut down, while the tax is only about 3.3 per cent. of the value of the forest property.

KIANGSI'S FEAR OF FUKIEN

Rumours of Invasion Ended: Steadier Tone on Markets: Opium Trade

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kanchow, Ki., April 1.

The rumours of an invasion from Fukien served their purpose, and are now a thing of the past. The money market is again steadier, and the Kiangsi banknotes have re-acquired their former value. It seems that the Fukien rumours were spread by Suen Ts'ung-fan, for his own strategical reasons, in connexion with local fighting in that province, and that there was no serious intention to attack this province. Soldiers have returned here. Commander-in-chief Ting, of the Northern army, came in here from the south of the province on the 28th, and received an ovation from the merchants, who say that the peace of the city has not been so secure for some time. It seems that at a city 60 miles south of here he had 1,000 disaffected men of Kao Liu-chang's brigade disarmed in a surprise attack, and took over all their guns, and equipment without losing man. The act added to the security of his force. No fighting is now reported on the border. Trade is a little better than it has been, but there is still a good deal of restriction from the conscripting of boats, and coolies. The Government Middle, and Normal Schools have been reopened, although there are still soldiers quartered in them. They are carrying on under difficulties.

The opium trade here has gained a great impetus from the new policy of the officials, who now allow it to be sold openly everwhere in the district. There is now no restriction whatever placed on the trade, except the customary taxes. Up till the present the trade has been carried on under fancy names, such as "Star cloth," "Earth," and so on, but now these are quite unnecessary.

NATURE OBEDIENT TO CHINESE CALENDAR

Usual Sunshine for Festival of "Pure Brightness" at Wuchang

From Our Own Correspondent:

Wuchang, April 5.

To-day is Ching Ming, or "Pure Brightness," and as so often seems to be the case with the Chinese weather, nature is obedient to the calendar, for the sun is shining brightly, the sky is clear, and the warmest day so far this year has to be recorded. This is the day of the tree-planting, when all the chief officials of the city come to the plantation below the Hung Shan and take part in the ceremony. It is also the day when people visit the graves of their relatives, to burn silver paper shoes and to mourn the departed.

Between the hours of 9 and 10 a.m., the stream of holiday-makers issuing from the East Gate was typical of the crowds who will be spending the day out in the open. First, one met a detachment of police in black uniforms, then a boys' school, marching in twos, neatly dressed in khaki jackets and shorts, and preceded by their own drum and fife band playing merrily. These were followed by a girls' school, in blue uniform with short skirts. After these a boys' school in white, a small troop of soldiers, and a band of boy scouts. Mixed with these more orderly detachments were many people in rickshas, more elderly folk in sedan chairs, and an official in a horse carriage. Several picnickers' carried baskets, in which thermos flasks were mixed up with paper shoes, a hideous clash of East with West.

BUDDHIST DREAMS TRUE.

A story comes from Huangkang about some idols which are said to have been dug up there. According to the native press, a devout Buddhist gentleman had a dream, in which it was revealed to him that some idols were hidden in the ground. He hired some coolies to dig in a certain spot, and sure enough, at a depth of seven or eight feet they came across three idols. They are said to be not very old, but probably belong to the close of the late Ching Dynasty. A characteristic touch is given to the story by the fact that "one of the coolies was taken ill, but became better again on worshipping the idols."

GOVERNOR'S YOUTHFUL MENTOR.

During the recent birthday celebrations of the Governor, marshal Hsiao Yaonan, a schoolboy from Boone University did an unusual thing. He took it into his head to send a birthday present to the Governor of a pair of scrolls written by himself. One of the scrolls presented the usual respects and congratulations due to the great. The other, referred to the unhappy condition of the people, and conveyed more than a broad hint that the Governor might do much to amend it, if he would. The youth, it is said, marched boldly into the yamên and deposited his gift among the many other presents of various kinds collected there. It is said also that he managed to secure a seat at the feast which accompanied the celebrations.

THE death is announced at Dumfries, on February 27, of Marjorie Struthers, eldest daughter of the Rev. George Douglas, of Manchuria, aged 27 years.

PEASANT MEANNESS

Japanese Rural Population's Utter Lack of Sympatqʎ for Quake Victims in Towns

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Apr. 2.

Tokio people are wringing their hands over the alleged ingratitude of their country cousins. Violent thrusts and parries are being made in the metropolitan press by the country people defending themselves and the townsfolk insisting that the earthquake proved that the people of the rural regions, when the test came, were lacking in the fundamentals of gratitude.

When the calamity of September broke loose, nearly every Japanese in Tokio and Yokohama conjured up in his mind's eye his country relatives. The country seemed to be such an Arcadia, with, so it was thought, the good village folks bursting with anxiety to assist victims. But the average Tokioite complains that the disillusionment was as painful as it was real.

Country people, so complain denizens of the cities, looked upon the visitations on Tokio and Yokohama as richly deserved—as the finger of God, smiting them for their wickedness. The country folks are taxed with having given themselves all manner of sanctimonious airs and delivering clever homilies on the luxury and sinfulness of the cities which had drawn on them the heavenly wrath.

Have the country folk changed? That is the question that is being discussed in the columns of the press and in magazines with even greater heat and ardour than the prospects for defeating the Ministry at the coming general elections. As a matter of fact, the consensus of unbiased opinion states, the country folks have not changed one whit. What has happened is that Tokio people overestimated the humanity of the country relative, and forget that, whether urban or rural, a human is at the best but a human, invested largely with the same vicious tendencies over which the Saints have mourned from time immemorial. The country people generally took the stand that God helps him who helps himself and watched to see the refugees help themselves first.

DISILLUSIONED.

Townspeople now state that they had not given the villager credit for even greater shrewdness than the city people claim to possess. They say that the earthquake showed that the rural being has more commercial acumen and diplomatic dexterity.

RESULT OF TYPHOONS IN THE BABUYANS

Large Death Roll Amongst Male Population: an Excess of Women

Manila, Apr. 2.

The recent earthquakes and volcanic eruptions in the Babuyan Islands, situated about 60 miles north of the island of Luzon, have brought forth statements from mariners, who recently have been in that region, that a large portion of the population is composed of women. It is said that the situation is due to the fact that so many of the men have lost their lives at sea.

The male population are engaged almost entirely in fishing as a means of livelihood, and the frequent typhoons which sweep over that region play havoc with the frail fishing craft.

It is stated that on one island of the group with a population of about 200 there are 15 women to one man.

Transportation to the Babuyan group is difficult as small craft are unable to cross the channel on account of rough waters, and large vessels seldom call at the islands because the volume of business does not warrant it.

The constabulary of Cagayan province have been ordered to ascertain the condition of the people of the Babuyans and to furnish them with supplies.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TRAGEDY AT MIENCHOW

Cruel Fate of Young Bride and Her Father: A Sorrowing Soldier Husband

From Our Own Correspondent.

Mienchow, Sze., Mar. 24.

There has been an extraordinary case in the local courts recently which combined tragedy and drama coincidence in a way that equals China's best novels. A sergeant, Hsiung, who was stationed at Tongchuan married a Mienchow girl. After the wedding they settled at Tongchuan for a time. In the course of events he was removed to another place, and sent his wife to her parents at Mienchow. He afterwards wrote to his father-in-law asking him to bring his wife to join him at his new post. The father set off with his daughter little dreaming of the fateful journey. When they reached Fuhluhchi, 60 li from Mienchow they fell in with the villain of the piece. He was a local street warden, a man of some influence in the Tongchuan district. He got into conversation with the two travellers and cast his eyes on the girl.

"Where are you taking the girl to?" he inquired.

"On she is going to join her husband at your request," was the reply.

"It is false," then said he, "you are abducting her." The man so contrived that the father was killed, and buried by one of his minions. He then appropriated the woman, but she died in a few days.

Meanwhile the sergeant wondered what had happened to his wife and her father. Eventually he returned to Mienchow and inquired of his mother-in-law. She in unfeigned surprise asked what he meant. "They left weeks ago to join you." This he did not believe, and accused her to the magistrate, who put her in prison to await inquiries.

GIRL'S MOTHER FALSELY ACCUSED.

The man who had acted as middleman at the betrothal of the two was a street warden as well as an old friend of the family. Feeling convinced that the mother was innocent he sent a member of the local militia down to Tongchuan to seek for information of the missing couple. He arrived there just at the time when the 1st Army were engaged in strengthening the position they were so soon to lose. The military took him and put him in prison for a spy. There was another militia man there in the same prison and of course the two talked. The man from Mienchow told his companion in misfortune the story of the missing father and daughter, and how having come to find news of them he had been imprisoned as a spy.

MURDERER TAKEN AT LAST.

But now comes the climax. "I know all about them," said the other. "I am the servant of Yin, the man who killed them, and I helped to bury them. He now thinks I know too much, and has put me here on a false charge to screen himself."

The Mienchow man wrote a letter to his employer telling of his plight, and his dramatic discovery. The street warden at once informed the magistrate with the result that the murderer was taken. Unfortunately as the sequel proved, owing to his influence at Tongchuan he was taken to that city instead of to Mienchow. While he lay there at the end of last January the 2nd Army bombarded Tongchuan. The prison was badly damaged, he escaped, and is apparently still at large. Another version is that he was helped to evade the punishment he so richly deserves.

BANDITS ON THEIR BEST BEHAVIOUR.

At present the bandits are quite friendly. A traveller on the road between Mienchow and Sintu recently writes: "Brigands kindly escorted us through their spheres of influence. I have never seen so many before. They were on their best behaviour, and talked to us most politely in the inns."

They have a lot to atone for. Only one of their sins is the way they treated the Government school inspector of the Tehyang District last year. His brother, inspector of Mienchow, told me that they took him while out on his rounds and treated him so badly that he only came home to die.

JAPANESE CONSULS IN CONFERENCE

Peking, Apr. 11.

The conference of Japanese Consuls in North and Central China was opened this morning at 10 o'clock at the Japanese Legation here, under the chairmanship of Mr. Yoskizawa, the Japanese Minister.

The following are the important items of the agenda to be discussed at the conference: (1) Protection of and control over Japanese residents in China; (2) Control over Japanese trafficking in opium, morphia, and cocaine; (3) Investigation into unreasonable taxation upon Japanese residents in China; (4) Improvement of Japanese judicial affairs in China; (5) Education of Japanese children in China; (6) Furtherance of Japan's trade with China; (7) Protection and development of Japanese shipping in Chinese waters.—Eastern News Agency.

SIR W. REES DAVIES

Enthusiastic Gathering at Farewell Dinner to Hongkong's Retiring Chief Justice

Hongkong, Apr. 14.

Following a dinner given in his honour by the Chinese community last week, Sir William Rees Davies, the retiring Chief Justice, was last night entertained at dinner by the British and foreign communities. Sir Reginald Stubbs and Sir John Fowler were present, and Sir Paul Chater presided. A large number of representatives of the Chinese and foreign communities attended.

Mr. A. G. Stephen, who made a characteristically witty speech, proposed the toast of the guest of the evening. He alluded to Sir William Rees Davies's exceptionally successful career and high sense of justice and fair play, and spoke of how Sir William had consented to serve as a steward of the Jockey Club and of the committee of the Hongkong Club.

The Chief Justice, in a brilliant reply, thanked those present for their spontaneous demonstration, and his old friend Sir Paul Chater. He laid stress on his association with the social and sporting life of the Colony at which he had spent 17 very heavy years, 12 of them as Chief Justice. He hoped that Hongkong would retain kindly thoughts of him after his departure.

On behalf of his Welsh fellow-countrymen, Mr. J. Owen Hughes presented Sir William with a Welsh flag.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

WIRELESS STATIONS IN JAPAN

Establishment of Direct Communication With Europe

Tokio, Apr. 8.

In order to put this country into direct radio communication with Europe, particularly with the Nauen and Bordeaux wireless stations, plans are being matured for the erection of two wireless plants, transmitting and receiving, in Central Japan.

The former is to be erected at Isami-mura in Aichi prefecture, and the latter at Kaizo-mura, Mie prefecture.

When in operation, these two stations will complete the present plans laid down by the Government for Japan's radio system. Communications with Europe will be maintained through these stations. The Iwaki station will handle the American service, and the Hirano station in Osaka will be used for messages to and from Japanese colonies and territories, Formosa, Korea, Manchuria, etc.

The domestic radio service will be handled through the Central radio station.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

NAVIGATION IN THE UPPER YANGTZE

Accident to Steamers in Low Water Season: Disastrous Fire at Ichang

Ichang, Apr. 9.

Another steamer belonging to the Yangtze Rapid Steamship Company has had an accident on the Upper Yangtze. The Chichuen struck rocks above Kueifu, and also at Miaobo, and has been rather badly holed. Fortunately they managed to patch her up sufficiently to bring her down here, though she was long delayed, and now, after having been surveyed in this port, she has been ordered to Shanghai for repairs to her bottom. This is the second time the Chichuen has been holed during the low water period.

The river has now started to rise, but is not yet deep enough for the larger steamers to venture the trip up river. They are slowly collecting here, waiting for a depth of water that will take them up safely, when several will make a rush for Chungking. The water mark to-day is 3.4.

There was a disastrous fire here on April 5. It broke out amongst some houses below the new Salt Administration premises, and as there was a strong wind fanning the flames, it looked, for a time, as if some of these new buildings might catch fire. However, the flames were stopped before reaching them, and it was very fortunate, for just beyond that again is the upper installation of the Standard Oil Company. It was pitiful to see the poor people who had lost almost all they possessed standing by the ruins, in the hope of perhaps salvaging something of their belongings.

YIHYANG MARU CAPTIVES.

Inquirers at the office of the N.Y.K. about the two officers of the Yih-yang Maru, who are still in the hands of soldiers or bandits in Szechuan, have elicited the information that the Japanese Consul at Chungking has now got into touch with them. They are at a place called Hokiang, and the ransom for their release has been reduced to $100,000. The Company is prepared to pay this sum and the agent here expects that they will reach this port in three weeks or a month from now.

JAPANESE BOYCOTT REVIVED.

There is apparently an attempt being made to re-establish the Japanese boycott here. Posters are already appearing on the walls, declaring that "We will not recognize the 21 demands" and similar sentiments, and another long one refers to the boycott. These bear the name of a Shanghai printer and a rubber stamp indicates that they have been issued by some merchants' company of Shanghai. As yet the local boycott committee has taken no action and, if it does not get to work, it is probable that nothing further will be heard.

A SCHOOL PARADE.

Last Saturday was *"Ching Ming"* the festival of "Pure Brightness" and the Magistrate made it the occasion of a school parade. He had all the schools which have recently been started march out to one of the neighbouring hills, where he inspected them in person. The new Magistrate is the former principal of a school, and so he is much interested in education. Quite a number of new schools have been opened this year, and have taken away pupils from the Mission Schools, as these new schools are providing everything free of charge. There was a very large turn-out of scholars at this inspection.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE Tokio Metropolitan Police Board has announced its intention not to permit a labour demonstration or any parade of similar nature to take place on the streets on May Day on the ground that it will interfere with traffic, which is already in a deplorable condition since the September earthquake. The announcement was published shortly before labour leaders called at the police headquarters to obtain permission for a May Day demonstration.

CROWN PRINCE OF JAPAN'S ALLEGED ASSASSIN

Tokio, Apr. 13.

The public trial of the youth charged with attempting to take the life of Prince Regent on December 27 will be held towards the end of this month.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LAND RECLAMATION IN MONGOLIA

How a Thriving Enterprise Has Been Ruined

The Chinese Economic Bulletin publishes the following article on a land reclamation project in Mongolia:—

Wuyuan with a population of 25,000, is on the northern frontier of the Ordos Territory, Mongolia, situated near the point where the Yellow River makes a northward bend into the Mongolian Steppes. It was a sub-prefecture in the Tsing Dynasty, but was converted into a *hsien* district on the establishment of the Republic. Hsinglungchang is its busiest market town.

Out of the 328,000 square *li* of its territory, 216,000 chin or 21,000,000 mow are arable land. Reclamation of Wuyuan waste land was started under Government auspices is the latter part of the last century, when a reclamation bureau was organized. Seven trunk irrigation canals, each about 50 feet wide and over 100 *li* long, were dug by the bureau, in addition to two canals which were dug under private auspices. Lots of land were granted to applicants at a certain charge, in addition to which the tiller of the soil was to pay the Kuan Chu or Government rent, to the officials, and the Sui Chu or annual rent, to the Mongolian owners.

The Kuan Chu amounted to between $1 and $3 per chin, or 100 mow, a year and the Sui Chu ranged between 60 cents and a dollar. Payment for the land was to be made in three yearly instalments. This system was in vogue in the Tsing dynasty and seems to have worked well. Colonists, most of them ex-soldiers, flocked to Wuyuan and large tracts of undeveloped land were cultivated.

AN END TO PROSPERITY.

After the establishment of the Republic a military official under a special contract obtained the right to collect the rent for the Government, to which he pays a royalty of Tls. 40,000 yearly. This, however, marked the turning point of Wuyuan's prosperity. Farms have been deserted by colonists owing to the defective irrigation system caused by neglect in keeping the canals in good condition.

The greater part of the land at Wuyuan is composed of the silted up beds of the Yellow River, which frequently changes its course. The soil is alluvium and rich. Little fertilizer is used by Wuyuan farmers. The climate is rather severe during the winter months, and only one crop can be raised. The following figures showing monthly temperature at Wuyuan were taken in 1919: January, 13.30 Centigrade; February, 6.76; March, 1.54; April, 7.29; May, 18.21; June, 20.20; July, 25.53; August, 21.76; September, 16.28; October, 7.43; November, 2.71; December 10.68.

The yield per acre is not, however, bountiful as compared with yields in the interior. This is partly due to the neglect of the farmers, to whom weeding and harrowing are little known. Truck gardening is well developed, the yields of vegetables being better than those of cereals. At present there are about 900,000 mow of land cultivated at Wuyuan.

THE Hankow Chinese press states that Sun Yat-sen has decided to send Dr. Wu Chiao-hsu, son of the late Dr. Wu Ting-fang, to Russia. Dr. Sun declares that the Canton Government is willing to recognize Soviet Russia without demanding any terms in exchange.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FOR GIRLS

Order that Raised a Storm in Shaohsing

From Our Own Correspondent.

Shaohsing, Chê., April 12.

At the opening of this term the Tsing Tuh Girls' School of this city instituted physical examinations by a Chinese lady physician for all girls in the school. Considerable opposition developed against such an innovation. The local papers took up the matter and declared that as a result of the new requirement all but eight of the 130 pupils had left the school. Letters have been coming to the principal from Hangchow and Shanghai inquiring about the matter. The facts of the case are that not a single pupil left the school, but that rather some were added as a result of the agitation.

Carpenters, masons, and painters are finding this a hard year. The *"feng shui"* has decreed that no houses shall be built during this year facing south. Only Houses which face east or west may be built. As most people prefer a southern exposure the building trade languishes.

The annual meeting of the Chêkiang-Shanghai Baptist Association has just been held in this city, 144 delegates and visitors were in attendance representing 3238 members in Chêkiang and Shanghai. Among the visitors from out of town were the Rev. Peter Chuan of the National Christian Council and Mr. Gordon Poteat of Shanghai Baptist College. Reports presented indicated special progress in the matter of self support and the erection of chapel buildings.

TIENTSIN'S TELEPHONE PROBLEM

The Automatic in View

Tientsin, Apr. 11.

The question of whether or not Tientsin will have automatic telephones to replace the antiquated manual system will come up shortly for settlement between the Chinese Government Telephone Administration and the British Municipal Council. If the decision is against the automatic system it will mean the passage of another 10 years before it can again be considered, for to maintain the manual installation in proper proportion to the steady demand for increased service the Telephone Administration must shortly enlarge its plant at a considerably large cost.

Negotiations between the principals have continued for some time past and only now have reached the stage where a definite settlement may be expected. The Administration has been holding out for an increase in the present mannal 'phone rates of from $72 to $96 for business service and of from $60 to $84 for private service. If, however, the automatic system is agreed upon, this increase will be augmented by a further two dollars at least and possibly slightly more when the figures are finally worked out. Imperative demand for an early solution of the telephone problem is seen in the gradually diminishing number of available telephone numbers in the South Office, which covers the principal business district of Tientsin, and where only about 300 numbers remain. Inasmuch as it will take fully 18 months to install and begin service with an automatic system these numbers will be hardly sufficient to meet the most ordinary increased demand.

ROCKS OF THE RAPIDS

Accident to I.-C. S. Kingwo in Upper Yangtze

Ichang, Apr. 14.

The Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s str. Kingwo, proceeding to Chungking, yesterday morning struck the rocks at the Kungling rapid. The engine-room was holed, but the hole was covered with a tarpaulin and the steamer has returned here. The engineers had to work waist deep in water. The ship is now being surveyed.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

AMERICA AND JAPANESE IMMIGRANTS

Exclusion Amendment Adopted by Senate: Action of Congress Condemned by the Press as an Offensive Measure: Friendly Relations Imperilled

Washington, Apr. 12.

The House of Representatives to-day approved the Johnson Immigration Bill, which fixes the quotas of immigrants at two per cent., based on the census of 1890.—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, Apr. 11.

Japan has lodged a vigorous protest against the proposal before Congress further to restrict Japanese immigration.—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, Apr. 12.

The House of Representatives has approved the section of the Immigration Bill which practically bars Japanese from the United States.—Reuter's American Service.

London, Apr. 14.

The Washington correspondent of the "Morning Post," discussing the Japanese Note, says that rarely has a Great Power sent another such a stiff Note. He points out that Secretary of State Hughes sympathizes with the Japanese position and previously urged the House of Representatives to expunge the "obnoxious" provision. He declares that many Senators see the impolicy of needlessly irritating Japan and do not take Mr. Hanihara's warning lightly, but the Californian Senators are rabid on the subject and have the support of the other Pacific Coast Senators who say that there is nothing to be feared.

The correspondent states that the belief prevails that Japan will institute reprisals, which will not only disturb Japan-American commercial relations, but will have a serious bearing on the entire commercial and political relations of the Far East.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, Apr. 14.

The Japanese Ambassador's Note to the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Hughes, which *has been published here*, embodies the methods whereby Japan is restricting emigration to the United States under the Gentlemen's Agreement respecting the issuance of passports and their close supervision. Passports are issued to those labourers, skilled or unskilled, only who "were previously domiciled in America, and their parents, their wives and their children under twenty years," and then only after production of definite proofs of identity. Passports to picture brides have not been issued since March 1, 1920. The methods are similarly being applied in the case of emigrants to Hawaii and foreign territories contiguous to the United States, with a view to preventing surreptitious entry.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Japan's Note Severely Criticized

Washington, Apr. 14.

In the course of the immigration debate in the Senate to-day Senator Lodge declared with regret that the Japanese Note was an improper one to be addressed by the representative of one great country to another friendly one. He contended that the question of immigration was the greatest of fundamental rights. He also objected to the Note because it contained a veiled threat.

Senator Borah and other Republicans and Democrats supported Senator Lodge's views.

The Senate afterwards discussed the Immigration Bill and rejected a committee amendment by 76 votes to two for ratification of continuation of the so-called Gentlemen's Agreement. The vote on the proposed Japanese exclusion amendment is postponed until to-morrow.—Reuter's American Service.

JAPAN'S RESENTMENT.

Tokio, Apr. 15.

The action of the United States Congress in regard to immigration is causing much excitement in Tokio, where the frequent newspaper extras show that every move made by Washington is being closely watched.

The Cabinet met in camera to-day to discuss the situation.

The press strongly resents the bitter talk among some sections of Americans, but declares that it does not despair of the American sense of justice. The papers express regret that the Japanese Ambassador's expression "grave consequences" has been misunderstood in Washington. They believed that it merely meant that a moral reaction against America would be created among the Japanese people, which could not be controlled by the Government.

The *"Jiji,"* in a typical condemnation of the action of the American House of Representatives, declares it to be "the height of abuse and injury toward the Japanese nation," and continues: "They have disregarded all the dictates of international courtesy and morality. The Japanese nation appeals to the American people seriously to consider the situation at this critical juncture."

Later.

The attitude of Senator Lodge is creating grave uneasiness.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Japanese Ambassador's Note.

Washington, Apr. 15.

The Senate has adopted the Japanese exclusion amendment in the Immigration Bill. The Bill is practically identical with that ratified by the House of Representatives on April 12.

The Note which Mr. Hanihara, the Japanese Ambassador at Washington, sent to the Secretary of State, Mr. Hughes, accompanied by a resume of the Gentlemen's Agreement, declared that the substitution of the proposed legislation, practically debarring Japanese, would not only offend a friendly nation, but would also seem to involve the good faith and honour of the Japanese Government. In conclusion, Mr. Hanihara said: "Relying on the confidence you have been good enough to show me always, I have stated, or rather repeated, all this to you very candidly and in a most friendly spirit, for I realize, as I believe you do, the grave consequences which the enactment of the Bill would bring upon the otherwise happy and mutually advantageous relations of our two countries."

Before the publication of Mr. Hanihara's note, many Senators favoured the amendment intended to have regard for the sensibilities of Japan by continuing the Gentlemen's Agreement, but now Senators express the strongest resentment at what is construed as an effort on the part of another nation to influence Congress by an implied suggestion of retaliation.

It is understood that the Administration regards the exclusion of the Japanese as a minor detail of the larger policy of maintaining on the Pacific the understanding reached at the Conference on the limitation of naval armaments.

Authoritative circles believe that the President may vote the Immigration Bill on account of its Japanese feature, but, in view of the bitter feeling aroused by the "veiled threat" of the Japanese Note, his veto appears likely to be over-ridden by Congress.—Reuter's American Service.

Press Condemnation.

New York, Apr. 15.

The morning newspapers, commenting on restriction of Japanese immigration in to the United States, condemn the action of Congress.

The "New York Times" declares that it is a wholly uncalled for affront to the Japanese people. The "New York World" says that the measure is offensive, unnecessary, brutal and dangerous, and does not represent the real will of the American people. The country will expect the President to save it, by his veto, from the consequences of this folly.

The "New York Herald" accuses the House of Representatives of imperilling friendly relations with Japan. The Senators, owing to their wretched exhibition of jingoism, are petulantly jeopardizing the work of the Washington Conference.—Reuter

Tokio, Apr. 15.

"Though we have not yet given up hope that our sacrifices and efforts to develop friendship with America will be successful, we have cause for grave anxiety," said Baron Matsui, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, this afternoon to an American correspondent in connexion with the action of Congress with regard to immigration in the course of a statement in which he made a strong appeal against the final passage of the exclusion provision. "It seems to us that we are appealing only against an action that can wound us to some extent and bring little satisfaction to you."

CASE FOR MUTUAL CONFIDENCE.

The Foreign Minister suggested that the operation of quotas by America, as well as the Gentlemen's Agreement by Japan, would provide the most effective control of emigration. Japan, on her part, was ready to give all the assistance possible to make control effective. Such a method would maintain the mutual confidence, respect and good-will, which Japan, the nation and the Government, were most anxious to retain and promote. He drew attention to the close and interlocking mutual interest of the two countries in trade and for the preservation of the stability and security of the Pacific nations.

Describing America as "in the enviable position of a Power privileged to take arbitrary action or to behave with fine magnanimity, setting an example to other nations or inducing resentment," Baron Matsui urged that nothing should be done to weaken the spirit of friendship and esteem in which Japan had long regarded her.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Canada's Foual Right to Exclude

Ottawa, Apr. 16.

In the course of the budget debate in the Dominion House of Commons to-day, Mr. Neill (Independent), representing British Columbia, referring to the question of oriental immigration, regretted that the restrictions with regard to Chinese had not been extended to the Japanese. He said that he was sick of hearing about the "grave international complications" which Japan threatened whenever restriction was mooted. He believed that Japan should recognise Canada's right to restrict the influx of a people whose standard of living was lower than that of Canadians.—Reuter's American Service.

FIRE-BALL OVER SAGE'S BIRTHPLACE

Mysterious Phenomenon in Confucius's Country

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsinan, Sung., Apr. 11.

Reports of a mysterious fireball have been repeatedly appearing in the local newspapers, which say that it is to be seen night after night in the district of Chu-Fu, the birthplace of Confucius.

The ball is of pure white light, from which rays shoot upwards. It is not stationary but rises and falls and moves rapidly from place to place. It goes so fast that watchers have not been able to come up with it (!). This remarkable phenomenon is declared not to be a will-o'-the-wisp, and the Chinese are quite puzzled to account for it.

MERCHANT CAPTURED BY BANDITS.

Local robbers are making their their presence felt. A well-to-do merchant of Tsingchowfu, whose place of business is near the railway station there, was carried off recently by a small band of robbers. They also captured the policeman who stood on guard at the merchant's door, but later on they released him and sent him back with a demand for a large ransom.

The merchant's family have not heard anything from the captive himself, and are at a loss to know where his hiding-place may be.

"JOINING MARSHAL CHANG TSO-LIN'S ARMY"

North Kiangsu Bandits' Story Told to Captives Just Released

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingkiangpu, Ku., Apr. 11.

A missionary, who has just returned by motor-cycle from the North country, reports that all of the bandits in that section have just left, releasing all of their captives and saying they were going north to join Marshal Chang Tso-lin. That the captives have been all released, without ransom being paid, is a certainty and many of them report that the bandits told them, should they not get jobs with Chang's Army that they would be back and capture them again.

If it is true that these men are trying to join Chang it would be most interesting to find what route they take to reach him, and who is supplying the funds. Travel overland all of that distance would be impossible, or certainly impracticable, so the only other routes are by water, viâ Haichow, or rail viâ Hsuchowfu. Why are these routes safe for large bands of robbers, going to join potential enemies of this section of the country!

HOKKAIDO'S HERMIT SCHOOLMASTER

Ex-Samurai Heaping Up Merit by Educating Woodland Beggar Colony

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Apr. 10.

His stock in trade a few battered books and some old newspapers; his pupils the children of beggars; and his remuneration a proportion of what his mendicant-students get from generous-hearted citizens, Shunsai Anzai, a former samurai, conducts what is perhaps the strangest school in the world. There is no classroom; there are no forms, desks or seats. The unique educational institution is located in the midst of a dense forest in the Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island, a forest that is carefully avoided by the inhabitants of the island because of its being also the abode of fierce bears.

In the days when Japan was still encased like an oyster in its shell, Anzai sported two swords and a top-knot. With the abolition of feudalism and the armies and retinues of feudal days, this samurai who still professes the greatest contempt for the rifle and machine gun on the ground that these methods of warfare are ungallant and cowardly, turned his back on a warrior's life and decided to devote his days to the education of the most neglected in the land.

For some time he laboured in the slums of Tokio, but social relief bureaux and municipal aid societies invaded his domains. He then trekked northwards and when he came to the Hokkaido forests and saw its beggar denizens, he decided that he would establish himself here as the schoolmaster of this queer colony.

From time to time Shunsai Anzai makes trips to the nearest village, principally to lay hold of discarded newspapers and books. He has 34 pupils. Those villagers who have paid the forest beggar colony a visit say that the children are being well instructed by the ex-warrior Anzai.

On the evening of the April 6, a robbery was committed in Tsinan. Between 9 and 10 o'clock three men entered a coalyard some distance outside the East Suburb gate. They carried revolvers and held up the staff, demanding dollars from the frightened inmates. The three men were dressed like students, and they proceeded to seach the office. They were able to find over $70 in silver and coppers, and made off before any alarm could be raised.

PIRATES' HIDEOUS CRIMES

Slaughtered to a Man: Two Ships' Crews: Exploits of a Former College Graduate

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Apr. 8.

The public has been following with considerable interest the trial of one Ezure, a notorious Japanese pirate, and his accomplices, which has just been concluded in the Tokio courts. All the accused have been found guilty, but sentences have not been pronounced as yet. The trial which concluded yesterday drops the curtain on one of the most sensational human tragedies that has occurred for many years in Japan.

The first scene takes us back to 1921 when Ezure, a college graduate, believing that vast fortunes were to be reaped from the fisheries off the Siberian Pacific coast—especially with the Japanese fishing fleets operating under the protection of the guns of the Japanese Navy—abruptly terminated the prosaic career of clerk in a banking house, gathered about him a band of young men thirsting for adventure and, of course, for easily-made fortunes, and left *en route* to the fishing banks. Their vessel, however, was wrecked in the Inland Sea and the band was forced to return impoverished.

Ezure, however, managed to obtain from a Yokohama merchant a loan of Y. 20,000, saying that now his ambition had turned from reaping a fortune in fish to securing a bigger fortune in gathering gold dust from the rivers of the Siberian littoral. The merchant believed that there was more than a gambler's chance in the venture, so gave Ezure the money. A 2,000-ton ship, the Taikoo Maru, was chartered and the vessel sailed from Shibaura, Tokio, on September 17, 1921. Ezure, prior to sailing, bought a large amount of arms and food, the tale revealed in court by some of his subordinates who turned King's evidence, stating that 22 rifles, 67 Japanese swords, 2,000 rounds of ammunition, 250 bags of rice, 370 bags of wheat, with ample supplies of drinking water were included. The crew of 37 whom Ezure gathered about him were ex-service men who swore solemn oaths to obey him unquestioningly.

DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES.

One of the first "exploits" of Ezure and his accomplices was to get alongside of a Russian fishing smack, the Anna, pour a rain of lead into the vessels rigging and command it to heave to. Ezure and his men then boarded the vessel, seized every thing on board and dealt death to everyone on the ship. The next boat to fall foul of the pirates was the Wesker, a 100-ton vessel, manned by 24 Russians and Chinese. This ship too, being unarmed, fell an easy prey to Ezure who slaughtered its entire crew, the wholesale murders being perpetrated, perhaps, because of the good old piratical belief that dead men tell no tales. In court, however, Ezure stated that he was furious at the massacre of Japanese by Russian partisans at Nikolaievsk and had determined to deal out vengeance himself.

The Taikoo Maru returned to Japan laden with loot which was disposed of at an enormous profit, and Ezure and his companions decided to take a holiday before embarking on further piratical exploits. The prickings of remorse and the inevitable quarrels that follow the division of stolen loot proved the undoing of the marauders and one of them, conscience-smitten, revealed the whole sordid tale to the police.

Ezure at this time was at a "spa" in the country, enjoying the waters with his fancy, when the police pounced on him. That was in 1921. The case has just ended. With all the allowance one may make for the dislocation in State business caused by the earthquake, the Ezure case is a further illustration of how slowly Japan's judicial machinery works.

CARGO CONGESTION AT TSINGTAO

Rlwy.'s Terminal Depot Small: Co-ordination Between Harbour and Rlwy.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, Apr. 11.

In connexion with the question of loading and unloading facilities now under discussion between local foreign business men and the new Administration, a number of merchants favour a scheme to let the Kiao-Tsi Railway control the business of the Harbour Department in view of the fact that Tsingtao is the railway's terminal port. It is felt that unless there is co-ordination between the Harbour Department and the railway, congestions of cargo could never be satisfactorily eliminated.

The well-known principle is affirmed that the volume of traffic which a line would carry cannot exceed the capacity of the terminal, as has been proved by the American practice of railway control of terminal facilities. During the progress of the war, when the railways did not control terminal facilities, abnormal congestions occurred, causing huge shipments to be held back. It is admitted that those were abnormal times, but even in the ordinary course of commerce, congestions are liable to occur where there is not some co-ordination between harbour departments and the railways carrying merchandise to seaports for shipment abroad.

The example is cited of the chaos which resulted under the former Harbour Administration.

HUGE POTENTIAL COAL EXPORT.

The amount of merchandize now exported from this port is very great, and in the years to come will increase on a huge scale, especially in the case of coal. Merchants interested in the coal business affirm that there is no doubt the annual tonnage of coal transportation from the mines at Tzuchuan, Poshan, Takunlun and elsewhere will amount to at least 2,500,000 tons by the year 1930, and that fully one-half will be exported. The demand abroad for Chinese coal is so great that it is felt the foregoing estimated export tonnage is not an exaggerated one.

In order to handle this huge tonnage, it would be necessary to provide a yard which must be sufficient to store at least the amount of coal for one month, so as to be able to handle the fluctuations which occur from time to time in both water and rail transportations. It would be necessary to have a sufficient sea frontage along this yard for the mooring of coal-carriers, but in the interval an efficient system of lighterage should be inaugurated, enabling lighters to approach the coal piles on land.

Local business men are of opinion that the volume of traffic carried by any railway is more or less governed by the capacity of terminal facilities. Unless the terminal facilities are offered the [illegible] would be [illegible] the progress of the Kiao-tsi Railway. It is, therefore, [illegible] that there should be a closer co-operation between the Wharf Administration and the railway. It is well known to business men here that the [illegible] on business connexion is going to [illegible] with the Wharf Administration, with a view to discussing ways and means of a satisfactory transhipment of goods between land and water for the mutual benefit of the authorities and the business public.

The management of the Wharf business should be appointed [illegible] several prominent business men, should be in the hands of the Railway Administration, while the Municipal Authorities should be at liberty to make any suggestions tending to the improvement of the whole concern, seeing to it that the entire work is carried out satisfactorily. In compensation for the loss of revenue as a result of the transfer of the management of harbour facilities from the Harbour Department to the Kiao-tsi Railway, the latter should pay certain sums regularly to the Municipal Administration. All surpluses should be devoted to improvements in harbour facilities.

WORLD'S DIRTIEST VILLAGE

Busy Tibetan Trade Mart: The Great Unwashed

Yatung (Tibet).

Phari-jong, where the Mount Everest Expedition proposes to spend several weeks, is the filthiest village in the world, (writes the correspondent of the "Daily Mail.")

Situated on a small knoll in the centre of the plain from which it takes its name and a few miles from the foot of Mt. Chomolhari, one of the most magnificent mountains in Tibet, Phari consists of a fortress, round which are huddled about 200 hovels in which are people live.

When the village was first built, at least 500 years ago, the houses were above ground level, but nowadays, owing to the prevalent practice of the inhabitants of using the front of their houses as a rubbish heap, the buildings are buried in mounds of filth, through which are cut passage ways to the road. The road level is nowadays in many places far above the roofs of the houses lining it.

The people never wash.

During the visit of the Mount Everest Expedition, who contemplate a reconnaissance of Mt. Chomolhari, the members will not have to live in native quarters, as there is an excellent bungalow, maintained by the Government of India, for use by its officials stationed in Tibet. There is also a post and telegraph office, probably the highest in the world. From this news of the expedition will be sent out to the world.

Phari is one of the principal trademarts of Tibet, being situated at the head of the Chumbi Valley, down which travels the bulk of the Tibetan export trade, including the largest product of the country, wool.

The conditions under which the inhabitants live are very hard. No crops will ripen owing to the shortness of the summer and also to the altitude. Because of the scarcity of fuel, most food is eaten raw. Dried mutton and barley flour, which is imported from Chumbi, form the principal articles of diet, washed down with the inevitable butter tea.

In winter the people combat the intense cold—the thermometer sometimes drops to 20deg. F.—by donning more fur-lined clothing.

"CONFISCATED" PROPERTY OF MR. ELLY WIDLER

Gen. Yang Sen's Perquisites

We are informed that Mr. Elly Widler, who was for more than six months a captive in the hands of the Chinese Szechuan Second Army, by instructions from Gen. Yang Sen, has entered a strong protest to the Bureau of Foreign Affairs in Chungking regarding the seizure of his private effects at the time of his arrest. In the matter of the general seizure of money, commercial goods, furniture, etc., Mr. Widler is entering a claim against the Peking Government, but with reference to the "confiscation" of his private effects, such as three sporting rifles and two pistols, used by him on hunting trips in the country, personal effects and clothing, the retention by Gen Yang Sen, for his own personal use, of jewellery, etc., and the retention of documents and other documents, Mr. Widler is bringing as a personal claim against Gen. Yang Sen, in whose possession, he alleges, this property is held.

THE "Japan Chronicle" states that one foreign press correspondent left by the American destroyer proceeding to the Kuriles with supplies for the American round-the-world fliers. He is Mr. Dinton Wells, who will represent Kokousai, the Associated Press and through Kokusai Reuter.

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SHANGHAI NEWS

FLAG OF ERMANNO CARLOTTO

Presentation by Italian Women of Shanghai to New Station Gunboat

An occasion of great significance to the Italian community of Shanghai and their guests was the presentation on Sunday afternoon of the Italian colours to the gunboat Ermanno Carlotto of the Royal Navy, commanded by Commander Zappi. In accordance with immemorial custom, since the days when ladies tied their favours to their knights' helmets and sent them to the tournament the women of Italy have presented a flag to every naval ship. The Carlotto, which was built by the Old Dock Company of Shanghai, though hardly two years in service has travelled many miles on the Yangtze. If has of course never been in action. This flag is the gift of the ladies of the Shanghai Italian community and was presented on their behalf by Mme. de'Rossi, the wife of the Italian Consul-General.

From three o'clock on, gaily decked launches plied between the French Bund and the I.R.N. Carlotto and I.R.N. Sebastiano Caboto which were lashed together with a connecting gangway in order to accommodate the large number of guests present. The I.R.N. Calabria which left for Italy on Sunday morning was anchored near by, her crew standing to attention and saluting while the flag was run up. I.R.N. Libia is now on her way to Shanghai to replace the Calabria.

The scene of the presentation was extremely picturesque, the dress naval uniforms, heavily gold braided, with the effective flag of Savoy blue, over the shoulder, contrasting with the Italian military uniforms, and the full regalis of the diplomatic representatives present. The forward deck was decorated with palms and potted plants. After the bugles had called those present to attention Mme. de' Rossi took the flag from its handsome Chinese chest and with a short speech of presentation placed it in commander Zappi's hands. Then, while the flag was held at its four corners by Mme. de' Rossi, Commander Zappi, Miss Flora Nocera and Miss Itala Chieri, Farther Gharzi, an Italian Padre with the French Mission at Siccawei, Observatory, read the service of dedication, sprinkling the flag with holy water at the conclusion. Commander Zappi then took the flag and with his own hands ran it up to the mast-head, after which the buglers sounded the call to the colours, the salute to the King was given, and the national anthem played by the band.

Commander Zappi then made a very eloquent speech, thanking the Italian ladies of Shanghai for their gift and recognizing his responsibility as captain for seeing that at all times the safety and honour of the Italian ladies and Italian interests generally were protected. The object of the ship was purely a peaceful one, he said to assure the safety of the property and commerce of her Nationals; Italy was emerging from the effects of the war and her glory increasing under the new *régime*. In conclusion Commander Zappi addressed the officers and crew, reminding them of the responsibilities conferred upon them by the presentation of this flag.

Comm. Cerruti, Minister to China, next spoke, saying that this was the first occasion that such a flag had been given to a ship in China and the importance of the event should be realized. He proposed sending cables to His Majesty, to the Premier Signor Mussolini, and to First Admiral Thaon de Revel announcing the hoisting of the flag. Commander Caccia, of the Calabria which is returning to Italy, brought the congratulations from the older vessel to the younger, and presented its best wishes in departure. Consul-General de' Rossi concluded the speeches with some humorous references this martial token being presented by the fairer sex of the Italian community and expressed his felicitations upon the significant occasion.

A large number were present at the ceremony, including Mme. Cerruti, from Peking, Commander Jaihino of the Sabastiano Caboto, and Commander Viganoni, formerly of the gunboat Caboto, now returning home. Others of the Italian community present were Chev. E. Denegri, Mr. A. P. Bena, delagate of the Italian Naval League, and Mrs. Bena, Chev. Badoni, Mr. V. Chieri of the Postal Supply Dept., and Mrs. Chieri, Mr. P. de Grisogano of the Lloyd Triestino Dr. O. Fischer, Mr. de Luca of the Statistical Dept. of the Customs, Mr. G Biondell, Vice-Consul, Capt. R. Ferrajolo, Assessor of the Mixed Court, Messrs. Gironi, Armidani and Fumagalli. A delightful reception followed the ceremony, at which refreshments were served by Bianchi, and the ladies were presented with bouquets of carnations tied up with the gunboat's ribbons to which were attached little silver boxes bearing the Carlotto's picture and the date.

OBITUARY

Mr. E. G. Hillier. C. M. G.

Peking, Apr. 13.

Mr. E. G. Hillier, Agent of The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation in Peking, died to-day of bronchial pneumonia.

The death of Mr. Hillier has created a gap in the life of Peking such as had hitherto not been seen.

Very great regret and sympathy is expressed by Chinese and foreigners throughout North China. Chinese and foreign official circles feel the loss of an able counsellor whose opinion on all matters relating to finance was invariably sought and always received the closest attention, while his personal friends deplore the passing of a man of the highest British type.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

On Saturday morning the flags on the building of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank were half-masted out of respect to the late Mr. Hillier and very general regret was expressed in the community that so distinguished a man should have passed away. He was very well known in Shanghai, having been a resident here for several years and a great many friends of his are left in the Settlement to mourn his loss.

Mr. Hillier was a son of Mr. C. B. Hillier, at one time H. M. Consul to Siam and he was born in 1857. He was educated, and Blundell's School, Tiverton, and then was at Trinity College, Cambridge. There appears to be some uncertainty regarding his early career in the Far East. A friend of his says that he came out as a secretary of the British North Borneo Chartered Company, and the reason for his leaving that service and coming to China is not quite apparent. Arriving in Shanghai he was originally in the service of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., being employed in the shipping office under Mr. Brodie Clarke. He joined the service of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank in April, 1883. He was stationed in Shanghai and the present generation of oarsmen will learn with interest that in the early eighties he was a keen rowing man. He was married in 1885 or 1886 to a sister of Lady Pearce, another sister having married Mr. "Bob" Little.

In 1891 Mr. Hillier became manager of the Peking branch of Wayfoong and it is from this time that his great distinction in the affairs of China starts. He may be described better as a politico-financier than a banker for his work has always been in in the realm of Government finance. He took a leading part in the negotiations for the Anglo-German loan to China of £16,000,000 in 1896, and the strain of these negotiations seriously affected his eye-siight which was congenitally weak. It became worse as time wore on and he ultimately was totally blind. This, however, did not hinder his work and in spite of it he continued to act for British financial interests in China as represented by the Hongkong Bank in the in the most brilliant manner. He was the British delegate on the Commissioner of Bankers for the Chinese Indemnity in 1902 and may be described as being the most valuable member of that body. From that time until his death he was continually engaged in the work of financial negotiations between the Bank and the Chinese government, all of which he performed with marked ability.

BLINDNESS NO HINDRANCE.

The loss of his eyesight seems to have brought out in marked measure the wonderful genius of the man. At all times he had an extraordinary memery and could quote dates of business letters 10 or 20 years back. He typed all his business correspondence himself and to the very end was an enthusiastic bridge player. He was able to do this by means of Braille cards; he was told what was in "dummy's" hand, and each player named his card as he played. More amazing than this, however, was the fact that notwithstanding his blindess he kept up cross-country riding. He had always been an enthusiastic horseman and after the loss of his eyesight was able to get about the country by having a mafoo riding in touch with him. The same mafoo used to attend with him at the training for the Peking race meetings and tell him in Chinese what was going on and what times were being done and Mr. Hillier's konwledge of what the different ponies could do was quite striking. Mention of Chinese recalls the fact that Mr. Hillier was a very great Sinologue and his knowledge of the language and people undoubtedly assured that success which he achieved in his particular realm of finance. He was also a very keen musician. Mr. Hillier's work on behalf of British interests received recognition in 1904 when the C.M.G. was conferred uopn him.

Mr. Hillier was twice married, his first wife having died several years ago. He is survived by his second wife, who is a daughter of the late Dr. Timothy Richard. His eldest son was killed during the war while his other son, who paid a visit to China lsat year, is at Cambridge. One of his daughters, who married Capt. Booker, is now in London, while another married Mr. Charles Todd and resides in Tientsin.

The Funeral

Peking, Apr. 13.

The funeral of Mr. E. G. Hillier took place at 12.30 to-day and was attended by a representative of the President, all the Chinese Ministers, various organizations, banks and commercial institutions, and numerous personal Chinese friends.

Mrs. Hillier, Mr. and Mrs. Todd and Mr. R. C. Allen were the chief mourners and Messrs. D. A. Johnston and A. Dividson the ushers.

Among the foreigners present were representatives of all the Legations, Sir Francis and Lady Aglen, Sir Ernest Wilton, Mr. H. P. Destalan and representatives of all classes of the community. There were many beautiful wreatrs.

The Rev. Father Mullins said the Requiem Mass at St. Michel's Church and Father O'Gorman conducted the service at the graveside at Peitang Cemetery.

The pall-bearers were M. Oudendijk (Netherlands Minister and Dean of the Diplomatic Body), Sir Ronald Macleay (British Minister) and M. de Fleuriau (French Minister), Sir Francis Aglen (Inspector-General of the Customs), Sir Ernest Wilton (Inspector-General of the Salt Gabelle) and M. Picard Destalan (Co-Director of Posts), and representatives of various banking groups — M. Baylin (French), Mr. C. R. Bennet (American), M. Raindre (Russian) and M. Takeuchi (Japanese).

MAJOR BUCK'S FUNERAL

The funeral of Major Morton W. Buck, R.E. (T.), a Lieutenant in the Maritime Co., S.V.C., took place at Bubbling Well Cemetery last Friday afternoon, where a large gathering of friends, civilians and volunteers, assembled to pay their last respects to the deceased officer. The funeral service was read in the Chapel by the Very Rev. C. J. F. Symons, as were the last rites at the graveside. The Masonic (Scottish Rite) Ritual here was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Darroch. Military honours were accorded by members of the Maritime Co., three volleys being fired as a last salute, which was followed by the "Last Post." As it was the wish of the deceased that he be carried to the grave by sappers, the bearers of the coffin were members of the Engineer branch of the Volunteers Commanded by Lt.-Col. M. H. Logan. Volunteer pall-bearers were Capt. Hay, Lieuts. Spence, Baker, Poate, Divers, Wood and Tilley.

The funeral cortege formed at Carter Road, the coffin being placed upon a gun carriage from the Field Artillery, while nearly the full strength of the Maritime Co., acted as escort, joined by a detail from every other company, consisting off an N.C.O. and eight men. In addition most of the commissioned officers in church parade order fell in, the Band preceding the party. On approaching the gate of the cemetery, the band broke into the funeral march and after the military section had passed the Masonic orders (District Grand Lodge of Scottish Freemasonary in North China, Lodge St. Andrew in the Far East, 493. S.C. and Lodge Saltoun 936 S.C.) fell in behind, followed by friends.

A MAKER OF MUSIC

Mieczyslaw Munz in Melodious Mood

M. MUNZ'S CHOPIN RECITAL

The programme chosen by M. Munz for Chopin recital on Saturday evening was of a decidedly original character. Excepting the A flat major Polonaise none of the usual "big" works by Chopin appeared, neither the Sonata nor any of the Scherzos. The result would have been charming in a chamber music concert but was a trifle slender in a big hall. The *pièce de résistance* was the Twenty-four Preludes, which M. Munz played with brilliant execution and lavish attention to detail. His fingering is extraordinary and the clearness of his playing we have never heard surpassed. No matter how rapid and complicated the passage not a note is lost; the inside parts are as distinct as the outside. On the other hand, M. Munz errs occasionally through excessive scholarliness. He appears so anxious to give each note and phrase its exact value and importance, that feeling is sometimes lost in intellect. Chopin was one of the most careful composers that ever lived and these players make a mistake who treat him too emotionally. But the great quality in his music is colour and suggestiveness, and these are apt to be lost if one treats him too analytically. In one other point one would venture to differ from M. Munz and that is that he plays too quickly. Nothing certainly is blurred, but the listener has a sensation of being hurried. Opinions will differ as to whether the Preludes were meant to be taken right through at one draught. They do not suggest the homogeneous character of, say, the "Papillons" or "Kinder Scenen" and the name they bear would indicate that they are meant to lead up to something else. However, M. Munz certainly acted up to his belief that they are meant to go together very skilfully. He played the three Mazurkas charmingly, full of light and delight. But really the best part of the programme was the three concluding encores. We have no idea what they were. If, as some one suggested, they were his own composition, he is destined to make a name for himself as a composer. They were full of melody and cunning workmanship and in playing them, M. Munz forgot to be scholarly and without extravagance played with abandon and expressiveness.

RABINDRANATH TAGORE

Arrival of Famous Indian Philosopher and Poet in Shanghai

Sir Rabindranath Tagore, the noted Indian philosopher and poet, arrived in Shanghai from Hongkong on Saturday afternoon on the str. Atsuta, and remained here a few days before continuing his journey to Peking where is to deliver a series of lectures on philosophy.

Sir Rabindranath was met in Shanghai by Mr. Tse Mou-hsu, of the Peking Lecture Bureau, who came to the Settlement to greet China's noted guest and to conduct him to Peking. It is to be hoped that he will be induced to deliver a lecture here either before or after his trip to the capital, where he is to appear in public on six occasions. Foreigners and educated Chinese there are proposing to portray his play "Chitra" in the Peking Union Medical Auditorium if that hall may be obtained.

The poet, who is now 63 years old, refused to see any but special callers at his quarters in the Burlington Hotel, as the voyage proved quite a strain. He is a prolific writer and has published not less than 30 poetical works including novels, short stories, essays, sermons and dramas. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913. Not only has he written in the Bengali dialect but he has also himself translated many of his works into English, in addition to which scholars have further translated them into other languages, several into Chinese, which have been greatly appreciated by scholars in this country.

THE NEW AMERICAN JUDGE

Warmly Welcomed by Bar Association on First Appearance in Court

In the presence of a large gathering which included the entire membership of the American Bar Association, Mr. Edwin S. Cunningham, U. S. Consul-General, Mr. J. P. Davis, Executive Consul, Court officials and numerous friends, Judge Milton Dwight Purdy formally assumed office at the American Court last Friday.

Mr. Sterling Fessenden, as President of the Far Eastern American Bar Association, and also as one of the senior members of the Bar, extended to the new Judge the heartiest welcome of the Bar and their congratulations to him on taking his seat for the first time on the bench of that Court. Some of those present had practised there for many years and they all realized the existence of difficulties surrounding the administration of the law in an extra-territorial country—difficulties which were not encountered at home. Nevertheless he felt sure, and he could assure his Honour to that effect, that he would find in the Bar a hearty spirit of co-operation and that its members would loyally uphold the Court and its Judge.

DIFFERENCES IN LEGAL RANKS.

There was one thing he would like to refer to. There had been for some time past more or less friction within the Bar itself, but he felt, and he was sure all the other members of the Bar felt, that the occasion of his Honour taking his seat upon the Bench of the Court was an opportune time for these difficulties to be forgotten and for the Bar to go on once more as a united and friendly Bar, loyal to the Court, loyal to its traditions and with a desire to uphold and maintain in the highest degree possible the traditions of their country which they all prized so highly.

JUDGE PURDY'S REPLY.

Judge Purdy, responding, voiced the pleasure he felt in listening to the kindly expressions of esteem and loyalty which had been so succinctly expressed by Mr. Fessenden. He wanted to thank the Bar here, from the bottom of his heart for their expressions of cordiality and hearty accord, and he wanted to assure them at the same time that it would be his constant aim and endeavour to maintain the present high standard of the Court and the excellent reputation that it had attained under his predecessor Judge Lobingier and all his predecessors in office. He thought it might be timely to state at that time that it had been his experience, during the 30 odd years that he had been at the Bar, that in those jurisdictions where there had been hearty co-operation and kindly sympathy between the members of the Bar and the Court they achieved the best results and the highest order of justice administered.

PROBLEMS TO SOLVE.

He invited all the members of the Bar to meet him, to come to his chambers at any time and discuss matters of importance to the administration of the law in this jurisdiction. It would always be a pleasure for him to meet and see them and he hoped very soon to have an opportunity of making the personal acquaintance of every one of them. They had, as Mr Fessenden had well said, many intricate, difficult and perplexing problems to solve and he would have to rely upon each and all of them to help him so that the Court would have a standing in China second to none, as it had had in the past.

Mr. Leonard G Husar, District Attorney, on behalf of the officials of the Court extended a welcome to the Judge and assured him of their earnest co-operation.

In reply Judge Purdy said he had seen evidence of that in the few days he had been here. In fact he had already thought many times how fortunate had been the U. S. Government in getting men of such excellent quality and such ability as the officials of that Court.

The increasing number of mammoth office buildings in Shanghai suggests a simple means of settling the parking question.

HOMING PIGEONS SLAUGHTERED

Sportsmen Who Shoot at Carriers: Valuable Birds Destroyed

Unbeknown to a good many, there are a few keen pigeon fanciers in the Settlement and it is understood they are making inquiries to trace the so-called sportsmen who during the past few weeks are credited with having shot a number of valuable homing pigeons.

Recently six birds were released 60 miles up-country. Four returned well under two hours, one arrived at the loft four hours later in a very exhausted condition and upon examination was found to have a gun-shot wound through both legs, and in fairness to the bird it had to be destroyed. The fate of the other bird is unknown, but seeing that all the birds had previously flown over the same ground several times and that the missing bird had also made a flight of 120 miles, the owner has written it down—lost—"Killed by sportsmen!"

A homing pigeon if attacked by hawks will seek safety by going to ground, which is very often the reason for a bird being a day late. Unfortunately going to ground is no protection against a shot-gun, and the poor pigeon who perhaps is on the last few miles of a hundred mile flight is greeted with a charge of No. 6.

No true sportsman would knowingly shoot a homing pigeon, and any man who cannot distinguish between a homing pigeon and a dove must be classed as a pot-filler.

ROTARY CLUB TIFFIN

At the weekly tiffin of the Shanghai Rotary Club, held on the 9th instant at the Astor House Hotel, Mr. Percy Fowler, managing director of Messrs. Brunner Mond (China) & Co., Ltd., spoke of his recollections of European and American Rotary Clubs. Mr. T. O. Britton, the new President, presided.

The chairmen of the various standing committees of the club for the ensuing year were appointed by the board of directors:—

Education, Mr Marshall Dunn; Fellowship, Mr. H. A Wiley; Boys' Work, Mr H. C Norman; Publicity, Mr Jabin Hsu; Business Ethics, Mr. Jack C. Shengle; Public Affairs, Mr. E. C. Stooker; Music, Mr. Geo. J. McCarthy; Publication, Mr. W. E. Souter; Programme, Mr. H. Holgate; by-laws, Mr. James B. Davies; Entertainment, Mr. J. Fichwald; and Bursury, Mr. W. J. Hawkings. Mr. F. J. Raven, of the Raven Trust Co., said farewell to the club. He is leaving for the United States and Europe and expects to return to Shanghai in September.

PILGRIM SHIP'S GALLANT CAPTAIN

Frangestan's Passengers Now in Mecca

Further details of the burning of the pilgrim ship Frangestan have reached the local office of Messrs. H. M. H. Nemazee & Co.

The greatest praise, we are informed, is due to the Captain of the steamer, who by his heroic conduct, infused among his officers such an example of attention to duty while his vessel was in greatest peril, that the enormous task of shifting, apart from the European first-class passengers, 1,200 pilgrims with all their baggage was satisfactorily accomplished.

All the pilgrims have reached Jeddah safely, where they will be specially entertained and sent on to Mecca, free.

The King of the Hejaz generously offered to Mr. H. M. H. Nemazee, owner of the Frangestan, to bear all the expenses for transporting these pilgrims to Mecca, but Mr. Nemazee has declined, and has asked and been granted the privilege of bearing this expense himself.

WEDDING

Huang-How

At Union Church on the 9th instant, the Rev. A. N. Rowland officiating, Miss Mo Li-how, a graduate of McTyeire School and a student of the Boston Conservatory, became the bride of Mr Hao Liang-huang, Ph. D., manager of the Ho Hong Bong Bank, Ld., of Hongkong, a graduate of Princeton and Columbia Universities.

The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. Bang How, wore white silver lace, over white satin, the train embroidered in pearls in true lovers' knots. The veil was of tulle, caught with a wrath of orange blossoms and the bouquet was white roses and maiden hair ferns. Miss Loo Funhow, sister of the bride, acted as maid of honour, wearing saxe blue crêpe satin and carrying pink carnations. Miss Rene Chur was the flower girl, Master Mark Wei, page, and Master Mossy Lai carried the train.

The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. C. P. Ling as best man. After a reception and dinner at the Great Eastern Hotel, Mr. and Mrs. Huang left for Hongkong.

FIRE IN SHIP'S HOLD

Outbreak in P. & O. S. Mirzapore: Shanghai Cargo Undamaged

At about 7.30 on Thursday morning fire broke out in the No. 3 hold of the P. & O. str. Mirzapore, lying at the Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Company's Pootung Wharf. A call to Central Fire station was promptly answered, Chief Officer Pett and Mr. Dyson going out with a squad of men on the Municipal fire float, and were at work on the ship for the greater part of the day. The outbreak was confined to this hold and while little of the blaze was visible, there was a dense discharge of smoke and several of the Chinese firemen were overcome by the fumes. They were attended to by Dr. Gauntlett and afterwards sent back to Shanghai. It was found necessary to flood the hold, and this effectually neutralized and general danger to the vessel, though some hours passed before the outbreak was completely under control. Late in the afternoon, pumps were at work clearing the hold.

No. 3 hold was loaded with some 3,500 bales of cotton, all for Japan. No damage was done to Shanghai cargo.

THE Diplomatic Body's Note last week concerning the status of the Mixed Court which referred to extensions of the Settlement boundary was sure to provoke the Chinese press and local Chinese organizations. We read that there has been a steady stream of protests by Chapei organizations to Nanking against any enlargement of the Settlement. The idea of foreign representation on municipal councils in adjoining Chinese territory appears still more obnoxious.

LUNCHEON TO MR. F. J. RAVEN

Tribute to a Successful Business Man by American Community

A jovial party of Americans gathered at the Astor House at tiffin last Friday for the purpose of bidding farewell to Mr. Frank Raven, a director of the American-Oriental Banking Corporation, who left Shanghai later in the day for Home leave. Some 70 persons were in attendance. Major S. A. Ransom presided, supported by Judge Milton Purdy, Mr. Edwin Cunningham, American Consul-General, Mr. G. Seitz and others.

Major Ransom, who presided, characterised Mr. Raven as one of those rare characters whose energies compel success in practically every venture in which they embark. He prefaced his remarks with a reference to Judge Purdy, to whom he offered a warm welcome on behalf of the assembly and the community in general in Shanghai.

Turning to the guest of honour, Major Ransom sketched his career since he started in China twenty years ago. Educated as a civil engineer, Mr. Raven came out to China 20 years ago to join the Shanghai Municipal Council. After a very short stay there he electrified things and threw down the gauntlet in real estate business. Mr. Raven had to go against a strong organization in this particular field. But results justified his self-confidence and he built up the China Realty Company.

A standing monument of his ability and work was a large portion of the French Settlement which was built in American style. That was due to Mr. Raven. Continuing, Major Ransom said: "Mr. Raven had ideals and probably still has (Laughter). His principal ideal was to become a figure in financial work, and to that end he retired from the China Realty Company, and organized the Raven Trust Company and a little later the American-Oriental Bank. In the early days of his residence 20 years ago he united with a good many others in the Settlement in forming the Shanghai American Company of which he became second-in-command. He commanded the unit several times.

"His field of activity extended to the American Association, of which he was a member and became vice-president.

Mr. Frank Raven, in reply, thanked Major Ransom for the kind remarks made. Major Ransom was his friend when he landed in China 20 years ago and he had valued his friendship ever since. Tracing the success of his various ventures, Mr. Raven attributed everything that had been done to the fact that his men had been handpicked. The men in charge of the Raven Trust, the American-Oriental Banking Corporation, the Asia Life Insurance Company, and the American-Asiatic Underwriters and others had all been watched for two years before being asked to join. The result was he had managed to get men of very high character: they were cogs in the one machine and had worked hand in hand with remarkable success. Development in China had been phenomenal during the past 20 years and in the next 10 years he thought it would be greater. The Bank had started in a small way and five years ago their finances could be counted in thousands. To-day they were reckoned in millions. When he reached America it was his intention to cement connexion between banks there and companies in China.

Judge Milton Purdy said he appreciated the kind sentiments of the toastmaster and those from Mr. Raven. Since he was a small boy (the speaker added) he had a great admiration, for bankers. He had no doubt that when Mr. Raven came back from the United States they would learn that the national City Bank, the Riggs National Bank and other big banks in that country had become branches of the American Oriental Bank.—(laughter).

CORRESPONDENCE

EDUCATION FOR CHINESE.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Will you allow me to thank Mr. Square through the hospitality of your columns for his pertinent remarks on the prevailing educational system among the Chinese? I receive a number of applications almost every day for positions from graduates of the numerous day and evening schools in Shanghai. Very rarely is the applicant qualified for or himself aspires to any higher or more useful position than that of a junior clerk. All the time, we have many important kinds of work to be done in the office, which require an enterprising spirit and initiative, and it is becoming ever more acute a problem with us how to find the men for the work. There must be something fundamentally wrong with the system if this is the general result, and I heartily endorse Mr. Square's view that we shall be very grateful to Mr. Lockwood and others who are interested in the educational work of the Chinese if they will engage their mind to find out where the fault lies and what can be done to remedy it.

Both Bertrand Russell and Liang Chi-chao are of the opinion that what the West can teach China is not philosophy, ethics or political wisdom, but science and technical knowledge. But the general tendency of education in this country is going in just the opposite direction. There are at least twenty students studying western philosophy, political economy and ethics of life to one who is equipping himself to earn an honest living by doing some really useful work such as road-building and so on.

I am, etc.,
K. C. K.

Shanghai, April 11, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—In reply to T. Square's letter of April 10th concerning Education for the Chinese, I would like to point out that what is called an education" by thoughtful people is not "Stringing a few English words together and acquiring the use of a steel pen." Mr. Lockwood particularly remarks on the need of primary education which probably would not include teaching English at all. As to half-baked clerks who are unwilling to do manual work, T. Square will find that species in any country. Granted we need skilled mechanics and artisans; but we need skilled mechanics who are literate, and are not forced to get all their ideas second-hand. If T. Square investigates carefully, he will find that fewer responsible men are to be found among a definite number of illiterates than among the same number of the educated.

I am, etc.,
E. K. M.

Shanghai, Apr. 11, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—I read with much interest the letter some days ago from Mr. Lockwood re education of Chinese children, also the oration from the pen of Mr. Bruce Lockhart on . . . I hardly know what today. Was it written to give his views on the educational question or was it to give his views on the "Commerce of Uplift"? Truly it is good to know that the "Commerce of Uplift" is recognized. It really is a good name, and many will be thankful to Mr. Lockhart for coining it. The business is very old too. Confucius said, "The progress of the superior man is *upwards*, the progress of the mean man is downwards." A still greater Master said, "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul." So the "Commerce of Uplift" is a very apt expression.

As regards Mr. Lockwood's *versus* Mr. Lockhart's views on the educational question, I find myself somewhere between the two. To give *all* the children in the Settlement an elementary education would be ideal, but at present not practical. There are many thousands of children in Shanghai, and the buildings and the teachers necessary could not be obtained even if our Municipal Council were able to provide the money.

But I do emphatically believe that we have some responsibility in the matter. The Council now supports four schools for Chinese boys. These schools are equal to any, and far better than many schools in our Homelands, and are equipped both with apparatus and teachers in first rate style. Being at one time a teacher myself, I have often pondered over those schools. I believe in well equipped schools, I believe in advanced ducation. But I would like to ask these questions. Are *all* the scholars in the Municipal Schools for Chinese *bonâ fide* residents of the Settlement, or do many of them come from points outside municipal jurisdiction? Is it not true that a large majority of the boys in the Municipal Schools would and could get an education if these schools did not exist? Is it not true that we are educating boys who could afford to pay in full for their own education much better than the majority of foreigners here?

I believe it is the right of every Chinese child, boy or girl, to learn to read and to write, but at the same time, I believe that if the Chinese want to have a foreign education including football, tennis, etc., they should and could pay for it in most cases. Supposing the money spent on these few schools were used for elementary education, I am convinced at least twenty times as many children could receive instruction. In connexion with these elementary schools, scholarships could be given to poor but promising scholars. By elementary education, I mean reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and hygiene. China needs an intelligent working class, not a large number of half-educated boys who are looking for soft jobs with big pay, and who do not want to soil their hands.

I claim that we have responsibility towards these little children in our midst. It is the easier path to throw off responsibility, but in the market of the "Commerce of Uplift" things cost.

The Child Labour Commission is now sitting. We hope something will be done for the Little toilers of China. Reform must begin somewhere. Why not commence here, and see that these children at least get half a day in schools?

Another thing has often puzzled me. Why is it that all municipal effort is directed towards the Chinese boy, and nothing done for the girl? It all amounts to this. Why does the Municipal Council recognize and assume responsibility for the well-to-do boy and nobody else? Surely the poor should come first. The rich can look after themselves whether they be foreign or Chinese.

Assuring you of my belief in the "Commerce of Uplift," and with many thanks to Mr. Bruce Lockhart for giving us the term,

I am, etc.,
Belated.

Shanghai, Apr. 11, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—A correspondent, who signs himself "Hsin Mei" in a letter printed in your issue of the 5th instant refers to the refunding of the Boxer indemnity by America for the education of Chinese students and dismisses the results achieved by the sentence—"What this has meant we all know."

Personally, I think that there is too much taken for granted in this remark as I at least cannot say what it all has meant and would therefore request "Hsin Mei" to explain himself more fully.

Enclosing my card,

I am, etc.,
Curious.

Harbin, April 10, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—The desire on the part of the Chinese community, which I take it is the cause of starting the stone rolling, to have an additional Municipal School for Chinese in the Settlement, can only be interpreted as an unsolicited compliment to the excellent manner and efficiency in which other such already existing schools have been conducted. From my point of view as a teacher of Chinese boys during the last half-a-dozen years, this seems very natural, as most of the Chinese private schools which have sprung into existence in late years cannot claim any such proficiency.

There are certain causes of this, firstly, the ridiculously low remuneration offered for teaching, and besides the erratic payment of teachers' salaries, sometimes overdue for many months, the consequence of which is the impossibility of having efficient tutors. Secondly, the political influence under which the boys try to boss by going on strike, and the general lack of discipline when, as is the case in some schools, only 15 to 20 per cent. of the students attend class. Thirdly, the selection of absolutely unsuitable books for use, often far beyond the competency of the students to understand, or compiled by some returned student who, in spite of his "M. A.," does not know English.

Surely Chinese rate-payers, but only these, are entitled to have Municipal schools for the education of their children in the Shanghai International Settlement. If they have the desire of an education for their children on par with that given to foreign boys in the Public School, by all means let them have it, but let them also pay the same fees as the parents of foreign boys do, for they are able to do it. Let them purchase the requisite grounds, erect the necessary up-to-date buildings, provide a couple of lakhs as an endowment for scholarships and then invite the Council to take over the management of the institution. In such a case no foreign rate-payer would have cause to cry about contributing towards education of Chinese boys.

When the Chinese boys have studied under real discipline, there will then be less lack of young Chinese from the student class who are fitted to be more than office boys.

I am, etc.,
H. Kliene.

Shanghai, Apr. 15, 1924.

NATIONAL ROADS IN CHINA.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—An article under the title of "Paper Roads Movement" appeared in your yesterday's issue gave us much wonder. Probably the said writer has pitiably misunderstood why the Association is and ignored what it has been doing.

Before our explanation given below, we wish to call the strictest attention of the public especially the said writer to the fact that the chief aim of the Association is not at all to build roads itself. It is, however, to encourage, persuade and assist the officials who might utilize their soldiers and the people interested in road business, to do it actually.

Therefore, to make the actual survey of routes proposed, to introduce engineers and contractors, to answer questions on road building and maintenance, to help raising capital on behalf of road-undertakers and so forth—these are altogether within the function of the Association.

Furthermore, as the interest of roads is concerned with the whole nation, so the function of the Association is enforced through out the whole territory and is never limited in one province nor in one district.

All understand that at present time it is utterly impossible to build roads actually without encountering unsurmountable obstacles because of prevailing evils and ignorance of common people of road interest. So the only important thing the Association does and is doing is to eradicate the evils while propagating the idea amongst all communities of necessities of roads building.

It is just the work of propagation that we have organized travelling lecture parties, shown to public the pictures and distributed to all concerned the booklets, pamphlets, etc. which would serve to stimulate their interest in road enterprises.

Fortunately our work is not in vain. These are moved by none but this Association that 25 motor-bus services started by our members have already operated, that roads of 30,000 *li* accomplished, that 21 branches established, that 33 branches organized and that roads built by soldiers in different localities covered 13 provinces. All these that have been reported in both our "Monthly" and booklets might not be said of as "absence of roads."

What is more, our president Dr. C. T. Wang did often declare that the membership fee collected during annual campaigns is not only for the purpose of carrying on the affairs of the Association, but of getting more and more members so as to impress the very word "ROAD" in the brain of every one of the people.

We should, however, thank the said writer for his kind criticism which, besides bestowing upon the Association a chance of showing more of its reality, would encourage it to more exertion in its work. But, in order that the public views towards this Association may not be misdirected, we earnestly hope that you will be good enough to allow us your valuable space for the insertion of this letter.

I am, etc.,
Wu San
General Secretary, The National Road Construction Assoc. of China.

Shanghai, Apr. 10, 1924.

MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS AND VESTED INTERESTS.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—"Few things in history are more remarkable than the total eclipse of all political thought and total abandonment of all effort to improve political conditions in a highly educated and intelligent population such as. . ." The above is a quotation from Bryce's "Modern Democracies," and could well apply to Shanghai. Some of the articles in your paper, and letters from correspondents, almost make me writhe in agony. Can there really be a more benighted spot on the face of the earth?

I want to refer to the proposed water and telephone agreements: as nobody else has written, I suppose I must. This is as it appears to me. The Council consists wholly of representatives of the shareholding class of a small oligarchy who dominate and control everything here. On the Council there is not one single person representing the great bulk of foreign residents. The tacit understanding between this oligarchy and its creatures on the Council is that the interests of the great bulk of the populace must always be secondary to those of the shareholding oligarchy—that everything is to centre around earning dividends for shareholders.

Since 1916 the sum of electricity profits has been handed over to the Council in relief of the rates: if only the telephone and water services were municipal, these also would be providing revenue to relieve the rates. At the present time, by appealing to municipal patriotism, a democratically elected Council would obtain plenty of funds at 5 per cent. Yet now it is proposed to extend the charters of the telephone and water companies for a long term of years, with an arrangement that guarantees dividends, not of 8 per cent. and 9 per cent. but allowing for the bonus shares which the Councillors thought fully suggest, may bring the effective guaranteed dividend up to 12 per cent. or more! The only interest our Councillors have before them is the small shareholding coterie in which they live and move and have their being. No great blame can be attached to the Councillors, as they have been brought up to think along these lines. Some of them may be religious men, and attend Church on the Sabbath: but from early training they unconsciously make modifications, so that during the six days of the week their ethical principles are those of current commercial Christianity: "Always do others as others would do you, but do them first" and "Blessed are the shareholders, for they shall inherit the earth."

Such blatant narrow-mindedness is generally checked on public bodies by different points of view being represented: but here in Shanghai the representation is monotonously and unrelievedly that of the small oligarchy. The Chinese have a good illustration of narrowmindedness: a toad at the bottom of a well looking up at the wee circle of light, and thinking how small heaven must be! And that is about the size the interests of the bulk of Shanghai residents appear in the eyes of our shareholding Councillors. One would think they themselves would realize this serious defect in personnel, and that they would send Diogenes around with his lantern to find an honest man, who could be appointed on the Council to represent "the poor, and him that hath no helper:" the "top back room" types of residents, whose interests are now wholly ignored.

One more point. In your article on "The Telephone Co. and Council," you make the remark "We have quite enough loans outstanding." What would be thought of a chairman of a railway or steamer company who at the annual meeting spoke in this strain? That "we had the opportunity of taking over an excellent coalmine, which would in effect have earned 12 to 15 per cent. on the additional capital involved: but your directors thought that we should now bend our efforts to reducing capital." The shareholders would have answered, "Reducing capital be blowed: let us have the mine." The interest of the whole community in Shanghai is that if the Council can obtain funds at 5 or 6 per cent. and thereby can avoid the public being mulcted to provide dividends of an effective 12 to 15 per cent, it is clearly "good business" to increase the loans: and only marauding barons will be benefited by repaying existing loans.

I am, etc.,
Fairplay.

Shanghai, April 12, 1924.

PROHIBITION.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—In connexion with the recent editorial comment and correspondence on the subject of prohibition in the United States, I take the liberty of sending you a clipping which indicates that behind prohibition in that country there are forces which are not piously sentimental, which are already satisfied with the results of prohibition and which will fight to the last ditch any attempt to remove the restrictions which the Constitutional Amendment has imposed.

Mr. Warren S. Stone, head of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, has issued the following statement:

"Prohibition has come to stay. We are not going back to the old condition of things, with their misery, want and poverty—never again.

"There are those, I know, who are labouring under the delusion that the prohibition law will be modified or abolished. Someone should wake them from their Rip Van Winkle sleep. I wish such people could go with me for 30 days as I travel over this broad land of ours, and see the homes being erected everywhere: note the accounts being opened in the savings banks; see the families out together in the recreation centres. They would see the children taken out of the sweat-shops well fed, with shoes to wear and warm clothing, going to school. They would see prosperity, happiness and sunshine existing now where formerly there was only squalor and misery. All this as a result of prohibition.

"One might just as well talk about stopping the waves from beating on the shore, or the sunlight descending from heaven, as to stop the world-wide onward march of the prohibition movement.

"There are those who may think it a far cry from the problems of organized labour to the question

...prohibition. And yet organized labour was ready to...
...part in the prohibition movement. Ten years before the churches began their notorious prohibition crusade, years before Labour officials began issuing orders about drinking, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers was fighting the drink evil. A few of the organizations that has been in effect during all of the 40 years that I have been connected with railroads.

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...
...

COMPANY MEETINGS

BATU ANAM ESTATES

Annual General Meeting

The annual meeting of the Batu Anam (Johore) Rubber Estates Ld., was held on the 10th instant at the offices of the secretaries, Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co., Ld., at which Mr. G. Grayrigge presided, supported by Messrs. C. R. Burkill, L. E. Canning, E. S. Kadoorie, (directors) and W. S. Royston, representing the general managers. After the notice convening the meeting and the auditor's report had been read the Chairman said:—

Gentlemen, most of the speeches made at the annual meetings of our local rubber companies have eulogized the restriction measures adopted by the British rubber producing countries and after nearly 18 months experience of its benefits I can say, as a rubber investor, how thankful I am that the British had the good sense and courage to step in and save an industry that otherwise would have largely reverted to the jungle out of which it had been wrested.

The benefits of restriction are reflected in the report and accounts before you. It enabled us to improve the estate during the year and to make a little money, sufficient to permit the recommendation of a very modest 5 per cent. dividend, the first since that on 1919 working. We won't get very fat on that, gentlemen, but we have to be thankful for small mercies these days, and 5 per cent. and a good carry forward are better than the fare served you for four years past.

The price of rubber was really never very robust last year; it rose to 1/6½ London terms in January and dropped to 1/1¾ in December, averaging 1/3 on the year. As the chairman of Repah mentioned in his speech, a price of 2/- per lb. makes very little difference to the eventual consumer, but the difference between 1/3 and 2/- to the producer means pretty well everything in the way of a fair profit and provision of adequate reserves.

Early in 1922 I cherished hopes that my dream of dollar rubber was coming true but such must remain a phantasy until our with us and instead of snatching the chance of pirating a profit from our endeavours, take up their share of the burden of regulating supply to demand and help to place this great enterprise on its feet again. With the world in its present position, with the Dutch producing almost pound for pound what we restrict the marvel is that the price of rubber has not gone still lower. The Dutch must be aware that if it comes to a survival of the fittest the British countries stand just as good if not a better chance of survival than they (the Dutch) do, whereas by working together fair and reasonable profits could be assured without hurting either manufacturer or consumer. We must listen to no further platitudes about the danger of interfering with the law of supply and demand, that twaddle is out of date, though I see it is still voiced by certain Dutch anti-restrictors, stubborn men, who are blind to what restriction has already accomplished. These are the days of combination and in combination lies strength and safety. Therefore we should welcome Dutch co-operation and we have no doubt a scheme of restriction acceptable to all parties could be evolved. It only needs the will, the way can soon be made.

Last year I dwelt upon the necessity of building up a reserve and hoped we should do something in this direction as well as pay dividends. In the report before you we recommend a 5 per cent. dividend and carry forward a fair amount, but we can allocate nothing to reserve on last year's working.

The smaller crop allowed us naturally enhanced our cost of production over 1½d. per lb. but this was well offset by a sale price of over 1/3 as compared with 8¾ in 1922.

To produce our restricted crop we have had recourse to light tapping, rotational tapping and complete resting of some older areas. We are told the benefits are very apparent. Thus restriction, besides preserving the industry as a whole, is also improving the trees by curtailing the demands upon them. Batu Anam must be piling up bark reserves, which remark also applies to most properties in Malaya and will place us in a position to produce largely when, if ever, the time comes to do this.

A deal of progressive work was put in during the year by our energetic manager, Mr. Ridgewell, to whom our thanks are due. Mr. Welch visited the Estate in July last and seemed well pleased with it. As regards the well-being of the estate we may rest content that all is in order and is carefully attended to.

The accounts, gentlemen, show you that we made a net profit of Tls. 23,522.36 and that the total divisible profits to be dealt with are Tls. 54,311.73. These are all represented by liquid assets except the sum of Tls. 11,234.74 which we recommend be disposed of by writing a similar sum off the development account, all our other fixed assets being already written down to one tael each. After the payment of a 5 candareen per share dividend, the carry forward proposed *viz.*, Tls. 22,776.99 is composed of actual cash and rubber stocks.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were formally adopted:—

That the directors' report and statement of accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923, as presented be adopted and passed; proposed by Mr. G. Grayrigge and seconded by Mr. L. E. Canning.

That the balance at credit of profit and loss account be dealt with as follows:—

	Tls.
To pay a dividend of 5 candareens per share	20,000.00
To write off development a/c.	11,234.74
To pay commission to General managers	300.00
To carry forward to a new account	22,776.99
	Tls. 54,311.73

Proposed by Mr. G. Grayrigge and seconded by Mr. C. R. Burkill.

That Mr. G. Grayrigge be and hereby is re-elected a director of the company—proposed by Mr. L. E. Canning and seconded by Mr. C. R. Burkill.

That the appointments of Messrs. C. R. Burkill and E. S. Kadoorie as directors of the company be and are hereby confirmed—proposed by Mr. C. J. L. Stewart and seconded by Mr. A. J. Welch.

That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be and are hereby elected auditors to the company for the ensuing year—proposed by Mr. C. J. L. Stewart and seconded by Mr. A. J. Welch.

There were represented 76,751 shares.

SHANGHAI MALAY RUBBER ESTATES

The Benefits of Restriction: Hopeful Outlook for Estate's Future

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai-Malay Rubber Estates, Ld., was held on Monday at the offices of the secretaries (Messrs. Beck & Swann), Mr. G. Grayrigge (chairman) presiding. The other directors present were Messrs. L. E. Canning, E. S. Kadoorie, and A. J. Welch, and altogether 25,617 shares were represented.

The notice convening the meeting, and the auditors' report, having been read,

The Chairman said: Gentlemen,—When I last had this privilege, our hopes of the future course of prices were more optimistic than subsequent events and to-day's position justified; nevertheless a glance at the report will show you that the recurn from 226,687 lb. sold in 1923 at 14.83d. is larger than the return from 339,726 sold in 1922 at 8.69d. There you have the first benefit of restriction in a nutshell. The other benefits that are not shown by figures are the improved physical condition of our main asset, the trees, through the lessened demand on them, and the large increase in our bark reserves, and in this business bark is the bank we have to rely upon. If our good neighbours, the Dutch, could but recognize these outstanding facts and join in with us in the good work of putting the rubber industry on its legs again, the future outlook would indeed be pleasant. This could be done without oppressing manufacturers or consumers, and in any case they have had a long enough innings at cheap prices and should have the good sense not to squeal when the producer asks to live and to save a little besides. The amount of rubber in a tyre, for instance, is small, and the difference caused on the cost of same between 1s. and 2s. rubber is negligible to those who can afford motor-cars, whereas the extra shilling would make all the difference imaginable to the rubber grower. But rubber still continues one of the cheapest commodities in the world and I am afraid will remain so until the Dutch cooperate with our policy of suiting supply to demand.

ESTATES DEVELOPING.

Our two estates during the year under review were carefully administered and a good deal of work of a beneficial nature has been done. Visiting agents' reports are of a satisfactory nature and complimentary to both of the estate managers. One of our directors, Mr. Welch, visited the properties last summer and his reports indicate that he was pleased with what he saw.

Our standard production is 408,961 lb. per annum, but it remains to be seen how the new assessment affects us, whether we get an increased or a decreased allowance. Pending this, we are permitted to export at the ratio of 60 per cent. of our standard production. When the call comes, if ever, for intensive production, these estates should respond readily and demonstrate the advantages they have gained from resting and light tapping.

The accounts for 1923 are more attractive than their predeceasors. The net profit for the year amounted to Tls. 23,322.27 which, added to the carry forward from the previous year, gave us Tls. 42,446.25 to deal with. Out of this we paid Tls. 40,000 by way of arrears of dividend on the cumulative and participating preference shares, which leaves us with the dividend due for the year 1923 still to overtake. We have the hard cash, but have not the necessary profit in the profit and loss account; in fact, after deducting all known liabilities we began 1924 with liquid assets amounting to Tls. 32,866.85, which is quite a satisfactory position.

Subject to your approval it is our intention to utilize the small balance in profit and loss account viz: Tls. 9,446.25 to write down certain of the assets to a nominal sum of one tael each.

We closed 1922 owing a big sum to our bankers; we closed 1923 in a comfortable financial position, but with an increase in capital of Tls. 73,800 or a total of Tls. 573,800. The new issue of shares hung fire until Mr. Kadoorie came in and took up Tls. 63,860 out of Tls. 73,800, and it is thus solely due to his courage and confidence that the company is now not only out of debt and danger, but is in funds.

There were no questions, and the following resolutions were formally carried:—

That the report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923, as printed and circulated to the shareholders, be passed.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Canning.

That Mr. L. E. Canning be re-elected a director of the company.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Kadoorie.

That Messrs. Lowe Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors of the company until next anuual meeting at a fee of Tls. 300, such fee to include the audit in the Straits.—Proposed by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Y. C. Chu.

THE ANGLO-JAVA ESTATES

Reduction of the Areas Under Hemp: Excellent Results of Thinning Process

The annual meeting of the Anglo-Java Rubber Estates, Ld., was held on Monday afternoon in the offices of the general agents, Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co., 10 Canton Road. Mr. A. J. Welch, Chairman, presided, supported by Messrs. W. W. Cox, W. R. McBain, E. S. Kadoorie (directors) and Mr. C. J. L. Stewart, representing the secretaries. There were 94,308 shares represented.

The notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report having been read by Mr. C. J. L. Stewart, the Chairman said:—

Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, I will, with your permission, follow the usual procedure and take them as read.

The report is compiled in the usual form and gives you a fairly comprehensive survey of the company's operations during the year.

You will have noticed that on Limburg Estate the area under rubber has been increased and the area under hemp reduced by 164 acres during the year, and it is the intention of your Board to continue this process as successive areas of the hemp gardens fall due for replanting until finally hemp will disappear as one of our cultures. As already explained the land where the hemp is grown has hitherto been considered unsuitable for the growth of Hevea on account of the presence of a layer of hard ground a short distance below the surface, in some places this is only a few inches thick and in others over a foot, which prevents the tap root of the Hevea from going down to any depth. It appears that at some period in the past these areas were originally rice fields which accounts for the formation of this crust.

In 1920 the hard crust was broken through over about 90 acres of old hemp gardens which were then planted with budded stumps. These plants have come along splendidly thus proving the soil to be suitable for the growth of rubber. Test holes in other parts of the area have shown that splendid soil exists below the obstruction.

Such being the case, your directors decided gradually to replace hemp with Hevea. The reasons that prompted them to come to this decision are manifold.

INDIFFERENT RESULTS FROM HEMP.

Firstly the handling of hemp is cumbersome and troublesome necessitating as it does a great deal of power to work the machinery and a large amount of space for drying and godown accommodation, furthermore, in order to derive the full benefit from our hemp area by permitting the preparation of fibre during the wet weather, which we cannot do at present and to improve the quality of our product it would be necessary to buy a centrifugal drier, a hydraulic baling press, two or three Kilometres more of rails for the tram line and certain other machinery the cost of which is estimated at from F. 65.000 to 70,000.

Secondly, the profit for the five years 1919-1923 has averaged only F. 12,667.30 per annum without allowing anything for depreciation of the machinery, which is heavy. Over 948 acres this only represents a profit of F. 13.36 per acre per annum or assuming that the same area under rubber yields at the rate of 300 lb. per acre per annum a profit equivalent to 4½ cents per lb.

In the light of these facts your directors do not feel that the possible profit justifies the large additional expenditure necessary.

70 ACRES MORE RUBBER.

On Barek Division there are about 70 acres that are at present planted with foodstuffs, this area will be planted with budded stumps and selected seed as soon as sufficient material is available in the nurseries.

On the same division all coffee having been cut out, the coffee factory has been converted into a rubber factory so that latex can now be coagulated, made into Sheets and smoked on Barek and then sent to Limburg for final drying and packing, instead of being merely coagulated on Barek and sent to Limburg for further treatment as at present.

The production from the whole estate will now be of the same standard which was impossible before.

The dredger worked satisfactorily during the year, its daily capacity being some 175 cubic metres against a guaranteed capacity of 150 cubic metres.

By the end of the year the whole lake had been dredged to a depth of 6½ feet but work will proceed until a uniform depth of 13 feet has been attained.

The standard of tapping has been maintained at its usual high level and bark consumption is well within the prescribed limits. Pests or diseases gave practically no trouble during the year.

As regards Djarangan Estate tapping is being well and carefully done, bark consumption is kept within the standard limit and Bark renewal is steadily improving as the stoppage of wash and the benefit of the humus from the mimosa make their effects felt. The growth of the trees on Loengoer Hedjo division has very much improved since the coffee was cut out and mimosa planted. The major portion of this area will be ready for the knife by the end of this year, but it is our intention to defer opening it up so long as we can obtain with ease our restricted allowance from the older areas.

TEST OF THE THINNING PROCESS.

Thinning out is being done in accordance with the results shown by the records of yield from individual trees, and a very interesting experiment designed to test the soundness of the principles on which our selection by yield is based has just been completed over an area of 35 acres.

This area was originally planted with 4,436 trees of which the records taken during 1922 and 1923 showed 2,072 trees to be very poor yielders. These inferior trees were accordingly all removed with the astonishing result that during the three months October to December, 1923, the yield from this area was 1,742 lb. as compared with 1,255 lb. for the same period last year from practically double the number of trees under the same tapping system. The remaining trees are reported to be in splendid condition and rapidly closing up the open spaces with their crown development.

Over other areas that have been thinned out by selection the results are the same, either no noticeable reduction in crop or a very small one and that quickly made good and the yield showing a steady upward movement.

THE ACCOUNTS.

If you will turn, now, to the accounts you will see that the year's working has resulted in a profit of Guilders 667,508 to which Limburg contributed Guilders 514,466 and Djarangan Guilders 153,042.

After certain Reserves and transfers have been made the net profits amount to Guilders 439,-621 which I think may be considered very satisfactory.

There was very little capital expenditure during the year, the only considerable items being new buildings and rolling stock on Limburg and the upkeep of the immature area on Djarangan.

The accounts of the Shanghai company are quite straightforward. Your directors propose to transfer Tls. 84,838.62 from premium on shares account and to write this amount off the cost of the shares in the two Dutch companies. This will have the effect of making the cost of the shares correspond with the issued capital of the company.

If you pass the appropriations recommended by your directors the company will start the new year with a surplus of liquid assets over liabilities of Tls. 234,550 which should be sufficient to enable us to meet any contingencies that may arise.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I would like to express on behalf of the Board our appreciation of the good work done by both the managers and their staffs to whose efforts are due the very satisfactory position in which we find ourselves to-day.

That is all I have to say.

Gentlemen, but, before formally proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were formally adopted:—

That the directors' report and statement of accounts as presented be adopted and passed proposed by the chairman and seconded by Mr Wakefield Cox.

That a final dividend of 50 cents per share, making 55 cents per share for the year, be paid proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr W R McBain.

That the appointment of Mr E S Kadoorie as a director of the company be confirmed proposed by Father Saliba and seconded by Mr. G. Grayrigge.

That Mr W. W. Cox be re-elected a Director of the company proposed by Mr E. S. Kadoorie and seconded by Mr. S. M Joseph

That Messrs Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors to the company for the ensuing year proposed by Father Saliba and seconded by Mr. G. Grayrigge.

GORDON & CO., LD.

Successful Year: Annual Meeting

The eighth annual general meeting of Gordon & Co., Ltd., was held at the offices of Messrs Lowe Bingham & Matthews on Monday Mr D W. Crawford (Chairman) presided, supported by Mr C H Ryde (director) and Mr P T. Hillman (managing director), and shareholders and proxies representing 1,841 shares.

The Chairman, proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, said:

The report and accounts have not been in your hands quite as long as usual owing to the very short time at disposal in closing down the books consequent upon the managing director's early departure on Horse leave. I will, nevertheless, assume your permission to take them as read. Owing to a printer's error the profit is given for the year ended February 28. This should, of course, be February 29, 1924. In spite of very keen competition the year has again been quite a successful one and I think we have reason for congratulations. No further shares have been issued.

Turning to the balance sheet, our liabilities are about the same as last year. Stock of land, and work in progress are Tls. 19,[illegible]5 less. Bills payable and sundry deposit do not appear as all our commitments were paid as at February 29. Sundry debtors are higher, but this is probably to be expected with the present depression of trade conditions. You may rest assured that full provision has been made for bad or doubtful debts.

Cash at the bank is Tls. 9,546.13 less. The item cash in hand is principally represented by pay ments made at the end of February and eligible to be banked and our dollar account with the bankers. The combined cash assets are greater than last year.

INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

A new item appears this year—investment account. Certain of the company's cash assets have been invested in local debentures. A better rate of interest is thereby obtained, and as the securities are all gilt edged they are easily realizable. A list of such is here for any shareholder's inspection. Their value is taken at cost.

In regard to the profit and loss account, allocations are made to this with the object of conserving the company's resources to the utmost. Amounts proposed to be written off machinery and tools, lorry, and furniture and fixtures, are the balances of purchases made during the year after deducting depreciation. Passage reserve account is the result of a suggestion made by your auditors.

If you agree to the proposed allocation your reserves will then stand as follows:—

	Tls.
General Reserve	100,000.00
Stock Reserve	25,000.00
Sundry Debtors' Reserve	10,015.46
Passage Reserve	5,000.00
Total Tls.	140,015.46

—which, I think you will agree, is a very sound position. Under present conditions a larger dividend and bonus distribution appears inadvisable, but as such is on a parity with last year, and conditions have not been nearly so favourable, your directors hope the amounts have your entire approval.

The accounts are presented in the usual form and I trust are clear to you all.

Mr. C H. Ryde seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

The following resolutions were also passed:—

That the balance at credit of profit and loss account be disposed of as recommended.—Proposed by Mr C H Ryde, seconded by Mr P T Hillman.

That Messrs C H Ryde and R. J. Bowerman be re-elected directors of the company.—Proposed by Mr D W Crawford, seconded by Mr. P T Hillman.

That Messrs Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-appointed auditors of the company Proposed by Mr F. B. Gange, seconded by Mr R. J. Cowell.

The Chairman I think we may all take the opportunity of wishing Mr. Hillman a very pleasant holiday and a happy return.—(Applause).

SHANGHAI HORSE BAZAAR

Annual Meeting of Shareholders: Satisfactory Business in a Year of Great Depression

Mr. J. Ambrose presided at the 21st annual general meeting of shareholders in the Shanghai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ltd., held on Tuesday Messrs. A. W. Burkill and P.W.O. Liddell were the other directors present, and the whole attendance represented 1319 shares.

The notice covening the meeting, and the auditor's report, having been read:

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen: The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, I will, with your permission, follow the usual course and take them as read.

Your Directors trust you will find the result of the year's working under review quite satisfactory, more especially that it was one of great business depression and adversely affected a business like ours, and unfortunately the outlook shows no change for the better.

It must be obvious to you all that the present political situation in China only aggravates trade and financial conditions which is bound to affect any business dealing in what might be termed luxuries such as our business supplies, and until conditions change there is very little hope for any marked improvement.

THE ACCOUNTS.

Turning to the accounts you will notice that Directors' fees are lower by Tls 750, as we have found that at present a Board of three is quite able to carry on the work of the company in a satisfactory manner.

Bank interest in the company's overdraft shows a decrease from the previous year of Tls. 3,010.66, and we have every reason to anticipate a further decrease during the current year.

You will notice from the balance sheet that our overdraft with the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation on December 31, last was Tls. 282,548.56, as against Tls. 334,470.36 at the end of 1922 or a reduction during the of Tls. 50,030.56.

To day the Bank overdraft has been further reduced to Tls 269,-650.55.

General reserve is unchanged at Tls 60,000.00 but your directors propose allocating to it out of the profits of 1923 a further sum of Tls 15,000.00 thereby bringing this reserve to Tls 75,-000.00. Your directors consider it in the best interests of the company to add to general reserve as it is not earmarked for any specific purpose, but may be used as decided by the Board.

Bad debts at the end our financial year stood at Tls. 15,900.-41 and you will later be asked to increase this to Tls. 20,000.00 by allocating to it the sum of Tls. 4,099.59 out of the profits of 1923.

Stock reserve stands as Tls. 125,000.00 which your directors consider ample at present as it represents, roughly, 25 per cent. of our total stocks.

Buildings reserve which at December 31, 1923, stood at Tls. 10,-256.71 has disappeared from this year's accounts, it having been used to meet the cost of additions during the year.

Sundry creditors, which included bills payable of Tls. 63,-612.53, amounted on December 21, last to Tls. 81,695.47, all of which have since been paid.

Suspense Account Tls. 4,881.61 consists of various items which it was impossible to settle by the end of the year, but most of these accounts have since been paid.

NETT PROFITS.

Profits and loss account shows a nett profit for the year of Tls. 63,096.44, to which must be added the balance of Tls. 18,546.04 brought forward from the previous year making a total of Tls. 81,552.48 at credit of this account as on December 31 last.

As you will have seen from the report before you your directors will recommend that this be disposed of in the manner therein proposed.

Turning to the assets you will see that your land which stands in the books at Tls. 118,141.17 is assessed at Tls. 246,899.00 or a difference in your favour of Tls. 128,757.83.

Buildings stand at Tls. 141,-688.34. Certain additions were made during the year principally in the erection of a new forge and godown over same, and depreciation on the usual lines has been provided for.

Furniture and fittings now stand at Tls. 1,610.58 after the usual depreciation has been provided for, but your Directors propose reducing this item to Tls. 500 by allocating to this account Tls. 1,110.58 out of the profits of the past year. It may not be out of place to remark that since 1918 reductions on this account have amounted to Tls. 10,560.13 exclusive of the usual depreciation.

Machinery and plant now stands at Tls. 8,310.15 and you will be asked to reduce this to Tls. 3,000 by the allocation of Tls. 5,310.15 out of the profits of 1923. Since 1920 there has been written off this account the sum of Tls. 20,660.40.

Electrical fittings stand at Tls. 628.05 and you will be requested to reduce this item to the nominal figure of Tls. 100 at which it stood at the commencement of 1923.

Telephone shares of which we hold 20 shares show a loss at December 21 last of Tls. 10 the difference between book and market value at that date.

General stocks has been taken item by item by Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews and all stocks have been certified by the general manager, the total of these for the last three years being:—

	Tls.
1921	486,110.40
1922	569,275.58
1923	473,960.30

and your directors anticipate these stocks will be still further reduced during the current year.

Sundry Debtors. Out of the amount of Tls. 157,003.13 general sundry debtors amount to Tls. 154,587.30, the difference of Tls. 2,415.83 representing various deposits of which Tls. 1,020 have since been paid The above may seem to you very large, but out of this amount December accounts amount to Tls. 75,628.48. Of these sundry debtors due at December 31, last Tls. 80,481.14 has been collected which your directors consider highly satisfactory considering the fact that it is often necessary to sell cars on terms.

I do not think I have anything more to say in connexion with the accounts for 1923, but I shall be glad to do my best to answer any question shareholders may wish to ask in connexion with same.

The following resolutions were formally carried:—

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Liddell: That the report and accounts as presented be accepted and passed.

Proposed by Mr. G. H. Purcell, seconded by Mr. R. Paterson: That Mr. A. W Burkill be re-elected a director of the company.

Proposed by Mr. R. I. Fearon, seconded by Mr. G. H. Purcell: That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors for the coming year.

This was all the business of the meeting, which closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. Fearon.

BUTE PLANTATIONS LIMITED

Improved Position of the Company: Now Entirely Free of Debt

The annual general meeting of the Bute Plantations (1913) was held on Tuesday at the offices of the general managers, 2 Canton Road. Mr. A. W. Burkill presiding over an attendance representing 68,171 shares.

The notice convening the meeting having been read the Chairman said:

Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some time I will, with your permission, take them as read.

When I addressed you last year, I had occasion to refer to the unsatisfactory financial spoition of the company. At that time we were burdened with a debt of Tls. 30,500 loans outstanding and an amount of Tls. 13,076.14 standing at debit of profit and loss account. In other words, the company, at the beginning of the year, was faced with a deficit of approximately Tls. 43,500 which, in the ordinary course of events, would have taken some considerable time to wipe out. I am glad to say that the position at the close of the company's financial year had very much improved, our loan account having been reduced by Tls. 20,500 and the profit on the year's working more than covering the losses incured during the past three years. This satisfactory result is due to the better price realized from the sale of our crop and also to the sale of a portion of our reserve jungle land. I might say that the balance of the proceeds from the sale of the land was received during the early part of this year, thus enabling us to pay off the balance of the loan account.

The company is now entirely free of debt and, at present prices, is producing its rubber at a profit but hardly sufficient to warrant any immediate expectation of a return to shareholders. Should, however, there be any improvement in the price of rubber, the directors will, at the first opportunity, give every consideration to the payment of a dividend.

The planted area of the company remains the same as last year, viz: 870 acres. During the year 860 acres of reserve land were sold and the proceeds from the sale of this land, as you will note from the report, have been credited to the estate account which now stands in our books at Tls 119,079.07 The company still has a sufficiently large area of reserve land for any future development that is likely to be undertaken.

Several changes have been made in the Estate staff. Mr. Hawes left the Estate at the end of August and was succeeded by Mr. P. F. Debieux who resigned the management last month. We have now engaged the services of Mr. Ch. O. Strettell, late of the Shanghai-Klebang Estate, who comes to us well recommended. Mr. Strettell proceeds to the estate early in May and in the meantime the property is being administered by Mr. Morgan of the Dominion Estate.

PROGRESS ON THE ESTATE

Notwithstanding the changes in management, the estate has not been allowed to retrogress, in fact excellent progress has been made during the year. Lallang which made its appearance last year has been completely eradicated and the whole estate is in a clean condition. The health of the force is very much improved and labour is adequate for present requirements. The position as regards diseases is normal and quite a lot of useful work in clearing Division "B" of surface timber was accomplished. The estate has been regularly visited by Major Stevens whose reports confirm the steady improvement that has taken place throughout the year.

The following resolutions were carried:—

That the report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923, together with the recommendation as to appropriation of balance at credit of profit and loss account as presented, be accepted. Proposed by the Chairmen, seconded by Mr. E. T. Byrne

That Mr E. T. Byrne be re-elected a director of the company.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. A K Craddock.

That Messrs. Thomson & Co be re-elected Auditors to the Company. Proposed by Mr. W. A. Ogden, seconded by Mr A K Craddock.

DOMINION RUBBER COMPANY

Reduction in Producing Cost and Higher Prices for Rubber

The annual general meeting of the Dominion Rubber Co., Ld., was held at the offices of A. R Burkill & sons on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. E. T. Byrne (Chairman) presided, and was supported by Messrs. G. Grayrigge and A. W. Burkill (Directors), and 20,-604 shares were represented.

Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some time I will, with your permission, follow the usual course and take them as read.

Since the last report, 1,338 shares have been issued, bringing the subscribed capital up to Tls. 166,670. These shares represent applications received from shareholders living abroad and from shareholders wishing to round off their holdings. With regard to the latter shares, these were issued at market rates and the premium on the issue of these shares amounting to Tls. 172.70 has been written off property account.

A comparison of the results of the past year's working with those of the previous year will show you that the better prospects forecasted in my speech last year have been realized. The f.o.b. cost of production, including Shanghai charges, shows a reduction of 1.41d. and the price received from the rubber is better by 5.63d. per lb. Our output exceeded the previous year's crop by 53,396 lb. This increase, as you will note from the report, is due to the fact that during 1922 Dominion Estate was only tapped for six months of that year. The profit for the year amounted to Tls. 35,792.36 from which must be deducted the loss of Tls. 13,812.53 brought forward from last year's accounts, leaving a balance of Tls. 21,979.83 to be dealt with. With regard to the appropriation of this amount, the directors consider that the result of the year's working justifies the payment of a small dividend and I will shortly propose that a dividend of Tls. 0.10 per share be paid, and that the sum of Tls. 1,537.47 be written off certain assets: Tls. 1,000, bonus to estate managers be paid and that the balance of Tls. 2,775.36 be carried forward to next year's accounts.

SATISFACTORY WORKING

The working of both estates throughout the year was uniformly satisfactory. After completing the first round of thinning out in 1922 on Dominion Estate, no further work of this nature was undertaken during the year under review. The trees selected for the second round have improved to such an extent that they will only be taken out if the yield testing demonstrates they merit it. Diseases and white ants gave a certain amount of trouble but the preventive treatment accorded has been entirely successful. A sum of $3,006 has been spent in timber clearing, 268 acres being treated and excellent work is reported to have been done. The estate is in perfect order from a weeding point of view and weeding costs show considerable reduction over the previous year. In his report on Dominion, Major Stevens, our visiting agent, states: "We finish the year with the property in a vastly improved condition from a maintenance point of view, the bark position

(*Continued on Page 102.*)

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

Money and Exchange

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, Apr. 17.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for 61 at 3/2⅜=Tls. 6.25 at 7160=$8.73	
Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 69¾=Tls. 143.37 at 7160=$200.24	
Mex. Dollars, market rate	7185
Native Interest	08
Copper Cash	264,000
Bar Silver	33¼
Bank rate of Discount	4%
Paris on London	Frs. 70.05
New York on London	G.$4.35 1/16

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/2¼
Demand	3/2⅜
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	69½
Demand	69¾
PARIS—	
Demand	1113
INDIA—	
Demand	226¾
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73¾
JAPAN—	
Demand	59½
BATAVIA—	
Demand	192
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	73½

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/3
4 m/s. Credits	3/4¼
4 m/s. Docs.	3/4⅜
6 m/s. credits	3/4⅜
6 m/s. Docs.	3/5¼
NEW YORK—	
Demand	70¾
4 m/s. Credits	73
4 m/s. Docs.	73½
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1190
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/2⅝
New York T.T.	70

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR APRIL

Hk. Tls. 5.49 at 3/3¼	*£1*
,, 1 at 1631½	Frs. 18.17
,, 1.28 at 69⅞	Gold $1
,, 1 at 62⅜	Yen 1.79
,, 1 at 233½	Rupees 2.60
,, 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
,, 1 at 16.35	It. Lire 18.21
Marks and Roubles	no quotation

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates, Apr. 17.

It. Lire 15.55	Tl. 1
Swiss Frs. 3.93	Tl. 1
It. Lire 9.10	Y. 1

Week's Exchange Notes

Apr. 18.

At the close of business on the 16th instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 32,507,000 and $44,970,000.

These figures include Tls. 8,060,000 and $28,140,000 in Chinese banks in which there were 2,066 bars.

BAR SILVER.

Arrivals:—
Nil.
Shipments:—
5 bars to Hongkong.

SYCEE.

Arrivals:—
Nil.
Shipments:—
Tls. 150,000 to Foochow.

DOLLARS.

Arrivals:—
$400,000 from River Ports.
160,000 ,, Soochow.
130,000 ,, Chinkiang.
$690,000

Shipments:—
$300,000 to Amoy.
180,000 ,, Tungchow.
100,000 ,, Hankow.
50,000 ,, Hangchow.
$630,000

SILVER.

The price came yesterday at 33½d. ready and forward against 33d. ready and forward at the date of our last report.

India has bought and China both bought and sold. During the week the market has been quiet and steady.

EXCHANGE.

The official rate for T.T. has remained unchanged for a fortnight at 3/2½. The market has been quiet and steady during the period under review. There are however sellers for any delivery up to December at 3/2⅝d. and at times the forward quotation has been at a premium over near delivery. Very few export bills have been offering; they would be placed generally at 3/3⅜d. and G.$71¾ near and forward.

LONDON BULLION

Samuel Montagu & Co.'s Report

Writing on March 5 Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. say:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on February 27, amounted to £126,272,360, as compared with £126,270,560 on the previous Wednesday.

A good proportion of the substantial amount of gold on offer this week has been taken for India.

Gold valued at $10,080,000 has arrived in New York from London.

The "Indian Labour Gazette" for January, 1924, thus deals with gold and prices:—

"Since pre-war days there has been a fall in the value of gold of between 40 and 45 per cent. The calculations of the Labour Office show that the fall at the end of December, 1923, as compared with the pre-war month July, 1914, is 44.6 per cent. The Federal Reserve Board of America estimates the fall at 40 per cent. This is due to the discarding of the metal for currency in almost all countries. The price of gold has, in other words, not advanced with the general level of prices. Had it done so the price would have been Rs. 24/10/0 multiplied by 188 and divided by 100 (188 being the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay on December 31, 1923 and Rs. 24/10/0 the price of gold in July, 1914), i.e. Rs. 46/4/9 instead of which the market rate on January 11 "was Rs. 25/12/0, i.e. a fall of nearly 44.4 per cent. below its pre-war value. The price of gold for Bombay has been calculated because the real value of gold is very nearly the same throughout the world. The result does not differ very greatly from that arrived at by calculation from the American index number."

SILVER.

Again the silver market has been quiet and buyers and sellers disinclined to operate. Indian dealers have refrained from doing much business in this market. Sales have been made by China and the Continent, and, support coming from somewhat reluctant bear covering, prices have eased to some extent. The tone just now is inclined to be flat, but offerings of silver are so moderate that a better tendency would soon show itself if serious inquiry set in from India or China.

The "Times" correspondent telegraphs from Berlin under date of the 4th instant as follows:—"It has been decided that silver coinage up to the amount of five marks per head of the population shall be issued to augment the currency. If the whole amount is issued it would represent an additional 300,000,000 gold marks. The report that the Reichsbank has been buying silver in the open market is denied. The bank is stated to possess sufficient silver for the purpose." Apart from the silver held by the Reichsbank under the heading of "other assets" (which has been stated to be the source from which the silver for coinage is to be provided), there must be a very substantial holding of silver in the Metallic Reserve. On February 23, last the total shown under the latter heading was Mks. 867,000,000, of which gold was returned as Mks. 465,000,000, leaving Mks. 402,000,000 or say £19,700,000 composed of silver or other metals.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

An Uninteresting Week in Imports and Exports: No Outstanding Feature

Apr. 18.

Nothing of great interest can be recorded about the markets this week. Imports appear to be as dull as exports, and if there is any outstanding feature in the week's business it can only be described as a slight improvement in the piece goods demand.

PIECE GOODS.

Very low rates of interest are now ruling with native banks, these having dropped to as low as Tls. 0.15, and this has apparently given Chinese piece goods dealers an incentive to operate. The result is that a certain amount of orders have been forthcoming during the past week, although the scale on which business is taking place is not large. Hankow is a much better market than for some time past, while Tientsin and Ningpo are taking an interest in Fancies, Greys and Whites. The trend of prices is towards firmness.

There is a suggestion that stocks of Spring Fancies may have to be carried over, owing to the disappointing demand which has recently been experienced. It is difficult to arrive at a correct estimation of the position in this respect, and too much should not be made of the view quoted.

As far as the auctions are concerned there is little change to record from a week ago. The principal feature of the sales has been the demand for Whites, while as regards Blacks little interest has been shown, speculative buying having been largely absent. There is the usual search for cheap cargo on the part of this element, but it is not forthcoming.

COTTON AND YARN.

China Cotton—China cotton has been firm during the week, and the sentiment is bullish. Mills, however, have only made small purchases, and only supplies for immediate requirements have been made. On the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange the following prices are quoted:—April 47; May 46.45; June 45.90; July 45.35; August 44.10; September 41.55. Spot quotations are as follows:—Tungchow 48.50; Shanghai 45.50; Shensi 46.50/47.50; Hankow 45/45.50; Nanzu 45; Kashing 45.50; Hokushi 45.50.

Yarn.—The market for yarn remains steady. The mills are not securing any further business worth mentioning, but yarn already in dealers' hands is being disposed of at stronger rates. The sentiment of the market is reported as bullish. On the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange the quotations given are as follows:—April 178.50; May 176.50; June 174.50; July 173.20; August 171.30; September 169.50.

Messrs. J. Spunt & Co. report:

China Cotton.—While our market did not prove to be as active as was expected by the trade, prices ruled steady and fluctuations moved within a narrow range. At the close, however, a slight weakness became noticeable due principally to declines, apparently of a temporary nature, evolving in the yarn markets. As to the future trend of the local raw cotton market there appears, at the moment, nothing on its horizon to encourage any bearish sentiment, notwithstanding the comparatively poor demand on the part of consumers in general for the staple and notwithstanding the decline of about 80 points in Mid Americans and about Rs. 9 per kandy in Indians on what was last reported.

The effect of the latter is offset by the unfavourable exchange rates for importations of the foreign fibre and the mills in China can have recourse only to the domestic growth which naturally will affect the rates if not to a higher basis then to a steady to firm tendency until such time when the new crop features become in so far visible as to induce a more definite outlook for the future. Tone of the market, steady.

SILK.

The silk market is dead, and no demand is noted from any quarter.

Local prices show a tendency to go lower.

PRODUCE.

The produce market reflects the present world trade depression, and with uninterested Home markets no business worth mentioning is taking place. Local stocks are in short supply.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK

Half-Year's Profit

The report of the directors of the Yokohama Specie Bank for the half year ending December 31 last has now been issued, the balance sheet being as follows:—

	Y.	Y.
Profit for the past half year		11,646,000
Less:		
Contribution to Yokohama re-construction	1,000,000	
Reserve for doubtful debts in consequence of earthquake	2,034,000	
Depreciation of properties in Yokohama and Tokio	1,100,000	4,134,000
Net Profit		7,512,000

The Directors propose that Y.1,500,000 be added to the reserve fund, and recommend a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, which will absorb Y.6,000,000.

The balance, Y.5,120,364, will be carried forward to the credit of next account.

LANCASHIRE COTTON MILLS

Short Time Continued

London, Apr. 13.

The Federation of Master Cottonspinners of Manchester have decided to continue short time in the American cotton section until the end of September, instead of reverting to full time in May, as had previously been arranged. The scheme affects two-thirds of the whole trade.—Reuter.

TEBONG RUBBER ESTATE

Dividend of 5 Candareens

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld. held on Tuesday it was decided to recommend to shareholders at the forthcoming annual general meeting that a dividend of 5 candareens per share be paid.

FRANCE'S INCREASE IN REVENUE

Paris, Apr. 14.

The revenue returns for March totalled Frs. 2,110,000,000, making the total returns for the first three months of the year Frs. 5,861,000,000 as compared with Frs. 4,656,000,000 for the same period last year. All returns exceed the estimates by about 40 per cent.

As yet the new Finance Bill has not noticeably affected the revenue.—Reuter.

Japan's March Trade Returns

Tokio, Apr. 8.

Japan's foreign trade returns for March show a total for imports of Y.305,536,000 and for exports of Y.120,075,000.

Since the beginning of the year imports have totalled Y.813,860,000, and exports Y.336,274,000. The country's unfavourable balance of trade for the first three months of 1923 is thus Y.477,686,000.

Compared with March of last year imports have increased by Y.107,491,000, while exports have fallen off by Y.11,815,000.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Japan's Railway Revenue

Tokio, Apr. 8.

Railway revenue during the year 1923 amounted to Y.428,688,677. Of this sum passenger receipts accounted for Y.253,557,831, the balance, Y.175,130,846, being freight earnings.

Compared with the returns for 1922, passenger receipts show an increase of Y.17,510,000, but the freight receipts have fallen off to the amount of about Y.2,000,000, the decrease being attributed to the difficulties arising from the disaster of last September.

Still both totals for the year under review have exceeded their estimates by Y.5,000,000 and Y.4,000,000 respectively.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

OIL DEMAND AND OUTPUT

Industry Improving

The "Financial Review" (New York) says in its issue of March 8:—

Indicating that the corner has at last been turned in the oil industry, the Geological Survey reports that in January, for the first time since 1922, "apparent consumption" exceeded new production. While "apparent consumption" is actually refinery takings, and although refined stocks will doubtless continue to increase until May or June, nevertheless, the reversal in overproduction shows that conditions are at last improving.

Output is now more or less stabilized close to 1,900,000 bbls. a day. This rate, however, will certainly be increased shortly, when the cold weather is over and results of heavier scale of new drilling are felt. In February, there were 176 more completions than in January, and the initial productivity was 104,786 bbls. higher, at 200,987. At the end of the month, there were 50 more drilling operations in progress, or 4,392. Any talk of a "famine" in crude oil supplies this year is therefore clearly unsound.

The political angle of the oil industry still commands the centre of interest. It is understood that Senator La Follette is making progress in framing a drastic measure to "regulate" the industry. Although but little information has been given out, it is said that export of petroleum and products is to be prohibited, presumably in answer to those alarmists who continually preach an impending famine in oil and exhaustion of our natural resources. Price regulation may also be an important feature of the La Follette bill.

The continuous vociferation of the oil trade press, even before any harm has been felt, conclusively indicates the degree of apprehension existing within the industry.

The refined oil market has been hard hit by unreasonable weather, and wholesale prices have broken badly in many quarters. This reverse, however, is nowhere apparent in the retail gasoline price lists, where the calendar is the dominant influence. Now that the heavy winter demand for kerosene is ended, however, it is strikingly noticeable that these prices are beginning to recede.

German chemists have prepared a synthetic substitute for gasoline, produced from coal, and which is said to possess points of superiority over other fuels. The utilization of alcohol with gasoline by the U. S. Navy, however, is a more significant development.

Increasing activity in oil company financing indicates the extent to which working capital has been "frozen" in slowly moving oil inventories. While huge "quotational" profits are being shown, the actual cash gains are not realizable until the goods have actually been sold at the higher prices.

POSITION VACANT

SALESMAN, Drapery and/or Outfitting, wanted. References as to ability and character required. Apply to General Manager, Hall & Holtz, Ld.

ARE YOU ILL?

Are you ill with any disease due to impure blood such as Eczema, Scrofula, Scurvy, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Boils, Sores, Eruptions, Piles, Glandular Swellings, Blood Poison, Rheumatism, &c.? If so, don't delay, start taking Clarke's Blood Mixture to-day and the experience of thousands who have it has permanently cured will soon be yours. It cures by reason of its great blood purifying properties. Over 50 years success. Pleasant to take. Of all Chemists, &c.

Clarke's Blood Mixture

CURES ALL SKIN AND BLOOD DISEASES.

COMPANIES NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.—At the approaching annual general meeting of shareholders the Directors will recommend that a dividend be declared for the past half-year at the rate of 14 per cent. annum and a bonus of 6s. 3d. per share free of income tax (equal to 20½% per annum).

The Semambu Rubber Estates, Ltd.—The 11th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, April 24, 1924, at 11.30 a.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 16 to 24, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—The 32nd Ordinary General Meeting will be held at No. 14 Nanking Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, May 1, 1924, at 11 a.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 24 to May 1, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Tebong Rubber Estate, Ltd.—The 4th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, May 1, 1924, at 11.45 a.m.

A dividend of 5 candareens per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 24 to May 1, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Senawang Rubber Estates Co. (1921), Ltd.—The 4th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, April 29, 1924, at 11.45 a.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 23 to 29, 1924, both days inclusive.

Share Report for Week Ending April 18, 1924.

No. 24/15

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Code in use: A1 Cable
A.B.C. 6th Edition and 5th Edition
B. Broomhall's Imperial Commercial Code
Bentley's Complete Phrase Code.
Telephone Cent. 171 & 171.

Members of Shanghai Stock Exchange.
Lloyd's Licensed Insurance Agents.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building.
12 The Bund.
Post Office Box No. 211, Shanghai.

Business on the Local Stock Market has continued very dull during the past week and beyond an occasional enquiry for Debentures and Land Investment Shares the market is lifeless.

Exchange remains unchanged, but Bill conditions in their Market also and the following are the latest rates at the time of writing:—

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Gold Loan 1913, H.I.	$ 71. 0. 0 (Middle Price)
" " " " P.I.	67. 0. 0 (Buyers) ex B.R.I.S.
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"	3. 2 1/2 (Middle Price)
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Estates, Ltd. Fully Pd. ..	1. 5. 4½ "
" " 10/- Pd. ..	0. 13. 8 (Buyers)
Shanghai Electric Cons. Co., "B"	2. 14. 7½ (Middle Price)
Shell Transport & Trading Co., "B"	4. 10. 0 (Buyers)
Shanghai Electric Tramways, Ltd	0. 1 1/2 (Middle Price)
Yangtsze Insurance Ass'n	0 15. 7/2 "

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/2½.

Shanghai, April 17, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

APRIL	12th Cash	12th June	14th Cash	14th June	15th Cash	15th June	16th Cash	16th June	17th Cash	17th June	18th Cash	18th June
SHARES												
Anglo Dutch Plant. Ltd. .. Tls.	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Semambu Rubber Est., Ltd. .. "	..	..	..	..	0.85	..	..	..	..	..		
Tanah Merah Rub. Est., Ltd. "	..	..	..	..	0.50	..	..	..	0.50	..		
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
Hall & Holtz Ld. .. .. $	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..		
Langkats (single) .. .. Tls.	..	..	..	..	8½	..	..	..	..	..		
S'hai Exploration & D. Co., Ld. "	..	..	..	..	10½	11	..	..	..	..		
Langkats (combined) .. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	25½	..	..	..		
S'hai Waterworks Co., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	150	..		
COTTONS												
DEBENTURES												
S. M. C. 1922, 7% Debs. .. Tls.	105	..	105	..	..	..	105	..	105	..		
" 1923, 8% " " "	..	..	99	..	..	..	..	..	99	..		
" 1921, 8% " " "	..	..	110	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
" 1911, 6% " " "	..	..	..	..	99	..	..	..	..	..		
" 1907, 6% " " "	..	..	..	..	99	..	..	..	..	..		
" 1916, 6% " " "	..	..	..	..	99	..	..	..	..	..		

BANK HOLIDAY (GOOD FRIDAY)

FORWARD SETTLEMENTS FOR 1924.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, APRIL 17, 1924.

STOCK	Last business done.		Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc:	Financ. year ended	Last Dividend etc:	Paid or Due
BANKS.										
London	£	1424								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Cor.	$	1160	1165	1180	61) 400,000	H $125	(a H $8,379,314 (c H $64,494,394	Dec.	Final $3 & Bonus $2 (mkg. $3 1923) less I/T	25-2-24
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. ..London	£	19 3/16			600,000	£5	(a £222,201 (c £3,800,000	Dec.	Final 7s. & Bonus 6s. 3d. (mkg. £1 0s. 3d.) free of I/T, 1922	5-4-24
INSURANCE.										
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	H $	240			55) 200,000	A $4	(ae $437,380 (b $80,500 (c $3,571,004	Dec.	Final 16s. (mkg. 40s.) ex 1921 Work. a/c., Interim 24s. & Bonus to Contributors, 20% ex 1922 Work a/c.	20-3-24
North China Insurance Co., Ld.	T	138			10,000	£5	(ae T610,0[illegible] (c T1,[illegible]	Dec.	Final 15s. (mkg. 30s.) ex 1921 Work a/c. and Interim 15s. ex 1922 Works. a/c.	30-3-24
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld. ..	$	27	28½		21) 250,000	$10	(ae $1,921,500 (ae $2,[illegible] (c $1,[illegible]	Dec.	$2 (or T1.45) ex 1922 Work. a/c. payable in Taels at Exchg. 73	30-3-24
Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld.	T	22			1) 50,000	T20	(ae T[illegible] (ae T2,[illegible] (c T[illegible]	Dec.	T1.20 ex 1922 Work. a/c.	30-3-24
Canton Insurance Office, Ld.	H $	730			10,000	f H $100	(ae H $2,172,[illegible] (c H $[illegible]	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $10) ex 1921 Work. a/c. and Interim H $18 ex 1922 Work. a/c. ..	11-3-24
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld. ..	H $	550	525		8,000	g H $50	(ae H $[illegible] (c H $1,[illegible]	Dec.	H $35 ex 1922 Working a/c.	24-3-24
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	H $	145			20,000	h H $20	(ae H $1,[illegible] (c H $[illegible]	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $3 ex 1921 Work. a/c. ..	25-3-24
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	F	500			14,000	F500	(a T491,[illegible] (c F3,781,[illegible]	Dec.	None, Floated 1918	....
SHIPPING.										
Indo China S.N. Co., Ld. .. (Ordinary pref.	H $	38	38½		2) 120,000	£5	(a £2,137	Dec.	Pref. 6s. ex Exchg. - $2/1 London Warrants less I/T a/c., 1922. Def. Ord. Nil	15-3-23
Def. ord.	H $	110			2) 120,000	£5	(c £2,103,182			
Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ld. ("B" £1 ordinary)	"B"			£4-10-0	56) 30,000,000	£1				
(7% cum. pref.	£				24) 250,000	£10	(a£ £2,029,058	Dec.	Interim 2s., free of I/T, Coupon 42	5-1-24
(7% cum. 2nd pref.	£				57) 10,000,000	£1	(c £5,000,000			
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co., Ld. 7% ord.	T	85	87		20,000	T25	(a T[illegible]	Dec.	Final Ord. T1.50 (mkg. T7., 1923)	11-3-24
(5% pref.	T	514	53½		10,000	T50	(c T410,000		Final Pref. T1.75 (mkg. T3.50, 1923	11-3-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.										
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld. ..	T	95		95	47) 55,700	T75	(a T102,535 (c T1,[illegible]	Apr.	T7.50, 1922-23	27-7-23
Hongkong & W'poo Dock Co., Ld.	H $	155			‡ 60,000	H $50	(a H $[illegible] (c H $1,081,[illegible]	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkg. H $9, 1923)	20-3-24
New Engr. and Shipbuil Haz Works, Ld. (ord.	T	54	54		42) 500,000	T5	(a T59,[illegible]	Dec.	Ord. T0.25, 1923	10-2-24
8% pref.	T	4.95	5		65) 500,000	T5	(b T300,000 (c T1,[illegible]		Pref. T0.40 1923..	10-2-24
Shanghai & H'kow Wharf Co., Ld.	T	192½	190	192	‡31) 40,000	T100	(a H $[illegible] (b T [illegible] (c T1,[illegible]	Dec.	Final T10 (mkg. T13, 1923)	4-3-24
H'kong & K'loon W. & G. Co., Ld. ..	H $	168		167	80,000	H $50	(a H $290,819 (b H $300,000 (c H $59,240	Dec.	H. $6 & Bonus H. $3, 1923	20-2-24
MINING.										
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ld. ..	£	12/-			24) 500,000	G. $10	——	June	G $0.50, 1920-21	26-7-23
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ld. (Bearer).	T	20½	20½		‡164) 2,000,000	£1	(a 210,537	June	Final 35% (Coupon No. 23) free of I/T,	
London	£		£3:3:6	£3:11:3			(c £252,000		1922-1923	11-12-23
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ld. ..	H $	5			200,000	£1	(a £23,613 (c £1,872	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	21-5-10
LANDS AND HOTELS.										
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld. ..	T	118	118½	120	‡) 78,000	T50	(a T34,110 (b T275,000 (c H $2,220,317	Dec.	Final T3 & Bonus T2 (mkg. T8. 1923)	21-3-24
H'kong Land Invest. & Agcy. Co., Ld. ..	H $	117		117	240,000	H $25	(a H $157,886 (b H $250,000 (c H $6,000,000	Dec.	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares (mkg. H $5, 1923) H $2.50 on 40,000 new shs.	28-1-24
Humphreys Est. & Finance Co., Ld. ..	H $	24			150,000	H $10	(a H $158,299 (b H $50,000 (c H $121,488	Dec	H $0.30 and Bonus H $0.30, 1923	11-2-24
Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld.	T	6			3,674	T20	(a T2,940 (c T7,000	Dec.	T1.20, 1923	13-2-24
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld. ..	T	115½	119		‡23) 18,000	T100	(a T9,269 (b T20,000 (c T375,000	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg. T6, 1923-24)	3-4-24
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld. ..	H $	20 old 13 new			33) 500,000	H $10	(a H $85,238 (c H $5,203,767	Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000 shares (mkg. H $2 (old)..	22-3-24
Carlton, Ld.	T	53			14) 10,000	T50		Mar.	Floated April 1, 1922..	
Asia Realty Co., Inc...	G $	100			‡18) 10,000	G $100		Dec.	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware 1922, 7%	4-1-23
Haven Trust Co., Inc. .. .. .. (ord.	G $	10	12½		**100,000	G $10	(1			
pref	G $	10	10			G $10			Ord. Pref. 1st gr. 1923, 12%	4-1-23
PLANTATIONS.										
Alma Estates, Ld.	T	5¾		5½	70,000	£1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23	19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.95						Oct.		
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld. ..	T	2		2	‡62) 500,000	T1				
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T	5.55	5		12) 400,000	10s.	a T30,242	Dec.	T0.30, 1923	1-4-24
					4) 500,000	10s.	(a T12,442 (c T372,107	Dec.	Final T0.30 (mkg. T0.55, 1923..	15-4-24
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld.	T	21		22	27) 30,000	T10	(a T16,223 (b T22,000 (c T69,960	Sept.	Final T2.00, (mkg. T2½) 1922-23	28-12-23
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld. ..	T	0.75			400,000	T1	a T22,777	Dec.	T0.05, 1923	
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T	1.12½			500,000	T1	a T20,402	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	11-4-24
Bute Plantation (1913), Ld.	T	0.75			28) 500,000	T1	a T3,505	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	25-7-17
Chemor United Rubber Co., Ld.	T	0.85			400,000	T0.90	(a T17,973 (c T12,000	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)..	29-3-17
Chempodak Rub. & G'bier Est., Ld. ..	T	4½			39) 35,000	£1	a (Loss) T13,435	Oct.	2nd Interim, T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17)	3-[illegible]-24
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	1½			135,000	T5	a T4,120	June	T0.20, 1916-17	10-1[illegible]-17
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ld.	T	2.12½		2.10	25) 500,000	2s.—T0.75	(a T10,988 (c T[illegible],000	Dec.	Final T0.15 (mkg. T0.21, 1923)..	1-17-17
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T	1½		1.80	19) 350,000	T1	a T2,775	Dec.	T0.10, 1923	9-4-24
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T	7½			(14a) 750,000	(21;450,000 (5s;200,000	(a (c		2s. less I/T 4s. 7½d in £ (Coupon 21) .. — ..	10-4-24
Java-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee Est., Ld.	T	11			8) 85,000	$1 at 2/3	a T17,215			15-[illegible]-24
Kali Gludik Coffee Estates, Ld.	T	6.15	6		70,000	T5	c T2,685	Dec.	Final T0.75 (mkg. T1.25, 1923)..	18-[illegible]-24
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld. ..	T	9.10			85) 15,000	T10	(a T6,977 (c T4,023	Dec:	Incorporated 1923	....
Karan Rubber Estate Co., Ld:	T	4			25,000	T10	(a T3,008		T0.50, 1922	19-4-23
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Ld.	T	0.75					(b T30,000	Mar.	(Interim 1923, T0.50	17-7-23
Kroe Java Plantations, Ld.	T	12	11½		20) 300,000	£1 at T8.00	a (Loss T[illegible],200	June	T0.60, 1922-23	1-6-23
					70,000		(a T[illegible],000			....
							(a T[illegible],000	Dec.	T1 (mkg. T1.50, 1923)	[illegible]-11-24

The following telegraphic advices have been received:—

Singapore, April 17, 1924.

Spot or April	41⅞	cents
May/June	42	,,
July/Sept.	43	,,
July/Dec.	43¾	,,

Market very quiet, nothing doing.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
S'hai Municipal Council	1905	6 to 20	5-4-24	T97	*d* 320,000	6	June-Dec.
	1907	do.	15-4-24	T99	500,000	6	do.
	1908	do.	11-3-24	T99	650,000	6	do.
	1909	do.	15-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
	1910	do.	17-4-24	T99	313,809	6	do.
	1911	10 to 30	15-4-24	T99	350,000	6	do.
	1912	do.	3-1-24	T99	340,000	6	do.
	1913	do.	3-5-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
	1913	do.	8-5-22	T98	500,000	5½	do.
	1913	10 to 50	8-5-22	T98	900,000	5½	do.
	1914	10 to 30	11-4-24	T99	900,000	5½	do.
	1915	do.	11-3-24	T94	800,000	5½	do.
	1916	do.	16-4-24	T98¼	1,400,000	6	do.
	1918	10	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
	1919	10	4-12-23	T104	1,793,300	7	do.
	1920	10	8-4-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
		10 to 30	29-3-24	¢101	¢75,000	6	do.
	1921	do.	18-2-24	$110	$1,000,000	8	do.
	1921	do.	14-4-24	T110	T5,000,000	8	do.
	1922	do.	16-4-24	T105	T5,000,000	7	do.
	1923	do.	17-4-24	T99	??000,000	6	do.
French Municipal Council	1911	do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6	May-Nov.
	1911	do.	12-2-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
	1914	do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
	1915	do.	20-11-23	T108½	*a* T800,000	6	May-Nov.
	1921	do.	17-12-23	T95	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
	1923	do.	2-10-23	T112	2,000,000	8	do.
S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	1921	10 to 30	6-6-22	T108	T500,000	8	do.
S'hai Gas Co., Ltd.	1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
	1922	do.	2-4-23	T94	*e* 800,000	6	do.
S'hai Municipal Council	1905	5 to 20	31-8-22	T96½	T250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1909	do.	1-4-24	T98	750,000	6	do.
	1911	do.	26-9-22	T92	250,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
	,,	do.	28-3-24	T93	250,000	6	May-Nov.
	,,	do.			250, 00	6	Jan-July
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.	1912	do.	2-4-24	T98	250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1913	do.	3-4-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct.
	,,	do.	11-1-24	T94	250,000	6	Mar-Nov.
	,,	do.			250,000	6	April-Oct.
	1914	do.	22-3-23	T98	350 000	6	June-Dec.
	1916	5 to 25	3-4-23	T88	??5,000	5½	do.
	1922	do.	12-2-23	T95	750,000	6	Mar.-Sept
	1922	do.	10-1-24	T98	500 000	6	May-Nov.
Shanghai Club	1907	20	1-2-24	T93	450,000	6	do.
Country Club	1901	Perpetual			139,000	6	June-Dec.
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ltd.	1914	5 to 20			130,000	6	May-Nov.
	1915	do.			110,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld.	1908	do.			250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1911	do.	7-6-23	T98	300,000	6	do.
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ltd.	1923	10 to 20	27-2-23	T95½	*h* 270,000	6	do.
S'hai Race Club	1923	25	14-4-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
Culty Dairy Co., Ltd.	1915	10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
Hall & Holtz Ld.	1914	5 to 20	14-10-22	$92	230,000	7	Jan.-July
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	1922	5 to 20	..	..	T500,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—*b*—Tls.65,100; *c*—Tls.61,100; *d*—Tls.34,100; *e*—Tls.68,500; *f*—Tls.262,400; *g*—Tls.139,800; *h*—Tls.12,300; *i*—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1923: Jan.	1923: Feb.	1923: Mar.	Total output this fin.yr: to date
			lb.	b.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb:
Alma	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	232,500	259,100	246,648	8.87d	68,000	22,000	18,000	17,000	125,000
Amherst (New).. ..	,, 500,000	Oct.	72,442	80,892	90,751	*8.86d.	19,020	8,214	8,475	14,663	50,371
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	630,000	540,000	600,000	8.45d.	..	61,000	50,000	65,000	179,000
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,524,711	1,663,150	..	6.70d	..	184,000	164,100	187,000	535,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 350,000	Sept.	369,447	58,042	360,000	†0.24.41	..	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam	,, 400,000	Dec.	25,510	217,322	185,793	9.01d.	..	12,500	11,500	15,000	39,006
Bukit Toh Alang	,, 500,000	Mar.	309,254	305,845	345,000	7.54d.	222,632	25,590	No.	..	248,182
Bute	,, 500,000	Dec.	230,067	177,350	159,510	11.11d.	..	17,500	16,800	13,600	47,700
Chemor United	,, 360,000	Dec.	340,794	297,027	..	8.40d.	..	27,200	23,300	9,500	60,000
Chempedak	£35,000	Oct.	145,760	163,063	..	1/5.42d.	30,700	14,000	4,400	1,000	50,100
Cheng	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.09d.	102,014	10,500	9,700	11,800	134,014
Consolidated (1914) ..	,, 375,000	Dec.	668,500	637,777	761,500	7.17d.	..	53,000	56,779	44,437	149,216
Dominion	,, £500,000	Dec.	271,150	321,516	306,867	9.63d.	..	28,032	27,654	15,999	71,685
Gula-Kalumpong	£85,000	Dec.	1,113,000	975,000	1,215,000	1/0.24d.	..	88,000	78,000	66,000	232,000
Java Consolidated	,, 150,000	Dec.	689,524	642,455	..	6.22d.	..	65,500	60,000	72,300	201,500
Kapayang	,, 250,000	Mar.	189,239	146,710	..	12.90	..	10,592	8,315	7,636	26,543
Karau	,, 300,000	June	111,875	101,782	84,000	8d.	60,067	8,146	6,448	4,913	79,576
Kota Bahroe (1921) ..	,, 470,000	Dec.	125,630	339,070	..	..	160,918	29,156	26,919	19,180	236,103
Kroewoek	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	842,589	943,000	975,000	Glds.0.28	179,300	82,500	71,500	70,000	413,300
Langkat	Tls. 500,000	April	200,711	229,232	..	10d.	120,500	19,700	11,100	8,600	159,900
Padang	£50,000	Mar.	172,022	135,753	176,088	£0.19	..	..	2,780	..	2,780
Pengkalan (1921)	,, 250,000	Oct.	98,303	86,299	..	0/8d.	17,585	8,080	6,603	..	31,668
Permata	,, 275,000	Dec.	68,354	217,287	..	..	..	17,400	8,700	15,900	42,000
Repah	,, 600,000	Sept.	361,816	250,413	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sanggaga	,, 100,000	June	179,665	142,000	115,183	11.37d.	120,509	8,500	11,000	10,500	150,509
See Kee (1918)	,, 300,000	Dec.	193,135	245,560	158,264	0/9.37d.	..	13,400	13,400	7,600	51,400
Semanco	,, 375,000	Jan.	272,500	275,100	..	*17.35d.	..	..	14,500	16,400	30,900
Serdang (1921)	,, 400,000	Sept.	314,414	246,442	..	8.12d.	67,625	21,196	17,250	17,024	126,101
Shanghai Kedah	,, 315,000	Dec.	126,166	100,054	..	11.35d.	..	8,749	8,000	..	16,749
Shai-Klebang	,, 600,000	Dec.	373,111	288,810	408,961	..	..	22,782	21,474	16,254	70,510
Shai-Malay	,, 200,000	June	205,811	188,946	..	9.94d.	100,573	16,432	14,475	11,846	142,726
Shai Pahang	,, 250,000	Dec.	171 213	117,112	..	9.82d.	..	14,400	13,300	7,100	35,100
Shai Seremban	,, 650,000	Oct.	661,139	670,716	650,000	Glds.0.38	111,341	61,110	51,170	43,537	267,158
Shai-Sumatra	,, 250,000	Dec.	185,000	157,100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sua-Manggis	,, 100,000	Mar.	30,229	165,757	..	17.20	14,010	8,802	..	..	22,802
Sungei Duri	£40,000	June	308,073	296,563	229,000	11.61d.	126,409	23,698	22,272	10,048	182,427
Tapang (1913)	Tls. 200,000	Dec.	107,011	103,035	99,000	*130	..	8,184	6,572	..	14,756
Tanah Merah	,, 750,000	Mar.	415,000	371,700	..	7.82d.	231,000	21,000	22,000	21,700	303,700
Tebong	,, 750,000	Jan.	699,855	723,000	717,725	0/7.66d.	..	..	61,000	66,959	130,000
Ziangbe	£150,000	Dec.	514,506	623,000	600,000	7.24d.	..	67,500	58,200	58,000	183,700

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expense†

† Straits ¢ cents

Gen. Engg Rubber Estc. (ord. Co. (1921), Ld. (12½ Cum. Pref.	T	0.82½				63)	300,000	T1	*a* (Loss) T20,975	Jan.	....			
Shanghai Kedah Rubber	T	0.75				67)	100,000	T1	*a*	Sept.	1-9-23, 1-3-24			27-12-23
S'hai Klebang Rubber Estate, Ld. .. ord	T	0.60				34)	195,000	T1	*a* T11,123	Dec.	1-9-23, 1-3-24			27-12-23
S'ha Malay Rubber Estates, Ld. .. ord	T	3				18)	345,000	T1	*a* T14,000	Dec.	(Ord. T0.60 for 9 months ended 31/12/22			2-5-17
,, 8 % cum. part. pref.	T	9				22)	80,000	T10	*a* T621	Dec.	(Pref. T0.40, for 6 months ended 31/12/22 ..			31-10-23
S'hai Pahang Rubber Estates, Ld. ..	T	0.75					200,000	T1	(Loss) T1,213	June	Final T1.00 (mkg. T0.10, 1916-17)			12-10-17
S'hai Seremban Rubber Estates, Ld. ..	T	0.60					325,000	T1	*a* (Loss) T16,352	Dec.	T0.04 for 10 months, ended 31/12/22			31-3-17
S'hai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ld.	T	105	101]			7)	30,000	T20	*a* (Loss) 325,810					
Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ld.	T	3				30)	56,000	T5	*a* T312,170	Oct.	T2, 1918-19			1-4-20
Sungaia Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.80	0.85½			‡5)	100,000	T1	*a* T4,625					
Sungei Duri Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	7½	6				40,000	£1 at T8.50	*a* T10,000	Mar.	T0.10, 1916-17			12-7-17
Tapang Rubber Estates (1913), Ld. ..	T	0.50					200,000	T1	*a* T22,766	June	T0.85, 1922-23			12-10-23
Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ld.	T	0.50	0.45			32)	750,000	T1	*a* (Loss) T851	Dec.	T0.08, 1919			20-5-20
Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	1.05		1		‡54)	750,000	T1	*a* T31,851					
Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ld.	T	2½				32)	300,000	10s.	*a* T17,851	Mar.	Interim T0.05 1916-17 (Final, Nil)			7-12-17
									a (Loss) T13,874	Jan.	....††			....
									a T17,851	Dec.	T0.25, 1923			8-4-24
COTTONS, ETC.														
Ewo Cotton Mills, Ld. (ord.	T	11½	11½			15)	1,000,000	T5	*a* T5,257					
,, (8 % cum. pref.	T	105	106			43)	10 000	T100	*b* T1,400,000					
									c T2,802,020		Ord. T0.55, 1923			5-3-24
Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ld. ..	T	8	5				80,000	T10	*a* (Loss) T86,057	Dec.	Pref. T8, 1923			5-3-24
Oriental C. S. & W. Co., Ld. .. .. .. ord.	T	5		1.00		60)	500,000	T3	*b* T120,000					
pref.	T					3)	5,000	T100	*c* T7,612	Dec.	Final T2, (mkg. T4, 1921)			8-3-22
Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ld. (Shanghai Boshoku K.K.)	T	61 old 36 new				(	80,000	T50	*a* (Loss) T38,590					
						‡	40,000	T50	*b* T200,000					
									c T2,551,760	Dec.	Final T0.50 (mkg. T1.50, 1921)			25-3-22
INDUSTRIAL.														
British-American Tobacco Co., Ld. (ord.	£		£5 3/16	£5 4/16		66)	13,000,000	£1	*a* £3,531,846					
,, (5 % cum. pref.							4,500,000	£1	*c* £2,251,649	Sept.	Final Ord. 1922-23, 9% (mkg. 25%) free of I/T			11-1-24
China Im. & Ex. Lumber Co., Ld.	T	350					5,000	T100	*a* T161,833					
									b T300,000					
China Sugar Refining Co., Ld.	H $	218					20,000	H$100	*c* T2,100,000	Feb.	T8, 1922-23			31-5-23
Gordon & Co., Ltd.	T	25				37)	3,000	T25	*a* H $10,763					
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.	H $	34			27 old 310 new		400,000	H$7.50	*b* H $600,000					
Maatschappij, &c., In Langkat	T	8½					200,000	Gs.10	*c* H $1,200,000	Dec.	Final H $1.50 (mkg. H $2, 1923)			1-4-24
									a (Loss) T158,433					
Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ld. ..	T	6½	6.40 (comb. T25½)	(comb T)			250,000	T5	*c* T190,184	Oct.	T0.50, 1918-19			30-3-20
									a T35,638					
S'hai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.	T	10½	10½	(comb T)			250,000	T5	*c* T300,000	Dec.	T0.50, 1923			5-3-24
Major Brothers, Ld.	T	5				10)	6,000	T20	*a* (Loss) T13,341	Dec.	....			....
									a T6,941	Dec.	....			....
John Richards & Co., Ld.	T	10				11)	25,000	T10	*c* T70,000					
									a T3,130	Dec.	10%, 1921			24-6-22
Shanghai Gas Co., Ld.	T	41	41			?)	24,000	T50	*c* T30,000					
									a T24,375	Dec.	T4.00, 1923			11-4-24
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.	T	150	145			‡9)	50,000	$20	*b* T30,000					
									c T65,241					
STORES.									*a* T24,475	Dec.	(Final 10s./- (at Exchg. 3/2½ = T3.09) mkg. 20s./-, 1923			4-4-24
									b T75,000					
									c T1,770,985					
Hall & Holtz, Ld.	$	6				‡16)	28 000	$20	*a*					
S. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.	$	30					1,200	$80	*b* $116,937	Feb.	$2, 1917-18			1-5-18
S. Moutrie & Co., Ld.	$	50				17)	10,000	$50	*a* $10,697	Dec.	$6, 1922			12-5-23
Weeks & Co., Ld.	$	11				‡50)	30,000	$20	*c* $26,000					
									a $20,282	Mar.	(Final $2 & Bonus $4 (mkg. $9, 1922-23) ..			2-6-23
									c $323,195		(Int. 6%, 1923-24			30-11-23
									a $57,633	Feb.	$1.50, 1922-22			3 -5-22
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	$	102	106½			?)	2,500	$100	*a* $210,000					
									b $5,539					
MISCELLANEOUS.									*a* $20,000					
Culty Dairy Co., Ld.	T	13		12			10,000	T10	*b* $250 000		$8, 1922-23			24-5-23
									a Loss) T26,956	Oct.	T0.60, 1921-22			30-12-23
S'hai Electric Construction Co., Ld., "B" London	T	16½	16½						*c* T119,293					
	£1		£2:13:0	£2:16:3			40,000	£1	*a* £17,022					
									c £114,315	Dec.	(1st Int. 1923, 12s./- (Coupon 23)			1-10 23
S'hai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ld. ..	T	50					5,400	T50	*a* T23,118		(2nd Int. 1923, 12s./- (Coupon 24) both less I/T at 4/7½ in £			1-2-24
									c T220,000		T5, 1923			16-4-24
Shanghai Mercury, Ld.	T	25					3 000	T50		Apr.	T1 50 1913-14			31-3-15
Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co. Ld. ..	T	76½	78			‡19)	40,000	T50	*a* T10,285					
									b T70,000	Mar.	T4.50, 1922-23			31-5-23
Oriental Press (L'Imprimerie Francaise)	$	100					940	$100	*c* T920,016					
									a $109,513					
									b $9,000	Mar.	$10 ,1922-23			5-7-23
									c $21,101					

For all Dollar shares quoted on the Shanghai Stock Exchange the Exchange rate is fixed at 73.

REFERENCES.

a Carried forward at last Ann. Genl. Meeting;
b Dividend Equalization Reserve.
c General and other Reserves.
d Uncalled liability ¥6 per sh;
,, ,, ,, ¥10 ,,
f ,, ,, ,, H $150 ,,
g ,, ,, ,, $200 ,,
h ,, ,, ,, £2 10 ,,
i ,, ,, ,, Tls. 35 ,,
w Working Account 1923
x Working Account 1922
w Working Account 1921
† Registered; or Bearer (idem, "B").
†† Issued Capital: 7% Cum. Pref. 24,461 shares; Ordinary, 10,270 shares.

‡ Debentures Issues also.
‡‡ Subject to Estate Managers' Commissions
* Subject to E. P. D. and Comm. Tax.
* Contingent liability for Interest on 12% Cum. Pref. Shares of Tls. 5,089

1—14,000 sh' unis'd.
2—70,411 ,,
3— 5,000 ,,
4— 4,000 ,,
5—19,182 ,,
6—50,000 ,,
7—10,761 ,,
8—10,000 ,,
9—10,470 sh. unis'd;
10—500 ,,
11—15,230 ,,
12—50,000 ,,
13—1,387 ,,
14—3,003 ,,
15—100,000 ,,
16—1,662 ,,
17—3,882 ,,
18—5,586 ,,
19—187,330 ,,
20—15,000 ,,
21—100,000 ,,
22—2,620 ,,
23—5 000 ,,
24—70,810 ,,
25—125,000 ,,
26—60,000 sh' unis'd
27—8,121 ,,
28—200,000 ,,
29—4,683 ,,
30—2,000 ,,
31—4,000 ,,
32—50,000 ,,
33—125,000 ,,
34—102,570 ,,
35—200 ,,
36—189 000 ,,
37—1,443 ,,
39—7,695 ,,
42—200,000 ,,
43—1,000 ,,
(Net to be issued for less than 950 ea.
47—500 sh. unis'd.
48—100,602 ,,
49—5,644 ,,
50—8,178 ,,
54—40,000 ,,
55—89,000 ,,
56—10,634,36 ,,
57—5,000,000 ,,
60—16,000 ,,
61—240,000 ,,
62—401,055 ,,
63—15,000 ,,
64— 600 000 ,,
65— 200,000 ,,
66—1,953,920 ,,
67—68,057 ,,

In order to ensure accuracy of the above details, Agents and Secretaries of Companies are requested to notify Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co; of any alterations, errors or omissions;

Comany Meetings

(Continued from Page 98)

safe and everything running on economical lines."

On Hendra the work of the estate has carried along efficiently and there is nothing special to report. The smoke house was burnt down during December, the building and contents being fully covered by insurance. During the erection of a new smoke House, a vacant one on Sungei Kruit Estate has been kindly placed at our disposal.

[illegible]

With regard to the current year's prospects I find it difficult owing to the present uncertainty of the market to express a definite opinion. With pepper at its present price the estate can produce at a fair margin of profit but I am afraid we cannot hope for better prices until the co-operation of the Dutch East Indies to support restriction is secured.

The directors wish to express their appreciation of the good work done by the managers and staffs, also to the visiting agent for the good care of our interests.

I will now propose the first resolution, but before doing so I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability any questions shareholders may wish to ask.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. G. Grayrigge seconded that the report and accounts for the year ended December 31st, 1923, as presented be accepted. Carried unanimously.

It was proposed by the Chairman, and seconded by Mr. A. W. Burkill: "That the following recommendation as to appropriation of balance at credit of Profit & Loss Account be severed:—

Pay a Dividend of $80.10 per share (8 per cent.)	$16,087.00
Furniture	1,520.35
Write off Bullocks & Carts	14.12
Write off Rubber Factory	1.00
Write off Plant & Machinery	1.00
Write off Wells & Water	1.00
Pay Bonus to Estate Managers	1,000.00
Carry forward to next year's Accounts	2,775.37
	$21,979.83

The resolution was carried unanimously.

On the proposition of Mr. Burkill, seconded by Mr. W. Mellor, Mr. G. Grayrigge was re-elected a director of the company.

On the proposition of Mr. A. N. Ogden, seconded by Mr. Obun Tu-san, it was agreed: "That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected Auditors to the Company at an annual remuneration of $400 for Shanghai and Ipoh." Carried unanimously.

Reports are current in Peking that a band of Russian [illegible] selling Russian blankets and clothings, are spies of Marshal Chang Tso-lin. They are said to be collecting information regarding the movements and organization of Chihli troops. All of the alleged spies are thought to be former White troops. Orders have been issued by Marshal Wu Pei-fu that the authorities at Loyang, Chengchow, Tsetan, Kaifeng and other military centres watch the movement of these foreigners.

Addressing the Engineering Society of China on Tuesday Mr Karl Beyin gave an account of investigations, studies and tests regarding wharf designs made by the Conservancy Board's engineering staff and himself at various times and in connexion with the Shanghai Harbour Investigation, 1921-22. The type of wharf discussed by the lecturer was that for an open dock. Although the latter costless, the necessary cost of locks exceeded the saving in other respects. Shanghai's harbour investigators had definitely recommended docks of the open type first of all, said the speaker. The definition of a "deep draught wharf" was a wharf to accommodate ocean-going vessels requiring a berth of say, 26 ft. and more at low water.

MUNICIPAL GAZETTE NEWS

THE RATEPAYERS' MEETING

Once More No Quorum for the Special Resolutions: Support for the Council in All Directions: Big Majority for Waterworks Resolution

No great interest was displayed in the Ratepayers' Meeting which took place in the Town Hall at 4.30 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. The attendance was smaller than on several occasions in recent years, and owing to lack of a quorum the special resolutions which were on the agenda could not be brought forward, only half the required number of voters being present.

Sir Skinner Turner was invited to take the chair, and on the platform were Messrs. S. Fessenden, W. P. Lambe, F. E. Mackay, V. G. Lermit, P. L. Knight and S. Sabatier, Councillors; Mr. F. S. Bullock, Rowe, Secretary of Council; and Mr. E. L. Allen, who was appointed secretary of the meeting.

Proceedings

Mr. S. Fessenden—Ladies and gentlemen, the hour appointed for the Ratepayers' Meeting having passed I have very much pleasure in moving

Resolution I.—That our esteemed fellow-ratepayer, Sir Skinner Turner, be invited to take the Chair.

Mr. W. P. Lambe—I have much pleasure in seconding that resolution.

Mr. Fessenden—Will all those in favour please raise their hands . . . Any opposed? . . . Unanimous.

Sir Skinner Turner then takes the chair.

Mr. S. Fessenden—I beg to propose

Resolution II.—That Mr. E. L. Allen be appointed Secretary to the meeting.

Mr. W. P. Lambe—I have pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The Chairman—It has been proposed and seconded that Mr. E. L. Allen be appointed Secretary of the Meeting. Will those in favour hold up the right hand? Against—Carried unanimously.

The Chairman—I will now read the notice convening the meeting:

The undersigned hereby give notice:—

That a Public Meeting of Ratepayers will be held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, April 16, at 4.30 p.m., precisely, to devise ways and means of raising the requisite funds for Municipal purposes, and to pass resolutions in reference thereto and to deliberate and decide upon other Municipal matters and business. At such meeting the accounts of the Council for the year ending December 31, 1923, will be submitted for the sanction and approval of the Ratepayers.

That a Special Meeting of Ratepayers will be held in the Town Hall during an adjournment of the above meeting to consider and approve resolutions upon various matters whereof due notice will be given.

This notice is signed by the Consuls of the various Treaty Powers.

The Chairman—I will now call upon the Chairman of the Council to move Resolution No. III.

Mr. Fessenden—Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I beg to propose

Resolution III.—That the [illegible] be adopted for use at this meeting and remain in force until the next annual meeting.

Mr. W. P. Lambe—I have pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The Chairman—It has been proposed and seconded that the rules of procedure be adopted at this meeting and remain in force until the next annual meeting. Will those in favour please signify in the usual way?—Against?—Carried.

The Chairman—I will now call upon Mr. Fessenden, to move Resolution No. IV.

[illegible] REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

Mr. Fessenden—Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, before proceeding with this Resolution, I desire to deal briefly with a few outstanding matters to which your attention should be directed.

In the first place, I may mention that we have continued the policy during the year, of keeping you as fully posted as possible on Municipal activities through the medium of the Gazette. Those desiring further information will find a very complete record of Municipal affairs in the Annual Report, which was issued on March 19. The complete manner in which matters are dealt with in this publication will, I trust, save me the necessity of asking you to listen to any lengthy speech upon the year's work.

You will be pleased to know that our Volunteer Corps continues to maintain its numbers and discipline, whilst the year has seen the pleasing function of the presentation to the Corps of new Colours worked by ladies of Shanghai.

The Fire Brigade continues to develop as an all-motor Fire Brigade, and the total number of vehicles has reached the figure of 40. We think, therefore, that you may feel reasonably assured that the Settlement possesses a Brigade well equipped for the size of the Settlement.

The Police Force continues to maintain its highly efficient work in the policing of this Settlement, and forming as it does our first line of defence, I think we have every reason to be proud of this efficient body of men. In this connexion, I cannot pass without a word of renewed appreciation of the public spirited action of those members of the Community who continue to perform duty as Special Constables. They perform a duty, the value of which cannot be too highly appreciated, in the maintenance of order in the Settlement.

Our activities in the preservation of Public Health have reached a high level of attainment and the same may be said of the Council's schools, both foreign and Chinese, in which the number of children in attendance is well maintained.

Our Public Works Department as usual calls for a very large proportion of the total expenditure. The number of the public roads has not altered very materially since last year, but a great many important widenings have been carried out, and the programme of extensions adopted in 1921 is being pushed forward as rapidly as financial considerations permit.

The Traffic problem is our eternal question, which requires a large and expert staff to handle effectively. The Tramway question likewise is a problem which continues to engage our serious attention. I can only regret that, in spite of earnest endeavour to conclude the negotiations with the Tramway Company in respect to extensions, at the close of the year, although considerable progress had been made, negotiations had not then, nor have they now, reached a final settlement.

Four Special Commissions have been sitting during the year, to deal with the questions of Education, of the Supply of Pure Milk, of the Sale of Poisons, and of Child Labour in Factories. The three first named have concluded their labours, and your Council is engaged in examining their recommendations, with a view to the adoption of what may prove to be practicable. The fourth Commission, that of Child Labour in Factories, is still sitting.

The question of the control of public [illegible] was a matter which came prominently before our notice during the year, and you will observe that we have reverted to the system of issuing passes as applied for, in order to assess the operation of the law of supply and demand, since we have found that abuses result from artificial limitation in number.

During the year we have sanctioned trial services of omnibuses and pedicabs, and it is expected that before long these vehicles will be seen in the streets of Shanghai.

Our relations with the Chinese in our midst, while not entirely devoid of difficulty, have upon the whole been satisfactory, and we may take it as evidence of their respect for the law and order which we maintain that the native population of the Settlement continues to increase in numbers and appears well satisfied with conditions as it find them.

A good deal of the Council's time has been devoted to the Waterworks question, to which I will refer when introducing Resolution VII.

As regards departmental activities, I do not propose at the present time to make any detailed observations since those matters are fully dealt with in the respective sections of the annual report. Suffice it to say that the work of all departments has given satisfaction, and that the services rendered by the members of the Volunteer Corps and of the Police Reserves have continued to earn our very sincere appreciation and thanks.

The revision of the Standing Orders referred to by my predecessor last year has unfortunately had to be deferred pending certain matters of departmental reorganization which it will be the duty of the incoming Council to undertake. As a preliminary step to consideration of these matters, a room was set aside in the Administration Building for the use of the Chairman, and it may interest you to know that I have made a practice of attending this office for an hour or so each day for the purpose of conferring with the departmental heads. This practice has given me an insight into the methods of administration which I hope will assist the incoming Council in solving the problems with which they will be faced.

Before turning to the question of finance I would like to thank, on behalf of the Council, those members of the community who have served on the various Committees and Commissions which we have appointed, thus giving us the benefit of their advice and experience in the conduct of affairs.

I now propose to say a few words on the Financial Statement of 1923.

FINANCE.

The report of the Treasurer and Comptroller opens with a statement that the surplus on the Ordinary Budget carried forward to this year amounts to Tls. 402,000. This can be regarded as satisfactory as it shows an increase over the figure estimated of Tls. 249,000. Our Ordinary Income exceeded the estimate by Tls. 129,000, while the Ordinary Expenditure incurred was Tls. 110,000 less than was anticipated. The Treasurer's report sets out in detail the results of departmental expenditure as compared with the estimates, and I do not propose to waste your time in accounting for the various differences that occur between the actual and estimated departmental figures.

Turning to the accounts relating to the Extraordinary Budget where a deficit of Tls. 142,000 was anticipated, you will note that the actual deficit brought forward amounts to no less than Tls. 712,000. At first sight this may appear somewhat alarming. Indeed, I notice that the editor of one of our leading newspapers, in a leader on the Annual Report, issued a friendly hint to the Council that it really must not incur expenditure not included in the Budget. Well, Ladies and Gentlemen, I can assure you that there is nothing to be alarmed about. What actually happened was that with two exceptions (which I will refer to later) the main headings of the Budget were in fact well under-spent. We were authorized to raise a Loan of Tls. 6,000,000, but only issued debentures totalling Tls. 4,479,800. Our Extraordinary Income was therefore one and a half millions short, and it is here that the explanation is to be found. Had the full amount of the Loan been raised, we should have allotted 3 millions instead of 2 millions to the Electricity Department, and the deficit would have been, say, Tls. 50,000 in excess of the figure we estimated.

In other words, Ladies and Gentlemen, that figure of Tls. 712,000 represents merely a shortage in income and has nothing whatever to do with, or is not, increased expenditure. As things are, the Tls. 1,000,000 required by the Electricity Department this year represents the amount they were short last year, and the deficit of Tls. 712,000 with which the year 1923 closed will also have to be found in 1924.

The only item of the Extraordinary Budget which I think calls for further comment is the expenditure on Roads. You will no doubt have noticed that the appropriation for acquiring land for new roads, widening existing roads, and for making up, has been exceeded by a sum of Tls. 671,000, or Tls. 582,000 after making allowance for land transferred from Municipal properties, which is credited under another heading of the accounts. Well, Ladies and Gentlemen, this is the one heading of the Budget which is extremely difficult to control. Advantage has to be taken of fortuitous circumstances such as a sale or transfer of property or rebuilding, in order to proceed with the extremely necessary road widenings. It is impossible to estimate with accuracy to cover this appropriation. We are satisfied that every precaution has been taken to keep expenditure within reasonable grounds, but it is as well that you should realize that more and more money will be required for these urgent and necessary public improvements.

The report of the Treasurer and Comptroller gives full details as to how we raised the debentures issued during the year totalling Tls. 4,479,800, or, including the Investment Bank allotment made on February 5 of this year (Tls. 440,200), a grand total of Tls. 4,920,000.

I cannot conclude without expressing the Council's appreciation of the services rendered by the Municipal Bank, which, since its foundation on September 1, 1919, has been largely instrumental in raising close upon Tls. 7,500,000. This is a very notable achievement when it is remembered how unsettled the money markets of the world have been during the years following the war.

With these remarks I propose

Resolution IV.—That the Report and Accounts for the year ending December 31, 1923, be passed.

Mr. W. P. Lambe—I have very much pleasure in seconding that Resolution.

The Chairman—The Resolution has been duly proposed and seconded and is now open to discussion.—As no ratepayer wishes to say anything, I will put the Resolution to the meeting. It has been proposed by Mr. Fessenden and seconded by Mr. Lambe. All those in favour signify the same in the usual way—Those against?—Carried.

The Chairman—I call upon Mr. Fessenden to move the next resolution.

Mr. S. Fessenden—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, In introducing the Budget Resolution, I propose with your approval to give you a short outline of the various processes that the Estimates go through before they are finally placed before you for your approval. Towards the close of the year each department is required to prepare preliminary estimates of its requirements for the ensuing year. Those requirements are divided under two main headings, Ordinary and Extraordinary. The Ordinary Estimates of each department are forwarded to the Finance Department for examination, where they are closely scrutinised and tested with the object of determining whether they contain any items of an unusual character that may indicate a permanent addition to the activities of the department.

The Extraordinary Estimates are prepared by each department in collaboration with the Public Works Department. In due course the departmental Committees consider the proposals of the heads of departments both under the Ordinary and Extraordinary classification. Representatives of the Public Works Department and the Finance Department attend these meetings to advise the Committees on any matters requiring further explanation. The Committees are not expected to concern themselves unduly with detail; their chief concern is with questions of policy. The Ordinary Estimates are then referred back to the Finance Department, where each item is examined and checked in detail, and the figures, where necessary, amended. A revised proof is then printed and, after final agreement with the department, is submitted for the formal approval of the Committee. In the meantime the departmental requirements under the heading of Extraordinary Expenditure are being scrutinised by the Commissioner of Public Works, who inserts a revised estimate of what he considers to be the cost of the proposals. Unfortunately the requirements of the departments are occasionally in outline only and difficulty is sometimes experienced by the Public Works Department in estimating the cost of a scheme which is not sufficiently defined. This is one of the reasons why the estimated cost of works is from time to time underspent or exceeded. The Council is aware of this weakness in the Budget system, and steps are being taken to tighten matters up. In due course the preliminary estimates of Extraordinary Expenditure are forwarded to the Finance Department, more or less in the form in which they are subsequently published. By this time the accounts for the past year are well in hand, and the Finance Department is able to form some idea of the surplus or deficit for which provision will need to be made in the following year. The two budgets of Ordinary and Extraordinary income and expenditure are then considered by the Finance Committee as a whole, and a decision is arrived at as to whether the existing rating basis is adequate as regards the Ordinary Budget, and as to whether or not, having regard to the conditions of the local money market, it is policy to recommend the Loan called for by the Extraordinary Budget, or to reduce it. More often than not the latter course is considered the more prudent, and then commences the Finance Committee's somewhat unpleasant duty of wielding the blue pencil.

The Budget now before you has undergone many vicissitudes, and is but a skeleton of the one that was submitted to the Finance Committee. In view of the prevailing uncertainty of the future trend of the local money market, and the possibility of a large sum being required for the purchase of the Waterworks, it was deemed expedient to limit the Loan to Tls. 5,000,000, with the result that many desirable public improvements have had to be postponed for another year. The problem before the Finance Committee was to effect a reduction of Tls. 900,000 in the Budget total while still allowing a sufficient sum for matters of public urgency. Among the more important items it was found necessary to delete may be mentioned the following: The reconstruction of the Chapoo Road Bridge, the provision of quarters for Indians at Sinza Police Station, improvements at the Hongkew Swimming Pool, and the swimming pool proposed for the Western District.

The preliminary estimates approved by the Works Committee called for a provision of just over Tls. 2,000,000 for road improvements, but after giving the question the fullest consideration the Finance Committee decided to reduce this amount to Tls. 1,500,000, which figure is 70 per cent. higher than the allowance last year, and is over treble the appropriation for 1922. This decision was duly approved by the Council on the grounds of financial expediency. You must not infer from this that the Council thinks any drastic change is necessary in its policy of improving the roads of the Settlement, but simply that expenditure on this very necessary object will need to be spread over a greater number of years.

It is of interest to note that of the total extraordinary expenditure proposed to be incurred this year, practically half is required for the completion of works for which approval was given in former budgets.

Our ordinary income, including the amount brought forward from last year, is expected to show a total of Tls. 8,224,000, or Tls. 795,000 over that realized during 1923. On the other hand, departmental expenditure and provision for interest and loan redemption is expected to cost Tls. 991,000 more than the amount spent in 1923. These figures clearly indicate the necessity for zealously watching and controlling the growth of departmental expenditure.

Perhaps one of the most difficult matters the Council has to deal with is the salaries paid to the staff. The Council has realized for some time past that the method under which each Committee is given more or less discretionary power to fix the salaries in the departments under its care is by no means ideal, and although the decisions of the departmental Committees are invariably subject to revision by the Finance Committee, it often happens in practice that inequalities of treatment occur which subsequently need adjustment. In order to provide for the proper co-ordination of all staff matters, the Council has recently established a Staff Committee to whom has been entrusted the responsible duty of adjudicating on all staff questions. Recommendations on staff matters will in future be considered in the first place by the Staff Committee instead of by the Departmental Committee and will then come direct to the Council. This policy is one that has been in operation in England and elsewhere for some years, and we think and hope it will lead to good results.

We have no notice of any questions, but I am prepared to explain as far as I can any points upon which explanation may be desired, but first Mr. Scott will address you briefly on Electricity matters.

With the Chairman's permission I will ask Mr. Scott to address the meeting.

Mr. F. R. SCOTT—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: The Report and Accounts which have been available for some days call for very little explanation and comment on my part.

The Accounts shew that against an estimated net profit of Tls. 1,398,951, the Undertaking actually made a net profit of Tls. 1,514,883, a difference on the right side of Tls. 115,932. Of this very handsome profit Tls. 900,000 will be contributed to Municipal Funds, which will then have benefited from the working of this Department, since 1916, to the total amount of Tls. 3,760,000. Tls. 602,800 of our profits will be transferred to General Reserve in conformity with the established principle of bringing this Reserve Account to 10 per cent. of the capital outlay on plant which has been actually in commission.

This result appears thoroughly satisfactory, but is not as completely satisfactory as we would wish. A year ago the Chairman of this Committee stated that the Department was feeling the results of the industrial depression in Shanghai, and said that the estimates for the year were framed on a conservative basis. That we have achieved a better result than estimated is due to the conservatism of that estimate, and not, I am sorry to say, to any lifting of the industrial depression. On the contrary, conditions are quite unimproved and we have again to be very conservative in framing our estimates, and we estimate that in 1924 we should make a net profit of Tls. 1,354,800,—nearly Tls. 200,000, less than the profit actually made in 1923. Our expectation of a reduced profit does not mean that we look for a reduction in our sales of electricity, for as a matter of fact, we look for an increase of Tls. 935,851 in our gross revenue. Unfortunately this very considerable estimated increase in revenue is not in proportion to the great extensions of our Plant which are on the point of completion. These extensions were ordered at an expensive time, and their completion will greatly increase our charges for interest and depreciation. Thus, in 1924 we estimate that the gross profit which will be made on the additional sales of electricity will be more than balanced by the increase in these two items, and we have to estimate for a reduced net profit.

For some years the Department has struggled to get ahead of its load, and has had to work in an overloaded condition, a state of things highly profitable, but dangerous. Our large extensions of plant were ordered in the course of this struggle, and had the load continued to increase at an equal rate, they would have only left us a comfortable margin of security. The industrial depression has turned this into an uncomfortable surplus of plant, and we are now in the position of our load having to grow up to our plant. That it will do this in a reasonable time I think there is no doubt whatever, but while it is growing it will not be possible to make the same rate of profit as was made on the smaller and overloaded plant. Most of the factors in the problem are out of our control, but on the technical side I can assure you that our Engineer-in-Chief and his staff are continually and strenuously working towards greater efficiency and economy, and on the business side, that every possible effort is made to increase our sales.

The undertaking has been built up on sound lines and it is to-day so sound that the worst result we need anticipate, from the fact that the plant proves to have been too heavily extended, at too expensive a time, is reduced rate profit for a few years.

Of the loans of Tls. 3,000,000, sanctioned for this Department last year, only Tls. 2,000,000 was actually issued, and we now owe an overdraft at the Bank and temporary loans from the Council Tls. 1,290,620. We do not require any further loan this year other than the Tls. 1,000,000 which was short issued last year.

I must refer briefly to the disastrous accident which occurred last November at Riverside when the new 20,000—K. W. Parsons Turbine burst, and caused the greatly regretted loss of several valuable lives, and serious injuries to one of our foreign staff. I would take this opportunity of again expressing the sympathy of this Committee and the staff with the relatives of the killed. As shown in the Report full investigation by the Makers' representatives shewed that the accident was due to a defect in the machine, which was quite undiscoverable except by the self-revelation of the accident. The turbine will be replaced by Messrs. Parsons and we hope that in the end there will be no financial loss to the Department from this accident. As it happens, we do not at the moment need this turbine and we do not expect to be inconvenienced by losing the use of it for about two years.

I would like to conclude by expressing the Committee's appreciation of the work of Mr. Aldridge, our Engineer-in-Chief & Manager and the whole of his staff for whose loyal co-operation and keen interest in their work our thanks are due.

Mr. FESSENDEN—Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I now beg to propose ➢

Resolution V.—That the estimated expenditure for 1924, contained in the Budget proposed by the retiring Council, together with the recommendations attached thereto, be approved and adopted, and that the Council be and it is hereby authorized to impose, collect and recover the rates, taxes, dues and fees recommended therein, and to raise, should it be considered expedient to do so, upon such terms and in such manner as the Council may in its discretion think fit, a sum not exceeding Tls. 5,000,000 or the equivalent of this sum, for the purposes defined in the estimate of Extraordinary Expenditure.

Mr. W. P. LAMBE—I have very much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN—Resolution V has been duly proposed and seconded and is now before the meeting.—If no ratepayer wishes to say anything to that resolution, I will put it to the meeting. You have just heard it read by Mr. Fessenden and I do not think you want to hear it read again by me. Those in favour of Resolution No. V kindly signify the same in the usual way—Those against?—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Ladies and Gentlemen, with your sanction, we will take Resolution No. VII before Resolution No. VI, the resolution dealing with the Waterworks before the resolution dealing with the Telephone Company. I will now call upon Mr. Fessenden to move Resolution No. VII.

Mr. FESSENDEN—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, You will notice that Resolution 7 is divided into four clauses, and that the first three deal with the proposal that the undertaking be purchased by the Ratepayers. I propose, with your approval, to take the somewhat unusual course of deferring my remarks on these clauses to a later stage of this speech, and to focus your attention for the time being on the fourth and last clause.

You will no doubt have read the Company's letter to the Council dated February 22, containing the Directors' views on the counter offer made by the Council in the matter of the purchase negotiations instituted last year. Towards the end of this letter there is a paragraph in which the Directors indicated that, provided the undertaking is continued as a Limited Company, they were prepared to concede certain principles which have been consistently adhered to by past Councils. The Directors further suggested that they should prepare a scheme for continuing the undertaking as a Limited Company, but on a profit sharing basis and with the Council's interests represented on the Board. In view of the entirely different viewpoints taken by the Council and the Board of the Company, it did not seem to the Council that any useful purpose would be served by encouraging the Directors to proceed with their proposal. On the other hand, the Council has taken the fullest possible advantage of the opportunity offered for devising a scheme under which it may be possible to continue the undertaking as a Limited Company, subject to such control as the Council considers essential. The Council's point of view is a very simple one to explain; it simply resolves itself into this: that the water supply of this rapidly developing Settlement is of such outstanding importance to the community, both now and in the future, that the Council cannot under any circumstances consent to leave it in the unfettered hands of a Board of Directors influenced by a London Committee. In making this statement I am not criticising the past policy of the Directors, but am endeavouring to bring home to you in plain language that under present conditions the interests of the shareholders of the Company and those of the community are in direct conflict. The Council has formed the very definite decision that it is imperative that these conditions should be changed. To be perfectly frank with you, I can definitely state that the Council has no particular desire to shoulder the responsibility of running the Waterworks undertaking as a Municipal department, and only proposes to exercise its power of purchase as a last resort. If any suitable alternative can be found for reconciling the confliction of interests which obtains under present conditions, you may rest assured that the Council is perfectly willing to accept such an alternative. I am now in a position to state with confidence that such an alternative has been found, and that the principles embodied in the Memorandum before you contain a solution of the problem. A few words from me in explanation of these principles will perhaps not be out of place. Our Treasurer and Comptroller has devoted a good deal of his time during the past year to the financial intricacies of the question, and has taken full advantage of the services of the Council's auditors in co-ordinating the mass of figures supplied by the Company. The Memorandum before you is the result of close and continued application; it is not a document that has been hastily drawn up. On the contrary, the closest touch has been maintained with the views of all interested parties, particularly those of the Commissioner of Public Works. Before reaching the Council, each item of the Memorandum had to stand the test of the keenest criticism from the Council's officials and auditors, and criticism was not lacking during the pilotage of the Memorandum through the Finance Committee and the Council.

Turning to the various clauses of the Memorandum, you will notice that the first deals with the issue of bonus shares to the shareholders of the Company. Many of the share issues of the Company have been made at a substantial premium; in other words, the shareholders of the Company have had to pay more than the par value of the shares purchased. If this policy had not been adopted by the Company, a greater number of shares would have been issued to provide the same amount of working capital. The Council considers it only just and equitable that the shareholders as a body should be given the benefit of the amounts they contributed under the heading of "Premia on Shares."

Clause 2 deals with the assets and liabilities of the Plumbing and Fittings Department. This Department has been built up by the enterprise of the Directors and officials of the Company. From time to time the Chairman of the Company has stated that the department earns substantial profits. The Council does not consider that the consumer is, strictly speaking, entitled to share in the profits of this side of the business for the reason that the profits earned are not directly due to the Franchise. The Council is not out to drive too hard a bargain with the Company, and has accordingly proposed the formation of a subsidiary company to take over this branch of the Company's activities. This is quite a simple matter to arrange, and simply means that the assets and liabilities of this department will be transferred from the Parent Company's balance sheet to that of the Subsidiary Company. To fill the void thus created in the balance sheet of the Parent Company there will appear in due course a certain number of shares in the Subsidiary Company. The Council does not propose to interest itself in any way with the doings of this Subsidiary Company. Any dividends that this company may be in a position to declare from time to time will be duly paid to the Parent Company and subsequently distributed by the directors to the shareholders in such a manner as to clearly indicate that this extra dividend is quite independent and apart from the Company's franchise from the Council.

The provisions of Clause 3 are self-explanatory, and all I need do is to explain that the Tariff of Charges which the Company will be invited to draw up will be closely scrutinised by the Council's officials, and the Council will be guided by the opinion of these officials in giving its approval to the charges. The Tariff will not aim at a surplus, but as it will operate for 5 years with interest on capital outlay constantly increasing, it is fairly obvious that a surplus may result in the initial years of its operation, which may be eventually swamped by a deficit occurring in the final year. Whatever the result of its operation may be, it is purely incidental to the Tariff. I want you particularly to note that the dividend offered, although not actually guaranteed, will be as certain as most things are in this life. The only risk that the shareholder will take is under the heading of "Exchange." In Resolution 6 you will have observed that a dividend of 8 per cent. is proposed for the Telephone Company, and you will naturally ask why we propose to allow the Waterworks Company a higher rate of dividend. The explanation is simple. The Telephone Company operates a service of less importance to the ratepayers than their water supply; the Company is a local one, and has not the years of service behind it that the Waterworks Company has. We have endeavoured to be just in recognizing the claims of the share-

pany as greater than those of the Company. It is also to be noted that the 9 per cent. dividend will [illegible] bonus shares referred to in Clause [illegible] that the shareholders will also benefit by the profits of the Plumbing and Fittings Department.

The interests of the Company are admittedly on the generous side, but it is our [illegible] the shareholders' interests [illegible] the Company, but to strengthen the financial position of the Company itself in the interests of the community. It is proposed that any yearly surplus resulting from the Company's business shall be transferred to a Tariff Revision Suspense Account, and that the amount to the credit of this account, together with the [illegible] mentioned in the Memorandum, will be taken into consideration at the quinquennial revisions of the tariff by the Council, if the tariff has been framed on too high a basis for the first 5 years (which of course we shall endeavour to prevent), the resulting surplus will be taken into account when framing the tariff for the next 5 years.

Clauses 4, 5, 6 and 7 provide for that measure of control which the Council considers it necessary to exercise over all public utility companies operating in Shanghai. [illegible] meaning and effect of Clause 5 may avoid any misunderstanding arising in the future. What the Council in effect proposes is that a definite line be drawn between the present interests of the shareholders and those of the future. The Council proposes to treat the shareholders of the Company, as regards their interests as they exist to-day, on what it considers to be a fair and [illegible] basis, [illegible] 9 per cent. in gold, plus any profits the Subsidiary Company may earn, compensates the shareholders very adequately for any risks they may have run in the past, and therefore does not propose that the shareholders as they exist to-day shall in any way benefit by the future prosperity of the Company (except to the extent that their security is thereby increased), unless their assistance is necessary in the raising of further capital. In other words, if it is found possible to finance the Company by more economical means than the issue of additional shares, no addition to the share capital will be permitted. On the other hand, the condition of the money market may justify the Council in a further issue of shares. The deciding factor as regards the financing of additional capital outlay will be the interests of the community, and not those of the shareholder. The Council is aware that the Company's Articles of Association contain a clause that the debenture capital shall not be permitted to exceed the nominal share capital without the sanction of a general meeting. The Company's Articles of Association will therefore need revision in this and possibly other particulars at a later stage of the negotiations.

The last paragraph dealing with the extension of the revised Agreement allows the Company to [illegible] undisturbed for the next 20 years, and provides for the option of purchase by the Municipality at the end of this period. When this time arrives, the basis of valuing the Company's property as a going concern without any allowance being made for compulsory purchase or good will may, I do not say will, somewhat simplify the problem that will face a future arbitrator.

Now with regard to Clauses 1, 2 and 3 of Resolution 7, which are similar to those before you last year except that they are entirely free from any qualifications, you will naturally wonder, as the Council is so confident of the equity of its alternative proposals, why it still wishes to have authority to purchase the Undertaking. The reason is quite simple to explain. Although the Council is confident that the Memorandum referred to in Clause 4 contains the solution of this long outstanding question, [illegible] forecast the attitude which the Company will finally adopt towards the Council's proposals. You must remember [illegible] that the Company's Directors have [illegible] justified in placing the shareholders' interests before those of the community. While the Council is of the opinion that the Directors would be acting against the best interests of the shareholders should they [illegible] decisions in the matter of a settlement on the lines of the Memorandum, still, if these decisions do in fact arise, the Council must be prepared to exercise the power of purchase as the only means of obtaining that control over the Company's activities which is deemed essential in the interests of the community. You must understand that in whatever way this question is settled, you will have to pay more for your water. Even if the high price demanded by the Company were agreed to, the Council would still be able to supply the community with water at a price approximately that suggested by the Company. There is, however, every reason to believe that the arbitrators' award would fall short of the Company's figure by some 3 to 4 million of taels, and if this proved to be the case, the Council's price for water would be appreciably lower than the price proposed by the Company.

It does not seem necessary for me to further elaborate this side of the question, except to say that you can rest assured that the Council does not propose to exercise the option of purchase unless and until all efforts at a compromise on a reasonable basis have finally and definitely failed.

It affords me great pleasure to be able to add that since our last exchange of letters with the Company, two informal discussions [illegible] between the Company and the Council. The Memorandum was discussed in all its aspects and it was mutually agreed that no good purpose would be served by confusing the important issues at stake by reference to past correspondence between the Council and the Company. I mention this in order that you may know that a conciliatory atmosphere has been created round this subject, and it will certainly not be the Council's fault if this atmosphere becomes in any way clouded. At the same time I should be wrong in allowing you to infer that the problem is definitely solved. It is not. The Company's representatives have brought forward certain additional proposals which are now being examined. To meet these proposals the Council has already intimated its willingness to stretch a point here and there, particularly as regards a slight reduction in the exchange figure mentioned in the Memorandum. Certain of these points are considered matters of detail which are already covered by Clause 4 of the Resolution. There is one matter, however, which the Council considers a question of principle, and that is whether or not the assets and liabilities of the Shipping Department shall be transferred to the proposed Subsidiary Company in addition to those of the Plumbing & Fittings Department. The Council is prepared to advise you to concede this principle, always however provided that this concession, together with others of minor importance of which I have given you an indication, is accepted by the Company as a "quid pro quo" to be set against those proposals of the Company which the Council cannot under any circumstances agree to. In order to allow the Council a little more latitude than is given in the Memorandum, I now propose, with the Chairman's approval, to delete the words "as to detail" from the fourth Clause of Resolution 7.

I now propose the adoption of Resolution 7 with the omission of the words just mentioned by me from Clause 4.—

Resolution VII. That the Council be and it is hereby authorized:—

(1) To take such action as may be requisite to exercise the powers of purchase vested in the Council under Clause 9 of the agreement made between the Shanghai Waterworks Company, Ltd., and the Council, dated July 1, 1905. And, in the exercise of [illegible] powers, to purchase the business and undertaking of the said Company and all the lands, buildings, plant, machinery and effects belonging to the said Company, and,

(2) To raise upon such terms [illegible] as the Council may, in its discretion, think fit, such sum as may be required to complete the purchase hereinbefore authorised: and, following upon such purchase,

(3) To carry on the business so purchased as a Municipal undertaking (on the general principles laid down in the Report of the Special Electricity Committee, 1915, and adopted by the Ratepayers).

or as an alternative:—

(4) To revise the Agreement made between the Shanghai Waterworks Company, Ltd., and the Council, dated July 1, 1905, so as to embody the principles outlined in the Council's Memorandum dated April 7, 1924, with such modifications (if any) as the Council shall think expedient.

I have now pleasure in proposing the adoption of Resolution No. VII, with the omission from Clause 4 of the words I have just mentioned.

Mr. W. P. Lambe—I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The Chairman—Resolution No. VII has been proposed and seconded and is now before the meeting and open to discussion. If no ratepayer has any remarks to offer or questions to ask about this resolution I will now put it to the vote, but as it is an important one I will read it again (Resolution read).

Mr. P. W. Goldring—Mr. Chairman, May I make one remark. It seems to me, Sir, that this resolution cannot be passed as one, because the 'alternative' should be an amendment. I do not see how any sensible body of people can possibly pass the resolution as it stands. The fourth clause is nothing but an amendment. I make that comment. I ask every sensible person here to read it as such. It can be nothing but an amendment and should be moved independently. I would also say, with deference, that each of the clauses should be proposed separately. I put it to you that that would be the proper way. It is not a properly framed resolution.

The Chairman—With regard to the point which has just been raised, it seems to me that this meeting is perfectly in order if it authorizes the Council to take one of two steps, whichever it may choose in its discretion, which is the form in which the resolution runs, clauses one to three being one scheme and the alternative scheme being clause four. If no other ratepayer has anything to say, I will put the resolution and read it to you again. That resolution has been proposed by Mr. Fessenden and seconded by Mr. Lambe. Those in favour signify the same in the usual way.—Those against?—Carried by an overwhelming majority.

The Chairman—Resolution No. VI.—I call upon Mr. Fessenden.

Mr. S. Fessenden—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, Before formally proposing this Resolution, I should like you to know that a letter was received from the Company yesterday agreeing to a revision of the 1907 Agreement on the lines laid down in the Council's Memorandum dated April 3. I have already explained to the best of my ability the various clauses of the Waterworks memorandum, and it does not seem necessary for me to go over what is practically the same ground in connexion with the Telephone memorandum. The Company has asked for some unimportant modifications, and also for further information as to the Council's intentions under certain of the Clauses of the Memorandum. There has not been time for the Council to give any detailed consideration to the letter, but I think I am safe in saying that the points raised by the Company will not be difficult to adjust, and that the matter is on the highway to complete final agreement.

The correspondence between the Council and the Company was published in the Municipal Gazette of April 5, and as both parties are practically agreed on questions of principle, it does not seem necessary for me to do more than hastily congratulate all those who have taken a hand in the negotiations on the highly successful outcome of their labours, which, I may add, have been conducted without even a suggestion of friction on either side. Both parties have made it their business to understand the viewpoint of the other, and if we can only succeed in introducing this principle into discussions on other problems the work of the Council will be materially lightened.

I have much pleasure in proposing:—

Resolution VI.—That the Council be and it is hereby authorized to revise the Agreement made between the Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld., and the Council dated April 1, 1907, so as to embody the principles outlined in the Council's Memorandum dated April 3, 1924 with such modifications (if any) as to detail as the Council shall think expedient.

Mr. E. F. Mackay—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I beg to second that resolution.

The Chairman—Resolution No. VI has been duly proposed and seconded and is now before the meeting.—Those in favour signify the same in the usual way?—Against? Carried.

The Chairman—I now call on Mr. Fessenden to move Resolution No. VIII.

REASSESSMENT OF LAND.

Mr. Fessenden—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is interesting to note that assessments of land, though supposed to last for a full term of five years, have, in practice, required revision at considerably less periods. In fact, during recent history, only one assessment has remained in operation for its full term, that of 1911. The assessment of 1903 was increased by one third in 1905, and a reassessment was made in 1907: the assessment of 1916 was replaced in 1920 and was again revised in 1922, and it is now proposed, under your direction, to undertake a new assessment during the current year, to come into operation on January 1, 1925.

It is within your knowledge that occupiers of houses, in their contributions to Municipal revenue, are taxed upon the basis of actual rentals, or in the case of houses in the occupation of their owners on the basis of current rental values. Thus taxation in the case of house tax, or, as we call it, General Municipal Rate, is always levied on the values actually obtaining from time to time. On the other hand, in the case of land, taxation is based on the values as ascertained at the time of the last assessment. If, therefore, reassessment is not undertaken when such values have admittedly increased, the balance as between land owners and occupiers of houses in their contributions towards the expenses of the administration is naturally upset.

From the numerous cases of land expropriation which have come before the Council in the course of the past year it is evident that land values, generally speaking, have advanced very considerably since the last assessment. This being so, land is not at the present time bearing its fair share of taxation vis-a-vis the General Municipal Rate, and reassessment should accordingly be undertaken.

I have therefore no hesitation in asking your support of Resolution VIII which reads:—

Resolution VIII.—That the Council be and it is hereby authorized and directed to arrange for the re-assessment of the land comprised within the limits of the Settlement, during the current year, such re-assessment to come into force as from the first day of January, 1925, and to engage such professional assistance for the performance of the work as may be found expedient.

Mr. W. P. Lambe—I have much pleasure in seconding that resolution.

The Chairman—Resolution No. VIII has been duly proposed and seconded and is now before the meeting. Those in favour signify the same in the usual way.—Those against?—Carried.

The Chairman—Mr. Fessenden, Resolution No. IX.

Mr. Fessenden—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen I have much pleasure in moving:—

Resolution IX.—That Mr. C. M. G. Burnie be elected Land Commissioner for the ensuing Municipal year.

Mr. Lambe—I have much pleasure in seconding that resolution.

The Chairman—It has been proposed and seconded that Mr. C. M. G. Burnie be elected Land Commissioner for the ensuing Municipal year. Those in favour?—Those against?—Carried.

The Chairman—Mr. Mackay, Resolution No. X.

Mr. E. F. Mackay—I beg to propose:—

Resolution X.—That Drs. F. M. Neild and S. A. Ransom, and Messrs. S. Fessenden and W. P. Lambe be elected to serve on the Board of Governors of the Shanghai General Hospital.

Mr. V. G. Lyman—It give me much pleasure to second that resolution.

The Chairman—Those in favour of that resolution?—Those against?—Carried. Ladies and Gentlemen, that closes the business of this meeting and I think it is a matter of regret that there is no quorum, so it is impossible to proceed with the business which was notified for the special meeting.

Mr. Fessenden—Before this meeting adjourns, I beg to propose a hearty vote of thanks to Sir Skinner Turner for his services as Chairman to-day.

The vote was carried by acclamation.

The Chairman—Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you very much. I am very glad to help and if all meetings were as kind and nice as this one my task would be a great deal happier than it sometimes is.

Sir Edward Pearce—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, before we disperse I should like to propose a vote of thanks, and a hearty one at that, to the Municipal Councillors who are now retiring from office. They have put in a great deal of arduous work during the year, and they have performed it exceptionally well. I ask you to carry the vote by acclamation.

The vote was carried by acclamation.

The meeting terminated at 5.35 p.m.

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SPORTS AND PASTIMES

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

H. M. Consul-General Presents Season's Trophies

There was a big gathering of local football officials, players and supporters at the Customs' Club on Saturday night, the occasion being a smoking concert to mark the termination of the season's activities; and the presentation of the various trophies to the winners, by Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., H. M. Consul-General, who is Patron of the Shanghai Football Association.

Mr. John Prentice, the Association's President, was in the Chair, being supported by Mr. Barton, Messrs. W. S. Campbell and R. Grimshaw, Vice-Presidents of the Association, Mr. L. A. Lyall, Commissioner of Customs, Mr. F. S. Bridges, and others.

An attractive programme of entertainment had been arranged, and excellent items were rendered by Messrs S. Webb (piano), Ferguson, Stoddart, Van Huyst (violin), G. B. Stormes and Jefferson.

A feature of the affair was the Churchwarden pipes, one of which was available for everyone present. It speaks volumes for the pluck and temerity of Shanghai's footballers that hardly a pipe remained unsmoked, though obviously the implement was new (and possibly fearsome) to most of those who decided to risk it. Few, however, managed to carry on with the pipe throughout the evening, and if a cherub-faced wicket-keeper, who usually keeps to cigarettes, threw his on to the floor after he had begun to change colour, who shall blame him?

In presenting the trophies, Mr. Barton made a very happy speech. He admitted at the outset that he was not such a regular attendant at soccer matches as was his predecessor, *the late* Sir Everard Fraser, the chief reason being that he usually made Saturday afternoon an opportunity for exercise. However, from what he had seen and from what he knew of the season's football, he was sure that it had been a successful one and that the play had been good.

There was one subject he meant to touch upon, and although it was bound up in the question of grounds, he ventured to express the hope that any difficulty that at present might be evident would eventually be overcome. He referred to the question of the inclusion of Chinese teams in the competition of the International Cup, and possibly the League also. He felt sure that those present would sympathise with the aspirations of the Chinese. Bringing Chinese teams into competition with the other teams would further instil into the Chinese players many of those British virtues that went with Association football. Soccer was quite as good a game as basketball and he hoped that before long we should see Chinese football teams included in some of the competitions managed by the Shanghai Football Association.

Mr. Barton then presented the various trophies. The Skottowe Cup, won by the Shanghai Recreation Club, was taken over by Mr. E. Turner, the Recs' popular captain, who also took the International Cup on behalf of England, and the Dewar Shield (First League) which again has been won by the S.R.C. In receiving the trophies, Mr. Turner made an appropriate little speech, in which he wished the Recs' rivals generally, and the S.F.C. particularly, better luck next season. Mr. L. Goldman received the Engineers' Challenge Cup on behalf of the Shanghai Football Club, returning thanks in a brief speech. The Reside Shield (Second League), won by the Portuguese Sporting Association, was received by Mr. H. Collaco, the captain of the team, and a player responsible in no small measure for his team's remarkable record in the competition. In returning thanks to Mr. Barton, he mentioned that the P.S.A. probably would enter the First Division next season, an announcement that was received with applause. The ceremony terminated with three cheers for the Consul-General, which were given with great gusto.

INTER-CLUB GOLF

Shanghai *v.* Hungjao

At Kiangwan on Sunday the Shanghai and Hungjao Golf Clubs met and the result was a decisive win for Shanghai. Singles were played in the morning and four ball matches in the afternoon, and in both cases the senior club's representatives proved their superiority. Details:—

SHANGHAI.

Singles.

N. M. Budd	1
E. I. M. Barrett	½
J. F. Pilcher	0
A. Gray	1½
J. L. Crompton	0
C. T. Beath	½
C. Richards	0
C. W. Porter	1
E. Lester Arnold	1½
W. S. Clay	1
O. H. Blackburn	1
R. G. MacDonald	1
	8

Four Ball Matches.

Budd and Barrett	2
Pilcher and Gray	2½
Crompton and Beath	0
Richards and Porter	0
Arnold and Clay	2
Blackburn and MacDonald	2
	8½
Grand total	16½

HUNJAO.

Singles.

H. Martin Little	½
J. Oswald	1
P. Peebles	4
J. E. Murray	0
T. M. Burton	1½
K. M. Cumming	1
W. J. Hawkings	1
A. B. Lowson	0
R. J. Marshall	0
C. M. G. Burnie	0
H. Lipson Ward	0
T. J. Fisher	0
	4½

Four Ball Matches.

Little and Oswald	0
Peebles and Murray	0
Burton and Cumming	0
Hawkings and Lowson	0
Marshall and Burnie	0
Ward and Fisher	0
	0
Grand total	4½

GOLF IN PEKING

Peking, Apr. 10.

A return inter-club match has been arranged between the Peking Golf and Country Club and the Paomachang Golf Club to take place next Sunday, April 13, on the Peking Golf and Country Club course, commencing at 10 a.m. The match will consist of singles in the morning and two-ball foursomes in the afternoon.

The Peking Golf and Country Club will be represented by Messrs. Schmorz, J. W. Stephenson, J. F. Black, Y. Mishima, Fowler, Takauchi, C. R. Bennett and T. C. White, and the Paomachang Golf Club by Mr. D. A. Johnston, Capt. N. P. Baldwin, Mr. W. A. Grant, Dr. A. Shoemaker, Messrs. B. F. Kirby, E. H. Cartwright, A. H. Forbes and another.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

INTERPORT LAWN TENNIS

Hongkong, Apr. 14.

Mr. T. Honda, the Japanese ex-champion of Malaya, to-day defeated Mr. Ng Sze-kwong, tennis champion of Hongkong for the last six years, 6-4, 5-7, 6-3, 6-1.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SHANGHAI HARRIERS

Club Championship

The race for the trophy presented by the "North-China Daily News" and the honour of being Club champion was keenly contested on Saturday over a stiff course. In the absence of Remedios and McLaren, who have been unable to train up to championship form, Azevedo and Henry Atkinson were expected to give Rose a close race. The first mile saw McKenna leading the field, and then Rose forged ahead, with Young and Harold Atkinson a few yards behind, followed by Azevedo. At three miles Rose was leading, running very nicely, and had secured a good lead of about 200 yards. Rose maintained the lead to the finish and won a fast-run race in excellent style. Harold Atkinson sprang a surprise by finishing in second place and also won the sealed handicap, which was ably framed by C. C. Reneman. Azevedo took third place in the championship and second in the handicap.

All three placed men had put in some hard training for this event and ran exceedingly well. Azevedo was expected to be the runner-up to Rose, but had to be content with third place, Henry Atkinson had an off day and could not even give a glimpse of the form which he had shown earlier in the season.

Results:—

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP.

1.—George Rose, 36 min. 36⅘ sec.
2.—Harold Atkinson, 37 min. 47⅕ sec.
3.—Joe Azevedo, 39 min. 2⅕ sec.

SEALED HANDICAP.

1.—Harold Atkinson.
2.—Joe Azevedo.
3.—George Rose.

The Club championship closed the Harriers' cross-country season.

INTERNATIONAL CHESS TOURNAMENT

Capablanca Drawing Near Lasker

New York, Apr. 11.

In the eighteenth round of the International Chess Tournament, Mr. Yates beat M. Tartakower, Mr. Marshall beat M. Bogoljubow and M. Capablanca beat Mr. Edward Lasker. Dr. Lasker drew with M. Alekhin and M. Maroczy drew with M. Reti.

By his victory M. Capablanca has reduced the gap between him and Dr. Lasker, the leading scores at the end of the round being:—

Dr. Lasker	12 points
M. Capablanca	11 points
M. Alekhin	9½ points

Mr. Yates is now ninth with 5½ points and one game adjourned.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 12.

In the nineteenth round of the International Chess Tournament, the English player Mr. Yates, beat M. Reti, the vanquisher of M. Capablanca, at the 24th move.

M. Capablanca defeated M. Tartakower, M. Alekhine beat M. Janowski and Dr. Lasker beat Mr. Edward Lasker, while Mr. Marshall drew with M. Maroczy.

In the adjourned games of the International Chess Tournament, M. Bogoljubow beat Mr. Yates and M. Alekhine drew with W. M. Bogoljubow.—Reuter's American Service.

Dr. Lasker Still Leading

New York, Apr. 13.

The leading scores at the end of the 19th round of the International Chess Tournament are as follows:—Dr. Lasker, 13 points; M. Capablanca, 12 points; M. Alekhine, 11; Mr. Marshall and M. Reti, each 9½ points. Mr. Yates, who defeated M. Reti brilliantly, is ninth with 6½ points.

Apr. 13.

In the 20th round of the International Chess Tournament, Mr. Edward Lasker beat M. Reti, Dr. Lasker beat Maroczy, M. Capablanca drew with Mr. Yates, and M. Alekhine drew with Mr. Marshall.

Later.

By defeating M. Maroczy, whilst M. Capablanca only drew with Mr. Yates, Dr. Lasker has practically made certain of winning the first prize in the International Chess Tournament.

In order to win the first prize, M. Capablanca must win, and Dr. Lasker must lose, both the remaining games.

Mr. Edward Lasker, by surprisingly defeating M. Reti, took fourth place. M. Reti is now fifth.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 15.

In the twenty-first round of the international Chess Tournament, M. Maroczy beat M. Boguljubow, M. Capablanca beat M. Reti, Mr. Marshall beat Mr. Yates, and Dr. Lasker beat M. Tartakower.—Reuter's American Service.

ENGLAND *v.* SCOTLAND

International Association Match Drawn

London, Apr. 12.

In an International Association football match at Wembley Stadium to-day, England drew with Scotland, each scoring one goal. The weather was showery. There were 65,000 spectators.

It was a splendid and open game, full of thrilling runs and quick changes of scene. Both goals had many narrow escapes. Five minutes from the interval, following a free-kick against England, Cowan, the Scottish inside, netted. The score at half-time was one nil in Scotland's favour.

Thirteen minutes after resumption Jack and Buchan headed towards the Scottish goal, and Walker, England's inside-left, dashing up, crashed the ball into the net. The game continued to be finely contested but there was no further scoring. The result, one goal all, leaves England at the bottom of the Championship table.—Reuter.

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LAW REPORTS

A TRAGIC RECITAL IN BRITISH COURT

Husband's Forgery of his Wife's Name th Promissory Note: Declaration of Trust and a Cheque: Fraud Revealed by Death

In H. M. Supreme Court, on Tuesday Sir Skinner Turner heard what he subsequently declared to be "one of the saddest and most tragic cases I have ever had to try." It was an action brought by Mrs. Floy Belle Bickel against the Oriental Commercial Bank, Ld., for the return of title deeds to the house and land at 1251 Rue Lafayette, which, without her authority, were hypothecated to the bank for a loan to her late husband of Tls. 3,000 and Tls. 1,000 on promissory notes. Mr. Tycho Wing and Mr. F. J. Schuhl appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Ranald G. McDonald for the defendants.

Mr. Wing said that it was a case of a very painful nature and the plaintiff was reluctant to bring it into Court because of the revelations that would have to be made. The deeds related to Mrs. Bickel's own personal property. She had been married for six years and lived with her husband on terms of perfect mutual confidence and trust. They had a safe in their house, the combination of which was known to them both and it was in that safe that the deeds were kept. These deeds were removed from the safe and passed into the hands of the defendants, but Mrs. Bickel did not know they had gone until long afterwards. The defence was that the deeds were given to the bank for a promissory note entered into by the husband and wife jointly and the bank held a document on which appeared signatures said to be those of Bickel and the plaintiff. She did not sign the document, she had not received any part of the money, nor did she know anything of the transaction until after Bickel's death. The wife's signature on the promissory note purported to have been witnessed, but the attesting witness never did in fact see Mrs. Bickel sign and she never did sign. Perhaps it was noteworthy that the bank apparently never made any inquiry whatsoever; they did not see Mrs. Bickel, they did not ascertain that the attesting witness was in fact an attesting witess and they did not, as one would have thought any bank would have done, make inquiry as to whether Mrs. Bickel was hypothecating her personal property. The title deed was the wife's name alone and there was no doubt there had been a forgery in the case. Mrs. Bickel was not in any financial difficulty, whatever was the case with her husband, for she had other securities on which she could have negotiated a loan far larger than the other one. After Bickel's death his desk at the Oriental Press was opened and some documents were found and it could be inferred from them why Mrs. Bickel's signature was obtained. The plaintiff claimed that the promissory note was a forgery and therefore not binding and the bank should suffer for its own mistake.

The Judge—It is a question as to which of two innocent parties should suffer?

Mr. Wing—I say the bank was negligent, but not only that, for the bank's title to the deeds rests upon a forgery.

Mrs. Bickel [illegible] said that she was the widow of Phillip Luke Bickel. They were married four years ago. She lived in her own house, Rue Lafayette, which she bought with her own personal [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

ed that the rate should be fixed at the rate prevailing on the date of paying in. On the other hand they had the more recent cases in London where the point arose and in these the judgments had been against those of his predecessors. It seemed to him, therefore, (and he said it with a certain amount of deference because what he proposed to hold was contrary to what had been held in that Court before) he would have to uphold the Home decisions. In all the cases in England they had to go to the date of the breach to decide the rate of exchange. In this case there was no dispute, but what the date of the breach was the date when the collision occurred. He repeated that he felt the difficulty in which he was placed when going against previous decisions in Shanghai, but at the same time it had to be remembered that the point had never been carefully argued here. Furthermore it was possible that in those days the great fluctuations of exchange which had arisen in recent years did not apply and the matter was not then of any very great importance. A good deal had passed in the courts at Home since any one of these three judgments, and the matter had been argued very completely for both sides. It had never been settled in the Shanghai Court in any way that was binding on his Lordship, and he held, therefore, that the money must be paid into Court at the rate of exchange prevailing on the day of the breach, that was on the day of the collision. Plaintiffs liability would be limited to £8 per ton, less crew space, etc., amounting to £25,720, together with interest at 7 per cent. per annum reckoned from the date of the collision to the date of paying-in. Advertisements to be brought to the notice of claimants would be published in the "North China Daily News," the "*Sinwanpao*" and the "*Chungying*," all claims to be made within 60 days of the appearance of the advertisements. Costs of the action would be borne by plaintiffs.

SIKH WITNESS'S CONDUCT IN THE BOX

Refusal to Hold the Book: But "Just as Likely to Tell Truth"

In H. M. Supreme Court, on Monday, before his Honour Judge Grain, the Shanghai Municipal Council sued Soocha Singh, one of the ex-Granthis of the Sikh Gurdwara, on account of the non-return of a winter suit and a sheet, respectively valued at $21 and $3.71.

Mr. E. T. Maitland, prosecuting on behalf of the Municipal Council, said that Soocha Singh was allowed to resign his position as Granthi on January 1 this year and the articles mentioned were part of his equipment which he had failed to return.

Inspector Abbott, a Sikh Havildar and a Chinese storekeeper from the Gordon Road police depôt proved the issue of defendant's equipment and the return of everything except the suit and sheet.

After having been sworn, Soocha Singh, contrary to the custom of the Sikhs, who hold the Book in their hands all the time they are giving evidence, placed it on the desk and refused to take it again.

The Judge—Well, I don't mind. I suppose he is just as likely to tell the truth either way.

Capt. E. I. M. Barrett—It is a very strict Sikh custom. The Book must be held in their hands.

The Judge—And if he doesn't?

Capt. Barrett—Then his evidence is of no value.

The defendant then picked up the Book, but again put it down after saying a few words. He said that he and another Granthi were dismissed from the force, though they had committed no fault. They were bringing an action against the Municipal Council and because of this the police were taking advantage of them.

The defendant produced a receipt for the return of his equipment. This was examined by a Sikh Havildar who issued it and who said that he entered only one winter suit on it, but the figure since had been altered to "two." Defendant replied that he was told to alter the figure because he did not admit that there was a suit short. There was a sheet short: it had been taken by his washerman and he was prepared to pay for it.

The Judge said that the defendant had a right to some wear of the articles, but the Council also had the right to charge the full cost of replacement. Therefore he would give judgment for the full value and leave it to the Council's discretion as to how much they would recover.

HOLE IN A PERSIAN CARPET

Judge's Disagreement with Litigant that One Would Spoil a Rug

Before his Honour Judge Grain, at H. M. Supreme Court on Monday, H. M. D. Rizaief sued Arts & Crafts, Ld., for Tls. 500, the value of a Persian carpet alleged to have been damaged whilst in their keeping. Mr. A. C. Holborow appeared for the defendants.

Plaintiff said that on May 1, 1923, he delivered three Persian carpets to the defendants for storage. About June or July, he took two prospective buyers to see them and they then were in good condition. In November he took another prospective buyer round and then noticed that one carpet was damaged, a piece having been torn out near the fringe. The defendants offered him Tls. 5 compensation, without prejudice, and subsequently withdrew the offer when he threatened legal action. He bought the carpet for about Tls. 350, but he could not replace it for Tls. 500.

In cross-examination, plaintiff denied that the carpet ever had been hung up: it was too big for that. The Persians only hung rugs on their walls. The carpet was transferred from the warehouse to the showroom and it was his opinion that it was damaged during the journey, probably by the wheel of a cart, motor-car or wheelbarrow.

The carpet was was produced in court and besides the damage mentioned by plaintiff Mr. Holborow pointed out other marks and asked if they were nail holes, suggesting that, as they were at regular intervals, they indicated that the carpet had been hung up. Witness said that he did not think they were nail holes, but whatever they were they indicated even more damage than he had noticed before. They were not there when he had the carpet. He thanked the defendants very much for drawing his attention to them.

Mr. Holborow—I have something else to show you which you may want to thank me for.

Counsel then pointed out another mark which he suggested was a burn, possibly from a cigar. Witness agreed that it might be and it might have been caused by himself, but he would make no suggestion, because, whatever it was, it did not affect the value of the carpet. The reserve price put on the carpet at auction was Tls. 150.

LIKE MENDING HOLE IN DRESS SUIT.

Answering the Judge, plaintiff said that, if he had the carpet mended, it would be like mending a hole in a dress suit.

The Judge said that personally he had seen it done and also had had his own carpets done, both in Persia and Constantinople.

Plaintiff—A carpet mended would only be seen in very poor or low class houses.

The Judge—Oh, come come! You can see them in very rich men's houses.

Plaintiff said that he could have the carpet mended for about Tls. 25, but the carpet would be spoiled.

In support of his statements, plaintiff called an auctioneer, a removal coolie and a prospective buyer, but all said that, though they did not notice any defects in the carpet, they would not say there were none, because they had not examined it sufficiently closely.

Mr. M. Berry, an employee in Arts & Crafts, said that at the end of last season they had approximately 10,000 carpets in storage, of an insured value of Tls. 1,000,000. He described the treatment of carpets when they were taken in and the method of storage and said that it was absolutely impossible for a carpet to be damaged as this one was, either by the treatment or storage. It was his opinion that the holes were caused by nails, possibly when the carpet was on the floor and the other damage probably was caused by the carpet being hung on a wall. The holes were not of recent date.

Mr. R. Donohoe, a carpet manufacturer, said that he had lived in Persia and in that country he had seen carpets 18 ft. to 20 ft. long hanging on the walls. The small holes in the plaintiff's carpet in his opinion were caused by nails and the larger tear might have been made either by a nail or by a furniture caster catching in the fringe. It was an old tear, because the wool had come out.

A Chinese storekeeper at Arts & Crafts said that he received three carpets from the plaintiff. Two were in good condition, but the other (the one in court) was damaged and he reported that fact to the man over him. The Chinese chief storekeeper corroborated this.

On this evidence the Judge said that he need not hear Mr. Holborow. He was compelled to accept the evidence of the last two witnesses. There would be judgment for the defendants with costs.

ROWARTH TRIAL PERJURY CHARGES

Mother and Daughter Before British Magistrate

The arrest of Mrs. Judith Rowarth and her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Davis, in circumstances already reported, was followed by their appearance at H. M. Police Court on Monday before Mr. G. W. King, Against Mrs. Rowarth, who is 64 years of age, there are two charges, viz:

That between May 4 and June 29, 1923, she conspired together with Cecilia Sequeira, a Portuguese subject, to defeat the ends of justice by keeping a material witness in hiding and from appearing at the trial of Rex. *v.* Rowarth.

Further, that being a person legally summoned as a witness in the trial, she falsely and knowingly swore that she did not see the complainant Bakhar Singh on May 4 (the day of the attack upon him), that she knew nothing of the attack upon him, and that she was never at her daughter's house on the evening of that day.

The charge against Mrs. Davis was that she falsely and knowingly swore that Mrs. Rowarth did not go out of her house before supper, i.e. before 8.30 p.m. on May 4.

On the application of Mr. E. T. Maitland, Police Prosecutor, the name of W. H. Goulbourn, who has already been committed for trial on a charge of perjury in the case, was struck out from the present charge of conspiracy, and counsel intimated that he proposed first to deal with the charges against Mrs. Rowarth.

In answer to the Magistrate, accused said that they clearly understood the charges. Asked if they wished to be legally represented, Mrs. Davies answered that efforts were being made to engage a lawyer on their behalf.

In these circumstances no evidence was taken, and the accused were remanded in custody until next morning.

Conspiring to Keep a Witness in Hiding

The story of the murderous attack upon the Sikh moneylender, Pakhar Singh, was told again at H. M. Police Court on Tuesday.

Mr. E. T. Maitland conducted the prosecution, Mr. S. H. Lewis appeared for the defence, and Mr. Mansel Reece watched the case on behalf of W. H. Goulbourn, who has already been committed for trial on a charge of perjury.

Mr. Maitland having outlined the case for the prosecution, called Det. Sub. Inspector Quaylo to give evidence of arrest. The Inspector stated that on Sunday he arrested the accused on board the str. Sinkiang. The warrant was issued on March 10, but the two women had then left Shanghai. Mrs. Davis explained that she went away on account of some trouble with her brother. Asked why she returned, she stated that the Hongkong police had informed her that she and her mother were wanted in Shanghai, and they put them on board the Sinkiang. Mrs. Rowarth said nothing.

MR. ROWARTH'S ALIBI.

Speaking as to the trial of Mrs. Rowarth on a charge of attempting to murder Pakhar Singh, witness went on to say that Mrs. Rowarth then gave evidence that she went to her daughter's house on the afternoon the crime took place, taking some sewing with her and watching the rest of the company play mahjongg. She remained there until after dinner, and then went with a party to the Isis Theatre to see a picture (which Mr. Maitland recalled was entitled "The Power of a Lie."). Mrs Rowarth added that they left the theatre at 11.5, and she went straight home. She denied that she saw Pakhar Singh that night, and said she knew nothing of the assault until she saw it in the newspapers. Mrs. Davis gave evidence that her mother was in the house all that evening and did not leave until after dinner, when the party left for the theatre. When Mrs. Rowarth was first arrested, witness questioned Mrs. Davis as to the Chinese amah, and the reply was that the amah had left her employ but that she would endeavour to ascertain her whereabouts and inform the the police, but this she never did.

The assault took place in the country off Kwenming Road, witness continued. Mrs. Davis lived in Kwangtung Road, Mrs. Rowarth in an alleyway off Woosung Road, and Pakhar Singh in Miller Road. Witness had made a test and found that a ricsha journey from the house of Mrs. Davis to that of Mrs. Rowarth occupied 10 minutes, from the house of Mrs. Rowarth to that of Pakhar Singh three minutes, and from Pakhar Singh's house to the scene of the assault, 22 minutes, and the same time back to Mrs. Rowarth's house

Leave was granted to Mr. Lewis to reserve cross-examination, counsel only just having received instructions to defend, and the same course was followed with all witnesses heard during the day.

THE WOUNDED INDIAN.

Pakhar Singh, the man who was attacked by Chinese and left for dead, re-told his story as to the visit of Mrs. Rowarth and the amah on the evening in question, with the tale that the accused had discovered the residence of a Chinese woman who owed him money, Mrs. Rowarth offering to direct him to the place. Witness demurred, as it was growing dark, but being asked by Mrs. Rowarth why he was afraid, finally consented to accompany her. On nearing the place where the assault took place witness hesitated to go forward, the spot being a lonely one, and Mrs. Rowarth, pointing to a bungalow near by, said that her daughter, Mrs. Davis, was within, and he had better go on, otherwise he would not get his money. So they went forward, the amah leading and carrying a lantern, and Mrs. Rowarth bringing up the rear. After proceeding a little way along a footpath he was attacked by Chinese, two of them holding him from behind and one in front striking at him with a chopper. He was left for dead in the cornfield through which the path ran, and was found there by the police next morning.

Detailing his financial transactions with the accused, witness said that Mrs. Rowarth had borrowed $100 and paid 2 per cent. per month interest, and Mrs. Davis borrowed $800 at the same rate of interest, but her interest had not been paid for two months before the assault took place. Mrs. Davis was guarantor for the $100, and "Dolly" (Mrs. Davis's daughter) guarantor for the $800. "Dolly" also owed witness $200, and this was guaranteed by another Mrs. Davis.

THE AMAH'S STATEMENT.

The amah also repeated the story she had told as to visiting the Sikh's house with Mrs. Rowarth and inviting him to accompany them to the house in which the Chinese debtor was said to live, witness having first been instructed by Mrs. Rowarth to say that she knew where the place was. When they got to the footpath, Mrs. Rowarth told witness to go on ahead with the lantern. When the assault took place witness ran away and, having found her way back to Mr. Rowarth's house, found the old woman inside. Upon telling her that the Sikh had been assaulted, Mrs. Rowarth said "Don't tell lies." Witness then reported the matter to Mrs. Davis, and she said she would speak to her mother about it next day. About a fortnight later, Mrs. Davis dispensed with witness's services as amah, saying that an old amah had returned to her employ, and after this a room was rented for witness by Mrs. Rowarth, who paid the rent and from time to time brought witness money and rice. "Dolly" also called occasionally. Witness did not go outside the house until payment of the rent was stopped.

Mr. R. F. le Mesurier, Chief Clerk at H. M. Supreme Court, produced the official records of the trial of Mrs. Rowarth, and said that both the accused gave evidence on oath to prove an *alibi*, Mrs. Rowarth being acquitted.

When the proceedings were resumed in the afternoon, the Chinese woman from whom the room was rented for the amah gave evidence, saying her house was situated in Chaoufoong Road outside the Settlement. The amah remained there in idleness for three or four months, rent and food being provided by an old foreign woman who called at the place three or four times. She came at night and went in by the back door, so that witness did not see her. She did not recognize either of the accused as having called at the house. Another foreign woman and a man were also visitors.

An itinerant shoemaker who has his stall in the street or alleyway where Mrs. Davis lived, told the Court that he became acquainted with the amah employed by Mrs. Davis. The girl left the place about a fortnight before the detectives called, and witness promised a Chinese detective he would assist in tracing her. He was particularly interested in the girl because she owed him for a pair of shoes.

This was the case for the prosecution.

THE CASE OF MRS. DAVIS

His Worship asked what evidence there was connecting Mrs. Davis with the charge of conspiracy.

Mr. Maitland, in reply, emphasized that Mrs. Rowarth, Mrs. Davis and "Dolly" were over head and ears in debt to the Sikh, and each appeared to have stood guarantor for the other. It was significant that, directly following a private conversation between Mrs. Rowarth and Mrs. Davis, the latter came from the room and told the amah that her services were no longer required, and Mrs. Rowarth then took the girl away to the room in Chaoufoong Road.

His Worship—Who is the other lady mentioned in the conspiracy charge?

Mr. Maitland—Miss Sequeira, a Portuguese lady, who gave evidence in the Supreme Court.

His Worship—What evidence is there that the two accused conspired with her to put the Chinese witness out of the way?

Mr. Maitland—I must ask you to strike out the name of Miss Sequeira from the charge, there being no evidence, making the

charge that the two accused conspired together.

This amendment was made, and on the application of Mr. Lewis the hearing was adjourned until next day.

Cross-Examination of Witnesses for Prosecution: Case Against Goulbourn Abandoned

The hearing was continued on Wednesday.

Mr. E. T. Maitland prosecuted and Mr. S. H. Lewis defended.

Mr. T. W. R. Wilson, assistant surveyor in the P. W. D., put in plans showng the place where the assault is alleged to have taken place, and also the residences of people concerned in the case, and distances from point to point.

Det.-Sub.-Inspector Quayle, recalled and questioned by Mr. Lewis, stated that the Chinese amah was arrested on March 2 and, although the charge against her had been withdrawn, she had been detained at the Mixed Court. He went on to say that no charge was preferred against the two accused at Hongkong, where they stated that they would waive their rights of extradition and were perfectly willing to come back to Shanghai.

Mr. Lewis That means that their return was voluntary?

Witness—I would not say that. If they had not returned voluntarily they would have been detained by the Hongkong police.

Mr. Lewis—But they had moved from Macao, and I suggest they were on their way to Shanghai?

Witness—They went there because they knew they were wanted on a charge.

In answer to the Magistrate, witness stated that a few days after the assault took place the police had evidence implicating Mrs. Rowarth, but they did not arrest her until after the Sikh came out of hospital, wishing to be quite sure that she was the woman whose name the Sikh had pointed to on the promissory note. They also knew from the first that the amah was an important witness.

BAD LANGUAGE.

Bakhar Singh, in cross-examination, questioned with regard to the witness Hassan Ali (who has stated that he was present at Pakhar's house when Mrs. Rowarth and the amah called on him on the evening in question), said that Hassan had gone to Mexico, but he was unable to say for what reason or where he obtained the money to go. It was true, witness added, that he was so badly knocked about that when in hospital he did not remember very much of what took place. Mrs. Rowarth was there when the assault began, but he had not said she was there the whole time. He was attacked by a Chinese wearing a short black jacket, who, upon rushing at him, used very [illegible] which witness knew a little.

Mr. Lewis—You seem to know some of the bad words!

Witness—Yes, I know them all.

Pakhar [illegible] a Chinese [illegible] and this was [illegible] by a Mrs. Davis, but he did not know [illegible] Mrs. Davis's living in the neighbourhood.

THE AMAH'S EVIDENCE.

Returning to the witness-box, the Chinese amah was recalled for cross-examination by Mr. Lewis. She stated that she was 16 years of age according to Chinese reckoning, her actual age now being 15, and 14, at the time of the assault.

It was pointed out to witness that she had stated that she ran away from the scene without knowing why, but went straight to Mrs. Rowarth and reported that the Indian had been assaulted, to which the latter replied that the Indian had not been assaulted. She asked if it was true that there had been an assault, and Mrs. Rowarth's reply was Nonsense."

Asked whether Mrs. Davis ever visited her at the house in Chaoufoong Road, witness said that she did not, it was the old lady who called and who paid the rent to the landlady. Witness had seen her hand over the money on one occasion. Mrs. Rowarth only called once or twice on two occasions, but in sufficient quantity to keep witness in food during the three or four months she was at the house. Mrs Rowarth also gave her money.

"Have you any idea," the Magistrate asked, "why you were taken to the house in Chaoufoong Road, and why Mrs. Rowarth gave you rice and money?"

Witness — Because I am a motherless poor child.

The Magistrate—That was all you were told?

Witness—Yes.

The Magistrate—Then, when you were asked to leave, why did not you go back to Mrs. Davis or to Mrs. Rowarth and ask for some more money or rice for another month or two?

Witness—She had stopped paying, and I would not ask her for more.

Counsel for the Defence.

This concluded the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Lewis, before proceeding with the defence, asked the Magistrate to say that the accused had no case to answer in reference to the charge of conspiracy. Absolutely no evidence had been produced which in effect showed conspiracy, while the evidence of one witness for the prosecution was decidedly in favour of Mrs. Davis in this respect. If the court found that the conspiracy charge against Mrs. Davis was not proved, the same charge against Mrs. Rowarth must automatically fail. As to the evidence in support of the charge of perjury, the principal witness, the Chinese amah, had given an extremely garbled account of the whole affair, and Hassan Ali was not now produced. Counsel urged that the evidence was not sufficient.

Commenting on Mr. Lewis's argument with regard to the conspiracy charge, the Magistrate recalled a similar case where, one of the accused having been found not guilty, another had to be discharged although he had actually pleaded guilty.

The case was further adjourned until next morning when his Worship said he would decide whether or not charges should be framed against the accused. "You should hope for the best and be ready for the worst," his Worship advised Mr. Lewis.

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT

Charge Against Goulbourn Dropped

An important development in the case occurred in the Supreme Court on Wednesday, when the charge of perjury against William Henry Goulbourn was dropped.

This took place at a sitting before his Honour Judge Peter Grain, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson appearing for the Crown and Mr. Mansel Reece for Goulbourn.

Mr. Wilkinson said that in accordance with the China (Criminal Procedure) Rules of Court, 1913, he abandoned the prosecution of William Henry Goulbourn in this case. The rule had been observed regarding the filing of reasons for the abandonment of the charge.

His Lordship said that he understood Goulbourn had been out on bail. In the circumstances the sureties and recognizances of the bail would be discharged and also the recognizances of the witnesses for the prosecution.

Mr. Wilkinson said that the people summoned for the jury would probably see in the papers that they would not now be required

His Lordship said that that was a matter for the Registry. He [illegible] *qur.*

THE BARBER, BO'SUN AND BOTTLE

Ye Ho Hei And a 50 Cent Hair Cut

[illegible] the guest [illegible] Kong [illegible] charged [illegible] Mr. Ye Wang [illegible] Mr. Ho Hei [illegible] Quarter [illegible] Wednesday, [illegible] the latter [illegible] such [illegible] [illegible] number of the [illegible] [illegible] by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

YOU MAY NOT
UNDERSTAND
CUBIST
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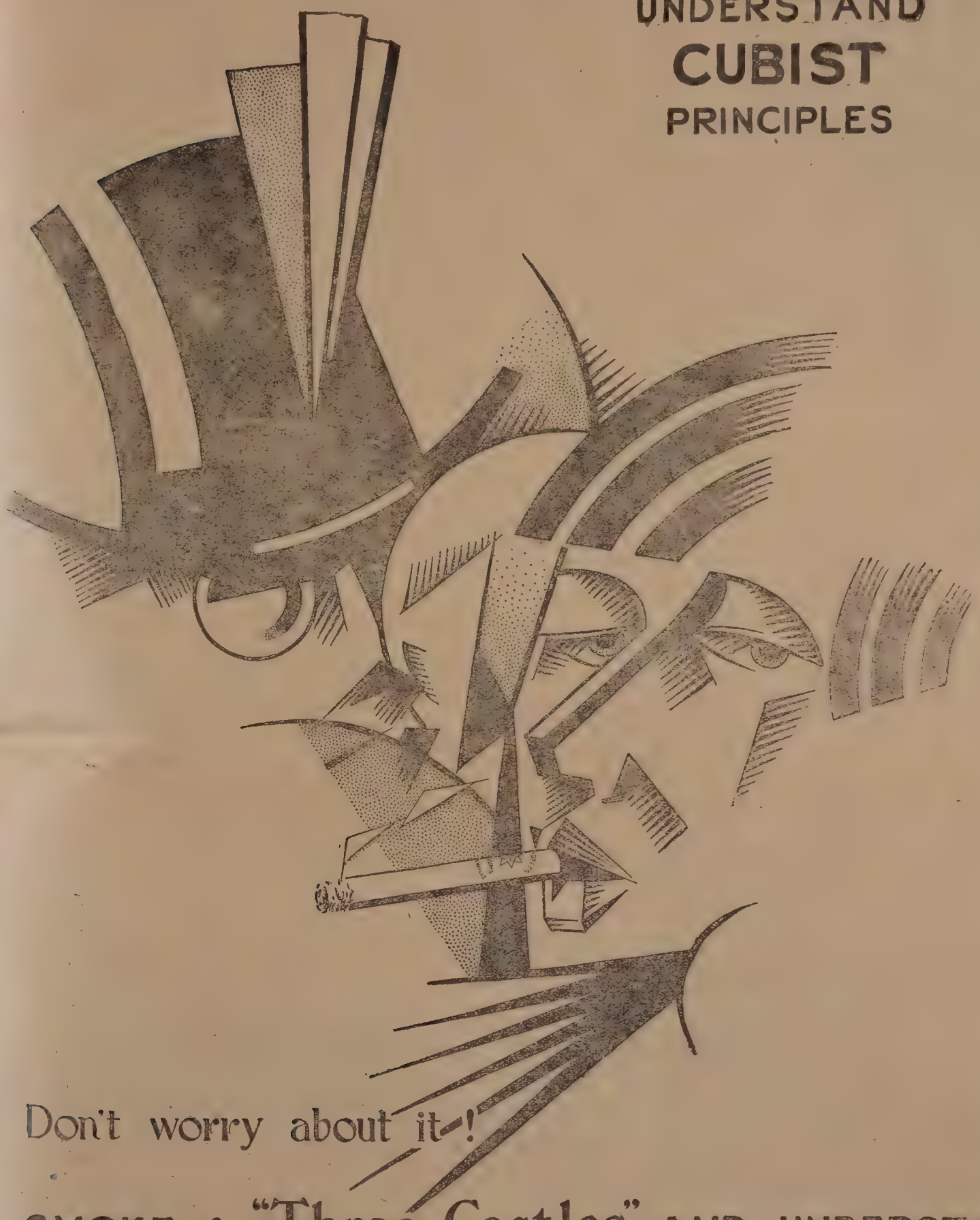

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

THE RUHR FRANCE'S TRUMP CARD IN SETTLEMENT OF REPARATIONS

M. Poincare Not Objecting to Experts' Recommendations if Within Terms of Peace: France's Expected Conditions of Acceptance

Paris, Apr. 11.

M. Poincaré has instructed the French delegation to the Reparations Commission that he does not wish to impose his will with regard to the experts' report. He leaves the delegation a free hand provided the decisions are strictly within the terms of the Peace Treaty.

The Reparations Commission has decided that the experts' reports provide a practical basis for a speedy solution of the reparations problem, and consequently it is prepared to proceed immediately, within the limits of its functions, to approve their conclusions and adopt their methods. The Commission, however, feels compelled to reserve its approval until the Government of the Reich are ready to ensure their cooperation in the scheme.

France's Stipulations.

Later.

As the echo of general applause to the experts' report dies, the difficulty of securing unanimity of the Governments with regard to the application of the experts' plan is becoming increasingly apparent. The French Government are officially silent, but the inspired press indicates that the Ruhr will be France's trump card in the forthcoming inter-Allied negotiations. France will consent to the economic evacuation of the Ruhr on condition that her Allies promise to join her in imposing sanctions in the event of Germany's failure to carry out the plan, and also partial, if not total, cancellation of inter-Allied debts, at least France's debt to Britain.

Undoubtedly France will insist on more effective guarantees than the experts propose.

The interpretation of the text of the experts' report is also likely to be disputed. For example, the Governmental "*Petit Parisien*" affirms that the experts contemplate progressive economic evacuation of the Ruhr. Thus the negotiations between the Governments are likely to be at the least laborious, especially if a speedy decision, which the experts are understood to consider essential to the success of their plan, is to be reached.—Reuter.

Berlin Inclining to Accept.

Berlin, Apr. 12.

The committee of the Economic Council of the Reich has recommended conditional acceptance of the experts' report. The Government will hear the views of the Premiers of the Federal States on Monday. There appears to be no doubt that it will decide that the report is acceptable as the basis of negotiation for a final reparations settlement.—Reuter.

EXPERTS' REPORT ON REPARATIONS

British Government Ready to Support Scheme in Its Entirety

London, Apr. 15

In the House of Commons to-day, dealing with the reparation experts' report, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said that the Government attached so much importance to the agreed recommendations, which could be brought into immediate operation, that they were prepared to support the scheme in its entirety, provided all the other parties concerned were willing to take the same course, and had already communicated that view to the Governments concerned, including the United States.

Mr. MacDonald laid stress on the statement in the Dawes committee report that it was an indivisible whole and that the signatories renounced all responsibility if certain of their recommendations were adopted and others rejected.

Mr. Stanley Baldwin declared that Mr. MacDonald would have the united support of the British peoples in his attitude (cheers).

Sir Frederic Wise, Unionist member of Ilford, asked whether the pact fixing Germany's full liability at £6,600,000,000 still stood.

Mr. MacDonald replied that he was fully aware that the report only made provision for six years, beyond which certain machinery continued to operate for an unlimited period, but if all the Governments agreed to put the reports into execution, the total amount payable by Germany would be a matter of arrangement.—Reuter.

The Ruhr Agreements.

Paris, Apr. 15.

The protocol prolonging the agreements of the M.I.C.U.M. with the Ruhr industrialists states that the approval by the Reparations Commission of the experts' report has opened the way to the settlement of reparations and is likely to facilitate the opening of credits in favour of the Rhenish-Westphalian collieries. The agreement is therefore prolonged until a general settlement of reparations and until June 15 at the latest.—Reuter.

Berlin, Apr. 15.

The Cabinet has decided to accept the experts' report as a basis for negotiations and will inform the Reparations Commission accordingly.

Apr. 16.

The leaders of the Social Democrats and also of the non-Socialist parties have intimated their approval of the Government's action in connexion with acceptance of the reports of the Reparations Committees of Experts.—Reuter.

French Premier's Policy.

Paris, Apr. 16.

Speaking at a Democratic Republican banquet last night for the first time since the publication of the reports of the Committees of Experts, M. Poincaré asseverated that the experts' reports provided the most eloquent justification of French policy, including the occupation of the Ruhr. The reports proved that Germany had fictitiously impoverished herself and was able to pay. The Reparations Commission must now draw up a definite plan to induce Germany to enact legislation and to organize the requisite control. The general lines of such a plan would undoubtedly pre-suppose the restoration of the fiscal and economic unity of the Reich. This, however, could not be restored following a mere declaration of principle. France must only exchange the pledges against more ample and more remunerative ones. There could be no question of withdrawing from the Ruhr before payment of the debts due to France, nor of releasing hold without safe-guarding means of restoring it immediately in case of need.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 15.

It is understood that the German Cabinet are prepared to accept the scheme of the Dawes Committee if the Allies will also accept it as the basis of negotiation along with certain issues outside the scope of the experts' report.—Reuter.

Paris, Apr. 14.—Parliament has adjourned till June.—Reuter.

Berlin, Apr. 14.—The negotiations between the Ruhr mine-owners and the M.I.C.U.M. have resulted in the prolongation of the agreements until June 15.—Reuter.

RUSSIAN MISSION IN ENGLAND

Premier's Address to the Delegates: Propaganda Must Cease, Contractual Agreements Be Carried Out, and British Interests in Russia Justlo Dealt With

London, Apr. 14.

The Russian Mission of about 90 persons, including 11 delegates besides experts, and headed by M. Rakowsky, arrived in taxi-cabs at the Foreign Office this morning, closely followed by an escort of detectives. The weather was cold and wet, and all of them were muffled in overcoats, with the exception of the Turkestan Commissary, who was resplendent in crimson and white robes with a turban.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald presided at the conference, which was held in the room of the Secretary of State. There were about 20 British representatives of the Foreign Office and the Board of Trade. The procedings were private, but the speeches will be published.

Mr. MacDonald in his speech welcomed the delegates. He said that the conference was for completion of the act of granting *de jure* recognition to Russia, but it in no way altered the fact that recognition had been granted without qualification. Mr. MacDonald pointed out that liquidation of past relations and peaceful relations of the future must be considered. He also referred to propaganda. The speech was then translated into Russian.

M. Rakowsky, replying in French, said that he was much gratified at the delegation's welcome. He expressed the opinion that close financial and commercial co-operation between Britain and Russia was necessary to both countries. Debts and treaties must be discussed in detail. M. Rakowsky laid special stress on the peace of Europe and the necessity for disarmament. He sympathetically referred to the League of Nations.

Later.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, in the course of his speech at the Anglo-Russian Conference to-day, laid stress on the fact that the first essential to friendly and profitable relations was that Russia should desist from countenancing directly or indirectly anything smacking of an attempt to conduct propaganda among British subjects either at home of abroad. The people of this country would require more on this head than formal undertakings.

He did not think that, if the conference failed to reach an understanding, the Russians would be able to repeat the attempt and he did not see where else they could turn with better prospects.

Referring to the question of trade, Mr. MacDonald said that the people would risk nothing unless they knew that contractual agreements would be honoured to the last letter.

A Clean Slate Required.

Where injury had been done, he said, they must go to the utmost possible to redress it so that they could begin with a clean slate. Credit here was not in banks and governments, but in the deposits of private individuals, and unless they satisfied the mass of their people that they were fair and honest, no agreements could be honoured and they could not help each other.

The British people and British interests must be justly dealt with, the Premier declared, and he would not give way upon anything which would be regarded by his countrymen as paying an improper price for an agreement, nor would he expect it of Russians, but within these limits, he was sure, they could come to terms.

M. Rakowsky's Assurances.

Later.

In the course of his speech at the opening of the Anglo-Russian Conference to-day, the leader of the Russian delegation, M. Rakowsky said that they considered that there was no insurmountable obstacle in the way of a complete understanding.

He believed that, if account were taken of mutual interests, nothing stood in the way of solution of the question of pre-war debts and private claims. The British Government might also count on full and sincere goodwill regarding political questions.

The Soviet Government had no intention of reverting to the Tsarist policy of conquest and the partition of Oriental States into spheres of influence. The war had awakened the national consciousness of the peoples of the East and any attempt to obstruct that legitimate consciousness would not only be a crime against their own interests, but folly, seeing that in the long run such a policy would inevitably fail. If the two Governments adopted as a starting-point the principle of respecting the sovereignty of Oriental States, they would be free from difficulty in settling all questions pertaining to their interests in the East.

Steps Towards Disarmament.

Laying stress on the acute international situation, M. Rakowsky declared that disarmament must be carried to the farthest possible limits. Although the Russian Army in the last three years had been reduced from 6,000,000 to 500,000 men, Russia was ready, provided other States would do likewise, to take further decisive steps towards disarmament, and was ready also to contribute in every way to universal decrease of naval armaments, subject to certain political guarantees.

International Organization.

With recard to the League of Nations, the Soviet Government were prepared to associate themselves with a plan of international organization, which excluded measures of coercion and reprisal and into which all Governments entered of their own free-will and on a footing of perfect equality.

The first condition of stable peace was revision of the Treaty of Versailles and the Treaties connected with it. The reorganization of Europe could only be stable if based on the peoples and if it took into account the peoples' aspirations to national independence. The Soviet Government were therefore prepared to support and pursue a policy of revising frontiers on ethnographic principles, applying a plebiscite where necessary, as in Bessarabia.

The Soviet Government, M. Rakowsky declared, fully shared the British view that mutual non-intervention in internal affairs was one of the indispensable conditions for the creation of mutual confidence.

The Conference finally appointed an organizing committee to supervise its labours.—Reuter.

Premier's Tactful Speech.

April, 15.

The newspapers generally congratulate Mr. Ramsay MacDonald on his firm and yet tactful speech at the opening of the Anglo-Russian Conference.

The Conservative organs are sceptical of the success of the Conference and are inclined to question the Russian motives, but the Liberal organs cordially welcome the Conference and approve Mr. MacDonald's policy.

The "Times" states that Mr. MacDonald made the best of an extremely unpleasant situation and encouraged no illusions. M. Rakowski's declaration, it states, was tactless.

The "Daily Telegraph" thinks that the Russians are merely out for material advantages and that, therefore, the negotiations are unlikely to lead to anything.

The "Daily Express" declares that the speech of Mr. MacDonald was worthy of the chief spokesman of the Empire.

The "Daily News" urges that the Conference should be given a fair chance by the abandonment of irritating pinpricks, as instanced by the bankers' memorandum and a section of the press.

The "Manchester Guardian" hopes and believes that the meeting is the beginning of the genuine re-settlement of Europe.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 15.

The Anglo-Russian Conference met at the Foreign Office at three this afternoon and adjourned at 3.45. The Conference will meet again to-morrow afternoon.

A *communiqué* states that the subject of the treaties between Britain and the former Russian Empire was raised and was referred to a sub-committee for preliminary examination.—Reuter.

RUSSIAN CREDIT IN ENGLAND

London Bankers' Scheme for Restoration: Guarantees Required from Russia

London, Apr. 13.

Leading London bankers have forwarded a memorandum to the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, in which they suggest steps by which Russian credit in England can be restored. They are of the opinion that recognition of public and private debts should be made, that private property of foreigners should be restored, and that sanctity of private contract should be re-established. Russia should guarantee that private property should henceforth be freed of the danger of confiscation. British bankers, industrialists and traders should be enabled to deal, without Government interference, with similar private institutions in Russia. The Russian Government should abandon propaganda against the institutions of other countries.

The memorandum dissipates the view, which it is supposed is entertained by the Russian Government, that upon the settlement very large amounts would immediately be available from any source. It points out that investors will only supply money where conditions appear safest and full confidence has again been created. With regard to the numerous fields for the investment of permanent capital, it shows that Britain in the past three years has on an average lent to the British Empire £80,000,000 a year, whereas the total available to lend throughout the world last year was £97,000,000. It declares that banking credits are bound to remain limited while foreign trade is subject to Russian Government control.—Reuter.

SHIPPING LOCK-OUT IN BRITAIN

General Throughout Country to Put Pressure Upon Strikers at Southampton

London, Apr. 10.

The Southampton strikers have resolved by an overwhelming majority not to return to work.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 11.

The Shipbuilding Employers' Federation announce that the Southampton strikers not having resumed work, the lock-out notices throughout the country will be effective to-night.

Apr. 12.

The shipbuilding lock-out is in general operation throughout the country to-day, but the Southampton yards are remaining open in order to give the strikers an opportunity to obey the instructions of their executives to resume work. A few strikers returned this morning but there is no general resumption.—Reuter.

The Coal Mine Grievance.

London, Apr. 11.

No immediate crisis will result from the miners' ballot. The question of strike action is not involved. The next move will probably be in the direction of a court of inquiry.

Later.

It has officially been decided to grant the miners' request for a court of inquiry.—Reuter.

Extra Work at Wembley.

London, Apr. 11.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, addressing the workers at Wembley to-day, thanked them on behalf of the Cabinet and country for their decision to remove the embargo on overtime. He said that the recent strike had caused the Government anxiety because undoubtedly it

[illegible] 19, 1924.

[illegible]l retarded the progress of the [illegible]xhibition. Therefore, he took [illegible]e responsibility of asking the [illegible]ade union officials to relax the [illegible]vertime rule with regard to the [illegible]xhibition, which had got to be a [illegible]ess if only because it meant [illegible]uch to the British working-[illegible]asses.—Reuter.

Work Conditionally Resumed.

London, Apr. 13.

The Southampton shipyard workers have decided to resume work on condition of an immediate conference to secure uniformity between the Southampton and London rates of pay.—Reuter.

Engineers' Request for a Court of Inquiry

London, Apr. 14.

A mass meeting of the Southampton engineers this morning passed dramatically, a granddaughter of the late General Booth singing "Abide with me", and the audience joining in the singing of the last verse. Subsequently the meeting passed a resolution calling on the Government to institute a court of inquiry into the claim for increased wages and the cause of the Southampton dispute. The resolution will be submitted to the Premier by a deputation tomorrow.—Reuter.

THE KIEFF TRIAL

Chicherin's Discourteous Reply to French Attempt to Save Russian Professors

Moscow, Apr. 12.

M. Chicherin in a Note to M. Poincaré, in reply to the latter's telegram of April 9, indignantly rejects France's attempt to interfere in the Kieff trial on behalf of "spies."

He recapitulates the many attempts France has made to interfere in Russian affairs and the losses Russia has suffered thereby. The Soviet Government, he declares, *since the earliest days* has never allowed anyone to interfere and will certainly not begin now. He says that naturally France knows about the activities of the spying organization.

M. Chicherin concludes with a friendly proposal to France to cease this attitude and take a view leading to mutual good relations.—Reuter.

***France had appealed to Moscow to spare the lives of certain eminent Russian men of learning on trial at Kieff on charges of counter-revolutionary work. Four of them were sentenced to death.—Ed.

British Government Unwilling to Make Representations to the Soviet

London, Apr. 14.

Replying to Mr. A. S. Sandeman, Unionist Member for Middleton and Prestwich, in the House of Commons to-day with regard to M. Poincaré's request to Britain to make representations to the Soviet with regard to the number of intelligentsia tried at Kieff for high treason, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald said that the Government did not feel that it could usefully make any official representation to the Soviet in that connexion. The Soviet was well aware of the British Government's views.—Reuter.

EXPELLED RUSSIAN BISHOP

Penniless Pilgrim Heartily Welcomed in Warsaw: Privations of Prison

Warsaw, Apr. 13.

Monsignor Cieplak arrived at Warsaw from Riga to-day. His emaciated features testified to the privations of his imprisonment. He was greeted by a number of ecclesiastical dignitaries, including Monsignor Lauri, the Papal Nuncio, representatives of many Polish societies and huge crowds. Traffic was held up. Enthusiasts unharnessed the horses of the Archbishop's carriage and dragged it along themselves.

Monsignor Cieplak states that *en route* from Russia he was kept 10 days at the Cheka headquarters, where he was photographed a dozen times for an unknown purpose. He was then taken to Heiwerz on the Latvian frontier and told to leave Russia immediately. He was penniless and borrowed from the Latvian railwaymen money to take him to Riga.—Reuter.

RUSSIA'S POLICY UNCHANGED

Bolshevism Still Predominant Feature of Trotsky's Creed: Insulting Britain

Moscow, Apr. 15.

M. Trotsky, Commissary for War and President of the Revolutionary Council, in the course of a speech in Tiflis on April 11, denied the report of the local press that he was opposed to war at all costs over the Bessarabian question. He said that the situation between Russia and Rumania in this connexion was abnormal. Poland and France stood behind Rumania. "France is developing a mad campaign against us in Poland and is trying to drive us into a quarrel with Turkey."

"Mr. MacDonald's Cabinet," M. Trotzky added, "has absolutely no principles, nevertheless the success of the Anglo-Russian conference would strengthen its position."

In conclusion, the Commissary for War, declared that the Bolsheviks had not changed since the night of October 25, 1917.—Reuter.

Note:—The last statement refers to the formation of the first Bolshevik Military Committee.—Reuter.

Moscow, Apr. 14.

The Committees of the National Democratic and the Menshevik Parties in Tiflis have been arrested.—Reuter.

RUMANIA'S CLAIM TO BESSARABIA

Rumours of Defensive Treaty with Japan for Protection of Possessions

London, Apr. 14.

In the House of Commons today, replying to Mr. William Ormsby-Gore, Unionist Member for Stafford, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald said that he had no information with regard to any new defensive treaty between Japan and Rumania giving mutual guarantees against Russian invasion of Bessarabia and the Japanese possessions in Saghalien.

Sir Archibald Sinclair, Liberal Member for Caithness and Sutherland, asked whether Japan had yet ratified the treaty which she signed with Britain, France and Italy with regard to Bessarabia. Mr. Macdonald asked for notice of the question.—Reuter.

"COPEC" CONFERENCE CONCLUDED

Proposal to Form a Publicity Bureau: Investigation of Causes of Unemployment

London, Apr. 13.

The International Conference on Christian Politics, Economics and Citizenship, the "Copec," has concluded. It has appointed a Continuation Committee of 50 members to carry on the work to make the influence of the "Copec" a permanent factor in the life of the churches; to establish a permanent organization to interpret the purposes of the "Copec," probably in the form of a publicity bureau, but possibly a federal council of the churches.

The Conference passed a resolution in favour of the churches making an inquiry into the causes of unemployment and decided to ask the heads of the churches for an inquiry and advice by churches in regard to birth control.—Reuter.

THE OIL SCANDAL

President Coolidge's Vigorous Criticism of Irregularities in Investigation

Washington, Apr. 11.

President Coolidge in a strongly worded message to the Senate says that the investigations of the oil scandals should be conducted in accordance with the Constitution. He protests against the whole series of investigations proceeding as, in effect, criminal prosecutions, in which the requirement that the evidence must be presented before the Grond Jury is evaded.

The President encloses a letter from Mr. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, which says that, should the unnecessary interference in the proper exercise of his duties continue, neither he nor any other man of character could take the responsibility for the Treasury.—Reuter's America Service.

AUSTRALIA'S COAST DEFENCE

Two 10,000-ton Cruisers to be Built: Port Darwin as a Naval Base

Sydney, Apr. 10.

Mr. S. M. Bruce, the Commonwealth Prime Minister, speaking at the dinner to the Admirals and senior officers of the Special Service Squadron, declared that the Government's decision to lay down two 10,000 ton cruisers was in the interests of Australia's own defence in order to provide very useful co-operation with the British Navy. The Commonwealth Government was convinced that in the interests of world peace the decision of the British Government with regard to Singapore was not final.

Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick Field, replying, said that if the Dominions provided sufficient cruisers to guard the coast lines while the main fleet was doing its proper business, they would feel perfectly safe. The most perfect base for the Australian cruisers would be Port Darwin. There was an excellent repair base in Sydney.—Reuter.

END OF THE AUSTRALIA

Sunk in Accordance With Washington Treaty Amid National Mourning

Sydney, Apr. 12.

The scuttling of the battle-cruiser Australia, 20 miles outside Sydney Heads, in accordance with the Washington Treaty, amounted to a national ceremony. The warship was laden with floral tributes with cards expressing the people's attachment and regret. Australian warships fired a salute and aeroplanes dropped wreaths. The light cruisers of the Special Service Squadron circled around the battle cruiser, fired a salute and hoisted the Australian flag. They then headed for Brisbane. The sinking occupied 25 minutes.—Reuter.

GREECE NEVER AT REST

More Arrests of Military and Naval Officers on Charges of Revolution-Plotting

Athens, Apr. 12.

Owing to indications that reactionary rouble was brewing, the Government has ordered the arrest of 18 superior military and naval retired officers, including General Leonardopoulos, the leader of the last counter-revolution, who was sentenced to death and recently pardoned, and General Constandinopoulos, a fanatical Royalist.

The Minister of the Interior announces that considerable quantities of revolvers and cartridges, recently bought in Athens by reactionaries, have been confiscated. The leaders of the projected movement, which was evidently intended to break out after the plebiscite, have been arrested.

Colonel Metaxas met the Premier, M. Papanastasiou, yesterday evening and protested against the arrests. The Premier replied that the Government were determined to crush any attempt at disorders.—Reuter.

ANTI-SOVIET PLOTS

Extensive Organization to Put Prominent Bolsheviks Under Ground

Moscow, Apr. 2.

A counter-revolutionary association called the National Society for Defending the Native Land is the subject of an inquiry at Leningrad. M. Boris Savinoff is alleged to be head of the organization, the agents of which are stated to be employees of the Polish Intelligence Service.

The association's activities are reported to have extended to the provinces. Many murders and outrages against Soviet supporters and Jews are alleged. The accused persons number 107.—Reuter.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS UNDEFINED

World-Wide Registry by Seismographs but No Trace of Locality

Victoria, B.C., Apr. 15.

The officials of the Dominion observatory were mystified yesterday by a series of very intense seismographic shocks, which lasted four hours. The Superintendent of the obervatory estimates that the centre of the disturbance was about 1,500 miles from Victoria, probably in the vicinity of the North Aleutian Islands or in Alaska.—Reuter.

Buenos Aires, Apr. 15.

An earthquake occurred at Santiago de Chile at 5.35 yesterday afternoon. The casualties and damage are up to the present unknown.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 15.

The Chilean Legation in London is in regular communication with Santiago and hopes that the earthquake recorded throughout the world occurred in the sea.

Santiago de Chile, Apr. 15.

The reports of an earthquake in Chile are baseless.—Reuter Later.

The observatories of Belgium, Italy and Egypt recorded yesterday afternoon a violent earthquake shock over 6,000 miles distant. The instruments of Faenza Observatory vibrated for four hours. The Observatory of Helouan described the shock as being equal in intensity to the Japanese earthquake in September.—Reuter.

Manila's Experience.

Manila, Apr. 15.

A severe submarine earthquake occurred at 12.30 this morning at 7 degrees north latitude on the eartern border of the Philippine Deep, 200 kilometres from Mindanao and 1,000 kilometres from Manila. A tidal wave is feared. A slightly perceptible disturbance here continued for two hours.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

WILL LABOUR CONTROL INDIA?

Debate in House of Commons: Demand for a Specific Statement of Policy

London, Apr. 15.

In the House of Commons today, the debate on India was initiated by Viscount Curzon, Conservative member for Battersea, who proposed a motion expressing anxiety with regard to recent events in India and regretting the lack of a clear statement of the Government's policy in that connexion. He asked for a specific declaration that the Government would not depart from the letter or spirit of the Government of India Act of 1919.

Mr. Robert Richards, Under-Secretary of State for India, replying, said that the Government of India were at present investigating the difficulties of the Act with full concurrence of His Majesty's Government, who considered the proposal of Mr. J. Scurr, Labour member for Mile End, to appoint a commission for this purpose as premature.—Reuter.

THE BOOTLEGGERS

New Coastguard Boats at Cost of $25,000,000 to Check Liquor Runners

Washington, Apr. 11.

For the purpose of a more active campaign against liquor runners the coastguard service has opened bids for 30 new craft to cost, with others yet to be purchased, $25,000,000.

This fleet will be supplemented with 20 destroyers.—Reuter's American Service.

HONDURAS REBELLION

American Government Sending Envoy to Mediate Between the Belligerents

Washington, Apr. 11.

The Navy Department reports that a revolutionary airman has bombed the capital of Honduras, destroying a large number of houses. The dead included many women and children. Four bombs narrowly missed the American landing forces, who were apparently mistaken for enemies. The American commander has protested.

President Coolidge has instructed Mr. Sumner Welles, the American Commissioner in Santo Domingo, to proceed to Tegucigalpa and offer the friendly assistance of the United States for the establishment of peace in Honduras.—Reuter's American Service.

SHORTAGE OF REVENUE IN THE PUNJAB

Taxation Inadequate Without Salt Levy: Water-rate to be Increased

Lahore, Apr. 13.

The serious effect of the Legislative Assembly's failure to sanction the salt tax of two rupees is reflected in the upsetting of the financial programme of the provincial Governments concerned.

The Punjab Government, who were anticipating a reduction of their contribution to the Central Government, only proposed to levy fresh taxation to the amount of 20 lakhs of rupees. This is now inadequate and they have therefore decided to increase the water-rate in order to secure 75 lakhs annually, but, as the spring crop has already been sown, the yield this year will be only 25 lakhs from the winter crop.

The Punjab Government hope to carry on in the current year with the help of the Government of India. They will have sufficient funds from next year.—Reuter.

THE LATE HERR STINNES

Embittered Comment by French Journals

Paris, Apr. 11.

A remark by the "*Journal*" that "Herr Stinnes died on the day the experts passed judgment on his mischievous work: a centre of Nationalist reaction, he was the evil genius of the peace," sums up generally the embittered comments of the French press.

Berlin, Apr. 11.

By the tragic irony of fate Germany's greatest industrialist and richest man died without seeing the reports of the committees of experts. He had been ill for weeks and had only recently been operated on for gall-stones. His condition did not improve and he was removed to a nursing-home ten days ago when he was operated on a second time. He died fully conscious in the presence of his family.—Reuter.

NAVAL LIMITATIONS

Action by Pres. Coolidge

Washington, Apr. 14.

It is stated that to-day the President will oppose the conversion of four coal-burning battleships into oil-burners, if this would lead other nations, who are parties to the Naval Limitation Treaty, to make a similar outlay. —Reuter's American Service.

THE MINERS' DISPUTE

A New Secretary

London, Apr. 10.

Mr. A. J. Cook, a miners' agent in Rhondda Valley, has been elected secretary of the Miners' Federation. Mr. Cook was formerly a Baptist preacher, is a fluent speaker and a disciple of Karl Marx. He is an active participant in the so-called miners' minority movement.

In an interview, Mr. Cook said that it would be difficult to avert a stoppage in the coalfields unless the demand of the miners for a living wage was conceded.

Owners' Offer Rejected.

Apr. 11.

An official announcement states that the miners' ballot has resulted in rejection of the owners' wage proposals by 558,000 to 392,000 votes.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 15.

The Minister of Labour, Mr. Tom Shaw, has appointed a court of inquiry into the coal-mining dispute, consisting of Baron Buckmaster (Chairman), Mr. Reuter Brunner and Mr. A. C. Cameron.—Reuter.

THE BENGAL BUDGET

Several Rejected Items Now Certified by Governor

Darjeeling, Apr. 14.

The Governor of Bengal has decided to certify a number of Budget items, rejected as a result of the Swarajist policy of throwing out portions of the Bengal Budget. The refusal to grant the Ministers' salaries, however, will again be submitted to the Provincial Council. A number of appointments in the Education and Medical Departments are likely to be discharged as a result of their pay not being sanctioned, which the Earl of Lytton says he has no power to restore.—Reuter.

OBITUARY

Prince Roland Bonaparte

Paris, Apr. 14.

The death is announced of Prince Roland Bonaparte, son of Prince Pierre Napoleon Bonaparte, and grandson of Prince Lucien Bonaparte, a younger brother of Napoleon I, at the age of 65.

Prince Roland Bonaparte was a Member of the Institute and was twice President of the French Geographical Society. He was much interested in travel and scientific research.—Reuter.

BRITISH ROUND-WORLD AIR FLIGHT

New Gear for Squadron Leader MacLaren at Corfu

London, Apr. 14.

A telegram from Corfu yesterday states that the new engine for the British world flight airplane will arrive to-morrow. The air-boat is lying on the beach between the lake and the sea. An attempt to tow it to Corfu in Greek and British destroyers was unsuccessful owing to the strong sea. A British destroyer will make a last attempt to tow the air-boat to-day. Simultaneously, a party of sailors will be sent overland with gear to fit up the engine on the spot if the towing is unsuccessful. —Reuter.

TEXTILE INDUSTRY OF LANCASHIRE

Competition in India and the Far East: A Plea for Protection

London, Apr. 15.

In the House of Commons to-day, at the committee stage of the Trade Facilities Bill, Mr. J. R. Remer, Conservative Member for Macclesfield, moving an amendment protesting the competition [illegible] in the Far East and India, moved an amendment that no loan or guarantee should be given in connexion with the erection of cotton-mills or provision of cotton machinery outside the United Kingdom.

Mr. W. Graham, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, emphasized that no guarantee had been given to any cotton undertaking outside the United Kingdom. The real problem behind the amendment was how employment in Britain would be affected under guarantee. The advisory committee must take all circumstances into account. The case against [illegible] that it would [illegible] exclude a large view of the problem of unemployment. Mr. Graham asked Mr. Remer to withdraw the amendment, which was negatived without a division. —Reuter.

LIBERALS DISPLEASED WITH LABOUR

Premier's Contemptuous Way with His Patrons Much Resented

London, Apr. 16.

The dissatisfaction of the Liberal Party at the attitude of the Labour members of Parliament towards it found vent at an important meeting at the House of Commons last night. Mr. Asquith presiding. Over a hundred Liberal members attended.

A feature of the gathering was a vigorous speech by Mr. Lloyd George protesting against the Government's contemptuous treatment of the Liberals although it was dependent upon them for its existence.

Mr. Asquith approved the views expressed by Mr. Lloyd George.

It was decided to hold another meeting after Easter, when the future attitude of the Party towards the Government would be decided upon.—Reuter.

EIGHT NEW 10,000 TONS CRUISER

U. S. Naval Armament

Washington, Apr. 15.

The House of Representatives Naval Committee has approved a bill authorizing construction of eight fast 10,000-ton cruisers, costing $11,000,000 each, exclusive of armament, and also six gunboats, costing $700,000 each, for use in Chinese waters. The Committee also approved a proposal to convert four battleships to oil-burners and to provide them with additional protection against submarines and aircraft.

The Committee reported another bill providing for the establishment of a naval aviation base at Sand Point, California.—Reuter's American Service.

KING OF RUMANIA VISITING FRANCE

Rumours of an Alliance

Paris, Apr. 10.

The King and Queen of Rumania arrived here to-day primarily for an official visit after their Coronation in 1922, but the presence of the Rumanian Premier and Foreign Minister, M. Duca, lends political significance to the visit. There is unofficial talk of an alliance between France and Rumania, following the alliance between France and Czecho-Slovakia.

M. Duca, in an interview, said that he hoped the negotiations between Russia and Rumania, which broke down recently in Vienna, might be resumed.—Reuter.

FRANCO-JAPANESE FAR EASTERN RELATIONS

London, Apr. 11.

Denying the reports of the conclusion of a Japanese-Rumanian defensive alliance directed against Russia, the Diplomatic Correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" says that it is believed, however, that a Franco-Japanese understanding is now in existence, covering Pacific and Chinese questions. He refers to the recent co-operation of the French Minister and the Japanese Cabinet at Tokio and says that it has not escaped notice that the Japanese delegate on the League of Nations Council, who formerly voted on the side of Britain in Central European issues, voted with France at the two last sessions on questions like the Saar.—Reuter.

RUSSO-GERMAN CONSULAR PACT

Moscow, Apr. 12.

A Russo-German consular pact is expected to be signed shortly. In this connexion, the Russian press points out that the new pact, judging from the old international law, contains the following provisions:—(1) No honorary Consuls shall be appointed so far as Germany and Soviet Russia are concerned; (2) Consuls' premises of both countries shall not be trespassed on; (3) Consuls of both countries shall be accorded rights to manage reports on marriages, divorces, and births from their respective citizens; (4) Consuls of both countries have exactly the powers of crimes committed by those who are to be arrested according to the national laws of country.

In the meantime, the Soviet Government is also negotiating with Turkey and Persia with a view to the conclusion of consular pacts with these countries.—Eastern News Agency.

THE MASTER OF BALLIOL

London, Apr. 12.

The death is announced of Dr. Arthur Lionel Smith, M.A., LL.D., Master of Balliol College, Oxford.—Reuter.

MR. CHURCHILL'S RETURN TO POLITICS

London, Apr. 13.

Mr. Winston Churchill has accepted the invitation of Sir Archibald Salvidge, one of the stalwarts of Conservatism in Lancashire, on behalf of the Liverpool Working Men's Conservative Association and Women's Unionist Frederation, to address a political meeting early in May.—Reuter.

THE GREEK PLEBISCITE

Athens, Apr. 14.

It is semi-officially stated that the returns of the plebiscite so far show a 75 per cent. majority

BELGIUM AND GERMAN REPARATIONS

Brussels, Apr. 14.

The Cabinet consider that the report of the Reparations Commission's expert committees constitutes a useful basis for an equitable and practical settlement.—Reuter.

BELGIAN TREATY WITH JAPAN

Brussels, Apr. 14.

The Cabinet has approved the commercial treaty with Japan, based on the most-favoured nation principle.—Reuter.

CHANGE IN CONTROL OF "MORNING POST"

London, Apr. 13.

On the score of heavy taxation, Countess Bathurst announces that she has relinquished control of the "Morning Post" to a body of Conservatives, with whom the Duke of Northumberland is associated. It is stated that the paper's past traditions and policy will be preserved. Reuter.

AMERICAN ROUND WORLD FLIGHT

Major Martin Forced to Descend on Sea

Sitka, Apr. 11.

The American military aviators who are flying around the world have arrived at Sitka.—Reuter's American Service.

Tokio, Apr. 14.

The American destroyers arrived at Hitokappu Bay in the Etorofu Island yesterday morning after a fine trip. The island is surrounded by big icefloes, which precludes reaching Bettobu. This will necessitate a change in the landing place to Hitokappu Bay, which is ideal for this purpose.

Cordova, Alaska, Apr. 14.

The American aviators, who are flying around the world, arrived safety to-day at Seward, Alaska, from Sitka.—Reuter's American Service.

Chiguik, Alaska, Apr. 16.

Major Martin, the leader of the United States world flight, was forced to descend to the sea while on his way here. It is believed that he is safe in Kialogvik Bay. The remaining planes have arrived here safely.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICA AND ARMAMENTS

Washington, Apr. 12.

Senator King has tabled a resolution authorizing the President to appoint reppresentatives to confer with the Armament Commission of the League of Nations.—Reuter's American Service.

YUGO-SLAVIA'S DEBT TO UNITED STATES

Washington, Apr. 12.

The Yugo-Slavian Debt Funding Commission, previous to its departure for Europe, announced that Yugo-Slavia was unable at present to meet her obligations to the United States but it was hoped that it would be possible at a future date to commence a plan for refunding the debts.

No action would be taken by Yugo-Slavia which would be calculated to prejudice the position of the United States among creditor nations.—Reuter's American Service.

TRADE DEPRESSION IN RUSSIA

Riga, Apr. 13.

It is reported from Moscow that the figures of the trade turnover for March show a decrease of 30 per cent. as compared with February. A section of the press regards the depression as temporary, but the *"Ekonomicheskaya Zhizn"* considers it lasting. —Reuter.

LAUSANNE TREATY RATIFIED

London, Apr. 11.

The House of Commons last night passed the Ratification of the Lausanne Treaty Bill by a unanimous vote.—Reuter.

CZECH TREATY WITH HOLLAND

The Hague, Apr. 10.

The Second Chamber to-day approved the commercial treaty between Holland and Czecho-Slovakia.—Reuter.

LATEST TELEGRAMS

NAVAL DISARMAMENT

How Britain is Falling Behind Owing to Washington Undertaking

London, Apr. 16.

In the House of Commons to-day, replying to Sir Archibald Sinclair, Liberal Member for Caithness and Sutherland, Mr. Ammon, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Admiralty, stated that since the Washington Treaty was signed Britain had laid down the submarine O1; and Japan, as far as was known, had laid down six light cruisers, 17 destroyers and 13 submarines.

Later.

The question of disarmament was raised in the House of Commons to-day by Major-Gen. J. E. B. Seely, Liberal Member for the Isle of Wight, who referred to France's great air force. He did not believe that it was directed against us, but others were joining in the air race.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald replied that he intended, immediately some of the present difficulties in Europe were removed, to face seriously the question of armament, because it was very important that there should be no reason for misunderstanding not merely between France and Britain, but between the other Powers participating in the unfortunate air race. It would be far better if we could get a sort of Washington agreement so that France, Italy, ourselves and everybody else might feel some measure of security.—Reuter.

BRITISH ROUND WORLD AIR-FLIGHT

London, Apr. 16.

A telegram from Corfu, dated yesterday, states that Squadron-Leader MacLaren's air-boat has been towed to Corfu and the engine installed by H.M.S. Emperor of India. A successful trial was made in the evening. Squadron Leader MacLaren will leave for Athens this morning.—Reuter.

Athens, Apr. 17.

Squadron Leader MacLaren left Athens for Cairo this morning.—Reuter.

CO-OPERATIVE SELLING OF RUBBER

Finances Forthcoming When Scheme Adopted: U. S. Buying Agencies

London, Apr. 16.

The Rubber-Growers' Association are circularizing rubber-producing companies in the United Kingdom asking whether in principle they favour co-operative selling of rubber under the auspices of the Association and urging members whole-heartedly to support the proposed scheme, in view of the advantage the limited number of buyers at present have over the multitude of sellers and Mr Hoover's recent letter recommending action with a view to permitting American purchasers of rubber and other raw materials to establish joint buying agencies.

The Association express their willingness to establish a strong committee for the purpose of working out details. They express the opinion that, in view of the control of exports from Malaya and Ceylon, co-operative selling presents no serious difficulties and say that it is anticipated that the necessary finance could be easily obtained if an adequately supported scheme were adopted.—Reuter.

GERMANY'S ELECTIONS

Berlin, Apr. 16.

It is reported that the Government has postponed the elections from May 4 to May 11 in order that the expected swing to the Right shall not influence the elections in France.—Reuter.

Later.

It is officially stated that the elections will be held on May 4, as originally arranged.—Reuter.

BUILDING TRADE CRISIS

London, Apr. 16.

A crisis in the building trade affecting 700,000 workers, is threatened. The men are demanding an increase of wages by 2d. an hour. The employers offered an advance of ½d. an hour. A conference of the building trade unions in London has decided to submit the employers' offer to a ballot.—Reuter.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL PAYS AT LAST

The Pessimists Defeated: Fifty Years of Work Without Wages: A Comedian's Publicity Trick: Civic Improvements to Wrangle Over

From our Manchester Correspondent.

Manchester, Mar. 2.

We have heard of angry Manchester fathers, who, instead of spanking their erring sons off with the traditional shilling fobbed them off with dusty bundles of shares in the local Ship Canal. They found it easier, and thought it cheaper, to part with their dreams than their shillings. Time, however, has been on the side of the prodigals. In 1924 their obdurate sires see the sooty Lancashire dust settling on their idle spinning frames while the prodigals may be buying Rolls Royces with the long deferred Ship Canal dividends. 5 p.c. is to be paid on all the share capital held by the public for 1923. The Ship Canal is a paying proposition at last.

The possibility of such a dividend would have been scoffed at 10 years ago. Although the Canal had been opened at that time for 20 years it had never paid a dividend. There were thousands, especially in Liverpool, who said that it never would. They were first proven wrong in 1915, when 2 p.c. was paid. When 5 p.c. was paid on all shares held by the public for 1920 these croakers said that it was only because it was a boom year—it would never happen again. The reduced dividends in the succeeding year lent some colour to this prophecy but 1923 has disproved it. It is said that 6 p.c. could have easily been paid but the directors thought it wise to pursue a cautious policy. Great things are prophesied for the future. As the Canal was held up for 16 days during 1923 as a result of the unofficial dockers' strike there seems some likelihood of even better times. During 1923 more than five million tons of seaborne merchandise traffic was handled by the Canal, and since 1913 the gross receipts have been more than doubled. The Company is now petitioning Parliament for permission to deepen by 2 ft. the lower reaches of the Canal and so attract larger shipping. We in Manchester have waited 22 years for our share in the harvest of the sea. It is coming at last, and it is going to be no inconsiderable proportion.

RECREATION IN ANCOATS.

Few men have a wider circle of friends among famous men than Mr. Charles Rowley, the founder of the "Recreation in Ancoats" movement. The news that in his 85th year he has been compelled by ill health to relinquish this good work in that insalubrious slum will cause general regret. For 47 years he has lured famous writers, lecturers, artists, poets, musicians, anarchists, socialists, bishops, travellers, Jesuits, and philosophers to a bare hall in the heart of the worst part of Ancoats to address his audiences. Bernard Shaw has said that the deaths of half the famous men in Great Britain for the last 40 years can be directly traced to visits they had made to Manchester at the siren call of Mr. Rowley. The programme invariably consisted of an hour's music, and an hour's talk by a man of note. Ancoats was the setting for it but the audience came from everywhere but Ancoats. It sorry denizens eyed inimically the weekly incursion of well dressed people from the outer suburbs who indulged in "Recreation in Ancoats." For themselves, they remained faithful to the proletarian custom of spending Sunday afternoons in bed after the best dinner in the week.

The movement was always held together by Mr. Rowley. After him the attraction was the music, and the lecture was a bad third. Despite the publicity it obtained through Mr. Rowley's well known work, "Fifty Years of Work without Wages" it never attracted more than seven or eight hundred people. They used to applaud the views of every speaker with attractive impartiality. It made no difference if the lecturer of one week was flatly contradicted by the one on the week following. The audience agreed with them both.

SUNDAY CONCERTS GONE.

The stopping of these Sunday afternoon lectures and concerts will be a great loss to the winter amenities of Manchester. It will be all the more seriously felt through the recent closing of the Sunday League Concerts. The promoters of these concerts thought they would be warmly patronized by the thousands of people in Manchester who have nothing to do on a Sunday night and nowhere to go. For months they petitioned our strait-laced City Fathers for permission to hold them. It was granted at last on condition that they were held after Church hours. But the habits of a lifetime are not broken in a week. Sunday is still taken very seriously in Manchester and although famous singers were engaged who cannot be heard for twice the money on a week-day, the concerts were ill patronized and had to be closed. Only one during the whole of the season paid for itself. The promoters ascribe their failure to the inconvenient hour imposed for starting the concerts and to the exorbitant rent charged by the municipal authorities for the Free Trade Hall where they were held. It is not improbable that the concerts broadcast by wireless every Sunday put the *coup-de-grace* to the enterprise.

A PUBLICITY STUNT.

One morning last week the whole of Market Street was held up by a huge crowd of people who did considerable damage to shop fronts and other property. The cause of the turmoil was a publicity "stunt" engineered by Fred Barnes, a popular comedian appearing at one of the local theatres. He said that it was a belief of his that the average man did not notice things outside his own personal range. In support of this idea he made a bet with another man that he could hide a £100 note in Market Street and leave it for 24 hours and no one would find it. Local newspapers gave publicity to the bet and for 24 hours this busy thoroughfare was the scene of extraordinary sights. The searchers removed the street grids and climbed up office and shop fronts. Much glass was broken by people poking around glass signs and shop fronts with walking sticks and umbrellas. The 24 hours were up at 11 a.m. and at that time Mr. Barnes arrived in Market St. to see if anyone had found the note. Excavations were being made in a short street leading down to the entrance to the "Manchester Guardian" offices. Mr. Barnes stooped down at this point and pulled up some stones and searched in the soil below. But the note was gone. It had been found by an unemployed workman named Browning. The police have warned Mr. Barnes that he must not indulge in these little games in future. Most of the searchers have a grudge against him for the manner and position of the hiding place. They argue that it was not strictly in Market Street and that to hide it in the ground and then cover the spot with heavy paving stones was not very sporting.

AN INSALUBRIOUS STREAM.

Manchester is well known to stand on the Irwell but its proudest citizens are a little diffident about the charms of that insalubrious river. It meanders through the Salford side of the town in a great loop, a huge ditch of black and muddy water flowing between soot-encrusted banks. A scheme has recently obtained considerable publicity which has for its object the excavation of a culvert to do away with this loop of river and convert its bed into a subteranean tram road. It is said that three tracks of trams, a roadway, and a canal could be put into the river bed.

The advocates of the scheme do not press it, however, on aesthetic grounds. The growing congestion of the city's main thoroughfares has brought it to the foreground. Opponents of the idea are demanding a tube railway of the London pattern as a solution of our difficulties. The City Council has appointed a Committee to investigate the feasibility and probable cost of such underground railway to run beneath the main arteries of the City. One of the Councillors complained that it was gloomy enough above ground in Manchester without burrowing beneath the ground like a lot of rabbits. Traffic congestion is now so acute in Manchester that on an average one person is killed and 25 injured every week as a result of street accidents.

SHORT TIME IN COTTON.

Nothing could better illustrate the present depressed condition of the cotton spinning industry in Lancashire than the overwhelming majority for systematic short time in the recent ballot. The owners of over 22 million spindles spinning American cotton have expressed their willingness to limit working hours to 26½ for the next three months. The opposition owned less than two million spindles. It is an unhappy commentary on our existing industrial organization that this should be the only way of coping with the problem. Our Lancashire operative spinners are the most highly skilled in the world. The world is crying out for the products of their nimble fingers. For the next three months those fingers are to be half idle. The loss will be greater than if the workers had a month's strike. This is ca' canny with a vengeance.

THE PICCADILLY SITE.

Manchester is once more agitated with the old question of the Piccadilly site. The city infirmary used to stand on this, the finest central site in the town. The infirmary was pulled down about 12 years ago and since then the City Fathers have been quarrelling about what they shall build on the site. It is the property of the municipality. The magnificent Manchester Reference Library used to be housed in the old Town Hall. It was first intended, when the old Town Hall site was sold, to build a magnificent Reference Library and Art Gallery on the Piccadilly site. Then Mr. Beecham promised Manchester a magnificent opera house and it was thought that the Piccadilly site would be an ideal setting for it. While the various schemes were being discussed the great library was moved to some rough sheds hastily erected on a corner of the site. That was about 10 years ago and they are there yet. Snow and rain drip through the wretched roofs on to the readers, and sometimes on to the books. Every few months someone writes an angry letter to the local press about it, or it crops up in the City Council proceedings. But nothing is ever done. The site is now laid out as a garden and is not unsightly, except for the sheds. The bone of contention is the rates. The Manchester business man steadily moves farther out into the Cheshire and Derbyshire suburbs and cares less about Manchester's amenities. Rates are high on the business properties in Central Manchester. Sheds are cheap, and fine art galleries and libraries are likely to be dear. As long as the sheds are kept up the rates can be kept down.

CHINESE OPIUM DENS.

Nine Chinese were arrested in Manchester last week for running opium dens at four addresses in the city, and for being in unlawful possession of quantities of opium and opium pipe heads. All the premises were Chinese laundries. A 19-year old English girl suffering from St. Vitus dance and in a state of nervous exhaustion was found at one address. The ringleader, Jou Sing, was sentenced to six months imprisonment and a fine of £100, and was recommended for deportation. His compatriots, some of whom had wives living in China, were sentenced to periods of imprisonment of from three to six months and, with three exceptions, to deportation also.

THE LIGHT SIDE OF LIFE

What Wembley Might Show Us: A Liking for Truth

From Our Own Correspondent.

London, Mar. 6.

We are all of us trying to make Wembley really bright and attractive so the newspapers are full of well meant and kindly suggestions. Personally I think there ought to be a section for "things we seldom see." Thereby we should be able to study at close quarters crowds of things which we almost fear do not exist at all. Among these we should of course assign a place of honour to the truthful House Agent. He is the sort of man who would issue a little adlet of his stock as follows:—

> Most undesirable residence. Twenty minutes fast walk from the nearest railway station. Infrequent trains to the City. No bathroom. Bad drainage. Very noisy neighbourhood. Chemical factory near by. Dry rot in the timbers. Excessive rent. . .

There you have the sort of man we should all like to see. People would go miles to look upon his manly features. As also upon the Too Veracious Landlady;

> Non-select boarding house. Should be avoided by everyone. Bad food and very little of it. No hot water. Terms immoderate and dozens of extras.

In addition there ought be the Noble Strainer after Accuracy who would guarantee to any prospective boarder:

> That she had not come down in the world
> That her husband was not dead but had deserted her owing to her vile cooking.
> That she was not homely and did not intend to do the lodger's darning and mending.
> That her daughter was not training for the stage, but worked in a fried fish shop round the corner.

This sort of thing appeals to us all and it is quite capable of beneficial extension. For instance there would be the Theatrical Impresario who assures us that he possesses the

> Rottenest show on earth. Never produced in London. No one in it can act for toffee. Only stars those seen by the artistes when falling about after leaving the pubs at closing time. Cheapest of cheap outfits.

There ought to be room too for the politician who would tell us candidly of his ambitions;

> Keen politician because it pays, £400 a year with potential directorships. Complete ignorance of current problems but boosting myself because ready to pay my own expenses and meet the agent's salary. Nothing better to do and quite useless in father's business.

And do not leave out the Lady Who Devotes Herself to Public Work. She has virtues all her own;

> Nobody wants to marry me. Don't like cats or dogs. Can't play out of door sports. Not musical or anything else. Lover of the limelight. Hence take up public life to be useful to my fellow women and myself.

Also the Candid Doctor—we can't leave him out;

> Ready to diagnose anything without any real examination. Forgotten all learned in the schools. Never kept myself up to date. Expert at guesswork and at jollying patients. Only make up one sort of prescription but colour it variously. Warranted to overcharge.

From all this you will gather that like Mr. Pumblechook—was it not?—we have a very great liking for Ter-ew-th when we find it unsullied and pure from the Well. We never though do find it, and hence maybe at Wembley—if they made it worth the while of the potential exhibits—they could strike a really novel note. Of course there are several quite extinct types which could be reproduced with the aid of the experts at Madame Tussaud's—the Good Old British Workman and the Parson who is a Whole Hogger on the Thirty Nine Articles, the Faithful and Permanent Domestic Servant, the Wearer of Piccadilly Weepers, the Four-wheeler Cabman and the Gaiety Johnny of the Seventies, the Whig Politician and the Du-Maurian Bohemian. In fact if they extended this list a little they might have a Chamber of Horrors "all their own." They might even try a Male and Female Section—including in the latter the Damsel who Left the Cinema when it was announced that the film then about to be shown was "not for young girls," the Maiden who did not at 18 Know all there was to Know and the Mother's Darling as well as the entire crowd of the Jane Austen Type.

In short, if we are to have a really British Exhibition, let us not overlook what is truly British. Thereof I have given some indications in case they may be overlooked. I know that the overseas dependencies are doing their best to make everything bright and cheerful, but there are signs of deadly competition. It will not though be malevolent. All we want in the kindness of our hearts is to make visitors feel no side of our many-hued national temperament has been overlooked.

"LENIN" STAMPS

Interest of Bolshevik Issues

A set of four "Lenin Mourning Stamps" has been issued by the Russian Government. They bear the portrait of Lenin, surrounded by an inner frame of black and an outer border of Communist red, and will be in compulsory use for some time. The portrait, in its silhouette effect of black and white, is a remarkably good one.

After the revolution, payment of postage was abolished in Russia, but the disorganisation consequent on this change was so widespread that free postage was dropped after a not very extended trial. Then appeared some curious stamps symbolic of art, labour, Socialism slaying the Capitalist dragon, and similar devices, the nominal values of the stamps being in ever-increasing figures, up to 100,000 roubles. Then there was a sudden drop when "1922 roubles" were induced, each worth 10,000 of the old roubles.

In 1923 small stamps bearing fearsome portraits of "Red" workers and soldiers were introduced, which are not the best possible advertisement of the charms of Soviet rule. These, with Tsarist stamps overprinted with Bolshevik devices, served during 1923, when they were replaced by similar stamps with values expressed in gold kopecks.

Dealing in Russian postage stamps is a monopoly of a special department of the Soviet Government, which markets them in aid of various Famine and Child Welfare funds, punctuating the ordinary issues of Russia by special "charity" sets, sold at high prices, and bearing such inscriptions as "Philately Helps the Children." Famine stamps from several districts bear witness to the internal condition of Russia during the last two or three years.

AN OLD "SWEAT"

Sailed in the Birkenhead

At his home in Battersea, aged 91, recently died Bandmaster John Gready. He joined the Second Battalion Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, now known as the Queen's Royal Regiment, at Athlone, his birthplace, in 1847, when he was 14. First a drummer, he became a bandsman, but was a combatant in the Kaffir War of 1851 and the China War of 1861. He afterwards served for 12 years in India, becoming bandmaster of his regiment. His service extended over 50 years—32 years in the Regular Army and 18 years with the Volunteers. When he went to the Cape he sailed in the ill-fated Birkenhead on her second and last voyage. A man of fine figure, he was active to the last, walking four or five miles a day. Colonel J. Mackenzie Rogan, late of the Coldstream Guards, who was one of Gready's oldest friends, says:—

In the Army he was recognized by his colleagues as one of the ablest men who ever left Kneller Hall. It was he, with others, in the sixties and seventies who put an end to the foreign element in British Army music. In those days two-thirds of the bandmasters in the Army were Germans and it was men like bandmaster Gready who had all the spade work to do.

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

The Prince of Scotland and Wales: A New Bore for Scottish Controversialists: Mr. Ramsay MacDonald Welcomed Back into the Fold

From Our Own Correspondent.

Edinburgh, Feb. 27.

"The Prince of Scotland" is one of the titles by which the heir to the throne has a right, though we never hear him called by it. In a lecture in University [illegible] London at which he [illegible] was present, the lecturer, Dr. Walter Seton, referred to this fact, [illegible] Scotland if, on the occasion of the forthcoming visit of His Royal Highness to Scotland, Scots were permitted to drink the health of the lad who was born to be King by his title Prince of Scotland and Wales, for which the precedent of centuries could be claimed." The suggestion as might be expected [illegible] quiet reasonableness. Dr. Seton's position is that while the title "Prince of Scotland" is not the oldest title held by the Prince of Wales among his Scottish titles; the oldest title is Earl of Carrick, 1444, and next after that probably the Dukedom of Rothesay, created in 1398; still the Scotland as soon as his royal father became King on May 6, 1910, but he was not created Prince of Wales until June 23, 1910. But in another way, while His Royal Highness became Prince of Wales by special creation he became Prince of Scotland by right of birth as soon of his Royal father became King. The objectors say that there is nothing to hinder anybody in Scotland from toasting the Prince as [illegible] in use there was a King of Scotland known to all the world by that title. That his heir should be called Prince of Scotland was then natural and incapable of originating any misconceptions. But if to-day, when there is no King of Scotland known commonly to the world by that title, the use of the title Prince of Scotland would inevitably give rise to the idea that the ancient kingdom was a Principality. Especially would this be the result if we were to accept Dr. Seton's suggestion and drink toasts to "the Prince of Scotland and Wales." The mongrel title would instantly "even us" with Wales. It will be seen, therefore, that we Scots have fine material for "a bonnie ferht" such as our hearts love, and we owe a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Seton for starting it.

THE PREMIER AND GOLF.

The reason why Mr. Ramsay MacDonald has looked somewhat jaded lately is the lack of exercise, consequent on golf. This is his favourite recreation although he never had time to be by any means an expert player. It is curious how typical of the Briton how much he [illegible] political differences. Some golf clubs closed their doors to Mr. MacDonald as the result of his attitude during the war, notably one at Lossiemouth, his birthplace, but since his accession to power he has been welcomed by several which previously rejected him to become their president. I am told that he is trying to [illegible] towards anyone of more peace of mind effective during of his views. It is quite possible that one famous club south of the Tweed which has invited him to become its president will find the invitation irresistible to the Prime Minister.

BOUND FOR CHINA.

J. M. Gedman has played his last match at Inverness, on the Rugby field, and shortly proceed to London and leave go out to China. Although not a regular member of the Inverness team, Gedman was one of the most valuable cogs in the Caledonian side. As a rover he had few superiors and his tackling was of that kind which an opponent does not greatly relish.

Of late weeks the docker has been in the limelight in the area of [illegible] may fall into the casual category—as it generally does—it is by no means unskilled work. It is not [illegible] who could step into his shoes without feeling the pinch of them. It is team work and [illegible] He must work in time with machinery, as a recruit marches to the tick of the metronome. His business also is with the essentials of life; he carries the food of a people on his shoulders. And, like all men who deal with the essentials of life, he and his work are governed by the non-[illegible] [illegible] In the ports of the Firth of Forth this is essentially so and there his labour is casual. For the chief trade is with the Baltic ports and with the ports of the White Sea—ports which, during certain months of the year, are ice-bound. A man who takes up the calling of a docker is assumed to be equal to tackling a burden of anything from 2 to 5 cwt. This, at least, is what may be required of the average grain worker. It sounds a tall order, but it is not a matter of direct bulk. The experienced docker is the man who has cultivated the knack of handling. The best docker in the world is said to be the Chinese, and that the European has little chance of competing with him in the matter of dexterity and swiftness. Modern science has lightened the task of the docker. The newest cargo boats [illegible] been brought into play in stacking. Still, for all these improvements, it is no uncommon thing to see men at Leith Docks, stripped of coat and waistcoat, sweating on the coldest day in winter.

Sometimes, in order to earn more—overtime is paid at the rate of time and a half—the men will work night and day, off-loading fruit, cement, or coal, at night under the glare of powerful arc lamps. Unloading cement and coal is thirsty work and sobriety cannot be reckoned among the chief virtues of the docker. Most of them in the end, fall victims to varicose veins, and few of them can persist in their calling after the age of fifty. As a body, they are stated to work well and to grumble little.

THE LATE SIR WM. WALLACE.

A tablet is to be placed in Westminster Hall in memory of Sir William Wallace and to mark the place of his trial there. Mr. [illegible] Robertson, M.P., one of the Scottish Socialist Whips, who has always taken a deep interest in [illegible] historical associations of Westminster, has urged successive Ministers who have presided over the Office of Works to place in the hall some record of the trial of the Scottish patriot and at last he has persuaded his Socialist colleague, Mr. Jowett, to agree to his request. In his letter to Mr. Robertson notifying his consent, Mr. Jowett says:—"We know from contemporary documents that Wallace was tried in Westminster Hall on August 23, 1305, on a scaffold at the south end of the hall, and that a laurel crown was set on his head in reference to the alleged prophecy that he would be crowned in that hall. Doubtless the actual site was in front of the King's Bench marble seat which stood against the south wall of the hall." The tablet is to be placed on the floor of the hall at, or near, the [illegible] where the scaffold stood for the purpose of the trial.

UNIVERSITY GOLF MATCHES.

The Scottish Universities Golf Society have assumed an active role under the energetic secretaryship of Mr. G. C. Mansfield. It is a body of whom comparatively little is heard considering how representative it is, standing on this side of the Border for all that the more widely known Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society does on the other side. The visit of the latter society to East Lothian a year ago made a very interesting curtain-raiser to the golfing season, and whether or not a return visit is contemplated we are at any rate to have a visit from the present students of the two great English Universities [illegible] of March. They are to play teams representing the present students of the Scottish Universities [illegible] Golfing Society. These encounters will find the Scottish players [illegible] advantage of constant week-end matches continued right through the winter and culminating in the Hoylake meeting. But the Universities Society at any rate should be able to put up a fight if it is represented at anything like its full playing strength.

HANSARD AND DIALECT.

When the Clydeside M.P.'s arrived in the House of Commons, there was a disturbing rumour that all the English reporters in the Press Gallery would lose their jobs because only Scotsmen could understand the Clydeside dialect. One is inclined to think that something akin to this has really happened, for in the Hansard report of the debate on unemployment tht other night Mr. Kirkwood is officially reported to have interrupted Dr. Macnamara by saying "Yes, of course, we ken ye," and then to have interjected a little later on in the same speech. "Do ye no' mind that you were in office yourself!" Earlier in the proceedings something the Scots Minister of Health did is baldly reported as "Mr. Wheatley indicated assent." Whether he nodded or said something in broad Gaelic that no one understood is not stated. Perhaps he said [illegible]

ENGLAND OR BRITAIN.

A discussion is taking place in the press on Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's quotations, and Sir D. M. Stevenson recalls that in his Rectorial Address to the Glasgow University students on "Patriotism," he quoted the lines from "Richard II."—

"This royal throne of kings, this sceptred isle. This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England."

Someone in the gallery shouted out "Britain!" Fixing him with his eyeglass, Mr. Chamberlain said: "Had I been Shakespeare I would have said 'Britain,' but he said 'England.'"

SWEATING FOR IT.

Some of the new Socialist Under-Secretaries are almost overcome by the size of their salaries. One whom I met the other day was frank in his observations on the subject. His salary of some £1,200 a year struck him as being "a lot of money." After a moment he added—"But I've got to work d—d hard for it."

TINKLE OF THE COPPERS.

The broadcasting of the North U.F. Church service at Aberdeen on Sunday evening has provoked some of the usual caustic comments at the expense of the Granite City folks. One Sassenach commentator, who heard the service "as far away as London is," says what tickled him most was the tinkle of the coppers when the collection was being taken. He declares that he did not hear the reverberation of a single threepenny bit.

A NEW GOLFING STORY.

A good golfing story and, I think, a new one comes from Aberdeen. Mr A Clark, the first captain and treasurer of the Northern Golf Club, has been recalling some picturesque incidents in the early days of that now flourishing association. Most of the members were working men, and before the eight hour day came into force they used to play their rounds in the evenings—often well into the night. On one occasion darkness set in before the game was finished, and one of the members was sent ahead to shout the direction of the greens. Out of the blackness in front came a voice "Do ye see the mune?" "Aye," was the ready. "Weel," said the guide, "that's the direction, but nae see far!"

BELGIAN BOY'S ADVENTURE

A Jim Hawkins of the Battle Zone

The news published recently in Brussels of the arrest in Berlin of a young Belgian, Otto Stéphane, for attempting to rob some of the British Reparation experts, has led to the identification of this boy as one who has had a most remarkable career.

Young Stéphane was a Boy Scout, 14 years of age, when war broke out, and instead of falling in with the stream of refugees, he stayed with the Belgian [illegible] Venturing out after the [illegible] he came across two Germans in a coppice, and, finding they were in no fighting mood, he escorted them to a Belgian outpost and the men were made prisoners. Stephane afterwards enlisted as a volunteer, and was allowed to go to the front at his request. He was twice wounded.

In this way his name became famous in France, and at the end of hostilities, which he survived without further injury, Gaby Deslys, the famous actress, became "War godmother" to him. At her house in Paris many parties were arranged in his honour. Then he disappeared from Paris and was not heard of again until he received an appointment as secretary to General Wrangel in Russia. After the debacle Stéphane turned up in Constantinople, and was arrested and released.

Later he turned up in the Rhineland, and as the result of some less creditable adventures he was arrested, and a charge was preferred against him of attempting to obtain property belonging to King Albert by giving a false name and carrying false identification papers. For this he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

The police state that Stéphane speaks English, German, Russian and Turkish with marked fluency, and they are baffled over his amazing propensity for adventure.—Central News.

BOY MUSICIAN WONDER

"Lohengrin" on Piano and Organ at Six

In the middle of his music lesson at school a six-year-old Clapham boy, George Malcolm, will often stop and say: "I have some lovely sounds in my head, may I play them to you?

He has only been learning music for two terms, and the head music mistress at the Notre Dame School, Clapham, declares that she has never known a child like him. "He is a genius," she told the "Daily News." "I am teaching him the piano and the violin, and he can already play Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Heller. He has taught himself the organ.

"We discovered his talent quite accidentally. The teacher who plays for the children's drill was away ill, and the drillmistress asked, in fun, if any of the little ones could play it. He volunteered, and played the music perfectly from ear without knowing a note of music. The teacher was so astonished that she called me to hear him play.

"I have never known him to play a discord, and in chapel he often sings an alto of his own to the melodies."

Malcolm has, his teacher declared, already composed a dozen pieces, although he does not yet know how to write it down. "He gives his compositions names of his own," added the teacher. "One he composed at breakfast at home. He calls it 'A Spanish Dance in A minor,' another he calls 'The Blue River.'

Malcolm's parents, his teacher and the organ music as difficult as the Bridal March from 'Lohengrin.' He learns without the slightest difficulty."

Malcolm's parent, his teacher added, are not musicians, and cannot explain his remarkable talent. He is a perfectly normal, lively boy in all other respects, and bright and intelligent at his lessons.

MR. SNOWDEN'S LUCK

Prospective Surplus of Some £30,000,000 Due to Unionist Government Economy

From Our Own Correspondent.

London, Mar. 6.

Mr. Snowden, the [illegible] Chancellor of the Exchequer, will have a surplus of about £30,000,000.

The savings on the Civil Services and Revenue Departments compared with the present financial year show a sum of £37,000,000. The Army Estimates show a reduction of seven millions, the Navy Estimates of about three millions. The Air Force is to cost roughly two millions more, and, if it be assumed that the Consolidated Fund Services will run to about the same figure, the sum which the Chancellor of the Exchequer will have to find for 1924-5 will be, in round numbers, something over £782,000,000, made up as follows:—

Army	£45,000,000
Navy	55,000,000
Air	14,000,000
Civil Service	289,000,000
Consolidated Fund	380,000,000
	£783,000,000

This, of course, is a rough estimate, which takes no account of odd thousands. The expenditure calculated for in the Budget of 1923-4 was, again in round figures, £816,000,000. It included £25,000,000 for supplementary estimates which might become necessary during the year. If similar provision is made in the forthcoming budget, then the total above given would be increased by that amount.

The Department exhibiting the largest saving is the Ministry of Pensions, which is £6,707,400 down at £66,947,800; and decreases as big relatively can be put to the credit of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Labour, which require £2,704,400 and £2,126,700 less respectively, at £2,018,100 and £14,060,300. As much as £10,642,400 is retrieved under the Diplomatic and Consular Vote in regard to Colonial and Middle-Eastern services, no doubt because the current period had to bear the cost of the Imperial Conference.

The sum needed for the Board of Trade comes down from £1,032,500 to £538,300. The Board of Education Vote at £41,900,000 is within £34,000 of the present year's figure, as it certainly should be. It is a good sign, too, that the inadequate sum of £466,100 formerly assigned to scientific investigation and scientific and industrial research has been advanced to £529,700. Old Age Pensions go up from £23,300,000 to £24,201,000, the increase being partly due to the promised abolition of the thrift penalization provision. The Revenue Departments exhibit little change on balance.

How will Mr. Snowden spend his surplus? It is thought that he will take a good deal off the food taxes and somthing off the entertainment tax. He may also increase the taxation on the rich, especially in the direction of the super tax and, possibly, also the death duties. It might be added that, of course, credit for this flourishing state of national finance is due to the old Unionist Government.

AN AWKWARD SITUATION

Try as I would I could not rid myself of the Bore.
He was not to be dismissed by anything I did.
"I must go uptown," I said; but he merely replied,
"Very well. I'll go with you."
I invented several chores but he stuck like a leech.
Finally I hesitated in front of a private dwelling
I had never seen before and said to the Bore,
"I must stop here to see an old friend. Good-by."
I ran up the steps and rang the bell.
The door was opened by a servant.
"Is Mrs. Robinson in?" I inquired.
"Certainly, sir," he replied. "Step this way."

OUR AUSTRALIAN LETTER

Travelling Ministers and Do They Earn Their Pay? Parliament Preparing for a Wrangle: The British Naval Squadron and Romance Killed by Wireless

From Our Own Correspondent.

Melbourne, Feb. 27.

Mr. S. M. Bruce, the Prime Minister, is expected back in Australia within the next few days, and is being met by the acting Prime Minister, Dr. Page, and staff at Fremantle on the western coast. He travels overland by the so-called desert railway, and should reach Melbourne within 10 days. His appearance here is looked forward to with considerable interest by the ordinary onlooker, and with not a little anxiety by the politicians. Dr. Page has signified his retirement from the temporary leadership of the Government party by a lengthy speech in which he has claimed that the administration during the recess, and Mr. Bruce's absence, has been highly successful. He takes credit in an extraordinary way for alleged reforms, which after all were carried into effect by his predecessors whom he claims to have driven from office for the public good. A section of the press is pointing this out, and for the first time there appears to be an inclination seriously to criticize the Government. Dr. Page contends that ministers have done well by seldom being in their offices but travelling through the country to see for themselves personally. When one realizes the immense spaces of Australia and the time necessarily lost in travelling he will wonder, as one newspaper suggests, whether ministers could not be dispensed with altogether.

One Minister claims that because he dismissed a number of caretakers, who were uselessly employed looking after some anchored hulks, he has saved as much as all the ministerial trips would cost in the course of one year. Assuredly a somewhat childish argument, and one which is frequently heard from the man who declines to pay fire insurance premiums. But the chief complaints heard from the press which would naturally support the Government are based upon the fact that this Government is continuing the policy of grants, bounties, and interference with trade and industry to just as great an extent as did the previous Hughes' Government. It is also borrowing, and the Commonwealth Treasurer has propounded the thesis that it should be our aim to keep the public debt at its present per capita level, namely £150. Dr. Page points out that taking the past year's increase in population this would give a loan expenditure for the current year of £20,000,000, with increase in the future as the population is augmented. Such a proposition, coming from a leader pledged to the strictest economy and the curtailment of borrowing, is creating uneasiness, which is reflected in some very strong public criticism.

PARLIAMENT'S MEETING.

It is expected that Mr. Bruce will agree to the suggestion of the cabinet that parliament should resume its sittings on March 26. This will give him a fortnight to consider the various matters to which his colleagues have pledged him during the long recess and while he has been out of the country. He is pledged to revise the tariff and to introduce measures to alter the constitution. These measures must be submitted to the people for confirmation, and their purpose is to subdivide the larger States, and to practically recast the political map of Australia. Either the tariff or the constitutional amendments are sufficient to wreck the Government, even if it can successfully withstand the attacks which are bound to be made in respect to its futile administration at home and the failure of Mr. Bruce's mission to London.

The Nationalist section of the ministerialists is by no means satisfied. Dr. Page, the Country party leader, has used the absence of Mr. Bruce as an opportunity to strengthen his own party, and preach the doctrine that the man on the land should have a separate party in order to gain his own ends. The Nationalists are noting that the Country party in the several States is quite prepared to filch seats from the Nationalists, and, if the latter object to give their second votes to Labour, I understand that this attitude of selfish isolation—of Sinn Feinism—ourselves alone—is being more and more resented, and the Prime Minister will be hard put to it to maintain peace in the ranks of his followers. Mr. Bruce's capacity for leadership will be put severely to the test, but as the ex-Prime Minister, Mr. Hughes, will be a away for the next four months he will have every opportunity to show what he can do with the material at his command.

Before his departure for America, where he will deliver a series of lectures, Mr. Hughes warned Mr. Bruce that the Liberal and Labour sections of the Nationalist party were steadily drifting apart, and no-one is better furnished with political acumen to express an opinion.

THE BRITISH SERVICE SQUADRON.

Such is the effectiveness of wireless that greetings were exchanged between the Commonwealth and the British Special Service squadron while the warships were still 3,400 miles from the Australian coast. This sort of thing goes a long way to knock all the romance out of the seafaring yarns of the past. The Watchman on the hills at the back of the Lizard waiting to catch the first glimpse of the Spanish Armada, the hasty message to Drake and his admirals, and the assurance that they had still time to finish their game of bowls, would to-day be replaced by the reports in the newspapers each day for a fortnight or more as to the moment the fleet sailed, and its daily progress. To-day the spontaneous welcome cannot happen. Wireless has killed spontaneity.

For all that the fleet which will arrive to-day will be warmly welcomed, will visit all the important ports, and not leave Australian waters before April 26. All this might seem to have no very particular significance, but it has been endowed with unexpected importance by the fact that there has been a change of Government in Britain since the squadron set out on its mission. It is asserted that the Labour Government would have, had it been able, cancelled the Empire tour of the ships, and there were even non-Labour politicians who believed that this was quite on the cards. The hoax, therefore, which was perpetrated by an Australian Labour paper was not altogether without some grounds for belief. "The Labour Call" of Melbourne printed a few copies containing a bogus telegram, which made it appear that the British Premier, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, had indicated that he hoped there would be no superfluous patriotism in the welcoming of the fleet, and that official visits would be paid to the Trades Halls, and, where Labour was not in power, to the Leaders of Labour Oppositions. It was hinted that internationalism rather than patriotism was the keynote of the Labour policy.

Ramsay MacDonald said the message was a tissue of falsehoods, but the London daily Labour paper treated it as a joke, and said that MacDonald might well have said it, but not in such blunt language. At least two Melbourne dailies were foolish enough to take the story seriously, and one went even so far as solemnly to comment on it in its leading columns. The matter might rest at that, and the paper be satisfied that it had raised a laugh, but unfortunately the paper is controlled by the Deputy-leader of the Federal Labour Opposition. It is interpreted—at least by the opponents of Labour—as an attempt on the part of the communistic element in the trades unions to throw cold water upon the visit of the fleet, and lessen the welcome the officers and men will receive. I do not think it will have that effect, but it is certain to supply ammunition to the opponents of Labour. It is rather as if a small boy had set a bent pin for his neighbour to sit down upon, and then had sat on it himself.

SHORT-LIVED BUSHRANGING.

It transpires that the man who did the shooting at a picnic party in New South Wales had never heard of the somewhat similar crime in the Melbourne Botanic Gardens. He was a man with a grievance. He had invented something which had been stolen from him. Most inventors are like that. He had discovered, so he said, a way to poison rabbits, and he carried about a tin of cyanide of postassium which he was not game, at the last moment, to use upon himself. Of the three people he shot one is dead, but the others are likely to survive. After shooting at some police who were pursuing him he crept down to the river Murray, and swam across to the Victorian side. He discarded rifle, ammunition and much of his clothing, and the countryside being aroused he was soon described against the skyline climbing the mountainous country. He knew the people and most of them knew him. He had talked in days past of what he would do if he ever turned bushranger, and despite the evidence of the prison doctors it looks as if he were hardly responsible.

In the end he crawled to the milking-yard of a homestead, where two youths, whom he knew, were milking cows, and prayed for food. The youths gave him milk, and while he was drinking seized and bound him in the best movie-picture style. He had been about five days' out. Meanwhile, in the same neighbourhood—that is within 150 miles—some-one had been busy burning small houses. At last he shot at one of the people watching for him, and the hard-headed and hard-riding bushmen rode him down. He is already forgotten except by those whose property he destroyed.

It is permissible, perhaps, to add here that one of the two men who shot the bank manager at a Melbourne suburban railway station, as mentioned by me some months ago, has been condemned to death. The other man, who is quite well known to the police, has not been captured. He has either got out of the country, or is, to use the criminal phraseology, lying in smoke.

TRAWLING INDUSTRY.

Probably one of the most remarkable instances of how Governments can stand in the light of industry is shown by the failure hitherto to establish a fish trawling industry. Soon after the Commonwealth came into existence a trawler was secured and the services of Mr. H. C. Dannevig, a Norwegian fishery expert, temporarily in the employ of the New South Wales Government, obtained. As a result the areas where trawling was possible were mapped, and a whole library of information created. Yet no-one seemed particularly to mind, and Mr. Dannevig and his trawler disappeared with all hands down in the southern seas where they had been sent upon a quite unsuitable mission. The New South Wales State Government decided to start trawling, but being afflicted with Labour ideals also started State fish-shops, and lost money in very considerable quantities. Had the catches of their trawlers been made available to the regular sellers of fish the business might have succeeded. With a change of Government the fish shops have been closed and the trawlers sold. Queensland, also having a Labour Government, was determined to catch fish, and sell it to the public. It lost many thousands of pounds, reluctantly abandoned its scheme, and sold its one trawler. Possibly these efforts, or the after-results of the war, may have had their effect, but trawling is now being taken up by private enterprise, under the guidance of men experienced in the North Sea fisheries.

Four or five trawlers are now regularly supplying Sydney, and the other day a Sydney trawler came into Melbourne to initiate a similar trade here. It is early yet to be able to prophesy as to results, and much of course will depend upon the manner in which the State railways assist in getting the catches distributed inland. But what is of chief interest is the fact that Admiral Lord Jellicoe in 1919, when reporting on Australian naval defence, particularly mentioned the necessity of having mine-sweeping facilities, and declared that the cheapest and most efficient method was to create a large fish trawling industry. Whether the Commonwealth is encouraging these new ventures has not yet been disclosed, but there is always the danger that the fear of being charged with Socialism will keep it idle.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

The past year was a bad one for the cotton industry, which is chiefly located in Queensland. The drought which prevailed was considered the worst according to records for 50 years, yet 12,000,000-lb. of seed cotton valued at £275,-000 was obtained. For the current year the prospects, following upon general rains, are excellent. There are estimated to be some 100,000 acres under crop, and an output of 43,000,000-lb., 86,000 bales, valued at £1,000,000 is anticipated. In addition to up to date ginning plants mills have been erected to treat the cotton seed, and get all the value possible out of bye-products. There are now some 4,000 white farmers engaged in growing the staple, and the number is being rapidly increased. Reports from England tell us that there is no hope for rapid expansion because there is no large supply of cheap, coloured labour, and Lord Leverhulme, when here the other day, was most persistent that we should bring negroes into the country and establish an industry which he assured us would be worth a sum of £300,000,000 or double the value of the American crop.

Apart from the political and social objections to having a mass of negroes in this country, all Australians who have studied the matter believe that industrially the idle, shiftless, and unimaginative coloured races are less profitable than the energetic white man, with whom initiative is a commonplace. Already there is evidence enough that the white people picking cotton pick ever so much more in a short day than the plantation negro in the United States does in a long one, and as the cotton farms are all in small areas the growers and their families can for the most part do all the necessary work. At present the growing of ratoon cotton is prohibited, but a strong agitation is afoot that this prohibition be removed. It is asserted that the ratooning of cotton is liable to harbour insect pests, but this argument should equally apply to sugar cane, which is usually ratooned twice after the plant crop has been cut.

Seeing that in two or three years the area under cotton has increased from nothing to 100,000 acres there is no reason to suppose that double or treble that amount of land will not be planted within the next two or three years. Indeed it seems likely that cotton cultivation will proceed quite as quickly with white labour as would be possible with coloured, seeing that it is necessary to open up lands, build railways, and otherwise prepare the country for settlement. One thing is certain namely that the industry is being started on sound foundations. The danger of pests is fully recognized, and the best expert advice in all departments has been hired to watch developments, check mistakes, and advise the growers.

ATHERTON TABLELANDS.

At the back of Cairns, which is now the second port in Queensland in the amount of its trade, there are wonderful tablelands, lying 2,000 to 3,000 feet above sea level, and embracing some 7,000,-000 acres of deep, rich volcanic soils. For a long time past there have been many settlers on this country which lies just below the 17th parallel of south latitude, but they have not found much that they can profitably cultivate. It is too cold at night-time to grow sugar cane, and the cultivation of maize, which at one time reached one million bushels, largely failed because of the intense moisture which prevented the drying of the grain and its preservation from the attacks of weevils. Estimates of the cost of kiln-drying placed this remedy out of the question. Lately the State Government of Queensland has come to the rescue and advanced some £70,000 to the farmers, who have let contracts for the building of three silos for storage purposes. At the same time a compulsory pool has been created which will handle the maize as common property, and see that it is not rushed on to the market to be sold for next door to nothing, while later on in the year South African maize will be imported to supply the people in the South. The capacity of the three silos will be 8,000 tons, and the number of farmers affected at first only 150, but this new development will naturally lead, if successful, to many new growers taking up this industry, to more silos, and to the restoration of the old time prosperity without the market risks

There is also talk of one of the big manufacturing firms putting up works for the manufacture of maize products on the spot. It is only fair to say that the State Labour Government is chiefly responsible for this new departure being made possible. The average Liberal Government, which worships private enterprise as a savage does his fetish, hesitates to lend money to farmers to commence a new venture, lest it be charged with conquetting with State Socialism, yet there is no question that our sugar industry, meat export works and butter factories largely owe their initiation and success not so much to private enterprise as to State determination to make them succeed, and helping them with advances at a low rate of interest, and easy terms of repayment Labour Governments have no qualms in such matters, and on the whole though they are charged with being socialistic do a great deal of good. The Babinda sugar mill was built by the Government at a cost of half a million sterling. It is in good running order, and pays its way. The Government has now handed it over to the farmers, and it becomes their property to do with as they like, provided they continue to pay off the Government loan with interest. In addition to maize growing on the Atherton tablelands there has been considerable increase in dairying of late, and the prospects are that this fine area, well in the tropics, will soon become a hive of white men's industry.

FILMING EVEREST

Colour-pictures and Tibetan Music

The "Times" publishes from its film correspondent the following account of the arrangements that have been made to take pictures of the Everest Expedition: -

Elaborate preparations have been made to take cinematograph pictures of the third expedition to climb Mount Everest, which is soon leaving this country, Captain J. B. L. Noel, F.R.G.S., who was responsible for the film of the second expedition shown last year, is again in charge. A number of pictures are to be taken by the new process of colour cinematography invented by Mr. Friese Green. Certain portions of the films are to be sent to this country as they are taken by arrangement with Messrs. Pathé Frères, and it is anticipated that it will be possible to show them in London a month after they have been taken. The complete film, however, will probably not appear till next October.

The films will not be developed during the journey as they were last time (sometimes with rather disastrous results), but as they are taken they will be sent back first by foot, then by mule transport, and then by Indian past to Darjeeling, where they will be developed at a specially constructed laboratory. When the complete film is shown it will be accompanied by Tibetan music recorded during the journey by Mr. T. H. Somervell (who did similar work last time), and orchestrated and fitted to its new environment by Mr. Eugene Goossens.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

OUR FACULTIES AND THE FACT OF RELIGION

The Old Inheritance and our Temptation: A Sermon

Preached by the Rev. A. S. Rowland on April 9, 1922, in Union Church, Shanghai

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." I Cor. x: 13.

Last Sunday we thought of [illegible] Revelation [illegible] these three, and that place in Revelation [illegible] present [illegible] Through the [illegible] is under test. This is the [illegible] confusion to man of which the Apostle speaks in the chapter.

THE MORAL STRUGGLE.

We know now that temptation has come from a far away past [illegible] gathered momentum from [illegible] processes. To [illegible] conflict with the [illegible] to come in [illegible] that we [illegible] of the [illegible] life is a [illegible] that we [illegible] in the [illegible] Him. He is [illegible] to be tempted to be [illegible] to be [illegible]

So in moral questions. There can be no victory for the man who already counts himself a [illegible] renders at the first summons. The Apostle Peter had experience of this in the courtyard of the high priest when temptation searched [illegible]

This chapter of Corinthians is a great contribution to the subject. First the apostle turns to the over confident and says "Remember how our fathers lost what they set out for by yielding to temptation. Take warning from their downfall." Then he [illegible] the truth [illegible] temptation; [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

where it happened. They
der whether it is quite safe
on the Blue Express.
it over and joke. A
Chinese, a banker, rides
d class. He says the first
is too far beyond the or-
ary standard of living of an
st man in China. Luncheng
ssed. We have our dinner.
train moves quickly. The tall
tors of the road look fero-
s and efficient. The search-
t is turned on. Nothing on
ur sides but the bare country
the Yellow River Valley.

CLASS PREJUDICES.

inese and foreigners alike in
ing wonder at the millionaires
Shanghai, who inhabit the
ds and whose wives buy furs.
e people might know how to
e money, but they can't possi-
know anything else. It is this
judice in Peking against the
tality of the Shanghailander
ch makes for much of the mis-
derstanding in the situation.
nghai is supposed to be as
ren as the spindle-room of a
on mill. Yet, one can look
d in Peking and find neither
Paci's concerts nor Mr.
erby's and Dr. Chatley's meet-
Culture usually accom-
ies economic independence—
there is no money in Peking.

THE HOUSE OF CHING.

here is much talk in Peking of
boy Emperor. There is much
of his use of the telephone
the automobile, of his British
or and his wife's missionary
or. But there is little talk of
calling into his palace younger
inese scholars and philosophers
instruct him in the history of
s country and the present con-
ions of its people. The Boy
peror is taking a keener in-
est in China than perhaps its
sident—although that is not
explicable. For blood will out.

LESSONS IN GOLF

—Some Points About Putting

(Harry Vardon—Six Times Open Champion)

Putting has given me infinitely
ore trouble than any other de-
rtment of the game, and, for
at reason, I have devoted an
alculable measure of attention
it. If the results have been
riable, the experiments have
en at least interesting.
After 30 years of ups and
wns on the putting green, I
convinced that there are two
preme constituents of success
this small area with its crowd-
possibilities.
The first is to keep the head,
d therefore the body, absolute-
still throughout the swing, and
til after the ball has been
uck. Only the arms should
ve in the playing of the
oke.
The second is to see that the
ub-head is not pushed in even
e slightest degree outwards—
at is, away from the body—dur-
g the back swing. It should
taken back, so far as possible,
a straight line behind the ball.
owing to the length of the
ft and the consequent necessity
r a comparatively long swing,
e club-face must turn slightly
om a right-angle setting to the
rection of play, its tendency
ould be to travel inside an ex-
nded line of the putt behind
e ball—not to go outside that
e, which is a common fault.

THINGS THAT DON'T MATTER.

As a rule, the person who is
tting well is observing these
o principles. For the rest, it
es not matter much how he is
ing about the business. Whe-
er he is standing straddle-
gged or with the heels close
gether, whether he is stooping
er the ball or adopting an
most erect posture, and how he
[illegible] the club are matters
[illegible] choice on which it
ould be absurd to lay down
[illegible] where putting is concerned.
[illegible]ping the head still and not
[illegible]ing the club out are the
[illegible] to remember, and perhaps
e best advice one can offer is
at the player should not think
o much about anything else
hen he is within holing dis-
nce. Putting can become like
[illegible]mare if, when you are
[illegible] well, you begin to analyse
r methods in order to discover
actly how you are prospering
greatly.

A FAMOUS PLAYER'S GRIP.

There is a human story of a man who had failed at nothing on the greens for six or seven holes until his opponent remarked: "You are a wonderful putter. I must watch how you do it." The wonderful one, conscious of the fact that he was now being watched, began himself to wonder how he was doing it, with the result that the smooth working of the system gave way to an endeavour to demonstrate all the principles that he felt were correct. And so he missed the putts.

A great many people—including first-class players—grip the putter differently from any of the other clubs. Ever since I saw Mr. W. J. Travis, of New York, win the British amateur championship at Sandwich in 1904, I have thought that—theoretically, at any rate—his grip was the best for this department of the game.

It was the overlapping grip reversed—that is, the left hand did the overlapping. If memory serves, the forefinger and second fingers of that hand rested on the third and little fingers of the right hand.

I have tried this method and done well with it, although the ordinary overlapping grip is now too strongly ingrained in me for any other to take its place permanently, even for putting only. Still Mr. Travis's way strikes me as being sound in conception, because it helps to keep the right hand under control. And it is usually the right hand that becomes wayward, especially in the matter of pushing the putter out at the start of the back swing.

AN UNNOTICED FAULT.

This latter fault often creeps into the system without being noticed, and generally results in the club-face cutting across the ball, which is, therefore, invested with a tendency to wobble gingerly along the line and slip past the right-hand side of the tin.

I was once suffering from such a condition on the eve of an open championship. Happening to be in the professional's shop with nothing particular to do, I started to swing my putter. The boarded floor had no covering, and there were the usual thin lines where the planks joined. I chanced to start my putter back on one of these lines, and noticed that it went outside the line. That was the key to my trouble. I began at once to practise the principle of taking the club back straight along the line, and, as a result, putted so well in that championship as to win.

HEADS AND ELBOWS.

But when all is said and done, the preservation of a perfectly still head and body is the main essential in the accomplishment of a successful putt.

Obviously there is nothing wonderful in making a ball run two or three or more yards in a straight line on a green specially prepared for the purpose, and in the great majority of cases the influence which causes it to go wrong is a sway of the body, beginning at the head.

Different players have different methods for maintaining the stability of the body. Mr. Francis Ouimet, that distinguished American amateur who beat Edward Ray and me in the re-play for the United States Open Championship of 1913, and who is certainly one of the finest putters in the world, has both his elbows pointing well outwards so that his arms form a kind of triangle with the apex at his neck, and the club swinging pendulum-fashion from his hands in the middle of the base of the triangle.

It is a putting style that arrests attention, because it looks as if the club-head must move in a straight line—the line of the putt—from beginning to end, and this is an invaluable feature of the putting swing.

J. H. Taylor adopted the principle many years ago of sticking out his left elbow so that it pointed almost directly in the line of play, and it struck me that he became a more certain holer-out—if that were possible—from the moment he put this system into operation.

Some players like to pause momentarily at the end of the back swing, as if to steady themselves and take aim for the putt. Macdonald Smith, of Mexico, who finished third in last year's British Open Championship, does this in a pronounced degree, and the trait is almost as noticeable in the putting methods of James Braid. I have observed, too, that the longer he pauses at the end of his back swing, the better he putts.

We may not do well deliberately to cultivate a break of this kind, but certainly it is better than rushing the club forward.

Keep your head absolutely rigid and take the club back in a straight line behind the ball. Bring it forward smoothly and follow through. Those seem to be the essentials of effective putting.

VI.—Long Shots Up to Hole

It happens very often that we want to play a long and well-controlled shot up to the hole—a shot of greater distance than we can accomplish with a mid-iron, but calling for just as much accuracy in the placing of the ball.

It is not typical stroke with the brassie. In ordinary circumstances we use the brassie as we do the driver. We adopt the same full swing in the endeavour to obtain length, and, if we are just within reach of the green, we hope that the ball will finish on it. Among the rank and file of golfers, the brassie shot is viewed as a speculation. Not many players have a real fancy for it.

They have long since come to the conclusion that the art of taking the ball clearly from the turf an almost straightfaced wooden club is one of the most difficult features of the game. "I never could hit a brassie shot and never shall," is a common remark as the frustrated individual puts the club back in the bag after one more failure. At any rate, it is essentially a club for a good lie, unless the player happens to be one of unusual skill.

SPOON, CLEEK AND DRIVING IRON.

Let us try something easier. Three clubs may be said to stand jointly next in power to the brassie. They are the spoon, the cleek and the driven iron. The golfer has to decide which of them he is going to make his stand-by for shots up to the pin which are beyond the range of the mid-iron. Where the average player is concerned—the person who does not hope to become a champion, although he is keen to improve to the limit of his capacity—I have no hesitation in recommending the spoon.

The cleek may be the best club of all for the purpose if the golfer concerned possesses the gift of being able to strike the ball absolutely accurately. Its narrow blade fits into a bad lie where no wooden club would be equal to the occasion. Moreover, the man who is master of the cleek can control the flight and run of the ball better with it than he can with a spoon.

It always seems to me, however, that the cleek is the club for an individual who has been pursuing the game from childhood and who has been brought up with this instrument as one of his playthings. It calls for confidence, flexibility of the golfing muscles, and accuracy of striking in a greater degree, I think, than any other club.

A DISTINCTION.

For the late beginner or anybody whose muscles are fairly well set, the spoon is an easier club to use. It should be distinctly shorter than the brassie and possessed of a fairly stiff shaft. Every follower of the game knows that its face must have an appreciable loft. Assuming that it is a spoon of the strictly thoroughbred type, it will have a long face.

There are "spoons" with stumpy heads and small faces—rather more generously lofted than the thoroughbred type. At least, the people who own them often call them spoons. Distinctions in the nomenclature of clubs are sometimes only matters of fancy, but these squat, more or less square-headed wooden clubs—with a loft between that of a mid-iron and mashie—I would prefer to know as baffies, although the term "spoon" and "baffy" are frequently regarded as being synonymous.

The true spoon, I would say, has—in addition to its long face—the loft of a mid-iron. Being shorter in the shaft than the brassie, it will naturally necessitate the player standing nearer to the ball if he is to accomplish the shot successfully. He can tell with every club whether he is standing in the position for striking, and making sure that the full extent of the sole, from heel to toe, is resting on the turf.

If the heel is raised from the ground, he is standing too near. If the toe is cocked up, he is too far away. The shaft being shorter and the stance nearer, the swing with the spoon will be more upright than that with the brassie. It can, however, be a fairly full swing. The spoon is the easiest club in the bag with which to vary the swing. One may make the effort as full as for a driver shot, or reduce it to a half or three-quarter swing.

The broad sole of the club, combined with its lofted face, allow for some margin of error, and often a tolerably satisfactory shot is achieved where—with any other club in use—the result would be a bungle, since slight mistiming would result in an iron sticking into the ground, and would cause a straighter faced wooden club to smother the ball.

I have already referred to the baffy. Having a loft approaching that of the mashie, it obviously will not obtain the same distance as a spoon or a cleek, but it is a very valuable club to the person who is never at all sure of hitting the ball cleanly.

Its well set-back face inspires confidence. It makes the player feel that he really can hit the ball up with this club. It is probably useful when the lie is unfavourable, and the head of the club has to fit into a depression at the impact.

Frankly, it is not a sheet-anchor for a good player or one who is improving so steadily as to lead him take a cleek when the lie is not too good, or a spoon where he prefers it to a cleek. Still, the baffy is a help to the player who is content to get well on the way to the hole—if not quite there.

I have already referred to the driving iron—or, as it is somesometimes called, the driving mashie—as an alternative to the cleek or the spoon. It has come into a good deal of favour because a lot of people like its comparatively broad face, which is considerably deeper than that of the cleek.

It is important to see that the driving iron has a little loft—not much, but sufficient to be definite. The longest iron shot of all is to be obtained with a straight-faced driving iron, and, as a result, one sees this kind of club fairly often on the links. But it is certainly the most difficult shot of all, and is hardly worth trying except in the case of a first class player.

A slightly-lofted driving iron, however, is probably easier to use than a cleek, and, in some circumstances, can be employed more profitably than a spoon. If you have these two, you do not need a cleek at all.

WHAT IS A CHINA PONY?

I.

Strange Eohippus, parent of the race
Of equine friends that twice a year amuse us,
Would that thou had'st possessed the saving grace
To brand thy Chinese foals, that now confuse us,
With some unique, imperishable mark,
Permitting recognition in the dark.
Had they but been endowed with gift of speech,
Eftsoon might we classification reach:
By purity of accent, firm decreed,
Know them from interloping, strange cross-breed.

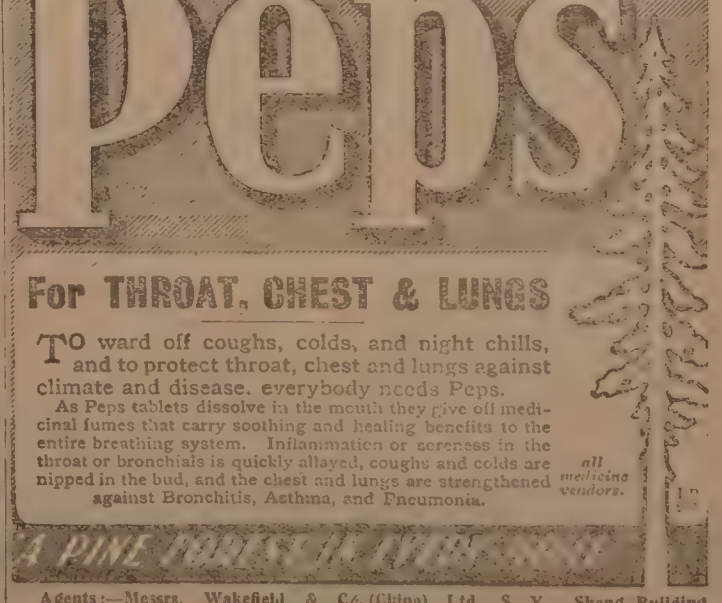
II.

Think of the mischief wrought of this neglect
To mark thine offspring plain from other breeds.
Behold Race Club Committees, quite select,
In mental agony. Soon must they needs
Locate some seer, some oracle of old,
By whom the vital difference shall be told.
Else have recourse to prayer. A litany
May soon assail our ears. It will be—
"Lord, save us from the griffin that is phony:
And send us but the pukka China pony!"

III.

.....Perissodactyl of the Eocene,—
With four anterior digits, three behind,—
Bethink thee how much better 'twould have been
Had'st thou, for benefit of racing kind,
But marked thy China seed, throughout posterity,
With toes thus cunningly arranged. In verity,
Heads would ache less, along the China coast,
Especially in Race Clubs. None could boast
That they, who shall select, must each turn sinner
And bar, as cross-bred, ev'ry likely winner!

R. R. L. F. in the "Peking & Tientsin Times."



THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

What book title could be more attractive to English readers than [illegible] Hon. George Lambton to a volume which he has appearing with Thornton Butterworth. Mr. Lambton is a gentleman rider of considerable fame, a well-known trainer, and a familiar figure in the hunting field. This enables him to recall great thoroughbreds, thrilling finishes, and tight corners in the hunting field. His social position as a member of the House of Durham has also brought him into contact with many celebrities.

∴

With the centenary of the death of Byron, which occurs this month, interest in his life and works steadily increases. Appropriately, there is appearing a book from the pen of Professor S. C. Chew, already well-known for his studies of the poet, entitled "Byron In England"—His Fame and After-Fame. The author shows how the fluctuations in Byron's renown have gone hand in hand with changes in current thought, and casts some light upon shifting ethical standards, religious tenets, political opinions and literary tastes. The Bibliography appended to the book, which is published by Mr. Murray, is far fuller than any other yet issued, and covers a vast field of research.

∴

"Murder and Its Motives" is the title of a book which that clever novelist, Miss Tennyson Jesse, has written for Heinemann. She divides the world into two classes, those who consider murder to be the most curious phenomenon of human nature, and admit a vivid interest in it, and those who, while secretly thrilled, disclaim any such interest and condemn it as morbid. Perhaps Miss Tennyson Jesse's book may appeal to both groups of readers, or she hopes so. She divides the motives for murder into six classes and illustrates each by discussing a famous crime.

∴

Mr. John Murray is publishing the "Adventures and Reminiscences of Major-General Sir Francis Howard, K.C.B." It is rather a long title, but then Sir Francis has had a full, varied, and adventurous carreer. He joined the Rifle Brigade in 1866 and saw service in the Jowaki campaign, of which younger people may never have heard. They have, however, heard of the Afghan war, the Soudan war, the South African war and the Great War, in all of which Sir Francis Howard took part. His job, a large one, in the Great War, was the supervision of the New Armies.

∴

At a time when much interest is centred in Russian affairs, Captain Francis McCullagh's book "The Bolshevik Persecution of Christianity," will be read with interest, for he not only presents the proofs of this persecution, but also gives a full account of the Cieplak trial at which he was present from the day it opened till it closed with four sentences of death. No such exhaustive account of this celebrated trial has so far been published in any language. The book, which Mr. Murray will publish, also deals with the general situation in Russia from a religious point of view.

∴

Sir George Greenwood, who has made a special study of the Turks, has a book about them appearing with Messrs. C. Palmer. He emphasizes the two important facts that the Turk has returned to Europe and that the meaning of this move in years to come concern not only the Balkans but Europe as a whole. Sir George thinks, in fact, that we are now face to face not with the Old Turk, but with the Young Turk, a much more dangerous person. The book has a preface by Sir [illegible] Edward Noble, who comments on [illegible] but not entirely as a friend and a warning for [illegible] the world at large.

IRELAND'S STORY

"The History of Ireland." By Stephen Gwynn. Macmillan. 12s. 6d.

[illegible] have been so busy making history that they might well be excused for not finding time to write it. Not the least hopeful sign of the new era is that the historians are almost as active as the politicians. Amid the alarms and excursions of civil war scholars like Mr. Eoin MacNeill, Mrs. Stopford Green, and Professor Curtis, have been patiently disentangling the ravelled threads of our early history unperturbed by the rattle of snipers' rifles that served as an accompaniment to their labours. Dublin Irregulars took it upon themselves 12 months ago to blow up Mr. Gwynn's house with a land mine on the ground that he was guilty of what they described as the crime of "non-sympathy." Mr. Gwynn returns good for evil by presenting his countrymen, including the Irregulars, with the first adequate review of the whole field of Irish history.

Though the book does not make pretensions to be a work of original research, it is a good deal more than "a summary outline," which is all the author claims for it in his preface. Hitherto the difficulty with all popular Irish histories has been that it was impossible to see the wood for the trees. These authors were cobblers rather than artists, and the principle upon which they acted was to stitch together the largest possible number of facts, with scant regard for nice questions of proportion, or for their relative value as illustrating the play of political and social forces. Even Mr. Gwynn, practised hand as he is, finds it no easy matter to cram a quart into a pint pot, and his book would have lost nothing had he refused to crowd his canvas with so much detail. But he does get as none of his predecessors did, the impression of continuity and development, and though the tale is necessarily long and involved, we carry away from these pages a new sense of its dramatic unity.

Another good service rendered by Mr. Gwynn is his refusal to set up a standard of values based on existing political controversies, and his insistence that in passing judgment upon men and events it is neither good history nor even good politics to ignore the point of view of another age. He has no illusions about Elizabethan statecraft, Cromwellian exploitation, or the monstrous injustice of the Penal Laws, but in dealing with these factors he relates them to the special circumstances of their time, a departure which if it outrages violent partisans on both sides has been received by the mass of Irish readers in a fashion that shows they recognize the time has come when the first duty of a popular historian is not to natter patriotic prejudices, but to face facts boldly however unpleasant they may be.

The handling of contemporary events is no bad test of the power of a writer to interpret the past, and Mr. Gwynn's narrative of the last 30 years, from the Home Rule campaign to the setting up of the Free State, is admirable in its precision, balance, and detachment. To have written a book of this kind at the present juncture is not only a service to scholarship, but to the State.

"THE FLYING DRAPER"

"The Flying Draper." By Ronald Fraser. (Fisher Unwin. 7s. 6d.)

Mr. Fisher Unwin has never [illegible] I mean a more original [illegible] Novel than this one. Whether [illegible] of complete clearness of [illegible], or simply lack of practice in story-writing, is hard to say, the fact remains vaguer mysticism, a little more obscure than the author probably intended. He seems undecided whether to make a Beresford-cum-Wells imaginary flight, of ingenuity rather than seriousness, or to follow that forlornest hope, the expression of the inexpressible. The work is enormously suggestive in some parts, highly entertaining in others, and a most interesting attempt all through. When the author (who has a mature style and rich vocabulary) shall have given more attention to the homogeneous quality which should fuse his vision with his story, he will write a novel which should be remarkable indeed.

LAST OF HER RACE

The Great Career of the Cutty Sark

[*By H. M. Tomlinson.*]

"The Log of the Cutty Sark." By Basil Lubbock. (Glasgow: Brown and Son. 16s.

The last, and the best. As Mr. Lubbock tells us, "next to the Victory, the most interesting survivor of the days of sail is undoubtedly the famous tea and wool clipper, Cutty Sark." In fact, perhaps those sailing ships are the only two whose names are at all familiar to the public. The Suez Canal was opened when the Cutty Sark was launched, in 1869, and the clippers were doomed. That masterpiece, built at Dumbarton—undoubtedly she was the fortunate creation of genius—was too late to get a chance to break records in the race home from China. Her first masters, excellent seamen, never discovered that they had under them anything more than an exceptionally fine ship. But she was much more than that. It was not until Captain Woodget, after showing his quality in one voyage in the little Coldstream, was appointed to the Cutty Sark by John Willis ("Old White Hat"), with instructions to "drive her," that it was discovered she was—well, let us say, of the same nature as an ode of Keats. There were numbers of fast steamers working in 1890, but so late as that year—which shows how recently at sea the Elizabethan era closed—the fastest ship on the seas was the Cutty Sark. She has left the P. & O. mail steamer astern, and, with her 17 knots and more when she was enjoying the wind, of course that was not so very difficult.

Woodget seems to have divined her remarkable nature at once. To see what that was, inspect the illustration in Mr. Lubbock's book, where the Cutty Sark is shown passing the Cimba, another fast clipper. The Cimba has reefed her top-gallant sails, but Tam O'Shanter's witch is close-hauled with her royals set, and appears to be skimming away in weather which would make the timid give one glance seaward and then crawl below. Woodget was happily married to the witch which gave Tam the fright of his life. During the 10 years when she was in his command she was never hove-to. When she was running, with wind and seas astern which daunted even her crew, it was Woodget's way, knowing his ship, to hang on with just so much canvas that she would slip out of the grasp of the following combers. She seemed, in fact, to exult in heavy weather, though she could also ghost along with the best, but only a man with a heart of bronze would have dared to invoke the magic of a witch in the southern ocean. Here is a delightful picture of Woodget at work, quoted by Mr. Lubbock from a letter by an officer of the Cutty Sark:—

> It was a pleasure to see the "old man" in dirty weather. He fairly revelled in it. With one side of his moustache jammed into his mouth, and hanging on to the weather rigging, I can see him now, his sturdy figure in yellow oilskins and long leather sea-boots, watching aloft and hanging on till the last moment. He gave all his crew complete confidence in him, and I never remember seeing him anything but calm in dirty weather.

Mr. Lubbock tells us that most of the tea clippers were very ticklish ships to handle in a big following sea, but that, properly canvassed, the Cutty Sark would run before the heaviest of the westerlies with very small helm, would keep her poop dry, and would bear driving as no other ship which ever crossed royal yards.

I am one of the fortunate who knew the Cutty Sark in Woodget's day, and it would be ridiculous of me to suppose that any living editor would give me the space to run loose on that precious intimacy. Besides, Mr. Lubbock has done it. He has written with gusto, and as length, and with astonishing patience and a pertinacity which has left unransacked any likely corner. He has preserved in this eulogy all the evidence which exists of the most remarkable merchant sailer created in a British shipyard. The general public may not know it, but we are deeply indebted to Mr. Lubbock, the historian of an era of British shipping which has passed. Mr. Conrad, in his narrative of the voyage of the Narcissus, has added to the body of our literature a vision of a time at sea which else would have been forgotten; and of that same period Mr. Lubbock has patiently sought and preserved all the intimate things, going fast now, of a sea-time of which this generation knows less than it knows of Tutankhamen.—The "Observer."

BERTHA

"Lummox." By Fannie Hurst. (Cape. 7s. 6d.)

This is not only the best novel we have had from America for at least a decade; it is one of the best novels in English we have read for years, and may easily, in the future, mark an epoch in our fiction as distinctly as did "Esthers Waters." Miss Hurst has taken the modern method, invented by Miss Richardson and developed since by many writers, some of far greater talent than the originator, and has made of it beauty and wonder. Her great advantages over such authors as Mr. Lawrence or Mr. James Joyce is that she has an affection, a zest for life; and that we never suspect her of dramatising herself.

Lummox—a clumsy woman—is Bertha, born in America from unknown parents. She is a domestic servant when the book opens, and she is that when it ends; but her adventures, both in range and intensity, could not be more vivid had she followed a hundred occupations. We do not only get Bertha's story — we get the story of the families she has served—the Farleys, the Muslin-ers, the Fallensteins, the Oessetrichs, and finally the genial, homely, happy Meyerbogens. There are dreadful interludes when Bertha goes back to the horrible sailors' doss-house where she was brought up; and one almost too dreadful when she lives with Silly Willy, because he is the manservant at the Bixby's, who adopted her illegitimate baby when he was 17 days old. The larger part of the book, however, is concerned with Bertha in service, and with the lives of the families as they appear to her and to her friend Helga, who is with her at the Farleys' and the Oessetrichs'. Miss Hurst is not unfair to the mistresses: she has no object but to make pictures, and to leave the reader to draw the contrast between Bertha, real, human, natural, and her employers, who have too much money or too much leisure or too little imagination.

Bertha is one of those happy (or miserable—it depends how you look at it) people who have music and laughter and poetry in the soul and have no means of expression, not even words. Yet this is untrue; she can express herself in life, and she does so by patient, unrewarded heroism, by tenacious fidelity, by keeping true always to the sane and lovely things of life. Miss Hurst makes her quite credible; and in no situation does she behave other than naturally. "Lummox" is full of incident—sometimes tragic and horrible; but the book itself, in spite of some evil things, is calm and beautiful. Occasionally Miss Hurst overwrites a little—it is the great danger of her methods, but at the important moments of her story, whether in dialogue or description, she is always magnificently equal to her task. Helga's death-scene, the quarrels between Mrs Wallenstein and her mother-in-law, the night-club chapter (alone containing more "stuff" than a dozen popular novels, the amazing picnic of the Musliners, when Bertha dances—are a few of the more memorable episodes that cling to the memory.—The "Observer."

THE GREATNESS OF OLIVE SCHREINER

A Beautiful and Moving Story

By Wilson K. Midgley

"The Life of Olive Schreiner." By S. C. Cronwright Schreiner. Fisher Unwin. 21s.

The son of a German shoemaker, passing through London on the way to his mission field in South Africa, met a young girl whose face he had seen in a dream before he left home. The brilliant little drawing-room lady bore him 12 children in bullock carts or mud houses before she sought refuge from life in a convent. Her husband failed at everything, even at being a missionary, but their children because a great force for righteousness in the days when Rhodes and his crew were soaking South Africa in materialism. Their daughter Olive put into one novel more of South Africa than has ever been written elsewhere.

No wonder she put the Brontës among the greatest women of history, for her history was strangely similar to theirs. She was driven to living as an underpaid and ill-qualified governess in Boer families. From 16 to 65 she was tortured by asthma, and before she was 20 she had written her masterpiece, largely by moonlight. Candles were too dear, and she wrote at the window of a little room with a mud floor, in which she had made a channel to carry off the rain which came through the roof.

WRITING FOR 24 HOURS.

Orthodoxy beat upon her soul as asthma attacked her body. She fought them both with a virility which paralysed beholders. Her husband tells how in her wrath against some wrong she would shake her hands till her fingers clicked against each other, and would finally beat her head upon a table or a wall. This dreamer of the veldt saw visions only to be recalled in an intensity of mood which led her to write for 24 hours without food or to write page after page without knowing that there was no ink on her pen.

In her struggles for freedom of thought the passion which could electrify audiences with a sentence or address Cecil Rhodes in terms no other human being even ventured on was marvellously checked. To this child, drenched with emotion and agonised by perplexities, former friends sent letters like this:—

> Richard and I have told the children that you are God's enemy, and that, though they have much to be grateful to you for, they cannot love God and you at the same time.

Her mother and other members of the family persecuted her (the word is her husband's) in the same way. Her answers are as firm as they are tender. The reality of her mystical experiences, her letter to a friend that since she was 14 "religion has been to me the one unending joy" show how needless is the torture human beings inflict on each other. The native question, the Boer War, and the Great War revealed the same cruel capacity of human beings on larger fields, and Olive Schreiner always turned up on the side of the tortured. It is easy to understand how the passion of revolt led her to feel the same joy in a young woman she had persuaded to leave off corsets as the evangelical feels in a brand plucked from the burning. But it tore her genius to pieces. She could not live in solitude, and she could not devote herself to her work among crowds, so after years of writing, rewriting and revising other work, her first book still stands alone in length and quality.—"Daily News."

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

SHANGAAI MOTHER GOOSE

By Elizabeth Pepys.

MUNICIPAL MUSIC.

Hi diddle, diddle, Foa and his fiddle,
The notes rise high as the moon.
The Audience claps to hear such skill
And terms it an excellent tune.

EFFICIENCY.

Jack Sprat could eat no fat,
His wife could eat no lean.
And so they finished up each dish;
The servants thought it mean.

HOLIDAY PRAYERS.

Rain, rain, stay away,
All Shanghai wants to play.
If you'll leave our Easter gay,
You may come some other day.

THEY SAY.

Cross Patch, draw the latch,
Gossiping scandals spin.
Take a cup and fill it up
And call the neighbours in.
Tell them all, what a fall
From grace the pious had;
Hint so sly and tell a lie
Of every lass and lad.
Thus you will always fill
Your drawing room each day,
For we try here in Shanghai
To find mean things to say.

PERILS OF SHANGHAI

By Elizabeth Pepys.

Breathless, panting, her strength ebbing fast, she clung desperately to the frail support. Bodies humped against her, borne onward by the resistless tide. Again and again she was all but torn away from her one hope of safety; yet with aching arms and numbed fingers she nerved herself to endure, not to allow herself to be swept away in the pitiless maelstrom.

"I must hold on, I must," she repeated again and again. "It must come soon." But no help came. With hat gone and clothing dishevelled, faint and exhausted, still she held on. At times it seemed as if deliverance was near but the hope was vain and the seething tide, bearing strong men, frail women and little children on its bosom, swept relentlessly on.

"I can't stand this much longer," she whispered faintly, her grip relaxing, her arms yielding to the cruel strain. Then, when the limit of endurance seemed at hand, there came a slight lessening of the buffeting tide. Summoning all her strength for the final, supreme effort, she loosed her hold of the pillar of the Safety Island to which she had been clinging, and forced her way on board a Number One Tram, at the Wing On corner.

THE WILLOW PATTERN

First Appearance in England

Chinese porcelain plates painted in pale and deep blue were imported into our country in large quantities during the latter half of the 18th century by our Eastern merchants. These plates aroused the admiration and also the jealousy of our potters, who at once began to use them extensively as patterns in decorating our earliest china wares. It is generally conceded by collectors that a man named Thomas Minton engraved our earliest willow pattern about the year 1780 for a master potter at Caughley, in Salop. Wedgwood, Spode, and Adams produced a similar design with modifications very soon after, so that there are now an endless variety of willow plates, all having the pronounced characteristics of the original, but with marked differences in detail. A curious feature about willow ware is that it is nearly always printed in underglaze blue, although, strange to relate, our Turkish sisters prefer it in funereal black. And certainly nothing else has conveyed such a charming and ever-interesting tale. Young and old are intrigued with the figures and design on the plates. So far as research has been able to prove, there exists no Chinese design with the bridge or the doves floating in the air, from which it may be concluded that the story of the wicked Mandarin and his daughter Koonyshee is entirely mythical.

THE STORY THE PICTURE TELLS.

The palace in the right hand of the picture in the centre of the plate is where the Mandarin and his only daughter lived after his wife had died. He took with him his secretary Chang; and therein

A WIDE CHOICE IN WRAPS

lay the whole trouble and the foundation of this immortal story, for the motive is a love far above ordinary human affection. At sunset Koonyshee used to linger in the garden to see Chang. Their clandestine meetings were unfortunately discovered. Chang was dismissed and the daughter shut up in a room overlooking the sea. One day while feeling very desolate, her attention was aroused by a half cocoanut shell with a miniature sail floating gently past. By the aid of her parasol she was able to recover it, and in it she found a bead she had given to her lover. This was ample evidence that he had launched the vessel. There was also a piece of bamboo paper inside inscribed, "Cast your thoughts upon the waters as I have done and I shall hear your words."

ORIGIN OF THE BRIDGE.

Meanwhile her father had selected for her what he thought was a more suitable husband. The feast of the betrothal was about to be celebrated, and Koonyshee felt like a netted bird. During the feast Chang gained entrance to her chamber and rescued her, after which we see them crossing the bridge. First comes Koonyshee, next Chang, and then the irate father with a whip in his hand to show his parental authority. They make good their escape in the small boat we see in the centre, meaning to reach Chang's island home in the upper part of the platter. But the wrath of the Mandarin was uncontrollable. He raised the whole country against them so that their lives were imperilled.

WHEN THE GODS TOOK PITY.

The gods, however, took pity on their distress and transformed their two bodies into the two immortal doves floating in the air, fit emblems of the loving constancy of their affections which had rendered them so remarkable in life that now they were to be undivided in death. W. R. Fleming, in Glasgow Herald.

MY HUSBAND SAYS

That ladies should always eat breakfast with their husbands, even if there's nothing about eggs to inspire brilliant conversation. I sometimes wish myself that they came in a greater variety of colours.

I really dislike rising so early, but he likes to have me pour his coffee. But he says he wishes I could remember the number of lumps he takes. He thinks that if I should commit that to memory at home it might sometime save embarrassment at hotels. He says it makes him nervous to see a waiter looking at us interrogatively. It makes him awfully cross, too, when the clerk rings up his room and says he can't read his signature and also the management likes to know the home address of guests.

My husband's aunt Julia says his signature looks like a worm in a fit, but I just love it on the checks he gives me. He says his aunt Julia will never see it on anything more important than Birthday Greetings.

Mrs. Swift says that personally she is much too humane to allow her husband to see her before seven in the evening or later, day light saving time, and she says she would cheerfully divorce any man who dared to appear at home for lunch. But I love to eat lunch with my husband and besides I always need him to do several errands for me in the afternoon. I think errands are so uninteresting and trying.—"Life."

EACH HIS OWN STORY

When spring begins to bloom in hat shop windows and the souls of the romantic, the question of life's possibilities seems to present itself more warmly than ever for discussion. Unrest, divine or simply natural, fills the breasts of many mortals, and some of them write rather touchingly to others, whom they imagine to be more powerful or, perhaps, just a little cleverer than themselves, and say how deadly dull their surroundings are, how they long for change, and how much obliged they would be if they were put in the way of accomplishing those higher destinies to which they are sure they were born. Generally, the person who writes is a woman—although men have been known to set forth their discontent in this fashion—and she catalogues her charms, and lists her qualities, and suggests where they could be employed most advantageously to the end that the world may enjoy a fuller and richer contact with her and she with the world, for the betterment of both.

What we have inside our own foolish heads and hearts is what decides our stories, chapter by chapter. Of what use is romance to the woman who does not know it when it is before her? Where is the tang of adventure to the man whose perceptions are dull or commonplace? Even the "bright face of danger"—and no face is brightef to the high-mettled—may not kindle an answering fire in the veins of the sluggish. Only the seeing mind will find the reflexion of the whole sky in a dewdrop and every good and evil fortune flesh is heir to behind the vague eyes of the newly born. Yet, there they are, and very merry we should be with that old joke-lover, Fate, about it, for anything under the sun may be going to happen to any one of us in any place at any moment.

DRAMA AND ROMANCE EVERYWHERE.

Dowsabella need not leave the farm in search of her particular sip from destiny's swift current It is quite as likely to be found in the ripples of the brook as drawn from the taps of the city's water-system. Colin, in a torn blue shirt, is really more pleasing than George in a high, shiny collar and the latest thing in orange leather Oxford ties, both swains being otherwise clothed as decency dictates. But, unless she has some vision, she will not see it so. She will go panting after the unattainable and leave her story behind her. And when the unattainable has been unattained (for George likes "some class" in his ladies, and city jobs have a way of slipping from under one), she may feel that life has played her a scurvy trick. In reality, it is she who has played a scurvy trick on life. To marry Colin, to bring up a happy country family, to help to keep fine beasts in condition and good crops growing—that was well worth the bountiful nature of Ceres herself. But Dowsabella, unable to "perceive the outward and the inward," turned her back upon it and went out to seek her fortune elsewhere.

TRAGEDY AND COMEDY IN EVERYBODY'S WALLET.

What is fortune? Can anybody get more out of life than he is prepared to put into it? To all of us come two, and to most of us three, of the great facts of existence—birth, love, and death—quite without respect to our dwelling-places. Ambition, jealousy, hatred, and malice, generosity, self-sacrifice, sincerity, and fair dealing—all the ingredients of the characters out of which plots are made—are in us and our neighbours. Can any story in the world strike variations from other chords? It's all in the way we look at things. We can find the most exquisite romance, the most poignant drama, the most arduous adventures wherever we are. We have only to be the sort of person who knows them for such. The every-day business of life can be as noble as we please, as adventurous, as interesting. Tragedy and comedy are to be got out of everybody's wallets, and we should not have to wait till an outsider whispers their names in our ears before we recognize them for what they are and for what they may mean to us.

There are sometimes uncommonly long waits between the acts of our lives, but if we get up and go out we may find our places taken, or that the play we left is beginning again without us. There are often exceedingly dull chapters in our stories. But so there are in all human histories—and who knows what may be coming on the next page? Jack, abandoning his light-ship post for a pirate's career may succumb to a late attack of measles, while his partner, Jeb, patiently doing his duty single-handed, may be swept into the public eye and honours by his gallant conduct to storm-wrecked mariners. One never can tell! But to each of us is given the possibility of hero or heroineship—not always offered to us as we have imagined it would be, but as we learn it of life, often in performing the commonplace task.

"Vogue."

MAHJONGG PARTIES IN THE SURF

The craze for Mahjongg so dominates Palm Beach that bathers carry the game out to sea with them on a raft, as the illustration shows.

THE RETURN OF THE TAILORED MODE

The Coat and Skirt Obligatory

The modistes of Shanghai have been assuring their patrons for some time that the severely tailored suit was on its way back to popularity, but it has been difficult to believe this with the large number of long coats, coatees and capes worn over the frock or coat dress. Now that spring is with us, however, the truth of the dictum seems unquestioned and although the rigidity of this costume was rebelled against at one time, there is no gainsaying the fact that it is appropriate for every daytime function and with various blouses and accessories is capable of infinite variation and very hard wear.

Reps, or covert cloth or for sports and country wear tweeds and cheviots, says the style expert. For the former cire ribbon or braids may be used but the latter materials demands the simplest possible cut, single or double breasted, with pockets the only trimming. To reduce the black tailored suit white pique collars or revers may be worn.

The silk kerchief comes right to the front here with a pocket hanky to match. The kerchief for the country suit may be extra sized, drawn round the neck cravat fashion, or folded round the collars and down each side. Scarves tied in a dashing stock knot finish the neck very well too, and the ubiquitous white gardenia appears in the lapel.

The plainer the suit, the plainer its companion blouse, and a model always in good taste is very simple with a convertible collar which will button up if desired for a mannish tie. Thinner and fancier blouses tucked and trimmed with monograms or buttons become the lightef weight suit. Beige, brown, grey or even yellow suede gloves suit this mode and white gloves are permitted to the black. Rosy beige or tortoise is still good form for stockings and patent leather or calf-skin pumps with straps and medium heel. The cloche with the turn-down brim naturally finishes the picture and this should be felt, Milan or picot straw. The present ideal spring weather should bring out these suits at once, for their season is brief.

VOGUE'S EYE VIEW OF THE MODE

The long lace veil has been revived by Marthe Collot, truly an innovation, for the only veil worn recently has been an inch of cautious tulle to shade the eye.

Sets of hat and scarf, often with a parasol to match, are good in soft plaid silks for the country and in knitted wool frosted with gold or silver thread for the beach. The simple black satin frock, often combining both dull and shinny sides, has taken Paris by storm and, in New York, is second only to the tailored mode in smartness. Both have in them the essence of chic restraint.

We keep accentuating the brilliant silk handkerchief which is almost universally worn with tailored suits: sometimes placed snugly to outline the faultless lapels; sometimes knotted about the neck; sometimes hanging from the pocket.

The scarf, because of its greater flexibility in material and function, seems to have a long story ahead of it. At Palm Beach, brilliant scarfs accompanied white dresses; in Paris, it is all things to all women.

Stockings in coloured thread are now worn in Paris with the simple tailored costume. There is a whole series of them, varying in shade, all of them of English type.

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

P. & O. S. S. Arabia Maru ... Apr 15
Per A.O.L.S. President Grant „ 19
Per P.M.S. Pres. Cleveland ... „ 22
Per P. & O. S. Plassy ... „ 22
Per R.D.S. President Polk ... „ 23

OUTWARD

For Marseilles, London, etc.—

Per H.S.L.S. Carl Legien ...Apr. 18
Per H.A.L.S. Oldenburg ... „ 19
Per B.F.S. Machaon ... ... „ 22
Per N.Y.K.S. Kamo Maru ... „ 23

For Japan, Canada, U.S.A. & Europe:

Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia Apr. 21
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jefferson ... 24
Per T.K.K.S. Shinyo Maru... „ 26
Per O.S.K.S. Arizona Maru May 2
Per A.O.L.S. President Grant „ 7

For Manila, Australia and New Zealand via Hongkong:—

Per A.O.L.S. President Grant Apr. 20
Per B.F.S. Machaon ... ... „ 22
Per N.Y.K.S. Kamo Maru... „ 23
Per M.M.S. Angkor ... ... „ 24

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per str. Hsin Peking, April 11. From Ningpo. Mr. J. Farmer.

Per str. Kaiping, April 11. From Chinwangtao. Mr. and Mrs. C. Loyd and family, Mr. and Mrs. Watteson, Mr. and Mrs. G. Ross and child.

Per str. Whangpu, April 12. From River Ports. Mr. Garnet.

Per str. Luchow, April 12. From Tsingtao. Mr. Stuart K. Lupton.

Per str. Kiangan, April 12. From River Ports. Mrs. Woodey and child.

Per str. Sinkiang, April 12. From Hongkong. Mrs. Rowarth, Mrs. Davis.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, April 12. From Ningpo. Mr. F. R. Millican, Misses F. Honen, E. Palmer, E. Yanes and Rev. F. Buck.

Per str. Kingsing, April 12. From Tientsin. Mr. and Mrs. K. F. C. Watson, Mrs. Ferd. **From Chefoo.** Mr. Corbett Miss M. Severen.

Per str Tatung, April 12. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Loureiro, Misses Loureiro.

Per str. Kutwo, April 12. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Benson and child, Miss [illegible], Messrs. Cameron, Turner, Messrs. Curzon, Melsin, Allen, Power, Salisbury, C. L. Connedy and Goe Italian Naval Rating.

Per M.M.S. Chambord, April 12. From Marseilles. Miss L. Linson, Mrs. Coublitsky, Messrs. Leymat, Guilly, Mr. and Mrs. Barrean and child, Messrs. Garstin, Fent, Marcone, Mrs. Aroud, Mrs. Cerry, Mrs. Hoefnagels, Mr. Mack, Mr. and Mrs. H. Galvin, Mrs. Rogernikoff and child, Mr. Negreni. **From Colombo.** Sister Maria, Mr. and Mrs. Shevaldisheffer, Mr. and Mrs. Mitnikoff. **From Singapore.** Mr. Tye, Mr. and Mrs. L. Nantz and Mr. Albert. **From Saigon.** Messrs. Marquier, Villimagne, Bataille, A. H. Atkins, Legat, Thouvarin, Schwich, M. M. Colonnes, Le Bris, Desmaisons, Jestris. **From Hongkong.** Mr. and Mrs. Mefaul and child, Rev. Pères Souvey, Salleu, Miss L. Fzeyawa.

Per str. Hsinchang, April 13. From Hongkong. Mrs. Bok.

Per str. Loongwo. April 13. From River Ports. Messrs. G. W. Sheppard, Zindel, Mr. and Mrs. Clair and child, Mr. H. F. Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Mills, Mr. E. R. Palmer, Lieut.-Comdr. C. Adam, Mr. M. S. Block.

Per str. Ngankin, April 14. From River Ports. Mr. A. L. Dawson.

Per str. Shuntien, April 14. From Tientsin. Mrs. McEachran. **From Chefoo.** Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm, Master Malcolm, Miss Ruscuf.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, April 15. From Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Rickards, Mrs. A. Zakrison, Messrs. Z. Zakrison, E. Becker, Diemdrindes Shoemaker, Dr. A. C. Price.

Per str. Woosung. April 15. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Bass and child, Mr. Nieuwenhuys, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Bowdoin, Mr. A. Macmillian, Mrs. F. Kasputsheva, Mr. Mackay, Miss L. E. Harris.

Per str. Kiangshun. April 15. From River Ports. Mr. Storey, Three Sisters of Charity.

Per str. Luenho, April 16. From River Ports. Mr. Goforth, Mr. and Mrs. Glover, Miss Barton.

Per str. Hsin Ninghao, April 16. From Ningpo. Mrs. D. Zimmerman, Mrs. H. K. Wright, Messrs. H. K. Wright, H. M. Bruce, C. W. Gay, F. C. Wilcox and R. Wilcox.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Hsin Peking, April 11. For Ningpo. Messrs. Wright, J. Frost, D. A. C. Price.

Per str. Luenyi April 11 For River Ports. Dr. and Mrs. C. T. Marshall.

Per str. Fenghtien, April 12. For Tientsin. Messrs. W. R. Dennell, A. R. Bennett, T. Jamieson, W. Dewar, J. Irvine, Miss Hicks. **For Chefoo.** Miss Lespinasse.

Per str. Soochow, April 12. For Tsingtao. Miss A. L. Anderson, Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Miss Carmichael and child, Mr. A. B. Peck, Miss Gardner.

Per str. Luchow, April 13.—For Hongkong. Mr. J. C. Fearn. **For Swatow.** Messrs. E. T. Backus, G. Gressour.

Per P. & O. S. Nellore, April 13.—For London.—Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Carr and child, Miss C. and Master W. Carr, Mrs. M. Waddell and child, Master J. Waddell, Misses L. and W. Waddell. **For Marseilles.** Mr. D. D. Burns, Miss L. Douglas. **For Colombo.**—Mr. A. Bazario. **For Hongkong.**—Messrs. F. A. Hooley, E. W. Hazzard, R. E. Ost.

Per str. Sinkiang, April 13.—For Amoy.—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Thatcher, Mrs. Buss, Messrs. Orloff, Mlashco. **For Canton.**—Mrs. W. C. A. Phahl and child, Mr. P. C. A. Prahl.

Per str. Tatung, April 14.—For River Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. A. P. C. Hicks and two children.

Per str. Chengtu, April 15.—For Newchwang.—Mrs. C. Partridge and child.

Per str. Kashing, April 15. For Canton. Mr. and Mrs. Paterson and child.

Per str. Ngankin, April 15.—For River Ports.—Lt. Pont, Seven French Sailors, Mr. and Mrs. de Cartier.

Per P. & O. S. China, April 15.—For London.—Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Adams, Lt.-Comdr. C. K. Adam, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Boyde and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Bolitho, Master R. Bolitho, Mr. W. Donald, Miss H. Dunshy, Mr. F. Dunsom, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Fisher and child, Captain D. Fraser, Mr. T. [illegible], Mrs. J. and Miss D. A. Graham, Mr. J. W. F. Gerbarz, Mr. and Mrs. N. Harrison and child, Master Harrison, Engr.-Comdr. H. L. Harvey, Messrs. J. Munro, A. McNay, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Millward, Master W. Millward, Misses K. and M. Millward, Miss K. Norman, Mrs. B. de B. Newcomb and two children, Captain and Mrs. F. G. W. Newbery, Miss Newbery, Mrs. K. H. Pennell, Mrs. L. R. Rees, Misses N. and B. Rees, Master D. Rees, Mrs. A. S. Russell and child, Mr. J. Sanders, Lt.-Commissioner and Mrs. W. Stevens, Master and Miss Stevens, Surg.-Lt.-Comdr. L. F. Strugnell, Mr. and Mrs. W. Turner, Mr. H. W. Tyndale, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Utting, Mr. T. P. Ratti. **For Marseilles.**—Messrs. W. J. Brownhall, A. H. Evans, K. F. Jeffreys, E. Krogseth, Miss A. C. Leggin, Mr. A. G. Nugent, Rev. and Mrs. A. T. Pothill, Misses V. and H. Pothill, Messrs. N. Smith, W. Standing. **For Colombo.**—Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Bryson, Master Bryson. **For Singapore.**—Messrs. T. Gnanamal, M. Gell, Mrs. E. Knipschildt, Misses I. and T. Knipschildt, Bandali, Lainal Abidin, Mr. L. Moose, Piahbinto Mowoen. **For Hongkong.**—Rev. H. A. C. Allen, Messrs. B. D. F. Britto, W. E. Costain, J. N. G. Gibbons, Mrs. M. Marques, Rev. and Mrs. W. R. Malcolm, Master Malcolm, Mr. A. W. Van Der Star.

Per str. Shuntien, April 16.—For Tientsin.—Mr. and Mrs. T. Yamazoe and two children, Mr. F. C. Henley. **For Chefoo.**—Mr. J. McMullan. **For Weihaiwei.**—Mr. and Mrs. J. Oswald and child, Miss Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Ryde, Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Hughes, Three Naval Ratings.

BIRTHS

ANDERSON.—On April 15, 1924, at 13 Kungping Road, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Anderson, a daughter (stillborn).

NIEUWENHUYS.—On April 11, 1924, at 393A Avenue Joffre, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Nieuwenhuys—Christensen, a son. Hongkong and Kobe papers please copy.

PASSIKIDES.—On April 11, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Passikides, a son.

SONT-DE-BOER.—On April 13, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Sont-de-Boer, a daughter.

WHITTAKER.—On April 10, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Whittaker, a son, Robert Edward.

MARRIAGE

JENSEN—ZVIAGIN.—On April 15, 1924, at the Union Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. A. N. Rowland, Gustav Schoyen Jensen to Sophie Zviagin.

DEATH

HUTCHISON.—On April 12, 1924, at Holmbury, England, Katherin Mary, third daughter of the late John D. Hutchison, of Shanghai, of heart failure.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary, Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury S., Rhodesia.

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SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer 9 A.M.	Wind Att'ed Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
Apr. 11	30.06	59.4	E	1	63.1	61.4	71.8	54.1	O.
„ 12	29.96	61.1	S S W	1	68.9	64.6	74.5	58.6	O.
„ 13	29.92	62.1	Calm	0	63.5	62.6	82.2	57.9	O. M.
„ 14	29.90	63.3	S E	1	70.0	66.2	87.3	55.8	O. M.
„ 15	29.78	64.8	E	1	70.0	66.4	87.8	55.8	B. O.
„ 16	29.84	66.0	N	2	59.9	58.8	60.8	58.3	O. D.
„ 17	30.27	61.7	N	2	51.8	43.5	55.8	49.6	O.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Inches 1923
Apr. 10	54.6	58.2	74.4	63.8	Nil.	0.57
„ 11	55.0	57.2	69.0	68.6	Nil.	0.07
„ 12	61.0	46.5	73.4	62.0	Nil.	Nil.
„ 13	60.4	41.0	78.0	55.0	Nil.	Nil.
„ 14	56.6	45.0	82.6	56.2	Nil.	Trace
„ 15	59.8	52.4	83.6	58.6	Nil.	0.43
„ 16	53.0	51.4	71.0	61.8	Nil.	0.72

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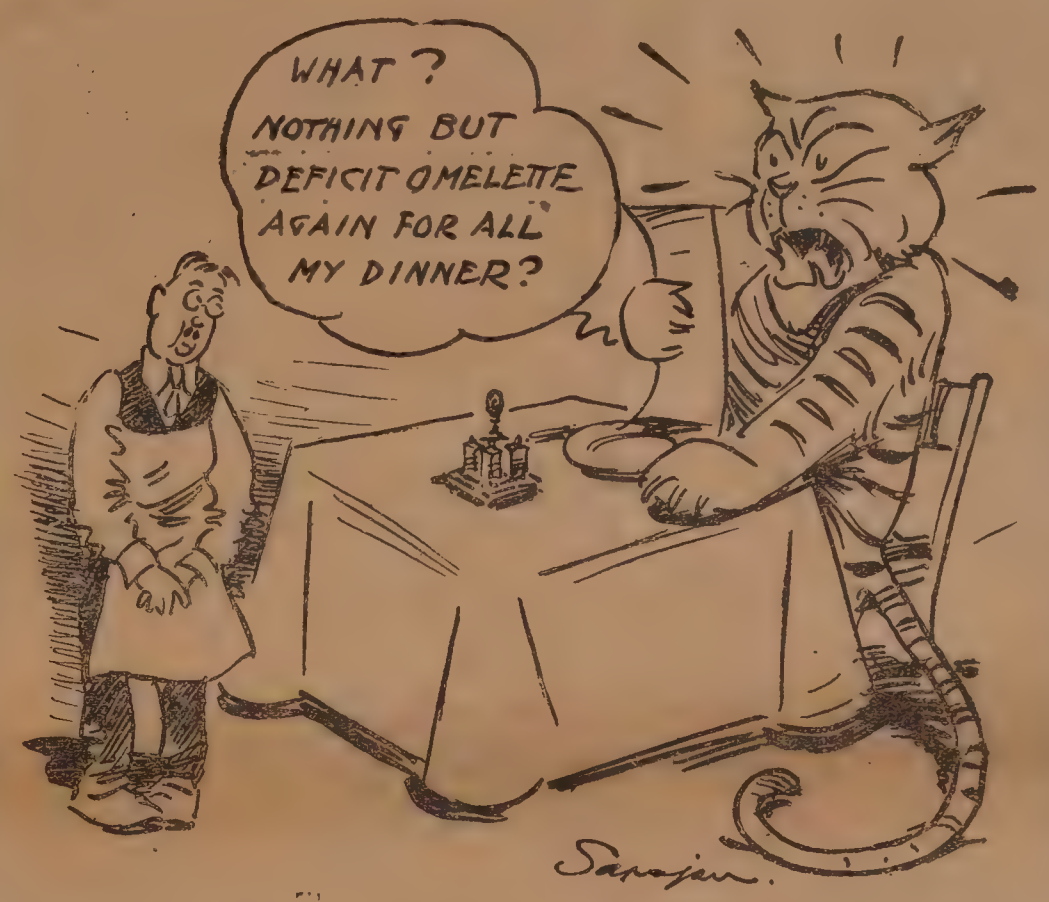

Dr. W. W. Yen's Commission on Peking's finances reports an annual deficit of $121,000, 000 not counting unsecured loan charges

CHINESE BANKERS' CONFERENCE

Measures Adopted to Prevent Further Transportation of Inferior Coins: Loan For Completion of Shanghai Mint

Peking, Apr. 17.

Thirty delegates are attending the fifth annual conference of national bankers at Peking. The conference will last for a week.

Among the questions discussed yesterday were (1) an appeal to the various bankers' associations to co-operate in matters concerning unification of the currency system and simultaneous adoption of dollars and taels as monetary units in financial circles (2) practical means to hasten the establishment of the proposed Shanghai Mint, and (3), a petition to the Government requesting measures to prevent various Government mints from breaking the regulations governing the minting of coins, particularly as regards fineness.

The Shanghai delegates brought up the third question, in connexion with which attention was drawn to the Anhui Mint, which, it was alleged, was producing inferior coins and distributing them in the Lower Yangtze region. The Shanghai delegates produced a copy of an assay of three coins which the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank had submitted to the assayer, Mr. Franklin, the test of which was 796.5, whereas the lowest standard was 887.33.

As regards the Shanghai Mint, the delegates expressed the opinion, that its establishment was very important, not only because it would mean a great deal to financial markets, but further delay might ruin the machinery already purchased and which was stored at Shanghai.

The delegates saw the close relationship between proper minting and the Shanghai Mint on the one hand and simultaneous adoption of dollars and taels on the other.

Other discussions included establishment of credit and clearing houses, unification of accounting terms and compilation of a national bankers' directory.

As many subjects were referred to special committees no definite decisions were reached.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, Apr. 21.

The Bankers' Conference, which terminates to-morrow, has resolved to ask the Government to instruct the Customs to stop further transportation of inferior coins from places where they are minted. Several other preventive measures have also been passed, such as requesting banks not to buy bullion and not to sell the coins for guilty mints.

A decision was reached on Saturday that the Bankers' Association, co-operating with native bankers' guilds, should underwrite a further loan of $3,000,000 for completion of the Shanghai Mint. The Conference asserts that the banking group taking up this loan would be given full power to manage everything in connexion with the Mint, including appointment of the Director.

The Conference also passed a resolution to organize a Chinese National Bondholders' Association, consisting of representatives of bankers' associations, banking guilds, Chambers of Commerce and stock exchanges. The *communiqué*, however, does not state the purpose of this association.

Chinese accounting terms having been standardized, the Conference suggests that they should be put into use beginning from next July.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LINCHENG CLAIMS: ANOTHER DELAY?

Peking, Apr. 23.

In connexion with the Lincheng claims, the Waichiaopu has asked the Diplomatic Body to confer with it on that question.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE RENDITION OF WEIHAIWEI

Conditions of Draft Agreement: The Loan of Land and Buildings

London, Apr. 16.

Replying to Mr. W. A. Chapple, Liberal Member for Dumfries, in the House of Commons to-day with regard to the Anglo-Chinese Draft Agreement last year in respect of Weihaiwei, Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said that objection to the clause giving Britain the option to renew free of charge the loan of land and buildings for the purpose of a sanatorium was one of the pretexts advanced last October by the Chinese Government in justification of their desire fundamentally to change the agreement, reached after protracted discussion with their representatives.

Further replying to Mr. Chapple, Mr. Ponsonby stated that the Treasury and the Board of Trade were considering representations by the Chinese Legation with regard to the prejudicial effect on Anglo-Chinese trade of the differential duty against China tea.—Reuter.

CHINA AND THE SOVIET

No Enthusiasm for Proposed Trade Treaty

Peking Apr. 24.

With regard to reports in the Chinese press, the Government has received from Sinkiang the draft of the proposed commercial treaty with the Soviet. The draft was recently circulated among the Cabinet Ministers with a request to each to study and make his own comments on it. It was expected that the Cabinet would take up the matter to-day, but the meeting was poorly attended and no serious questions were discussed.

Many foreign pressmen attended yesterday's meeting of the Senate for which Mr. Huang Pei-lan's motion calling on the Government to negotiate with the Soviet with a view to the recall of M. Karakhan appeared on the agenda, but there was no quorum.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TRADEMARKS BUREAU

Applications for Establishment of Agencies: Britain's Point of View

CHINA'S SELF-INJURY

Peking, Apr. 14.

To-day's Government Gazette contains a notification from the Ministry of Commerce, issued in response to a petition from the Trademarks Bureau, stating that many applications have been received for the establishment of agencies for the registration of trademarks, but that agencies will not be permitted in any circumstances.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

London, Apr. 17.

At a meeting of the Far Eastern section of the London Chamber of Commerce to-day, the Chairman, Mr. Frederick Andereon, referring to the controversy in regard to the new China Trademarks Law, said that up to the present the Chinese had been deaf to representations made to them not in the interests of foreigners alone but in the best interests of China herself. The case was so simple that it was astonishing that any difficulties should have arisen. Nobody in the least desired to do anything prejudicial to Chinese interests.—Reuter.

RUSSIAN BANK AND C. E. RAILWAY

Further French Note: France's Refusal to Recognize Soviet Agreement

Peking, Apr. 23.

The French Minister, in a Note to the Waichiaopu on April 16, maintains the attitude put forward in the last French Note with regard to the Russo-Asiatic Bank and the Chinese Eastern Railway. The Note reviews academically and at length Dr. Wellington Koo's Note and quotes several points in it, contending that they might be taken to support the French view. Reference is made to France not having recognized the Soviet, and it is argued that the agreement with the Soviet regarding the Bank and the Railway should be classed as dealing with a third party, which Dr. Koo's Note stated was not permissible.—Reuter's Pacific Service

NORTHERN SUCCESS AT AMOY

City Surrendered to Admiral Yang: Further Gains

Peking, Apr. 17.

A foreign telegram from Amoy of to-day's date states that Amoy has surrendered to Admiral Yang Hsu-tsun. Gen. Li Chang-yin, whom Admiral Tsang Chi-ping recently dismissed, commands Amoy City.

The Foochow troops heavily defeated Admiral Tsang at Tungan on Tuesday. He is now supposed to be at Kuankow with the remains of his army.

Gen. Hung Chow-lin is expected to capture Changchow to-day.

Gens. Hung and Li recently rejoined the Northern cause. These developments, therefore represent Northern successes.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING'S STATEMENT OF ITS DEBTS AND LACK OF REVENUE

About $7,000,000 Coming in Against Charges of $123,000,000 and Unsecured Loans Not Less than $723,000,000: Report of Dr. W. W. Yen's Commission

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Apr. 16.

Dr. W. W. Yen's Commission for the readjustment of China's finances some weeks ago submitted to the foreign bankers an elaborate summary of the results of six months' study of China's financial difficulties. This was accompanied by tabulated statements which are not yet available for publication. It is no secret, however, that the bankers were not greatly impressed. It is not that the commission [illegible] data, straightening out horrible tangles and making sound recommendations. The foreign attitude is not so much critical of the work of the Commission as critical of conditions in China which make the work of the best possible commission appear futile. While the provinces withhold revenues and Peking cannot collect, the wisest commission in the world can do not more than audit and revise the Government's book-keeping so as to show more clearly how deep in the hole the Peking Government really is.

Dr. Yen's commission has frankly eschewed the task of trying to find out what the provinces collect and how they spend it and has concentrated on determining what actually comes into Peking and how it goes out—an auditor's job pure and simple.

The Commission is not abolished, as the vernacular press would have it, but is going on with its work, which is by no means complete, chiefly because of the inexplicable diffidence of foreign creditors to supply precise figures in their claims. Out of 70 odd major credit claims, detailed figures are available for no more than 40. So the auditing job is by no means finished.

To return to the recent confidential statement submitted to the bankers: a translation of a Chinese summary of the fuller report is now available which ought to be of interest.

THE COMMISSION'S REPORT.

A very comprehensive, although as yet only a preliminary survey, of the general financial conditions of China, with important recommendations as to how the present unsatisfactory situation could be improved was clearly set forth in a lengthy report drawn up by the Commission for the Readjustment of Finance and submitted to the President by Dr. W. W. Yen, Chairman of the Commission. Appended to this report was a set of carefully prepared tables, compiled from official records, and giving complete data on the revenues and expenditures of the Central Government, in many cases not only for the present but also for the last five years. Summary statements of the domestic and foreign loan obligations of the Ministry of Finance as well as of the Ministry of Communications were also given in the report of which the following is the gist:

Since the organization of the Commission last September its work has been energetically pushed forward in the order prescribed in the promulgated regulations. Steps were immediately taken first to collect all pertinent data, then to verify the results so obtained with the object of using these facts as the basis for the construction of a practicable plan for the consolidation of the loan obligations and the general financial readjustment of China. Owing to the intensely complicated nature of the subject and the time required for securing complete statements from the parties concerned, some of whom are in distant foreign lands without any local representative either here in Peking or in China, it has not been found possible to complete the work in six months as it was originally intended. However, substantial results have been achieved in the way of checking up the accounts and clarifying what confusion there is in them, thus bringing to light the actual conditions of China's finance.

The third phase of its work, upon which the Commission is now just entering, *i.e.* the working out of a scheme for consolidation and financial readjustment, is a most perplexing and difficult proposition. It is felt that the financial problem of China cannot be solved unless, on the one hand, a sinking fund can be found adequate and reliable enough to guarantee the uninterrupted operation of the consolidated loan services, and, on the other hand, sufficient revenue can be secured to meet the necessary administrative requirements of the Government. A candid examination of the subject reveals the fact that the situation is extremely precarious and that unless speedy reforms are adopted and enforced, we can hardly see any bright prospect for the financial future of the country.

THE AVAILABLE REVENUE.

Taking up first the question of revenue, it is a well known fact that the income is far from being sufficient to meet the expenditures, owing to the fact that not only have the provinces ceased to remit funds for the support of the Central Government as was done in the past, but they have even gone to the extent of appropriating for local use revenues which belong to the Central Government. At present the Government derives its revenue principally from five sources, namely:

1. The Maritime Customs and Native Customs within the 50 li limit $94,400,000 (latest),

2. Native Customs outside the 50 li limit and along the land frontiers $6,700,000 (latest),

3. The Salt Gabelle $89,800,000 (latest),

4. The Wine and Tobacco Taxes $15,000,000 (latest),

5. The Stamp Duty $3,200,000 (latest).

From the five sources enumerated above, the amount of revenue collectable each year is about $209,000,000 per year. The net amount remitted to the Government, however, falls far short of the sum mentioned above. For among these only the Customs Revenue has remained intact. Of the revenue from the Native Customs outside of the 50 li limit, besides the two million and odd dollars from the Peking Octroi, not more than $700,000 has reached the Central Government.

As for the Salt Revenue, about $30,200,000 was retained by the provinces and about $10,300,000 was required for the cost of collection, so that the actual amount realized by the Central Government was only about $49,300,000. With reference to the Wine and Tobacco Taxes and the Stamp Duty, the actual amounts remitted to the Central Government were only about one-tenth of the amounts collected, or about $1,400,000 in the first case and about $300,000 in the second case.

AT LEAST $120,000,000 SHORT.

It can thus be seen that out of a nominal total of $209,000,000 the actual sum realized by the Central Government is only about $148,000,000, out of which has again to be deducted a sum of $88,000,000 for the service of the domestic and foreign loans secured upon the Customs and Salt Revenues and about $43,000,000 for military subsidies and the redemption of the different kinds of treasury notes secured upon the salt surplus: thus leaving only about $7,000,000 unappropriated which can be made use of by the Central Government for military and administrative expenses.

Now according to the latest available figures the annual requirements for administrative expenses are about $58,000,000 and those for military expenses are about $70,000,000, making a total of $128,000,000. While this does not exceed the amount authorized by the budget of the 8th (1919) year of the Republic, which was adopted by the Mandate of November 29 last year as the standard for the retrenchment policy, yet the desperateness of the situation is easily apparent when we bear in mind that these sums have to be met out of the meagre amount of only $7,000,000 which is at the free disposal of the Government. In other words, the actual amount remitted to the Government is not more than seven-tenths of the amounts collected, while the unappropriated portion available to the Government is only five per cent. of that amount.

UNSECURED LOANS.

A situation created by the fact that the expenditure of the Government exceeds the amount at its disposal by 17 times is serious enough. But worse still is the fact that there is also a large amount of unsecured or inadequately secured loans which call for immediate readjustment. Calculating on the basis of the figures given in its official statement of September 1922, the outstanding principal and interest of the loans of the Ministry of Finance amount to $536,000,000, and the portion of the loans of the Ministry of Communications which it cannot itself take care of, according to a memorandum it has recently prepared and sent to this Commission, amounts to $187,000,000, making up a grand total of $723,000,000. If consolidation bonds were issued, bearing interest only at the rate of 5 per cent. or 6 per cent. per annum the sum required for the payment of interest alone would amount to 40 or 50 million dollars a year. Under the present financial stress, when the Government is already facing a deficit of about $121,000,000 per year, the difficulty of providing an adequate sinking fund for the loan service can be readily appreciated.

PROVINCES MUST HELP.

It is therefore apparent that if national finance is to be put upon a solid foundation, comprehensive measures for fundamental readjustments must be undertaken at once, both in the way of radically curtailing the expenses and also in effectively increasing the receipts of the Government.

In the first place, the provinces must be made to have a full and clear understanding of the supreme importance of supporting the Central Government as well as of their proper relation to it, and must desist from the practice of retaining Central Government revenues for provincial uses.

In the second place, national expenditures must be reduced by cutting off every unnecessary item of administrative expenditure, and especially by reducing the military expenses, which now take up seven-tenths of the entire expenditure of the national Government.

In the third place, a temporary national budget, based upon the principle of adjusting the expenditures to the amount of available revenue of the Central Government, should be worked out and followed.

SURTAX.

In the fourth place, steps must be taken to expedite the meeting of the Special Customs Tariff Conference to authorize the levying of the 2½ per cent. surtax, which may bring in an additional revenue of about $25,000,000 per year, and which may, assuming that provisions can be found for the necessary administrative and military expenses, be used as a sinking fund for the readjustment of the unsecured loans.

In the fifth and last place, the receipts from the administration of railways, telegraphs, posts and navigation should be kept intact, and be freed from any improper charges upon them. With this and other improvements and reforms introduced into these systems of communication, not only can the loans secured upon them be adequately taken care of, but a surplus may be hoped for which can be used to make up some of the general deficit.

PEKING AND TIBETAN PROBLEM

A Parliamentary Conference: Britain's "Advantages" Under Former Treaty

Peking, Apr. 21.

The Chinese papers report that Members of Parliament headed by Mr. Liu Wen-tung and Mr. Hsiao Pi-teh (representing Tibet), Mr. Cha Mu-su (Kokonor), and Messrs. Chang Huei-ching and Chin Shih-chang (Szechuan), have organized an association to encourage settlement of the Tibetan problem. A meeting was held at Central Park yesterday, when Mr. Chien Shou-chao was elected Chairman. Mr. Chien made a short speech in which he referred to the advantages to Britain of the old treaty and advocated that it should be replaced by a new agreement. Mr. Hsiao Pi-teh strongly supported the Chairman and urged that the Government should begin negotiations with the British authorities for a new treaty "in accordance with the Washington Treaty." (*sic*).

Mr. Hsu Tseng was in favour of more direct action. He advocated that a Chinese Amban should be sent to Lhasa without delay.

After some discussion Mr. Liu Yung-kuang and 20 others were appointed Commissioners to prepare for a regular meeting next Sunday.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

WU PEI-FU GETTING A GRIP ON HUNAN

Present Tuchun Expected Shortly to Capitulate

Peking, Apr. 17.

Despatches from Changsha indicate that, contrary to reports published in the local press, there has been no serious fighting in that district up to last Tuesday. While the situation has been increasingly tense of late, the general impression locally seems to be that Gen. Wu's position has become so strong that Gen. Chao Heng-ti, Commander-in-Chief of the province, may be expected to capitulate without a struggle.

The strength of Gen. Wu's troops, under the command of Gen. Chen Chia-mou, has recently been brought up to that of a mixed brigade at Changsha, while other detachments hold Yochow, Siangsiang and Milo. Gen. Chen himself is expected at Changsha within a few days.

Gen. Chao's forces in Changsha are, on the other hand, short of arms and ammunition, and their commander, Gen. Yeh Kai-hsin, is said to be wavering in his loyalty. The prediction has been made that the local government will be turned over to Gen. Wu Pei-fu's lieutenant without any serious fighting, in which case, Gen. Chen Chia-mou will probably be the new Tuli.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TSINGTAO'S LATEST

Bank Started by New Administration: $3,000,000 Capital

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, Apr. 16.

An official bank has been formed by the Administration with a capital of $3,000,000.

The bank will start business on May 1, issuing its own notes. It will provide an important medium for the administration of the municipal finances.

The establishment of the International Recreation Club has been sanctioned, the promoters being Chinese and foreigners, among the latter being Messrs. Zimmerman, Stansfield, Herlihy, Siebold, Kitsatu, Russell and Masters (patrons), and the U.S. Consul, Vice-Consul and other prominent residents. The Administration is to get 20 per cent. of the earning of the concern.

WAR PERIL IN CHINA

Importation of Arms: Rival Parties Preparing

By Percival Landon in the "Daily Telegraph."

China is moving uneasily in the coma in which she has been sunk for many months. It is slowly becoming clear even to those who have interest in maintaining present divisions that a last attempt must soon be made to restore some form of unity at the Council board of this distracted republic. All are at sixes and sevens within the Ministry; continual friction between the Prime Minister, Sun Pao-chi, and Wang Keh-ming (his Finance Minister) is causing the machinery of State to misfire, and long-standing differences between Dr. Wellington Koo and two or three foreign representatives here seem to have paralysed the Waichiaopu. The suggestions that are weakly put forward for paving a way for the several conferences that are urgently needed by China betray an increasing inability to realize the importance of immediate action. Yet it is upon the successful issue of those meetings that China's sole hope of weathering the storm is based.

Time is being lost, every day of which ensures that the struggle when it comes will be bloodier and more exhausting than any previous hostilities. Wu Pei-fu has openly abandoned all hope of the unification of China except by armed compulsion, and is now intent upon preparations. The story of the importation of vast quantities of Italian arms and ammunition is no mere report. I have myself seen for over an hour the transfer of war material from train to ammunition dump at San Chia-tien. At Mukden, Chang Tso-lin's accumulation of military stores and the rapid completion of a new arsenal tells the same tale. It is believed by those best qualified to form an opinion that the bulk of the weapons and ammunition originally sent to Vladivostok at the close of the Siberian campaign is now in his hands, and his collection of aeroplanes is now being reinforced by the organization of a defensive squadron, with its base at Newchwang. Perhaps more menacing than anything else is the sudden action of his publicity agents in attributing to Chang Tso-lin entirely pacific intentions. The same phenomenon was observed immediately before the outbreak of hostilities in 1922.

His great opponent, Wu Pei-fu, the official leader of the military strength of the unhappy Government in Pekin, seems to be taking every precaution and moving steadily though slowly towards the achievement of his strategy. A week ago he regarded the campaign in Szechuan as practically over with the fall of Chêngtu; but recent exhibitions of activity from his Yunnanese opponents have perhaps modified the situation. In any case, however, he has already done enough to dissuade Yunnam from sending any more help to Canton. But in the South and Southeast the position becomes daily more complicated. Wu Pei-fu finds it far more difficult to act in these regions, and in any case is compelled to retain his veteran troops under him either near Loyang or in the province of Chihli. Relations between him and Feng Yu-hsiang, the Christian general, are said to be improved, but he needs a better understanding with the leaders of the Chêkiang, Fukien, and Kiangsu parties before it is safe for him to undertake his avowed policy of crushing Sun Yat-sen by force. Some time ago I referred to the unostentatious influence exerted by Marshal Tuan Chi-jui at every military centre in China, and as time passes he increases it. He represents in a moderate and chastened form the old pro-Japanese movement in South China, and his growing authority seems to depend upon his keeping in touch with those parties who have least repudiated Japanese sympathies. This does not prevent the exchange of civilities and pourparlers between him and Wu Pei-fu.

Five inches of snow fell in Harbin on Monday, according to the Chinese press.

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THE BANKRUPTCY OF PEKING

Apr. 21.

No one would undervalue the labours of Dr. W. W. Yen's Commission, the report of which Mr. Rodney Gilbert sends us to-day. We have repeatedly urged that want of ready money, overgrown armies and unsecured debts are not the real malady of China but only the symptoms thereof: and this fact needs to be kept in mind with special care now that Peking is clearly preparing to send out new, heart-rending appeals for the Powers' assistance. But it is none the less useful to know the precise violence of any particular symptom and Dr. Yen's investigations are therefore welcome. They show, against certain annual charges of 128 million dollars, an effective revenue of a beggarly seven millions and unsecured debts of over 700 millions. In respect of the latter, it is curious that some of the foreign creditors appear reluctant to send in a precise account of their claims. This is a very old money-lenders' trick, which by no means disposes one *to think better of* the said creditors than there was reason to think before. There is not the slightest doubt that many of these unsecured loans were a mere speculation and we have not the slightest sympathy with the people who gambled on getting a fat return out of Peking and have burnt their fingers. It is highly improper and mischievous for the interest of foreigners in China generally that the diplomatic weight of the Powers should be brought to bear on behalf of these gentlemen and we hope that the closest scrutiny will be used in deciding which loans deserve to be supported.

But loans apart, and confining ourselves only to the question of Peking's annual revenue and expenditure, the most cursory reading of the Commission's report shows that so far from making out any case for the Powers giving Peking any further assistance, it has done precisely the opposite. Let it be remembered that when the Consortium was established, the four Powers expressly stated that they would countenance no loan for political purposes, no money was to be supplied but for reproductive ends. And in recalling this fact, which there is a certain disposition in many quarters conveniently to ignore, let us be quite clear that the Customs surtax, if granted, would be tantamount to a loan, and a loan for political purposes. There is not space to repeat the arguments supporting this statement. It is a fact which no juggling with words can affect. Now if the Powers had good reason for deciding that they would not let Peking have money to play politics with before Dr. Yen's report was issued, they have ten times more reason now. In the first place, the report is not really a sincere investigation of China's finances. Even in respect of Peking's money it is superficial. No reference appears, so far as we know, to the notorious fact that every Ministry in the capital is grossly crowded with supernumeraries, to the number of three or four times what was allowed in Manchu days. But the point to dwell on is that the Commission have not dared to investigate provincial revenues. There is unquestionably more than enough money coming into official coffers all over China for all her requirements. Why do we get no estimate, even an approximate one, of that? The answer is that the Commission dared not try to find out. It contents itself with the complaint that the provinces have stopped sending money to Peking—a most significant and damning confession.

From the provincial point of view there really appears no reason, under present conditions, why they should send money to the capital. Since the death of Yuan Shih-kai they have seen Peking become a mere prize to be scrambled for by political adventurers, the value of the prize consisting in a certain amount of money and the "face" to be got from recognition by the Powers. With the treasury empty, it is hardly surprising that the provinces see no advantage to themselves in supplying the capital the wherewithal to buy more "face." For even the provincial friends of the party in power in Peking get little enough from it; and provincial opponents bitterly complain that the Powers enable Peking to extract money from their domains in order to make war on them. The plain truth of the situation is that Peking is politically dead and nothing but the recognition accorded by the Powers preserves in it a semblance of life. Until provinces and political parties have decided that they wish Peking to continue as the representative capital of all China, and are ready to back it with money, assistance lent by the foreigner is worse than useless. It is merely so much more squandered to relieve China of the necessity of living on her own ample revenues as she could and ought to do. As for the expected $25,000,000 from the desired surtax, there are just two things to be said. It could only serve to buy an extension of life for one particular party in Peking at the expense of strong opposition in the provinces, which would inevitably react injuriously on all foreign trade; and even that extension would be brief. For when a man needs a hundred odd millions annually, of what earthly use to him is twenty-five?

WORLD SCRAMBLE FOR OIL

Apr. 22.

UNLESS one is actually engaged in some industry in which oil fuel or petrol is used it is almost impossible to grasp the tremendous importance which oil plays in our modern life and to realize what immense problems are presented to the world in connexion with the future of the industry. While according to Lord Curzon "The Allies rode to victory on a flood of oil," it rather seems, if the situation is not handled very carefully, that the same commodity may cause disastrous quarrel even among those who recently fought side by side. It was only during the war that British statesmen began to realize the vital necessity for controlling large oil-producing areas, and in these post-war days oil has become one of the main factors in shaping the policy of both the British and other nations. Britain's readiness to shoulder the burden of Mesopotamia is partly explained by the occurrence of rich oil-fields in Mosul and Bagdad. France obtained the mandate over Syria in exchange for an exploitation concession granted to the Royal Dutch Shell concern (in which British interests hold a 40 per cent. share) in the French market.

Of the three great corporations which supply the British market, there is only one (the Anglo-Persian Co.) in which the British Government holds a controlling interest. America possesses the largest exploited oil-fields, but even the States are short of the commodity, and American Ministers are becoming harrassed by the situation, for the country has had to import well over a million barrels per annum for the past two years from Mexico. The world situation may possibly be relieved by the opening up of the Russian fields, where a great potential supply lies. Although the inefficiency and wastefulness of the Soviet government has reduced the supply by two-thirds, there is yet hope that by improved management and machinery the fields may be brought to yield their maximum supply and thus help to solve for the time being at any rate the world's oil problem. Then again Australia is waking up to the fact that she may possibly possess big oil-bearing areas and experts are now prospecting for deposits in the Northern Territory and in the northern portion of West Australia. In fact oil is likely to figure very prominently in the Pacific problem, for it is indispensable in any operation of war that may be carried out on that ocean. All the nations interested in the Pacific are doing their utmost to discover oil deposits.

We have to-day to reconstruct our ideas of geographical values. Formerly it was the scramble for gold-bearing regions that produced irritation among the nations and even on occasion led to war. Now, the scramble for oil is one of the most potent causes of international suspicion. As conditions are at present, were the world to run short of oil the whole of economic and industrial machinery would have to be reconstructed. Meanwhile the world is more or less in the hands of an oil ring which it will tax all the resources of Governments to break through and before whose arbitrary dictates in respect of prices the consuming public is helpless. It is something to be thankful for that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's Government resisted all the pressure that was put upon it to sell out Great Britain's holding in the Anglo-Persian wells.

DR. SUN YAT-SEN who a few days ago was reported to have vanquished Gen. Chen Chiung-ming's army, is stated to have made a generous offer to the latter's soldiery. If they will "repent" and forswear allegiance to Chen, Dr. Sun will enrol them in the "national" army.

OUR VISITORS

Apr. 22.

AMONG the disadvantages of being poor, one of the least tolerable must surely be that of being "visited." Not for worlds would we appear to speak unkindly of the devoted ladies who spend their afternoons in hunting up the wives and families of bricklayers and dustmen, presenting them with improving literature and inquiring after their mental, corporeal and spiritual health. But from the viewpoint of the visited, it must be thought that such investigations call for special aptitude and great tact.

What connexion, if any, there may be between the bad times and consequent poverty (little apparent though it may be) of Shanghai and the hundreds of millionaire visitors who now descend upon us almost weekly from mammoth liners, we do not pretend to know. But, for a new phase in its ever-changing existence, it is clear that Shanghai has now to accustom itself to being visited. In one respect, however, we are better off than the dustmen and bricklayers. Our visitors do not offer us tracts and they do, quite innocently, provide us with a great deal of harmless amusement. The fact that we do not live in wattle huts nor subsist entirely upon tinned foods (when the breadfruit and bananas give out) appears to be the least part of their surprise. Some of them, one cannot but suspect, are secretly disappointed because Shanghai does not clothe itself in skins and woad. One gentleman penetrating to this office and finding the present writer using a pen, expressed surprise, quite seriously, that typewriters had apparently not reached the Far East. The obvious fact that the building in which he stood pointed to far more elaborate mechanical devices in common use than any typewriter did not apparently suggest to him that the pen might be a matter of choice. Yesterday we are credibly informed that one lady traveller tried to take rooms at the Shanghai Club. This is really almost too much. They will be asking next for cinema films at the ....

We are all in divers ways and at different times travellers and sightseers and it may be well to ask ourselves whether we are always successful in avoiding questions which must seem as inane to strangers among whom we pass as some that are asked by the globetrotters who scour Shanghai and help to put up prices. The great art of travelling is surely to avoid the appearance of doing so, just as people on a honeymoon wear old clothes in a fruitless attempt to appear long-married. And for that reason it seems curious that persons with the money to spare should deliberately tie themselves up with three or four hundred other totally unknown quantities to moon round the world on a personally conducted tour. But however carefully we try to conceal our globe-trotting quality it is bound to come out. The ricsha-coolie and gharri-driver, the dealer in Brummagem curios and the guide to Western-trained native dancers and musicians pierce our disguise with the utmost ease and are not to be shaken off. If it is annoying to residents to feel themselves regarded rather as specimens in a glass case, it is far more annoying to visitors to realize that they carry about with them a signboard inscribed in some universal language, "I am a tourist; fair game for all." As with everything else, there are two sides also to this question of visiting and being visited, and a deal of give and take is necessary to get the world along. Even the bricklayer's wife, left speechless with indignation and a tract in her hand, might be less irritated if she realized how hard it had been for the visitor to screw her courage to the visiting-point.

CO-OPERATIVE SALES OF RUBBER

Apr. 23.

SINCE the introduction of restriction nothing so important has happened in connexion with the rubber industry as the proposal of the Rubber Growers' Association for the co-operative marketing of the raw material produced in Malaya and Ceylon. It receives a further importance because of the desire of rubber consumers in the United States to form a co-operative buying association, and it may be taken for granted that shareholders in plantation companies will in almost every instance welcome the Rubber Growers' Association's proposal. Restriction has succeeded in pulling a great many companies out of very serious difficulties, as may well be seen in the case of a number of Shanghai concerns. A couple of years ago, when rubber prices had fallen to a very low figure, many of these were faced with bankruptcy, while even the strongest could hardly hope for more than to keep their heads above water, and prospects of dividends became steadily more remote. To-day this is changed, and bank overdrafts are being steadily reduced in many cases and in others moderate dividends are being paid out to shareholders. These, however, are not large enough to compensate the investor for the lean years through which he has had to pass, and it is obvious that still further measures are required, especially in view of the fact that the Dutch Indies have not seen their way to come into line with the policy of restriction. Until they do so the full advantage of restriction will not be seen, but in the meantime a certain amount may be achieved in the way of bettering prices by the co-operative marketing of rubber.

At present the market is all in favour of the consumers. These consist for the greater part of a comparatively few large firms in Great Britain, the United States and Japan, whereas the sellers number several hundred, each estate virtually marketing its produce individually, although done through agencies. This means that the different producers are practically in competition with each other, and so the buyer is in a position to persuade the different companies to undersell one another. Especially as production has in recent years outrun consumption, it will readily be seen that competition among the buyers is actually non-existent, whereas competition to secure purchasers is keen. The market has accordingly become a very one-sided affair, and it will become still more so if the rubber manufacturers of America are enabled to form a consumers' buying association. There is only one way to counteract this state of affairs and that is by the formation of a co-operative marketing association. All rubber would

then be placed on the market through the medium of this corporation, and on sales taking place the corporation would *pro rata* with the proceeds. It would mean that London would [illegible] central rubber market of the [illegible] tically all her rubber in [illegible] would no doubt be brought into [illegible] However the details are worked [illegible] the present unprofitable practice [illegible] every reason to think that prices would be stabilized on a higher level than is the case to-day.

While the Dutch East Indies have so far declined to participate in restriction, there may be a hope that they will see their way to join in a cooper- [illegible] They have benefited very greatly [illegible] striction, and stand to benefit still more if the proposed corporation brings about higher prices. If, however, they put themselves into competition with the association, its full measure of utility will not be realized. [illegible] the general policy of growers in Java and Sumatra to do so, for [illegible] operative selling associations [illegible] their great sugar and coffee [illegible] have been brought to a flourishing condition. Having seen the advantage of the principle in these cases, they ought to have no hesitation in coming into the one proposed by the Rubber Growers' Association. If they do, the association may have far-reaching consequence in putting a stop to the amount of smuggling now going on between Malaya and the Dutch Indies. A great deal is made of the steady increase in native-grown rubber in Java and [illegible] certain that a good deal of this is not made up of native-grown rubber smuggled out of Malaya to Dutch territory for export free from restriction. Were all foreign companies in a selling combine it would be possible to find out more about this practice, for by a refusal to handle any [illegible] being smuggled, there would very quickly emerge information regarding actual native production. Furthermore the association would probably put an end [illegible] practice which does not assist the spot market, and taking everything into consideration the proposal is one which should strongly commend itself to all plantation companies.

MR. MACDONALD'S SOCIALISM

Apr. 24.

MR. Ramsay MacDonald has [illegible] Assembly of the National Council of the Evangelical Free Churches at Brighton, choosing as his subject "The Social Implications of Christianity." [illegible] speech is of the greatest [illegible] light it throws [illegible] It breathes [illegible] were [illegible] Mr. [illegible] but it also suggests that that pledge is by no [illegible] for ordinary men to realize it, and indeed Mr. MacDonald voiced thoughts which are now stirring in many minds and, one would say, must presently bear fruit. The pity, he said, which human poverty excited "should issue in a great conception of social reconstruction by way of evolutionary socialism." He went on to say that "socialism was a thing of two values, one as an electioneering cry and the other as [illegible] that socialism was based on the Gospels and would ultimately destroy class distinctions, he strongly denied that this would be achieved by any sort of "hugger mugger equality."

The secret of life, according to Mr. MacDonald, is bound up [illegible] values:

> This age, with all its tremendous conquests of the power of [illegible] the human being over the laws of [illegible] nature to man was subduing man [illegible] ture. This was a material [illegible] and there was no use talking any humbug about it. It was an age where material possession was in power, where mere knowledge dominated. While that was true, this was also an age when the small still voice of spirituality was challenging it all.

The Prime Minister spoke with regret of the gradual disappearance of the old Scottish Sabbath and of the prevailing demand for amusement:

> Whether there was a Tory, Liberal or Labour Government in office they could not do very much for people who could be nothing but amused, nothing but entertained by somebody else, people who had not in themselves the capacity to spend time profitably with themselves.

And after a passing flick of the whip at the importance attached to "gold braid and things hanging on the lapel of one's coat," Mr. MacDonald went on: The essence of Christianity was that the human quality alone mattered. They were not out for quantities or for equality, but for quality. It was easy to apply Christianity to trifles, to be Christians in small deeds, but tremendously difficult to be Christians from a general point of view of life. What this and all the generations of the world were suffering from was that they had not the courage to go down to the sources of all these evils, and instead of spending time patching here, there, and elsewhere, to go out and say that the trouble was in man's general conception of what was good and what was bad.

All this led on naturally to Mr. MacDonald's definition of socialism as a working creed, "a material embodiment of the spiritual conception of unity in community." And this applied both nationally and internationally. Belief in "the big club" would never bring that security and peace which was the universal craving, whether between state and state or class and class. "The only security we can have is the security of cherishing the moral categories, justice, fair play, honesty, and uprightness."

All this, of course, is in no way new. "Cain's heresy" is the oldest deception against which human nature instinctively revolts and the beginning of every bit of philanthropic work that was ever started. It is the application of Christian doctrines to political life which seems novel, though, to go no further afield than England, it was practised by the Puritans two and a half centuries ago and has been experimented with in many other countries. And if Mr MacDonald does not convince us all, it is because the majority of British people at any rate have an ingrained aversion of allowing the State to do too much. We were revolted by the Prussian doctrine that a State is superior to all laws, may practise any perfidy and treachery and, so far from being blameworthy, actually claim credit therefor. To our way of thinking the State should be at least as moral as individuals, indeed more so. But we do not like its doing things, from running a railway to disbursing relief, which we feel are better left to private enterprise, State management having invariably proved wasteful and inefficient. Very possibly these convictions, or prejudices, are altogether wrong. In recent years a great many things have proved possible which at one time were deemed impossible—a war continued for four years at a daily expense of five millions, women in Parliament and a Labour Government that has not yet wrecked the country's credit. And in this connexion, our Labour correspondent gives an interesting account to-day of the widespread approval which this Government has already won. No doubt our correspondent's enthusiasms carry him rather far, but he quotes effectively from Conservative writers in support of what he says and it is only the poor Liberals who feel out in the cold and indignant, the more so, if it be true as our Labour correspondent suggests, that their assistance is not really necessary to maintain Mr. MacDonald in power. Which brings us round to a long-cherished conviction that not Labour and Liberalism but Labour and Conservatism are the natural allies. It is all, as Mr. MacDonald says, a question of human values. In former days employer and employed knew each other personally and lived by a sense of mutual responsibility. Now the one has become a syndicate and the other a number on a pay-roll. That the old idea of a common interest is still possible, even in these days of mammoth organization, has been proved in such industries as soap, cocoa and mustard, in none of which do we ever hear of strikes. Of course the principle of profit-sharing, which Lord Leverhulme and others practise so successfully, is but a part of the whole problem which Mr. MacDonald is contemplating. But it has its foundation in that recognition of the individual, of the State's duty to him and of his duty towards the State, which, when really practised, will make it immaterial by what particular name a government may be labelled.

BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Apr. 25.

THE interest of the British Chamber of Commerce meeting has slightly had the cream taken off it by the recent conference of Associated Chambers and by the amount of publicity given to the trademarks and one or two other questions. But, focussing as it does in a small space the Chamber's achievements during the past year, the Chairman's speech presents a really remarkable record, much deserving of compliment. Success is reported in the important matter of the desired Custom House at Pukow; it appears also to be in a fair way of being attained in respect of the Huangpu River Police; some important points have been gained in connexion with freights and mails; most conspicuous of all, the inroad on ex- [illegible] and the [illegible] threatening foreign property of vast value under the Trademark Law has been effectively countered. For this it is certainly not too much to say that the British Chamber of Commerce is primarily responsible. Other organizations and newspapers have helped, but the Chamber inaugurated and has always been in the van of the attack and it is accordingly to be congratulated. In this as in many affairs, we are sure we voice the feeling of all members of the Chamber in offering a special tribute of thanks to the secretary, Mr. E. M. Gull. His zealous and untiring energy is well known by all who have any dealings with the Chamber, and while the ordinary routine of the day might well fill up all his working hours, he has still found time to build up a fine monthly Journal, on the success of which the Chairman justly commented yesterday with pride.

To return for a moment to the Trademark Law, while we must all rejoice at the stand taken by the Diplomatic Body, because under present conditions in China no such Bureau as that contemplated could safely be entrusted with the great interests involved in trademarks, it cannot but be regretted that the fight was necessary. There was, of course, no novelty in it. The history of foreign and Chinese relationships is one long series of resistance by the foreigner to encroachment on his treaty rights, and the falsely-named Opium War was due to nothing else than the Chinese officials' violation of their clear undertakings. But must it always be so? The opinion appears to prevail in foreign quarters in Peking that the Trademark Law was sincerely meant as a solution of a very old problem. If that opinion is correct, the obvious inference is that the relationships between the Waichiaopu and the Legations are not what they might be, or the question would have been referred to the Diplomatic Body before the law was drafted, in order to ascertain that it was mutually satisfactory. But there appears to be no advance on the old wearisome way of protests and then more protests and every success must be purchased at the expense of bitter feeling and angry words. After all, both sides surely have identical interests. The foreigner is just as anxious as any Chinese can be that China should be prosperous and his desire to do business with her, under the terms of the treaties, is not unreasonable and involves no menace to her sovereign rights. What is needed to-day is a new spirit in the handling of Sino-foreign affairs, a fair recognition of rights and susceptibilities on either side, readiness to give and take, plain speaking to promote mutual understanding and eliminate mistrust. The average Chinese and the average foreigner can usually agree without difficulty in their private bargains with each other Why might it not be so as between Government and Government?

STRICT orders have been issued by the Canton authorities, says the "Canton Gazette," prohibiting miscellaneous (unlicensed?) gambling stands along the Bund The penalty for violating this order is capital punishment. Dr. Sun Yat-sen recently protested that he had no intention at present of introducing Bolshevism within his domains. When the Red Terror does arrive his people will certainly not be unprepared!

TWO EXHIBITIONS: 1851-1924

Apr. 26.

IN opening the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley, it was almost inevitable that the King should refer to the exhibition opened in Hyde Park in 1851, the purpose of which, in the words of Prince Albert, was to "give to the world a true test, a living picture, of the point of industrial development at which the whole of mankind has arrived, and a new starting point from which all nations will be able to direct their further progress." To many thoughtful people the Exhibition of 1851 meant far more; they believed it indicated that a new era had dawned of general prosperity, peace and goodwill among the nations of the world. The hope was not realized. "From that year, 1851," writes one historian, "it may be said fairly enough that the world has hardly known a week of peace." Instead of deriding the Victorians for not being able to discern the signs of the times, it may be worth while to consider for a moment why their expectations failed.

In the first half of the last century England was passing through a great industrial revolution. Wonderful mechanical inventions gave man an entirely new control over the forces of Nature and a new knowledge of its laws. In England new industries and enterprises were everywhere successively started, the conditions being peculiarly favourable to their development. The population increased rapidly; a new social order was built up; education became more common; personal and political liberties were won; the corn laws were repealed and free trade established; exports and imports increased by leaps and bounds; taxation was extraordinarily light compared with what it is to-day, and the dominions beyond the seas were being peopled and consolidated. Further, it was confidently expected by the commercial and manufacturing classes, which had now become very powerful, that all other civilized nations would adopt free trade, and that free trade, in and by itself, would gradually break down the hostile barriers between nation and nation and bring in the reign of international peace and friendship. England's own army had been reduced to almost nothing, and it was hoped that militarism was a thing of the past. Altogether, it was a time of astonishing progress and there was unbounded faith that it would always continue. So, as Dean Inge says, "we decided to invite the world and his wife to London, to envy and admire us in Sir Joseph Paxton's great glass house. . . that mausoleum of generous hopes."

Wherein lay the error of the mid-Victorians? They underestimated the strength and vitality of the spirit of nationality, and vastly overestimated commerce and trade as a basis of national goodwill. As the Great War showed, when national and racial passions are aroused, trade, commerce and money count for very little. And in times of peace, so far, every nation continues to follow the policy it deems best for its own strength and unity, irrespective of the interests of other nations. When international unity comes it will rest on a more ethical basis than self-interest; there will be a fuller recognition of

the claims of human brotherhood. This ideal is now more clearly discerned by mankind and toward it we believe the nations are slowly moving. Most hopeful is the development of the political ideals of Anglo-Saxon civilization. In the United States an immense population of diverse origin is being welded into a homogeneous people loyal to a particular form of democratic government. The British Empire is accomplishing an even greater task, for it is forming various races, nations and peoples into one great commonwealth, not by forcible absorption, but by free consent and without national loss. It is to further this great purpose that the Wembley Exhibition has been opened, and surely all in Shanghai, whatever their nationality may be, will join in the hopes and aspirations expressed by the King when he opened the Exhibition: "We hope further that success of the Exhibition may bring lasting benefits not to the Empire only but to mankind in general. No nation or group of nations can isolate itself from the main stream of modern commerce, and if this Exhibition leads to greater development of the material resources of the Empire and to expansion of its trade, it will at the same time be raising the economic life of the world from the disorganization caused by the war. I declare the British Empire Exhibition open and I pray that by the blessing of God it may conduce to the unity and prosperity of all my peoples and to the peace and well-being of the world." Expectations may be more modest than in 1851, but in 1924 we are perceptibly nearer *the goal.*

A SILVER LANTERN

O silver lantern
I made of my desire,
A cloudy vessel
That dreamed of fire.

I digged my silver
In a dark mine,
I crushed it and wrought it
And hammered it fine;

With graven blossoms
I made it bright,
And buds of darkness
Dreaming of light,

Till—burnished and finished
And marked with my name—
God blew upon it
And gave the flame.

I carry my lantern
Though the gusty rain:
Shielded with silver
The light streams plain.

I carry my lantern
Through the fierce, bald noon,
I carry my lantern
Under the moon,

Through dark and dazzle
Threading the ray
That picks out the climbing
Hidden Way.

—Karle Wilson Baker,
in "Casements."

THERE is considerable discussion in Leningrad on the proposal to preserve the heart of Lenin. This picturesque custom is much less popular than it was years ago, but before the 20th Century opened there was a veritable fashion in heart preserving. The heart of King Louis XVI was preserved in London until the middle of last century. The hearts of Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth were also preserved in Westminster Hall in a jar into which an inquisitive schoolboy intruded his hand eighty years later, discovering "a substance sticky, and somewhat like jam." The casket containing the heart of Voltaire was taken from its resting place only a few weeks ago, but it was not opened.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

The Trademark Law

Very considerable satisfaction will be felt in Shanghai at the news cabled by Reuter to the effect that the Manchester Chamber of Commerce have decided to continue to support the British Chamber of Commerce in its opposition to registration under the proposed Chinese Trademark Law. This decision has been taken after consideration of a long cable sent by the Chamber on March 28 to the Associated Chambers in London, the text of which can be referred to on page 104 of the current issue of the British Chamber of Commerce Journal. The Diplomatic Body have since decided not to recognize the law and in the Note communicating their decision to the Chinese Government they state clearly that should there be in future any cases in which their nationals, whether they register their trademarks or not, have any complaints in connexion with their trademark rights such cases will have to be dealt with strictly in accordance with the existing treaty stipulations concerning the settlement of disputes between Chinese and the nationals of Treaty Powers. While all danger of a breach in our extraterritorial rights has thus been removed, registration remains inadvisable for two reasons, one that the registration fees are very heavy while the advantage of being on the register seems small; the other that the Chinese are much more likely ultimately to produce a law acceptable to the Powers if the Bureau which they have recently established fails to pay expenses.

Scientific Cribbing

Schoolboy morality on the subject of cribbing is quite clearly defined: it is low to crib in a competitive exam; it is permissible to crib in order to save yourself trouble but not to gain marks; it is virtuous to crib when, as may happen, it is to save the class from being kept in. One may speculate whether the morality is as old as the practice, which is very old indeed as witness the following from "John o' London." The writer who lives at Kalgan says:—

As your publication is wholly literary you might be interested in a literary curiosity from the oldest (and fast decaying) civilization.

I have a piece of silk 10in. by 10in. which I picked up at a small wayside stall in Shangtung Province some years ago which has over three thousand Chinese characters written on both sides, the writing being little short of marvellous if you have seen samples of Chinese characters.

For a long time I was unable to discover what this "artistic and literary handkerchief" was used for and then after inquiries amongst my Chinese scholar acquaintances I discovered that the writing must have been done by a celebrated penman many years ago, and its use consisted in its being carried up the sleeve of a Hanlin scholar and drawn out little by little for reference when he was sitting for his "doctorate." The passages inscribed on the silk are all selections from the Chinese classics upon which the scholar would probably be examined.

The original cost of such a "crib" must have been very great, though I paid no more for it than the average schoolboy at home would have given for a "crib" for Livy or Cæsar.

In this case clearly the crib was used for personal advantage. It would seem that as with many things which we learn to do first and make laws about afterwards, the schoolboy code was invented later.

The Akali Sikhs

The British authorities in India seem to have acted with vigour and promptitude in dealing with the Akali Sikhs who were bent upon an invasion of a neighbouring province, but there can be no hope that anything more than a temporary stoppage of the strife between the Akalis and their co-religionists has been effected by the arrest of whole battalions of these fanatics. The fact, however, will be apparent when the cause of the trouble is mentioned that but for the *Pax Britannica* India would to-day be a battlefield probably infinitely worse than Flanders. The followers of Nanak, founder of the Sikh religion, split into two sects generations ago, and the sect which held the sacred places is alleged to have become corrupt and incapable in the eyes of other Sikhs of holding office. To restore the custody of the shrines to their original purity the Akalis were brought into being, and a few years ago they began to wrest from the priests the sacred places, as often as not at the point of the sword. Matters came to a head when they entered the Temple of Nankana, welcomed there by the officiating priest, and were then the victims of a massacre of a dreadful nature, presided over by the priest in question. Troops had to be called in to restore order, which they did without reference to sect or creed, but the Akalis got together the story that the British Government had favoured the allegedly corrupt guardians of the temple who had brought about the tragedy. More than once since then they have been on the warpath, but not for two years has so great a manifestation taken place as on the present occasion. There is no doubt that but for the prompt and energetic action taken by the British authorities on this occasion something approaching another Nankana would have occurred, and it is more than interesting to see how the different bands have on the whole quietly acquiesced in the dictates of the government representatives.

Mr. Sparks

Not so long ago the name of Mr. Ira Sparks probably excited a smile all along Pacific coasts from San Francisco to Hongkong, but what he has now done calls for admiration. According to a San Francisco paper he had a vision while working in a Californian lumber mill, and this vision directed him to sail to the Holy Land across the Pacific. He then proceeded to get himself freighted in a packing case across the seas, his friends conspiring with him towards this end, and he reached Honolulu. On arrival at this point his original proposal was to build a boat for himself on which to sail to Palestine. Whether he did so or not we do not know: he certainly had no money, for it was lack of cash which originally set him on to the idea of journeying to Honolulu in a packing case, probably the most uncomfortable of voyages one could make. What a voyage in a 23-ft. boat is the majority of us can only surmise. The late Sir Ernest Shackleton, when his penultimate Antarctic expedition came to an untimely end, did some such enterprise with two companions, traversing 800 miles of sea amid constant storms, and it is one of the most thrilling narratives possible to read. Shackleton, moreover, was a navigator, and it required all his courage and skill to bring it to a successful conclusion. So we may well have a very considerable admiration for a man, not a born sailor, who could do 73 days at sea.

Exhibitions in Shanghai

A very great many people will sympathize with Mr. G. A. Bena in his scheme for a world exhibition in Shanghai. His point is that trade is bad here, but it will not always be so; and if we now prepare for the time that the clouds lift we may strike the psychological moment. Then, if we have succeeded in securing co-operation between Chinese as well as the different foreign nations here, it might be the biggest stroke of business ever done through Shanghai. There is the great fair at Wembley, near London, this year, and there have been minor affairs at such places as Birmingham and Glasgow, all apparently productive of good results. Riga, the business centre of Latvia, a State not so long ago carved out of Russia, has held no fewer than three fairs or exhibitions since peace was restored, and the fact that it is holding a fourth during the coming summer is surely proof positive that they are paying ventures. At times Shanghai is inclined to be hide-bound, but we cannot blame the foreign merchants for that, for they have been let down too often to possess a very great deal of confidence in Chinese protestations of support. Nevertheless this appears to be an especially attractive venture, where a bold financial policy will succeed.

Sikhs and Sedition

With the sentence passed on Harbak Singh in the British Police Court on Tuesday for the publication and distribution of seditious literature, and the subsequent disgraceful scenes in the courtroom and in the compound of H. B. M. Consulate-General (all described elsewhere in our columns) there opens a fresh chapter in the history of the Sikh community in Shanghai. We say "opens" advisably, for we cannot but believe that unless the steadier and more respectable element of the Sikh community in this Settlement steps in and uses its influence to calm down the more heady of its brethren this will not be the last of such cases. It is a significant fact that of the crowd of Indians both in the courtroom and outside, a large proportion of the faces were those of men appearing before the Bench time after time on charges of drunkenness, assault and petty thefts, in other words the "bad-hats" and lower classes of the Sikhs. Of educated men, with the exception of the prisoner in the dock there were none. We say this, certainly not to disparage the Sikhs as a community, but to support our contention that it is the worst of them only who support these fanatics. In the history of India we find much to feed our pride, great deeds of endurance and feats of courage and in nearly all we find the Sikhs fighting side by side with our soldiers, sharing in our victories, bearing with us the burden of our defeats. In the Great War the story is repeated, the Sikhs have always been our genuine friends and His Majesty's loyal subjects. In the Indian Mutiny the Sikhs stood by us to a man, and it was largely due to their aid that we turned so soon the dreadful tide which threatened to engulf us. That that feeling of mutual admiration and friendship has suddenly ceased to exist we refuse to believe, for it was a friendship born of something deeper than mere liking. There are less essential differences between the Englishman and the Sikh than might appear at first sight. There is a similarity of features, our ideals are similar and even the God we worship is the same, though the mode in which that worship is carried out differs vastly. At the present time, paid agitators are at work, assisted by fanatics such as the man who was sent to gaol yesterday—men who drink in the teachings of the communists and adhere by that teaching to the letter. That Harbak Singh's protestations were sincere we cannot doubt. That he believed the extravagant stories of "British barbarism" would appear to be true. But however we may admire his convictions as they relate to the brotherhood of Man, we are relieved to feel that he will be out of harm's way for another two months at least. In the meantime we can but reiterate the hope that the saner and more educated Sikhs will have done something to calm their brethren down and show them the foolishness of their ways.

The Need in Manchuria

Dr. James Greig, delegate of the League of Nations for the repatriation of Russians, sends us from Kirin a very pressing appeal on behalf of the refugees in Manchuria. "There is acute distress among the Russian refugees in the Chinese Eastern Railway zone," he writes. "Appeals for help without intermission are being made in Harbin. Concerts, lotteries, and many other devices for raising money have been so long continued that the people there are pretty well tired of them. The League of Nations has so far no appropriation to meet this need. It is pitiable to see small Russian children with pallid faces, in ragged clothing, begging at the railway stations. A colonel's wife with four children said to me the day I was leaving Harbin, "For the sake of God give me some money, we haven't a kopeck in the house." To-day, a woman with tuberculosis said to me in my hospital, "My husband is out of work owing to the breaking up of the river, we have no bread to eat." Bishop Iona, who is carrying on a splendid work for orphans at Manchuria Station, told me with tears in his eyes that he did not know how to feed them any longer. With the end of the winter the lumber work in the wood-cutting concessions of the C.E.R. is much curtailed and many of the refugees employed there are pretty nearly starving. The hate and bitterness still existing between Reds and Whites closes the purses of many better-class Russian merchants who are unwilling to be involved in political strife. The future of the C.E.R. still being uncertain they consider it the best policy to stand aloof. The political situation also restrains Chinese officials and many foreigners in official positions from organizing help as they might otherwise do. Rumours of women spies of the Soviet Government and of secret enrolment of White ex-soldiers for a counter revolution in Siberia damp the ardour of the kind-hearted. These rumours, by the way, I myself do not believe. The fact remains, however, that the situation is pretty desperate. My full report and proposals were to be brought before the Council of the League of Nations last month but it is too early yet to hear what has been decided. Negotiations between the League of Nations and the Soviet Government regarding repatriation have been in progress for a month and a half. For the last three months I have been trying to secure financial help privately from likely sources to meet the more immediate needs, but have been unsuccessful. What am I to do? Thinking people know that time is required to bring any final solution." We very willingly place this appeal before our readers, even though we have a local Russian problem also. But any assistance will be most gratefully welcomed.

The Mexican Rebellion

After more than four months of struggle the Mexican rebellion is now said to be at an end, and presumably President Obregon is once more firmly established in power. After the whirlwind fashion in which it was launched, the outbreak has fizzled out in a more or less inglorious way, in fact most people probably came to the conclusion long ago that it was dead. This was not so, for small bands of insurgents have been holding out in the remoter districts, and so long as they remained in being there was always a chance of other malcontents joining them and the insurrection flaring up again. As a matter of fact, however, except during the first few weeks the rebellion exercised little influence on the outside world, for although to start with a certain amount of anxiety prevailed among silver interests with reference to the possibility of curtailed supplies, even these soon settled down to their normal line of operation. Now that the whole thing is at an end, the position of President Obregon may be regarded as very greatly strengthened, and it seems tolerable proof that the man best fitted to govern such a country as Mexico is one who knows the ins and outs of rebellions thoroughly. Obregon is such a man, for ever since 1910 he has been in the thick of them, sometimes as rebel, at others as leader of the Government troops. Obviously in the present case it is another application of the principle of setting a thief to catch a thief.

ACCORDING to reports from Canton, it has been decided to engage three German and two Japanese gunners to direct the bombardment of Waichow city when that place is besieged by Dr. Sun Yat-sen's troops. This step is said to be necessary because when the city was bombarded last year by Chinese gunners, their aim was usually very poor.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

THE ASSAULT ON MR. CAMPBELL

Denial of Any Punishment of Assailant by the Legation Police

Peking, Apr. 19.

The Chinese soldier who was arrested last Sunday on the section of the Wall under Legation control was handed over to-day to the Chinese police, who will pass him on to the Procurate Court for trial on the charge of assaulting foreigners. The trial will be attended by an observer appointed by the Diplomatic Body.

The military authorities have dismissed the man in order to facilitate the civil trial.

Reuter's Agency is authorised by the President of the Administrative Commission of the Diplomatic Quarter to say that the statement that has appeared in the Chinese Press to the effect that the soldier who assaulted Mr. Campbell and other foreigners on Sunday last had previously been punished by the Legation Police with 40 strokes of the bamboo for trespassing on the City Wall is absolutely without foundation in fact.

On the occasion of this man's first arrest by the Legation Police he was at once handed over to the Chinese authorities: when he was arrested the second time on a charge of assault he was detained in the police station pending instructions from the Dean of the Diplomatic Body as to his disposal. On neither occasion did he receive any punishment whatsoever at the hands of the Legation Police.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

DEMONSTRATION BY SOLDIER'S SYMPATHIZERS.

Peking, Apr. 23.

A meeting of 300 persons at the Central Park yesterday, including some pro-Bolshevik Members of Parliament, regarding the arrest of the soldier who assaulted Mr. Campbell on April 13, passed eight resolutions some of which were pure nonsense while others revealed astonishing ignorance of the circumstances. The main points of the resolutions were that the members attending the meeting should telegraph to the British Government asking for the recall of Sir Ronald Macleay and urging the Chinese Government not to punish the soldier severely.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ANTI-POISON BUREAU IN KIANGSI

Indignation of the Gentry and Petition for Suppression

Peking, Apr. 19.

A telegram has been sent by the Cabinet to Gen. Tsai Cheng-hsun stating that a petition from Kiangsi gentry in Peking states that the Kiangsi authorities have established an antipoison bureau which issues licences to merchants to deal in morphia, white pills and other noxious drugs. The petition requests the Central Government to suppress this institution. In furtherance of their object Kiangsi gentry made demonstrations before the Presidential Palace and the Cabinet Office. At these meetings great indignation was shown.

The Cabinet points out that traffic in noxious drugs is prohibited by law, while several special proclamations have been issued emphasizing the necessity for the citizens of the Republic to observe these laws.

If the facts are as reported, not only will serious harm be done to residents of Kiangsi, but the circumstances will create international protests. The Cabinet, therefore, requests the Kiangsi Provincial authorities to abolish the bureau forthwith, in compliance with the law and the wishes of the people.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

"GENERAL POST" IN SZECHUAN

An Interchange of Forces: The Siege and Capture of Chengtu by Federal Troops

Chêngtu, Mar. 31.

The following is a review of the situation in Szechuan:—

On December 14 the Confederate (Szechuanese) Army were driven out of Chungking, which was occupied by the Federal (Northern) Army. The latter remained there for more than a month making plans for the final defeat of Gen. Hsiong Keh-wu.

Meanwhile the Confederate Army, under Gen. Lai Hsin-huei, retreated unmolested along the Great East Road to Neikiang. In the middle of January a conference of chiefs was held at Nanchingyi, which resulted in their splitting up into three forces, one under Gen. Liu Yu-chiu at Chêngtu, one under Gen. Lai Hsi-huei on the Great East Road, and one under Gen. Hsiong at Tungch'uan in the north-east of the province.

It was the plan of the Federal Generals to make a combined attack on Gen. Hsiong from the north, south, wast and west.

THE CAPTURE OF CHENGTU.

Gen. Yuan Tsu-ming, the Kueichou General and Commander-in-Chief, with Gen. Yang Sen as his Second-in-Command, advanced rapidly on Chêngtu by a route parallel to the Great East Road, held by Gen. Lai Hsin-huei, thus avoiding him. Within a day's march of Chêngtu, they suddenly wheeled round to the east against Gen. Hsiong, covering the distance to Tungch'uan by forced marches in two days. They arrived to find that the city had just been taken by the column from the north and that Gen. Hsiong's forces were scattered. The two Federal forces then united and were later joined by the force from the south, which had come up by the Suining River. They all pursued Gen. Hsiong to Chêngtu, which was then still in the possession of Gen. Liu Yu-chiu, supported halfheartedly by Gen. Lai Hsin-huei.

Chêngtu was occupied on February 8, and after perfunctory siege operations Generals Liu, Lai and Hsiong were all allowed to depart untouched. Gen. Liu fled to the Kiungchow district, sending in his submission and handing over the charge of the Third Army to Gen. Liu Hsiong. Gen. Lai Hsin-huei then entered into negotiations with the idea of turning over to the side of the Federals, but Gen. Hsiong with the other "die-hards" of the Kuomintang retreated in no great haste, viâ Luchow, towards the Kueichow frontier, followed at a considerable distance by troops sent by Gen. Yuan and Gen. Liu Hsiang. These two proceeded to Tzeliutsing, presumably to tap this main source of revenue of the province, leaving Gen. Yang Sen to administer the government at Chêngtu.

TIBETAN AFFAIRS.

The brigand attack on Batang in last November was finally repulsed after two battles. This was chiefly due to a popular rising inspired by the Rana (Nankang) Lama's cruelty to the people of Yakalo, and resulted in the Lama being driven out to take refuge on the Yunnan border.

On the North Road and at Tachienlu all is quiet.

The Third Army, after retiring from Chêngtu to Kiungchou, invaded the territory under the jurisdiction of the Border Commissioner, Gen. Chao Hsia-ling, whom they defeated at Mingshan, afterwards occupying Yachow and compelling him to retreat along the Tachienlu Road.

At the present time Yachow remains in the hands of the Third Army (still loyal to Gen. Liu Yu-chiu), but the Federal Commanders have taken no active steps to dislodge them.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

IMPROVED FINANCE IN KIAOCHOU

New Bank Established and Temporary Stringency Now Relieved

Tsingtao, Apr. 17.

Sanction has been secured from the Central Government by the Kiaochou Territorial Administration for the organization of a bank to issue its own currency in the regular denominations. Mr. T. C. Kuo, the Director of General Affairs, made the announcement to-day, stating that the bank would open for business on May 1 and on that day would put its new notes into circulation. A distinctive design will be employed for the new currency and arrangements for printing are now being made.

The assets of the bank will amount to $3,000,000, and with these funds available for transfer, as needed, to the Territorial Treasury, the present financial stringency will be relieved and the territory's financial status put on a strong and permanent footing.

The wretched financial condition in which the former *régime* allowed itself to become involved, has reacted severely against the new administration and has been a serious handicap. Obligations, which the Hsiung *régime* failed to meet, have been presented to the new administration for payment and, although the latter has made a manful attempt to liquidate these and restore confidence in territorial affairs, it has been totally unable to cope with the situation.

FORMER LIABILITIES.

Besides these old debts, including materials and supplies purchased, salaries and wages, some of which were months in arrears, and other obligations, for which the old *régime* should take full responsibility, the new administration is faced with the problem of finding funds for the efficient carrying on of all departments and the financing of new improvements and undertakings.

Possession of $3,000,000 will put an entirely new aspect on the matter and will place the administration on a firm financial basis.

SOURCE OF CURRENCY.

The new currency will be issued against the revenue payable to the territorial administration from all sources in the current fiscal year. This revenue is expected to go well over that figure.

Special ceremonies will mark the opening of the bank and the Governor will give an address. For the present the offices of the bank will be in the Administration Building.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

No Financial Support for Admiral Wen's Squadron

Tsingtao, Apr. 19.

"The Tsingtao Administration will positively not support Admiral Wen's squadron," Governor Kao En-hung declared to-day through his private secretary.

The Governor strongly denied reports that the Administration would advance sums to Admiral Wen Shu-teh for the up-keep of his squadron here. He said that he felt in no sense under an obligation to furnish financial support to a naval detachment, which was part of the strength of the nation. Any navy was a national affair and no territory or province should be compelled to stand the entire burden. The surplus revenue of the Kiaochou Administration would be forwarded to Peking, and if the Central Government saw fit to use all or part of it for the support of the squadron, that was their affair.

The Administration has granted a charter to the newly formed International Recreation Club to operate the old race course of Huichuan, which has been abandoned since 1922.

THE DRUG TRAFFIC.

A dozen large packages of morphine and heroin, valued at $15,000, were publicly burned in front of the yamên on Monday afternoon. The drugs were confiscated from a Japanese, who was attempting to smuggle them ashore. They bore the seal of a Japanese pharmaceutical firm.

AN INFORMATION BUREAU.

The Governor is forming an Information Bureau for the purpose of disseminating information about the city and Kiaochou Territory. This will be supplied upon application to business men and tourists. Special efforts will be made to ascertain business conditions and other special subjects of interest to business men will be dealt with.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

GEN. YANG SEN EMPLOYING BANDITS?

Mienchow Report

From Our Own Correspondent.

Mienchow, Sze., Apr. 7.

On March 22 the new Mission hospital which Dr. J. H. Lechler, of the C.M.S., has been building, was formally opened. It is a fine building and will stand, we hope for many years, a monumente of the good will of foreigners towards China.

Standing as it does in the centre of the district where the two missionaries were murdered last year, it is admirably placed for preaching a lesson of brotherhood. Dr. Lechler is to be congratulated on having achieved a piece of work which the Great War set back for a time. He will have the assistance of Dr. Hsiao, a young medical graduate of the West China Christian University.

Brigands in the Hanchow district have been falling out; two bands of them put up a great fight and then military officers in Hanchow went out and helped them come to terms. In Mienchow recently while one band of soldiers were guarding the city some of the regiment looted houses near the South Gate!

A persistent report says that Yang Sen is employing the bandits to help him clear up Szechuan, and reform the province generally.

A friend writing from Chungking says that the Lokiang magistrate, whom I reported recently as killed, met his fate for demanding the taxes for the 19th year of the Republic, so the *Shuen Tien Chiao* rose up and killed him.

THE NANKING TUCHUN'S BIRTHDAY

Marshal Chi's Refusal to Accept Presents or Receive Callers

From a Correspondent.

Nanking, Apr. 20.

Marshal Chi Shieh-yuan, Governor-General of Kiangsu, Kiangsi and Anhui, having, as has already been reported, refused to accept the suggestion of his councillors for an elaborate celebration of his 40th birthday last Friday, the occasion was observed in a most simple manner.

Apart from rejecting all presents which were sent to him by his subordinates and admirers in all parts of the country, Marshal Chi decided to avoid all pomp and ceremony by not appearing in public and by refusing to see his closest friends and representatives of high officials, of whom there were several thousand present. Not a single person was received by the Governor-General on Friday, but a simple dinner was given on the following day.

SIR R. TAGORE AT NANKING.

Sir Rabindranath Tagore, the celebrated Indian poet and philosopher, called on the Governor-General this morning and had a long conversation with him, urging him to promote peace in order that the old civilization of the East might be preserved. Marshal Chi explained to the famous poet that, although he was a soldier, he was one who loved peace and order which he meant to maintain to the best of his ability. He thanked Sir Rabindranath for his kind advice and assured him that he would always observe his words.

CAPTIVE JAPANESE OFFICERS

Release of Yihyang Maru Prisoners Delayed Through Lack of Ransom

Peking, Apr. 18.

The sudden withdrawal of Gen. Tan Tze-mu from Hokiang has caused a further complication over the release of the two Japanese officers of the Yihyang Maru, who have been in captivity in Szechuan for seven months. After arrangements had been completed by Mr. Chou Tze-chun, representative of the Waichiaopu, and the Japanese Consul at Chungking, for the ransom of the Japanese officers on payment of $100,000., difficulty arose over the matter of providing that amount in ready cash. The local authorities asserted that they could not do so, and the question was referred to Peking. Eventually the Government and the Japanese Legation made arrangements whereby the money was made available at Chungking.

The agreement with Gen. Tan was that the money should be handed over to him or his agent at Hokiang. The prisoners were in a village near that town. The Japanese Consul returned to Chungking, while Mr. Chou and an official of the Japanese Consulate remained at Hokiang. On April 10 Gen. Tan left Hokiang for an unknown destination. On April 12, Mr. Chou and the Japanese official left Hokiang with the intention of returning to Chungking. Shortly afterwards, on the same day, the Consul arrived at Hokiang and was informed that Gen. Tan had moved away and taken the prisoners with him. The Consul is remaining at Hokiang in the hope of getting into touch with Gen. Tan.

It is believed that military operations on the part of the Northern forces made it necessary for Gen. Tan to move his forces hurriedly, and it is hoped that the release of the prisoners will be effected soon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, Apr. 24.

The whereabouts of the officers of the Yiyang Maru is still a mystery. The Japanese Council at Hokiang left for Luchow on April 15, where he requested Gen. Tan Hsi-mou's chief, Gen. Lai Hsin-huei, to communicate with Gen. Tan with a view to the release of the captives. Gen. Lai promised to do his best. The ransom of $100,000 will be taken back to Chongking.—Reuter's Pacific Sesvice.

EDUCATION IN CHINA ON FOREIGN LINES

Japan's Proposed System of Co-operation: Establishment of Oriental Library

Peking, Apr. 14.

The scarcity of funds for education in China, which has been one of the most difficult problems of Chinese Governments in recent years, appears likely to be followed by embarrassment of quite another kind in the future, if all the Powers follow the example of the United States Government in allocating their shares of the Boxer Indemnity to education in China.

There is no doubt that the Russians have a plan for education of Chinese on modern Russian lines, with the Russian indemnity. Britain is considering the allocation of the British indemnity for education of Chinese, and the Minister of Education apparently hopes that the Japanese indemnity will be made available for education by means of a scheme of co-operation between Japan and China based on "Oriental Civilization."

With this object in view, it is reported that Mr. Chang Kuo-kan has appointed a committee to draft proposals for "Sino-Japanese Co-operation in developing Oriental Civilization." The committee consists of Messrs. Tang Chung, Tang Tsuai-ying, Chin Fan, Cheng Jen-chung, Fan Hung-tai and Chu Nien-tsu.

It is proposed to establish great libraries of Oriental works in Peking and Tokio, which will be available for students in both countries by frequent exchanges. It has been suggested that the "Four-Volume Library" should be the basis of the Chinese library.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TIENTSIN'S HANDS OUT TO THE SEA

The Long Struggle for Water-borne Trade and to Keep Direct Touch with Salt Water

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, Apr. 19.

The promise held out in M. Perrier's report on the plans of the Haiho River Conservancy's Chief Engineer, that it will be possible in the near future for ocean-going vessels of 26-foot draught to berth at Tangku and for ships drawing 20-feet to berth at the Tientsin Bund, brings to mind the 60-years' struggle of shippers to maintain waterborne commerce and a direct access to the sea. To those who have come here in recent years and remained or passed on their way, and to perhaps the majority of traders enjoying the facilities of this port, to which 1,500 ships now come and go annually, very little is known of the trials and fights of the early pioneers, who made those facilities possible. By a "griffin" merchant, who daily sees strings of one and two thousand ton steamers arriving and departing in this muddy narrow water-alleyway, now bearing the once ironic name, "Sea River," little credence would be given to a statement that the same stream was once condemned by a Customs Commissioner to be "almost useless as a waterway," and that for six months of one year the depth of water was scarcely more than five feet. The fact, nevertheless, remains recorded in the history of the port and the present and future possibilities of Tientsin shipping are a fruition of years of not unromantic struggle against the elements by men who were handicapped both by lack of funds and by the aids of modern engineering science.

1858 THE FIRST RECORD.

The earliest record of foreign ships entering Tientsin, which give us any definite idea as regards the depth of water in the river, is the invasion of the Peiho, which name included what is now known as the Haiho, by a fleet of six British and French auxiliary gunboats and small frigates in 1858. They brought the British and French Ambassadors, Lord Elgin and Baron du Gros, on a wartime mission that resulted in the Treaties of Tientsin. These ships, drawing, as far as can be reckoned, about 12 feet, came up to the Chinese city and anchored just below the Cathedral Nôtre Dames des Victoires where the recent Cathedral Cutting was made in the Peiho. Only one of them grounded on the way up, but it was towed off by about 400 coolies. A similar fleet entered the river by force in 1860, to obtain ratification of the Treaties, in which Tientsin was added as a Treaty port.

The following year, 1861, 111 ships, totalling a tonnage of 27,161, or an average of 244 tons each, entered and left the port carrying the first year's trade of five and a half million taels value. Thirty-nine were British, 18 were American, 13 were Danish, 13 were from the free city of Hamburg and three were from Prussian ports. No record is available to show what proportion were sailing and auxiliary vessels, although from subsequent records sailing ships must have been predominant. Customs figures made no differentiation until 1880. There is here again no means of telling what was the draught of these ships. They all came up to the Tientsin bund, for there were no lighters in those days to effect transhipment at Taku. It is considered that ships of 244 tons could not have drawn much more than 12 to 15 feet, not even the deep-keeled sailing vessels. In any case history does not mention them meeting with any navigation difficulties in the river, in spite of the fact that it then wound a tortuous course of 50 miles between two points, Tientsin and Taku, that are 28 miles apart by direct line.

YEARLY TONNAGE RISING.

By 1870 the number of ships had increased to 268, with total tonnage of 109,226 and an average of 408. Ten years later, 1880, the numbers increased to 407 ships, total tonnage 245,765, and an average of 600 tons. Thus, in 20 years the average tonnage of each ship more than doubled. Whether the rise in average tonnage, with consequent increase in draught, or the gradual silting up of the river, created the first difficulties in Haiho navigation is not clear. Doubtless both causes contributed equally, for in 1886 the river had become so shallow and ships experienced such great trouble reaching Tientsin Bund, that the Customs Commissioner, Mr. Detring, said in his annual report that the Haiho had become "the bugbear of the ports." Dredging had been tried but the river had shown no signs of improvement and the Commissioner's report suggested "cutting through the necks of several of the bends to make an almost straight channel to the sea," and that "the expense of the scheme was not held to be too great in proportion to the benefits which would be derived from it."

Again in 1888 the same source says "Navigation of the river was very difficult. Northwest gales blew water out of the Gulf of Pechili, leaving frequently a succession of seven and eight foot tides on the bar. At one time even lighters could not make the passage from Taku to Tientsin and 24 vessels were counted at one time lying tide-bound on or at the Taku Bar. In summer the river silted up so badly in the upper reaches that they could not be navigated and on July 12 a temporary anchorage was made 12 miles down river from Tientsin, where all vessels loaded and unloaded cargo. The river became worse later and by December 13 there was only five feet of water on the Bar."

TRADE INCREASES.

However, in spite of these difficulties the trade of Tientsin continued to increase. Ships came in ever increasing numbers, and with the assistance of lighters at Tientsin when the river was low, managed to keep the commerce on the ascendent. Several experimental steamers were built with a view to navigating the shallow parts of the river and Bar. One of them had its hull so shaped that two concave tunnels, one on each side of the keel, were formed when it ran aground. The theory was to force water through these tunnels, by the action of the propeller when set full speed astern, in order to wash away a hollow underneath to permit the vessel to float off. Other coasting vessels were made especially shallow, by building them with broad beam and other special constructions. The river appeared to give less trouble for a few years following 1890, although shippers and shipping companies continued to wage a fight to overcome its vagaries. In 1894 one of the many big floods which have devastated North China caused freshets to deposit much silt in the river, with the result that where there existed 20 feet in the river channel at high tide it decreased to 12 feet. All steamers, except one, the Lienshing, transferred cargo outside the Bar. Ships entering the port in 1890 numbered 585, with total tonnage of 449,617, or an average of 768 tons, an increase of 168 tons over those 10 years before. By 1899 the figures went up to 846 vessels of total tonnage of 791,879, an average of 934 tons each.

A CRISIS IN 1897.

In 1897 matters came to a head when "for more than six months," says the Commissioner of Customs, "the depth of water ranged between five and eight feet. Only one steamer reached the Bund and all cargo was transferred in lighters, with consequent great delay, damage and pilferage."

The previous year, 1896, the Tientsin Chamber of Commerce had appointed Mr. A. de Linde to make a survey of the river and bar channels, but it was not until 1890 that Viceroy Li Hung-chang was induced to permit the task to be carried out. Even then the Chinese officials opposed it so strongly that it had to be abandoned. The Chinese were won over eventually by the successor to Li Hung-chang, Viceroy Wang Wen-shao, who agreed with the British and French Consulate-General, Mr. H. B. Bristow and Count de Chaylard, and the Chairman of the British Municipal Council, Mr. Cousins, with Mr. de Linde, as Adviser, to undertake the beginning of conservancy work at a cost of Tls. 250,000. This constituted the first Haiho Commission, a representative mixed body, including the Customs Taotai, two Chinese officials, the Customs Commissioner and representatives of the different shipping and lighter companies, foreign concessions and General Chamber of Commerce. The new Commission got as far as erecting three locks at points down the river, but the Boxer trouble put an end to it. However, Mr. de Linde carried on under the British Military in 1901, until the Tientsin Provisional Government appointed a committee to prosecute the work. This scheme, with the passing of that temporary administration, resulted in the work being taken under the authority of a committee composed of the British Consul-General, the Customs Commissioner and the Customs Taotai. Changes have been made in this Commission but the work has gone on continuously ever since.

"Our chronic local trouble" as the river was called in 1897, has been conquered by the remarkable ingenuity of the Engineers of the Haiho Conservancy Board, which has, in spite of a limited supply of funds, shortened the river from 50 to 35 miles, by numerous cuttings, deepened it from "five to eight feet" to nearly 20, and thus made it possible for 1,447 ships, of an average tonnage of 1,350, to trade with this port in 1923.

NEW BRITISH CONSULATE AT TIENTSIN

Treasury Approves "in Principle" of Purchase of Major Nathan's Residence

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, Apr. 17.

The British Consulate-General will, in the course of the next two years, move from its old site in Consular Road to the house and grounds at 1 Racecourse Road, formerly the residence of Major Nathan while he was General Manager of the Kailan Mining Administration. When the sale transaction with the Kailan Mining Administration is completed by final sanction of the British Government, which is expected shortly, the Consul-General, Mr. W. P. Ker, C.M.G., will immediately take up his residence in the house. The supplementary offices, court and safe, will be transferred from their old site as soon as new buildings can be erected on the grounds at 1 Racecourse Road.

Figures and details of sale were cabled home to the Treasury some time ago and a cable reply has just been received approving the sale "in principle." The price and terms of purchase have not yet been disclosed.

While the new Consular Offices are being built, the house Mr. Ker now occupies will be given over to Consular uses to relieve congestion in the present inadequate offices. What will become of the present land and buildings, cannot be ascertained, but their disposal is said to have no bearing on the matter of the present transaction. At one time a Japanese shipping company wished to purchase the river frontage, for offices and godowns, while another firm wished to buy the Victoria Road frontage for an office and residential building. There are, however, several likely purchasers in the market for such a valuable business location, and it will not surprise many if the old site should be sold almost immediately.

PEKING, Apr. 15. The Tuli of Chihli, Marshal Wang Chan-p'ing, left Peking at half past eight this morning. A large number of civil and military officials were present to see him off.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINA'S JUDICIAL ATROCITIES

Honan Magistrate's Crimes: Innocent Prisoner Tortured to Death

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kuciteh, Ho., Apr. 15.

Two barbarous instances of Chinese criminal jurisprudence have just come to my notice.

It seems that about four years ago a man living in the country was visited by a band of robbers who killed his son's wife and wounded his son in the course of their operations in cleaning up all valuables in the house.

The victim suspected three local good-for-nothings in the crowd and sent in a petition informing against them, whereupon they were arrested. The local military leader examined one of the prisoners with the aid of a bamboo according to the usual procedure. When two beatings failed to force a confession, the wretched man was strung up and heated irons were applied to his bare flesh, so his uncle informed me. As they were careless in watching him, thinking no doubt he had not enough life left in him to need very careful guarding, he escaped. He was taken ill, however, and brought back to his home where the people were naturally afraid of the consequences to themselves should he die on their premises. He was taken to the prison again where he soon expired, his uncle, one of the most respected townspeople, in the meanwhile supplying him with food.

The victim of the robbery next sent in a petition to the magistrate accusing the uncle of arranging the escape. When the nephew was brought back and died the uncle was further charged with having poisoned him to get rid of evidence.

It seems that as this prosecutor was a victim to the robbers in the first place he is at liberty to send in accusations against whom he will, if they have no influence, as having been concerned in the original robbery.

DEATH OF THREE MORE.

The magistrate himself, who seems to be a very able and intelligent man, told me that seven arrests had been made on the word of this man and not one confession had yet been made. Three of these men have died in confinement and the others are still in gaol. There is no evidence against them so they cannot be tried and condemned, and they cannot be released or the magistrate himself would be reported to the Civil Governor by the original victim for having released malefactors. Naturally a magistrate is not anxious for this to happen. Even so, however, this particular official is not escaping trouble, for a few months ago the original victim (one feels capital letters should be used) added a new name to his list of accused. Only then did the magistrate refuse to arrest any more men so long after the event, unless some evidence was forthcoming.

This seemed a very unreasonable stand to take to the original victim and could only be explained by the fact that undue influence had been used so he has now sent in a petition to the Civil Governor against three members of the community accusing them of influencing the magistrate so that he should not grant the warrants. It is not yet apparent what the further outcome will be, but in the meantime several untried and uncondemned men (without friends of influence, of course) are languishing in prison, while accusations are being broadcast against absolutely innocent men because it seems that sentiment demands that a man who was wronged as this man was in the first place, must be allowed a little latitude in working off his injured feelings.

A SECOND HORROR.

In my last letter I mentioned about the little fracas here in which the military took part. It seems that the attackers on Mr. Mee's house were men who had billeted themselves in neighbouring dwellings and were known to him from the fact that they had previously tried without success to "borrow" money from him.

On this night when Gen. Wang's yamên troops set fire to the buildings there they thought the real time had come for them to work off their spleen and at the same time make a little for themselves. They therefore scaled the wall of Mee's house from a lane at the back and having first shot him they helped themselves.

When the mutiny spluttered out they went back to their quarters ready to be good soldiers again until the next opportunity. Unfortunately for them their victim had not died as they supposed and on recovering a little at the hospital was able to accuse four of his assailants by name. Thus they were picked out by the officer commanding, but then the problem was how to punish them since their comrades would probably resent anything drastic being done, a fellow-feeling doubtless making them wondrous kind. The question was solved by informing the four men that since they had been recognized and formally accused they would have to return home and lie low for a little while. They were given $3 each and escorted to the railway station, four miles north of the city, and word was sent to the troops there, who were not of their company, to arrest and shoot them.

This sentence was carried out. These four men were guilty of attempted murder, but one cannot help feeling some sympathy for the poor wretches going off more or less thankfully to their homes with $3 each in their pockets whilst certain death was waiting for them up the road. Details of their killing were given me which may or may not be true. When they got to the station they were taken into one of the military compounds, I was told, and ordered to change into civilian clothes, as it would not be convenient for them to go off in uniforms. They started to make the exchange and when stripped, one of them was shot dwn. The others, seeing what was coming, started to bolt for it naked and were shot down as they ran. Thus four good uniforms were saved for the army.

A NEW ORGANIZATION IN SZECHUAN

Anti-Militarists Claiming to Be Invulnerable

From Our Own Correspondent.

Mienchow, Sze., Mar. 29.

There is a much unrest about the district, and it is not easy to be definite in the way of information. The broad facts seem to be that the people are heartily sick of the troubles that surround them through the soldiers and the brigands, whom they class together: also there is a body of people going about said to be strong. They go by various names such as Lien-ho Tuan 連合團 Shuen Tien Kiao 順天教 and are loosely alluded to by the people as Boxers. There is apparently, though, nothing about them like the Boxers of 1900.

They do not appear to be specially anti-republican or anti-militarist. It is said that certain of their number are from Honan and are exhorting the people to remember that it is the people who should rule. They dress in red knickers, and wear nothing above their waist. They suppose themselves to be impervious to bullets as they are followers of Heaven, they have no guns and are armed only with long knives and spears.

Not long ago brigands attacked a small village near Mienchu, and did a great deal of damage. The people invited some of the Shuen Tien Kiao to punish them. They came and took possession of the village. The soldiers at Mienchu then went against them and the gruesome story is that the soldiers took many heads back to Mienchu in baskets. Another story is of Lokiang, a city 90 li from Mienchow. These people are said to have killed the city magistrate, and then come on to Jinshanba, a market 30 li nearer Mienchow. It is reported that the Mienchow people had a narrow escape about 20 li away from Jinshanba. Last night the walls of Mienchow were lighted and watchers were on the look out for the most part of the night. Sentries were posted round the city during yesterday, and would allow no one to leave the city for some hours.

BIG NEW HOSPITAL IN SHANSI

American Mission Outlay of $80,000 Gold: An Up-to-Date Equipment

From Our Own Correspondent.

Taiku, Sha., April 15.

On April 10, the American Board Mission Hospital in Fenchow, Shansi, was formally opened. A very large audience was in attendance upon the exercises of the day. The opening address was given by the head physician of the hospital, Dr. Percy T. Watson. He was followed by the principal speaker, Dr. C. E. Lim of the Peking Union Medical College. Other speakers were the Fenyang District Magistrate, Mr. Kwo, and Colonel Yin of the Chinese army, who represented His Excellency Governor Yen. A large number of congratulatory messages were received from various parts of the Far East. Visitors were present from Peking, Paotingfu, Tientsin, Tenchow, and from a number of cities in Shansi. At the conclusion of the exercises a dinner was served to about seven hundred guests. The hospital was thrown open for inspection by the public through the day, and in the evening motion pictures representing various phases of medical progress were shown. Doctors J. H. Ingram of Peking and C. E. Lim of the P. U. M. C. giving the explanatory speeches.

The new hospital, which has been several years in building, represtnts an outlay of G. $80,000. This sum includes the cost of site and equipment. Wards for men and women are under one roof, with the offices and administrative quarters of the staff between. A complete heating system has been installed, and the hospital is also equipped with electric lights, telephones, and running water. The equipment of sterilizers is one of the most complete to be found in a mission hospital in the Far East. The capacity of the hospital is 105 beds, though at present but 70 beds are ready for use.

The present staff includes two American and two Chinese physicians, one foreign nurse and a full complement of Chinese nurses, and a foreign engineer. The hospital also has an American business manager who has recently arrived and has now taken over the duties of that office.

The difficulties attendant upon the construction and equipment of so modern a hospital plant in the interior of China have been enormous. The one item of transportation, especially as regards heavy machinery, to a point seventy miles inland from a railway station has been a real problem. That these difficulties have one by one been met and overcome is largely due to the indomitable energy, optimism and preseverance of the head physician, Dr. Watson. His reward is being found in the steadily increasing stream of patients that is flowing through the doors of the hospital to-day.

A NEW CHURCH.

On April 9 the corner stone of a new institutional church was laid in this city. The building is expected to be completed by September. The cost when complete will be something over $20,000. This is, I believe, the first church of its type to be projected in Shansi. It will be open seven days in the week and engaged in efforts to meet the varied social and educational needs of the community. The auditorium, which will be the largest in the city, will be open to use for any object not inconsistent with the Christian spirit. At the exercises on April 9, the stone was placed by Mr. W. C. Fairfield, Vice-Principal of the Oberlin-Shansi Schools, and a brief speech was made by the district magistrate, Mr. An.

EXCESSIVE DROUGHT.

Dry weather prevails over central Shansi and a good deal of apprehension is felt for the wheat crop. In some neighbourhoods the wheat is already dead and the fields are being ploughed over. This condition is reflected in the rising price of flour.

BESSEL'S ASSAILANT TO BE RETRIED

Peking, Apr. 18.

At an interview which the British Minister had this afternoon with Dr. Wellington Koo on the latter's recovery from his recent illness, Dr. Koo gave Sir Ronald Maclay an assurance that Mr. Bessel's assailants would be retried in the presence of a British Assessor.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

HONAN MAGISTRATES' IMPROVEMENTS

Tree-planting and Raids on Gamblers: The Influence of Wu Pei Fu

From Our Own Correspondent.

Huaiking, Ho., Apr. 14.

Recently the district officials in Chin, Wen, Meng and Tsiyuan hsiens have been changed and now all four hsiens have magistrates appointed from Loyang. These new officials are taking a great interest in tree planting. All the main roads now have trees planted along both sides. Some vacant or unused pieces of land have been set out with trees and also small parks have been planted in the cities and market towns. Most of the trees are willow and some of them are very small but if cared for will soon help to take away the bare appearance of the land.

POLICE RAIDS.

Many raids have been made on gambling and opium dens recently by the police. Such action would seem to commend itself to the best citizens, but for the most part little mention is made of the good work; one mostly hears the criticism that this is only another way of bringing money into the coffers of the officials.

During the past month bad characters have been less active than formerly although the bandit menace is by no means cleared up. Great anxiety is felt because of the long continued drought, and crime follows closely in the trail of poverty. Whole stretches of wheat fields may be seen turned brown and scorched by the dry weather. Only the fields that can be watered show signs of a coming harvest. Some of the grain dealers are shipping in grain but prices are increasing daily on all cereals.

ONE WAY OF SAVING MONEY.

In Tsiyuan city the Seventh Day Adventists have been trying to increase in grace by fasting. Several have fasted for various periods of time some seven days, some 10 days, some even 20 days. However, one Adventist by the name of Lu greatly wished to fast 40 days and had fasted for that period although very weak at the end of 40 days. When his time of fasting was over a friend treated him to some peanuts; afterwards he suddenly took ill and died. Some others who were fasting, it is said, have now broken their fast.

REVIVAL OF BUDDHISM.

A change in method has brought Buddhism to the forefront. At all the country fairs and theatricals either by having a special tent or from the theatrical platform Buddhism is being preached, the main burden of the message given to the uneducated and the women especially is vegetarianism and good works. Last week was the annual Lao Chun Ting pilgrimage. This high mountain has a temple erected on one of its high and dangerous peaks. Several hundred steps have to be climbed before reaching the top. Most women with bound feet made this ascent on all fours. This year at all the little temple resting places along the way leading to the Temple peak Buddhist preachers arrested the passing crowds and preached to them. On account of the present drought more than in former years climbed the dizzy height of Lao Chun Ting.

TAGORE AT HANGCHOW

Lecture on Unity of Nations as Swaraj Might See It

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hangchow, Apr. 16.

The Indian of reputation whom I mentioned in my last communication is Rabindranath Tagore. He addressed a meeting of several thousands of students in the Educational Association Auditorium this afternoon, in beautiful English.

He emphasized the unity of nations, and brotherohood of man. We are pathmakers, not for profit or power, but for brotherhood. Improved communications made it easy to get together, but tourists only saw the surface of life, and had no time for mentality to come close to humanity.

Many come near to each other by geographical excursions, but do not establish spiritual relationships. A crowd is not a community. He said the channel of communication between the Indians and the Chinese was overgrown with weeds, but the line could still be seen. If there was the real love for man all the mischief in the world would be removed. Natural bias and prejudice must be overcome. We are blind to the realities of life, and good in others, because we see them through the mists and do not really know man.

Let us come together as brothers, joining hands, guests and friends doing it naturally and simply, and the race problem will be solved. Not uniformity, which is dead and external, but unity, which is living and profound, is what is needed.

In closing, he said that we are all the children of the immortal, and we dwell in the Kingdom of Heaven and when we realize this through some illumination of the soul we shall work for the elevation of humanity.

He told the audience that he hoped to tell them of the object of his mission to another occasion.

WUSIH CHURCH WORK

Training for Chinese Nurses: A Memorial Chapel: Chinese Gentry's Assistance

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wusih, Ku., Apr. 19.

The American Church Mission has had two interesting events during the past week. On Friday, the 11th, work was begun on the home for Chinese women nurses at St. Andrew's Hospital. The money for the nurses' home was entirely donated by Chinese gentry of Wusih.

On Sunday, April 12, St. Andrew's Hospital Memorial Chapel was consecrated by Bishop Graves. The chapel was presented in memory of Mrs. R. T. W. Duke of Virginia, the Holy Table in memory of Mrs. Yang, mother of the hospital chaplain, and the cross in memory of Willoughby Lee. The service of consecration was very simple and impressive and included a short address by the Bishop, in which he brought out the relation of the religious to the material work of hospital as being like the relation of the soul to the body.

The Door of Hope, established by local gentry, held a meeting at the home of Dr. Lee on Saturday, April 12. Two girls have already been received and are now undergoing treatment in St. Andrew's Hospital. The opening of this much needed institution is made possible by the kind cooperation and assistance of Miss Abercrombie of the Shanghai Door of Hope.

RUSSIAN EXPLORATION IN CHINA

Moscow, Apr. 19.

A new expedition to the upper part of Yangtzekiang and the dead town of Khara Khotan, under the leadership of the famous traveller, M. Kosloff, will start in the second half of this year.—Reuter.

JAPANESE SUBMARINE TRAGEDY

Tokio, Apr. 23.

The funeral of the victims of the submarine disaster, when Submarine 43 sank after a collision with the warship Tatsuta during manoeuvres off Sasebo, took place yesterday with naval honours at Sasebo. The submarine was recently raised and the bodies recovered.

The newspapers this morning publish articles eulogizing the bravery of those killed, and also print their full diaries.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MURDERER'S FEARFUL PUNISHMENT

A Son Who Shot His Father: The Greatest Crime in the Chinese Code

From Our Own Correspondent.

Haichow, Ku., Apr. 12.

Shortly before China New Year I learned of the burning in a region frequently visited of a man who had murdered his father, but as such severe punishments are not uncommon, it was not regarded as worthy of reporting. But a late visit brings to light some particulars that are rather unique—at least in the writer's experience.

The victim was a young man who had been known to be living the life of a robber and his father had taken occasion to warn him of his danger and exhort him to reform. The son, enraged at his father's exhortations and rebukes, deliberately shot and killed the latter.

His older brother and uncles immediately effected the capture of the murderer and at a conclave of the family clan it was determined that he should receive as terrible a punishment as they could invent. Naturally they felt themselves unskilled in the art of torture and took their victim over to the nearest camp of soldiers and requested the commanding officer to execute him in the most spectacular way he could invent. The soldiers who were no longer entertained by the daily executions at the hands of a firing squad naturally took a great interest in the affair and did their best to satisfy the demands of the enraged family.

Market day just before New Year was selected at the best date and many thousands were present to witness the scene. The murderer was suspended by his feet, only his trousers being left on him. These were soaked with kerosene and fired from the top, and a bundle of reeds was also fixed so that his feet and legs would be slowly consumed. Chinese observers are not always accurate in their estimate of time but they claim that this slow burning continued for fully two hours.

The victim was throughout determined to show his courage and in spite of his awful sufferings kept up a constant flow of reviling against his family. To put a stop to this abuse one of the soldiers ripped open his cheeks with a knife but this was absolutely ineffectual in checking the flow of curses. Finally when the white-hot lava of his maledictions became utterly unendurable to the watching family, one of them piled a heap of straw beneath the victim's head and fired it, bringing to an everlasting silence the tongue that nothing had ever before tamed.

I was not able to hear one word of commiseration for the victim. To my query whether anyone felt that such tortures were unjustifiable there was an emphatic denial. It was pointed out that his own family were the directors of the affair and that he got only his just deserts. He had committed the greatest crime in the Chinese Code and no possible punishment could be too severe.

The Japanese officers arrested at Vladivostok have at last been brought before their accussers, states the "Japan Advertiser." Preliminary examination of the prisoners—Lt.-Cdr. Minoshima and Capt. Matsui—was concluded last Monday.

15,000 MORE TROOPS FOR MARSHAL WU

Popular General Secedes from Southern Cause in Szechuan

From Our Own Correspondent.

Luchow, Sze., Mar. 27.

The conference between the 1st and 2nd Armies has resulted in some sort of an agreement as far as Lai Hsin-huei is concerned. He has had enough fighting and is willing, with his 10,000 or 15,000 men, to throw in his lot with the northern faction, for the present at least.

He has been given charge of one of the central districts of the province, including the cities of Fushun, Lungchang and Neichang, but rumour has it that Wu Peh-fu proposes to give him charge of a district in north-eastern Szechuan, adjoining Hupeh province, presumably in order that he can keep a closer watch on him.

Lai is one of the most popular generals in Szechuan. His troops are usually well-behaved and he has a name for robber-suppression. His troops are now passing through the outskirts of Luchow on their way north. The other first army chiefs, with the exception of Hsiong and Dan, who have probably left the province entirely, are still somewhere around Yungning. They must still be in charge of a considerable body of troops but, since they have little or no ammunition, they are not likely to renew the war for the present.

ANOTHER CASUALTY ON UPPER YANGTZE.

The weather still continues very dry here and the river, which was rising a little, has been falling again. No steamer has appeared yet, as the Kiang Yuan, which left Chungking about ten days ago, ran on the rocks. Considerable loss of cargo and some loss of life are reported. Apparently no foreigners were on board. The Kiang Yuan was owned by the Ho Kiang merchants and was one of the small boats flying the Chinese flag which ply between Chungking and Suifu in low water.

Mr. Barrie's boats have not ventured out of Chungking yet.

TWO MARKET TOWNS LOOTED

Fresh Bandit Outrages in Tsaoshih Area: Band 500 Strong

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Hup., Apr. 12.

Having just met one who was in Teian last week, I am able to supplement from a reliable source that the details which I sent yesterday about the band of robbers who have recently moved from Tsaoshih to the Suichow region.

Teian is a city about 100 miles north from Hankow and 50 miles east of Tsaoshih, and so lay more or less on the line of movement of the robbers. Penglingshih, a large market town 40 *li* north of Teian was looted and burned on Saturday, April 4.—(This is one of the towns which was plundered last year, and about 40 of the inhabitants were carried away as hostages and kept for several months wandering about with the robbers and suffering great hardships).

On Saturday evening the missionaries in Teinan were warned by the city magistrate that it was necessary for them to leave the place immediately. A personal visit to the *yamên* procured a few hours' respite, and most of the night was spent in collecting together what necessities could be taken in a hurried flight. But fortunately, in the morning came news that the situation was less dangerous, and the city was no longer threatened. An engagement had taken place between the military and the robbers, in which 17 soldiers were killed, though the robbers had the worst of it and were beaten back. The band is supposed to have been 400 or 500 strong, but their losses are unknown. They retreated, as I reported yesterday, in a north easterly direction to the region near Suichow.

DIFFICULTIES OF THE UPPER RIVER

Pakiang Stranded and Other Vessels Held Up Owing to Lack of Water

Ichang, Apr. 16.

The str. Pakiang, flying the Italian flag, struck the rocks below Yehtan and is badly holed with her engine-room and forehold flooded. She has been beached and salvage gear is being forwarded. The passengers are safe.

Later.

The Pakiang, which met with a very bad accident just below Yehtan, is reported to be lying with her stern in the air and her bows low in the water. If the river should rise rapidly, it would be a very difficult matter to salvage her.

The river remains at an extraordinary low mark. It rose about three feet a week ago, and it was expected that the spring rise had come. But, instead of continuing to rise, it has fallen again and the water-mark to-day is 0.2. The result is that the whole fleet of larger steamers, which expected to be able to travel on April 10, are still lying in harbour, unable to move up stream. Twenty-four steamers can now be counted in the Harbour, including three gunboats.

KUEICHOW TROOP'S RECRUITS.

There are interesting things to be learned from a visit to Itu, only 20 miles down river from Ichang. The city has been given to the Kueichow Army as a training headquarters for recruits. There are now about four or five thousand men there, some of them the merest boys. Further new recruits have recently come from a distance, and close inquiry elicited the fact that many of them are brigands, formerly members of the band of the late Lao Yang-jen, who played such havoc in another part of this province last year.

AN OLD, OLD STORY.

Itu has also started a branch of the "Save Ichang Opium Prohibition Office," which, it will be remembered, is for the collection of revenue for the payment of the troops. A proclamation issued by this department, decrying the evils of opium, says that the office is there for its complete suppression. It is hard to see how face can be saved by such nonsense, legalizing the trade under pretence of suppressing it.

In connexion with the growing of opium, the Taoyin has been absent from Ichang for about two months, on a visit to the prefecture of Shinan and the western cities of this prefecture. These are all hilly districts and it is learned that the Taoyin has been visiting the magistrates of these districts to make arrangements for annual payments for the privilege of collecting taxes on poppy. Patung is to be allowed to cultivate the weed for a payment by the magistrate of $140,000 per annum: Tsikuei (formerly Kueichow) is to pay $150,000. No figures can yet be ascertained for the other districts. It appears likely that all the mountain districts will be covered with poppy this year.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN THE PHILIPPINES

The Mysterious Earthquake

Manila, Apr. 19.

A severe earthquake lasting three minutes occurred on April 15 at Davao. Two persons were hurt and many houses demolished, while numerous fissures opened.

*** This is evidently the earthquake reported last week from so many observatories but at the time not exactly located.—Ed.

Apr. 20.

Rumours of volcanic activity in the Bubuyan Islands have been confirmed by a visit of inspection of the northern islands by Governor-General Wood to-day.

A crater five kilometres northwest of Sandionisio, a village of 75 inhabitants, is violently erupting. Stones, ashes and devastating clouds of gases are rolling down the mountain side, which appears like No Man's Land in France, according to a wireless message from the despatch-boat Apo on which the Governor-General is travelling.

The inhabitants of the village are taking refuge in temporary shelters near the water's edge. They are terrorized and yet loth to leave their homes. Food and medical supplies have been furnished by the Apo and steps have been taken for the removal of the people to places of safety.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Manila, Apr. 21.

A relief expedition is to be sent by the Army to the relief of the victims of the volcano in the Babuyan Islands.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ANOTHER FOREIGNER ATTACKED?

Foreign Engineer at Mukden Arsenal Wounded—Chinese Press Report

Peking telegrams to the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" report that a chief foreign engineer in the employ of Marshal Chang Tso-lin's Mukden Arsenal, was shot at and wounded in three places by a Chinese in the Manchurian capital on Monday last.

He is expected, however, shortly to recover, as his wounds are not of a serious nature. The would-be assassin, meanwhile, has been arrested and detained. It is believed that the attempt was in connexion with internal politics.

MOTOR-CARS TO SMUGGLE CONTRABAND

Large Consignment of Opium and Arms Found in Car from Shanghai

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, Apr. 15.

Illustrating how traffic in drugs and firearms finds unusual mediums, an automobile was recently shipped from Shanghai to Tientsin, duly passed by the Customs and landed on the Bund. The car drove away to a local garage for some small repairs. The garage manager, recognizing the type of car as one specially designed in Shanghai, became interested in it and began a close examination. Casually pressing the spare tyre attached to the rear he felt something that resisted his pressure differently from an inflated tube. When close to it he smelt opium. The Chinese, driver, who seemed to be in charge of the car, at once objected, saying in Chinese, "Please don't touch that." The manager laughed and paid no attention. He further examined the car and upon pounding the rear seat to see how the springs reacted, he hurt his knuckles against solid matter. Lifting the seat, to the intense chagrin of the driver, he saw several cases of ammunition and a dozen or more automatic revolvers.

Now properly excited, the driver asked for the bill for repairs, saying quickly," Oh, maskee, I pay you one thousand dollars, finish." The account came to about $5, and the manager said in reply," You pay that five dollars and vamoose, pronto."

The driver and car vanished up the road and were later seen in Peking.

This is said to be the fifth car in two months that has made the trip by boat to Tientsin. All of them are alleged to have carried the same shipments.

THE BELGIAN MINISTER

Peking, Apr. 15.

The Belgian Minister, M. Everts, left this morning for furlough in Europe. A number of his colleagues in the Diplomatic Body were among the group who assembled at the station to bid him good-bye.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

BOYCOTTERS BUSY IN THE YANGTZE

Preparations for Demonstration Against Japan on "National Shame" Day

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Apr. 11.

Last Thursday, a number of leading Chinese from Hankow and Wuchang were entertained on board the Japanese cruiser, which has been here with the squadrons of destroyers visiting the port. Among the guests were representatives of the schools, merchants and press, some 30 in all. They were shown over the warship, which carries eight 50 cm. guns and four torpedoes, and can steam at 33 knots per hour. The Chinese guests were further entertained to a concert, followed by a dinner, after which a number of speeches were made. The Japanese Admiral laid emphasis on the fact that this visit is purely pacific in its object, and that by intercourse of this kind there might be laid the foundations of lasting amity between the two greatest nations of the East. The Japanese ships left again on Friday for down river.

In contrast to the above may be recorded the meeting which took place two days previously of the People's Foreign Relations Society, (which is still busy arranging for a big demonstration to be made on the coming "Day of National Disgrace," May 7 next). It is felt that the boycott of Japanese goods, which has never been carried out in more than a half-hearted kind of way must be enforced more stringently, and that the refusal of Japan to restore Dairen offers occasion for once more urging the boycotting policy upon the people of China. On the "disgraceful" day which is about to come round once more, these patriots intend to "humiliate" themselves more than ever. Special cakes are to be made, with Chinese characters imprinted upon them meaning "One Year's Remembrance" and the devotees who eat these cakes will pledge themselves for one year more to remember Japan with proper feelings of hatred and revenge.

BRIGANDS IN N. HUPEH.

Bands of robbers have reappeared in the north of this province. A fairly large band was near Tsaoshih last week. After burning several villages they passed over in the direction of Suichow. Their leader is Lin Hsin-fuei, who for several years has been one of the bandit-leaders in Hupeh. There are plenty of military stationed in all the towns of this region, but their attitude as usual is one of passivity. It is only too probable that the coming summer will see atrocities committed quite as bad as the burning of Tsaoshih last year.

MR. TAKAHASHI'S SUPPORTERS ARRESTED

Japanese Election Comedy: Informed Against by Govt. Party for Entertaining Press

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Apr. 8.

Can a tiffin costing Y. 2, given to the Press by candidates for the Diet, be construed as a bribe and therefore a violation of the election laws?

This is the question at present agitating the minds of the judiciary and Home Department, following upon the arrest of supporters of Mr. Takahashi, contesting Morioka, a sleepy country village, where was given recently a Press luncheon in support of his candidature. The police were called in at the instance of Government supporters, who are also running a candidate in this village, the native place of the late Premier Hara. The event has caused quite a sensation, for it is well-known that as Morioka votes so will the election tend to develop. Consequently the sleepy place is to-day the scene of considerable electioneering heat.

The organizers of the function were informed against when the guests had sat down and had advanced some way through the menu, Mr. Takahashi's political opponents then inviting the police to decide whether the hosts were guilty of a breach of the law in question.

HOSTS IN CUSTODY.

The police decided that Y.2 per head for a lunch was expensive even for a big town, and much more so for a sleepy little place like Morioka and secured warrants against all responsible for organizing the function. The men arrested are in police custody and will remain so until a definite ruling has been delivered as to whether a Y.2-lunch is a violation of the election law tantamount to bribery or not. If it is, the men will be prosecuted.

COLLISION NEAR HONGKONG

Passenger Ship in Danger

Hongkong, Apr. 20.

An unknown steamer collided with the Chinese-owned vessel Paul Beau last night, while the later was on her way from Canton to Hongkong with over 600 passengers, including three foreigners.

The Paul Beau was struck amidships and her bunker hold flooded. Answering the signals for assistance the steamers Kwangtung and Wing On came alongside and to these were transferred the passengers. There was no panic. When the last passenger had left the Paul Beau her cargo deck became submerged.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SIBERIAN AGRICULTURAL CORPORATION

Cossack Bank Intervening in Case in Tientsin Court Involving $28,000

Tientsin News Service

Tientsin, April 15.

A case involving $28,000 was heard this morning at the British Consular Court. It arose out of a claim by M. Raoul Fermus, as endorsee for several promissory notes for Stephen N. Shendrikoff, against the Siberian Agricultural Corporation, of which Mr. Andrew A. Balakshin is manager.

An interpleader summons was filed last February by the defendant, who said he had received notice from Jacob A. Malygin, representing the Semirestchensk Cossack Troops and the Semirestchensk Cossack Bank, disputing the right of the Siberian Agricultural Corporation to pay the monies claimed by M. Fermus on the promissory notes. The defendant denied collusion, claimed interest only in the charges and costs and was willing to pay into court the subject matter of the claim or to dispose of it as the court may direct.

M. Fermus applied this morning for an order directing payment to himself of monies paid into the court by the Siberian Agricultural Corporation, pursuant to an order of Provincial Court on March 6, basing his claim on the contention that Malygin had taken no steps within reasonable time to establish the claim of his principals as against that of Stephen Shendrikoff to any portion of the fund.

In the hearing this morning, Mr. R. T. Evans represented M. Fermus and Mr. Alexander Fishman, of Shanghai, represented Mr. Malygin. The latter claimed that delay in taking action was due to not having received until recently his credentials from the Semirestchensk Troops and Bank. He said he had not taken any action against M. Fermus but had begun one against Mr. Shendrikoff.

After hearing argument on both sides the Court adjourned *sine die*.

THE Japanese Minister, Mr. K. Yoshizawa, is expected to visit Shanghai about the middle of next month, when he will open the new building of the Yokohama Specie Bank.

OPIUM CULTIVATION IN JEHOL

International Association's Indictment of Scandal and Waichiaopu's Reply

Peking, Apr. 15.

The International Anti-Opium Association, Peking, has issued the following:—

The following foreign report having come from the Jehol Administrative District concerning the present cultivation of opium, the International Anti-Opium Association, finding it difficult to realize that the Presidential mandate, drawn up by the newly-formed Opium Suppression Board, had not yet reached the Jehol District, so close to Peking, sent a copy of the report to the Waichiaopu.

"So far, no notices at all have been put out by the authorities here and so the people take it they will be allowed to grow poppies again. The people are busy everywhere preparing the ground. Many wells have been dug and suitable land prepared.

"The officials seem to encourage them to grow it, and do not say anything about the tax till they have gone round and measured the land to find out how much has been planted. Then they tell the people the amount of the tax and begin to collect it. Then it does not matter whether the crop promises to be a good one or a total failure, they have to pay the tax. Last year a lot of people had their whole crop ruined by hail, but they had to pay the tax all the same. The people who met with this disaster are planting double the amount this year to make up for last year's loss.

"I hear the amount of the tax is to be double what it was last year. Of course, the excuse for allowing it to be grown is that they want the money to pay the soldiers. But you know how much the soldiers received from it last year. All the officers seem to deal in opium and the soldiers escort it about the country for them.

"The planting here will begin in about 10 days, but the land could well be used for growing wheat, and this would pay well, as flour is very dear. I heard from Jehol that the people there were planting poppy some days ago."

THE REPLY.

The Waichiaopu, Peking,
April 9, 1924.

International Anti-Opium Association,
Peking.

SIRS:—In reply to your letter dated March 12, 1924, and the request concerning opium suppression in the eastern section of Jehol District, this Ministry accordingly requested the Inspector-General for Jehol, Chahar and Suiyuan Districts to put in force rigid suppression in the district concerned, and this Ministry has lately been informed by a reply from Inspector-General Wang, which stated that "opium was formerly cultivated in secret, but since I took up the post of Inspector-General of this district I despatched persons to various *hsiens* to make strict investigation and have employed rigid measures to suppress opium-growing. For the same purpose it is on our records that the President despatched an Opium Investigating Commissioner to this district to make investigation. In response to your instructions, I will, however, again issue notice to enforce the prohibition measures, and despatch persons to various *hsiens* to make real investigations with a view to clearing out the poisonous plant." In reply to yours we forward the above information for your reference.

(Signed) THE WAICHIAOPU.

—Reuter's Pacific Service.

GERMAN STEAMER HOLED AT HONGKONG

Hongkong, Apr. 17.

While attempting to avoid a junk in the Lyeemun Pass, the German str. R. C. Rickmers, struck a rock. The steamer returned to harbour with a hole in her bottom and was beached at Yaumati.—Reuter's Special Service.

THE JAPANESE EXCLUSION ACT

Tokio Chamber of Commerce Appealing to American Chambers to Remedy It: Conferences with U. S. Ambassador: Resentment Vented on the Cabinet

New York, Apr. 16.

The New York Times describes the Senate's action in excluding Japanese immigrants as intemperate, hasty and unthinkingly jumping to the conclusion that Japan was trying to dictate to the United States on a matter of internal politics, which was far from the facts. "It merely serves to re-kindle the fires of race hatred and undo the work of a quarter of a century of diplomacy."

The "New York World" also asserts that Mr. Hanihara's words were in no way a threat, but a candid statement of fact. "The Senate has been animated by the basest passion of a mere mob."

The "New York Herald" similarly denounces the Senate's action.—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, Apr. 16.

As certain Members desired to have their position formally recorded by roll call, the Senate by 71 votes to four again approved the Japanese Exclusion amendment of the Immigration Bill.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 16.

With sales of Japanese bonds exceeding $500,000 during the first half-hour to-day, Japanese 6½ per cents. were hammered down to 90½.

Yen went below 41 cents, a new low record for the present year.—Reuter's American Service.

Tokio Dazed at News

Tokio, Apr. 17.

The utmost surprise and bitter disappointment, rather than an outburst of indignation, characterise the reception of the news of the United States Senate's immigration decisions. In the hope that something may be done to prevent the pending legislation from passing into the statute book, those bodies and publicists interested in Japan-American relations are conferring with a view to appealing to similar organizations in the United States in an effort to remedy the situation.

The suggestion that Japan will attempt to retaliate is authoritatively declared to be without foundation, though it is conceded that certain sections, stirred by the excitement of the approaching elections, may be expected to make capital out of the situation by launching attacks against the politicians who are alleged to be responsible. In fact, the extremist morning newspapers are already pointing the way.

SURPRISE, NOT BITTERNESS.

As typical of the best-considered opinion here, the President of the Imperial University, in the course of an interview, declared that he failed to understand the prejudice against Japan, which had long been doing its best for the progress of civilization. He was convinced that in such work there were no national boundaries. He said that he was unable to understand the reason for America's abrupt change, and regretted that a keener sense of racial distinction was likely to result from the American action.

JAPANESE PREMIER DISHEARTENED.

Later.

Expressing regret at the drastic action of the United States Congress against Japan, the Premier, Viscount Kiyoura, interviewed to-day, said: "It seems to us hardly to have been necessary in view of the fact that our whole history has shown us willing to be reasonable. We are willing to accept only a reasonable privilege. If we have not made it clear in the language of foreign use, we at any rate have shown it by a long record of actions of friendship, which may now be impaired but which cannot be broken."

He said that Japan did not dispute America's right to arrange her immigration. She asked only for a concession, which, if denied, caused regret because she hoped for a further act of consideration, in addition to several which America had shown before.

Viscount Kiyoura declared that Japan would never forget America's moral and financial support in the greatest crisis in her history and the latter's impressive sympathy in Japan's greatest disaster.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

VISCOUNT GOTO'S SANG FROID.

The Japanese should face the exclusion situation calmly and not resentfully, in accordance with their ideals, which prohibit a blow for a blow, stated Viscount Goto in the course of an interview to-day.

"Let us proceed with a clear conscience, regardless of the attitude of others, on our way to national prosperity," he declared.

AMENDMENT VETOED.

Washington, Apr. 17.

The Senate has voted down an amendment to the Immigration Bill, prohibiting immigration for five years.—Reuter.

Washington, Apr. 17.

The Senate to-day passed a resolution by 53 votes to 25 to restrict the quotas in the Immigration Bill to one per cent. only. Several Senators explained that they did so because they expected the census of 1910 to be adopted as a basis, saying that the two per cent. quotas could be restored if the census of 1890 were adopted.

Apr. 18.

The Senate has adopted the 1890 census as the quota basis under the Immigration Bill, the quota being two per cent. of the nationals then resident in the United States.—Reuter's American Service.

The Senate to-day adopted an amendment to the Immigration Bill, giving farmers preference among would-be immigrants when any State certifies that it is short of farm labour.

PREFERENCE FOR FARM LABOUR.

The Senate by 62 votes to 6 passed the Immigration Bill, which now goes to the House of Representatives for discussion of the Senate amendments.

Apr. 19.

Italy will suffer almost as badly as Japan under the Immigration Bill, only 3,224 immigrants being eligible as compared with 45,057 under the existing law. The Italian Ambassador has protested without avail.—Reuter's American Service.

Kiyoura Cabinet Denounced

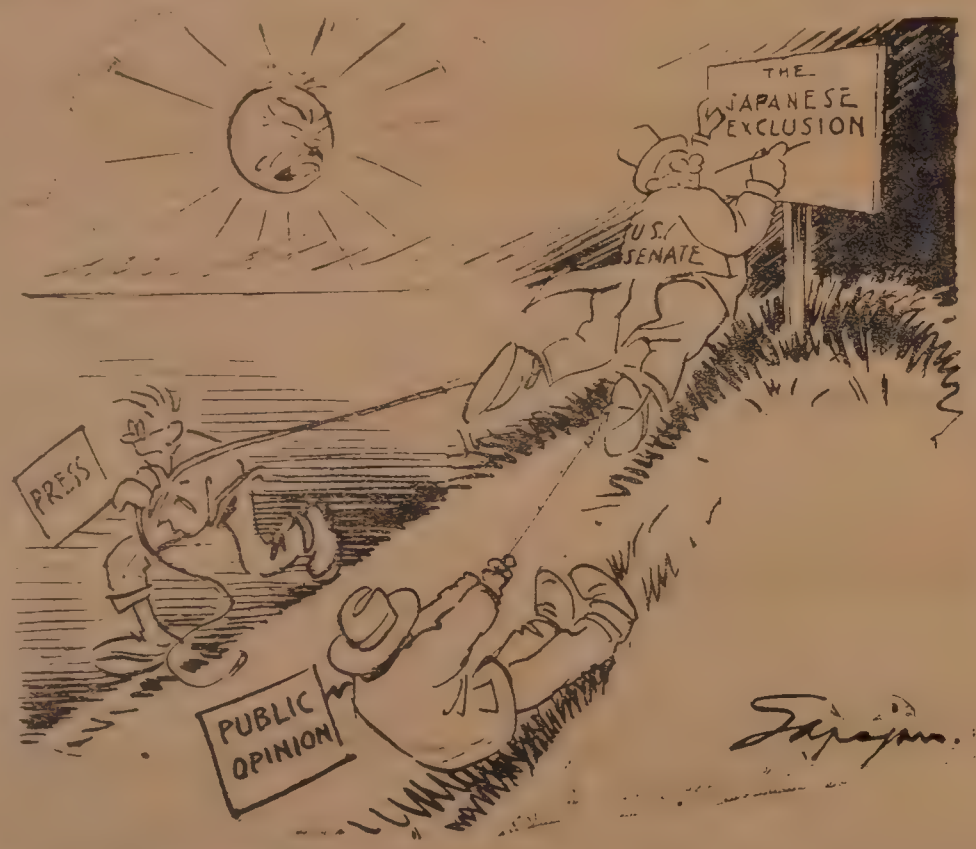
Tokio, Apr. 18.

As anticipated, the resentment aroused by the Senate's Immigration action is partly finding its vent in scathing criticism of the Kiyoura Cabinet, the vernacular papers asserting that the Privy Council will demand the Government's explanation, while the party leaders are holding a conference with a view to similar action.

In the meantime the Tokio Chamber of Commerce has taken the first definite step, in drawing up a resolution for submission to the Chambers of Commerce of New York, Chicago and elsewhere in the United States, appealing to American business men for assistance to remedy the act, which, according to general opinion, must impair and impede the friendship and trade relations between the American nation and the Japanese people. At the same time the Tokio Chamber will memorialize the Government in connexion with the matter.

The drafts of these resolutions will be submitted to a meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce at Kyoto on April 22.

Noteworthy among the varied comments published is that attributed to Lieut.-Gen. Tsuno, the Vice-Minister of War, who is reported to ridicule the idea of extreme retaliatory measures by Japan because "Congress acted in accordance with the national statutes and Constitution, and therefore no outsider can interfere." Though deploring the damaging blow to Japan's prestige, which is bitter to swallow, the Vice-Minister says that it must be used to remedy her internal ills and to emphasize the necessity for united efforts.—Reuter's Pacific Service.



The New York Press is anything but enthusiastic for the Senate's Immigration Restriction measure

INTERVIEW WITH U. S. AMBASSADOR.

Tokio, Apr. 19.

Interviewed by a representative of the Eastern News Agency to-day, Mr. Cyrus Woods, American Ambassador to Japan said briefly as follows:—

Since my arrival here as Ambassador for the United States, I have done my best to further the friendship between the two countries. When I returned home on leave last year, I had an interview with the President and the Ministers of the State and called their attention to the importance of the friendship of the two countries. The fact, therefore, that the anti-Japanese Bill has passed the Senate is a great surprise and disappointment to me. I have never had such a grave and significant disappointment as the present one in my life. I am determined to despatch a lengthy telegram to the President, advising him not to sign the anti-Japanese Bill.—Eastern News Agency.

∴ Considering the Ambassador's position, there would appear to be some misunderstanding in respect of this interview which must be taken with reserve.—Ed.

JAPANESE ORGANIZATION ACTIVE.

Tokio, Apr. 20.

The American Ambassador, Mr. Woods, had a long conference with the Foreign Minister, Baron Matsui, yesterday afternoon.

The Japanese Ambassador in Washington has sent a second Note to the Secretary of State, Mr. Hughes, with a view to clarifying Japan's attitude in regard to immigration.

Leading political parties are holding conferences and resolutions have been adopted urging America's reconsideration of the situation for the preservation of friendly relations between America and Japan.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, Apr. 20.

A Washington despatch dated April 19 reports that Mr. Hanihara, Japanese Ambassador to the United States, on April 19 addressed Mr. Hughes, the Secretary of State, a letter, explaining the words, "grave consequences," which were made a topic for discussion in the Senate, and that this explanation may, perhaps, give the President a chance to ask the Senate to reconsider the anti-Japanese Immigration Bill.—Eastern News Agency.

TOKIO PRESS PROTEST.

Tokio, Apr. 20.

The American Immigration Bill was the topic of a joint meeting of the Tokio press yesterday evening, which registered through a resolution its belief that the Bill did not represent the wide majority of Americans. The resolution drew attention to the attitude of a large section of the American press and public towards the measure, which threatened the traditional friendship between the two nations, strengthened by co-operation at the Naval Conference and enhanced by America's practical sympathy towards Japan in September, 1923, and which, if it became law, must seriously retard those joint undertakings, which are essential to the welfare, not only of America and Japan, but of the rest of the world.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Supposed "Veiled Threat" Misconstrued: A Frank Explanation

Washington, Apr. 20.

The Japanese Ambassador, Mr. Hanihara, has written to Secretary of State Hughes, disclaiming intent to convey a "veiled threat" in the use of the phrase "grave consequences" in his recent letter on the immigration question.

Mr. Hughes, replying, characterizes the letter as "a frank and friendly explanation." He adds that he is quite sure that it was far from Mr. Hanihara's thought to express or imply any threat.

It is understood that Mr. Hanihara's explanation is approved by the Japanese Foreign Office.—Reuter's American Service.

Resolutions of Protest by Chambers of Commerce Throughout Japan

Kioto, Apr. 22.

The Federation of Chambers of Commerce throughout Japan at its annual meeting to-day adopted the following resolution: "We deeply regret the passing of the Japanese Exclusion Immigration Bill by the United States Congress, thereby seriously interfering with the traditional friendship and trade between America and Japan. We earnestly desire a satisfactory solution of this question for the sake of maintenance of peace in the Pacific Ocean and of the promotion of trade between the two countries." The resolution will be sent to the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Hughes, as well as to American Chambers of Commerce.

The Federation is also telegraphing another resolution to the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris, as follows: "Operation of the American Merchant Marine Act would disturb international trade relations and therefore we hope that you will use your best endeavours in abolishing this Act, based on the principle of equal treatment of members of the International Chamber of Commerce.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FURTHER PROTESTS FROM PUBLIC BODIES IN JAPAN.

Osaka, Apr. 23.

Under the auspices of the newspapers and the Federation of Mercantile Guilds, a mass-meeting was held at the Public Hall to-day, attended by several thousand persons, at which a resolution was passed appealing to President Coolidge to veto the Immigration Bill.

The speakers, who were mostly journalists, emphatically argued that the legislation did not represent real American public opinion. They voiced sincere gratitude for the stand taken by influential newspapers in America and appealed to American sense of justice and fair-play to prevent the Bill from becoming law.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

APPEAL TO LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Tokio, Apr. 23.

Japan's stand with regard to the American immigration legislation is finding constant expression in a series of meetings, organized by political, commercial, student and labour interests at which resolutions of protest are being adopted. The dominant note of these meetings is one of intense regard at the action, which threatens injury to the friendly relations between the two countries, and of very earnest appeal for reconsideration of the measure, which is described as unjust and not reflecting the true wishes of the American people.

A meeting of the League of Nations Association this evening, attended by Baron Shibusawa and other well-known personages, passed a resolution to appeal its case to the League of Nations Union at Brussels and to non-partisan associations in America, urging their influence in preventing the bill from being put into operation. The resolution declares that the bill is a direct infringement of the American-Japanese Treaty of Commerce and a violation of the fundamental principles of the League of Nations.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

WHOLE NATION FURIOUS.

Tokio, Apr. 24.

That the situation is as grave as that with which Japan was confronted by the three-power intervention after the Japan-China War, sums up to-day's opinion on the immigration issue, which, it is acknowledged, demands the utmost prudence and self-control, but, says the *"Nichi Nichi,"* Japan must prefer justice to peace if the two are found incompatible. The *"Jiji"* deplores the serious setback to the cultural relations between the United States and Japan which is certain if the immigration law is enacted.

The Premier is credited by this morning's papers with a statement to the Privy Council to the effect that the Government is convinced that the question can be solved by direct appeal to the American people to which it is directing its efforts.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

AMERICA'S AFFRONT TO JAPAN

Press Comment on Exclusion Sobering Down: Mr. Hanihara's Fatal Phrase Deplored by Thoughtful Opinion: Mistake on Both Sides

By Alfred E. Piéres

Tokio, April 17.

The attention of all Japan, official and unofficial, is to-day focussed on the decision of the United States Senate to exclude Oriental immigrants, by legislative means. The feeling in this country, as mirrored in the statements of high Government officials, political leaders, merchant princes and the Press, is one of extreme disappointment, and the hope that the President will veto the measure is entertained by all sections.

It is becoming gradually understood here that the communication made to Mr. Hughes, Secretary of State, by Masanao Hanihara, Japan's accredited representative to Washington, was very untimely and far from diplomatic. Ambassador Hanihara, it is believed, staked the question on one throw of the dice. He overreached himself, caused Senators friendly to Japan to prick up their backs and go rejoicing in the anti-Japanese camp. It will become clearer, in course of time, that Mr. Hanihara did as much, or even more, than the most rabid adherent of the American exclusionism, to secure the legislation that Japan rightly construes as uncalled for. Mr. Hanihara's career as a diplomat may be supposed to have ended. It is a foregone conclusion that he will be recalled to Tokio.

THAT UNFORTUNATE CHOICE OF WORDS.

The phrase that caused the heart-burnings in the Senate—namely that "grave consequences" might result—rendered into Japanese is *judai naru eikyo*. It can be translated "grave consequences," but what Japanese officials here meant to convey was that the suggested legislation *would* cause a "painful impression" here, which *judai naru eikyo* also means. Thus an important chapter in the history of American-Japanese relations, perhaps in the history of the Pacific, revolved on selecting the proper verbiage when translating. It was felt here that the House would pass the measure, but not for a moment was it thought that the Senate would do so. On the contrary, it was confidently expected that the Senate would indefinitely pigeon-hole the matter, if not throw it out altogether. The quick and dramatic developments in Washington struck Japan like a bolt from the blue. Officialdom gasped; the press became thunder-struck.

In the first flush of excitement there was wild talk bandied about, but the press, generally, has kept very cool about the matter and has conducted its arguments against the measure on a comparatively lofty plane. Only one paper, so far, has chosen to specialize in wild gestures, this being the "*Yorodzu*" which has periodical nightmares of a racial war and believes that *Der Tag* has now definitely arrived.

"Japan will find more profit in opposing America even at the risk of her national existence," runs a part of its tirade. "A racial war seems inevitable sooner or later. America seems to want it now and all the the coloured peoples of the world should rise against the whites. There is no longer any necessity for Japan to remain patient when she is being thus tormented and her honour dragged in the mire."

"RETASIATE BLOW FOR BLOW."

The "*Asahi*," generally one of the soberest journals in the Empire, also seems to have got unduly stirred and, in the course of an editorial declaring that behind Mr. Hanihara's note stand a united Japanese people, calls on the Government to retaliate blow for blow, to meet discrimination against Japanese in America by proportionate discrimination against Americans in Japan and the boycotting American goods and American ports.

The first flush of excitement has now subsided into a species of calmness that is reflected by the greatest dignity on the majority of the papers in the country. It is borne in mind that behind the affront to Japan, there lurks partisanship and domestic politics, that a Presidential election is on, that the scramble for votes at any cost so dear to the heart of some of America's politicians is playing an active part. Beneath the cooling down of emotion, however, there runs an under-current, more felt than expressed, that the two nations are perhaps on the fringe of dangerous possibilities if the situation is permitted to change from sanity to super-sentimentality.

AMERICAN IN JAPAN DESPONDENT.

How do Americans in Japan regard the measure that has caused so much fluttering in every section of Japanese life? There is hardly one that does not regret the absolute folly of shutting the doors of the United States to the Japanese nation by means of legislative statutes. This, they say, could have been done by the more dignified and honourable means of an understanding between the two nations which could be embodied in the form of a treaty. The indiscreet step taken by Mr. Hanihara, however, is seen even here. Americans who consistently and for years opposed anything like affronting this country now begin to realize that Mr. Hanihara, unintentionally without doubt, did much the same thing when the note hinting "grave consequences" was sent to Mr. Hughes.

Typical of the feeling of American residents in this country is the following extract from the "Japan Advertiser," owned and edited by Americans but run on international lines:

"Exclusion of Japanese immigrants from the United States by legislation is a mistake. It is no more of a mistake than was the attitude shown in Mr. Hapibara's note. Mistakes are costly and must be paid for. Japan, it would seem, is about to pay for her mistake. Justified though it may be, the Senate will also lay up in the future a debt that must be met if it, too, err in this instance."

"ASSESSMENT ON EVERYTHING"

Man's Wife, Cattle and Everything that is His Taxed by Honan Hilitary

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kueiteh, Ho., Apr. 15.

An engrossing topic of conversation just now is the *Peh Ho Chuan*, or Assessment on Everything. This is a tax which seems to be all that its name implies and caused a riot in Kueiteh last year which resulted in the death of one of the tax-gatherers. The merchants were to pay three coppers on every hundred they took in, but claimed they could not do this as their profits did not come to more than this amount.

The failure of the attempt to impose this tax in Kueiteh for the time being has led the military authorities who are after this money to try some of the smaller places like Mamuchi. Proclamations are now up there and an office has been established, but the opposition is intense, of course. It it evidently a very comprehensive tax, but let us hope not quite so much as the country people think. Some of them have told me that a man taking unto himself a wife would be taxed a thousand cash and every horse, cow, nay everything down to the very dogs and chickens come under assessment. These moneys are to go into Marshal Wu Pei-fu's exchequer.

MR. D. P. Griffith, of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, has returned from Tsingtao, where he has been serving on the Kiao-Tsi Railway Commission.

ACCIDENT ON LUNGHAI RAILWAY

Foreign Nurse's Good Work

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kueiteh, Ho., Apr. 15.

There was a very sad accident yesterday on the Lunghai Railway between here and Hsuchowfu.

One of the Chinese railway officials on the train slipped between the cars in some way and got his legs terribly mangled. Miss Simpson, head of the Nurses' Association in China, was on the train, coming to pay a visit to the Canadian Church Mission Hospital here, and gave first sid with the help of the admirable outfit carried on the trains in case of such accidents.

Mr. S. Woods, secretary of the Honan Famine Relief Committee, was also on the train and able to render valuable assistance. The sufferer was carried on a litter from the train to the hospital on arrival at Kueiteh and Dr. Andreassen operated at once, removing both legs. The shock and loss of blood proved to have been too great and the man died very shortly after the operation.—One of the sad aspects of a doctor's life, working desperately in a hopeless struggle with only the consciousnes of duty done to the utmost as a reward.

TIENTSIN MUNICIPAL FINANCES

French Concession's Prosperous Year

Tientsin News Service

Tientsin, Apr. 16.

Municipal government of the seven different Concessions of Tientsin, including the First Special Area (Ex-German Concessions), cost the entire community nearly $3 million in 1923. Ordinary revenue from all forms of taxation, licenses and dues totalled $2,709,139, while expenditure was $2,814,831., leaving a debit balancee of $105, 692.

The British Concession leads with $781,931 income and $804,145 expenditure, a small debit of $22,-214. These figures, of course, are for ordinary income and expenditure and do not take into account extraordinary income and expenditure, in the form of loans, capital expenditure and similar finances.

The French Concession comes next with an income of $662,809 and an expenditure of $823,652. A debit balance of $160,833 makes the entire accounts show a debit. This by no means represents an actual debit, however, for practically half of the French Concession's expenditure was for matters which come under extraordinary expenses, such as new road building schemes and similar works. The French Concession had a credit balance of $215,000 from 1922, and therefore, the amount expended in 1923 in excess of income was already covered by a credit balance. Consequently, omitting the French debit balance, the Concession areas were operated at a considerable profit for the year 1923.

The following figures compiled exclusively by the Tientsin News Service shew the position of each Municipal area in the year's ordinary working accounts:

	Income	Expenditure	Credit Bal.	Debit Bal.
	$	$	$	$
British	781,931	804.145	—	22,214
French	662,809	823,642	—	160,833
Japanese	589,823	549,823	40,000	—
Russian	219,810	268.516	—	48,706
1st. Spec. Area	213,266	234,805	—	21,539
Italian	240,000	132,400	107,600	—
Belgian*	1,500	1,500	—	—
Total	$2,709,139	$2,814,831	$147,600	$253,292

*The Belgian Concession is just beginning to develop. The figures given merely represent small operating expenses in connexion with the taxation of a few Chinese houses at present on its territory.

BEAN OIL MILLS OF N. KIANGSU

The Old Method and How It Scored: Now Giving Way to Up-to-date Machinery: Chinese Mechanical Instinct and Indifference

From Our Own Correspondent.

Haichow, Ku., April 12.

The last year and a half has seen a complete revolution in what is practically the only manufacturing industry here—the making of bean oil and cake. No one knows how far back runs the history of the old-fashioned bean-oil mill but it must have existed for many centuries as there had been evolved a standard form of machinery that differed very slightly in widely separated districts.

One cannot hide his respect for, and admiration of the energy and determination and labour at which the old mills were erected. The principal feature, which would be spectacular anywhere, was the enormous stone wheels that were used for crushing the beans in the initial process. These wheels are as much as six feet in diameter and a foot and a half in thickness and so nicely trimmed that the entire weight was concentrated on a narrow band at the circumference, enabling the enormous weight to come down practically on a single bean at a time. They were generally run in pairs, one behind the other and were kept in the narrow track by a heavy horizontal axle that was pivoted in the centre of a twenty-foot circle or larger. At least two husky mules were required to keep the wheels in motion and it was the expense of keeping up this animal power plant that finally put the old mills out of business. A fair sized plant would consist of three or four of these sets of rollers and require a force of 30 or 40 mules, as the labour was hard and required frequent shifts.

CHINESE INVENTIVENESS.

The method in which the beans were fed into the path of the crushing rollers illustrates Chinese inventiveness at its best. The supply of beans was piled in the middle of the circle, around the central post, in the shape of a truncated cone. A rope hung loosely along the length of the long axle and drooped so that it barely touched the edge of the pile of beans as it passed, causing a faint trickle of beans down the incline. In spite of the observer's feeling that this rope would require perpetual adjustments it functioned beautifully. Now and then a coolie with a big wooden shovel would walk carelessly around the pile of beans and with a pat or two keep it in just the shape it should be. Hanging just in front of the first wheel was a small board that caught the rolling beans and stopped them in exactly the right spot and another dragging behind shoveled the crushed beans out of the track.

The press gave the Chinese inventor his hardest task. The best solution was to get a short, large tree trunk, leaving the butt section and the first limb knots intact so as to provide great resistance against splitting and hew out the centre, leaving enough on each side to provide sufficient strength for the longitudinal strains and stresses. The crushed beans were first scalded by steaming for a few moments and then wrapped in grass mats with a strong bamboo rim. They were then placed in the press, six or eight at a time and the pressure was applied by strong wedges driven in with a huge hammer of iron or stone.

Almost any one at all familiar with foreign machinery could have said that machine methods would invariably drive these clumsy mills out of existence, but it is worth remembering that the first efforts in adopting foreign methods were utterly unsuccessful and for a time received a most decided setback. For whether the originator of the old bean press knew it or not he hit upon the exact requirement of this particular bean and that was slow, sustained pressure, which is the only means yet discovered in persuading the bean to give up its quota of oil. A large foreign mill was built here many years ago, that on paper had the old mills beaten to a frazzle, but it was never operated. The big hydraulic presses were too powerful and too rapid in their action. They exerted so much power and with such rapidity that the beans were partially powdered and formed a dreggy and utterly unusable oil.

It was many years before a strong screw press was introduced that really solved the problem. These are set up in batteries. They are very compact and can be placed only a foot or two apart. A squad of coolies runs the screw down till it will go no further and goes on to the next press. By the time they have made their rounds the first press will go down another half turn and the precious oil is thus slowly but surely squeezed out.

WILL THE NEW LAST?

The weak point in the old system was the inability to shut down in times of bad markets. The 30 or 40 mules had to be fed practically the same as when busy. So paradoxically, the mills were forced to run all the time, whether they made or lost because of the much greater loss attending a shut-down. The introduction of the kerosene engine has completely solved this difficulty—for the time!—for it remains to be seen how these new mills will wear. The writer has seen quite a few of them and has been impressed with several features. They are nearly all of Chinese manufacture, and certainly lack refinement of finish. They are rarely set up with sufficient foundations to hold them steady and the tendency is to knock themselves to pieces. But the Chinese mania for the cheapest will prevent for a long time the introduction of a really successful machine that will stand the wear and tear and abuse which will be its invariable lot. Some day we hope to see arrive a machine, whose agent will refuse to sell it unless it be erected under his own observation, thus insuring it a proper start on life at least.

NEGLECT OF COMMON CARE.

And speaking of Chinese and machinery there are two things that are a constant surprise: first, how readily even an ignorant coolie learns to run a large piece of machinery: second, the utter indifference of the owner to the care that his costly machine receives. A good electric light plant was installed here a year or so ago and a brand new building was set up for it. I visited it a few weeks ago and was so impressed with the lack of care, the dirt and disorder that I discouraged the idea of any one going to the trouble of putting in lights that were certain to be unsatisfactory. In a week the plant was shut down!

ALONE IN 23FT. BOAT

Intrepid Navigator in Philippines: Singapore His Next Port of Call

Manila, Apr. 19.

Mr. Ira Sparks, who arrived at Tandig, Mindanao, on March 22 in a 23-foot boat singlehanded from Honolulu, has been detained by constabulary, charged with carrying weapons without a permit, as his effects included a gun and a bayonet.

Mr. Sparks said that as soon as he was released he would continue his voyage, his next port being Singapore. He declared that he had not sighted land although he had attempted to touch at Guam and the Marshal Islands, but he was too poor a navigator.

The boat, which is named Dauntless, is apparently in good condition.

Mr. Sparks attained much notoriety previously, having stowed away in a packing box at San Francisco and at Honolulu.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE NEW RACE CLUB OF TSINGTAO

International Organization to Take Over Old Race Course and Run it Properly: Big Profits Expected

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, April 17.

The new Administration has confirmed the sanction granted by the former government for the formation of the International Recreation Club, which is to take over the management of the Race Course at Hui Chuan, a special charter fee of $15,000 having already been paid by the temporary committee of the club, together with the first half-yearly rental of $250.00. The organizers of the Club are both foreign and Chinese, being composed of the following:—Messrs. Y. W. Chun, S. Zimmerman, K. P. T. Chang, B. J. Stansfield, Li Yun-shen, T. Herlihy, Liu Tso-san, S. Siebold, Hou Chin-tang and K. Kitasato (promoters), and Messrs. Walter A. Adams, U. S. Consul, H. Newbill, U. S. Vice-Consul, N. W. Gatrell, H. M. Webb, P. Jernigan, R. A. Russell, Th. Simmons, K. Bohme, W. S. Phillips, S. M. Bernstam, C. R. Rice, Dr. Weischer and some others (patrons).

A petition was presented to the former Administration in December last year for permission to establish the Club, when it was stated that the purpose of the Club was to encourage athletics and conduct racing in accordance with the principles, rules and regulations governing the operation of similar clubs in Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai and Hankow. There will be 2,000 members' shares and 200 promoters' shares of $50.00 each, the latter to receive double dividends.

On March 21, the Administration received from Mr. Chen Yuhao, Mr. Chang Chun-pah and Mr. S. Zimmerman, on behalf of the Club, the special charter fee above mentioned, and three days later the temporary committee paid over the half-yearly rental of $250, from March 21, to September 20.

EVERYONE PLEASED.

The formation of the Club is hailed with delight as it is calculated not only to stimulate interest in sports but will prove financially successful to investors. Hitherto some Japanese attempted to manage the race course but through lack of experience and organization the project was not continued.

At the time of the retrocession of the former leased territory, the race course, together with the grand-stand, club house and stables, was taken over by the Administration and according to the agreement on detailed arrangements for the settlement of outstanding questions relative to Shantung, it was to be managed impartially by the Administration. A petition was submitted to the former Director of General Affairs on December 20 last year for permission to form the club on a 20-year leasehold with all rights on the course. A provisional Committee has been formed for the purpose of making complete arrangements such as a [illegible] this nature would call for.

OBJECTS OF THE CLUB.

The petition reads in part:—

"The object of the Club is to enlist men of good moral standing, both Chinese and foreign, to become members, to invite them to become shareholders of the club if they so desire, and to use the money subscribed by the members and shareholders necessary for providing the course with all recreational facilities. The Club will have organized competitive athletics, pony-racing and other forms of recreation and outdoor sports, but such will not be encouraged unless they are planned to give an opportunity to the local community to appreciate the value of physical education, to develop athletic interest and the support of sportsmanship and, above all, to promote international friendship and co-operation which is indispensible for a cosmopolitan city like Tsingtao."

On March 16, the Administration wrote as follows to the petitioners:—

"We beg to advise that your petition, together with enclosures, has been given careful attention. Since the rules and regulations of your Club together with what you propose to do regarding the selling of parimutuel tickets and cash sweeps have been drawn up in strict accordance with similar existing clubs of Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai and Hankow and are quite in order, your Club is hereby granted the use of the Huai Chuan recreation ground together with the grand-stand, ticket office, judge box, stables and other equipment for a period of 20 years which is to be the life of your Club on condition that your Club pay first of all a special charter fee of $15,000 to this Government.

"It is understood that your Club is to make according to regulations a 20-year leasing agreement with the Finance Bureau and to pay rent accordingly and that, in future, 20 per cent. of your net profits made from the sale of tickets for pony-racing is to be paid to this Government annually for public purposes.

PUBLIC RIGHTS PRESERVED.

"Since, however, the Huai Chuan recreation ground is the only public place for recreation in the city, it is hereby stipulated that during the period of the lease, all recognized organizations, schools and public bodies can, upon securing permission from this Government, use the ground for holding meetings or athletic sports free of charge, provided that such meetings or sports do not interfere with the affairs of the Club.

"It is also understood that your Club can make alterations and additions to the equipment already on the ground, but must do so according to the existing rules and regulations of the city.

"Your enclosures sent in together with your petition will be kept on file at this office for reference."

In the Constitution of the Club it is noted that any surplus of profit from the working of the Club after deducting rent for the race course and other expenses shall be employed as follows:—(a) 10 per cent. for the purpose of Charity to be selected by the Committee, (b) 20 per cent. for the Government, (c) 15 per cent. for the promotion of objects of the Club in such manner as shall be decided by the Committee; (d) 55 per cent. for dividends to shareholders. Promoters' shares shall be entitled to double profits.

INTERNAL STRIFE IN KUANGTUNG

Opportunity Afforded by New Constitution for Reunification of China

Peking, Apr. 22.

A midnight mandate says that the Government has received a communication from Gen. Chow Hung-yin expressing regret at the internal strife from which Kuangtung particularly suffered. The people are tired of domestic upheavals and the new Constitution offers opportunity for rehabilitation. Gen. Chow declares his devotion to the task of reunification and his loyalty to the Central Government. The mandate then instructs Gen. Chow to suppress local disturbances with a view to reunification.

Gen. Chow Hung-yin, who is one of Gen. Chen Chiung-ming's doughty followers, recently left Waichow for Amoy and was principally responsible for the recent defeat of Gen. Tsang Chih-ping. According to Consular despatches it was arranged that when Gen. Chow defeated Gen. Tsang and settled the affairs in that region he was to be joined by Fukien troops and return to Waichow, after which further operations would follow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ANHUI'S ANTI-SMALLPOX CAMPAIGN

Highly Successful Propaganda for Vaccination

From Our Own Correspondent.

Anking, An., Apr. 17.

A successful campaign of vaccination against smallpox in which both Christian and non-Christian organizations cordially joined, has been carried out here recently.

Doctors from four hospitals first met at the Y. M. C. A. and agreed upon methods of procedure, then a larger committee consisting of representatives from gentry, officials, merchants, schools and churches was formed to discuss ways and means. The work of advertising and raising of funds was intrusted to the Y. M. C. A.

By way of promoting the idea among the people and helping to break down the prejudices among the superstitious, and opposition that might come from the old type of medical fraternity, wide publicity was given. The daily papers gave as much free space as desired and before the campaign was well started not only the quack doctors but the ancient nose method vaccinators were rushing out special advertisements offering all but free rates. In spite of some of their statements that the free vaccine offered was worthless this rival campaign was really an excellent thing and helped to stir up the people to the need of vaccination. Illustrated lectures on smallpox were given to students of more than 20 schools as well as to hundreds of other people—the churches, schools and the City Temple being used as lecture halls. Graphic picture posters were put up in all parts of the city and two days before the vaccination began groups of students from 20 schools distributed free vaccination tickets to the poor people in all sections of the city.

Five vaccination stations, including St. James, Poa Yu, Chien Sheng, and Hwa Chung Hospitals and the Y. M. C. A., were open for two hours each morning for five days with an average of nearly a hundred each (though the Mission hospital had by far the largest numbers). In addition a few outside groups were given free vaccination including the model prison and the boy's orphanage, etc., making a total of 2,661, most of whom were children.

Funds for the purpose of the campaign were raised by two showings of the film 'Civilization.'

NAVAL WEDDING AT WEIHAIWEI

Claridge-Beer

From Our Own Correspondent.

Weihaiwei, Apr. 16.

A wedding at Weihaiwei is a rare occurrence and the marriage on Saturday, the 12th instant, of Lieutenant G. P. Claridge of H. M. Submarine Flotilla to Miss Margaret E. Beer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Beer, well-known as among the oldest residents here, was an event that excited much local interest.

The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. O. R. Burnett, M.A., at St. John's Church, Port Edward, which had been tastefully decorated by the ladies of the port with marguerites and daffodils, mainly contributed by Mrs. Russell Brown from Government House gardens. The church was well filled with friends of the bride and bridegroom, including a number of officers of H.M.S. Diomede, the only ship at present at Weihaiwei.

The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a simple gown of white brocaded satin, the veil being arranged with a wreath of orange blossoms. She carried a bouquet of pale pink and white carnations and was attended by her younger sister, Miss Eileen Beer, who wore a becoming dress of pale mauve taffeta and carried a posy of violets. Lieutenant A. E. H. Cameron, R.N., acted as "best man." The bride's mother was in silver grey and carried a bouquet of freezias.

Mrs. C. R. Burnett presided at the organ and three hymns were sung during the service,—"Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead," "O perfect Love" and "Praise the Lord! ye heavens, adore Him." The bridal party left the church to the strains of Lohengrin's "Wedding March" to pass beneath an arch of crossed swords formed by fourteen of the bridegroom's brother officers.

Through the courtesy of Mr. J. Clark the reception was held at the King's Hotel Annexe which had been beautifully decorated for the occasion by Mr. A. Whittaker. Standing in front of a handsome floral screen, surmounted by a silver bell which was presented by Mrs. Niven, the happy coouple received the congratulations of their numerous friends. The bride's health was proposed by Mr. W. Russell Brown, Officer Administering the Government, in a few well-chosen sentences and this speech was followed by the usual toasts.

The reception was followed by dancing during which Lieutenant and Mrs. Claridge left for their honeymoon which will be spent at Peking preparatory to their journey to England by the P. & O. S. Plassy, leaving in a few weeks.

Practically the whole resident community attended the reception. Among those present were His Honour W. Russell Brown and Mrs. Russell Brown, Capt. G. Hopwood, C.B.E., R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt-Smith, Surgeon-Commander McCloy, R.N., and Mrs. McCloy, Commander Ridler, R.N., and Mr. and Mrs. Tuson.

PEKING DAY BY DAY

Kirin's Antagonism to Soviet Envoy: Appeal on Behalf of Kiangsi Tuli

Peking, Apr. 20.

As Mr. Shou Heng-chun, who was recently gazetted as Consul-General at Vladivostok, has been appointed Director of the Kiaochou-Tsinanfu Railway another Consul-General for Vladivostok has to be found. It is reported that Mr. Pai Kuang will be given the post.

The Educational Association and Chinese Chamber of Commerce at Kirin have telegraphed to the Government urging that Mr. Li Chia-ao should be instructed to make representations to the Moscow Government with a view to the recall of Mr. Karakhan. Kirin seems to be particularly interested in this matter, as the Kirin Provincial Assembly sent a similar telegram to the Government last week.

Gen. Tsai Cheng-hsun's subordinates have begun to bombard Peking with telegrams in which they state that Gen. Tsai has done excellent work in Kiangsi since he was appointed Tuli of that province. They assert that he has won the confidence of the people and that his removal would cause much regret throughout the province. This section is a reply to the recent appeals by the Kiangsi gentry of Peking for the Government to take action in connexion with the drug monopoly instituted by Gen. Tsai.

MOTOR ROADS IN CHIHLI.

A mandate was issued last night appointing Gen. Wang Chen-ping (Civil Governor of Chihli), Gen. Cheng Shih-chi (Tuli of Shantung), Gen. Chang Fu-lai (Tuli of Honan), Associate Directors of Chihli Motor Car Roads construction.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

UNDERGROUND RAILWAYS FOR TOKIO

Tokio, Apr. 20.

The Tokio Municipal Electricity Bureau has published a plan for the construction of underground railways to the extent of 49 miles at a total cost of Y. 200,000,000.—Eastern News Agency.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen is contemplating the employment of a number of German and Japanese military officers to direct operations against Gen. Chen Chuing-ming, the Cantonese leader, at Waichow, says the "*Sinwanpao.*"

NEW EDUCATION ENTERPRISE IN HUNAN

Corner Stone of Theological College Laid

From Our Own Correspondent.

Changsha, Hu., Apr. 14.

Two interesting functions have just taken place in the missionary educational circles of Changsha. On Friday, the Fu-siang Girls's School held a meeting to commemorate its tenth anniversary; on Saturday the corner stone of the new school buildings of the Hunan Union Theological School was laid.

The Girls' School is a union work between the Presbyterian and the Evangelical missions. Under the very able principalship of Mrs. Lingle, one of the leading educationalists, not only in this province, but in China, the school prospers in both numbers and character of teaching. Its new buildings, which would have been ridiculously large a little while since, are only sufficient for the work carried on there to-day.

The Theological School is a union between the Evangelical, Methodist, Presbyterian and Reformed Missions which also started 10 years ago, though a month later than the girls' school. New buildings are in the course of erection fronting the military road and next door to the Bible School—a much larger institution, with 10 times as many students who come from 13 different churches and half the provinces of China.

The corner stone was duly laid by the masons before the ceremony—its size and the lack of proper tackle prevented any attempt at a spectacular display of amateur masonic craft. A cavity hollowed in the stone was filled by the President with a Bible, a typescript history of the Institution, a complete list of its 73 students and a copy of the Constitution of the Board of Directors and the Regulations of the School. The four characters "*Hsieh Ho Shen Hsueh*"—"Union Theological School," which are inscribed on the face of the stone were written by a Hanlin. The Rev. T. W. Mitchell of the Presbyterian Mission gave an excellent address. Happily the gathering was favoured with fine weather, and indeed with three previous fine days. It is almost the first time for the year that the ground on which the building is being erected had been anything like dry. The rainfall has not been excessive in quantity, but it has been in the number of days over which it has been spread. Dr. Fuchs, the great oculist, spent a week here a short time ago and in his pawky way intervened in a discussion about dialects with the question "Is there a Hunanese word for sunshine?"

THE MANCHU LIBRARY

Peking, Apr. 14.

A deadlock has occurred in connexion with the scheme to send the four-volume Manchu library to Shanghai to be reprinted. After the arrangements had been virtually concluded, an objection was lodged by the Government. It was pointed out that the library was national property and that the approval of the Republican Government must be obtained before it could be removed.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

In the course of the action Peck. v. Russell at Kuala Lumpur, in which possession of a gold mine is disputed, Mr. Russell said that he had been throughout a speculator in mining lands, had formed the China Minerals, Ld., and prospected in coal, wolfram and tin in South China unsuccessfully. The whole capital of that company was lost. Afterwards he continued alone, losing $30,000 (Hongkong). He and Mr. Henggeler were partners in the China Minerals, Ld., and agreed that if a valuable mining deposit was found, the first refusal would be given to the Malayan Collieries, Ld. A promising deposit was found and abandoned owing to the impossibility of communication.

PEACE RESTORED IN WEST CHINA

The Victories of Yang Sen Followed by Rare Tranquillity: Reforms in the Air

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kiating, Sze., Mar. 14.

Kiating, the quietest city in Szechuan—the name has been well earned as it is at least six years since the sound of warfare, more than the regular drilling of troops, has been heard by the residents of the city. Of drill there is a plenty, and possibly no troops in the province are more carefully and thoroughly drilled in every way, except perhaps target practice, than the eighth division.

General Cheng Heng-fan, commander of the eighth division, is a man of peace, but of preparedness withal for he believes in being ready, as well as in using silver bullets to accomplish the task of leaden ones where possible. And if it came to an actual test one could easily predict that the eighth division would give good account of itself.

Possibly the reason for the condition of peace hereabouts is that we are near one source of financial assistance, and Gen. Cheng has the revenue from the Salt Inspectorate at Wutongchiao at his disposal regularly. His men are thus paid systematically and can be sure of their regular monthly money when the end of the month comes round. Officers and men alike are fairly treated and can depend upon their commander to do the fair and proper thing each time occasion arises, hence we have peace within our borders, and amiable treatment at the hands of the soldiers.

GIVE US PEACE.

The kaleidescopic changes which Szechuan has been undergoing for the last few years, have stopped now for some time, and with the advent of Gen. Yang and his associates Liu Hsiang and Liu Tsen-hou, the whole of West China looks for a long cessation of hostilities. With the enemy, under Hsiong Keh-wu and Lai Hsin-huei, south of the Yangtze, and the Federal commanders in charge at Chêngtu, the situation looks much brighter indeed than it has for some years. There are places here in the province where the official has changed over a dozen times in the year, and such conditions cannot be for the welfare of the country. The advent of Liu Hsiang and Yang Sen bids fair to give the country a settled condition, which is the fond hope of the native. Give us peace regardless of who is at the helm, is the cry one may hear all through the country.

The actual governors of the province are not as yet settled. Where one province has had as many Robin Hoods as has Szechuan, the settling of the proper head of the provincial government is no easy task. There are those who feel that the honour should not go to Yang Sen, and others that Liu Tsen-heu should not take his place as Governor. If these two men should be given the highest places, there is a great possibility of dissatisfaction among the generals who have fought to keep the province loyal to the North. On the other hand for seven or eight years now, Peking has recognized Liu Tsen-hou as the head of the province.

FACTORS OF UNREST.

Nor is the position of Yang & Co. secure at present. Not far from Chêngtu we have the third army under Gen. Liu I-chiu, which is a factor to reckon with. In union with the third army is the eighth division, with its headquarters here and at Suifu Gen. Liu Tsi-chan is also a friend of the third army and the eighth division. Therefore any cause which estranges the goodwill of this clique, will have to reckon with a host with no small power behind it.

The present squabble at Yachow and beyond is one of the cases where there are wheels within wheels in this great political game at which the Chinese are past masters. It would seem that, because Hsiong Keh-wu had such a strangle hold on the third army under Liu I-chiu, it was unable to move against him, much as its officers would have liked to join in with the Federal troops. Because of no action on the part of Liu I-chiu, a letter was sent past him on to Yachow to Gen. Cheng Hsia-lin, the Border Defence Commander, to attack the third asmy. This letter was intercepted by the censors of the third army and of course they were on their guard against the attack of Cheng. This latter general did, however, come down into the territory of the third army and take up positions, but not until the armies of Yang Sen and Liu Tsen-hou had defeated the armies of Hsiong and Lai. Hsiong having made his escape and Liu being free to make some definite action, at once attacked Cheng Hsia-lin, while Yang Sen winked at the little tempest in a teapot being enacted at Yachow. It was enough to teach Cheng a lesson which he will not forget and now the third army are being called off by Yang and Liu Tsen-hou.

YANG SEN'S REFORMS.

The Chêngtu daily of March 12 now reviews the general orders of the Yang party in which they deal at length on the important position of the border defence commissioner, and the necessity of assisting him in his duties, lest more trouble befall the province. This one can but think is the nice way for the Yang party to tell Liu I-chiu that he has punished Cheng Hsia-lin and must now cease, from attacking that general. Now a place will have to be found for Liu I-chui, and Cheng Hsia-lin will be reinstated in his position of border defence commissioner.

General Yang Sen is a man of strong impulses, and advanced ideas. He is impetuous and if any fault were to be found with his aggressive policies, it would be that he does not take time to mature his plans for reform, before putting them into action. Were he more considerate of the advice of his advisors he would make more progress in his government. Since his return to Chêngtu, he has made plans for the beginning afresh of the road to Wanhsien, has linked up West China with the Good Roads Commission of Shanghai, has promised to re-open the government medical college, and has placed many and good reforms in practice in Chêngtu. Even those who complained of his over-use of funds in Luchow, are compelled to admit that his government is better than any other men who has been at the head of affairs in West China for many years. If General Yang could be put in some place once more where he can work out his plans and ideas unmolested, it would undoubtedly be for the bettering of the whole of West China. This is why some of the deep thinkers are hoping that he will not take any active lead in the political situation in Chêngtu, but be content with some position of lesser importance elsewhere for the time being at least.

OPIUM CALLING FOR ATTENTION.

Opium growing which has been on the increase in the province is to be one of the reforms instituted by the new *régime*. And it is sadly needed, for the officials and military have used it as a means to enrich themselves, in most cases. It is worthy of note, however, that the district ruled by the eighth division has not been planting opium.

Kiating boasts of a new and up to date hospital. The Canadian Methodist Mission are leaving their old place and occupying a fine new fifty-bed hospital, just completed. The hospital will be opened just as soon as some more equipment which is now on the river above Chungking arrives.

Guests in Kiating at present are Mr. Ager, representing the American Drug Co. of Shanghai, who brings a supply of medicines for the native agencies of the firm, and Mr. Ballantyne of the Asiatic, Petroleum Co., who is on a tour of inspection. Both say that they find Kiating a relief from some of the places lately visited where the chief topic of conversation is bandits. Of these we have none here.

Communication for native craft is now opening up and with the rising of the rivers, the steamers will soon be running to Suifu, and then later to the head of navigation for West China, Kiating. Business men are optimistic and looking for much brighter days in the not distant future.

THE EX-PRESIDENT OF CHINA

"A Sino-Japanese Economic Alliance"

Osaka, Apr. 24.

Gen. Li Yuan-hung is staying at Osaka and is being entertained by newspapers and other organizations. He was the guest of honour last night at a banquet given by the Sino-Japanese Association in the Public Hall. Replying to the Governor's address of welcome, Gen. Li expressed surprise at the great strides Osaka had made since his previous visit in 1897. He urged co-operation between Chinese and Japanese and the formation of an economic alliance, the enhancement of trade, the furthering of mutual interests and closer friendship between the two nations.—Reuter Pacific Service.

JAPAN'S ADOPTION OF CHRISTIANITY

The Creation of Episcopal Bishoprics and Spread of the Salvation Army

Tokio, Apr. 14.

Towards the end of last year the Episcopal Church dioceses of Tokio and Osaka were created and Japanese bishops were consecrated to take charge of them.

The Salvation Army in Japan is shortly to become an independent unit of the world-wide movement, and will be put in charge of "Colonel" Gumpei Yamamuro who at present is the Chief Secretary of the Staff in Tokio.

Colonel Yamamuro is shortly leaving for London, where he will spend six months in direct contact with Headquarters, and on his return he will be appointed to the chief command in this country.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

BOMBING FROM AIR OF A MOVING TARGET

Japan'a Latest Naval and Air Force Experiment

Tokio, Apr. 14.

What are claimed will be the first attempts at bombing a moving target by the Japanese air arm will take place in June, when the scrapped warship Iwami will be destroyed outside Yokosuka.

The Iwami will be towed by another warship, and while she is in motion, an attack will be launched upon her by the bombing corps from the military aerodrome at Tokorozawa and the naval aerodrome at Yokosuka.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MR. Ichiya Kumagai, one of Japan's leading tennis players, is coming to Shanghai, having been transferred to the Shanghai branch of the Mitsubishi Bank. He is expected here about May 5.

KILLING THE GOLDEN GOOSE OF FUKIEN

Young but Prosperous Silk Industry Facing Ruin Through the Governor's Avarice

Cases of cumsha, commission, squeeze, or extortion—call it what one will—are a matter of every-day life in China. Often, however, someone goes rather too far and then it is only right that the fullest publicity should be given to the incident. A tale under this category comes from Fukien, a province that has gained an unenviable reputation as regards squeeze. Fukien is one of China's most prosperous agricultural provinces, rich in all the more common products of the soil and specializing in wood, tung oil, tea and silk. The patient and industrious small farmer is well known amongst Tuchuns and brigand Generals as "an easy mark" and consequently Fukien always has been regarded as one of the choicest plums in the basket. The gentle Governor who recently retired from office after serving the province faithfully for five years and doing his best for the general good of China, amassed the tidy little fortune of $20,000,000 during that time, and the benevolent gentleman who succeeded him did moderately well in getting away with $3,000,000 in a year.

The present incumbent evidently has studied the methods of his predecessors with care and proposes to be as great a financial success—personally—and even the sure ruin of Fukien's youngest but most promising industry has not called a check to his avarice. Many silk experts who have toured in China have reported on Fukien as being a district eminently suited in every way to sericulture and in late years a great deal has been done for the promotion of the industry in the province. Foremost have been the Shanghai Committee for the Improvement of Sericulture and the staff of the Fukien Christian University, particularly Prof. Kellogg. The best eggs and mulberry trees procurable were distributed amongst the people and the industry encouraged in every way. The Fukienese were willing to be taught, they planted mulberry trees all over the province and, best of all, the industry flourished in every way.

Substantial returns began to come in and the annual production increased to a value of $100,000 yearly, with every evidence that there would be an enormous growth within a few years. Most of the silk hitherto has been used locally, but last year it was found possible to export $30,000 worth. Now the blow has fallen. The Governor decided that such a lucrative industry must be taxed and as the easiest way of getting in his share quickly, he sold the rights of taxation for $25,000. The purchaser asked for a guarantee that he would be able to collect the money and he has been promised that soldiers will be placed at his disposal to ensure enforcement of the tax. No limit has been placed on the tax and the man who has purchased the right may, with the aid of the soldiers, make any demands he chooses. The countrypeople know from past experience that the taxes will not be light, when a large sum has been paid for the privilege of collecting them and when there are hungry military tax-gatherers also to be satisfied.

It is stated that if the industry had been allowed to continue its peaceful way, in two years' time the annual value of the silk produced would have been quite $2,000,000 and probably more, but now the people see only ruin before them. Protests have been made and committees have been formed in the province and elsewhere to endeavour to secure something approaching justice, but it is candidly admitted that there is very little hope. Naturally there can be little when the Governor will only laugh at Peking if it attempts to remonstrate with him.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY IN JAPAN

Automatic Retransmission of Messages

Tokio, Apr. 14.

Direct and automatic retransmission will shortly be opened between the Central Telegraph Office and the Funabashi Wireless Station, which will result in the speeding up of radio communications with Manchuria and other points in Asia by three or four hours.

A similar quickening of the domestic radio service will result from the automatic retransmission of messages between the Tokio Central office and the two sending and receiving stations employed in this service.—Reuter's Pacifis Service.

SYDNEY, Apr. 18.—The Minister of Defence, Mr. E. K. Bowden, announced to-day that a new seaplane base would be established at Port Jackson.—Reuter.

FRESH rumours of a movement to restore the Ching Dynasty appear in the Chinese press. Mr. Yang Tu, the famous monarchical supporter who was the first man to address a petition, in 1915, to President Yuan Shih-kai urging him to ascend the throne, is again reported by the "*Sin-wanpao*" to be extremely active. He is now said to be negotiating a loan of $6,000,000 from a Japanese in Hankow. Meanwhile, Hsuan Tung, the last Manchu Emperor, is said to have called a meeting of his associates, former Ministers of State and Councillors, to discuss action in connexion with Parliament's proposal to cancel his abdication agreement. This will mean stoppage of payment of the ial House under the "Special Excellent Treatment" plan" says the "Eastern Times."

FOR SALE

Petrol Electric Light Plants.

1 Plix Electric Light Set: 32 Volts, suitable for 65 Lamps each of 20 Watts, including full set of storage battery. Set not quite new but in guaranteed good working condition. Recently overhauled.

1 Entirely new Lumen Electric Plant: 32 Volts, suitable for 50/48 Lamps, each of 20 Watts, including full set of storage battery. Measurement: 39 c.f. New York's Invoice price = G.$554.68 c.i.f. Shanghai.

Selling both Plants (each separately) very cheap. Best Offer ACCEPTED. Must reach on or before May 18. Terms: cash (or an Irrevocable Letter of Credit), ex godown Shanghai, including packing. Forwarding expenses for Buyer's account.

Apply to Standard Machine Supply Co., 123 Szechuen Road, or to B.-S. Barbash & Co., 35 Jinkee Road. Tel. Address: "Stanmasup." Code used: Bentley's.

Agents:- Messrs. Wakefield & Co. (China), Ltd., S. Y. Sheng Building, Szechuen Road, Shanghai.

SHANGHAI NEWS

A WORLD FAIR FOR SHANGHAI

The Proposal Again Brought Forward: What it Would Do for the Port

A year ago Mr. G. A. Bena raised the question of holding a world exhibition in Shanghai. The project was not then taken up by public bodies owing to the political conditions, including the Lincheng incident, then under the purview of the public, but it is understood that Mr. Bena has once more approached the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce with a request that all interests in Shanghai should be summoned to a meeting to consider the matter. In an interesting brochure on the subject Mr. Bena puts forward the following reasons for the holding of such an exhibition:—

Because Shanghai is geographically and commercially speaking the capital of the Far East.

Because Shanghai is the principal economical, spiritual and intellectual centre of New China and will play the most important part in the future development of this great country.

Because China with her great natural resources still undeveloped will be a very important factor in the re-establishment of the world's economic equilibrium.

ALL WORLD CONGRESSES.

A World Exhibition in Shanghai will put in direct contact all that has been done up to date, by the outside world and China, in every branch of human activity. It will be possible to have in Shanghai all the World Congresses that will be held in the year of the exhibition. Our ablest brains in business, industry, science, art, philosophy, etc., will have an opportunity to come in contact with all that China has done in those branches during several millennia—a thing that is now impossible to do through the medium of the few books existing on those subjects. No one need be at all surprised if foreign scientists, artists and philosophers should discover in China the sparks of new ideas that would materially contribute to intellectual and social advancement.

The benefit that the exhibition will bring to the Chinese is very evident. They will have before them a comprehensive and convincing presentation of all the latest progress of western civilization and they will be able to choose what will be most suitable for the progressive advancement of their own country.

Shanghai will benefit most by a World Exhibition, not only by the great increase in business that is certain to come immediately before, during and after such manifestation, but by the public and private initiative that is bound to result from such an occasion.

ACCELERATING PUBLIC UTILITIES.

There are now many projects of great public utility that for one reason or another are not carried through which a World Exhibition would accelerate. Mr. Bena mentions only the two principal ones—the development of the Shanghai Harbour and the extension of the Settlement.

There is in Shanghai at present quite a wave of intellectual activity. The President of the Science and Arts Society is justly clamouring for an art museum. The exhibition could solve the problem, besides others just as important. The building which during the exhibition would serve for the purposes of meetings, Congresses, and various festivities could be a permanent structure designed for the purpose of serving, after the exhibition, as an art museum, an up-to-date library and an international commercial and industrial museum. The latter is a real necessity for Shanghai and ought to be supplemented by a complete chemical laboratory for the testing of Chinese produce under the supervision of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce, which should be authorized to issue official certificates.

The exhibition will give an opportunity for beautifying Shanghai by the execution of great public works; which works will necessitate the collaboration of the Chinese, French and International authorities.

SAN FRANCISCO'S EXAMPLE.

San Francisco planned her great exhibition in the year of the earthquake—only a few months after the disaster—and made it a success in spite of the world crisis of 1907 and the world war of 1914. Shanghai has but to follow the splendid example of her sister on the other side of the Pacific.

Mr. Bena feels certain that Shanghai will prove capable of accomplishing what is sure to bring her prosperity and fame.

EMPRESS OF CANADA IN PORT

Over 300 Globe Trotters Landed to View the Wonders of Shanghai's Denizens

The R. M. S. Empress of Canada, which sailed from Vancouver on January 4 and New York on January 30 on a world cruise, arrived in Shanghai on Sunday, after having visited 15 countries and traversed more than 30,000 miles, Captain Samuel Robinson, R.N.R., C.B.E., who commanded the R. M. S. Empress of Australia while the latter vessel was at Yokohama last September when the earthquake occurred, and who, for his heroism was awarded the C.B.E. and the silver medal of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem (the second time only that the latter medal had been bestowed upon a Canadian), being at the helm.

The huge liner is a regular floating palace: she is 21,500 tons (gross) and 26,650 (displacement), and is the largest vessel that has yet circumnavigated the globe. She has an average speed of 19.5 knots an hour (22.5 maximum). An idea of her size may be obtained from the fact that seven times around her deck constitute a mile. Apart from carrying all the necessities for the "globe trotter" (the 200 large airy staterooms, two beautiful swimming pools and a gymnasium, moving picture apparatus, laundry, bar and what not) the steamer carries a crew of 78 Europeans, 401 Chinese and a dozen Filipinos.

Amongst the 545 passengers whom the steamer brought to Shanghai were Sir Augustus M. Nanton (a director of the Canadian Pacific Railway), Lady Nanton, and their daughters, Constance and Marguerite, General H. C. Nanton, C.B., C.I.E., R.E., (his brother, who for 34 years was stationed in India), Mr. Charles Murphy (general manager of the western division of the C.P.R.), Mrs. and Miss Murphy, Mr. Mark Workman (former president of the Dominion Steel Co.), Mr. E. Alex. H. Blair (son of Sir Robert Blair, Secretary of the London County Council), the Hon. Nathaniel Curry (a member of the Canadian Senate), Mr. H. Holdsworth (Mayor of Wakefield), Mr. W. Kitchen (a prominent retired lumber-man and railway contractor), Miss Dorothy H. O'Ryan (daughter of Maj.-Gen. John F. O'Ryan, the American Chateau Thierry hero), Mr. J. Bernard Avegno, (representative of the American Guaranty Co.), Mr. Adolph L. Bemberger (considered to be one of the wealthiest men in America), Mr. Horace M. Caine (a well-known underwear manufacturer), Col. George J. Dorey, former Assistant Attorney General of the United States and Judge Advocate of the American Overseas Forces during the War), and Mr. W. D. Hoxie (president of Messrs. Babcock Wilcox & Co.).

Mr. Peter Sutherland, general agent of the Canadian Pacific Steamships at Hongkong, is assisting Mr. C. E. Benjamin in the direction of the visit to China.

Mr. J. W. H. Ferguson, Statistical Secretary of the Customs, went Home on Monday by the Empress of Australia, on long leave. His place is taken by Mr. de Luca.

AMERICAN DINNER TO JUDGE PURDY

Large and Representative Gathering: Guest's Views on Extraterritoriality

Over 350 guests welcomed Judge M. D. Purdy at the American community's dinner in his honour at the Carlton Café on Thursday, under the auspices of the Far Eastern American Association in co-operation with the American Chamber of Commerce, American Association of China, China Central Committee (Red Cross), American Legion, American Co., S.V.C., American Troop, S.V.C., American Women's Club, Shanghai American School, American Club, Columbia Country Club, and other bodies.

Mr. Sterling Fessenden, President of the Bar Association, presided, and among others present were: Admiral Washington, U.S.N., Mr. Nelson T. Johnson, Consul-General at large, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin S. Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. James Porter Davis, Messrs. Jacobs and Bucknell, American Assessors at the Mixed Court, members of the Consular staff, Mr. O. F. Roberts, former President of the China Association, Mr. M. R. Nicholson, U. S. Treasury Department, Mr. G. C. Howard, U. S. Trade Commissioner, and Mrs. Howard, Captain W. I. Eisler, Dr. S. A. Ransom, and Capt. Kimberley, of the U. S. S. Huron.

Mr. Fessenden spoke a few words of welcome to the new arrivals, and then introduced Mr. P. P. Whitham, who in the course of his speech of welcome said:—

It is difficult for us to realize that this great modern commercial metropolis had its beginnings only 81 years ago. The first American established himself in business in Shanghai in 1844. It may be of interest to recall that, although he did not take office, the first American Consul appointed to the post at Shanghai bore the same surname, Mr. Henry Fessenden, as the Chairman of this evening's function.

In conclusion Mr. Whitham said that not only would the Judge find that Americans in Shanghai pulled together in order to advance their national interests; they also co-operated with other foreigners as well as the Chinese in furtherance of all their mutual interests.

On behalf of the American organizations represented there, he welcomed Judge Purdy to Shanghai and extended to him assurances of their good will and best wishes.'

JUDGE PURDY'S SPEECH.

Judge Purdy said: I thank all of you, my friends, for the kind welcome you have given us, and I may say for all of us that it is a pleasure to come to Shanghai.

"I am one of those unfortunate few, who believe that after dinner speaking is one of the survivals of former cruel and inhuman tortures, and I hope that such will soon be prohibited by Constitutional amendment.

There was recently a cartoon in the "North-China Daily News" of the new American Judge Purdy, who "refuses to be drawn on extraterritoriality." When that first appeared I felt as though lashed to the mast, both as to form and to substance. My first idea was to demand a retraction, but on further reflexion (in the mirror) I realized that what the Editor did was with worthy motives and of justifiable ends.

I doubt if few of us realize what the American Government has done for its citizens away from home, and that we here in China as well as in other foreign lands are protected as in the States.

It is a splendid thought—when you go into this land far larger that the United States, the law and its institutions follows you. You are tried in the Courts founded upon the principles of justice of your ancestors. That, ladies and gentlemen, is my idea of extraterritoriality. This institution is a privelege but it also conveys corresponding duties and obligations.

"SECOND TO NONE."

Continuing, the speaker dwelt upon the splendid work of Judge Lobingier and the position of the American Court (second to none in China), which was done through his efforts.

"But to keep up this splendid standard the Court must have your sincere help and co operation. I know that you will keep up the standard of the body, and I pledge you here and now that I will do all within my power to sustain that institution that my predecessor has built in in the Orient.

What we want to do in this Far Eastern land is to be helpful to the people of the Republic of China. We want them to realize the blessings of free government institutions and democratic government.

"I know that we will in our every-day life, in social and business lives bring this home to the people that we meet and so act and do that the people of China will be glad that we are here."

SUSPECTED ARMS RUNNERS

Dramatic Night Arrest by River Police on the Huangpu After Sharp Tussle

Two Frenchmen and a German in possession of 17 automatic pistols and 1,000 rounds of ammunition were smartly captured by two Chinese constables in the River Police on the night of the 17th instant.

The constables were patrolling the river in a sampan near where the M.M.S. Chambord is anchored in midstream. Shortly after 8 o'clock their suspicions were aroused by another sampan containing the foreigners, which they stopped. The foreigners resisted being searched, and, it is alleged, one of their number fired a shot at the constables to frighten them, afterwards throwing the weapon into the water. Shortly afterwards an M.B.K. launch came to their assistance. When the craft reached the two sampans further resistance is said to have been offered by the foreigners, but they were eventually got into the motor-boat. They asked to be taken ashore or back to their ship, while the police told the motor-boat's laodah to proceed to the Wetmore Road Police Hulk. Further trouble appeared imminent when a foreign police officer, Sgt. Bensen, made his appearance in another sampan and ordered the motor-boat to proceed to the Hulk.

JUGDE LOBINGIER'S RECORD

The Ninth Court of Appeals, California, has upheld Judge Lobingier's decision in the action by the Banque Belge l'Etranger *v.* Montgomery Ward & Co., states a private cable received in Shanghai yesterday. By this decision of the appellate court Judge Lobingier has completed his full term without a single judgment of his being reversed.

Plaintiffs, who were represented by Messrs. Schuhl & Schoenfeld, were awarded Tls. 14,000 damages and costs by Judge Lobingier.

A new vessel for the Tsungming Island trade, the Tong Zing, was successfully launched at the yard of the Société Franco-Chinoise de Constructions Metalliques et Mécaniques on the 17th instant. This vessel is a sister ship to the Hong Dah, also launched at this yard on March 22 for the same owners. Both vessels are expected to be ready in about seven weeks' time for the Tsungming Island run.

A man who went to have a bath after 40 years' abstinence from bathing and died in the bath was referred to in an English coroner's court recently, when an inquest was held on his brother, who also died from self-neglect. Apparently there was a strong hereditary taint here which would delight the heart of Dean Inge, who denies that man is moulded by circumstances. There was certainly no circumstance compelling these two brothers to neglect themselves as it was shown they were not in want of money.

THE BOWLING CLUB'S ALLEY SOLD

Last Bit of Old Shanghai in Nanking Rd. Disappearing after 70 Years' Life

Old Shanghai is breathing its last breath: old customs have died, old buildings razed to the ground to make way for new, even the old residents have subtly changed. Now comes the last blow,—the Shanghai Bowling Club with its ancient skittle alley at 49 Nanking Road has been sold.

The alley has stood in its present position ever since the formation of the Club 70 years ago, let to the club at a rental probably lower than that of any building of its size in the central district,—Tls. 25 per month. The Club's history is both interesting and varied. It has passed through many vicissitudes, periods of prosperity and periods of gloom. There have been times when residents have been almost anxious to pay their Tls. 130 for election and there have been other times when a large proportion of the cost of members shares has been handed back to the holders in order to bring down the cost of membership and attract new members.

The land on which the alley stands is the property of the old Fives Court Club, their claim to possession having been established in H.M. Supreme Court in 1922. There is, however, no question of the Club ceasing to exist. Steps are being taken to secure new premises and every confidence is expressed that such premises will be found.

The history of the Club is a long one and will take some time to compile in compact form. When that is done, however, there will be much in it to interest both old residents and new. The Club is probably the most exclusive in the Far East. The membership is limited now to 24, and the antecedents of a proposed member are regarded closely before election. Once elected, however, he finds himself among one of the cheeriest and pleasantest gatherings east of Suez. The Club has many strange rules, the most curious of which is probably that whereby no-one ever pays for drinks and no chits are ever signed. There is a subscription of Tls. 20 per month from each man and that is supposed to pay all expenses. The bowling alley is famous all over the East, and hardly less famous are the pink drinks—an awe-inspiring concoction of the cocktail variety,—one of which every man is supposed to drink before he leaves the Club's portals.

LINERS COLLIDE IN HUANGPU

Soudan Swung Broadside on to the Pres. Cleveland by Tide: Damage Slight

The P. & O. S. Soudan and the President Cleveland came into collision in the Huangpu on Tuesday afternoon shortly before 3, but little damage was done. The Soudan was inward bound while the Cleveland was moored alongside the China Merchants' Central Wharf. When the accident occurred the Soudan was swinging. She was caught in a tide and got out of control, with the result that she ran broadside on to the American vessel, denting some of the plates in the Cleveland's stern and slightly grazing her own sides. Altogether, however, the damage was very slight and the Soudan continued on her way.

A SECOND COLLISION.

A more serious collision occurred somewhere outside of Woosung in the early hours of Tuesday morning. The precise details of the affair are not yet known in Shanghai, but it resulted in the Chinese str. Hwa Wu, chartered by the Kailan Mining Administration, having to put back to Shanghai although at the time she was outward bound. The Hwa Wu came in collision with the Russian str. Indigirka, and the bows of both vessels are stated to have been seriously damaged. The Hwa Wu will have to lay up in dock for repairs.

REVENUE CRUISER HAI HSING

Launch of a Fine New Ship at New Engineering and Shipbuilding Co.'s Yards

In gorgeous weather and the presence of a very large number of friends, the fine new Customs revenue-cruiser Hai Hsing was launched on Monday afternoon by Mrs. T. J. Eldridge, wife of the Coast Inspector, at the New Engineering & Shipbuilding Works' yards in Yangtszepoo. Among those present were, besides Captain and Mrs. Eldridge, Captain and Mrs. Hillman, Commander and Mrs. Mulock, Eng. Commdr. Hayward, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Arnhold, Lord Addington, Dr. Ross, the Canadian Trade Commissioner, Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Green, Mr. and Mrs. Gavin Campbell, Mrs E. W. Carpenter, Mr. S. S. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. N. Dyer, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Wilkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Brankston, Mr. and Mrs. Blechynden, Mr. C. P. Dawson, Mr. H. G. Mackenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Tweedie Stodart, and Mr. L. Stedman. Among old residents noted were Captain J. H. P. Parker, and Mr. Thomas Weir, re-visiting the Far East with his daughter. A large platform had been erected at the vessel's bows and here at the due moment, Mrs. Eldridge pressed an electric buttom, which released the cruiser and, as she slid rapidly down the ways into the river, broke a bottle of champagne on her and christened her Hai Hsing, amid the cheers of all present.

THE EARLIEST REVENUE CRUISERS.

Everyone then gathered in the Company's offices where refreshments were served, and Mr. C. E. Arnhold, acting chairman, rose to propose the toast of success to the new cruiser and to thank Mrs. Eldridge for coming to perform the ceremony notwithstanding that she was leaving that day for England.

"It has been our privilege in the past to build several vessels for the Chinese Customs," said Mr. Arnhold, "but these have always been of smaller dimensions than the Hai Hsing and intended for service as lights tenders in the Yangtze River. The cruiser which has just taken the water is for similar duties at sea, and marks a new era in the fine record of work performed by this branch of the Customs Service, in attending to the needs of shipping on the China Coast in serving the various light ships and stations, and in giving continual attention to navigation buoys.

"We have to go back many years to reach the date of the first revenue cruiser operating in these waters, namely the Kua Hsing, an iron paddle steamer whose duties, in a small way, were precisely the same as those for which the Hai Hsing is now intended. The service was augmented in 1868 by two twin screw composite vessels which were, however, chiefly employed in preventive work. One of these, it is interesting to note, although long since having ceased to carry out her original work, is now a familiar sight as the police hulk moored off Pootung Point. Three other vessels followed in 1888 having been built in England by Messrs. Armstrong, and much needful and useful scientific survey work was undertaken, and in 1902 an order was placed in Japan for an improved type of ship to meet the increasing requirements of that time.

A FINE FLEET.

"The determination of the authorities to have the coast adequately served and surveyed, and to provide efficient aids to navigation to meet the continual increase in shipping entering and leaving Chinese ports, has prompted them to add a still further vessel to their fleet. This fleet now consists of five ocean-going vessels, and many smaller craft operating in inland waters, and it was gratifying to this Company to have this last order placed with us, in keen competition with other shipbuilding concerns.

"This ship is larger than any of her predecessors, and will in every way be a fine craft, eminently suited for the duties she is to perform, and we have every hope that she will be a credit to the Service to which she belongs and to this Company as her builders. Although primarily intended for the duties I have referred to, she will in common with other Customs Cruisers carry a small armament for cases of emergency and preventive work. I would like to mention that whilst the cruiser has been under construction, we have worked side by side with Messrs. Parker, Rielley and Simmons appointed by the Customs to supervise the work together with Captain Gowing (unhappily not able to be here owing to a motor-accident) and Mr. H. G. Mackenzie of their own service, and our association all through has been of the happiest nature, and I would like to thank these gentlemen for their assistance and courtesy. Ladies and Gentlemen I will now ask you to raise your glasses and drink success and good fortune to the revenue cruiser Hai Hsing, with which I would also couple the name of Mrs. Eldridge.

PRESENTATION TO MRS. ELDRIDGE.

Captain Eldridge replied briefly on behalf of his wife, expressing his regret that Sir Francis Aglen was unable to be there; and Mr. Arnhold then presented Mrs. Eldridge with a beautiful bouquet and very handsome diamond and platinum brooch.

"Dr. Chatley," he said, "has suggested that the libation poured over the Hai Hsing's bows should have consisted of red wine rather than champagne. He reminds us that the custom is a humane variation of the ancient heathen practice of sacrificing a virtuous maiden and besprinkling the new vessel's bows with her blood. This it was thought endowed the craft with the maiden's spirit, and ensured her favourable fortunes. As representing blood the wine should therefore strictly be red. Well, ladies and gentlemen, we could wish for nothing better than for our new-launched vessel to be endowed with Mrs. Eldridge's spirit (cheers). Personally, however, I shrink from anything so gruesome as the thought of sacrificing her even in allegory and even in so good a cause. I hope, therefore, that you will in this instance, with all due deference to Dr. Chatley, endorse our choice of a paler vintage,—and join me in assuring Mrs. Eldridge that, so far from seeking her blood, we wish her and her husband every happiness and a long life to enjoy it in."

Mrs. Eddridge made a very happy reply, saying that it was the last day she would spend in Shanghai and she could not imagine a happier way of spending it than to launch so fine a ship, to receive so charming a present and to see so many friends about her.

THE CRUISER'S DESIGN.

The dimensions of the Hai Hsing, are as follows:—

Length overall	260'-0"
Length B.P.	250'-0"
Breadth moulded	28'-0"
Depth moulded to Upper Deck	21'-0"

The vessel is of the combined bridge and forecastle type, having straight stem and cruiser stern built of steel in accordance with the classification rules of Lloyds for 100 A1. The hull is divided longitudinally into eight watertight compartments. She is constructed with three steel decks, and, in addition, an upper bridge deck, navigation bridge and flying bridge deck. With two masts and a single funnel the vessel will have a very smart appearance when completed. Ample cabin accommodation for the Captain is arranged on the upper bridge deck and on the combined forecastle and bridge deck there will be comfortable quarters for the ship's deck and engineer officers.

The upper deck will be fitted out for the accommodation of foreign lightkeepers and Chinese crew, with spaces for spare cabins, bathrooms, lightkeeper's mess room, sick bay, armoury, etc. All cabins and accommodation will be fitted up in a comfortable manner.

POWERFUL MACHINERY.

The deck machinery fitted comprises; a powerful steam windlass on the forecastle deck specially designed for handling various sizes of buoy chains and cables. On the forward and aft side of the foremast is fitted a 5-ton winch, one to serve the 10 ton buoy davit and the after winch for handling 15 ton lifts in conjunction with a steel derrick A one ton steam capstan is fitted on the upper deck aft for warping purposes. The propelling machinery consists of two sets of triple expansion, surface condensing engines, having inverted cylinders and three cranks placed in line directly over the crank shaft. The engines are designed to be entirely independent for propellling purposes. All pumps are driven direct by separate engines. Steam will be supplied at 190 lb. per sq. inch. The engines, boilers and mountings are constructed in accordance with Lloyd's latest rules and requirements.

A Cochrane donkey boiler is installed for use in port and a very complete set of engine room auxiliaries of the latest type is provided for the special duties to be carried out on board. The engineers' workshop requires special mention, being fitted out with lathes, shaper, drills and grinder, all electrically driven and provided with accessories with which repairs to the machinery on board, and on the stations, can be handled when required.

Electric light is installed throughout the vessel and a Marconi wireless outfit of the latest type completes the list of special equipment.

Capt. W. H. P. Parker sees nothing to criticize in the launch of the Hai Hsing

THE CHINESE REVENUE CRUISER HAI HSING AFTER HER SUCCESSFUL LAUNCHING ON MONDAY

ARMED VILLAINS AT WORK

Shroff Robbed and Murdered: Chinese Woman Wounded: Coolie Murdered

Armed desperadoes were again at work during the week-end, and two crimes of a particularly callous nature are under investigation by the police. The first occurred late on Thursday night of last week on the outskirts of the Settlement near the Stone Bridge Road, where a shroff employed by a rice shop, crossing over into Chinese territory, was attacked by two armed men. One held a pistol in his face and the other searched him, and it is curious that although the shroff had nearly $1,000 in his possession the thief took only $100. No resistance appears to have been offered, but the report is that, having taken the money, one of the robbers deliberately pointed the revolver at his victim and fired, inflicting a fatal wound. It was all the work of a few moments and the robbers made off into Chinese territory.

The same night, in the neighbourhood of North Szechuen Road Extension, a Chinese woman was molested by two armed men, one of whom snatched at a gold hair pin she wore. The woman pluckily attempted to defend herself but was brought to the ground by a bullet wound in the ankle, the thieves then making their escape. The injured woman was shortly afterwards discovered by a Sikh constable and was conveyed to hospital.

A third crime, the motive for which is not yet clear since the victim was only a coolie and can scarcely have provided booty of any value, occurred early on Saturday morning in Chekiang Road. Information so far available is that a coolie in the employ of the Shanghai-Hangchow Railway, walking along Chekiang Road in the direction of Kiukiang Road, was followed by two Chinese, one of whom suddenly fired from behind. Two or three shots were fired and all took effect, the coolie receiving wounds which caused immediate death. In this case also, the desperadoes got clear away, for it seems that a Chinese boy was the only witness of the crime. When the body of the unfortunate coolie was taken away by the police it was found that the man had only a few small coins in his possession.

NEW CHURCH IN SHANTUNG ROAD

Dedication of the Tien An Tang Church Building: Long Historical Associations

On Sunday last a large and representative gathering of Chinese and foreign friends were present in the Shantung Road, Ma Ka Choen, to take part in the dedicatory service and the formal opening of the fine new buildings which have recently been erected by the Chinese members of the Tien An Tang Church.

In 1843, the year of the opening of Shanghai as a Treaty Port, the Rev. Walter Medhurst and Dr. Lockhart, of the London Missionary Society, arrived here as pioneer Protestant missionaries, to commence work in this centre. Two years later they moved from rented quarters in the native city to a new site which they purchased in the Foreign Settlement, the present Ma Ka Choen compound in the Shantung Road. Here for 80 years church and hospital work have been continously carried on, and the East and the West have been closely linked together in sympathy and service. The Tien An Tang Church and the Shantung Road Hospital are the fruits of this fellowship between the Chinese and the foreign community of Shanghai. The older residents of Shanghai will remember that until the year 1885 the members of the Union Church met for worship in a church in the Shantung Road compound. In this year Union Church secured its present site in the Soochow Road and the old Union Church building became the home of the Chinese Church which had previously met for worship in the hall of the hospital. The Chinese Tien An Tang Church was for many years ministered to by the Rev. William Muirhead D.D., the Rev. Nie Yuin-san and others. A few years ago the London Missionary Society made an offer to give this valuable site to the Chinese Christian Church under trustees for the use of the Tien An Tang on condition that $10,000 was raised as a guarantee of an undertaking to erect a new church building, and rooms for educational and social service work.

GENEROUS GIVING.

This sum was raised in a short time and now we see the completion of the great enterprise. The Chinese Christians of the church have themselves raised altogether over $50,000. Their giving has been generous and sacrificial; much of the money has been given in memory of former pastors, church officers, and church members by their relatives and friends. One hall is a memorial to Pastor Nie Yuin-san, one to Mr. New (Niu).

The largest hall is dedicated to the memory of the Rev. William Muirhead D.D. who for 53 years did noble service as missionary, pastor and friend of the Chinese. Chinese and foreign friends of Dr. Muirhead have joined together in this tribute to a noble life of service.

At the dedication service on Sunday Mr. Sesson Nie, a son of the Chinese pastor mentioned above, who is Chairman of the Church Council, acted as leader. The sermon was preached by the Rev. F.L. Hawks Pott, D.D., of St. John's University, and addresses of congratulation were given by representatives of the National Christian Council, the Union Church (Rev. A. N. Rowland), the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Shanghai Pastors' Association, the (S.M.S.) Provincial Council and the London Missionary Society. A Chinese choir trained by Mrs. Hsia led the singing and gave appropriate anthems. This new church with its church rooms adds another splendid building for the use of the Christian movement in Shanghai, to those which have been erected during the last few years. It is a fine tribute to the zeal of the Chinese Christians who form its church membership and will give them the means of more worthily worshipping God and serving their fellows.

CELEBRATION OF ST. GEORGE'S DAY

Largely Attended Service at Cathedral: Brilliant Ball at the New Carlton

The appointed programme for St. George's Day was on Wednesday very successfully carried through by members of the Royal Society [illegible] the cordial co-operation of members of the other national societies. Morning service in the Cathedral, conducted by the Society's Almoner, Dr. Symons, was attended by some 70 members, and was followed by a brief office of duty and affectionate memory at the War Memorial, where a wreath in the colours of St. George was set by the President of the Society (Mr. W. H. Donald), Dr. [illegible] in memory of Shanghai Englishmen who fell in the war.

The annual ball at the New [illegible] a brilliant function and socially enjoyable. [illegible] for tickets up to the last moment, with the result that the attendance [illegible] year's throng and the Carlton's ample accommodation was fully taxed. Mr. Ladow and his staff rose to the occasion admirably, whilst members of the various committees saw to it that guests received the honours and hospitality appropriate to themselves and the occasion. Under the direction of Mr. R. E. Stewardson, the ball room was very charmingly set out, a simple decorative scheme in the red and white of St. George having been effectively carried out, the main feature being the [illegible] in these colours, with the county arms of England in relief. The floor was pleasantly overhung with graceful sprays of wisteria, in blue and white, while a huge Union Jack, crowned with the arms of the City of London, adorned the main entrance. The dining room was also prettily decorated, and tables were set out for some 350 people for the supper. Music was played by the excellent Carlton Band, and dancing went on merrily from 9.30 until midnight, when the customary ceremonial took place.

THE BEEFEATERS.

The [illegible] of the Beefeaters, in the wonderfully picturesque costume which has now become legendary, and led by a stalwart, quickly identified as Captain E.I.M. Barrett, carrying the baron of beef. The Captain and his attendant Yeomen, having circled the hall and taken up position in the centre, the whole company rose and joined in the singing of "God Save the King," Mr. C. F. Butt leading as soloist. Then that right good ditty, "The Roast Beef of old [illegible] played by the band, and the Yeomen resumed their march to the supper room, the President and his guests joining [illegible] procession. Among those who sat at the President's table were:

Mr. [illegible] President of St. Andrews Society, and Mrs. Rutherford; Mr. L. M. French Bertagh, President of St Patrick's Society, and Mrs. Bertagh; Mr. T. J. Vaughan, President of St David's Society and Mrs Vaughan; Admiral Anderson and Mrs. Anderson, and Mr Sidney Barton, H. M Consul-General, Colonel and Mrs Gordon, Com. G. de' Rossi, Consul General for Italy, and Mme de Rossi Mr. A Wilden, Consul General for France, and Mme Wilden, Mr. E S Cunningham, U S Consul General, and Mrs Cunningham, Admiral Washington, U S Navy, and Mrs Washington, Mr. S. Fessenden, Chairman of the Municipal Council, and his Honour Judge Purdy, and Mrs. Purdy.

TOAST FOR REMEMBRANCE.

There were no toasts, but the President announced the customary exchange of greetings. The following messages, signed by the President, were despatched from Shanghai:

To H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, President St George's Society, Shanghai Branch respectfully tender loyal greeting good wishes on occasion of Saint George's Day.

To St. George's Society, London, Shanghai Branch respectfully tender loyal greetings and good wishes to parent Society.

Telegrams conveying greetings were also sent to the Presidents of St. George's Society at Hongkong, Kobe, Peking, Tientsin, Hankow and Ipoh.

Messages were received from Kobe, Peking, Tientsin, Hankow, Ipoh Hongkong and London, the two latter reading:

"Best wishes and warmest greetings from Hongkong Society."

The following telegram was received on Thursday by St. George's Society:—

Davis, President St. George's Society, Shanghai. Prince of Wales sends sincere thanks for St. George's Day greetings which he heartily reciprocates.—Private Secretary.

And the following from London:—"Fraternal greetings England's Day, Baldwin Chair, Sixth May, Harston, Vice President."

The Dresses

Besides the formal decorative scheme which was so successfully carried out, the ladies present had apparently resolved themselves into a Committee of the Whole to add to the picturesqueness of the occasion and as one looked from the balcony upon the animated swirl of colour on the dancing floor or singled out some special costume for approving inspection, the charming dresses worn on this occasion were such as to bear out Shanghai's claim to being the Paris of the Orient.

Mrs. Trenchard Davis, wife of the President of St. George's Society, wore a stylish gown of dark blue georgette, embroidered in steel beads and modelled on the long, straight lines, and the Vice-President's wife, Mrs. A. C. Clear, chose black to set off her fair colouring, a black satin, cut in softly flowing lines, draped at the side, and trimmed with *diamente*. Among the guests of honour, Mrs. C. H. Rutherford, the wife of the President of St. Andrew's Society, wore a soft pink fabric, skilfully interwoven by hand with silver, and trimmed with *diamente*. Mrs. Edwin S. Cunningham, the wife of the U. S. Consul-General, wore a stunning model of electric blue velvet and blue and gold brocade, cut straight across the shoulders, with an epaulet and strings of blue and gold beads on one side. The dress was cut on straight slim lines, with a godet at the side filled in with blue and gold net. Blue stockings and slippers of the brocade were worn with this costume which was finished by a comb of blue and gold feathers stuck at an effective angle in the low-dressed coiffure.

Lady Turner was a stately figure in black, the drapery cleverly disposed and fastened with a large jet cabuchon. Mrs. Milton Purdy, the wife of the new Judge of the U. S. Court for China, wore blue chiffon, trimmed with crystal beads, while Mrs. C. J. F. Symons was another who chose black, appearing in a black lace gown, cut on the straight lines so popular at present. Mrs. Brooke-Smith wore corn-flower blue moire, draped and fastened at the side with a rose. Mrs. O. M. Green wore an unusual and very effective colour scheme of orange charmeuse draped with orange ninon and gold lace, with a girdle of gold tissue and emerald velvet, the transparent neck of gold lace over pale chiffon being cut high. The model was sleeveless with panniers of ninon and gold lace.

Mrs. A. W. Dixon were white crêpe de chine relieved with a red sash cut with a low waist line and straight silhouette, and worn with silver slippers finished with buckles of brilliants. Mrs. Brankston wore a model of beige French satin trimmed with soft floating panels of handmade lace with a bertha of the same, and satin slippers to match. Mrs. P. H. Nye's chic gown of mauve and silver, cut on straight, simple lines, harmonized perfectly with the decorations of the evening. It was a temptation to go on describing all the other beautiful gowns which were worn, but space forbids.

Mr. H. E. Morriss is left yesterday for Peking *en route* for England *viâ* Siberia. He will probably be away for five months.

Y. W. C. A. BUILDING ENTERPRISE

Campaign to Raise $130,000 for New Premises, a Centre for All China

At an enthusiastic tiffin given at the Carlton Café on Wednesday the Y.W.C.A. opened its big financial campaign which will run from April 24 to May 24 inclusive, with the aim of securing $130,000. About 250 persons actively interested in the success of this ambitious undertaking sat down together, the gathering including many influential Chinese men and women such as Mr. H. Y. S. Zia, a well known lawyer, who presided at the tiffin, and introduced the speakers, Mrs. O'Ben, a prominent business woman, Mrs. T. T. Wang, the widow of the late chairman of the Chinese Educational Mission in Washington, Mrs. S. M. Woo, a graduate of Radcliffe College, Mr. Tso Bing Chang, and Mr. Ponson C. Chu. Mrs. A. H. Hilton-Johnson, Mrs. C. W. Atkinson, and Mrs. James Yard were some of the foreign members of the committee who were present, and there were many other representatives of the foreign and Chinese community, and a large number of foreign and Chinese business women.

LAND BUILDING AND BUDGET.

About 200 workers, Chinese and foreigners about equally divided, have promised to push the campaign and these are divided into five teams, Chinese and foreigners working together, each taking one colour of the Chinese flag. An original indicator to mark the progress of the campaign has been made by the British-American Tobacco Co., a large painting which shows a Chinese and a foreign girl walking hand in hand (representing each team) along paths which converge at the wide-open doorway of the Y.W.C.A. The flag floating from a pole behind the wall of the building bears the campaign quota figures, $130,000. The idea is that each team as it collects its proportion of that quota will add its colour to the flag, and as each pair of girls moves toward the doorway, the colour of the team follows on the path where she has walked. This painting will be set up at Campaign Headquarters, 61 Range Road, and every Monday and Thursday afternoon during the progress of the campaign the workers will meet to report progress.

The campaign quota, $130,000 while larger than anything of the sort undertaken by the Y.W.C.A. previously, covers primarily the cost of land and building which will serve as the centre for the Chinese Y.W.C.A. in Shanghai, estimated at $85,000, and the balance of $45,000 will provide a two years' budget for the Chinese Y.W.C.A., support the Foreign Y.W.C.A., a clubhouse for foreign young women in Shanghai, and supply a small part of the budget of the National Association which unifies and develops the work of the Y.W.C.A. all over China. In the light of the splendid work done by this organization and its constantly enlarging field this amount does not seem unreasonable, and it is confidently expected that the campaign will be a complete success. The first gift—$5,000—was contributed by Mrs. O'Ben, the widow of the former manager of the Sincere Co., herself an energetic business woman, connected with the Wee-Wee Co. and various banking interests.

SERVICES ALL OVER CHINA.

Mrs. T. T. Wang, one of the earliest board members of the Shanghai Y.W.C.A., and Chairman of the Social Service Department of the Shanghai Women's Club, spoke in Chinese on the work of the Y.W.C.A. and he was followed by Mrs. S. M. Woo, wife of Dr. S. M. Woo, of the Council on Health Education, a graduate of an American college and president of the Board of Directors of the Y.W.C.A. who spoke in English on the work of the Y.W.C.A., not only in Shanghai but throughout China. She emphasized the friendly services which the Association rendered to women all over China and especially to strangers passing through Shanghai, the benefit of the hostel maintained for women travelling alone, the popular education classes, the school and club activities, and others.

Referring to the campaign quota, Mrs. Woo said that it had been apparent for a long time that permanent headquarters were necessary for the successful development of the local Association's work, first because otherwise they were at the mercy of the landlord and could not make definite arrangements for the future, second because in the final accounting it was much better to reduce the annual budget by owning their own property, and third because land values in Shanghai are rising every year and good locations are increasingly hard to secure. Opportunity was offered to buy the property at 61 Range Road, previously owned by the Presbyterian Mission, at a very reasonable rate and they felt themselves very fortunate to secure a site with a building which would meet their needs for the present time.

In closing Mrs. Woo said that the future of China depended largely upon strong, enlightened womanhood, in the making of which the Y.W.C.A. had always played a leading part, and she appealed for co-operation between Chinese and foreign women in this definite effort to secure this aim.

The aims and methods of the Campaign were further demonstrated by a little play in which two canvassers for the fund called first upon a typical silk merchant at his office, asked for a subscription, were met at first with a refusal but presented the merits of the case so convincingly as to overcome his prejudices; and second obtained subscriptions from a typical tea table group of Shanghai women. The singing of a campaign song and more detailed instructions to team members closed a delightful and instructive tiffin which seemed a very auspicious opening for the "drive."

On the authority of the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" Lee Vei-tsing, vice-chairman of the Shanghai City Assembly, has discovered that, as a condition of the return of the International Mixed Court to China, the Diplomatic Body is demanding "an extension of the Settlement from the north of Range Road and Honan Road to the Huangpu River and from Hongkew Park northwards."—Somebody's geography seems to be a little at fault.

WEDDING

Bachrach-Ware

A very pretty wedding, attended only by close relatives, was celebrated on the 17th instant at the Free Church, which was artistically decorated with marguerites, when Miss Helen Ware, daughter of the late Rev. and Mrs. James Ware, became the bride of Mr. Roland Bachrach, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Bachrach, of London. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. L. W. Faucett, M.A., of St. John's University. The bride, who was given away by her uncle, Mr. W. M. Cameron, looked charming in white brocaded silk, made with sleeves and the right panel of silk lace. The other panel, which touched the ground, was of silk, both being caught with pearl buckles. The veil of Breton lace, cap-shaped, was fastened with an orange blossom wreath and the bridal bouquet was made of pale pink carnations.

The bridesmaid, Miss Elizabeth Arthur, a niece of the bride, wore daffodil yellow organdie with hat to match, and carried jonquils. Mr. Luther G. Day accompanied the bridegroom as best man. The home of the bride, 58 Edinburgh Road, where the reception which followed the ceremony was held, was a bower of spring blossoms, white lilac and bridal wreath. A large number of friends gathered to express their good wishes for the young couple and after a delightful afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Bachrach left for the Soochow lakes, the bride wearing a three piece costume of grey gabardine, with a hat of grey georgette, embroidered in henna.

Mr. Chang Chien, Jr., High Industrial Commissioner to Europe and America, left on Wednesday, with his colleagues for Nanking. After conferring with Marshal Chi Shieh-yuan, Governor-General of this province, Mr. Chang will return to his father's home in the now famous industrial town, Nantungchow.

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PROHIBITION.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Under Notes and Comments in your issue of the 7th instant, you publish a really marvellous list of benefits arising from Prohibition in the States, and then add from your own pen "Yet we cannot get away from the feeling that prohibition is a vicious infringement of liberty and a confession of weakness." In all this I heartily agree except in the use of the word, "vicious."

The defence of alcohol amongst people of refinement has finally narrowed down to "infringement of liberty" and the use of it largely as a social necessity. All the old arguments as to its food value have been set at naught and its place in medicine very greatly limited—a great many doctors taking the position that in most cases its final effect is harmful rather than beneficial and so use other drugs which have no bad after effects.

Practically all laws of prohibition are an infringement of liberty. If Shanghai society prefers to tarry over mere food and arrive late at a performance, even of such artists as Kreister, why infringe on their liberty by suggesting anything which would make it impossible for them to be a nuisance to the majority. If an esteemed citizen desires to stop his car in the busiest road at the busiest hour of the day and enjoy his cigarette, why should we desire to infringe on his liberty, though we thereby relieve the great majority of a nuisance. We all know that laws are made that the greatest good may come to the greatest number, whether they be laws of prohibition or not. Why then should some people feel that in the case of Prohibition it is vicious and yet in most other laws they think it proper to prohibit?

There are two sides to "personal liberty" and both sides must be considered. Pat was happily drunk and in throwing his arms about hit a bystander on the nose, whereupon the bystander knocked him down. Pat claimed that he was at liberty to throw his arms about, whereupon the bystander informed him, "your liberty ends where my nose begins." One morning a woman in Shanghai left for her work (whereby she supported herself and husband). During the forenoon the husband "loaded up" and fell down the stairs, and had to be brought to hospital. Word reached the wife and she arrived at the hospital just as the nurses were undressing the husband. To assist she kneeled to unloose his boot, whereupon he deliberately kicked her in the face. Does anyone feel that a law made with the hope of making such a thing impossible is an infringement of the wife's liberty? Confession of weakness, yes, but not on the part of the wife who is the bread-winner, but on the part of the poor devil, and his brothers in distress, who can't resist and for whom you and I should be willing to exercise any strength we may have and use all the power we have to help them instead of thinking about the infringement of our liberty. From my experience I could multiply this case by dozens as could anyone who has to deal with the seamy side of life. So much for "infringement of liberty."

"Alcohol a social necessity," has recently forced itself upon me with increasing persistence, I don't think I am extravagant in saying that the average hostess would think she had been lacking in true hospitality if she did not offer cocktails or some drink to her guests. "What'll you have?" is expected of your host. Some 30 years ago I greatly offended a young officer on an American gunboat because I "begged to be excused." It is good that we have advanced past that stage, but the chief, and perhaps the only, stronghold which alcohol now finds with people of refinement is as a *social* necessity. The sad part about it all is that while the western district is indulging moderately in this "social necessity," the poor men and women who by habit have found it a *real* necessity are becoming more and more enslaved by its use. Why make a plaything of something which causes untold misery right at our doors. As we would help the physically weak bear their burden, so I plead, let us uphold everything which would help the morally weak bear their burden.

I am, etc.,
J. B. Fearn, M.D.

Shanghai, April 16, 1924.

*** We are sorry to see that Dr. Fearn is as incapable of thinking clearly as other prohibitionists. The person who comes in late at a Kreisler recital or obstructs traffic is a nuisance to everybody concerned. The person who drinks in moderation emphatically is not. A man may even get drunk (though we certainly do not defend his doing so) without being a nuisance. But a man who, being drunk, creates a fight or kicks his wife becomes a nuisance and is promptly amenable to the law. We call prohibition a vicious infringement of liberty partly because it has created a whole series of new forms of law-breaking. It has undoubtedly stimulated many people to drink who never drank before. When the present writer was in New York early in the year 1919, one feature of life that particularly impressed him was that practically everybody drank water with their meals, whether in restaurants or at home. Now he is credibly informed that some form of alcohol is almost considered *de rigueur* and because of prohibition it is usually of the most poisonous brand. To make laws which by their very nature incite people to break them is, to say the least, a grave mistake, if it does not actually tend to encourage a general spirit of lawlessness.—Ed.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—The following is an extract from Cromwell's letter of September 12, 1650, to the Governor of Edinburgh Castle:

"Your pretended fear lest error should step in is like the man who would keep all the wine out of the country lest men should. It will be found an unjust and unwise jealousy to deprive a man of his natural liberty upon a supposition he may abuse it. When he doth abuse it, judge."

I am, etc.,
J. R. Jacob.

Shanghai, April 11, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—I have with great interest followed letters that appeared in your paper about prohibition. Please let me state a few things, which I know to be facts. There is in one recent letter stated that prohibition was enforced because of the number of votes. Now, if you will interrogate who gave those votes, you will find that the majority are people selling *"hooch,"* thereby enriching themselves, and as well having a sufficient amount of said *hooch* for their own consumption. In U. S. A. it is possible for every man, or girl, to get as much of that desired, and forbidden alcohol, as he or she likes; and if we take the old saying: "Forbidden fruit tastes best," it is only natural that whoever can get it, will do his or her best, or worst, to get it. Therefore prohibition is not a remedy but a drawback, which should be annulled, as it has been in other countries, for example Norway, where people with broader minds have seen the uselessness of the prohibition. More countries where this ridiculous prohibition has become a law will follow suit, and I sincerely hope that the U. S. A. will see that, ultimately, they are mistaken.

Condemn prohibition, and people will be sober!

I am, etc.,
A Man Who Knows.

Shanghai, April 21, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Perhaps one of the most interesting aspects of a foreigner's life in Shanghai is the insight it gives us all into the varying modes, manners, mental processes, laws, etc. of other nations of the earth whose representatives dwell here.

Therefore, it would seem that in discussing Prohibition due allowance must be made by the protagonists on either side for the widely differing conceptions of such terms as Justice and Liberty, as well as the general principles governing the conduct of affairs by those belonging to differing civilizations.

Dr. J. B. Fearn takes exception, very rightly, from his viewpoint as an American citizen, to your editorial comment that U.S. Prohibition is a *vicious* infringement of liberty and supports his view by saying that *"we all know that laws are made that the greatest good may come to the greatest number, whether they be laws of prohibition or not."*

Now, undoubtedly, if that be the case in his country—and one accepts his authority on the point,—if the majority of persons in the U.S.A. some four or five years ago were so given to the habit of excessive drinking, then heroic measures of Total Prohibition were necessary perhaps to cope with such an exaggerated state of affairs.

But in my country things are different. For example, any intelligent Englishman who studies his House of Commons knows that Laws in England are by no means made that the greatest good may come to the greatest number. We are not so fortunate in our legislative intelligence to have yet achieved that ideal state of affairs during the several centuries that law-making has had its vogue with us.

In America one does not doubt that the noblest minds and best equipped brains of the nation are devoted to its politics, the making of laws, and the betterment of their fellow men—hence, Total Prohibition. It is now counted a crime in that great country to drink a glass of wine, I am told, unless under medical authority.

In England those who can still afford to indulge in that pleasant custom are free to do so provided they obey the law and make a contribution to the coffers of the State (instead of the doctors) for the privilege. Our State, in its turn, hands over that contribution to the government of Dr. Fearn's country in repayment of debts incurred by us, or on our signature, to his people.

In England we can drink a glass of beer or a glass of wine, enjoy it, pay for it and benefit the seller, the State, and ourselves in the process—and still remain respectable citizens. We are not sent to gaol for it—only if we overdo it. We do not think ourselves fine fellows either for drinking a glass of wine, or for rigidly refraining from moistening our lips with beverages which Dr. Fearn comprehensively describes as "alcohol." We do the one or the other as it pleases us and centuries of history have taught us to take it as a matter of course.

One of the sentences which Dr. Fearn describes as "a really marvellous list of benefits" runs as follows:—

> "When wet politicians are no longer allowed to place accomplices in appointive positions, when propagandists of liquor are no longer allowed to incite men to violate the Constitution, when law and order become supreme, then in wealth, health, character, power and achievement America will show the world to what heights a self-governing people can rise when freed from the chains of alcohol."

That is an inspiring prospect.

For the moment, however, we English, still janging the chains of alcohol, gaze upwards at those free men of the U.S.A. toying with their tea-pot tops while they industriously occupy themselves wangling the claims of petrol!

One notes that character comes third on the list of the New World's desires—and Wealth, first.

Dr. Fearn writes:—"The defence of alcohol amongst people of refinement has finally narrowed down to 'infringement of liberty' and the use of it largely as a social necessity."

Such may be the case in his country where the social necessity of "alcohol" is happily replaced by the beneficent "gum" which, I am told, the whole American nation may still continue to masticate without danger of gaol—but that is by no means the defence of good wine, good beer, and good spirits in England.

It never occurred to us to question the desirability of these things used in moderation, or to prevent our fellow men enjoying them if we ourselves did not happen to care for them. Then intense persons came from over the sea telling us what splendid fellows they were, how much money they had, and all the rest of that spell-binding which thrives so profitably elsewhere—and some of the more untutored and restricted minds amongst our people reacted to the novel doctrine.

Hence, in this simple matter of a glass of wine and so on, it is interesting to dwell in Shanghai and exchange ideas with the peoples of other lands and of widely differing civilizations to our own.

I am, etc.,
W. Bruce Lockhart.

Shanghai, Apr. 18, 1924.

THE FIRST MIRACLE (N. T.)

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—"Rosslyn Picard," in Thursday's issue of your valuable paper, says, "Is it likely that Christ, who lived an ideal life, would have used His miraculous power to provide wine if He held it was wrong to drink (it)?" A quotation like that is not quite satisfactory. "Total Abstainer" might easily retort that the miracle was not wrought to show that Christ held it was right to drink wine, because surely it cannot be suggested that the miracle wine was like man made alchoholic wine!

St. John (Chap. 2:10) says, the governor of the feast expressed his surprise thus: "Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse:" inferring that they would then be unable to tell the difference; whereas, the miracle wine made them sit up and take note.

A careful reading of St. John 2: 3, 4, 5 and 11 would have enabled "Rosslyn Picard" to avoid taking His miracle out of its rightful setting.

Our Lord made the wine to declare His power on taking up His ministry on earth, and used it as a vehicle to show the higher quality of the New Testament. (St Matt. 26:28) His parable of new wine in old wine skins (St. Matt. 9:17) was for the same purpose.

I am, etc.,
Apted.

Shanghai, Apr. 19, 1924.

RELIGIOUS TEACHING *v.* CRIME.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—The "Literary Digest" of March 15 and 22 devotes considerable space to a discussion of the cause and cure of a wave of crime that, according to statistics which are given, seems to be sweeping over the United States. The Editor says;—

"Fifteen thousand people will die this year by murder and homicide in our country. It would take three hours for a procession of those who will thus perish, before December 31, 1924, to pass a given point."

Unfortunately America is not alone in this experience. Every country in the world seems to have developed a class of criminals that take a vicious delight in crimes of violence and murder. This is usually and perhaps rightly, regarded as being the aftermath of the great war when millions of men were instructed in the art of killing. Be that as it may, the fact that in, what claims to be the most civilized nation on earth, in this year of grace, an army of 15,000 innocent people must die by the hands of assassins is sufficiently startling. Equally disquieting is the fact that the majority of the killers are scarcely more than mere boys. Says our authority";—

"Four young men were sentenced to death the other day in Brooklyn and the grim tragedy in the still court-room was the grimmer in that it might have been prevented."

Justice James C. Cropsey, who sentenced the young men said, "One of the outstanding facts is the age of the offenders. Three of them are but little more than 21 years old and the fourth is only a few years older and, indeed, 80 per cent of our criminals are under 25 years of age."

"From the biological standpoint" says William McAdoo, chief Magistrate of New York City, "this army of young criminals is emotionally deficient. That is, they are strangers to love, affection, pity, sympathy, friendship, charity, kindness, temperance and chastity. In many respects they are not much advanced from merely predatory animals."

These statements from responsible public men, whose duties bring them into contact with the class referred to, have attracted wide attention and the cause for this degradation of ideals amongst the youth of the nation has been carefully canvassed. Judges and reformers have agreed that the chief cause lies in the fact that American education is divorced from religion. America, with its polyglot population of divers creeds, found it impossible to devise a course of religious instruction for the public schools which would not arouse vehement opposition from some part of the community; consequently this part of the curriculum was dropped altogether. As the New York "World" says:—

"A knowledge of Greek and Roman gods is necessary for graduation. In school, it seems, every pagan god in history may be the subject of the day's lesson but not the God of the Bible. Children are lacking in reverence. Their sense of the sacred has never been developed. They do not know the attitude of worship. They have no conscious knowledge of God."

The terrible facts of the situation being as stated above and the underlying cause having been ascertained, the next thing was to devise a remedy, so a joint meeting of Catholics, Protestants and Jews—the first of its kind ever held according to the press—met in New York to discuss the situation. They concluded that there was only one way in which betterment might be hoped for. The children must get religious instruction somewhere. In the home, or the school, or the church *but, they must get it.*

The Editor of the *"Literary Digest"*, sums up the situation thus; "The problem is long past the debating stage. No nation can depend on its police system to preserve its moral fibre. The gallows and the electric chair are sorry substitutes for the Sunday-school and the old-fashioned altar of maternal knees."

The problem is as pressing in Britain as in America. Chaplains in the army were astounded at the dense ignorance of religious truths shown by the men they met in the ranks of our conscripted army.

The France of Marat and the Russia of Lenin are examples of nations without religion. Are we also drifting thitherwards? The cure is "the Sunday-school and the old fashioned altar of maternal knees."

I am etc.
J. Darroch.

Shanghai, April 24, 1924.

A SPRINTER'S STRIDE.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—If it is within your power to answer the following, will you kindly oblige?

"What is the stride of a sprinter doing even time in 100 yards?" I believe A.B. Postle's stride was published some years ago and also Donaldson's ("The Blue Streak") but am not sure of the exact strides in feet and inches. Maybe if you cannot give official details, your readers could oblige.

I am, etc.,
H. Bickerton.

Shanghai, Apr. 22, 1924.

*** Could a reader kindly help?—Ed.

RUBBER COMPANIES.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—The yearly reports being issued by many Shanghai rubber companies make interesting reading, and permit shareholders calmly to survey their investments under the beneficial influence of restriction. I think some will arrive at the conclusion that drastic measures,—similar to restriction—are required in many of the Shanghai rubber companies to induce the large foreign and Chinese investing public again to buy rubber shares.

I do not wish to convey the idea that I have lost confidence in the industry. On the contrary, I have the greatest faith in the future, as under restriction I feel sure that it is entering an era of security and prosperity which is not yet fully appreciated; my regrets only are that my "holdings" in rubber estates which have cost me approximately Tls. 65,000 are in Shanghai instead of Singapore-managed companies.

Let me give a concrete case: in one Shanghai company I am interested in the capital is Tls. 200,000 in Tl. 1 shares, the area under cultivation is 510 acres, output approximately 100,000 lb. rubber yearly, five Directors, Secretary, Singapore agents, etc., the all in cost last year under restriction was 42 cts. per lb. To look for dividends in such companies is a hopeless quest. This is only one illustration of many Shanghai-managed companies: I could name others in which the all-in costs run from 8d. to 11d. a lb. I maintain that this excessive cost in comparison to Singapore managed companies, is due to lack of control through the head office being established in Shanghai, thousands of miles distant from the estates.

The obvious remedy under such conditions is to endeavour to amalgamate these estates with some neighbouring Singapore managed estate *under the best terms obtainable*, accepting as payment shares in the amalgamated company, thus securing on the spot the benefit of experienced directors and secretaries who have an actual knowledge of expenditure and local conditions and greatly economizing through dual control. If such an arrangement cannot be secured, the property should be sold as soon as possible, under the present working conditions. Shareholders derive no benefit, and will not derive any benefit unless the price of the raw material soars sky high. Will it do so? In this connexion a fact that impresses me in reading the various reports is to note that many directors are also secretaries of their own, as well as other companies, and I venture to suggest for this reason the proposals made may not receive the consideration, from a shareholders' point of view, that they deserve.

I am, etc.,
Combardello.

Chinkiang, April 20, 1994.

THE REFUGEES IN MANCHURIA.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Last night it was my privilege to be a guest at St. George's Ball. This morning I read in your paper the urgent appeal for help of Dr. James A. Greig, the League of Nations Delegate in China, on behalf of the thousands of starving Russians in Manchuria.

It is true, as you say, that Shanghai has its own refugee problem. But, what a contrast! The peace, security and bountiful plenty of Shanghai as evidenced, for example, by last night's brilliant function, and the cruel biting want, the hopeless penury of those thousands of helpless white people living—or rather just barely keeping body and soul together—not so many hundreds of miles to the north of us as so graphically described by Dr. Greig.

I sincerely trust that all who may have missed seeing "The need in Manchuria," on page 6 of your this morning's issue will turn up the paper again, and read of the ragged little white children begging on the railway stations, of the orphans Bishop Iona is trying to feed, of the hopeless lack of work for men, of the mothers who have neither bread nor the means whereby to buy it for the sustenance of their starving households.

Dr. Greig has been doing splendid work for the Manchuria refugees for a long time past. His Report on the Refugee Problem as a whole in China is now receiving the attention of the Council of the League of Nations at Geneva, but, to quote from your article, "Thinking people know that time is required to bring any final solution."

Is it not possible for us here in comfortable, prosperous Shanghai meanwhile to aid the good Doctor's efforts to feed and clothe the hungry and helpless for whom he appeals? It seems to me that unless we choose to selfishly close our eyes and pockets, and to wilfully ignore our obligations as brothers and sisters of these helpless people in Manchuria, our duty is clear.

Enclosing $25 as my contribution, and hoping that many others of your readers will respond according to their means, however great or small,

I am, etc.,
W.

Shanghai, April 24, 1924.

*** The $25 duly received will be forwarded to Dr. Greig and we shall be happy to send along any other sums from readers—Ed.

ST. GEORGE'S BALL.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—At the risk of being considered "behind the times," old-fashioned, and the rest of it, I really think that, on such an essentially national occasion as the above, the Committee who arranged the dancing programme might well have improved on the kind of thing one can get any night at a dozen places in Shanghai.

There is nothing wrong with a fox trot, but there is something decidedly wrong with approximately Thirteen fox trots with say two waltzes and a couple of one steps. I am not suggesting that we should necessarily resuscitate the polka, velita, barn dance, etc. but I do think that two sets of Lancers would have livened up the proceedings considerably. At the St. Andrew's Ball, our Scotch friends introduce reels and "Caledonians" and they add tremendously to the pleasure of those present. These are practised for weeks beforehand, and they invariably "go with a swing."

Surely we Englishmen can break away from Carlton and Astor House after-dinner tradition on an occasion like this. A national ball attracts both the young people and an older generation who want something different from the everlasting fox trot. Perhaps the Committee will bear it in mind next year.

I am, etc.,
Pre-War.

Shanghai, Apr. 24, 1924.

THE DUST.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Is it at all possible to raise a campaign again dust? the dust which is such a dangerous and well known feature of the city. Firstly, now that there are new roads outside the settlement, leading to open country, is it really necessary to have riding tracks down some of the main roads? There is the Race Course for those possessors of ponies who live in town, and the Great Western Road and others of the same nature for dwellers in the suburbs. I have in mind especially Avenue Foch, which is covered with dust at the slightest puff of wind, the dust rising in clouds about the eyes, nose and mouth of any passer-by, be he pedestrian or "road hog." These riding tracks seem to be a source of real danger.

Secondly, can the P.W.D. coolies be taught to sweep roads? As everyone knows, their method is to whirl a bamboo broom over their heads, and sweep cheerfully away, raising dust all around them and anybody near at hand. When one realizes that in spite of all this energy, the dust has merely been distributed over a rather larger area and only a very small percentage actually *removed*, one wonders why the ratepayers do not bring the matter before the notice of the Council. It is almost impossible to take real precautions against epidemic catarrh and other more serious diseases, when germs are being perpetually spread broadcast by the road dust.

I am, etc.,
D. J. W.

Shanghai, April 22, 1921.

THE CREEK TO THE HILLS.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Would some reader who has done the journey recently kindly advise several people who wish to go to the Hills (Zose) this spring whether it is possible go *viâ* the Siccawei Creek. The general opinion seems to be that it is not practicable these days owing to the numerous quarry boats which block the way. Of course other routes are available, but are long and expensive.

I am, etc.,
Zose.

Shanghai, April 8, 1924.

Marshal Chi Shieh-yuan, Governor-General of Kiangsu, Kiangsi and Anhui, has telegraphed to Peking urging the payment of Admiral Tu Shih-kuei, Commander-in-Chief of the loyal fleet, and his men at once. Marshal Chi states that, apart from $400,000 required for immediate upkeep expenses for the ships, the men have not been paid for several months, and action should be taken immediately by the Central Government to pay the money from the Salt Surplus, as previously agreed upon.

Two Chinese Imperial vases were mentioned before Mr. Justice Greer in the King's Bench Division on March 14. "Only two people in this country understand the value of Chinese Imperial vases," their owner, Miss Elsa Jeanne D'Usez, of Montpelier Square, Knightsbridge, said. "These were given as presents, and the pattern was never repeated. The moulds were broken. The penalty for breaking the Imperial regulations was hanging." Miss D'Usez asked for an injunction against Traffics and Discoveries, Ld., from removing furniture from her house. She had, she said, given one of her vases as security in respect to a loan. Mr. Justice Greer said she had had the benefit of £1,000 provided by the company and had not paid it back, so the company had a right to enter.

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COMMERCE AND FINANCE

Money and Exchange

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, Apr. 25.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/2⅜=Tls. 6.25 at 71.55=$8.73

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G$100 at 70=Tls. 142.86 at 71.55=$199.66

Mex. Dollars, market rate	71.775
Native Interest	13
Copper Cash	267,000
Bar Silver	33
Bank rate of Discount	4%
Paris on London	Frs. 68.30
New York on London	G.4.37¾

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/2½
Demand	3/2⅝
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	69¾
Demand	70
PARIS—	
Demand	1103
INDIA—	
Demand	225½
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73¾
JAPAN—	
Demand	56½
BATAVIA—	
Demand	193
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	73¼

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/2⅞
4 m/s. Credits	3/4½
4 m/s. Docs.	3/4¾
6 m/s. Credits	3/4⅝
6 m/s. Docs.	3/5¼
NEW YORK—	
Demand	70¾
4 m/s. Credits	73¼
4 m/s. Docs.	73¾
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1170
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/2⅜
New York T.T.	69¾

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR APRIL

Hk. Tls. 5.49 at 3/3½	£1
" 1 at 1631½	Frs. 18.17
" 1.28 at 69⅞	Gold $1
" 1 at 62⅜	Yen 1.79
" 1 at 233½	Rupees 2.60
" 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
" 1 at 16.35	It. Lire 18.21

Marks and Roubles no quotation

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates, Apr. 25.

It. Lire 15.55	Tl. 1
Swiss Frs. 3.93	Tl. 1
It. Lire 8.65	Y. 1

Sino-Scandinavian Bank Quotations

Nominal Selling Rates, Apr. 25.

Tl. 1: Norw. Kr.	4.92
Tl. 1: Swed. Kr.	2.58
Tl. 1: Dan. Kr.	4.07

Week's Exchange Notes

Apr. 26.

At the close of business on the 24th instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 34,857,000 and $44,570,000.

These figures include Tls. 7,820,000 and $27,190,000 in Chinese banks in which there were 2,751 bars.

BAR SILVER.

Arrivals were:—
1,568 bars from America
449 " " London
2,017 bars

Shipments were:—
1247 bars to Bombay

SYCEE.

Arrivals were:—
Tls. 750,000 small coins melted

Shipments were:—
Tls. 220,000 to Foochow
200,000 " Anhui
Tls. 420,000

DOLLARS.

Arrivals were:—
Nil.

Shipments were:—
$200,000 to Hankow
100,000 " Chungking
100,000 " Kiangsi
$400,000

SILVER.

The price yesterday came 33d. ready and forward, as against 33½d. ready and forward last week. The London market has been reported quiet and steady with China selling and the Continent buying.

Stocks of sycee and dollars are estimated at Tls. 348½ lakhs and $445½ lakhs against Tls. 309½ lakhs and $447½ lakhs a fortnight ago. The stocks on April 24, 1923, were Bars 3, Tls. 230 lakhs and $400 lakhs.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange remains unchanged at T.T. 3/2½d. The market during the period under review has generally been quiet and steady with not a large volume of business passing in sterling or gold dollars. The speculators have, however, been busy, concentrating their energies on the yen market, in which large transactions have taken place daily. Their position on Thursday night was estimated to be oversold about nine million yen and about square in sterling and gold dollars.

The market opened yesterday morning quiet and steady with sellers of T.T. 3/2½d. to December, Gold $ T.T. 70⅜ to June, 70¼ July/December, but very soon eased off slightly, and at the moment of writing the best sellers are quoting T.T. 3/2⅞d. to December and Gold $ T.T. 69⅞ to May and 70 June/December.

LONDON BULLION

Samuel Montagu & Co.'s Reports

Reporting on the London bullion market on March 12 Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on the 5th instant amounted to £126,274,745, as compared with £126,272,360 on the previous Wednesday.

A moderate amount of gold came on offer of which India took a fair proportion.

Gold valued at $13,371,000 has arrived in New York from London, and 10,000,000 gold marks from Germany.

The Transvaal gold output for February 1924 amounted to 760,617 fine ounces, as compared with 796,768 fine ounces for January 1924 and 704,970 fine ounces for February 1923.

Commenting on the Canadian gold outlook for 1924, Mr. W. B. Timms, of the Dominion Department of Mines at Ottawa, in a recent article states that the activity in gold mining and the exploration and development carried on during the past three years, has brought many mines to the stage of production. Northern Ontario is now producing at the rate of $2,100,000 a month. With an ample supply of power, and with new producers, the Ontario production should be approximately $30,000,000 for the year 1924. Developments in the Stewart district, the opening up of the Rossland mines, increased activity in placer mining, and with improvement in the copper situation, a greater production should be recorded from British Columbia.

SILVER.

The tendency of the market has kept fairly good. There has been some China selling, but not of a persistent character, and supplies from other quarters have been intermittent, though America has been disposed to close with favourable offers. The buying has been composed of bear covering in the Indian Bazaars.

According to the General Bulletin of the American Mining Congress, the U.S. Commission on Gold and Silver says that the effect of the decline in the price of silver due to the expiration of the Pittman Act cannot be determined until the industry has adjusted itself to these conditions for another year, and adds that "a great wastage, which will probably continue under present unfavourable conditions, has taken place in silver ore reserves, mine equipment, and capital invested in the industry." The Commission further states that many of the problems confronting the silver industry are not subject to legislation and suggests co-operation of producers to meet the situation, although the solution of some problems may require amendment to present laws or new legislation. The Commission refers to proposed investigations by the Bureau of Mines as to developing new uses for silver, and suggests a voluntary contribution by producers and fabricators of silver of $10,000 to conduct the work until July 1. Congress has been asked to appropriate $15,000 for these investigations for the year beginning July 1 and the Commission suggests that a like amount be contributed by silver producers and fabricators.

GOLD MOVEMENTS.

Messrs. Montagu's report of of March 19 is as follows:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on the 12th instant amounted to £126,274,905, as compared with £126,274,745 on the previous Wednesday.

A substantial amount of gold came on offer this week, and inquiry on India and Continental account absorbed a moderate proportion.

Gold valued at $6,500,000 has has arrived in New York from France.

The United Kingdom imports and exports of gold during the month of February 1924 were as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
Netherlands	7,900	257,637
Belgium	—	33,500
Switzerland	—	55,884
Egypt	8,325	300,000
West Africa	97,883	5,770
United States of America	314	5,399,267
Central America and West Indies	115	—
Rhodesia	210,195	—
Transvaal	2,964,782	—
British India		1,048,277
Straits Settlements	—	35,80
Australia	1,062	—
Other countries	2,672	22,756
Total	£3,293,246	£7,156,899

Mocatta & Goldsmid's Report

Writing on March 20 Messrs. Mocatta and Goldsmid state:—

The price of silver has only varied between 33 7/16d. and 33½d. since the 13th instant and the market has been exceedingly quiet. China has remained very inactive and India has only made very moderate purchases; on the other hand there have been very few offerings from New York, the price there being slightly above the London quotation on most days.

With such general inactivity it is difficult to gauge the tendency of the market but the amount of silver likely to be offered shows signs of decreasing and without much buying we think the present level of prices is likely to be maintained.

Gold.—India has again bought a moderate amount of this week's arrival, the remainder being taken for New York. The price has varied between 96s. and 96s. 4d. per ounce fine.

The Queensland Loan Over-Subscribed

London, Apr. 24.

The Queensland loan for the conversion of the 3½ per cent. loan of £4,765,000 and also of the 4 per cent. loan of £7,939,000 has been applied for fivefold. Conversion applications were between £6,000,000 and £7,000,000 and cash applications amounted to £60,000,000. Mr. Theodore, the Premier of Queensland, is much gratified.—Reuter.

Japan's Trade With China

Tokio, Apr. 8.

Japan's trade with China during the month of March resulted in exports totalling Y.30,887,000, while imports amounted to Y.12,009,000.

Compared with the returns for March, 1922, exports increased by Y.2,867,000, while imports decreased by Y.2,150,000.

Since the beginning of the year exports have aggregated Y.68,941,000, and imports Y.49,924,000.

Classified according to locality, the returns read as follows:—

Exports.

Localities.	March.	Jan./March.
Manchuria	Y.3,782,000	Y.8,306,000
North China	11,633,000	33,443,000
Central	15,434.000	37,076,000
South	38,000	116,000
Total	Y.30,887,000	Y.68,941,000

Imports.

Localities.	March.	Jan./March.
Manchuria	Y.285.000	Y.820,000
North China	5,946.000	20,271,000
Central	5,165.000	26,700.000
South	615.000	2,151,000
Total	Y.12,009 000	Y.49,924,000

—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

Stagnant Condition of Affairs in Every Direction: Nothing of Interest to Report

Apr. 26.

The Shanghai markets this week do not make a cheerful picture. There is little change to report in piece goods, while as far as woollens are concerned the position has been very much overdone. Local yarn spinners are not booking further orders, and all branches of the export trade are dull.

PIECE GOODS.

Interest in piece goods centres mainly in the northern demand for low and medium Whites, in regard to which sales are proceeding at steady prices. Spring Fancies are going into consumption at a slow rate, but even so, the carry over in this department of the trade seems likely to be less than was at one time anticipated in many quarters.

The future continues difficult to envisage. On the one hand Manchester is reported to be maintaining prices at a level beyond the capacity of the China market, while in other quarters there is a feeling that it is more ready to bargain than hitherto. If so, the prospects of new business may be conidered better than for several weeks past. There is, however, a distinct amount of nervousness on the part of Chinese dealers with reference to tael prices, and they do not seem to be at all certain that they can be maintained. In such circumstances speculative purchases and forward transactions are being regarded with some anxiety.

In woollen piece goods the situation locally is described as dead. There has been a great deal of over-trading, and the result is said to mean that little business of importance can be looked for during the next few months. In addition to the two important bankruptcies involving several lakhs since China New Year, about a dozen smaller Chinese merchants are reported to have gone into liquidation, with naturally a very unfavourable result on the trade situation.

COTTON AND YARN.

China Cotton—The same hand to mouth buying on the part of the mills which has been a feature in recent weeks continues. Prices remain steady owing to low supplies and firm holders. On the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange the market for futures is reported as uncertain owing to a smaller demand in the interior for yarn. Exchange quotations for China cotton are as follows:—Thursday—April 46.55; May 46.35; June 46.05; July 45.45; August 44.35; September 41.25. Yesterday morning's closing—April 46.55; May 46.45; June 46.05; July 45.50; August 44.35; September 41.20. Spot quotations are as follows:—Tungchow 49; Shanghai 46; Shensi 47; Hankow 45.50; Hokushr 45.50; Nanzu 45; Kashing 45.50.

Yarn—While a fair amount of yarn is reported to have changed hands between dealers, the mills are not receiving any fresh orders worth noting. The future market on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange is reported as heavy owing to poor interior demand. Thursday's quotations on the Exchange were as follows:—April 181; May 177.80; June 175.30; July 173.90; August 171.60; September 170.30. Yesterday morning's closing:—April 181.20; May 177.70; June 175; July 173.60; August 171.40; September 169.70.

SILK.

The silk market is very dull, and prices in general are very weak. A small business has been done for Lyons but New York is still holding off.

PRODUCE.

There is no change to report in the condition of the produce market, and nothing of interest is occurring.

UNITED STATES NEW COTTON ACT

Amendment of Act of July 22, 1912, Regarding Publication of Statistics

We have received through Reuter's Agency the full text of the new United States Cotton Act, signed on April 2. Among the principal sections are the following:—

That the statistics of the quantity of cotton ginned shall show the quantity ginned from each crop prior to August 1, August 16, September 1, September 16, October 1, October 18, November 1, November 14, December 13, January 16 and March 1: Provided, that the Director of the Census may limit the canvasses of August 1 and August 16, to those sections of the cotton growing States in which cotton has been ginned. The quantity of cotton consumed in manufacturing establishments, the quantity of baled cotton on hand, the number of active consuming cotton spindles, the number of active spindle hours, and the statistics of cotton imported and exported shall relate to each calendar month, and shall be published as soon as possible after the close of the month. Each report published by the Bureau of the Census of the quantity ginned shall carry with it the latest available statistics concerning the quantity of cotton consumed, stocks of baled cotton on hand, the number of cotton-consuming spindles, and the quantity of cotton imported and exported.

That it shall be the duty of every owner, president treasurer, secretary, director, or other officer or agent of any cotton ginnery, manufacturing establishment, warehouse, or other place where cotton is ginned, manufactured, or stored, whether conducted as a corporation, firm, limited partnership, or by individuals, when requested by the Director of the Census or by any special agent or other employee of the Bureau of the Census acting under the instructions of said director, to furnish completely and correctly, to the best of his knowledge, all of the information concerning the quantity of cotton ginned, consumed, or on hand, and the number of cotton-consuming spindles, and active spindle hours.

Any one who shall refuse or wilfully neglect to furnish any of the information herein provided for or shall wilfully give answers that are false shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than $300 or more than $1,000 or imprisoned for a period of not exceeding one year, or both so fined and imprisoned, at the discretion of the court.

That in addition to the information regarding cotton in the United States hereinbefore provided for, the Director of the Census shall compile, by correspondence or the use of published reports and documents, any available information concerning the production, consumption, and stocks of cotton in foreign countries, and the number of cotton-consuming spindles in such countries.

Shanghai Tramways

The following is the traffic return of the Shanghai Tramways (Foreign Settlement) for the week ended April 23, 1924, with figures for the corresponding week last year:—

	1924.	1923.
Gross receipts	$89,273.36	$71,993.44
Loss by currency depreciation	41,318.29	30,227.07
Effective receipts	$47,955.07	$41,766.37
Percentage of loss by currency depreciation	47.60	43.84
Car miles run	119,059	113,174
Passengers carried	2,503,501	2,511,593

Coal Output

The total output of the Kailuan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending April 12 amounted to 92,050 tons and the sales during the same period to 110,725 tons.

COMPANIES NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—The 32nd Ordinary General Meeting will be held at No 14 Nanking Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, May 1, 1924, at 11 a.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 24 to May 1, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Tebong Rubber Estate, Ltd.—The 4th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, May 1, 1924, at 11.45 a.m.

A dividend of 5 candareens per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 24 to May 1, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Senawang Rubber Estates Co., (1921), Ltd.—The 4th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, April 29, 1924, at 11.45 a.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from April 23 to 29, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., Ltd.—An Interim Dividend of two shillings per share free of Income Tax for the year ending June 30, 1924, will be paid on or after May 1, 1924, Bearer shares Coupon No 24.

Share Report for Week Ending April 25, 1924.

No. 24/16

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Codes in use A1 Code
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12 The Bund.
Post Office Box No. 744, Shanghai.

The local share market has continued very dull during the past week and the business recorded is too small to call for any special comments.

London market quotations have been few and the following are the latest cabled to us this week:—

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Gold Loan 1913, B.I.	£ 70. 10. 0 (Middle Price)
" " " B.I.L.	69. 0. 0 " ex B.I.R.S.
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"	8. 13. 4 "
" " 6% Debentures	99 10. 0 (Buyers)
Shell Transport & Trading Co., "B"	4. 1d. 0 (Middle Price)
Shanghai Electric Cons. Co., "B"	2. 10. 0 (Sellers)

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/2¼.

Shanghai, April 25, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

APRIL	19th		21st		22nd		23rd		24th		25th	
	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June
RUBBERS												
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
Chinese Eng. & Mng. Co., "B" Tls.												
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld. .. ,,												
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co. (Ord.) ,,												
COTTONS												
DEBENTURES												
S. M. C. 1921, 8% Debs. .. Tls.			110	..								
,, 1922, 7% ,, ... ,,												
,, 1918, 6% ,, ... ,,												
S'hai W'works 8% 1921 Debs. ,,												

BANK HOLIDAY — BANK HOLIDAY — NO BUSINESS REPORTED

FORWARD SETTLEMENTS FOR 1924.

April 29, Tuesday. May 27, Tuesday. June 24, Tuesday.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, APRIL 25, 1924.

STOCK		Last business done.	Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc.	Finan. year ended	Last Dividend etc.	Price or Day
BANKS.										
London	£	132½								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Cor.	$	1160	1170		61) 400,000	H $125	(a H $3,379,314	Dec.	Final £3 & Bonus £2 (mkg. £3 1922) less I/T	25-2-24
							(c H $64,494,394			
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. ..London	£	19⅝			600,000	£25	(a £222,201	Dec.	Final 7s. & Bonus 6s. 3d. (mkg. $1 0s. 3d.)	
		19/6					(c £3,800,000		free of I/T, 1923	9-4-24
INSURANCE.										
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	H $	240			55) 200,000	$	$4 (au $2437,386			
							(b £69,500	Dec.	Final 16s. (mkg. 40s.) ex 1921 Work. a/c., Interim 24s. & Bonus to Contributors, 20%	26-5-23
North-China Insurance Co., Ld.	T	138			10,000	£	£25 (c £3,574,054		ex 1922 Work a/c.	
							(au T610,6-7	Dec.	Final 15s. (mkg. 30s.) ex 1921 Work a/c. and	
							(c T1,7-2,885		Interim 15s. ex 1922 Works, a/c.	30-6-24
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld. ..	$	27	28½		21) 250,000	$10	(au $1,921,396			
							(au $2,408,629	Dec.	$2 (or T1.40) ex 1922 Work. a/c. payable in	
							(c $4,063,242		Taels at Exchg. 73	30-5-24
							(av T518,146			
Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld.	T	22			1) 50,000	T20	(au T204,083	Dec.	T1.20 ex 1922 Work. a/c.	30-5-24
							(c T9,361			
Canton Insurance Office, Ld.	H $	730	720		10,000	/ H $100	(av H $2,172,4-5	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $40) ex 1921 Work. a/c.,	
							(c H $6,349,842		and Interim H $18 ex 1922 Work. a/c. ..	11-5-24
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld. ..	H $	550	530		8,000	g H $50	(au H $437,128	Dec.	H $35 ex 1922 Working a/c.	28-3-24
							(c H $1,697,241			
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	H $	145			20,000	h H $20	(av H $1,328,926	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $3 ex 1921 Work. a/c.	25-5-23
							(c H $5,523,650			
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	F	500			14,000	F500	(a F101,-48	Dec.	None, Floated 1918	....
							(c F3,761,350			
SHIPPING.										
Indo-China S.N. Co., Ld... (8% cum. pref.	H $	38	38½		2) 120,000	£5	(a £2,167			
(def ord. ..	H $	140			2) 120,000	£5		Dec.	Prof. 6s. at Exchg.—$2.4 London Warrants	
							(c £2,103,152		less I/T a/c., 1922. Def. Ord. Nil	15-6-24
Shell Transport & Trading (ord.	'B'		£4:12:6	£4½	56) 30,000,000	£1				
Co., Ld. .. (5% cum. pref.	£				21) 500,000	£10	(a* £2,029,956	Dec.	Interim 2s., free of I/T, Coupon 42	5-1-24
(7% cum. 2nd pref.	£				67) 10,000,000	£1	(c £5,000,000			
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co., Ld. (ord.	T	87½	87		20,000	T25	(a T23,575	Dec.	Final Ord. T4.50 (mkg. T7, 1923)	11-3-24
(7% pref.	T	51½	52½		10,000	T50	(c T410,000		Final Pref. T1.75 (mkg. T2.50, 1923)	11-3-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.										
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld...	T	95		95	47) 55,700	T75	(a T102,535	Apr.	T7.50, 1922-23	27-7-23
							(c T1,948,000			
Hongkong & W'pao Dock Co., Ld... ..	H $	143½			‡ 60,000	H $50	(a H $319,790	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkg. H $9, 1923)	20-3-24
							(c H $4,681,695			
New Eng. and Shipbuilding (ord.	T	5½	5		42) 500,000	T5	(a T69,500		Ord. T0.25, 1923	10-2-24
Works, Ld. .. .. .. (8% pref.	T	4.95	5		65) 500,000	T5	(b T300,000	Dec.	Pref. T0.40 1923..	10-2-24
							(c T1,311,045			
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co., Ld... ..	T	192½	190		‡31) 40,000	T100	(a T3,430			
							(b T200,000			
							(c T1,915,261	Dec.	Final T10 (mkg. T13, 1923)	4-3-24
H'kong & K'loon W. & G. Co., Ld. ..	H $	168	165		80,000	H $50	(a H $290,519			
							(b H $300,000	Dec.	H. $6 & Bonus H. $3, 1923	26-2-24
							(c H $59,240			
MINING.										
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ld. ..	£	12/-			24) 500,000	G $10	——	June	(1920-21	28-7-23
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ld. (Bearer).	T	21½			†364) 2,000,000	£1	(a £10,537	June	Final 8½% (Coupon No. 28) free of I/T,	
London	£		£3:11:10½	£3:14:9			(c £252,000		1922-1923	11-12-23
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ld. ..	H $	5			200,000	£1	(a £23,613	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	21-5-10
							(c £4,873			
LANDS AND HOTELS.										
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld. ..	T	118	119		‡) 78,000	T50	(a T34,410			
							(b T275,000	Dec.	Final T3 & Bonus T2 (mkg. T3, 1923)	21-3-24
							(c H $2,269,311			
H'kong Land Invest. & Agcy. Co., Ld. ..	H $	111	110		240,000	H $25	(a H $157,886	Dec.	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares	
(New Reg.)							(b H $250,000		(mkg. H $5, 1923) H $2.50 on 40,000 new shs.	28-1-24
							(c H $6,000,000			
							H $155,299			
Humphreys Est. & Finance Co., Ld. ..	H $	24		23½	130,000	H $10	(b H $50,000	Dec	H $0.80 and Bonus H $0.30, 1923	11-2-24
							(c H $421,488			
Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld.	T	6			3,674	T20	(a T2,940	Dec.	T1.20, 1923	13-2-24
							(c T7,000			
							(a T9,209			
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld. ..	T	115½	119		‡33) 18,000	T100	(b T20,000	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg. T8, 1923-24)	3-4-24
		19 old					(c T375,000			
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld. ..	H $	12½ new			33) 500,000	H $10	(a H $85,238	Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000	
							(c H $5,203,767		shares (mkg. H $2 (old)	22-3-24
Carlton, Ld.	T	63			14) 10,000	T60		Mar.	Floated April 1, 1922	
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	G $	100			‡18) 10,000	G $100		Dec.	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware	
									1922, 7%	4-1-23
Bavon Trust Co., Inc. .. .. (ord.	G $	19	12½		**100,000	G $10				
(pref.	G $	10	10			G $10	(		Ord. Pref. 1st gr. 1923, 1½%	4-1-23
PLANTATIONS.										
Alma Estates, Ld.	T	5½		6	70,000	£1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23	19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.25			‡82) 500,000	T1		Oct.	....	....
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld. ..	T	2	1½		12) 400,000	10s.	a T30,242	Dec.	T0.20, 1923	....
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T	5.55	5.10		4) 500,000	10s.	(a T12,442			
							(c T372,167	Dec.	Final T0.30 (mkg. T0.55, 1923	15-4-24
							a T16,223			
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld.	T	21		22	27) 30,000	T10	(b T22,000	Sept.	Final T2.00, (mkg. T2½, 1922-23	28-12-23
							(c T69,900			
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld. ..	T	0.75			400,000	£ T1	a T22,777	Dec.	T0.05, 1923	11-4-24
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T	1.12½	0.85		500,000	T1	a T20,402	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	25-7-17
Bute Plantation (1913), Ld.	T	0.75		28)	500,000	T1	a T3,505	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	29-3-17
Chemor United Rubber Co., Ld.	T	0.85	0.80		400,000	T0.90	(a T17,973	Dec.		
							(c T12,000		Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)	3-4-24
Chempodak Rub. & G'tier Est., Ld. ..	T	4½			39) 35,000	£1	a (Loss) T13,433	Oct.	2nd Interim, T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17)	16-10-17
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	1			675,000	T1	a T4,120	June	T0.20, 1916-17	1-11-17
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ld..	T	2.12½	1.85	2.10	25) 500,000	2s.—T0.75	(a T16,988	Dec.		
							(c T60,000		Final T0.15 (mkg. T0.21, 1923)..	9-4-24
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T	1½	1.35		19) 350,000	T1	a T2,775	Dec.	T0.10, 1923	16-4-24
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T	7½	8½		†48) 750,000	(21,450,000	(a			
						(5s; 200,000	(c		2s. less I/T 4s. 7½d in $ (Coupon 21) .. — ..	15-4-24
Java-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee										
Est. Ld.	T	10½			8) 85,000	£1 at 2/3⅛	(a T17,915			
Kali Glidik Coffee Estates, Ld.	T	0.15	6		70,000	T5	(c T2,085	Dec.	Final T0.75 (mkg. T1.25, 1923)..	18-4-24
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld. ..	T	9.40		35)	15,000	T10	(a T6,977	....	Incorporated 1923	....
							(c T4,023	Dec.	(T0.50, 1922	19-4-23
Karan Rubber Estate Co., Ld.	T	1			25,000	T10	(a T3,028		Interim 1923, T0.50	17-7-23
							(b T30,000	Mar.	T0.60, 1922-23	1-8-23
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Ld.	T	0.75	0.60		300,000	T1	(c (Loss) T28,268	June	....	....
Koewook Java Plantations, Ld.	T	12	11		80) 70,000	£1 at T8.50	(a T12,948			
Padang Rubber Co., Ltd.	T	5½			50,000	T10	(c T12,948	June	(T0.60, 1922	1-8-23

The following telegraphic advices have been received :—

Singapore, April 24, 1924.

Spot or April	... ...	42⅛ cents
May/June	... ...	43¼ ,,
July/Sept.	... ...	44¾ ,,
July/Dec.	... ...	45½ ,,

Market steady.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
S'hai Municipal Council	1905	6 to 20	5-4-24	T97	*d* 320,000	6	June-Dec.
	1907	do.	15-4-24	T99	500,000	6	do.
	1908	do.	11-3-24	T99	650,000	6	do.
	1909	do.	15-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
	1910	do.	17-4-24	T99	313,300	6	do.
	1911	10 to 30	15-4-24	T99	350,000	6	do.
	1912	do.	3-1-24	T99	340,000	6	do.
	1913	do.	3-5-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
	...	10 to 50	8-5-22	T78	500,000	5½	do.
	1914	10 to 30	14-4-24	T90	900,000	5½	do.
	1915	do.	11-3-24	T91	800,000	5½	do.
	1916	do.	24-4-24	T93½	1,400,000	6	do.
	1918	10	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
	1919	10	4-12-23	T104	1,783,300	7	do.
	1920	10	8-4-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
	...	10 to 30	29-3-24	£104	£755,000	6	do.
	1921	do.	18-2-24	$110	$1,000,000	8	do.
	1921	do.	22-4-24	T110	T3,095,400	8	do.
	1922	do.	24-4-24	T105	T3,000,000	8	do.
	1923	do.	17-4-24	T99	*a*16,000,000	6	do.
French Municipal Council	1911	do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914	do.	12-2-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
	1915	do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
	1921	do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8	do.
	1923	do.	17-12-23	T95	*a* T800,000	6	May-Nov.
S'hai Water-works Co.,Ltd: S'hai Gas Co., Ltd.	1921	10 to 30	25-4-24	T108	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
	1922	do.	6-6-22	T108	T500,000	8	do.
	1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
	1909	do.	2-4-23	T94	*e* 800,000	6	do.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
	1905	5 to 20	31-3-22	T96½	T250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1909	do.	1-4-24	T98	750,000	6	do.
	1911	do.	26-9-22	T92	250,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
	,,	do.	28-3-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
	,,	do.			250,000	6	Jan.-July
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld.	1912	do.	2-4-24	T94	250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1913	do.	3-4-23	T93	250,000	6	April-Oct.
	,,	do.	11-1-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914	do.	22-3-23	T93	250,000	6	April-Oct.
	1916	do.	7-3-23	T93	350,000	6	June-Dec.
	1916	5 to 25	3-4-23	T93	*f* 262,400	5½	do.
	1922	do.	12-2-22	T98	750,000	6	Mar.-Sept
	1922	do.	10-1-24	T98	500,000	6	May-Nov.
Shanghai Club	1907	20	1-2-24	T93	450,000	6	do.
Country Club	1901	Perpetual			139,000	6	June-Dec.
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	1914	5 to 20			130,000	6	May-Nov.
	1915	do.			110,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld.	1908	do.			250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1911	do.	7-6-23	T98	300,000	6	do.
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld.	1923	10 to 20	27-2-23	T95½	*h* 270,000	6	do.
S'hai Race Club	1923	25	14-4-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
Cultv Dairy Co., Ltd.	1915	10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
Hall & Holtz Ld.	1914	5 to 20	14-10-22	$92	230,000	7	Jan.-July
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	1922	5 to 20	..	..	T500,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—*b*—Tls.65,100; *c*—Tls.51,100; *d*—Tls.34,100; *e*—Tls.68,500; *f*—Tls.262,400; *g*—Tls.139,800; *h*—Tls.12,300; *i*—$18.90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. years: Year before	Output last 2 fin. years: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1923: Jan.	1923: Feb.	1923: Mar.	Total output this fin.yr. to date
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Alma	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	245,648	8.87d.	68,000	22,000	18,000	17,000	125,000
Amberst (New)	,, 500,000	Oct.	72,442	80,692	80,751	*8.83d.	19,020	8,214	8,475	14,662	56,371
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	650,000	540,000	600,000	8.45d.	..	64,000	50,000	65,000	179,000
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,524,711	1,663,450	..	6.70d.	..	184,000	164,100	187,000	535,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 300,000	Sept.	369,447	58,042	360,000	†0.24.41	..	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam	,, 400,000	Dec.	258,510	217,822	185,793	9.01d.	..	12,566	11,500	15,000	39,066
Bukit Toh Alang ..	,, 500,000	Mar.	309,254	305,645	345,000	7.54d.	222,682	25,500	No.	..	248,182
Bute	,, 500,000	Dec.	230,067	177,850	159,516	11.11d.	..	17,500	16,000	13,600	47,700
Chemor United	,, 360,000	Dec.	310,794	297,027	..	8.40d.	..	27,200	23,300	9,500	60,000
Chempedak	,, £35,000	Oct.	145,760	163,063	..	1/5.42d.	30,700	14,000	4,400	1,000	50,100
Cheng	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.09d.	102,014	10,500	9,700	11,800	134,014
Consolidated (1914) ..	,, 375,000	Dec.	869,899	615,778	761,500	7.47d.	..	53,000	50,775	44,437	149,216
Dominion	,, 350,000	Dec.	271,156	321,546	306,867	9.03d.	..	28,032	27,654	15,999	71,685
Gula-Kalumpong ..	,, £500,000	Dec.	1,113,000	923,000	1,215,000	1/0$\frac{7}{8}$d.	..	88,000	78,000	66,000	232,000
Java Consolidated ..	£85,000	Dec.	686,324	622,325	..	6.25d.	..	68,300	60,000	72,300	201,500
Kanayang	,, 150,000	Dec.	180,239	146,710	..	†26.90	..	16,592	8,213	7,675	32,543
Karan	,, 250,000	Mar.	114,879	104,783	84,000	8¼d.	60,067	8,146	6,448	4,915	79,576
Kota Bahroe (1921) ..	,, 470,000	Dec.	138,339	339,970	..	..	160,913	29,156	26,949	19,180	236,103
Kroewoek	,, 3,400,000	June	449,000	683,881	540,000	0/7.24d.	..	59,000	55,000	59,000	173,000
Langkat	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	842,589	943,000	975,000	Gls.0.28	179,300	52,500	71,500	70,000	413,300
Padang	Tls. 500,000	April	209,711	220,242	..	10½d.	120,500	19,700	11,100	8,600	159,900
Pongkalan (1921) ..	,, 150,000	Mar.	172,022	135,253	176,088	†10.19.	..	..	2,780	6,485	9,265
Permata	,, 250,000	Oct.	98,303	86,299	..	0/8¼d.	17,585	8,080	6,925	3,867	37,535
Repah	,, 275,000	Dec.	68,284	217,087	..	..	..	17,100	8,700	15,900	42,000
Samagaga	600,000	Sept.	361,816	250,813	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
See Kee (1918)	,, 100,000	June	178,665	142,005	115,183	11.37d.	120,509	8,500	11,000	10,500	150,509
Seman	,, 300,000	Dec.	161,115	245,596	158,264	0/9.37d.	..	13,100	13,100	7,600	34,400
Senyawang (1921) ..	,, 375,000	Jan.	272,500	275,100	..	†17.35d.	..	..	14,500	16,400	30,900
Shanghai Kedah	,, 400,000	Sept.	314,414	246,542	..	8.13d.	67,625	21,100	17,250	17,024	126,404
S'hai-Klebang	,, 315,000	Dec.	126,106	100,031	..	11.35d.	..	8,700	8,000	..	16,700
S'hai-Malay	,, 600,000	Dec.	373,111	285,816	408,961	..	..	22,782	21,471	16,254	60,510
S'hai Pahang	,, 200,000	June	209,884	185,016	..	9¼d.	106,973	16,432	14,475	14,866	146,726
S'hai Seremban	,, 325,000	Dec.	171,213	147,112	..	9.82d.	..	11,400	13,700	7,100	55,100
S'hai-Sumatra	,, 600,000	Oct.	661,749	679,710	650,000	Gls.0.38	111,341	61,110	51,170	43,537	267,158
Sua-Manggis	,, 250,000	Dec.	181,000	167,100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungala	,, 100,000	Mar.	20,279	165,757	..	†7.20	14,010	5,892	..	..	22,902
Sungei Duri	£40,000	June	368,073	296,568	229,000	11.61d.	126,409	23,695	22,272	10,013	182,447
Taiping (1913)	Tls. 200,000	Dec.	107,011	103,859	99,000	*†30	..	5,184	6,572	..	14,756
Tanah Merah	,, 750,000	Mar.	415,000	325,000	..	7.92d.	234,900	21,300	22,200	24,700	303,700
Tebong	,, 750,000	Jan.	630,585	723,000	717,725	0/7.66d.	..	..	64,000	66,000	130,000
Ziangbe	* £150,000	Dec.	514,566	523,600	600,000	7.24d.	..	67,500	58,200	52,000	182,700

Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expense † Straits $ cents.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. years: Year before	Output last 2 fin. years: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1923: Jan.	1923: Feb.	1923: Mar.	Total output this fin.yr. to date
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Semambu Rubber Estate, Ld.	T 0.85	0.75									
Senawang Rubber Estate (ord. £5, (1921), Ld. (12½% Cum. Pref	T 0.82½										
Shanghai Kedah Plantations, Ltd. ..	T 0.75										
S'hai Klebang Rubber Estate, Ltd. .. ord	T 0.50										
S'hai Malay Rubber Estates, Ltd. .. ord	T 3										
,, 8% (1,000 ,,) pref.	T 3										
S'hai Pahang Rubber Estates, Ltd. ..	T 0.75										
S'hai Seremban Rubber Estates, Ltd. ..	T 0.40										
S'hai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ld.	T 105	99	105								
Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ld.	T 2.65										
Sungala Rubber Estate, Ld.	T 0.80	0.85	1.05								
Sungei Duri Rubber Estate, Ld.	T 7½	6									
Taiping Rubber Estates (1913) Ld. ..	T 0.50	0.42½									
Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ld.	T 0.50	0.42½									
Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld.	T 1.05	0.85									
Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ld.	T 2½	2½									

COTTONS, ETC.

Ewo Cotton Mills, Ld.	ord.	T	11½	11½			15)	1,000,000		T5		
,,	(8% cum. pref.	T	105	106			43)	10 000		T100		
Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ld: ..		T	8	7½				80,000		T10		
Oriental C. S. & W. Co., Ld.	ord.	T	5	4½	4.80		60)	500,000		T3		
	pref.	T					3)	5,000		T100		
Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ld. (Shanghai Boshoku K.K.)		T	51 old 36new					80,000		T50		
								40,000		T50		

INDUSTRIAL.

British-American Tobacco Co., Ld.	ord.	£		25 3/16	£5 5/16		66)	13,000,000		£1		
	(5% cum. pref.							4,500,000		£1		
China Im. & Ex. Lumber Co., Ld.		T	350					5,000		T100		
China Sugar Refining Co., Ld.		H $	248		216			20,000		H$100		
Gordon & Co., Ltd.		T	25				37)	6,000		T25		
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.		H $	34		24½ old 6½ new			400,000		H$7.50		
Meatschappij, &c., In Langkat		T	8½	(comb. T24)	(comb. T25)	(comb. T)		200,000		Gs.10		
Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ld. ..		T	6½	6.35				250,000		T5		
S'hai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.		T	10½					250,000		T5		
Major Brothers, Ld.		T	5				10)	6,000		T20		
John Richards & Co., Ld.		T	10				11)	25,000		T10		
Shanghai Gas Co., Ld.		T	41				‡)	24,000		T50		
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.		T	150	148			‡9)	50,000		$20		

STORES.

Hall & Holtz, Ld.		$	3				‡16)	23,000		$20		
F. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.		$	30					1,200		$80		
S. Moutrie & Co., Ld.		$	50				17)	10,000		$50		
Weeks & Co., Ld.		$	11				‡50)	30,000		$20		
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.		$	102	106½			‡)	2,500		$100		

MISCELLANEOUS.

Cultv Dairy Co., Ld.		T	13		11½			10,000		T10		
S'hai Electric Construction Co., Ld., "B"		T	10½									
London		£1		£2:15.0				40,000		£1		
S'hai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ld. ..		T	50					5,400		T50		
Shanghai Mercury, Ld.		T	25					3 000		T50		
Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co. Ld. ..		T	78½	78			‡49.	40,000		T50		
Oriental Press (L'Imprimerie Francaise)		$	100					910		$100		

COMPANY MEETINGS

JAVA CONSOLIDATED ESTATES

Annual Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Java Consolidated Rubber & Coffee Estates, Ld. was held at No. 10 Canton Road on the 17th instant afternoon. Mr. A. J. Welsh, Chairman, presided, supported by Messrs. S. A. Hardoon, A. E. Algar and E. S. Kadoorie (Directors) and C. J. L. Stewart (Secretary). 17,626 shares were represented.

The Chairman, proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—

Gentlemen, The report and accounts have been in your hands [illegible] permission, I will follow the usual [illegible]

The report covers the ground so fully that there is very little left for me to say.

The output of rubber for the year was some 64,200 lb. less than for 1922 but, in spite of this large decrease, the cost of production was practically the same as last year, a fact which clearly demonstrates the efficiency of and the economy exercised by the two managers.

In common with most of the British owned estates in the Dutch Indies, this company voluntarily restricted its output during 1923 and your directors propose to continue to do so during the current year.

Having loyally done our part towards assisting the recovery in the price of the raw material, it now remains for the Dutch Government to evolve some scheme for controlling and curtailing the output of native rubber in the Dutch Indies, which is increasing by leaps and bounds and threatens eventually to nullify the good effects of the restriction exercised in British Colonies.

Both estates are reported to be in first class condition and capable of producing a very much larger output whenever the time comes that it is deemed expedient to do so.

Pests and diseases gave little or no trouble during the year and labour was sufficient at all times, although it was found necessary to increase wages slightly on Kali Padang Estate for a short period during the coffee plucking season on the large neighbouring estates.

Turning now to the accounts, and taking those of the Dutch [illegible] you will see that the working [illegible] shows a profit of Guilders 248,681.68 as compared with a profit of Guilders 68,396.13 last year.

After making certain deductions and transfers the balance of profit and loss account is Guilders 160,680.34 against a loss of Guilders 1,911.16 last year.

As regards the balance sheet, there was practically no capital expenditure during the year and most of the fixed assets have been [illegible] a reduction has been made to cover the estimated amount of [illegible] due up to [illegible]

The [illegible] Company are quite straight forward and call for no special explanation. If you pass the dividend [illegible] by your directors, the company will start the new year with liquid assets in excess of cash liabilities to the extent of approximately Tls. [illegible] so that it is well equipped to meet any emergency that may arise.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I am sure that you will join with me in tendering our hearty thanks to the two managers, their staffs, the visiting agent and the [illegible] whose united and strenuous efforts is due the very satisfactory position in which the estates find themselves today.

That is all I have to say, Gentlemen, but if any of you have any questions to ask I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability.

Mr. A. E. Algar seconded the adoption of the report and accounts and the motion was carried unanimously.

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. E. S. Kadoorie, the following resolution was declared:—

That a final dividend of [illegible] per share, making Taels 1.25 per share for the year, be paid.

On the proposition of Mr. J. A. Sudka, seconded by A. K. Craddock the appointment of Messrs. A. E. Algar and E. S. Kadoorie as directors was confirmed.

On the proposition of Mr. A. P. Nazer, seconded by Mr. A. K. Craddock, Mr. A. S. Hardoon was re-elected a director of the Company.

On the proposition of Mr. Craddock seconded by Mr. Nazer, Messrs. Lowe Bingham and Matthews were re-elected auditors to the Company.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SUA MANGGIS RUBBER COMPANY, LD.

Annual General Meeting: Finances Now in a Sound Position

The 14th annual general meeting of shareholders in the above-named company was held on the 17th instant at the offices of the secretaries and general managers, Messrs. Scott, Harding & Co., No. 35 Peking Road. Mr. Leslie J. Cubitt presided and there were also present Messrs. A. K. Craddock and J. H. Teesdale Directors, and Mr. D. M. Butt representing the secretaries. The attendance represented 16,420 shares.

The notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report having been read, the Chairman said:—

Gentlemen,—In presenting the report and accounts for 1923, which have been in your hands for some time, your Directors are glad to say the finances of the company are in a sound position which enables them to recommend the resumption of the payment of a dividend after several lean years.

When the Chairman of last year's meeting addressed you, the restriction programme had only been in operation for two months and the effect had hardly begun to make itself felt, whereas during 1923 the restriction scheme was in force the whole time. Our experience, in common with that of other companies, has been that the scheme has been of great benefit to the rubber growing industry and that its introduction came just in time to save numberless perfectly sound concerns from irretrievable disaster.

That the Dutch authorities have not yet seen their way to follow the British in this sound and far-sighted policy is much to be regretted and we can only hope that the saner section of the Dutch planters and owners of properties will shortly see that their present attitude is a "penny-wise and pound foolish" one, leading to excessive tapping with the inevitable result of lower yields in the future.

EXPORT RIGHTS.

There is very little to say on this occasion, as the report contains very full information on all points and the estate being fully planted, there is little beyond the daily routine to call for comment. You will have noticed that our revenue was augmented last year by the sale of export rights for the extent of [illegible] There will be no revenue from this source during the current year, as the sale of rights is no longer permitted and although an extra source would have been very welcome, I am of opinion that in the interests of the industry as a whole the Government's action in this direction is fully justified.

ESTIMATED OUTPUT.

The crop for the year 1923 was [illegible] and under the new assessment, assuming a 60 per cent. basis, our export allowance is [illegible] lb. Whether this amount will actually be harvested will depend upon circumstances, as there are some 70 or more acres of rubber which in spite of being tested for [illegible] are not yet in a condition to justify a resumption of tapping. On the other hand there is a similar area planted in 1917, which should be ready for the knife this year if required.

THE BALANCE SHEET.

Now, a few comments on the balance sheet. The sum of the Income and Development accounts is Tls. 253,065.61, which, with a planted area of 717 acres, gives a book value of Tls. 327, or say between £30 and £35 per acre. Already Tls. 58,322.24 has been written off development account, but personally I should like to see another Tls. 5,000 written off gradually as opportunity offers, which would reduce the book value to Tls. 300 per acre.

The other fixed assets have been written down to a very safe figure, [illegible] the manager's estimate of actual values, the buildings standing in the balance sheet at only 30 per cent. of cost and the machinery at 57 per cent.

The total liquid assets amount to Tls. 64,825.07, of which Tls. 4,400 represents investment in Straits 5½ per cent. Loan, and Tls. 43,070.41 is in cash, the remaining Tls. 17,354.64 consisting of sundry debtors and stocks of rubber and rice. On the other side we have sundry creditors and uncollected dividends to provide for amounting to Tls. 12,809.26. Thus the position is, after disposing of the Tls. 26,354.42 at credit of profit and loss, as recommended in the report, a sum of Tls. 25,661.39 (including the sum invested) remains against the general reserve of Tls. 25,000. It is stated in the balance sheet that, with the exception of the S.$5,000 Conversion Loan, this reserve is invested in the company's business and I would therefore explain that at the time of closing the accounts the stocks of rubber were not realized; they have since been sold for approximately the amount at which they stand in the balance sheet and your Directors will consider the investment of surplus funds up to the amount of the general reserve.

The net profit on the year's working represents only a fraction over 6 per cent. on the paid up capital, but with the carry forward from the previous years of nearly 5 per cent. your Directors have no hesitation in recommending a dividend of 7 per cent. At the moment the prospects for the current year are rather disappointing as regards prices, but demand remains healthy and I do not think there are grounds for serious anxiety regarding the future.

The estate manager, Mr. Adair, takes his furlough in a month's time, and during his absence Mr. G. T. Koch, who comes to us with very good recommendations, will be in charge of the estate. Our thanks are due to Messrs. Harrisons Barker & Co., Ld., for the efficient discharge of their duties as agents at Singapore & Kuala-Lumpur.

The following resolutions were passed:—

That the report and accounts for the year 1923, as presented, be and are hereby accepted and passed.—Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. J. H. Teesdale.

That a dividend of 35 tael cents per share, being 7 per cent. on the paid-up capital of the company, payable on April 17, 1924, be paid to shareholders on the register on that date. Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. J. H. Teesdale.

That the balance standing at credit of profit and loss account, viz. Tls. 7,454.42, after the payment of a dividend of 7 per cent., absorbing Tls. 18,900, be carried forward to the current year's account.—Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. J. H. Teesdale.

That Mr. J. H. Teesdale be and is hereby re-elected a Director of the company.—Proposed by Mr. A. K. Craddock, and seconded by Mr. L. E. Canning.

That Messrs. Mortimer Reid & Sleo be, and are hereby, re-elected auditors to the company for the current year at a remuneration of Tls. 150.

Dr. Wang Ching-wei, the well-known educator and Dr. Sun Yat-sen's representative here, arrived in Shanghai from Canton on Sunday night.

SEMAMBU RUBBER ESTATES, LD.

Possibility of Dutch Co-operation in Restriction

The eleventh annual general meeting of shareholders in the Semambu Rubber Estates, Ld., was held on Thursday at the offices of Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co., Ld., the general managers. Mr. G. Grayrigge (the Chairman) presided, supported by Messrs. C. R. Burkill, E. S. Kadoorie (directors), C. J. L. Stewart (representing the general managers) and other shareholders, there being a total of 72,750 shares represented.

The Chairman: The year under review saw the completion of the first 12 months period of enforced restriction and though the result has not been all we expected, it has, however, saved a good many companies from extinction, it has enabled us to make small profits, and has also permitted a certain amount of betterment being put into properties which, when the industry was on the border line of ruination, had to be deferred. In addition, the lighter tapping, the partial and complete resting, called for by the reduced crops, have facilitated the accumulation of bark reserves, points that do not show up in the balance sheet, but which, after all, are a rubber company's main asset. In the matter of price, whereas this company's sales averaged in 1922 8.77d., 1923 averaged 14.77d., a very substantial difference which would not have occurred without restriction.

Reviewing these benefits, it is a great pity that the Dutch East Indies do not join hands with us and make a sweeping success of restriction instead of laying themselves out to produce almost pound for pound the amount we restrict. It seems possible, however, some change of mind, *vide* a recent Reuter's telegram from Amsterdam, is taking place in Dutch circles, and I am sure we shall all hail the day when the Dutch decide that co-operation with the British in their effort to set the rubber-growing industry on a reasonably profitable basis is the right and proper course to pursue.

STANDARD PRODUCTION AND RESTRICTION.

Standard production for Semambu is set at 263,773 lb., of which last year we were allowed to produce nine months at 60 per cent. and three months at 65 per cent. For the present, pending re-assessment on the new scale, we are still working on last year's scale, but I am hoping the new scale may not affect us unfavourably.

The estate is reported on by the visiting agent as being in good condition and the administration economical. Labour shortage was experienced, but not acutely, and the last two batches of recruits, we are told were none too satisfactory. The health of the labour force also was not of the best, influenza being the chief complaint.

Turning to the Accounts, the net profit for the year was Tls. 17,284.01, which, added to the sum brought forward from 1922, left a disposable balance of Tls. 27,708.99. Out of this an interim dividend of Tls. 15,000 was paid on October 31 last, [illegible] in hand a balance of Tls. 12,708.99. The directors recommend this be disposed of by writing off live and rolling stock Tls. 59.20, which reduces all our fixed assets to the nominal figure of Tls. 1 each, and by carrying forward Tls. 12,649.79. This sum would suffice to pay a final dividend of [illegible] dareems per share, but the board is loth to declare less than 5 candareens. However, an interim dividend on this year's working will be declared as soon as the accounts show this to be feasible. This passing of the final dividend, I dare say, is as disappointing to you as it is to us. The fact is that when the interim was declared the accounts seemed fully to warrant the payment, but exchange ran against us and [illegible] the dividend by a short head. If you will turn up the profit and loss account you will see that we lost no less than Tls. 5,724.70 in exchange for 1923. The policy of the company so far has been to take credit for exchange profits and to write off exchange losses yearly. We had a profit in 1922 of Tls. 5,885.20 and, as I said, a loss in 1923 of Tls. 5,724.70.

Financially, we are in a comfortable position. After providing for all known liabilities, our liquid assets amount to Tls. 91,610.72, of which Tls. 83,333.29 exist in hard cash, the balance in kind. The estate emergency reserve, which had been on fixed deposit earning very low interest in the Straits, was invested in £3,500 worth of Straits Settlement 5 per cent. Loan 1929/1947.

I have nothing more to tell you, gentlemen, and I therefore now beg to propose the first resolution, *viz*:—"That the directors' report and statement of accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923, as presented be adopted and passed." This is seconded by Mr. C. R. Burkill. Gentlemen, the resolution is before the meeting and is open to discussion.

The resolution was carried unanimously and also the following:—

"That Dr. E. L. Marsh be and hereby is re-elected a director of the company." Proposed by Mr. A. K. Craddock and seconded by Mr. J. A. Sudka.

"That the appointments of Messrs. C. R. Burkill and E. S. Kadoorie as directors of the company be and are hereby confirmed."—Proposed by Mr. A. K. Craddock and seconded by Mr. A. J. Welch.

"That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be and are hereby elected auditors to the company for the ensuing year."—Proposed by Mr. C. R. Burkill and seconded by Mr. A. K. Craddock.

Sir Edward Crowe, formerly British Commercial Counsellor at Yokohama, has been appointed head of the foreign section of the Department of Overseas Trade and will not return to Japan at present. The appointment is an important one and involves the supervision of the British commercial services throughout the world, except in British dominions and possessions. The promotion came unexpectedly after Sir Edward Crowe had made all his plans for returning to Japan. Lady Crowe, who has been seriously ill and has undergone an operation, is making a very good recovery and is able to be out for a short time each day.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary, Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury S., Rhodesia.

The giving of advice to prospective settlers will be facilitated if applicants will advise the Board in detail of their circumstances and the amount of capital they would be prepared to invest in a suitable venture.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A Year of Several Successes: The Pukow Customs House: Trademarks and Extraterritoriality: Huangpu River Police

The 9th annual general meeting of the British Chamber of Commerce was held at the Shanghai Club on Thursday evening, Mr. F. R. Scott, acting Chairman, presided, and was supported by Mr. Sulley Barton, H.M. Consul-General, Mr H. J. Brett, H. M. Commercial Secretary of Legation, and Messrs. A. W. Burkill, R. Calder Marshall, N. L. Leslie, A. B. Lowson, E. F. Mackay, P. W. Massey, L. W. Hutton, G. W. Sheppard, W. H. Trenchard-Davis, E. M. Gull, secretary, and P. Campbell, assistant secretary.

The Chairman said: If you care to refer to the report of the Chairman's speech at the last annual meeting you will see that one of its opening paragraphs read in part as follows:

> The subjects with which I think I need hardly deal, because they were discussed a month ago, are those of internal taxation; the question of having a Custom House at Pukow; the absurdities of the Merchant Shipping Acts, which preclude vessels owned by Chinese Companies from enjoying important benefits which vessels recognized as British enjoy; extraterritorial rights in China; trademarks."

The paragraph continues—

> "Before leaving this group of subjects I feel sure I may say that the incoming Committee will do their utmost to see that your interests in regard to all of them are closely watched and energetically pushed."

Through a series of unexpected changes in the personnel of the Committee, it falls to my lot to occupy the chair at this meeting, and I am in the fortunate position of being able to prove to you that the assurance given by Mr. Burkill last year that your interests would be closely watched and energetically pushed has been fully redeemed.

A CUSTOMS HOUSE AT PUKOW.

To take the first subject mentioned in the paragraph which I have just quoted—a Custom House at Pukow. This time last year that was one of the things we were trying to get. Now we have got it. The Commissioner of Customs at Nanking wrote to the Consul-General, there, Mr. J. T. Pratt, on December 19 last as follows:—

> "I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with instructions recently received from the Inspector General of Customs, I am now making arrangements for the establishment on the Pukow side of the river of an office for the purpose of allowing duty to be paid on that side. This office at Pukow will constitute a sub-office of the Nanking Customs, detached from the central office at the request of and for the convenience of merchants in order to provide improved Customs facilities and to obviate the delays caused to merchants by the necessity of their crossing and recrossing the river before they are able fully to comply with Customs formalities."

The Chamber began its efforts to get this sub-office on May 18, 1921. There were all sorts of difficulties in the way when we began, some of them genuine, others artificial. However, we've got over them all, largely through the help of Mr. Pratt, whom I should like publicly to thank for his energy, determination and skill.

MERCHANT SHIPPING ABSURDITIES.

Next as to the Merchant Shipping Act. At the close of the Conference of the Associated Chambers in February, H. M. Minister stated that formal application had been made by the Foreign Office to the Board of Trade for an early amendment of the Merchant Shipping Act. That means, that we have made some progress in convincing the authorities of the essential inequity of the present conditions, under which vessels owned by certain British companies flying the British flag and registered at H. M. Consulate are nevertheless not British. They would be British if the companies owning them had their principal places of business in British territory. British individuals in China can own British ships, and British firms in China can own British ships; but a British limited company incorporated in China cannot, as the law at present stands, own British ships. It is an illogical position, which would be laughable if it had not this very serious consequence, that if a vessel owned by a China Company happened to have a collision in our crowded harbour her owners would not get the benefit of limited liability.

As a result of our representations the Foreign Office has now asked the Board of Trade to get the Merchant Shipping Act amended so as to rectify the position.

EXTRATERRITORIALITY.

Next as to extraterritorial rights in China, with which I will couple the question of the Chinese Trademark Law. For months past we have been putting up a fight in defence of extraterritorial rights which the proposed trademark law, had it been recognized by the Diplomatic Body, would have infringed. As you all know, greatly helped by the China Association, we have been successful in our opposition.

I do not wish to occupy your time by going over the whole ground of the controversy, but I do think it is important that you should realize the significance of the Chamber's work in this matter.

There were two distinct issues involved, one the safety of very valuable property, the other the extraterritorial rights of foreigners in China. The safety of trademarks was threatened by the nature of the Bureau and by the nature of the tribunals which were to decide disputes.

The Bureau was to be run entirely by Chinese, who would have had to deal not only with trademarks registered from the date on which the law became operative but with the mass of marks already provisionally filed at the Custom House. The tribunals also were to be staffed only by Chinese and one of them was to consist of judges appointed by the Bureau. Now, even supposing that the Chinese were beyond reproach in matters of administration, a tribunal appointed by the body whose decisions it was to try would be open to serious objection. But when to that fact had to be added the fact that as administrators the Chinese are notoriously inefficient, and as judges notoriously corrupt, the administrative provisions of the law could only be regarded as positively dangerous. If property represented by trademarks had been the only kind involved, we should have felt obliged to oppose the law tooth and nail.

But more than that was involved. Foreigners live and trade and accumulate possessions in China on two fundamental conditions. These two conditions are first that they are subject to the jurisdiction of their own Courts ann secondly that they have a right to be represented by their Consuls in Chinese Courts.

The proposed law overrode both these conditions, for it constituted a Chinese Court, in which there was to be no foreign representation, the final arbiter in disputes regarding the right to register, and therefore the right to use, trade marks, whether such right was in dispute between foreigners of the same, or foreigners of different nationality, or between foreigners and Chinese. Had this been allowed, had our extraterritorial rights been given up in regard to trademarks, without any of the safeguards which were contemplated in 1921, there would have been no saying where they would next have gone by the board, while our rights in property of other kinds would have been endangered.

A summary of the Note in which the Diplomatic Body communicated to the Chinese Government their decision not to recognize the law was issued to you on the 14th. The Note states definitely that should there arise any causes of complaint regarding trademark rights such cases will have to be dealt with strictly in accordance with existing Treaty stipulations whether marks have been registered at the new bureau or not.

The trademark struggle has involved very heavy work and I think the trademark sub-Committee, and its energetic Chairman, Mr. A. L. Dickson, is entitled to a special expression of our thanks for all they have done. The law came before them first on October 2, since when they have not infrequently had trademarks for lunch and trademarks for dinner. Mr. Dickson used, I believe, to have them for breakfast also.

I think our thanks are also due to the other national Chambers, more particularly the American Chamber, for standing by us in this fight. The American Chamber has been cognizant of, and has supported, all our decisions and the readiness with which members of their Committee and their Secretary put their time and advice at our disposal is very greatly appreciated.

RIVER POLICE AND SOOCHOW CREEK.

The Chairman then turned to shipping questions and, having dealt with certain aspects of harbour improvement, said:

Connected with the Harbour are the twin questions of the River Police and the Soochow Creek. On September 11 the Shipping Sub-Committee met to consider a letter addressed by the Senior Consul to the Chairman of General Chamber, suggesting that as the Inspector-General was prepared to finance new capital expenditure totalling Tls. 100,000 on the River Police, so as to increase the force to 58 and give it the necessary plant, but was not prepared to finance more than 25 per cent. of the additional annual expenditure necessary, a special wharfage due of one fifth of one per cent. on the Customs duty might be levied as an equitable method of providing the additional Tls. 75,000 per annum required. We replied on October 11, with the suggestion that steps should be taken to secure closer co-operation between the River Police forces of the International Settlement and the French Concession, and stating that while agreeing with the Senior Consul's proposal we reserved the right to reconsider our decision if at the end of two years the service did not prove satisfactory.

At our annual conference, as you know, we took the subject up again passing a resolution to the effect that we viewed with grave concern the serious increase in thieving and robbery within Shanghai's harbour limits, and urging that measures should be taken to reorganize the River Police Force. We have not yet been informed officially, but I understand unofficially that the Inspector-General has consented to increase his annual grant very considerably. That is a very satisfactory result of our representations and shows what can be done by hammering away.

The frequently congested state of the Soochow Creek is partly the result of insufficient policing, so that if we can get the Police Force augmented and improved we shall be able automatically to improve the condition of the Creek. The Creek will never be an adequate waterway, of course, until it is properly dredged, but in that matter we are up against the tiresome and ever-stiffening difficulty of China's so-called sovereign rights.

INSPECTION OF THE YANGTZE.

Another question that can be reported under the heading of shipping is the outcome of Mr. F. Palmer's inspection of the Yangtze. On this point I need not do more than remind you that it was largely owing to this Chamber that a Yangtze River Commission was established on December 3, 1921, and that between December 12 and 17 of that year Mr. Palmer, who is Consulting Engineer to the Port of London Authority, made a preliminary survey of the Yangtze between Shanghai and Hankow. As a result a Technical Committee was appointed and that Committee has just issued its first annual report, a volume containing information about the river never available before. Mr. Palmer's own report, while disposing finally of the idea that the Yangtze can be conserved so as to make it available at all seasons for steamers drawing up to 15 feet, points to the possibility of very valuable work being done by the Technical Committee just referred to.

THE MAILS.

A word, next, in regard to the mails. As regards outward mails, in July last we received a letter from the Postmaster General in London, dated June 11, stating that he had received from the Foreign Office a copy of the resolution passed at our 1923 conference drawing attention to the difficulties caused by the late arrival of shipping documents relating to cargo sent from Great Britain to China. He informed us that arrangements had been made for additional mails, containing letters and post cards for Shanghai and the Treaty Ports, to be despatched from London every Tuesday for conveyance by the Lloyd Triestino service from Brindisi to Alexandria, onward transmission from Suez to be by a steamer of the Holt line. He also stated that the best possible use would be made of the Canadian Route. These arrangements have certainly improved matters very considerably.

The subject of homeward mails was taken up with the Postal Commissioner early in the year. There had been delays in the arrival of homeward mails and we asked the Postal Commissioner for information. He informed us that a contract was about to be made with the Blue Funnel to carry mails from Shanghai to Port Said for transhipment to Brindisi and overland to London. He also gave us information showing that test letters had been sent via Siberia, which showed a result of 26 days. Since then the time taken by the Siberian route has been shortened to 21 days. The contract with the Blue Funnel has not yet, I understand, actually been signed but mails are being carried by Blue Funnel ships.

We also took up with the Postal Commissioner the despatch of mails to Hankow and were told that letters and newspapers were being sent by rail when the Post Office was sure that that route was quicker than the steamer route.

If members have any complaints to make in regard to mails, the in-coming Committee will be glad to go into them again. On the whole I think things have improved considerably.

FREIGHT RATES.

Another subject which comes under the heading of shipping is that of notices of increase of freight rates by the China Homeward Freight Conference, which came up before the Export and Shipping Sub-Committee last summer. As a result it was decided to ask the Conference to delete the words "by named steamer" in the clause reading.

> "Shippers can obtain refusal of space from the Shipping Companies for three or four days; the rate of freight charged will be that quoted on the day the refusal of space was given to the shipper for shipment by named steamer within 90 days from the date of signing contract, except ore in bulk the forward booking for which is extended to 180 days."

This request was transmitted to London and on February 23 last we were informed that our request had been granted. The clause just quoted now accordingly omits, the words "named steamer."

I turn now to the other matters affecting Export trade, and first to the payments of freight on seeds and cereals. This question was taken up with the China Homewards Freight Conference on April 25, when we asked the Conference to revert to the pre-war system of paying freight on delivered instead of on shipping weight. A reply was received at the end of July, our request being granted.

We are able to record success also in regard to arbitration awards issued by the London Produce Brokers' Association. At our 1923 Conference we passed a resolution urging the Produce Brokers' Association to indicate in arbitration awards the reasons for allowances on, or rejection of, cargo, so that it might be possible for exporters in China and Hongkong to rectify causes of complaint and avoid their recurrence. Mr. C. H. Arnhold took this matter up for us with the Brokers, and while he was not able to get them to do all we asked he was successful in getting them to agree, if requested by either of the parties to an arbitration, to write without prejudice an informal covering letter giving the reasons for their findings.

THE ILLEGAL TAXES.

Under the heading of Import Trade most of the questions that require notice all fall under the heading of taxation. In this department we can record only a series of energetic protests against taxes which are being illegally levied on cigarettes and other imports. The Legation backs up our protests, but the illegal taxes go on being levied, and will go on being levied until some settlement is reached regarding the financial administration of the country as a whole. An opportunity for adjustment may, and in our opinion should, present itself in connexion with the 2½ per cent. Customs surtax agreed to at the Washington Conference, and we have urged that the conference which is to consider the conditions of the surtax should be preceded at an early date by joint consideration and decision by the Powers of their policy towards China. At present they do not appear to have a policy, and until they have they ought not, in our opinion, to come to the surtax conference, for the surtax should be granted only on conditions which the Powers are prepared to enforce and which are of such a nature as will safeguard foreign rights and interests in China.

PIECE GOODS CONTRACTS.

Another matter under the heading of import trade is the Standard Piece Goods contract. Our Piece Goods Sub-Committee's protracted negotiations, first under the chairmanship of Mr. Beytagh and then under that of Mr. Norman Smith, have at long last been brought to a successful conclusion. The Guild wrote to us on Tuesday saying that they accepted the contract in regard to which I shall presently ask Mr. Piercy to say a few words. We have had great difficulties over this contract but now it has been agreed to and will, I hope, receive the support of the Banks. That support is essential and will, I hope be forthcoming. I would thank Mr. Beytagh and Mr. Smith for all they have done.

BRIGANDAGE.

I need not, I think, dwell on this Chamber's contribution to the efforts made by all foreigners in China in connexion with the Lincheng outrage, though the many meetings which your Committee held last summer involved a great deal of work and threw much additional work on Mr. Campbell, who from April to December, during Mr. Gull's absence on leave, was responsible for the Secretariat. I think our thanks are due to him for the very adequate way in which he preformed his duties. It is certainly not the Chamber's fault that the Lincheng outrage has not been more speedily or more satisfactorily avenged. On the other hand the Hankow Chamber and our representations here have contributed to the stationing of a reserve gunboat, the Mantis, at Hankow. Having the Mantis at Hankow enables the naval autorities to maintain wireless communication between Chungking and Shanghai, a fact which has greatly increased the sense of security felt by British subjects resident in the Yangtze Valley, and one for which we are all duly grateful.

THE BOXER INDEMNITY.

A subject on which I should like to say a word or two is the Boxer Indemnity. We have not got very much further with that for the reason that nothing more can be done until Parliament has passed a Bill authorizing the remission of the Indemnity and its use for the purposes to which it is desired to put it, purposes mutually beneficial to China and Great Britain. There are, however, indications that this Bill will soon be under consideration, and in the meantime the Committee which was appointed by our Associated Chambers, of which Mr. J. S. S. Cooper is the energetic Chairman, is working out the five year programme adopted in 1921 and helping financially the most important British Schools that give a secondary education to Chinese. I should like to take this opportunity of asking members who can afford to do so to make good the very small amount necessary to complete this five year programme, a sum of roughly Tls. 2,600. We are pledged to continue certain grants for five years and we want

roughly Tls. 2,600 to enable us to redeem our pledge.

CHAMBER'S MANY ACTIVITIES.

Now I would like to say a few words about other departments of the Chamber's work, those that go on automatically and independently of any of our Committees. During the past year 143 written trade inquiries have been dealt with. These inquiries come from all over the world. They are, as you know circularized to all members before being published in the Journal, and all members likely to be specially interested are in addition communicated with individually.

In estimating the amount of work involved you have, accordingly, to multiply the number 143 by at least three and in addition there is a steady stream of verbal inquiries. Six arbitrations and 12 surveys have been conducted through the Chamber and 184 applications for employment have been dealt with, roughly 48 per cent. of the applicants being found positions. Then there is the Chamber's Language School, which, as you know, is very efficiently conducted by Mr. J. B. Grant. The certificates gained in the past year include 16 preliminary, 7 intermediate and 4 advanced, examinations being conducted by H. M. Consul, Mr. G. S. Moss, whom I should like to thank for the time and trouble which he has been good enough to devote to this work. The average number of students attending the School during the three terms of the past year has been 55, as against 73 in 1922. The decrease is not, I think, due to any fault in the School, but partly to certain firms having made their own arrangements for teaching Chinese, partly to a diminution during the past year of the number of men wishing to learn the language.

In connexion with Chinese I have to report the decision of the Committee to discontinue publication of the Chinese Journal. The circulation attained by the Chinese Journal was never a large one, it was showing a loss and there appeared to be only two courses open to us, either to devote more time and trouble to it, which would have meant engaging additional staff, or—unless we were prepared to lose money—to close down. We appointed a special Sub-Committee to go into the matter and finally decided on the latter course.

THE JOURNAL'S GOOD WORK.

The English Journal, on the other hand, continues to prosper and is steadily gaining ground. Mr. Gull found, while he was on leave, that it was being used regularly in the offices of the commercial newspapers in England and that it is very well spoken of in the offices of the Home Chambers. That it makes a certain amount of money and goes a long way towards financing our Associated Chambers you can see from the accounts. But it is doing more than that. It is giving us a voice in such public affairs as we ought to have a voice in, and we know that it is carefully read from the fact that we very soon hear about it if copies go astray, or when it contains anything that ought, in the readers' opinion, to have been otherwise expressed. I certainly think that the English Journal is worth while, and that it is doing good work for our collective interests in China. Such, Gentlemen, is our record for the past year. I hope you will agree that we have done a good deal.

H. M. Consul General then addressed the meeting.

STANDARD PIECE GOODS CONTRACT.

Mr. R. S. Peony said: The Chairman has kindly asked me to comment on the Piece Good Standard Contracts, which as you have just been informed, have now been agreed upon between the Chinese Piece Goods Guild and this Chamber.

As you are doubtless aware, this question was first brought up in the middle of 1920, and has been constantly under discussion since that time with varying fortunes.

The Contract itself is mainly based on the usual conditions under which the Piece Goods trade is conducted at this port, combined with the terms arranged with the Manchester Chamber of Commerce.

The only new feature is Clause 7 of the Sterling Contract, which applying to goods sold in sterling or on a Tael basis with a guaranteed Exchange, gives Importers the option of fixing exchange for buyers account should the official rate decline 10 per cent. below the rate ruling at the time the contract was made.

As soon as the contracts and their respective translations have been printed, it is proposed to circulate them to the members of this Chamber, and it is hoped that all interested will arrange to work on the terms agreed on. Copies will also be forwarded to the Foreign Bankers' Association and to the other Chambers of Commerce at this port, with a request for their support in this matter.

The report and accounts were passed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. R. Calder Marshall.

Rule 2 was amended to provide for an increased subscription.

The following Committee were elected:—Messrs C. H. Arnhold, A.W. Burkill, R. Calder Marshall, N. L. Leslie, A. B. Lowson, E. F. Mackay, P. W. Massey, W. J. Monk, A. Rose, F. R. Scott, G. W. Sheppard and W. H. Trenchard-Davis.

THE annual worry of the Japanese police over the May Day celebrations of the labour unions has again begun. At Osaka last year, says the "Japan Chronicle", the police "mobilized for the occasion" were nearly as numerous as the demonstrators. Some lively skirmishes occurred and many of the workers were arrested. The Kobe police and other officials met on the 11th instant to consider what to do on May 1 this year. The local authorities have restricted the area in which processions may be held and have prohibited the visiting of factories, which was one cause of trouble last year. Any labour body participating in the procession is to carry three banners, but pennants are prohibited—doubtless because the fights between the police and the paraders last year were mostly for possession of red pennants which were being carried in the processions in spite of the official ban on redness.

THE Old Harrovians in the Malay Peninsula, assembled recently at the Empire Hotel, Kula Lumpur, and dined together. It was the first purely O. H. dinner that, as far as is known, had ever taken place in that country, and 11 from the old School sat down. Sir L. Guillemard, the Governor, attended as a guest, he being closely connected with the School through his cousin, the late Mr. W. G. Guillemard, who was a master there for the long period of 28 years from 1879 to 1907. During the evening it was explained to his Excellency that, according to ancient custom, every new boy who joined at Harrow had to sing (in front of the whole house) to the music master, the first four lines of the March of the Men of Harlech, to enable that master to judge if he had a voice or not. The Governor, who had never dined at a Harrow dinner before, was treated as a "new boy," and he was asked to sing the four lines. Sir E. Guillemard at once complied and was loudly cheered, says the "Malay Mail."

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in the House of Commons on March 18 the constitution of the Committee to inquire into the National Debt. Lord Colwyn will be Chairman, and amongst the members are Sir Charles Addis, Sir Alan G. Anderson, and Sir Arthur Balfour. It is unnecessary to state Sir Charles Addis is chairman of the London Committee of the Hong-kong & Shanghai Bank and a director of the Bank of England. He was a member of the Cunliffe Currency Committee of 1918-19, of the Indian Currency Committee of 1920, and is at present on his way back from Brazil, which he has visited as a member of the Financial Mission. Sir Charles Addis has an impartial mind, and, as a banker of distinguished record, knows a great deal about monetary problems in the practical as well as the theoretical sense. He has, by his lucid expositions, made intelligible to the layman many abstruse subjects.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

SHANGHAI BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIP

Capt. Barrett's Win from Mr. Gordon Morriss

Captain Barrett won the billiard championship on Tuesday, defeating Mr. Gordon Morriss 1200-1015. At dinner time Mr. Morriss was leading by 29, with an unfinished break of 12, though having lost the white and being in no position it was useless to him. Up to that point he was much the better player of the two. After dinner Captain Barrett returned in festive mood, he played magnificently, took incredible chances and almost invariably with success. Every billiard player knows the occasions when the gods love one; equally so when they frown. The former was Captain Barrett's lot last night, the latter Mr. Morriss's. Very little went wrong for the former, very little right for the latter. No amateur can be quite sure what will become of the balls after a forcing shot; they may leave you well placed or they may not. It depends on the gods. To be just, Captain Barrett played brilliantly. Two shots in particular, screw-backs not quite straight (which makes all the difference in difficulty) along the cushion into the top pocket, the object ball travelling round the table and back into position, were specially noticeable. His mastery over position was extraordinarily good, he rarely left himself a hard shot and used his head well. The careful advantage he took of the rules of the game was complimentary to his opponent, but towards the end rather irritating to spectators. To play for safety when you are within 20 of game and some 200 ahead of your opponent seems unnecessarily professional. With a little bit more luck for Mr. Morriss the result might more easily have been different than the score suggests. A fraction of an inch makes all the difference, and after dinner Mr. Morriss rarely got it. He had to fight for most of his openings and the balls would not help him. Nevertheless he played very finely through most of the match. His losing hazards both into middle and top pockets were admirable. In the latter the object ball travels across the top corners and back to the middle pocket. It is quite simple, if you have accuracy and strength and Mr. Morriss usually has. Another shot he loves is to pot the red in the middle pocket (himself playing from baulk) and leave his own ball precisely placed for the half-ball shot off the spotted red into top pocket. Again only strength and accuracy: It looks so easy. He makes effective use of the side that a ball takes from the cloth. Several pockets and cannons at an angle, so wide that most amateurs would play a forcing shot he was able to get slowly by dint of tremendous side. It was a lesson in itself. Curiously enough, he was not very successful with long jennys, when the ball slides all up the cushion and curls in so prettily from the further shoulder of the pocket. They are usually fairly simple half ball shots, though most spectacular. But Mr. Morriss's were mostly on the left side and after dinner there seemed to be a tendency for him on the left top pocket.

The game opened slowly, neither player warming up and latecomers doing their best to put them off. Captain Barrett got away first with 27 and 18 (the latter all off the red) and led Mr. Morriss most of the way to the first 100. Then the latter got going, 12, 11, 17, 17, 15, 11, a beautiful 57 including a lovely run through loser along the top cushion, side taking the ball down from a seemingly impossible angle in the jaws, 16, 17, 17, 23, 21, a charming 31; and Barrett meanwhile doing nothing and never left with much chance. The score stood at Morriss 335, Barrett 192. Then came a change. Barrett played a magnificent forcing loser into the middle pocket, piled up 23 and several more useful scores including a 52 and 41 while Mr. Morriss for several attempts did nothing. The score went to Barrett 494 Morriss 474: then the latter recovered, passed the 500 ahead of Barrett and got to his points with the latter 571.

The after dinner session may be recorded thus. Captain Barrett's best efforts in succession—11, 40, 19, 30, 63, 50, 64, 37, 36, 26, 12, 27, 31; and Mr. Morriss's —15, 31, 54, 41, 14, 18, 25, 30, 31, 15, 11, 26, 19

Captain Barrett's 63 was the most attractive break of the evening. The 64 contained one of the screw-back losers mentioned, but the 63 held four long jennys and the player's control of the balls was magical. Next in merit, as a single performance was Mr. Morriss's 54. He had to sink his opponent at 21 for position, leaving himself in his favourite place over the middle pocket, red on spot, and then made 33 off the latter, all beautifully arranged easy shots. The misfortune of his play was that he too often went to the table four or five times on end with nothing to show for it, while Captain Barrett was piling on points. The latter's playing was inspirational. Twice he extricated himself with extraordinary shots. Once his opponent's ball was jammed on the side cushion just below the middle pocket and Captain Barrett, from baulk played a cross shot with running side into the opposite middle pocket. Another time it was a cannon, the balls being similarly placed but the stroke much more difficult to calculate because the object ball was not quite touching the cushion, which made the shot a most delicate and beautiful run through. Mr. Morriss fought gamely to the end but fate was too much for him. Captain Barrett is heartily to be congratulated on his first win of the championship and both players are to be complimented on some excellent and most instructive billiards. There was a lot of safety play and the average is not high, Captain Barrett's being 7.7 and Mr. Morriss's 6.5.

BILLIARDS

Newman's Record of 857 in Championship Games

London, Apr. 19.

The semi-final of the Professional Billiards Championship at Burroughes Hall to-day resulted as follows:—

Newman	16,000
McConachy	8,703

Newman to-day made a record Championship break of 857, the previous best being his own 850 last year.

Newman meets Reece in the final on April 21.—Reuter.

TILDEN'S WITHDRAWAL FROM DAVIS CUP

Philadelphia, Apr. 21.

Mr. W. T. Tilden, Jr., announces his resignation from membership of the American Davis Cup and Olympic teams.—Reuter.

Later.

The resignation of Mr. W. T. Tilden, Jr., was due to his desire not to embarrass the selection committees in view of the fact that his amateur status is questioned.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 22.

The American Lawn Tennis Association, replying to Mr. W. T. Tilden, JR., expresses surprise at his doubts regarding his eligibility and reiterates that he is qualified to play in the Davis Cup and Olympic teams. The Association requests him to attend a meeting of the former committee on April 25.—Reuter's American Service.

Philadelphia, Apr. 23.

Mr. W. T. Tilden, Jr., has declined the invitation of the American Lawn Tennis Association to attend the meeting of the Davis Cup Committee on April 25, until his status as an amateur is clearly defined.—Reuter's American Service.

INTERNATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Dr. Lasker's Success: Prize for Brilliant Play and Best Defence

New York, Apr. 18.

By defeating M. Tarrasch, Dr. Lasker scored a well-earned victory in the International Chess tournament. He lost only one game, namely, with M. Capablanca, who won the second prize. M. Alekhine was third. M. Capablanca's title of world champion is not involved.—Reuter's American Service.

Later.

In the adjourned games in the International Chess Tournament, M. Bogoljubow defeated M. Janowski in the 20th round and M. Janowski and M. Edward Lasker drew in the 21st round.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 19.

In the final round of the International Chess Tournament, Dr. Lasker beat Mr. Marshall, M. Reti beat M. Janomski, M. Maroczy beat Mr. Yates, and M. Capablanca beat M. Bogulubow, while M. Alekhine drew with M. Tartakower.

On the conclusion of the International Chess Tournament, the competitors were placed in the following order:—

	Pts.	Won	Lost	Drawn
Lasker (Ger.)	16	13	1	6
Capablanca (Cuba)	14½	11	1	9
Alekhine (Russ.)	13	6	2	12
Marshall (U. S.)	11	6	4	10
Reti (Aus.)	10½	9	8	3
Maroczy (Hung.)	10	8	6	9
Beguljubow (Russ.)	9½	8	8	5
Tartakower (Russ.)	8	5	8	8
Yates (Eng.)	7	5	11	4
Edward Lasker (U. S.)	6½	2	9	9
Janowski (U. S.)	5	3	13	4

The first five win prizes.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, Apr. 20.

The International Chess Tournament closed to-day with the award of prizes to the first five competitors, viz., Dr. Lasker, M. Capablanca, M. Alekhine, Mr. Marshall and M. Reti.

"Brilliancy prizes" were awarded to M. Reti for his game against M. Boguljubow, and also to Mr. Marshall and M. Capablanca,, the latter for defeating Dr. Lasker.

Special prizes for the best-played games were awarded to M. Tartakower and M. Boguljubow. The latter also received a prize for the best-defended game.—Reuter's American Service.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CRICKET TOUR

Arrival of Team in England: Confident of Success in County Matches

London, Apr. 21.

The South African cricketers have arrived in England They are in excellent condition and are very keen.

Mr. H. W. Taylor, captain of the team, interviewed by a representative of Reuter's Agency, expressed the opinion that the South Africans ought to win a majority of the County games. It would be presumptuous to say that they were going to beat England, but luck might be on their side.—Reuter.

BOXING IN AMERICA

Carpentier Matched Against Tom Gibbons in Ten-Round Contest

Paris, Apr. 20.

The American promoter, Jack Curley, and Francois Descamps have signed a contract to match Georges Carpentier and Tom Gibbons at Chicago on May 30 in a ten-round bout without decision.—Reuter.

INTER-ARMY RUGGER

France Defeated by Britain

Paris, Apr. 21.

In an Inter-Army Rugby match here to-day the British Army beat the French Army by 21 points to 17.—Reuter.

MUNICIPAL GAZETTE NEWS

Volunteer Corps.

Retiral Officers.—Captain W. S. Parsons is transferred to the Reserve of Officers.

Engineer Company. — J. R. Harder, Esq., late Lieutenant Shanghai Scottish, to be Lieutenant.

Sing Song Houses.

A petition by 25 Shopkeepers in the Louza District has been presented, praying that licences be issued in respect of Sing Song houses in the Settlement. The Commissioner of Police reports that these establishments are at present licensed compulsorily as brothels, that many of them have been closed as a result of the annual drawings, and that the remaining licences will expire on December 31 next. Many of these establishments have therefore to be transferred to the French Concession where they are licensed as such distinct from brothels. In the neighbouring Concession, the cost of a Sing Song licence is $2 a year, and the monthly licence fee for each female singer is $10. The Petitioners contend that the closing of these houses in the Foreign Settlement will mean serious loss to their business. After examining the records on the subject, and hearing the views of the Commissioner of Police and the Prosecuting Solicitor, the Council has decided that Sing Song houses should be allowed in the Settlement under suitable licence conditions, and directions have been given accordingly.

Police Report for March.

Strength of the Force on Mar. 31.

Officers	9	
Foreigners	265	
Japanese	43	
Sikhs	683	
Chinese	1,640	
		2,640
Clerical and *Teaching Staff*	128	
Followers	202	
		330
	Total	2,970

Serious Crime.—This includes the murder of a Chinese female who was shot in a house in Tatung Road on March 1 by armed robbers, the murder of a Chinese Constable who was shot on the night of March 13 whilst attempting to arrest armed robbers who were holding up a shop in the Yangtszepoo District, and the murder of two men who were shot dead in a house in the West Hongkew District on the night of March 20 by three men whose identity has not been established. One of the men killed was identified as an old offender who had been convicted of armed robbery.

A man under remand at the end of February charged with the attempted murder of two Chinese Constables on February 16 has been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. The case against a man charged with the murder of a Chinese whose dead body was found on Haichow Road on February 23, was concluded on March 4 when the prisoner was remitted to the Court of the Military Governor. In connexion with the attempted murder of a Sikh moneylender in the Wayside District in May 1923, a Chinese amah was arrested on March 2. The charge against her was withdrawn but she was detained as a witness in a case of perjury pending at the British Court.

Robbery.—Nine reports of armed robbery from dwelling houses and shops and two of armed highway robbery were received during the month. In two instances shots were fired by the robbers resulting in the death of a Chinese Constable and a Chinese woman.

One man arrested for being in possession of a loaded pistol for an unlawful purpose was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment, while three others who were apprehended in this Settlement on charges of armed robbery committed in the French Concession were handed over to the French Police.

Seven men who were under remand at the end of February charged with armed robbery were dealt with during the month. One was ordered to be sent to the Court of the Military Governor, four were sentenced to imprisonment and one was expelled, whilst the charge against the seventh was dismissed. A man under remand on suspicion of being concerned in armed robberies in the Settlement was found guilty of armed robbery committed in February last and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. Sentence of five years each was passed on two men under remand at the end of February charged with being in possession of firearms for an unlawful purpose.

Two reports of robbery in which no arms were used were also received. Two men were arrested in connexion with one of these cases and sentenced to imprisonment. A man under remand at the end of February on a charge of highway robbery was ordered to be expelled.

Property Stolen.—490 reports made under this heading during the month represent a total estimated loss of $207,873 and include 34 cases of burglary, 10 of house-breaking, 7 of godown-breaking and 9 of shop and office-breaking. Successful investigation was made in 160 cases, resulting in the recovery of property valued at $154,582, in addition to which recoveries to the extent of $7,584 were made in connexion with reports received prior to March 1.

False Report.—A sentence of two weeks' imprisonment was passed on an employe of a printing establishment in the West Hongkew District for making on March 28 a false report of armed robbery to the Police. He stated that several men, one of whom was in possession of a pistol, entered his premises and stole a sum of money.

Mixed Court Report for March.

Assessors.—Mr. N. F. Allman retired from the American Consular Service on March 15 and was succeeded as Junior American Assessor by Mr. Howard Bucknell.

Infringement of Trade-marks.—Of more than passing interest to the mercantile community, especially at this time when new laws on the subject are in course of promulgation, was the conviction of seven persons on charges of infringing the trade-marks of well-known British firms.

The present code provides no penalty for this offence and prosecutions have to be taken under Article No. 359 which deals only with "injuring the business reputation of another." An opinion that the punishment prescribed under this section is totally inadequate was voiced by the Assessor, who in imposing a fine of $400 on the accused in one case of a very flagrant nature, expressed regret that the Court, under the present law, was unable to sentence the accused to imprisonment.

Defence of Prisoners. — The Magistrates and Assessors sitting in Criminal Cases have decided that in future, in all cases involving "capital" punishment, wherein the accused are unable to employ counsel to defend them, a lawyer on the roll of the Court shall be appointed by the Registrar to undertake their defence. The appointments are to be made in rotation, and should the lawyer appointed be unable to appear, it shall be incumbent on him to provide a substitute.

In accordance with the above ruling prisoners were so defended on two occasions during the month.

Chilean Citizens and Extra-territoriality.—Following the arrest of two persons who claimed to be registered in the local Chilean Consulate, but whose claim to registration was overruled by this Court, some correspondence ensued between the Consul for Chile and the Court on the status of Chilean citizens, the Consul claiming that the treaty between Chile and China conveys extraterritorial rights on all citizens of his nationality.

As the Court could reach no definite decision on the point the question was referred to the Consular Body for a ruling thereon.

Cargo Pilferage.—The prosecution by the River Police of a number of persons charged with broaching large quantities of cargo from ships in the harbour caused Mr. Martin, the British Assessor, to comment upon the apparent ease with which such thefts could be committed; he recommended far more stringent measures in the supervision of all vessels while in port. One remedy suggested was the employment of Sikh watchman instead of Chinese; he also suggested that the coolies employed by the stevedores should be compelled to display their badges while at work on the ships; this rule, according to the evidence produced, was not being strictly enforced, with the result that many undesirable characters were able to get aboard without challenge.

Mixed Court Home.—On an application from this committee the Court decided to increase the period of detention passed on women convicted of soliciting from 7 days to 14. The Court also intimated that on application supported by a doctor's certificate they were prepared to make an order for detention of a further period of any woman found to be suffering from venereal disease.

Decisions in Rehearing Cases.—A decision which will perhaps check applications for rehearings without mature consideration by counsel concerned, was given on March 3 when after rehearing a case wherein the accused had been sentenced on March 14, to 3 months' imprisonment for cruelty to a small child, the Court not only confirmed the previous sentence but also ordered that it should commence from the date of the judgment given in the second trial.

Opium Prosecutions. — Disclosures having been made during the trial of a civil case that the parties had dealt in opium, the action was dismissed, and criminal proceedings were instituted against plaintiff, defendant and an accountant. One accused briefed four counsel to defend him but without success, and the accused were all fined in sums ranging from $100 to $300.

In two other cases where it was proved to the satisfaction of the Court that business in the drug had been carried on very extensively the maximum sentences imposed were a fine of $3,000 and 3 months imprisonment and expulsion respectively. In the latter case the accused had been twice previously convicted for the same offence.

Unrepresented Foreigners. — There were 29 unrepresented foreigners charged in the Criminal Courts, but all were petty cases and call for no special comment.

Court Orders Carried Out by Force.—Foreign Civil Case 3168 referred to under this heading in the February report was again before Court on March 19, when the defendant appeared before Mr. Carvalho, Portuguese Assessor, and Magistrate Yui, on an application for a rehearing on the ground that the compulsory signing of the deed conveying the land was not legal.

The application was refused and the following decision was rendered:—

"This case is in connexion with an agreement. On November 28, 1922, judgment was rendered for Plaintiff, Dzung Ping-mei, a Portuguese citizen, entitling him to enter into possession of and own the mortgaged land covered by a mortgage agreement executed by the defendant herein. An application for a rehearing was then made which was not granted. More than one year has now elapsed and the defendant, Tseu Kwe-song, has not yet complied with the terms of the said judgment, not having made a deed and affixed his signature thereon, thereby enabling the plaintiff to have it commuted into a title deed.

"Therefore, on February 25 of this year, the Court ordered that the defendant be forced to affix his signature thereon; which order is within the power of this Court, since Article 4 of the Civil Procedure Regulations on the subject of execution lays down that forcible execution may be resorted to either upon *exparte* application, or by the Court's *motu proprio*.

"On account also of the statements now made by defendant not agreeing with the contents of the application at bar, and of no signature having been affixed thereon by the defendant, the present application is refused."

FACE A SIGHT WITH ERUPTIONS

Daughter Could Not Sleep. Cuticura Heals.

"A sore eruption broke out on my daughter's nose. It was of a wet nature and soon spread all over her face. You could not put a pin point between the eruptions. She could not sleep at night on account of the irritation and her face was a sight.

"We began using Cuticura Soap and Ointment and after a week's use we could see an improvement. When we had used one box of Cuticura Ointment with the Cuticura Soap, she was healed." (Signed) Mrs. Nelson, 7, Mann Pl., Domestic St., Holbeck, Leeds, Eng.

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LAW REPORTS

COMPLICATED CASE OF COUNTER-CLAIMS

Two Parties Suing Each Other in Different Courts: Should Each Succeed?

A situation, rendered possible only by reason of the functioning of different national courts in Shanghai, was brought to the notice of his Honour Judge Sir Skinner Turner in H. M. Supreme Court on Thursday morning.

The Court was occupied with the hearing of an application for pleadings in the case in which Shih Sen-sun claims from the Pung Wo Manufacturing Company, Ld., of the Robert Dollar Buildings, 3 Canton Road, the following:—

(1) The sum of Tls. 20,000 money lent, or, alternatively,

(2) The sum of Tls. 20,000, damages for fraudulent misrepresentation:

(3) Indemnity, and/or,

(4) A declaration that plaintiff is not a shareholder of the defendant company, and/or

(5) A declaration that he is entitled to be paid the sum of Tls. 20,000 at present standing to the credit of the defendant company with the Commercial Bank of China.

Mr. Ranald G. McDonald made the application on behalf of plaintiff and Mr. M. B. Brown represented the defendant.

MIXED COURT CASE.

Mr. Brown, before the order was made, said there was one point he wished to bring to his Lordship's notice which might or might not be important. In February last the present defendant, the Pung Wo Company, filed an application in the Mixed Court against the present plaintiff for the same sum of money. It seemed to him to be at least conceivable that the plaintiffs in each case would succeed. In other words, the Pung Wo Company would be given judgment for this same $20,000 in the Mixed Court, and Shih Sen-sun be given judgment for it in the British Supreme Court. In that case they would find themselves up against something of an *impasse*, and there was some difficulty in his mind as to what would happen in such a case.

The Judge—Of course, it can always be dealt with at a later stage when the judgment arises. It does not really become important till the question of execution arises.

Mr. Brown—I take it that whoever obtained judgment first, the other side would apply for a stay of execution. Such a situation has never arisen in my experience, though of course it may well have happened before.

HOLDING HIS HAND.

The Judge—I am bound to say that I do not know of an exactly similar case myself.

Mr. McDonald suggested that the sum was not quite the same. The application was a very com[illegible] ... number of alternatives.

The Judge agreed with this. There was, for instance, an application for a declaration that plaintiff was not a shareholder of the company, a matter quite apart from the question of money. In any case it was clearly a writ with varied claims in which pleadings would have to be ordered and it was possible there might be a line of defence open to Mr. Brown on the statement of claim arising out of the proceedings in the Mixed Court. If the position he suggested should arise he (the Judge) would prefer to hold his hand and consider how it should be dealt with. Such a situation was always possible in an extra-territorial country.

Mr. McDonald submitted that in this case the British Courts were obviously the proper tribunal in which the matter should be tried since it was all English law.

The Judge remarked that in any case there would have to be pleadings and assuming the money question disappeared they still had the claim for a declaration and indemnity. It was, indeed, a most comprehensive writ containing contract, tort, declara[illegible] ... The best course to follow would be to wait for the statement of claim and see what could be done with that. [illegible] proceedings therefore.

DISOBEDIENT SEAMEN

Magistrate's Decision Upheld on Appeal: Fined a Month's Pay

In H. M. Supreme Court on the 17th instant their Honours Judge Sir Skinner Turner and Judge Grain, sitting as the Full Court, heard an appeal by Abdul Nagi and five other ex-members of the crew of the str. City of Bristol against a conviction in the Police Court by Mr. G. W. King.

The case was heard on March 28, on the arrival of the steamer in Shanghai, and it was then complained that the six appellants had combined with others to disobey the lawful commands of the master, Capt. Penworthy. Evidence was given that the defendants were signed on at New York and that trouble arose shortly after the vessel left port, continuing at intervals until Shanghai was reached, when their articles were discharged. It was said that the appellants, who were all firemen, refused to clean the fires properly and when the Captain threatened to reduce their pay they in turn threatened to strike, and a compromise had to be effected by giving them full pay under protest. Further trouble ensued, and at Yokohama the men were taken before the British Consul, and wages were paid under protest until the vessel arrived at Shanghai. The police magistrate was informed at the hearing that appellants were disobedient and insolent, disobeying orders by pretending not to understand them. All six men were convicted and fined one month's pay, and this decision was now the subject of appeal.

Mr. H. D. Rodger appeared for appellants and Mr. G. H. Wright for respondents, represented by the agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.).

MEN'S PLEA.

Mr. Rodger, for appellants, produced an extract from the ship's log showing that the men were warned their pay would be reduced and thereupon threatened to cease work. The Captain thereupon agreed not to reduce their pay if they would return to work, and this the men did. This Mr. Rodger argued, did not constitute disobedience of lawful commands, the men having returned to work. Mr. Rodger further held that the fine was excessive and illegal, inasmuch as the Merchant Shipping Act permitted a fine of six days' pay only for every 24 hours' disobedience, and appellants were not continuously disobedient for more than 24 hours. They went back to work on the same day.

Mr. Wright, for respondents, argued that the conviction was justified under the Act, since it provided that a fine of two days' pay might be imposed for every individual act of disobedience. It was therefore unnecessary to prove continuous disobedience for 24 hours. The appellants had continuously been disobedient on a number of days, and the total in fines would more than make up the penalty of a month's pay. Counsel further pointed out that the nature of appellants' work was such as to make it impossible to prove "continuous" disobedience.

The Court held that there was ample evidence before the Magistrate of disobedience on a number of days, and that the penalty imposed was not excessive, and the appeal was accordingly dismissed.

DISORDERLY INDIANS AT BRITISH POLICE COURT

Excited Demonstration by Sympathizers on Harbak Singh's Being Sentenced to Two Months' Hard Labour for Publishing Seditious Literature

Harbak Singh, whose appearance in the British Police Court some little time ago was accompanied by vocal and floral demonstrations by his black, turbaned friends, appeared again before Mr. G. W. King on Saturday on a charge of publishing seditious matter. Mr. E. T. Maitland prosecuted.

Det. Sgt. Tinkler, who received the warrant for Harbak's arrest, gave evidence that while he was looking for his man accused went to Central Police station, asked if there was a warrant out against him, and waited there until witness returned. Search was afterwards made at 478 Chapoo Road, a shop which had the name of Rose & Co., but witness did not find there any of the pamphlets headed "British Barbarism in India: British Justice gone Bankrupt." Several of these, however, were afterwards found at the printing establishment of E. Shing & Co., Szechuen Road, with the type set up and ready for printing.

Det. Sub.-Inspector Hunter gave similar evidence. When asked if he had any of the pamphlets, accused replied: "You need not trouble about getting so much evidence. You can only deport me."

The Magistrate (to the accused)—Do you object to that evidence?

Accused—I don't object to anything. You can do as you like.

The Magistrate—I cannot do as I like. I am bound by law, and I am asking if you object to the evidence that the detective put that question to you.

Accused—Of course he had no right to put the question, but there is no question of right here.

MAGGSTRATE'S FAIRNESS.

The Magistrate—If you can show me that any pressure was put on you to answer questions I will not take the evidence so obtained. Do you object to that question going in?

Accused—I make no reply to it.

The Magistrate—Well, in fairness to you, I will not put it in.

Two Chinese employed by E. Shing & Co. gave evidence as to accused having placed an order for the printing of the pamphlets in question, asking to be supplied with 800 copies at $1 per hundred. The pamphlets were delivered but the bill had not been paid.

The Magistrate—Do you want to ask any questions?

Accused—I have told you once, I don't want to ask any questions.

In answer to the Magistrate, Mr. Maitland said there would be no charge against the Chinese printer.

Captain E. I. M. Barrett spoke as to receiving a copy of one of the pamphlets through the post, in an envelope which he believed to be addressed in the handwriting of the accused. He also produced another copy which had been sent to the Commissioner of Customs.

"I DO NOT RECOGNIZE YOUR COURT."

Mr. Maitland then applied for an adjournment until Tuesday, and when asked if had anything to say to this, accused replied: I am a strict non-co-operator. I do not recognize your court. You can do what you like.

The Magistrate—You said that last time.

Accused—Yes. I had a little experience on that occasion that it is of no use to defend. You promised then that you would hear my defence well and properly.

The Magistrate—Well, and didn't you get a proper hearing?

Accused—My experience is that it is no use to defend.

The Magistrate—As the charge against you has not yet been proved to the hilt, I shall adjourn the case for further evidence. If it is proved, you will be guilty of what is known as a grave offence, and for that, under the order in Council you can be given two months, and also be ordered to find security for your future good behaviour or be deported. Already you are under a bond to be of good behaviour for two years as the result of the last case, and I shall have to consider your present conduct in relation to that. If there has been a breach, you will have to forfeit your recognizance or serve a term of imprisonment.

Accused was then remanded in custody.

Remarkable Scenes When Trial Concluded

Remarkable scenes were witnessed in the grounds of H.B.M. Consulate and in H.M. Police Court on Tuesday morning at the termination of the trial of Harbak Singh. The court room was filled with Indians and the grounds outside harboured some fifty to a hundred others who were unable to get inside. The accused, offering no defence and adopting an attitude of martyred resignation throughout, was sentenced by the Magistrate (Mr. G. W. King) to two months' hard labour. As soon as the Court rose officially, but long before the Magistrate had an opportunity to leave the Bench, the crowd broke into loud cheers for the prisoner, which were taken up by their fellows outside,—cheers which could not be suppressed by the police. A rush was then made for the doors, which the Magistrate ordered to be closed, but the police, after considerable struggling were overwhelmed by the mob and were unable to close them. A few men were arrested and when the rest saw this they cheered the more and threw flowers and confetti over them. The Magistrate ordered their release and a procession was formed which marched chanting to the Bund gardens, but the police headed them off and the procession proceeded quietly to the Gurdwara on North Szechuen Road. The crowd was, at all times well disciplined by the leaders.

THE OFFENDING PAMPHLET.

The case had been adjourned from Saturday. Mr. E. T. Maitland prosecuted for the police; the defendant was not represented.

Mr. W. C. Loynes, of Messrs. Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co., Ld., described how one day last week he was walking along Nanking Road, near Hall & Holtz Ld., when a Chinese of the artisan class pressed a pamphlet into his hand. He did not look at it for some moments, thinking it to be an advertisement, but on reading it later he found it to be an inflammatory epistle against the British Government in India. He immediately went back to look for the Chinese and on finding him forcibly deprived him of a big bunch of similar packages. It was not till later that he thought of catching the man himself, and he called a friend at Whiteaway Laidlaw's, procured a Chinese constable and set out to search. They were unsuccessful for the man had disappeared.

Mr. Cyril Burden Clarke, of Messrs. Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co., Ld., who accompanied Mr. Loynes on the search, gave similar evidence and said he had read the pamphlet.

This completed the case for the Crown and the Magistrate made the charges clear to the accused who expressed a wish to make a statement. On being told he would be allowed to do so he produced several closely written folios and commenced to read at a high speed in quite good English.

Accused, first thanked the Magistrate for allowing him to make a statement.

The Magistrate: You do not need to thank me for that, Harbak Singh. You are entitled to do so.

ACCUSD'S STATEMENT.

Accused's first contention was that the publication was not sedition against the Chinese Government. Shanghai was an International Settlement, not a British Colony, and therefore he could not be charged with sedition against the British Government. Furthermore, all the trouble was purely a matter of religion.—Harbak Singh took the Court back over Indian history, pointing out alleged injustices to Sikh rulers and accusing the British Government of broken pledges, pledges made in the days of Queen Victoria to certain maharajahs and broken in later years. He touched on the Amritsar incident, alleging that Indians had been made to crawl through the roads on their stomachs and shot without cause; that their wives and women had been spat upon by soldiers of the Government, and that the perpetrators of all these deeds had gone unpunished.

The Magistrate (interposing):—You refer, I suppose, to the case of General Dyer?

Accused:—I do.

The Magistrate:—And was not General Dyer punished for that? Was he not dismissed from the Army and sent back to England?

Accused:—No he was not. He was pensioned off,—pensioned with Indian money.

THE AKALI INCIDENT.

The accused's statement went on to refer to the incident mentioned in the Reuter's cable, characterized by the pamphlet as a pack of lies. He alleged that on that occasion the Government sent armed men to interrupt the reading of the Holy Book in an Akali temple, with the sole object of provoking the Akalis to violence, a weapon they had sworn an oath never to use; that machine guns were turned on unarmed Akalis in the temple and 250 were killed: and that others lay around wounded and Government troops burned them alive with kerosene oil. Reuter, he alleged, was used by the Indian Government to send out false reports covering up the misdeeds of the Government and its soldiers. The statement then reverted to Shanghai and alleged that when the order for the registration of British subjects came out a few months ago, rules were imposed on the Sikhs which were imposed on no other section of the British community. They had to produce two photographs of themselves instead of one and had to be registered at a separate office. When two of their number objected and offered passive resistance, accused continued, they were turned out of the office by force. When they returned they were threatened with arrest and finally were arrested. When they were taken to the police station they were, said Harbak Singh, subjected to a torrent of abuse from Captain E. M. Barrett and other members of the police; these two men were now liable at any time to be arrested for not being registered. He further alleged that Sikhs in Shanghai were oppressed by Captain Barrett and the Sirdar Sahib Buddha Singh, Jemadar of Sikh police: that the Sikh Gurdwara had been placed in the hands of the police and that the police used it for the oppression of their brethren and to turn it to their own account. That at the instance of Captain Barrett and Buddha Singh hundreds of innocent Sikhs were deported from Shanghai during the war. And why? he asked. Simply because they did not salute Captain Barrett and the Sirdar Sahib in the streets, because they would not be oppressed by them and would not bow down to their wishes. They had persecuted him personally for long, ever since they knew he was against them. They had tried to get him dismissed from his employment with Rose & Co., without cause, but in this they had failed because he was a director of that company. Police had searched his premises when he was absent and the last attempt on his freedom was when he had been brought before that Court on charges of publishing matter calculated to cause a disturbance of the peace.

"SEDITION NO CRIME."

Regarding what was written in the pamphlet, it was not sedition for it was true. Neither did he believe, in any case, that sedition was a crime.

The Magistrate (interrupting): You say sedition is no crime. That is rather a bold statement to make, is it not

Accused: I refer to India only

The Magistrate.—Very well, proceed: but it is a dangerous line to take.

Harbak went on to say that he knew he was about to be deported to India at the least, but he did not care. He would only be one of many innocent Sikhs sent out of Shanghai. What did it matter? By sending him to gaol they did but send him from a large prison to a smaller one. They could imprison his body but they could never imprison his

ment," he continued, "much less do I hate any other Europeans. I love all men as my brothers. All men are my brethren. I hate the system of Government by the British in India."

As he made these statements defendant appeared to be sincere, and went on to say that he would fight for the freedom of India from the foreign yoke if it led him to the gallows. He would print similar pamphlets again when he came out of prison. Nothing could stop him but death. When they were oppressed by the foreign yoke in the form of a Mohammedan Government years ago Indians had arisen and driven the foreigners out. The oppression of the British Government was worse than the oppression of the Mohammedans. Defendant wound up his exhortation by saying that if it was sedition to give the world the truth, then he was seditious: if it was sedition to abide by the dictates of conscience, then again he was seditious. If the English were subjected to the same oppression that the Indians were subjected to by them, then Englishmen would arise and throw off the yoke in the same way as the Indians wished to do.

The Magistrate went through the accused's statement paragraph by paragraph with him. He first of all pointed out that the fact that the sedition was not sedition against the Chinese Government had nothing to do with the matter at all. He was not charged with sedition against the Chinese Government: he was charged with sedition against the British Government. This was an international Settlement, but all His Britannic Majesty's subjects were subject to British Law. Therefore that statement would not hold water as a ground for defence.

Harbak Singh: I did not put that statement in as a statement of defence. I put it in as a statement of my position and my feelings. I make no defence, I offer no defence. Do with me as you will. I cannot tell a lie.

A BRITISH SUBJECTS DUTY.

The Magistrate pointed out to the prisoner that his attitude was an extremely difficult one. He (the Magistrate) was trying to help him in every way he could. He wished to see justice done, but prisoner would not aid the Bench to help him.

As his Worship went through the statement similar passages occurred. The Magistrate insisted on trying to help the accused and the accused insisted he had no defence to offer. He had given them his thoughts and a statement of his position. That was all.

"You know as well as I do," said the Magistrate, on a reiteration of this statement, "that India is in a very disturbed state at this time. The material circumstance I have to consider refers to whether or not this matter you publish and distribute is likely to cause disaffection, and reading of this nature is bound to cause disaffection. You make assertions against the British Government of barbarism to your people, and state that British Justice has gone bankrupt, and yet recently the British Government has done everything possible towards meeting the wishes of the people. Would you care to deny that at the present moment the British Government is making every effort to meet the wishes of the inhabitants of India?

Accused admitted that he would not care to deny such a statement.

"Do you know" continued the Magistrate "that in the various councils of India to-day the Swarajs have a majority?"

Accused:—But they are outside the Congress.

The Magistrate.—Do you realize that if things were allowed to go on in India, with its different castes and grades of people, there would be complete turmoil and no government at all?

Accused:—If there were no government at all that would be better than the present government.

"That," said the Magistrate, "is a bold statement to make."

Accused: If we read our history we see that the Mohammedans did not oppress us as we are oppressed to-day.

The prisoner further stated that the Indians knew the Indian news received from Reuter's agency was not true. They knew from their own newspapers in Shanghai of the barbarism and brutality of the British Government, but other Europeans and Americans should be told and he had felt it his duty to tell them. Was he to be punished for doing his duty? Papers, registered in India, having passed the censor, came to Shanghai printing matter equally seditious to that which he had printed. Indeed, most of what was in the pamphlets was reprinted from those papers, describing the British Government as the Government, not of His Britannic Majesty, but as the Government of His Satanic Majesty.

The Magistrate (to Captain Barrett).—Is that true, Captain Barrett.

Captain Barrett: I believe that is so, Sir. Some of them I know are very hot stuff.

Prisoner here produced an Indian vernacular paper containing the headliness in question and offered to show it to the Bench.

The Magistrate: Thank you, I can take your word for it without seeing the paper.

Mr. Maitland, summing up, said it was hardly necessary for him to deal with the charge. Accused had admitted everything. They had seen the state of mind he was in. He was so bigoted in his ideas he could hardly be considered a reasonable being.

The Magistrate interposed at this point with the remark that Mr. Maitland was wrong there. Every British subject had a right to hold any opinions he wished, no matter how much anyone else differed from him. He could only be stopped when the expression of those opinions was likely to cause trouble and this was a case where that had happened.

After a final unsuccessful exhortation from the Bench to make some plea on his own behalf, the Magistrate said he saw no loophole. He would have to pass the maximum sentence of two months' hard labour, and when that term was finished prisoner would be bound over in his own surety and three others for $250 each to keep the peace. If he could not produce the bonds he would be deported.

Mr. Maitland then made application to the Bench in regard to further recognisances made by defendant from the last case in which he appeared when he was also bound over to keep the peace. He had failed to do so and therefore Mr Maitland applied to the Bench for the bonds to be forfeited.

The application was granted and the defendant warned that if he did not produce the money he would be sent to gaol for a further term of imprisonment.

MRS. ROWARTH AND MRS. M. DAVIS

Charges Framed of Perjury and Conspiring to Withhold a Material Witness

When proceedings in the Rowarth case were resumed at H. M. Police Court on the 17th instant the Magistrate (Mr. G. W. King) announced that he had decided to frame two charges against the accused, Mrs. Judith Rowarth and Mrs. Margaret Davis.

These charges were that, at the Supreme Court trial, Mrs. Rowarth knowingly and falsely swore that she never saw Pakhar Singh on May 4, and that she knew nothing of the assault. Further, that she conspired with the second accused, her daughter, to defeat and obstruct the course of law and justice by preventing the amah, Wong Foo-mei, from giving evidence at the preliminary inquiry and also at the trial in the Supreme Court.

Mrs. Davis was also charged, in the same terms, with conspiracy, and further with knowingly and falsely swearing that Mrs. Rowarth did not go out of her house before 8.30 p.m. on the night the assault took place.

Upon receiving the usual caution, Mrs. Rowarth at first said she did not wish to make any statement but would call two witnesses. Mrs. Davis said: "I think I ought to say something, your Worship."

THE JOURNEY TO MACAO.

Mrs. Rowarth, afterwards deciding to give evidence, went into the witness box and, in answer to Mr. S. H. Lewis, stated that on the day of the assault she went to her daughter's house between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon and remained there until after dinner, when she went to the show, afterwards going home with her husband. When she left Shanghai she went to Macao with her daughter.

Why did you leave Macao?—Because the Superintendent of Police there said that I was wanted at Hongkong, so of course I went.

You are charged with conspiring with your daughter to keep an amah, alleged to be a material witness, from giving evidence in the courts. Do you know anything about that?—No.

Do you know the amah who gave evidence yesterday?—I did'nt see her before.

Do you know anything about anybody going to a particular house where this girl said she was living?—No.

Do you know anything about the alleged attack on the Indian who has given evidence?—No, I do not know anything about it.

Mr. E. T. Maitland (cross-examining)—You left Shanghai on March 2?—No.

You left quickly on the night of March 2?—I went away on the 2nd or 3rd.

On the day the amah was arrested?—What day?

On the Sunday?—We left on a Monday.

On the day the papers came out with a heading "Rowarth Trial Echo"?—I did not see the papers.

What were you doing with your daughter at Macao?—Just looking round.

You were put on board a boat for Hongkong?—Yes.

And your passage was paid?—I don't know.

You did'nt pay it?—No, I did not.

And you had no option but to come back?—I did'nt refuse.

You had no option?—They said I was wanted. Why should I not come?

A SERIES OF DENIALS.

In answer to further questions, witness said she had never seen the amah witness before, although she visited her daughter's house every day, and she could not explain how the girl came to know the family. She did not know the amah had been in Mrs. Davis's service, did not know how many servants her daughter had, and she had never been to any house to pay money for the amah. She could not explain the amah's story, nor that of the Chinese landlady who said that "an old woman" came to her house and paid rent for the amah and gave her rice money.

Why should they come forward and tell this story if it is not true?—I don't know.

How should the amah know Pakhar Singh if you did not take her to his house?—I don't know.

She has told the same story as Pakhar Singh?—I don't know.

Even to the detail of carrying a lantern?—I don't know anything.

Their stories are precisely the same?—Yes, but I was not there.

How could both be mistaken?—I don't know.

Why did you so suddenly decide to leave Shanghai for Macao in the night time?—Because my daughter said she was ready to go, and she had wanted to go before.

You had been continually packing and unpacking in readiness to go for several months?—No.

You had been in readiness to bolt from Shanghai?—No.

Pakhar Sing, Hassan Ali and the amah have all been lying when they said you went with Pakhar Singh?—I never went. It was not me. I don't know how they all made that mistake. I cannot explain.

Mrs. Davis next gave evidence, repeating her story that Mrs. Rowarth went to her house shortly after 2 o'clock on the afternoon of May 4 and remained there until the time of going to the theatre after dinner. She was quite sure her mother was there during this time. She knew nothing about the amah, Wong Foo-mei, or about taking money and rice to her in Chaoufoong Road.

Mr. Maitland, cross-examining witness, suggested that Mrs. Davis left Shanghai without even letting her husband know, and this witness denied.

Counsel—You borrowed his money and left?—I never bolted.

Borrowed?—I did take some money out of his pay. I never said a word to anybody.

And no one knew where you were gone?—Yes.

Your mother left her house on the night of the 2nd and you were away early on the morning of the 3rd—No. I met my mother on board at 11 p.m. on the 3rd. I was already on board because I was sick.

In answer to the Magistrate, witness said she did not know where her own amah, Ah Mei—(they were all known by this name), was at the present time.

The case was adjourned until the afternoon, it being understood that Mrs. Rowarth wished to call another witness, but when the proceedings were resumed no further evidence was called, and Mr. Lewis announced that this was the case for the defence.

The Magistrate then said he had decided there was a case for consideration by a jury, and accused would accordingly be committed for trial.

Mr. Lewis made application for bail, but this was opposed by the prosecution and refused by the Magistrate, accused being remanded in custody.

THE STATELY HOMES OF SHANGHAI

A Lawsuit over the Villa Rosenfeld: Architect's Alleged Negligence in Supervision

In the U.S. Court for China, on the 17th instant, before Judge M. D. Purdy, Mr. A. Lafuente, architect, brought an action against Mr. A. B. Rosenfeld, cotton merchant, claiming Tls. 1,250 in payment for professional services rendered and money advanced during the construction of the Villa Rosenfeld, in the French Concession, of which the plaintiff was the architect. Mr. L. W. Hartigan appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. F. J. Schuhl for the defendant.

Mr. Schuhl mentioned that a counter-claim had been filed in the Spanish court for Tls. 7,280 which it was claimed had not been accounted for and Tls. 10,000 damages, it being alleged that the work had been performed in a negligent and careless manner.

Plaintiff said that he had practised as an architect in Shanghai for 11 years. He was graduate of a Madrid military engineering college and held a certificate as a qualified architect. About three years ago he was engaged by defendant to design a house. He drew up plans and specifications. Mrs. Rosenfeld made suggestions and alterations, but defendant impressed upon him that evcything must be as economical as possible. Mr. Rosenfeld eventually accepted the cheapest estimate of several sent in and a contract was signed with Mr. Arbuthnot. Witness visited the work frequently during 12 or 16 months. The first contractor only worked for four months in 1921 and then he sublet the contract to Sin Kee, who, however, was unable to finish the building, because the money was insufficient. When the work had been stopped for several months, witness told defendant and his son that unless something were done the building would be ruined. Witness then made an approximate estimate of the amount required to finish the building and as no one wanted to take the contract he engaged a member of masons, carpenters and other workmen and put them to work under several foremen. Mr. Julices Rosenfeld eventually took over building.

Defendant made payments of approximately Tls. 25,000 for materials, on witness's order. Witness employed an overseer for the work and paid him. Witness had conversations with defendant almost every day and defendant made objections to the panels, woodwork, windows and knots in pine and witness gave instructions for the necessary alterations. Witness was claiming remuneration for his work, his expenses, plans and all the trouble he had had. He had received Tls. 850 of the amount of his fees.

Cross-examined, witness said that his fee was to be 5 per cent. He admitted that the house had not been built according to the plans and specifications, but that was because so many alterations were insisted upon. Mr. Arbuthnot was paid Tls. 9,000 up to the time he left the work. Witness did not accept responsibility for finishing the building after Sin Kee left, nor did he become contractor. He simply prepared an estimate and found the workmen. He said he would complete the building for Tls. 11,020, but he did not complete it himself. He claimed that when he left the house was constructed according to plans and specifications, save for the alterations made by defendant and it was these alterations that had to be completed.

Mr. Schuhl—The specifications called for a concrete staircase. What is the starcase?—Wood.

And steel windows?—They are wood. Steel windows cost too much money.

Were there any mirrors in the doors according to specifications?—I don't know.

The Judge—I suppose there was nothing to prevent an arrangement between the owner and the contractor to make alterations?

Mr. Schuhl—Quite so.

Witness said that he never had any transactions with Jacks & Co. about tiling the bathrooms, etc., but they had sent him a bill for Tls. 1,500. He denied that on October 8, 1922, defendant gave him Tls. 1,500 to pay this. The woodwork was supposed to be seasoned, but witness could not say whether it was. It was difficult to say, and architects were not supposed to be able to say whether wood was seasoned or not. He did not know how tests were made. There was a clause in the contract stating that there must not be any subletting without the architect's permission and it was because this was done that witness stopped work. Mr. Arbuthnot's contract was for Tls. 19,800.

Mr. G. C. Wingrove, A.R.I.B.A., called for the defence, said that he had read the specifications prepared by the plaintiff and he had inspected the building. Instead of a concrete staircase there was an inferior wooden one, the windows were of wood instead of steel and there were no mirrors in the doors except in the boudoir. It was very difficult to say what wood had been used, because it had all been painted. In China it was rather difficult to tell whether wood was seasoned, but one could tell whether it was free from sap. The house was not constructed according to the specifications and he estimated that it would cost approximately Tls. 5,000 to put it right. The glazing was of Belgian and he thought some Japanese manufacture, instead of plate and bevelled glass, as called for.

Mr. A. B. Rosenfeld said that the house was not constructed according to specifications and he had complained accordingly. Witness wanted to take action against Arbuthnot when he failed to complete the work, but plaintiff said that it would be too expensive, that the work would be held up and that the building would be ruined. Plaintiff then said that that he would undertake to finish it himself. The total cost of construction as paid to plaintiff, apart from what witness's son paid afterwards, was Tls. 26.472. When the second contractor threw up the sponge plaintiff agreed to complete the work for Tls. 1,100. Amongst other things, screen window had to be put into the house after it was taken over, although they were mentioned in the contract.

Mr. R. E. Stewardson F.R.I.B.A., said that he had examined those clauses of the contract which referred to parts of the house about which complaint had been made to him and on examining the wooden staircase and wooden house he found a most inferior wooden staircase and wooden windows, whilst the only mirrors were in the boudoir doors and these Mr. Rosenfeld said that he supplied himself. The woodwork was very inferior. In these particulars the house was not according to specifications.

Mr. Julius Rosenfeld corroborated most of his father's evidence. He added that when he took it over the house was not completed and he had to call in another contractor to finish it. Witness mentioned that whilst the first work was in progress he

"There was not a thing I did not complain about," said wit- [illegible] and threatened to lock him out [illegible] the flooding of the basement in wet weather and witness had to have the basement done over with waterproof cement to remedy [illegible] was cracked. After going into [illegible] Tls. 2,987 for interior work.

Judgment was reserved.

LINER'S CAPTAIN EXONERATED

Pres. Grant's Fuel Oil that Polluted Huangpu: Missing Rivet in Ship's Side

At the U. S. Commissioner's Court on Monday, Mr. N. E. Lurton dismissed a charge against Capt. Michael M. Jensen, master of the Admiral Line str President Grant, of polluting the Huangpu River with fuel oil when his ship was in port in March. The Commissioner held that Captain Jensen was a victim of circumstances beyond his control. Mr. M. Reader Harris appeared for the prosecution; Major C. P. Holcomb [illegible]

Mr. Reader Harris, in opening for the prosecution, said that on the arrival of the President Grant on March 7, large quantities of black oil were seen coming from the ship. This was about 3 p.m. and at 9 p.m. a quantity between 10 and 30 feet wide was still seen issuing from the vessel. The matter, he said, was a serious one involving danger of fire and contamination of the water supply. Such an occurrence might have the effect of cutting off the water supply of Shanghai for a considerable time.

Major Holcomb admitted that great quantities of oil did come from the ship's tank, further that the U. S. Shipping Board wished to comply with the Harbour regulations and did not care to challenge the local rules.

Capt. Jensen stated that when he brought the President Grant into Shanghai on March 7 on approaching the China Merchant's Eastern Wharf, he saw oil on the [illegible] side. Leaving the Chief Engineer he asked if they were pumping out the bilges and upon receiving a negative reply made further investigations. After tying up he noted the oil bubbling up amidships and then held a conference again with the Chief Engineer, they coming to the conclusion that the oil must be oozing from the settling tank on that side of the ship. He then ordered the fuel to be transferred to other tanks by pumping, which operation took [illegible] was [illegible] [illegible] tank.

[illegible] CHIEF AT FAULT.

Nothing more was done in Shanghai as the ship was fully loaded, but [illegible] in Kobe it was found possible to list the ship to the opposite side, thus exposing the leak. It was then seen that a 1 in rivet had dropped out altogether. This was presumably removed before their arrival in America when the damage was made good.

Capt. Whitney I. Eisler, of the U.S. Shipping Board, said it was his opinion that the internal pressure within the settling tank, it being above the surface of the water, was powerful enough to discharge water. Unless the captain took the ship from the port the oil must run into the river until it had all been pumped into the adjoining tanks the master had done all within his power to prevent pollution.

Mr. Reader Harris contended that the regulations were designed to [illegible] any kind of oil discharge [illegible] whatever. The Commissioner preferred to bring the matter before the national authorities of those who might allow such thing to occur rather than take action under the regulations, which might mean that a ship's clearance papers could be withheld.

MR. HUSAR'S ACCIDENT WHEN AT SEA

Struck on the Head Whilst Playing Medicine Ball: Claim in the U. S. Court

In the U. S. Court for China, on Tuesday, before Judge M. D. Purdy, Mr. L. G. Husar sued the United States Shipping Board and the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. for G.$50,000 damages for injuries received while travelling on board the str. President Lincoln in February, 1923. Messrs. Schuhl & Schoenfeld appeared for plaintiff and Messrs. Fessenden, Holcomb & Snyder for the defence.

Plaintiff stated that while travelling from San Francisco to Shanghai a year ago he was playing medicine ball with the ship's physician, Dr. Petersen, on the upper deck. It was his usual custom to indulge in this exercise daily with the doctor and afterwards to go below for a swim. On February 3, while taking part in the game, he tossed the ball into the air, but instead of following its course and dropping safely to his hands, it bumped into an awning spreader which then fell on his head, knocking him unconscious. Seven stitches were put into a wound in his forehead. The doctor told him that he would not have any permanent ill effects from the blow, though for some time after he was subject to severe headaches, which hindered him in the efficient performance of his duties. He felt pains under the scalp and was easily fatigued, while his eyes, which never caused any trouble (though he wore glasses) now bothered him very much. Three or four months after the injury he consulted an optician and had to get the prescription for his lenses altered, though for the previous [illegible] he had [illegible] every year or so, he had [illegible] at all inconvenienced. Dr. Pesin, Dr. Martin and Dr. O'Hara advised him to undergo a mild operation, which was done in January at the Victoria Nursing Home. His physicians had ordered him to take a long vacation and he was going to America in a few days, perhaps for six or nine months.

Dr. Martin said that he operated to remove a portion of the cervical fluid in the spine.

Dr. O'Hara corroborated Dr. Martin's statement.

Commander Giffen, of the U.S.S. Huron, gave technical evidence. It was his opinion that the awning spreader should have been made [illegible] with a pin, as it was [illegible] enough.

Mr. J. W. Schoenfeld, retired Commander of the U. S. N., also said he thought that the awning spreader should have been fastened down.

The case was adjourned.

Medical Evidence

Continuing their evidence for plaintiff, on Wednesday Captains [illegible] and Huntington [illegible] of the opinion that the awning spreader in question [illegible] without a pin [illegible] recognized as a safe [illegible]

Cross-examined by Mr. Snyder, [illegible] had been [illegible] properly constructed. He had seen similar ones unshipped by rolling seas.

The first witness for the defence was Capt. W. I. Eisler, American Lloyd's marine surveyor, who was of the opinion that this fastening was the customary one. He had never seen a pin used to make this type fast, and it was constructed in accordance with recognized principles of construction.

Mr. B. C. Haile, local agent of the company, and Mr. D. W. Murphy, American Loyd's engineer, said they were quite sure that the spreader had been secured in according with regulations.

Dr. D. G. Hiltner, giving medical evidence, said that he had made a minor examination. The scar seemed superficial, with no injury to the bone (this was very recent).

Mr. Snyder—What is this cerebro-spinal operation which the patient underwent?—It is made by the insertion of a needle and obtaining the internal pressure, which in the normal person should range between 60 and 100 mm. of water. It is usually not serious. The pressure in aggravated cases runs from 200 to 300 and sometimes 800 mm.

ONLY A SUPERFICIAL DIAGNOSIS.

Mr. Schuhl (Cross-examining)—You have never made a diagnosis of the case?—Not a real diagnosis.

Then all you really know about the case is what you have heard Mr. Husar say in evidence were his symptoms, your examination of the X-Ray plates and your three-minutes' conversation?—Yes.

Dr. S. A. Ransom, U. S. Public Health Service, stated that several weeks ago there were no visible symptoms of skull fracture, nor cerebral injury, but he had found evidence of traumatic neurosis. He did not believe that there had been a severe concussion of the brain.

In answer to Mr. Snyder witness said the extraction of 15 cc. of fluid was but one-quarter or one-fifth of what the average individual could stand.

In answer to Mr. Schuhl, witness said that concussion of the brain in many instances could not be determined by demonstrable anatomic examination, further that a beam 21 ft. long, weighing 40 lb. and falling three and a half feet would usually cause concussion of the brain, but that it all depended how and where it fell.

"AFFECTED PSYCHOLOGICALLY."

The deposition of Dr. Pederson, ship's surgeon on duty in the str. President Lincoln, was read into the record. It was to the effect that Mr. Husar, another passenger, and witness had [illegible] the medicine ball [illegible] the sun deck, their daily custom, when Mr. Husar, seemingly blinded by the sun, tossed the ball into the air instead of to him. He saw the beam falling and shouted to Mr. Husar, but could not attract his attention. He did not think that he was unconscious but appeared stunned for some time. The wound bled freely and after taking Mr. Husar below, witness thoroughly cleansed the cut and made seven stitches. Plaintiff appeared to be affected psychologically, for he continually referred to an accident in Shanghai, which befell a gentleman who afterwards died from spinal meningitis—it was traumatic neurosis. Witness had lashed the awning spreader to the posts immediately after the accident, within a day or two.

The hearing was adjourned, pending the arrival of another physician from Hangchow.

According to the *"Sinwanpao,"* Wong Tung, who is in charge of the Chapei Census Office, "has received an order from the Paoshan Magistrate to take a census in Chapei, and at the same time to find out whether any bad characters are mingling with the law-abiding residents." The answer is in the affirmative, and there is no need to go to the expense of a census to prove it.

CLAIM FOR WRONGFUL DISMISSAL

Story of Garage Employee's Alleged Misdeeds: A Shareholder

A claim for damages for alleged wrongful dismissal by a former employee of the Asiatic Motors Co. came before Judge Purdy at the U. S. Court on Thursday. Plaintiff, P. W. Kelly, in his petition states that he joined the defendant company on May 11, 1923, and remained with them until dismissed on November 29. He claims arrears in salary from May until November, inclusive, amounting to Tls. 1,433, the sum of Tls. 1,500 due to him in lieu of three months' notice and G. $900 as reimbursement on shares he bought from the company. Mr. F. J. Schuhl appeared for plaintiff; Mr. Haskell for defendants.

Plaintiff, in evidence, said that the money he had paid for the shares had never been returned to him.

The Judge—Has plaintiff ever tendered the shares?—I tendered the shares and was almost ejected from the office.

Mr. Haskell (cross-examining)—Have you ever had complaints from patrons dissatisfied with the work done on their cars?—(Witness) perhaps a few, between one and ten.

Have you ever overcharged?—Never. I have reduced charges made through error in the book-keeping department by the Chinese clerks.

Have you ever struck any of the employees of the company?—Yes, I slapped one who struck the gas coolie, and I may have used rough language to some to make them work.

The defence produced vouchers to show that payments had been made to plaintiff in September and the words "to square his account" written alongside "On account."

Witness stated that these first words had been added since the original signature to the documents. "I called attention to it in your office," he said.

"OVERCHARGED CUSTOMERS."

Mr. E. M. Mark, called for the defence, stated that there were many complaints on the work done at the service station (St. George's Garage) and numerous instances of overcharge by Mr. Kelly. There had been a refund of $100 to Mr. Solomon and Mr. Niles, and Mr. Ting had made similar complaints. Probably 50 per cent. of the customers had made complaints as to the service.

Mr. Schuhl (cross-examining)—You got Mr. Kelly to put $500 into the company?—Well, he did put in that amount.

Had you any money in the company when Mr. Kelly put in his funds?—No.

Is it not a fact that you used that $500 to pay the fees debited through incorporation. I cannot say for sure, for it is likely there was other money in the bank at the time.

Is it not a fact that you discharged Mr. Kelly because he would not put any more money into the company, so that you could put in some one who could?—No.

In the afternoon, Mr. Grant Mark, a director of the company, told the Court that it was his custom to visit the service station at least once a day and that he had heard many complaints about the type of repair work done. He proceeded to give instances.

Mr. Schuhl (cross-examining)—Is it not a fact that you came to St. George's Garage many times intoxicated and ordered Mr. Kelly round?—No.

Have your employees not struck because you did not pay them proper wages?

Mr. Haskell objected, but Mr. Schuhl stated to the Court that he merely wished to show that the staff was dissatisfied and would not do the work properly. Witness denied the allegation.

Mr. Schuhl—On many occasions did you not fail to pay salaries when they were due?—Witness—Yes, you might say that, but often it was only over the week end.

Did you ever suggest that Mr. Kelly should put more money into [illegible] the company?—Yes. [illegible] if what he had been [illegible] pany for 60 days.

Mr. P. W. Gr[illegible], general manager of the Asiatic Motors since October 15, told the Court that plaintiff had used vile language to him and [illegible] became positively insubordinate in his phraseology. There were many complaints as to Mr. Kelly's work.

The hearing was adjourned till next morning.

GUNRUNERS ON THE HUANGPU

Two Men from Crew of M. M. S. Chambord Sentenced to Imprisonment

Two Frenchmen, members of the the crew of the M. M. S. Chambord, named Antonini and Saby, received 12 and 10 days' imprisonment each, respectively, when brought before a Marine Court on board the French gunboat Colmar on charges of assault, attempting to smuggle arms into China (in the case of Antonini) and obstructing a Customs Officer whilst attempting to carry out his official duties (in the case of Saby), on Saturday.

According to the Water Police (who prosecuted on behalf of the Chinese Maritime Customs), a Customs tidewaiter named Hansen was on duty at the Whangpoo Wharf, on Sunday, whilst the M. M. S. Chambord was lying alongside. He intercepted two members of the crew who came down the gangway and on Antonini found a pistol. While he was busy searching this man, the other managed to get clear and escape into the Settlement. A struggle followed, during which the Frenchman struck Hansen a blow on the jaw. He (Antonini) then rushed up the gangway, followed by the tidewaiter. Here again there was a struggle, the other members of the crew meanwhile surrounding the fighters. Suddenly one of the crew (Saby), according to the Customs officer's story, took 10 pistols from Antonini's waist belt and ran off into the crews' quarters. He came up again and struck the Customs officer in the stomach. Shortly afterwards the officers came to the scene and rescued Hansen, who accordingly reported the matter to his superiors.

H. & S. BANK BURGLAR SENTENCED

Four Years for Series of Daring Exploits

Sentence of four years' imprisonment was passed by Magistrate Kuan and Mr. Martin at the Mixed Court on Wednesday, on Woo Sung-kuei, alias Zoo Hong-yau, the burglar who broke into the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank early on the morning of April 4.

Accused had been remanded since April 4, when it was stated by police witnesses that he [illegible] entrance to the bank's premises at an early hour on that day. Seen by a watchman, he made a hurried exit. He made a wild attempt to escape, but before very long was caught by the police.

At the resumed hearing on Wednesday, a long record of burglaries was proved against him. He began operations on August 10 last year by robbing Medhurst College. Since that time he had broken into the Chinese Post Office, Peking Road, a godown at 1 Kungping Road, an office at the Old Ningpo Wharf, the China Merchants' S. N. Co.'s offices, Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son, the Equitable Eastern Banking Corporation, and the Small Investors,' Ltd., visiting the latter's premises a few minutes before making the attempt on the Hongkong Bank. The proceeds of his thefts must have amounted to approximately $4,000.

On a charge of begging, a man named H. P. Jackson was committed for trial at the U. S. Commissioner's Court on Monday. Defendant was the only occupant of the American Gaol on Monday, four prisoners recently sentenced to terms ranging from four to six months and fined in addition $100, departing under escort the same morning for Bilibid Prison by the str. President Grant.

An open letter!

Form 38

British-American Tobacco Company (China) Limited.

英商駐華英美烟公司 (有限公司)

Head Office—Shanghai.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "POWHATTAN SHANGHAI" CODES USED — BENTLEY, A.B.C., A.I., WESTERN UNION, PANTELEGRAPHY TYBO CODE.

SIR H. SCRUTTE OWEN, BART., CHAIRMAN
S. D. NEWSOM, SECRETARY

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Subject

Shanghai, April 22nd, 1924.

To Consumers of High Grade Cigarettes:

We wish to introduce to you our latest High Grade Cigarette— "Golden Specials," made from the very best quality of tobacco grown in Virginia, manufactured in England, attractively packed in hermetically sealed tins of twenty-five cigarettes.

The tobacco from which these cigarettes are manufactured has been carefully selected by experts. This fact combined with our unexcelled manufacturing facilities and long experience in the manufacture of cigarettes enables us to guarantee the quality and to recommend that you give them a trial.

"Golden Specials" cigarettes can be obtained at all High Grade tobacconists.

Yours faithfully,

British-American Tobacco Co., (China) Ltd.

E-4

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

MR. MACDONALD'S REVIEW OF LABOUR'S FIRST TRIAL OF OFFICE

Labour Bigger Not in Size But in Mind: Hopes of Agreement With Russia: Housing Problems: The New Hope for European Settlement

London, Apr. 19.

Unusual interest centred on the speech to-day by the Premier in connexion with the annual conference of the Independent Labour Party at York.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, opening the conference, declared that since January Labour had become bigger, not in size but in mind. "The Party and the Cabinet are both doing well." He denied the dictum that they were in office but not in power.

The Prime Minister alluded to the conference with the Russian representatives in London after years of misunderstanding and mischief, which had not produced a brass farthing to Russia's creditors but had produced unemployment and poverty to hundreds of British families.

In reply to a question whether the Singapore scheme was still being pursued, Mr. MacDonald declared: "We are in office with power to do so."

The Government had got to grips with the housing problem. A scheme was being drawn up to provide houses that would be a pleasure for people to live in.

The Prime Minister was glad to find the country behind him in the view that the experts' reports ought to be taken as a whole. There were things in them that he disliked, but if he began to raise details, France, Belgium and Germany would do the same and they would be exactly where they started. "Here is Europe's chance to put them into operation all at once and all together, and then, when that is done, to go on and finish the job and bring peace and security to the continent."

Mr. MacDonald urged that their attitude should be to accept Germany's word. He pointed out that the greatest danger Germany now offered was industrial deterioration and not the danger of arms.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald stated that Dominion status for India was the Labour Government's ideal. He appealed to his Indian friends to do their bit for British democracy and keep faith in the Labour Government. He declared that the Government inquiry now being held was in no way an expedient for wasting time, but must produce results which would be the basis for consideration of the Indian constitution which, he hoped, would help the Indians to co-operate towards the creation of a system which would be self-government.

The Prime Minister saw no reason why the country should be bothered by a general election for two or three years. He believed that his duty was to carry on the Government and keep off an election, which nobody wanted and which, if it came, would settle nothing. He did not believe in a coalition and did not think that an election would be kept off by it. It would take at least two or three years to put Europe on a peaceful footing and get industrial relations established in anything like a normal way.—Reuter.

A LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

Premier's Rousing Reception: Government's Aims and Justification

London, Apr. 21.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald attended the Independent Labour Party Conference at York to-day. The Prime Minister was given a rousing reception.

Replying to a resolution assuring him of the Party's hearty support, Mr. MacDonald said that the Labour Government was doing its best. He could not assure them that it would always do what they wanted. The Government had been justified in what it had done. It might have made mistakes and it might not have the true faith of the Empire, but the great thing it had got to do was to impress on public opinion, not only in Britain but throughout the world, that a Labour Government was a practical thing and a good thing.

The Cabinet was terribly overburdened, the Prime Minister continued, but he had received every assistance from the well-informed staff of the Foreign Office.

He did not know, he said, how long they would be in office and he did not care very much so long as they did good work. They were helping the world to a new frame of mind and getting people to see that the different point of view might be to their benefit. So long as they did that they were perfectly willing to continue.

Later.

The Independent Labour Party Conference at York to-day adopted a watered-down resolution on disarmament policy. The Commissioner of Works, Mr. F. W. Jowett, carried the meeting in pointing out that the Labour Government would go out of office if Britain alone declared in favour of disarmament.—Reuter.

Wellington, N.Z., Apr. 23.—The Naval Special Service Squadron has been sighted.—Reuter.

LIBERAL AND LABOUR AMENITIES

Mr. Lloyd George's Tirade Against the Attitude of the Government

London, Apr. 22.

Mr. Lloyd George in a speech to-day at Llanfairfechan declared that it was absolutely untrue that there was a revolt against Mr. Asquith. There was, however, a revolt against the humiliating conditions under which the Liberal Party was expected to keep in power a Government that had never concealed its hostility towards the Liberals.

Labour speakers, the ex-Premier continued, had said that the Liberal Party was effete and done for. They were told that there would not be an election for two or three years; meanwhile the Liberals would be the oxen to draw Labour over the rough roads in Parliament and would finally be slaughtered. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, he declared, in three months had dissipated the stock of goodwill of those who put Labour in office. The Labour Party should reconsider its attitude before it was too late.—Reuter.

IMPERIAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

Government's Endorsement of Many Resolutions: Legislation in Preparation

London, Apr. 23.

The Government has issued a White Paper specifying its position regarding the various resolutions of the Imperial Economic Conference and showing that it endorses most of them and is giving effect to them by administrative measures and the introduction of legislation.

It hopes at an early date to introduce legislation for reorganisation of the Imperial Institute. The necessary instructions are being prepared regarding the placing at the disposal of the Dominion and Colonial Governments of the services of his Majesty's commercial and diplomatic officers, and the Government will gladly take advantage of the Dominions' offer regarding the services of their oversea trade commissioners.

A revised scheme of Imperial trade statistics is being prepared for submission to the other Governments concerned.

The Government is preparing a scheme of mutual interchange of aeronautical information and will take steps to keep the other Governments fully informed of developments regarding airship services.

It is inviting the colonies and protectorates to adopt a scheme whereby patents granted in Britain should extend to the colonies and protectorates on registration.

The Government is reserving any expression of its views on tariff preference, shipping taxation and immunity of State enterprises pending the Budget discussions in Parliament.—Reuter.

BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION

Wonderful Display at Wembley: Opening Ceremony Performed by the King: Cosmopolitan Crowd's Enthusiasm

London, Apr. 22.

Splendid weather during the past few days immensely helped forward the day and night efforts of the army of workers in the final spurt to bring the British Empire Exhibition to a state of practical completion in time for the opening. The finishing touches are now being put to many sections. It is estimated that the great show will be 95 per cent. ready when the King, accompanied by the Queen, arrive in State on April 23 from Windsor.

The proceedings in connexion with the opening ceremony will begin at 10.30 a.m. by massed bands, a Brigade of Guards and massed choirs. Guards of Honour will be furnished by the Navy, the Army and the Air Force. The representatives of the Dominions and the Colonies will be posted on a corner of the Royal Dais. The musical programme will last an hour until the arrival of Their Majesties, who will be welcomed by the Prince of Wales as the President of the Exhibition. His Majesty's reply will be delivered before an audience of 150,000 people in the Stadium, while elaborate broadcasting arrangements have been made to transmit the speech to every part of the country. A brief religious ceremony will follow, after which a Royal salute of 21 guns will be fired and the Union Jack will be broken over the Dais, and the Dominion and Colonial flags on their respective buildings.

Reception to Far Eastern Visitors.

London, Apr. 21.

Mr. and Mrs. Chu Chao-hsin held a reception at the Chinese Legation yesterday in honour of Mr. Liang Shih-yi and the Hongkong representatives at the British Empire Exhibition A hundred and fifty Far Eastern guests were present.—Reuter.

Telegraphic Arrangements.

Shanghai, Apr. 22.

At the British Empire Exhibition to be opened at Wembley tomorrow, the Eastern Associated Telegraph Companies will occupy a space with their own exhibits, and so forth.

For the convenience of exhibitors, visitors and others, they will also have their own telegraph station for the acceptance and delivery of telegrams at a stand at Avenue 15, Bay 7 to 11, in the Palace of Engineering, which will be in direct communication with their London station at Electra House.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

London, Apr. 22.

On the occasion of the opening of the British Empire Exhibition, Mr. S. M. Bruce, the Commonwealth Prime Minister, has cabled the High Commissioner for Australia in London a message which concludes: "Let us on this day, in the spirit that animated and sustained our fathers, pledge ourselves by loyalty to the Empire's products to build up on a lasting foundation of the prosperity of every individual citizen a greater and a nobler Empire than we have yet known, one which, owing its existence to supremacy in the arts of peace, will remain the greatest factor in maintaining peace."

On the occasion of the opening of the Exhibition, Sir James Stevenson has been created a Baron.

Huge Surging Crowds.

Apr. 23.

Overcast and chilly weather in no way damped the enthusiasm of the cosmopolitan crowds visiting the British Empire Exhibition. Hundreds of thousands of people were surging to Wembley from six in the morning in a continuous series of special trains packed to suffocation. The roads were crowded with omnibuses and motors. Innumerable schoolboys and girls were among the earliest arrivals. The scenes at the Exhibition defied description. An army of workers, including the clerical and managerial staffs, were very busy throughout the night with the final stages of clearing up. Scarlet bands were massed outside the Stadium at an earlier hour and the huge white-robed choir was already in position facing the royal scarlet, gold and purple dais.

Their Majesties arrived at 11.30 and were greeted by a tremendous roar of applause which drowned the fanfare of trumpets. Their Majesties were received on the richly carpeted dais by the Prince of Wales as the President of the Exhibition, who had arrived earlier, and presented the address.

Powerful Agency of Civilization.

The Prince of Wales, in asking His Majesty to declare open the exhibition, referred to the Exhibition as a picture of our commonwealth of nations. He truly believed that it would suggest to the world that the most powerful agency of civilization had its heart set upon peaceful aims and the good of mankind. In expressing gratitude to the organizers and others, including the representatives of the Dominions, India and the Colonies, the Prince said that the great work had been carried through with splendid loyalty and energy. In conclusion the Prince of Wales hoped that the result would be to impress vividly upon all the peoples of the Empire to work unitedly and energetically to develop the glorious heritage for the benefit of the British race, for the benefit of the other races which accepted our guardianship and for the benefit of mankind generally.

The Prince of Wales wore naval uniform and received a great ovation, the vast audience stood and the band played the National Anthem. The dais on which the Diplomatic Corps, the Cabinet Ministers and the High Commissioners were seated presented a brilliant colour scheme, with officers and soldiers of numerous regiments, including Indian, African and every conceivable kind of uniform. The whole was flanked by flower beds and fronted by very green lawns.

The King's Speech.

His Majesty replied to the to the Prince of Wales in the following terms:—

"It gives me very great pleasure and satisfaction to come here to-day with the Queen for the purpose of opening the British Empire Exhibition. Our heartiest congratulations are due to the Board of Management, to the executive council and to all who worked with and under them for the marvellous organization and industry which produced this triumphant result. I am well aware of the numerous adverse circumstances, including exceptionally unfavourable weather, which had to be faced. These were successfully overcome by arduous labours carried out with resolution and goodwill. Many who, like the Queen and myself, have seen the work in the earlier stages can appreciate to the utmost the skill and toil which have translated a magnificent conception into this splendid reality that now stands before us.

Free and Tolerant Co-operation.

"I am happy to welcome the representatives, official and unofficial, of my Dominions beyond the seas and to express the pleasure we all feel that they are taking part in to-day's opening ceremony. You have said that your object has been to produce a picture of our commonwealth of nations. No one can doubt that this has been fully attained. The Exhibition may be said to reveal to us the whole Empire in little, containing within its 220 acres of ground a vivid model of the architecture, art and industry of all the races which come under the British flag. It represents to the world a graphic illustration of that spirit of free and tolerant co-operation which inspired peoples of different races, creeds, institutions and ways of thought to unite in a single commonwealth and to contribute their varying national gifts to one great end.

"This Exhibition will enable us to take stock of the resources, actual and potential, of the Empire as a whole, to consider where these exist and how they can best be developed and utilized, to take counsel together as to how the peoples can co-operate to supply one another's needs, and to promote national well-being. It stands for coordination of our scientific knowledge and common effort to overcome disease and to better the difficult conditions which still surround life in many parts of the Empire. Think, for example, of the scientific work accomplished in recent years for prevention and treatment of tropical diseases. And it is easy to imagine how greatly the Exhibition can contribute towards progress of our tropical territories and development of the yet unexplored capacities of the Empire.

The Exhibition of 1851.

"Our thoughts go back to the great exhibition of 1851 associated for all time with memories of Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort and to the brilliant hopes of growth of international peace and friendship with which it was inaugurated. Our object here is not quite so ambitious and for that very reason, perhaps, we are more hopeful of attainment. We believe that this Exhibition will bring the peoples of the Empire to a better knowledge of how to meet their reciprocal wants and aspirations and that where brotherly feeling and habit of united action already exist the growth of inter-Imperial trade will make the bonds of sympathy yet closer and stronger. Business relations between strangers may or may not lead to friendship, but co-operation between brothers for the better development of the family estate can hardly fail to promote family affection.

"We hope further that success of the Exhibition may bring lasting benefits not to the Empire only but to mankind in general. No nation or group of nations can isolate itself from the main stream of modern commerce, and if this Exhibition leads to greater development of the material resources of the Empire and to expansion of its trade, it will at the same time be raising the economic life of the world from the disorganization caused by the War.

"I declare the British Empire Exhibition open and I pray that by the blessing of God it may conduce to the unity and prosperity of all my peoples and to the peace and well-being of the world."

The speech was transmitted by gigantic loudspeakers to every part of the grounds and was broadcast to every part of the country.

The conclusion was marked by a renewed outburst of cheering and waving of hats and handkerchiefs which was followed by a salute of 21 guns. Simultaneously 300 flags, representing all parts of the Empire, were broken and fluttered in the breeze.

Workmen and Their Majesties.

Their Majesties received a number of engineers and workmen. The King was presented with a memento in the form of a gold model of the world. The Colonial Secretary's daughter presented the Queen with a bouquet. The band and choirs played and sang British music and the massed bands joined in playing "Rule Britannia," which the spectators rose and sang as their Majesties departed.

The exhibition was most brilli- The most enthusiastic was the appearance of Majesties in the arena with ing escort. There were State carriages with four s apiece. The King wore naval uniform and the Queen wore fur cloak. The bands crashed the National Anthem as they lighted. There was profound ence when the slight figure of Prince of Wales rose from the . The Prince's words were pronounced in sharp tones throughout the great arena followed by hand-clapping. Then the King read his reply. Every word was heard with very great ness. After that the Bishop of London offered a prayer. Then followed the salute of guns. There pretty incident at the close of the ceremony when a telegraph messenger ascended the royal dais with a large letter informing the King that the royal speech went round the world in 100 seconds. The boy was loudly cheered as he the arena.—Reuter.

Intense Interest in Overseas Exhibits

London, Apr. 23.

The British Empire Exhibition was thronged all day long. The 80,000 visitors who attended the opening of the Stadium overflowed the Dominions and Colonial pavilions, which were often impassable, especially the smaller buildings of the African colonies and dependencies, Palestine and Hongkong. The novelties of the Hongkong shopping centre cast a spell on many visitors, while the native workers in the walled cities of West Africa were overwhelmed with the attentions of the crowd. The picturesque and roomy Malaya pavilion was thronged, the main interest centring on the arts and crafts display with indigenous talent working on primitive industries.

The clearness of the broadcast transmission of the Stadium ceremony was such that a gramaphone record was taken of the King's speech with a medium-loud speaker. This was broadcast late tonight with His Majesty's permission for the benefit of those who were unable to hear the speach in the morning. His Majesty's words were heard very distinctly. The speech was also broadcast in Esperanto for the benefit of Continental listeners.

The letter handed to the King by a telegraph boy at the close of the opening ceremony was from the Eastern Telegraph Company. It informed His Majesty that his special message: "I have this moment opened the British Empire Exhibition" went round the world in 80 seconds.

Why the Premier Was Absent.

It is explained that the Prime Minister was absent from Wembley for the opening of the British Empire Exhibition to-day because during Easter he was busy at the conference of the Independent Labour Party and had received the sanction of the King to take three days' holiday in order to obtain a short rest before the House of Commons reassembled.—Reuter.

Brilliant Scene at Night.

Later.

Wembley presented a brilliant picture at nightfall, when the main avenues and buildings were illuminated by thousands of lamps. The Stadium was lighted up by powerful searchlights. There were gay scenes in the Hall, where thousands of people danced out the historic day.—Reuter.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN ELECTIONS

Campaign Opened by Speeches of Party Leaders: General Smuts's Programme

Capetown, Apr. 23.

The South Africa election campaign was opened for the Nationalists by speeches by the leader, General Hertzog, and the Cape leader, Mr. F. S. Malan, and for the South African party by General Smuts.

General Hertzog declared that the Republican bogey had never been on the programme of the Nationalists and that he would be a fool to press it unless the English wanted it as much as the Dutch. He was closely heckled over this remarkable assertion.

Mr. F. S. Malan also spoke enigmatically on the subject of independence. Both were endeavouring to convince the electors that the Nationalist policy on this matter coincided with that of General Smuts.

Speaking at Pretoria, General Smuts announced the Government's programme of policy, which embraces a number of broad, progressive measures. He pointed to the Government's past accomplishments including the destruction of racialism by securing co-operation amongst the people of the Union. General Smuts charged the Nationalists with endeavouring to shelve the question of secession temporarily because of the pact with the Labour party. He described the pact as an election dodge.—Reuter.

FRANCE AND GERMAN REPARATIONS

Demand that Reduction Must Be Balanced by Cutting Dues to Britain

Paris, Apr. 16.

A note handed the Reparations Commission says that the German Government consider that the experts' reports offer a practical basis for a rapid solution of the reparations problem. The Government, therefore, declare their willingness to collaborate in the execution of the experts' plans.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 16.

The steady improvement in foreign exchange since the reparations experts' reports has been enhanced by German acceptance of the plans. Sterling to-day reached $4.35\frac{1}{8}$ and Belgian francs 80.37.—Reuter.

Rome, Apr. 16.

It is semi-officially intimated that a meeting between the Premier, Signor Mussolini, and the Italian experts decided that the experts' reports constitute a suitable basis for the solution of the reparations question.—Reuter.

Paris, Apr. 17.

The Reparations Commission, taking note of Germany's endorsement of the experts' conclusions, has unanimously decided to approve, within the limits of its authority, such conclusions, and to adopt the measures contained in the reports to the interested Governments with a view to the plans becoming fully effective at the earliest possible moment.

The Commission has further decided to request the German Government to furnish as quickly as possible bills and decrees destined to assure complete execution of the plans, and to designate the German members of the committees to deal with railways and industrial mortgages, etc.

Apr. 19.

Discussing the forthcoming inter-Allied conversations, the *"Matin"* states that the French standpoint is firstly, that the German debt cannot be reduced without proportionate reduction of inter-Allied debts and, secondly, that pressure on Germany cannot be given up if the Allies do not determine beforehand the measures to be taken in case of German default.

It is reported from Rome, where Gen. Dawes, the president of one of the expert committees is staying, that he has declared that Germany must make reparation for war damages. He also said that the occupation of the Ruhr alone had made possible the work of the expert committees, and guaranteed the carrying out of the recommendations.—Reuter

French Premier's Approval of Allied Experts' Plans

Paris, Apr. 21.

M. Poincaré has communicated to the Reparations Commission the French Government's attitude with regard to the reports of the Committees of Experts. He says that the Government approve the plan fully as much as the Allied Governments. He invites the Commission to formulate suggestions with regard to the carrying out of the plan.

The Prime Minister expresses the view that a number of preliminary measures must be executed before the present pledges in the Ruhr can be exchanged for others. Such changes must be dependent on previous agreement amongst the Allies on sanctions in the event of default by Germany.—Reuter.

THE LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS

U. S. President in Favour of Another World Conference to Restore Harmony

New York, Apr. 22.

President Coolidge, in an address at the annual lunch of the Associated Press to-day, announced that with a definite settlement of German reparations firmly established he was in favour of calling another world conference to consider further limitation of armament and modification of international law. The Washington Conference had done a great deal to restore international harmony and goodwill, but the questions of submarines, aircraft and land forces were still unsolved.

The President declared that the report of the expert committee under the chairmanship of Gen. Charles G. Dawes was unsurpassed in importance since the Armistice, and he trusted that it would commend itself to all the European Governments interested as a method of arriving at a stable adjustment of reparations.

The speaker indicated that private American capital would be forthcoming for a loan to Germany.—Reuter's American Service.

AGITATION AGAINST IRAQ TREATY

No Financial Assistance to Meet Ottoman Debt: More Concessions Expected

Bagdad, Apr. 20.

An agitation, largely conducted by lawyers and accompanied by the wildest misrepresentations, has broken out against the acceptance of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty which possibly the Constituent Assembly will refuse to accept without large modifications. Indeed, it is reported that only 14 out of 100 deputies can be depended upon to vote for the Treaty.

The agitators assert that Britain does not guarantee that the Mosul vilayet will not be surrendered to Turkey or the defence of the other frontiers of Iraq, and that the Treaty gives no financial assistance, except the maintenance of British forces in Iraq, while Iraq has to shoulder a large share of the Ottoman Debt and the huge expense of expansion of the national army, which would mean early bankrutcy.

King Feisul and his ministers are doing their utmost to counteract the agitation, but the deputies believe that if the Assembly rejects the Treaty, Britain will make large concessions in order to retain a footing in Iraq.

Apr. 21.

Extremists yesterday stabbed in a street two deputies who were known to favour ratification of the Anglo-Iraq Treaty.—Reuter.

RUSSIA A RELIABLE DEBTOR

Statements by MM. Trotsky and Zinovieff: British Bankers' Demands

Moscow, Apr. 21.

M. Trotsky, in an interview, declared that Russia was a reliable debtor. She wanted to get money from England, but there was no question of "saving" Russia, which could dispense with such aid if necessary. "We want to establish better relations with capitalistic countries, but why should they require us to cease being Communists when we don't demand that they cease to be bourgeois?" The Soviet would try to avoid hostilities with Rumania, he said, provided Bessarabia was given an opportunity for self-determination.

M. Zinovieff, in a speech, declared that if the demands of the British bankers represented England's minimum, there was nothing doing. Russia would make great concessions for a loan, but not so as to be held in thrall.—Reuter.

M. Trotsky Truculent and Also Virulent

Riga, Apr. 23.

Since his return to Moscow and resumption of his duties as the head of the Military Council, M. Trotsky has adopted a more truculent attitude than ever. He has promised to make the British press, which criticized his Tallis speech, sing another tune before long. He described Mr. Ramsay MacDonald as "a banker's clerk" and threw cold water on the Anglo-Russian Conference in London. M. Trotsky also attacked Americans, whom he described as more hypocritically base than the White Guards.—Reuter.

KIEFF TREASON TRIAL

M. Poincare's Ironical Reply to Chicherin: Let Soviet Murder Whom It Will

Paris, Apr. 23.

M. Poincaré has replied to M. Chicherin, who in answer to a telegram from the former indignantly rejected France's attempt to interfere in the Kieff trial on behalf of "spies."

The Premier says that the French Government, in transmitting to the Soviet Government a petition from French savants asking for clemency for their Russian comrades, did not intend to interfere in Russian internal affairs. He adds that the Soviet Government is perfectly free to disregard considerations of humanity and denies the allegation of M. Chicherin that the condemned persons tried at Kieff had collaborated with the French secret service.—Reuter.

CHARGE OF CORRUPT PRACTICES

Ex-Ministers of Newfoundland Cabinet Arrested for Alleged Larceny

St. John's, Newfoundland, Apr. 22.

Sir Richard Squires, former Prime Minister of Newfoundland, has been arrested on a charge of larceny of $20,000. Mr. Alex Campbell, former Minister of Agriculture and Mines; Mr. John Meaney, former Liquor Controller; and Mr. Whitford McNeilly, former Clerk of the Crown Lands Office, have also been arrested on charges of larceny of $400, $100,000 and $30,000, respectively.

Sir Richard Squires, Mr. Meaney and Mr. McNeilly have been admitted to bail in $40,000 each and Mr. Campbell in $4,000.

Mr. Alex Rooney, Accountant-General of the Post Office, who is charged with larceny of $3,000, escaped to Canada a fortnight ago.

Mr. William O'Reilly, former Magistrate in Placentia, is being conveyed here on a charge of obtaining $12,000 by false pretences.

The charges have been formulated as a result of the investigation of a Royal Commission, which reported alleging irregularities in several Ministries and a waste of public funds in the period preceding the election in cases like "paying idlers for tasks they did not perform." The report specifically blamed Sir Richard Squires himself and alleged that he received through his secretary $20,000 with tainted history from a Mr. Meaney, Liquor Controller, and that he similarly received $43,000 from the Dominion Steel Co. when the latter were negotiating with the Government for renewal of an ore royalty contract.

Ex-Premier's Denials.

In the course of the inquiry, the former Prime Minister unequivocally denied the allegations, although he admitted that moneys had been put to the credit of his account for the use of the "Daily Star," a newspaper, while he was absent from the Colony between August and December, 1920.—Reuter.

OBITUARY

Signora Eleanora Duse

Pittsburg, Apr. 21.

The death is announced of Signora Eleanora Duse, the famous Italian tragedienne, owing to influenza, at the age of 62.—Reuter.

*** Signora Duse was one of the world's greatest actresses, whose name must be coupled with Sarah Bernhardt and Ellen Terry.

Born at Vigevano, on the borders of Piedmont and Lombardy, of a family of actors, in 1859 Signora Duse made a romantic first stage appearance, playing Juliet for the first time at Juliet's age (or little more) in Juliet's own city, Verona. By 1885 she was recognized at home as Italy's greatest actress, and this verdict was confirmed by that of all the leading cities of Europe and America. In 1892 she won a splendid triumph at the Karl Theatre in Vienna. In 1893 she made her first appearances in New York and London. For some years she was closely associated with Gabriele d'Annunzio, and several of his plays, notably "La Città Morta" (1898) and "Francesca da Rimini" (1891), provided her with important parts.

But some of her great successes during the 'eighties and early 'nineties—the days of her chief triumphs—were in Italian versions of such plays as "La Dame aux Camélias," in which Sarah Bernhardt was already famous; and Signora Duse's reputation as an actress was founded less on her creations than on her magnificent individuality. In contrast to the great French actress she avoided all "make-up"; her art depended on intense naturalness rather than stage effect, sympathetic force and poignant intellectuality rather than the theatrical emotionalism of the French tradition. Her dramatic genius gave a new reading to the parts, and during these years the admirers of the two leading actresses of Europe practically constituted two rival schools of appreciation.

Last June at the age of 61 Signora Duse was in London. Her hair almost white, her intense and pale face deeply lined and full of suffering (for serious ill-health had kept her off the stage for long periods), she made a tremendous impression in an Italian version of Ibsen's "Lady from the Sea." In an alien country, acting a difficult play, to an audience mainly composed of persons who did not understand one word of what she was saying, it was at once demonstrated that the greatness of Duse was not on the decline. Her rank among the great actresses of history remains indisputable.

Miss Marie Corelli

London, Apr. 21.

The death is announced of Miss Marie Corelli, the eminent novelist, at the age of 59.—Reuter.

*** The late Miss Marie Corelli was of mingled Italian and Scottish (Highland) parentage and connexions and was adopted in her infancy by Charles Mackay, the well-known song-writer and *litterateur*. Brought up in the childhood in England, she was afterwards sent to France and educated in a convent, where she received with other instruction a first-class musical training. Her first book, "A Romance of Two Worlds," was an instant success, and from that time she devoted herself entirely to literature. Amongst her many publications were "Vendetta," "Thelma," "Soul of Lilith," "Barabbas," "The Sorrows of Satan," "The Mighty Atom," "The murder of Delicia," "The Master Christian," "Temporal Power," and in recent years "The Young Diana," "My Little Bit" and "The Secret Power."—Ed.

Gen. Sir John Dunne, K. C. B.

London, Apr. 20.

The death is announced of General Sir John Hart Dunne, K.C.B., at the age of 88

Sir John Dunne joined the Army as an Ensign in the Wiltshire Regiment in 1852. He served through the Crimean War and took part in the battles of Alma, Balaclava, Inkerman and the siege of Sevastopol. He also served throughout the China War of 1860 and carried and hoisted the Union flag at the capture of the Inner North Taku Fort. He was with the advance guard at the action of Changiawhan and Foliatchan and the capture of Peking.—Reuter.

HARRY THAW TRIAL SENSATION

Convicted Man Now Declared to be Sane: New Trial Called For

Philadelphia, Apr. 22.

The jury at the inquiry into the mental condition of Harry Thaw, who killed the famous architect, Mr. Stanford White, of New York, in 1906, and was subsequently incarcerated in lunatic asylums, declared him sane and competent to handle his large estate. His mother supported the claim of sanity, but his former wife, Evelyn, and the Thaw estate contested the case. The jury deliberated for seven hours. The opposition have moved for a new trial. —Reuter's American Service.

∴ Few criminal trials have excited such worldwide interest as that of Harry Thaw, an extremely wealthy young American. The crime with which he was charged was that of murdering Stanford White, a prominent New York architect, on the Madison Square Roof Garden, his alleged motive being his wife's protection from White's attentions. At the time the act took place "Madame Butterfly" was being played. Thaw underwent three trials, being defended by the best counsel in the country, while Mr. William Travers Jerome prosecuted. These trials occupied over two years, and on the third hearing Thaw was adjudged insane.

He was then sent to an asylum as a criminal lunatic, but after spending a few years in the asylum succeeded in escaping and with the connivance of friends reached Pennsylvania, where again he was arrested. This last trial arises out of the latest arrest.

THE PUNJAB EMEUTE

2,000 Arrests Made: Need of Inquiry into Sikh Shrines Controversy

Simla, Apr. 19.

The fourth Akali Jatha, numbering 500, has been arrested at Jaito, making a total of over 2,000 arrests, including the third Jatha which was arrested a fortnight ago. The fifth Jatha is starting shortly and probably will also be arrested. A feature of the arrests is the calm submission of the Akalis in response to the recent advice given by Mr. Gandhi not to show violence.

The first band of Akalis were arrested on February 22 after a fight in which 14 Akalis were killed and 34 wounded. They were met on their entry into Nabha State by the British Administrator and a small party of Nabha troops.

The second Jatha arrived at Jaito on March 14 and quietly surrendered to the British Administrator.

Meanwhile, the Punjab Government has appointed a committee presided over by Sir William Vardwood entirely composed of non-officials to recommend legislation to settle the Sikh controversy.—Reuter.

Allahabad, Apr. 19.

A raid on Dera Ismail Khan on April 16 resulted in the abduction of 17 persons by a gang of 25 Mahsuds under the notorious outlaw Jan. Baksha. Seven of the captives subsequently escaped.—Reuter.

Arrest of Mahsuds on Indian Frontier

Peshawar, Apr. 21.

Frontier constabulary have carried out an exceptionally successful operation at Draband against the Madsud raiders, who recently kidnapped a number of Hindus. Ambushed by the police, the entire gang of 11 Mahsuds, including four notorious outlaws responsible for a number of raids, were captured with rifles, Mills' hand-grenades and other weapons. One constabulary-man was killed and two villagers wounded.—Reuter.

Lahore, Apr. 22.

A number of prominent Sikh leaders in the Punjab have been arrested in connexion with the Akali agitation under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, including the president, the secretary and the manager of the district Sikh shrine committees.—Reuter.

Allahabad, Apr. 23.

The "Pioneer's" North-West Frontier correspondent reports that the Mahsuds fired on a patrol of the Berkshire Regiment near Razmak on April 15, killing two and wounding one. The artillery, as a reprisal, shelled Mandesh, the former Mahsud capital.—Reuter.

INDIAN GOVERNMENT

Native Press Angry with the Labour Party

Calcutta, Apr. 16.

The Swarajist leader, Mr. Das, has been elected Mayor of Calcutta, defeating the European candidate, Mr. Willson, by 59 votes to 13.

In a speech after his election, Mr. Das denied that the corporation would be anti-European or that the Party intended to obstruct the city's affairs. He outlined a constructive programme, including free primary education, medical relief, improved housing and sanitation and suburban developments.—Reuter.

Simla, Apr. 17.

The debate on India in the British House of Commons on April 15 is welcomed here as clarifying the situation and strengthening the hands of the Government of India. Politicians who hoped that the Labour-Liberal combination would succeed in carrying an amendment to Viscount Curzon's motion to appoint a commission, are disappointed, and the Indian press angrily declares that the Labour Government has missed an opportunity of getting a favourable verdict from the House of Commons on the Earl of Reading's Government.—Reuter.

NATIONALIST OUTRAGE IN EGYPT

British Corporal Murdered: The Assassin Caught

Heliopolis, Apr. 19.

Cpl. Ryan of the British Air Force, was stabbed to death near the aerodrome to-day. A number of men of the Air Force pursued two fugitive Egyptians and caught one who dropped a blood-stained dagger. The prisoner said that he was a student. It transpires that he was under police observation two years ago when Mr. Hatton of the State Railways was murdered.—Reuter.

Cairo, Apr. 22.

The student arrested at Heliopolis on Saturday has confessed that he murdered Corporal Ryan of the Air Force and has disclosed the name of his accomplice. He declared that his object was to create trouble between Zaglul Pasha's Ministry and the British Residency.—Reuter.

Washington, Apr. 18. Following receipt of requests from Chambers of Commerce and various Church and women's organisations, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has ordered an early hearing by a sub-committee of the proposal that the United States shall take part in the World Court at the Hague. —Reuter's American Service.

EARTH TREMORS IN ENGLAND

Severe Shocks in the Midlands: Alarming Incident During Church Service

London, Apr. 21.

The excitement created in parts of England recently by earth tremors was intensified during the week-end by an earthquake in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

A very alarming incident occurred during divine service in the parish church at Tibshelf. The congregation felt a great bump and the building rocked. Many of the worshippers rushed out.

Elsewhere chimneys were thrown down by violent tremors, accompanied by rumbling.—Reuter.

COAL-MINERS' DISPUTE

Prospect of Peace

London, Apr. 16.

The House of Commons has adjourned until April 29.

Replying to a question, Mr. Thomas Shaw, the Minister of Labour, stated that there was every prospect of an understanding in the coal-mining dispute which he hoped would bring peace in the mining industry for a very considerable time.

Later.

A joint meeting of representatives of coal-owners and miners has agreed on terms on which operations will continue, pending the report of the court of inquiry.—Reuter.

RAILWAY STRIKE IN NEW ZEALAND

Holiday-makers Stranded

Wellington, N. Z., Apr. 22.

Railwaymen throughout the Dominion have struck for higher wages. The whole service is at a standstill. A thousand Easter holiday-makers are stranded far from their homes. Motorcars are being pressed into service instead of the trains.

The mail service is being maintained by means of motorcars. Many industries are seriously affected. Locomotive drivers are the only railwaymen who have not yet struck.—Reuter.

TARIFF DUTIES TO LAPSE

Chancellor of Exchequer's Decision with Regard to Films and Motor Cars

London, Apr. 17.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Philip Snowden, has decided to allow the McKenna duties to lapse. Thus the 33 per cent. *ad calorem* duty on imported films, time-pieces, motor-cars and musical instruments will be dropped. The Cabinet is likely to endorse this decision.—Reuter.

TURKS' SOVEREIGN RIGHTS

Americans Not Allowed to Run Schools Even as a Free Gift

Constantinople, Apr. 18.

The Turks have closed down a new medical school at Constantinople and a women's college which was recently opened by Americans at a cost of £60,000, on the ground that higher education is the Government's exclusive right.—Reuter.

BRITISH SHIPPING FIGHT

Southampton Strikers Decide to Resume Work

London, Apr. 19.

A mass-meeting of the Southampton shipping strikers has decided to resume work on April 22.

Apr. 17.

The Shipbuilding Employers' Federation announce that in view of the general resumption of work by the Transport and General Workers' Union at Southampton, the lockout notices have been withdrawn in regard to members of that Union in other districts.

This is the first Union involved in the lock-out whose members have resumed work.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 23.

General resumption of work by the Southampton shipyard workers took place to-day. The lockout notices have been withdrawn in all parts of the country.—Reuter.

ECHO OF SOUTH AFRICAN REBELLION

Ex-General Maritz Imprisoned for High Treason

Capetown, Apr. 23.

The Boer ex-General Maritz, charged with high treason in connexion with the rebellion of 1914, was to-day sentenced to three years imprisonment.

The judge said that the lightness of the sentence was due to the sufferings of the accused in years of exile, while his fellow-offenders had been released after a short period of imprisonment. —Reuter.

SILTING OF THE SCHELDT

Concession to Bigger Ships

Antwerp, Apr. 18.

After a conference between the Belgian and Dutch pilotage authorities it has been decided to allow ships drawing 27 feet, instead of 25 feet as previously, to traverse the Scheldt by the Rilland Channel until April 24. Large ships, however, will only be allowed when the tide is fairly high, and tugs will be compulsory.—Reuter.

BRITISH WORLD FLIGHT

Cairo to Karachi

Cairo, Apr. 17.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren has arrived at Cairo on his world flight. He landed at Heliopolis aerodrome after a splendid flight, in which he was favoured by good conditions.

Apr. 19.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren has departed for Ziza on his way to Bagdad.

Later.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren has arrived at Ziza.—Reuter.

Cairo, Apr. 20.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren has resumed his flight to Bagdad, leaving Ziza at 9.25 this morning. —Reuter.

Bagdad, Apr. 21.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren has arrived here after a non-stop seven hour flight from Ziza. The trip was uneventful but there was some difficulty in following the ploughed track made for the guidance of the air mail. The distance covered on Sunday was nearly 600 miles. Squadron-Leader MacLaren landed in the presence of the High Commissioner, Air-Marshal Sir John Salmond. Squadron-Leader MacLaren will depart on Monday morning.—Reuter.

Bagdad, Apr. 21.

Squadron-Commander A. S. C. Madaren left this morning en route for Bushire, escorted by three Air Force machines.—Reuter.

Bombay, Apr. 22.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren has arrived at Bushire.—Reuter.

Bunder Abbas, Apr. 22.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren has arrived here.—Reuter.

Karachi, Apr. 23.

Squadron-Leader A. S. C. MacLaren has arrived at Karachi on his world-flight, after a perfect journey in ideal weather conditions.—Reuter.

Later.

The arrival of Squadron-Leader MacLaren at Karachi constitutes the completion of the first stage of the world-flight. The distance from Calshot to Karachi is [illegible] miles.—Reuter.

The American Flight

Washington, Apr. [illegible]

A destroyer wirelesses that she has rescued Major Martin and his companions in Portage Bay, Alaska, and that all is well.—Reuter's American Service.

Tokio, Apr. 18.

The United States destroyer John D. Ford anchored yesterday morning in Ced Bay, Shimushu Island, after a trip skirting extensive icefields through turbulent seas, a cold gale and a heavy, unlifting fog. The original destination, Kashiwabara Bay, Paramashiru Island, could not be reached, it being separated by a mile-wide stormy strait. Both islands are bleak, barren and snow-covered. Tht Arctic conditions prevailing portend difficulties and perils for the aviators in locating a landing.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

New York, Apr. 20.

It is reported from Seattle that the three American aviators who are flying round the world arrived at Dutch Harbour from Chignik yesterday evening.—Reuter's American Service.

ANGLO-JAPANESE COMMERCIAL TREATY

Japan's Request for Abrogation

London, Apr. 16.

In the House of Commons today, replying to a question, Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, the under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, stated that the Japanese Government had given notice that it wished to abrogate Article 8 of the Anglo-Japanese Commercial Treaty of 1911 with the schedule annexed to the Treaty. The British Government had consented to arrive at an understanding with the Japanese Government that the article and schedule should cease to operate on March 10, 1925.—Reuter.

RAILWAY DISASTER IN SWITZERLAND

Many Passengers Killed

Berne, Apr. 23.

A disastrous collision between two expresses, each drawn by two locomotives, occurred to-day on the St. Gothard line near Bellinzona. It is alleged to have been due to one of the drivers disobeying a signal at the entrance to the station. One of the coaches burst into flames. Twenty-one bodies have hitherto been recovered, a number of them badly charred. It is stated that the victims were mostly German tourists bound for Italy.—Reuter.

U. S. PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS

Washington, Apr. 20.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission has postponed the date of enforcement of Section 28 of the Merchant Marine Act until June 20.—Reuter's American Service.

Note: Section 28 of the Merchant Marine Act, which was to have come into force on May 20, provides for preferential tariffs on goods carried by American railways which are destined for transport in American ships.—Reuter.

TURKESTAN'S REJECTION OF BOLSHEVISM

Bombay, Apr. 20.

With reference to the reports of renewed anti-Bolshevik revolts in Turkestan, it is stated that Peshawar traders, who are maintaining close touch with Bokhara and the neighbouring regions, learn that there are at present small signs of recrudescence of fighting and that trade is distinctly improving.—Reuter.

Mexican Revolt Ended

Washington, Apr. 22.

The Mexican Embassy announces that, with the occupation of Progreso, Merida and other cities in the Yucatan peninsula, the rebellion in Mexico has come to an end.—Reuter's American Service.

Turkish Constitution

Constantinople, Apr. 21.

The Turkish Assembly to-day passed the entire Constitution Charter and Budget. It will adjourn to-morrow for a six months' recess.—Reuter.

Strike Wave in Russia

Riga, Apr. 21.

The Socialist leaders, MM. Feodor Dahn and Tzeretelli, in the course of speeches declared that a strike wave was gaining volume throughout Russia, although the Government's "suppressive and terrorist" measures had hitherto prevented serious outbreaks.—Reuter.

The Military Outrage in Cork

London, Apr. 21.

Two men are detained in military custody at Cork charged with complicity in the recent Queenstown outrage, when four men in Free State officers' uniform fired with a machine-gun on a crowd of British soldiers.—Reuter.

Graeco-French Entente

London, Apr. 16.

A telegram from Paris states that France has granted the Republican Government of Greece *de jure* recognition.—Reuter.

U. S. Soldiers' Bonus Bill Passed

Washington, Apr. 23.

The Senate has passed the Soldiers' Bonus Bill. There is much speculation with regard to President Coolidge's attitude as he declared in his last message to Congress that he was not in favour of the bonus.—Reuter's American Service.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

THE IRISH BOUNDARY CONFERENCE

Breakdown of Negotiations: Ulster's Obstinate Attitude

London, Apr. 24.

The Irish Boundary Conference in London has broken up. No agreement was reached.

Later.

A fresh Irish crisis is threatened by the breakdown of the Boundary Conference. The delegates for the present are remaining in London, but a further meeting is not likely.

It is understood that the Ulster representatives persisted in refusal to consider any boundary alteration or to appoint a representative on a boundary commission. It is anticipated that the Free State will now summon the Imperial Government to proceed in accordance with the treaty to constitute a commission. It is suggested in some quarters that Ulster's refusal to participate in it will necessitate the introduction of an amending bill in the British Parliament, which would arouse a storm of controversy.

Feeling runs high in both the Free State and Ulster. The situation is very delicate.—Reuter.

THE SOVIET MISSION TO BRITAIN

Committees Appointed

London, Apr. 24.

The Anglo-Soviet Conference has established committees: (1) to investigate debts, claims and counter-claims and means of restoring Russian credit to Britain; (2) to draft a treaty of commerce and navigation, and (3) to examine and report on the question of territorial waters.

The Conference has adjourned until one of the foregoing committees is ready to make its report.—Reuter.

Soviet Unions' Insolent Repudiation of Debts.

Moscow, Apr. 25.

The All-Russian Council of Trades Unions has issued a protest against the memorandum forwarded by London bankers to the British Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, in which they suggested steps by which Russian credit in England could be restored. It declares that Russia cannot recognize the debts of the Tsarist and Kerensky Governments which will degrade Russians to the level of coolies. "If England gives us credits we shall repay a moderate percentage, but private property will never be returned to foreign owners. We shall forbid commercial negotiations between British bankers and private Russian capitalists."

The above represents extremist feeling. It is not necessarily the opinion of the Government.—Reuter.

THE AKALI AGITATION

Dissension As to Members of Shrines Committee: Proposed Boycott

Amritsar, Apr. 24.

Important developments are expected as a result of the resignation of Mangal Singh, President of the Central Sikh League and up to the present leader of the Akali agitation, from membership of the Shrines Committee. Several others have also resigned.

The cause is not known, but there have been differences among the Sikhs regarding the committee which the Punjab Government appointed, under the presidency of Gen. Sir William Birdwood, to advise on the question of fresh Shrines legislation.

A section of extremist Akalis propose to boycott the Government's committee till the Akali prisoners have been released.—Reuter.

THE INDIAN COLONY IN EAST AFRICA

Refusal to Pay Poll Tax

Nairobi, Apr. 24.

Following the refusal of the Indians to pay the poll tax in pursuance of their policy of non-co-operation, a number of prominent Indians have been committed to prison, including Mr. Joshi, a former member of the Legislative Council. The property of others has been attached.—Reuter.

THE RAILWAY DISASTER IN SWITZERLAND

Berne, Apr. 24.

It has now been established that Herr Helfferich, the German ex-Minister and leader of the reactionary Nationalists, was, together with his mother, among the victims of the collision between three expresses at Bellinzona.—Reuter.

HOLLAND AND RUSSIA

The Hague, Apr. 24.

Jonkheer Hurgronje and M. van Vlissingen, of the Foreign Ministry, have gone to Berlin to resume the negotiations with the Soviet delegates.—Reuter.

St. Johns, Newfoundland, Apr. 25.—The House of Assembly to-day passed a vote of non-confidence in the Warren Ministry by a majority of 16 to 15, including Sir Richard Squires.—Reuter.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

THORNHAM MILLS DISPUTE SETTLED

The Trifles that Lead to Industrial Upheaval: Influenza Returns: A Manchester Repertory Theatre: Poets in the Lancashire Dialect

From Our Own Correspondent.

Manchester, Mar. 16.

The news of the settlement of the dispute at the Thornham Spinning Companies' two mills at Royton has caused general satisfaction in Lancashire. Lock-out notices had been posted affecting 120,000 spinning operatives. The story of the dispute shows how easily in these days a situation of great gravity may arise from a comparatively insignificant cause. The women operatives in the Royton mill were feeding three "opening" machines; one of the worst paid jobs in the spinning industry. A fourth machine was given them to mind, and the speed of all the machines was slowed down. The output was not increased but the opening of the cotton was improved. The two operatives demanded payment on a machine basis. The employers offered it on an output basis, but agreed to pay an extra 2s. 5d. to each woman to settle the matter. The two operatives affected refused this offer and handed in their notices. Their fellow workers refused to work with the substitutes the employers engaged in their places and stopped work; 280 employees were affected.

The Thornham Spinning Co. brought the matter to the notice of the Spinner's Federation and a special meeting of the affiliated employers was held. This meeting decided that an important principle was at stake and the Master Spinners gave all their employees a fortnight's notice to terminate their engagements unless the dispute was settled in the meantime. The Cardroom Amalgamation realized that the employers were in earnest. They were also of opinion that they would welcome a stoppage owing to the bad state of trade. At first the Cardroom Amalgamation demanded that the two operatives should be paid an additional 10s. 6d. each. They reduced this to 7s. 8d., and the employers increased their offer to 4s. 5d. It would have been better for the operatives if they had accepted this but there were further negotiations and the employers adopted a stronger attitude. The Cardroom Amalgamation then got frightened and completely climbed down. Their President, Mr. Crinion, issued a statement to the effect that while they adhered to the principle of payment by machine they were leaving the matter to be settled between the management and the two feeders concerned. The management have re-engaged the two feeders at 30s. per week, an increase of 2s. 5d., on their old wage, and 2s. less than the amended offer they made when the dispute was on. Work has been resumed at the two mills and Lancashire breathes again.

INFLUENZA'S RETURN VISIT.

But as one trouble fades another looms larger on the horizon. Influenza is paying us a return visit. It has not yet affected Manchester to the extent it has ravaged the neighbouring towns of Bradford and Leeds but it is steadily getting worse. In those towns the tramway services have been disorganized, a considerable proportion of the police forces have been put out of action, and there has been a serious dislocation of business. For a time there was almost a panic in one of the poorer quarters of Bradford by a visitation of acute gastric influenza which disabled its victims in a few hours, reducing them to unconsciousness and semi-delirium. So sudden was its onset that at first the illnesses were ascribed to leakages of gas from the mains, or fumes from a neighbouring refuse tip. There were 72 deaths in Leeds last week directly traceable to influenza.

In Manchester influenza is not a notifiable disease and it is difficult to discover just how great its ravages are. Last week there were 66 deaths in Manchester and Salford from influenza and pneumonia. Most cases of the latter disease are an outcome of the former. Accompanying the epidemic of influenza there is a recrudescence of *encephalitis lethargica*, the dangerous disease which seems to increase every time there is an influenza epidemic. It is called "sleepy sickness" in Great Britain but it has no connexion with the dreaded beri-beri of Africa—29 new cases of this complaint were notified in Manchester last week, and there were six deaths.

OUR REPERTORY THEATRE.

Manchester has a repertory theatre again. It is true that it is not a very grand affair. Its home is in an old building in Rusholme that was first a riding school, next a picture theatre, and is now—for it was not grand enough for the kinema—the home of the legitimate drama. Its founder, Mr. Belt, addressed a largely attended subscription dinner at the Midland Hotel, Manchester, a few days ago when a society was formed to back the enterprise, and make suggestions as to the plays they wished to see staged. Mr. Belt is a super-optimist. He said that in his opinion Manchester people wanted repertory. It needs some faith and a stout heart to make an assertion like that after the fate of the famous Manchester Gaiety Theatre repertory enterprise. For years, Miss Horniman, at that theatre, offered Manchester the best plays in the world, played by some of the best actors and actresses. The offer was not accepted. Manchester stayed away most of the time, or only came when a "Gaiety play" made a stir in London and was subsequently replayed at home. If, after that, Manchester extensively patronizes repertory in its new home it will indeed show a change of heart. Kinemas, concerts, theatres, and music halls, in Manchester are all beginning to feel the competition of "wireless." More than 39,000 wireless-receiving licenses have been issued in the Manchester area and there are probably more than twice that number of people who have wireless sets but have not yet bought licenses. They are going to buy them "a bit later on," they say.

A LANCASHIRE ANTHOLOGY.

The University Press of Liverpool, in conjunction with Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton, have recently published, "A Lancashire Anthology," which may interest the home loving Manchestrians exiled in the Far East. It contains the work of 35 past and present poets who have written in the Lancashire dialect, and is edited by May Yates. Mr. W. W. Gibson, has written an interesting introduction. The poems selected are rather uneven in quality. More than a spark of genius is necessary to make melodious verses in the Lancashire dialect. Some are very beautiful. Many are mere fustian. We have had no poet in Lancashire to equal William Barnes, whose tender joyous poems in the Dorsetshire dialect are far above anything in this anthology. Yet some of the Lancashire poems have a music all there own. Take for instance these two verses from a poem by William Baron.

"Aw'd just stopped to rest me, a bit past th' owd farm,
For t'basket wur heavy, and t' weather wur warm,
Aw'wur listenin to th' woodlark i' t' thicket beyond;
While t' sunbeams danced gaily in t' surface o't' pond.
But all of a sudden a footstep drew near;
An' when I looked reawnd me blithe Roger wur theer;
He smiled—en so kindly, an' bid me "good day,"
Then he axed to goo wi' me—an what could I say"
"We met two days after—aw'd gone deawn to t' well;
But soon aw' discovered aw' were'nt by mizel',
Oh, he mun ha' bin watchin' for me he espied:
An afore aw'd filled t' buckets he stood bi mi side.
"Eh, do let me drink fass," he said wi' a grin,
But he none wanted t' wayter—t'wer me at he'd sin.
An' while aw' hoisted t' well rope, he chatted quite gay.
Then he bent o'er and kissed me—an' what could aw' say."

There is a quaint charm in the way old Sam Laycock handled a theme many poets have sung. Here is the first verse of his, "Ode to th' sun,"

"Hail, owd friend, aw'm fain to see thi'
Wheer has t' been so mony days?
Lots o' times I've looked up for thi',
Wishin' aw' could see thi face.
Thi' little childer reawnd abeawt here,
Say they wonder wheer tha'rt gone,
An' they wanten me to ax thee
T' show thisel' as oft as t' con."

The use of the Lancashire dialect is perhaps happiest when used on a humorous subject. Here is a line or two from Alfred Pearce's, "Mill Whistle."

"Ay, deawn wi' th' mill whistle!
Aw hate it, aw' do,
When aw'm dreomin' it gies' mi the nark,
For just when aw'm kissin' th' rich emporor's dowter,
It screeches eawt, "Get to th' wark"

Those are, happily, verses of the past. The 6 a.m. start in the morning is now abolished and the mill worker has an extra two hours in bed. There is much simple Lancashire philosophy in Allen Clarke's "A Gradely Prayer,"

"Give us, Lord,
A bit o' sun
A bit o' wark
An' a bit o' fun.
Give us aw'
In th' struggle an' splutter,
Eawr daily bread
An' a bit o' butter."

The verses in the anthology are well provided with footnotes explaining the meanings of the more obscure dialect words. The book also contains short biographies of the verse makers. Edwin Waugh, and all the old favourite Lancashire poems, like "Come Whoam to th' Childer an' Me" are to be found here. And if in Lancashire we have no poets equal to Burns we have many humble lyrists who hymn with moving appeal the joys and sorrows of the myriads of Lancashire workers.

"Angels in Ancoats, ay, the feet of Christ
Walking in broken clogs the Salford mire."

RETURN OF THE HORSE

Ousting the Motor Lorry for Short Distances

Evidence points strongly to the fact that for short distance service the horse is replacing the motor for conveying goods. For long distances, of course, the motor lorry has made considerable headway during the last few years, but for the shorter journeys farmers, small traders, and others are finding this means of transport too expensive, and are steadily reverting to horse traffic.

A representative of the "Morning Post," who made inquiries at the headquarters of the Shire Horse Society, in Hanover-square, recently, was informed that it was becoming increasingly evident that this was the case. There was a growing demand for geldings, and when such bodies as the Edmonton Borough Council disposed of all their motor vehicles and reverted to horse traction, it became apparent that the movement was becoming general. Further inquiries amongst some of London's big contractors served to confirm this view.

The Commercial Motor Users' Association held the opinion that although horse traffic was cheaper for short distance haulage, and that at the present moment there was an undoubted appreciation of this fact, it did not necessarily follow that this condition would continue. Motor competition had reduced the value of the heavy draught horse, but an increased demand for horses of this type would probably raise their price until an economic balance was reached.

CHINESE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES TO CHILDREN OF ENGLAND

Broadcasting Mr. Chu's Own Story of His Boyhood and School Days in China

The following is the text of the little speech made by Mr. Chu Chaohsin, Chinese Chargé d'Affaires in London, to the children of England through the Central Broadcasting Station. Mr. Chu is thought to be the first diplomatic representative to [illegible]

From Our Own Correspondent.

London, March 21.

If every one of the children of China on whose behalf I am now speaking sent their best wishes to you, the children of England, each of you would get about ten messages, for the population of [illegible] that of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

You will understand, then, that [illegible] children in China and China is such a big place that I cannot tell you a great deal about it in the few minutes' talk, but I will do what I can to show you where we of the old land of China are like you in the West and where we differ from you.

When I was a boy in Canton, the school I and other boys went to was of the old-fashioned sort, such as had been the rule in China for hundreds of years. In those schools the children studied nothing else but classics, particularly the Four Books by Confucius, the great Chinese teacher who lived in the year 400 B.C. They could repeat every word, every sentence, every paragraph and every chapter of the book: they were required to recite word for word before the teacher, so that every child in the old days had this solid foundation of the [illegible] Confucius taught.

Nowadays, however, the children study in the new schools, and they [illegible] to Chinese literature, but have to learn almost as many different subjects as you children in England. The [illegible] turned out more real scholars—but children in the modern schools learn something useful for their future [illegible] practical men for the country and [illegible]

[illegible]

Chinese [illegible] taught by their [illegible] to be [illegible] A [illegible] should [illegible] and [illegible] listen to his teacher. He must stand up when he is asked a question. When out of school hours he must be polite to [illegible] in the street, he should stand aside until the teacher passes by.

I [illegible] my school life in the early days. The students were confined to the class-rooms all day long and were not allowed to play. The teachers were very strict in preventing the pupils from [illegible] however it is different. The schools have been modernised. The boys play football, baseball, cricket and other games [illegible] the same as over [illegible]

The [illegible] look forward to the great festivals and holidays. Chinese [illegible] of the Western nations in only having the first day of the month. We make [illegible] in China, and observe our old New Year Day, which is a movable date, just like Easter is in other countries.

This year the old Chinese New Year came on February 3. The Chinese children got presents from their parents like you do at Christmas and they had plenty of fireworks and crackers. At night every house was illuminated with lanterns, hundreds and hundreds of them. You would even see dragons walking down the streets, great paper monsters with lots of legs. If you looked closer you would see that these legs were rather like men's legs, and as a matter of fact these dragons were really like some of the animals you see at your Christmas pantomime—when they come in half you find they are only men dressed up.

Of course the children of China drink tea, for it was from China that tea first came to Europe. But they never have any milk or sugar in it, nor do they drink milk at other times. Coffee and cocoa they do not know of, and they never drink cold water. Plain rice soup is generally taken at breakfast, and at other meals they have rice and vegetables with a small portion of meat. But they are very healthy and happy, even with this simple living.

FILIAL PIETY.

One of the chief things Chinese children are taught is filial piety. This is the same command as you learn to "Honour your father and mother." This is considered important. Children must obey their parents. A filial son must always show a happy face and have a soft voice whenever he attends to his parents. In the winter the son should warm the quilt of his parents, and in summer cool their bed. Each morning the son should call on his parents, and before retiring at night must see whether they are comfortable.

A filial son knows how to please his parents. Let me tell you an anecdote about Tan Tze, who is known as one of the "Twenty-four Filial Sons" in Chinese history. When he himself was 73 years of age, his parents were still living. He never felt he was an aged man, and always tried to do his utmost to amuse his aged parents. One day when he thought they seemed miserable he put on a beautiful coat with five colours, and played in a childish manner in front of his parents just to amuse them. While begging some drink to eat, he purposely fell down and cried like a child, for he thought his parents would be grieved to be reminded of the time when such things actually happened.

There is another quaint old story which is told the children of China. It is of the dutiful son who cheerfully accepted his mother's beatings, even when he was a grown man. One day, however, after a beating, he burst into tears. When his friends asked him why, he replied: "Formerly I felt pain when my mother beat me, but this time I didn't. I am afraid, therefore, my mother is getting [illegible] weak. And therefore I weep."

THE REPENTANT STEPMOTHER.

Another anecdote is that of Min Tze-chien, one of the followers of Confucius. He was ill-treated by his stepmother, who had two sons of her own. The stepmother gave her sons two cotton coats made of good material, but the one she gave to the stepson was made with some dried grass inside. The father did not notice from their outside appearance the differnce between the cotton coats. One day Min Tze-chien was driving his father, when he dropped the reins and fell unconscious, on account of being so cold. His father took him home and found that the cotton coat possessed no cotton inside, but was made of some sort of dried grass. He was, therefore, very angry and decided to send away his wife, but Min Tze-chen knelt down and appealed to his father, saying "Kindly do not send my stepmother away; when she is here, only one son is suffering, but if she is sent away, suffering will come to all three sons." The stepmother heard him, and being ashamed, confessed she was wrong before, but she promised to treat in future all the three sons alike. Finally, she became a very kind-hearted woman.

These stories may seem curious to you and they certainly are amusing, but the history of China, which goes back four thousand years, has been built up in its family life and its love of parents for children and children for parents. Confucius taught that you should be good so that your family may follow your example.

I think this is a very good rule, don't you?

Good-bye—children of England.

CATS AND MEN

Torn from his comfort by the kitchen blaze,
Plunged forth upon the coldness and the night,
Kim, the philosopher, arched to full height,
Accepts the shift of fortune. All his days
End thus. He has grown used to human ways.
He knows that men, though strangely they delight
In such caprices, yet design no spite
And will to-morrow welcome him with praise.
Sometimes he looks exactly as if he must
Be smiling at the thought that, soon or late,
Men to the darkness and the chill are thrust—
Like cats the victims of descending fate.
Nay, smile not, Kim; for, once outside the door,
Men come back to their House of Life no more.

—George S. Bryan, in the "Bookman."

THE Governor General of Indo-China, M. Merlin, is expected to come to Peking about June 1 for a two-day visit. In taking this trip to Japan and China, M. Merlin is the first Governor-General to make a visit to the neighbouring countries. He will come to Peking by way of Korea and Mukden.

A letter found near Kobe on the 12th instant is believed to be connected with a plot for counterfeiting notes of the National Bank in Honan Province to the extent of Y.30,000,000. The forgers' den is believed to be at Tokio and it is surmised that some Japanese are in the game. The letter, it is alleged, further referred to a Chinese now at Kobe assisting in the plot, and wanting money (Y.1,500) for his work, to be remitted through the Chartered Bank. The letter concluded with an injunction to burn it when read. A passenger, from Sannomiya-cho, Kobe, of the O.S.K. Baikal Maru was apprehended at Dairen by the Customs there on a charge of carrying copper-plates intended for the forging of notes of the same Chinese bank. When examined by the Dairen Water Police the [illegible] stated, a Kobe journal says, that he had been requested by a Chinese at Kobe to make the plates and hand them at Moji, on his way home, to some Kobe Chinese

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

"Prince of Scotland:" Suggested Revival of Title: Memories of Tea Clippers

From Our Own Correspondent.

Edinburgh, Mar. 5.

The suggestion of the "revived" use of the title Prince of Scotland continues a subject of discussion North of the Tweed, but it cannot be said to have aroused much enthusiasm. Now that the title of "Prince of Ireland" is discovered to be another right of the Prince, most people are inclined to think that the controversy should be quietly dropped. It is becoming too complicated. We Scottish people indeed are quite pleased with the Prince as he is and with his title; it would make no real difference to us whether we toasted him as of Wales or of Scotland. Affection does not need these artificial aids; it is personality that counts. Another rumour is current to the effect that Prince Henry may be created Duke of Edinburgh.

It is rather curious that the title of Prince should be so highly regarded in this country and is kept exclusively for royal personages, whereas in Latin countries and in Germany a Prince is of rank inferior to a Duke. Going back to origins, a Prisceps is small alongside a Dux. In Thackeray's "Newcomes," when the Princes de Montcontour (*née* Miss Higgs of Manchester) became by succession la Duchesse d'Ivry she declined to "descend" from being a Princess to become a Duchess. She was quite wrong, except perhaps in the social atmosphere of Manchester. Even in Britain the inferior status of a Prince is recognized when a royal personage is created a Duke—for instance, we have the Duke of York and the Duke of Connaught. In Scotland, the Prince is always toasted as Duke of Rothesay, and in the Western Duchy as the Duke of Cornwall. In the ear of a Frenchman the title Prince is inferior to that of Duke. The small fry of the French royal family might call themselves princes, but the big fish were Ducs, and the biggest of all used no titles of nobility—the heir was simply le Dauphin, and the eldest brother of the King was "Monsieur," *tout court*.

I had an interesting experience some dozen years ago which showed the French indifference to titles of nobility and the British worship of them: I was staying in a small French hotel, and after lunch one day in walked the late Duke of Argyll. "Hullo," he said to me, "what are you doing here?" I explained, assured him of a decent meal, and then made my farewells. I had met him several times before. Word spread among the British visitors that a real live Duke was lunching in the hotel, and they clustered around the door just to look at him. The French *patronne* and her daughter, simple peasants, treated the Duke exactly as they would have treated any other casual guest They addressed him simply as "Monsieur," which must have pleased him. When he had fed and gone I found myself an object of envy and almost worship among my fellow-guests because I actually "knew a Duke."

WALLACE AND WESTMINSTER HALL.

Among the reconciliations of history there is none more dramatic, and certainly none more appropriate, than the commemoration of Sir William Wallace in Westminster Hall. More than six centuries have passed since he stood before the ancient judgment seat of the Kings of England and bore himself undauntedly in presence of Judges who had been appointed not to try but to condemn him. Edward I. had spared no effort to secure his capture and the large rewards given to those who betrayed and took him prisoner are still on record. While he was being carried to London, special arrangements were made for bringing him to trial without delay, and preparations for his execution seem to have been made contemporaneously with those for his trial. It is all very long ago; but loyalty and courage never become antiquated, and it still stirs the blood to read of the chaplet of laurel leaves with which they crowned in mockery the head of a hero who was to die a martyr to the sacred cause of freedom. The indictment which was read was largely a true bill. When Edward I. conquered Scotland, Wallace had raised an army, had recovered Scottish castles and strongholds, had defeated an English force, had governed Scotland, had led [illegible] France, had ravaged the northern counties of England, and, on his defeat by Edward, had refused to accept the English King's terms of peace, and had continued to uphold the banner of Scottish independence. For these things we love and honour him; for these things, 600 years ago, he was condemned to die with the universal approval of a nation which, since then, has done perhaps more than any other for the cause of liberty. It is strange that so many years should have passed before placing an inscription in honour of Wallace on the floor of Westminster Hall, for Wallace is the national hero of Scotland. He is its greatest and purest patriot. When portions of his mangled body were exposed to ignominy—his head in London and the quarters at Newcastle, Berwick, Stirling, and Perth—those who killed him believed that his life and his work had ended in failure, and that his name would go down to posterity as that of a criminal. Another entered into his labours, and, building upon his foundations, achieved what he had died to gain, and the nation which, in spite of seeming failure, he served has never ceased to treasure his memory. If he did not come to the grave with honour, yet the whole soil of a free country is his sepulchre. No nobler name can be associated with the Hall in which he was a friendless victim of the revenge of a cruel monarch and of a nation whose military ambitions he had withstood. He represented the ideals which have long ago united his own people and those who were then his people's enemies in service for mankind. If his greatness is not even yet fully appreciated in England, it is because distance of time has obscured his story and his achievement.

SCOTS PEER'S REMINISCENCES.

Lord and Lady Aberdeen have for some time been engaged writing their reminiscences. The task, it is understood, is now practically completed, and the book will be issued in the course of the spring publishing season. The earlier part is a collaboration, but in the later stages separate sections have been written by the authors.

SCOTLAND CHANGING HANDS.

The Duke of Sutherland is the latest of the large landowners of the country to put landowning on a new basis. It is announced that the Duke has converted his estates into a joint stock company, the intimation being as follows:—Sutherland Estates Private Co. for the management and improvement of landed estates. Capital £100,000 in £1 shares. The Duke is the largest landowner in the Kingdom.

The past dozen years have witnessed a mighty upheaval. In Central Scotland, for example, the great Breadalbane estates have been broken up. Many other landlords throughout the country have taken advantage of the opportunity to form their estates into joint stock companies, so as to obtain certain benefits in regard to taxation, particularly in the assessment of income-tax and death duties. And, apart from all these, many of the smaller estates have been sold in recent years, and names which were household words in the countryside have entirely disappeared from the lists of landowners.

A FAMOUS CLIPPER CAPTAIN.

Memories of the old windjammer days are recalled by the death in Dundee at the age of 92, of Captain John M'Kay, a veteran son of the sea, whose proud claim was that of having commanded a ship which beat the famous tea clipper Cutty Sark both to and from Sydney, New South Wales. Captain M'Kay was at that time in charge of the Aberdeen clipper Ann Duthie, a full-rigged ship of about 1,000 tons. She was bigger than the Cutty, but could go like

the wind in a good gale. The first race was on the homeward journey from Australia. The Cutty Sark, under Capt. Tiptaft, loaded at Newcastle, New South Wales, while the Ann Duthie loaded at Sydney. Both left the same day, but Captain M'Kay arrived in London about eight days ahead of his rival. The return voyage was more exciting. Both ships left London at the same time, and spoke to each other on four occasions during the voyage. For days at a stretch they lost sight of each other, and then they would come together for a brief spell. On the last occasion they met both ships had every stitch of sail on. A good deal of chaff and banter passed between the rival captains, and, taking advantage of a good going gale, the Ann Duthie shot ahead and bade a last good-bye to the Cutty, arriving in Sydney two days in advance of her. His best week's run was 2200 miles, while his four quickest passages to Australia were done in 72, 72, 73, 74 days.

HOMELY FARE.

One evening last week some Labour members who were disgruntled by the proceedings in Parliament found unexpected solace in the dining room. The caterer of the House of Commons, with a flash of insight, had put haggis in the menu. In the London Press recently a Sassenach alleged that Scotsmen never eat haggis. That man should have seen what happened at Westminster. A crowd of Scotsmen consumed the "Great Chieftain" with gusto, and so successful was the experiment that haggis is to be one of the standing dishes every Tuesday evening in future. This is the second direction in which the influx of Scottish Socialists has made gastronomic history at Westminster. Last year it was "saps," bread soaked in hot milk, and this intriguing dish is still available for late suppers, or, if occasion demands, for early breakfasts.

EMIGRATION FROM SCOTLAND.

A report issued by the American Bureau of Immigration for the past six months gives some surprising figures as to the composition of the immigrant current. For the first time in many years the British element has again first place, there having been in six months 149,507 British immigrants 67,536 Germans, and 49,777 Italians. The most surprising fact of all, however, is the size of the Scottish contingent, 49,106, as compared with 64,961 from England and the Dominions. Apparently in this time Scotland has sent about as many emigrants to the United States as England with her eight times greater population. The great increase in the British emigration is doubtless a consequence of unemployment and as you are aware the industrial belt in Scotland and the Western Highlands has been heavily hit of recent years.

COACHMAN WHO HAS DRIVEN FIVE POPES

Recollections of Rinaldo Jacchini

The oldest member of the Pontifical household in Rome is the coachman, Rinaldo Jacchini, a sturdy old man of 80, who still takes Pius XI. for his daily drive in the Vatican gardens. Jacchini entered the service of Pius IX. as postillion in 1844, and was afterwards promoted to be coachman. He likes to recall the pomp and splendour of the Papal equipages of those days, when the Pope constantly appeared in public, and the fact that it was he who held the reins when Pius IX. took his last drive through the streets of Rome on September 19, 1870, the day before the Italian troops stormed Porta Pia.

Jacchini has a good deal to say about his different masters, all very unlike in character. Pius IX. was very good-natured and affable in manner, though clouded by sadness in his later years. Leo XIII. was cold and aristocratic, a great contrast to his gentle, unassuming successor Pius X. Benedict XV. could be quick-tempered at times. The present Pope, for whom Jacchini has a great admiration, never fails to speak a kind word to his aged retainer.

OUR AUSTRALIAN LETTER

Prime Minister's Disappointing Reception: His Promises of Preference Waning: Statement That Singapore Base is Not Indefinitely Postponed

From Our Own Correspondent.

Melbourne, Mar. 12.

Mr. S. M. Bruce arrived back in Australia during the last few days. The newspapers describe his reception as cordial, but it was certainly a personal and official welcome, and bore no resemblance to the triumphant entry into Melbourne of his predecessor W. M. Hughes, who was met by returned soldiers in their thousands and drawn to the Town Hall in a horseless vehicle.

The press reports hardly do him justice. Particular reference is made in most cases to the Prime Minister's appearance which, we are told, gave no indication that he felt that his mission had been a failure or that he had suffered defeat. It is in the implication that the cruelty of the comment lies. Mr. Bruce himself far from admitting defeat is disposed to claim a victory. But he is greeted with some very harsh reminders of the manner in which the administration has been carried on in his absence. He has supplied "interviews," but apart from these declines to talk about his visit to London or the work of the Imperial Conference. He says he must first of all report to Parliament, though there are members of his following who believe that he should first report to a joint meeting of the members of the Nationalist and Country parties in the House of Representatives. Such an undertaking, even if Country members would attend, would be a difficult one, and wisdom has probably prompted him to avoid such an occasion.

MR. BRUCE'S OPTIMISM.

The Prime Minister has told his interviewers that possibly he did not gain all that he had hoped for, but he expected that so far as preferences went the House of Commons would carry the economic conference's proposals by overwhelming majorities. But already the British government has jettisoned the proposal of a permanent economic committee to watch and advise.

It is the treatment of the economic committee proposal which raises a doubt as to whether Mr. Bruce's optimism is well-founded. He told the conference that the Murray River irrigation and settlement scheme would in the next five years put some 750,000 people on 2,000,000 acres of land, but that if these settlers, chiefly fruit-growers, were not to be assured of a market for their produce the whole Murray Valley scheme would have to be slowed up. He stated that of the output of dried fruits in Australia the Dominion at present consumed 80 per cent. and had to export the other 20; but that with the completion of the scheme the position would be reversed and Australia would only consume 20 per cent. of the output and markets abroad would have to be found for 80 per cent.

He foretold a similar position in connexion with tinned fruits. The late British government definitely promised to increase the preference given on certain British Empire fruits. As this would not increase the taxes of the people of the Old Country, but rather reduce them, that promise is likely to be carried out.

BALDWIN'S GOVT.'S PROMISES.

But there were other promises to increase the duties on some fruits, with a view to admitting similar products from the Dominions free of all duty, giving them 100 per cent. preference. These promises might or might not be carried out. The late government also pledged itself to denounce the treaty with Greece regarding currants, to be followed by increased duties and 100 per cent. preferences. It proposed, however, before finally destroying the treaty that the Dominions should plant currants and show that they had sufficient supply in hand. It need only be said that Dominions which acted upon this promise might, if the new government did not feel itself bound to honour the promissory notes signed by its predecessor, find themselves in a parlous position, with over-cultivation of currant grapes and no profitable market to which to send them.

Such considerations as these may account for Mr. Bruce's optimism as to the ultimate fate of the resolutions passed by the Economic Conference.

SINGAPORE BASE CRITICS.

There is no question that the chief interests which centres round the story which the Prime Minister of Australia has to tell about the late Imperial Conference is what there is to be said about the Singapore Base. Australia generally holds with the idea of guarding effectively the gateway between the Indian and the Pacific Oceans.

Admiral Field, commanding the Special British Service squadron, has already appealed to Australian sentiment by describing Singapore as a station on a pass through mountains, as an oil base, which must be guarded if we are to control our oil supplies. Australians have been appropriately reminded of the famous change stations in the interior of the great coaching firm of Cobb & Co., stations where the horses were fed, relays obtained, and passengers refreshed after long and arduous stages. The protection of those changing stations was among the first duties of the government's myrmidons. Singapore, on a far greater scale, is a changing station on the road between the Indian ocean and the Pacific. The idea has not completely sunk into the minds of the leaders of Labour. They still visualize the insult offered to Japan, and fear that the Base means the employment of cheap coloured labour in some way leading to the exclusion of their own trades unionists.

The frequent statements that British Government has abandoned the whole idea of creating the Base, and has come to an agreement with the Admiralty that the work on it shall be indefinitely postponed, have been referred to Mr. Bruce, and his reply is somewhat reassuring. These statements, he says, are merely shots—sighting shots it is undertood—"because I am perfectly certain that they (the newspapers) do not know the position." Australia must await the event, but impatience will manifest itself if the waiting is made too prolonged.

SPLIT IN COUNTRY PARTY.

The Western Australian elections for the State Legislative Assembly take place on the 22nd instant. A good deal of interest has been taken in the result.

The Country party is represented in the Cabinet of Sir James Mitchell, and that ministry has done far more for the people on the land than any previous government. However, the Country political organizations have demanded that all Country politicians must pledge themselves first to obey the executive of the combined organizations rather than go to the electors on their own pledges or in support of Sir James Mitchell. This has created a split, and the Country political bodies are putting forward men in opposition to Sir James Mitchell and his Country colleagues.

It is thought in many cases that this will hand the control of Parliament over to the Labour party, from the grim effects of whose rule the State is only just now emerging. It is a curious fact that the candidates put forward by these organizations which profess to represent the man who walks between the handles of the plough are in almost every case men who are middlemen, and could not draw a furrow to save their lives.

Farmer Hayseed, as the Americans like to call him, cannot complain if he is lampooned. He deserves all he gets for he is never weary of doing his best to defeat his friends and place in power those who have already proved themselves his worst enemies. It is only a few years since the financial position in Western Australia was so bad that a farmer could not rise a £5 loan on his freehold, while his taxes were abnormal. But he has forgotten this, and is once more plunging into the mire because he thinks that he knows more about politics than those who have made that abstruse subject a life-time study.

COMMUNIST INVASION.

Not only has Mr. Bruce warned the Nationalist and Country party politicians that serious dangers await the Commonwealth if they by their divided counsels hand the government of the country over to the Labour Opposition, but the Labour itself fears disaster unless it can rid itself of Communistic elements which are, to use Labour's own phrase, "white-anting" the trades unions political movement.

This fear of the Communists is not the result of a vivid imagination. It was the extreme or revolutionary elements which tried to drag Australia out of the late war, and brought about the schism in the ranks of political Labour which resulted in its exclusion from power in the Commonswealth and all the States but Queensland since 1917.

It was the Communuists who insisted upon putting into the forefront of the Labour programme what they called the Red Objective, namely, the socialization of all industry, production, distribution and exchange. This objective hangs like a millstone round the neck of political Labour. The latter cannot explain it; and the Communists continue to preach, with it as the text, confiscation, the rule of the proletariat, and the beauties of Sovietism. In other words the Communists are out to capture the Labour movement. Leaders of political Labour see themselves driven out of the well-paid Labour offices, with their chances of political preferment doomed. It is not unfair to say that they are thinking of the effect of this Communistic teaching upon the Labour rather than upon the country generally. The struggle goes forward vigorously in New South Wales, where the Communists have been declared "outside the Labour movement" by an executive upon which they had secured seats. These expulsions are being used to create dissensions in the party, which is part of the white-ant process.

Mr. Lang, the State Parliamentary Labour leader, has lost all patience with the Communists and has deliberately warned the trades unions that the disturbers of the Labour peace are a gang of "blasphemous political cut-throats."

REGENT'S CANAL OR ROAD

London Liberal M. P.'s Big Scheme

A scheme to convert the Regent's Canal into a fast motor traffic road eight and a half miles long, linking up the London Docks area with the principal railway companies' goods yards as far as Paddington, and giving employment to 6,000 men for a year at a cost, excluding the figure for the purchase of the canal, of £2,888,000, was discussed at a meeting of London Liberal members at the House of Commons recently.

The project was explained by Mr. F. J. Laverack, M.P. for Brixton, who has developed the plans from an idea supplied by Mr. Miller, one of his constituents.

The land occupied by the Regent's Canal throughout its length averages about 60 feet in width, and it is proposed to build in its place a motor road giving direct and rapid connexion between the whole of the dock area and the railway goods yards, thus considerably easing London's traffic congestion.

This proposed 60 feet wide road will be lighted by light standards placed in the centre of the road, and 20 feet on either side of the centre line will be taken up with the fast-travelling ingoing and outgoing traffic. The remaining 10 feet on both sides of the road will be used for loading and unloading the motor-lorries which serve the factories and business houses whose premises are situated upon the banks of the canal. Water gas, and drainage will be carried under the road in the usual manner.

The promoters of the scheme contend that the Regent's Canal at present does but little work, and the work that is now done by it will be more efficiently done by converting the canal into a road.

The scheme will be placed before London Liberal members in greater detail at a further meeting at the House of Commons.

A NEW LOCOMOTIVE

Ingenious Invention by Italian Engineer

An important experiment has been made on the Rome Northern Railway line for a distance of 25 miles of what is described as a "new thermo-aero locomotive," invented by the Italian engineer, Fausto Zarlatti, which has already excited the interest of mechanical engineers in most parts of the world. With the new system, it is claimed, the Italian State railway would reduce their traction expenses by 70 per cent., and the transformation of the engines could be accomplished with an expenditure of only 600 lire per horse-power, which would be compensated for by the savings in less than two years. It is calculated that the entire savings in expenses for the Italian State Railways would be about 500,000,000 lire per annum. The High Commissioner for Railways and leading scientific experts took the greatest interest in the tests. The great advantage of the invention consists in the fact that existing railway material can be utilized, and the only change in the locomotive is the suppression of the coal furnace and grate, etc.

The invention consists in an ingenious utilization of the combined efficiency of hot compressed air and steam, both produced by an internal combustion motor of the Diesel type fed with heavy oil. Compressed air engines have, of course, been in use for many years, but hitherto there has been no ingenious combination of compressed air and steam, which in the Zarlatti invention is said to give perfectly astounding results. All the advantages of the steam locomotive are retained. The locomotive may be stopped without stopping the motor, and power may be increased for up-grades at will. To show the ease with which existing traction material may be transformed, Signor Zarlatti undertook to convert an old discarded shunting locomotive, which was used successfully for the recent experiments, and gave remarkable results, pulling a train of 15 heavy goods truck up a steep grade. The additional advantages of the new system consist in the suppression of smoke, soot, and ashes, almost perfect cleanliness, and a great saving in repairs. The cost of transformation is vastly less than that of electric transformation of existing traction. In fact, any ordinary locomotive may be supplied with the new thermo-aero motor by placing the latter on the tender. Spain has already taken great interest in the new invention, and it is said that the system may be employed on the Spanish railways.

A "NEW" MURILLO

At the Museum of Historic Art in Vienna a beautiful new picture by Murillo is now on view, which has been lent from a private source. It shows the Immaculate Conception, which Murillo painted in quite a number of variations. The very youthful-looking Virgin floats on a halfmoon in clouds, surrounded by a crowd of charming little angels. The work had been painted over, and it is only recently that the surface picture was removed.

THE highest tower in London is now being erected. It is the central feature of Selfridge's new buildings and is 450 feet high, twice as high as the Victoria Tower. It will be decorated with sculptures, and surmounted by a figure representing Commerce, 30 feet high.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

THE MAN WITH TWO TALENTS

Notes of a Sermon Preached by the Rev. C. E. Darwent in Union Church, Tientsin, on Sunday evening, March 17

Text: St. Matthew XXV 22. "And he also that had received the two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst to me two talents, Lo, I have gained other two talents."

Two of the men who are figures in this parable one hears enough about. The man of five talents we hear enough about him. Indeed—he is usually so powerful and influential that he can take good care that he is not lost sight of. He gets into the limelight, or, if he can, into the electric-arc light. *His* light will not be "hidden under a bushel," if he can help it, and he generally can. He is the great genius, the "captain of industry," the head of a vast business, the great scientific investigator, out of whom and his discoveries the great financiers hope to make a lot more money. And no doubt, we cannot very well do without them, if we want to progress. We should not have much to read, if they had not written books, and we should still go to the seaside in carts unless one of them had given us railways. There is a great deal to be said for the man with five talents. If there is not, then all our monuments to them are a sheer vanity. No doubt we do right to be thankful for them, when the real ones come so rarely; for it was Andrew Lang who said, no doubt truly, that "it will be ten thousand years before a man is born with as much humour as Charles Dickens."

Then we hear enough about the man with one talent. He has received more attention from preachers than either of the others. I fear that that is rather a reflexion on the audiences that preachers address. Often enough, alas, the man of one talent does not bring back the one talent that was given him. He has "spent all," and as Ruskin once said, "he brings back only the dust of his body and the wreckage of his soul." Though whether he does that more frequently than the man of five talents I am not sure. Several five-talented men have got into prison lately for mishandling money entrusted to them. When Mr. Five-Talents goes wrong, he goes very wrong.

BETWIXT AND BETWEEN.

The man with two talents is mostly entirely neglected. He comes "somewhere betwixt and between his two brilliant and prosaic-colleagues. He is between the great genius and the man with the "corner grocery." It is very seldom that a word is said for the poor fellow. He is passed by as "too dull and stupid for anything." We like men picturesquely good, or picturesquely bad. Yet our Lord, who "knew what is in man," seems to have thought quite well of him. He treats him as having done quite as well proportionately as his Five-talented financier. He had not attained the modern ideal of the two-talented man making *five* talents. But he had doubled his money just a much as the brilliant brother had done. And, if all I am told about business is true, it is far easier to run a business on five talents than on two, on £50,000 than on £20,000. So we take the man with two talents to represent the "average man." He is the man without great ability, but with a sufficiency to do well. He is not the great saint in the church, but the good average member, who is the very backbone of a church. The saint of two talents is apt to make a blaze; the man of two talents keeps it nice and comfortably warm. There are endless detractions of this average man. Jokes are made about him. I wonder average people do not, like the poor slavey, "wish they were dead." Yet the Lord thought well of him. A man who can make cent per cent. cannot be altogether useless.

UNSUSPECTED DEPTHS.

Now all this detraction of the man with two talents is wrong and more, it is wicked. There is a book, lately recently published, the name of which I will not give as I do not want to advertise it, that I call a wicked book. It is a volume of Essays. One is on the average man. He is steadily depreciated. The average man is "plain," he is "unimaginative;" he "doesn't do striking things," or say them; there is "nothing to put on his tombstone but, that he lived and died;" if I remember rightly the author "wonders why God made him." The author might have seen that he is on the wrong line, by a difficulty, that he feels. It is that the average man won so many V.C's in the war. That difficulty ought to have taught him that there are depths in the average man that make him the equal of Mr. Five-Talents at times. I like the late President Roosevelt much better than this haughty essayist. He says. "There are two kinds of success. There is that of the man who can do what no one else can do, the genius," the man of five talents. "Then there is the average man, the average statesman, the average public servant, the average business man, who is successful, but is not a genius," the man of two talents. And this is a very good definition of the man of two talents; "He has the ordinary qualities of his fellows developed to more than an ordinary degree." The man of two talents could not possibly be described more accurately than that. He is the average man raised to a higher power. And there is no kind of man, who gets so depreciated as he. Why? The Lord's disciples were men of two talents. He could not have done with a band of 12 Pauls. And they did well. I once clipped a paragraph out of the "Outlook," which I am sure our Lord would agree with. It says, "It is our glory, that we (that is, the United States), have hundreds of thousands of men of the second class. Much of the best and most permanent work of the world is done by the men of two talents. That is so, and it is time it is acknowledged. The man of two talents bears the heaviest burdens of the world; he faces its difficulties and conquers them; he has the best families of the world; is the deepest thinker; he plans and runs industries; he carries on the professions; he gives more to charities than the others; he makes more sacrifices for the education of his children than the other classes. The men of two talents are like the infantry in the army, the men who do the real fighting.

THE BACKBONE OF STATE.

Now let us turn to the application of this to the present day. The man of two talents is a very pressing problem. We call him in the mass, the Middle Classes. They are the people in the mind of the writer in the "Outlook," A Mr. John Corbin has written a book, "The Return of the Middle Classes." He says they are "the mass of people between the geniuses and rich capitalists and the working people, and the proletariat," to use a hideous word. Without depreciating the other classes, he truly says that they "are the backbone of any nation." That is true. He says that Rome perished from want of them. Under the Empire there were the noble and rich landowners on the one hand, and on the other slaves. The want of Middle Class salt ruined the state. That is true enough, and yet foolish people are always girding at them, as if they were a class of useless bloodsuckers, contributing nothing to the greatness of the commonwealth. Our Lord praises the two-talented man. Why, then, is he always being depreciated? We are always hearing discussions on the relation of "the mass of people between the capital to labour, of Five Talents to One Talent, why never, or hardly ever, the relations of the others to the man of two talents? As Mr. Corbin says, Capitalists and Trades unionists talk as if they alone existed." But the people of two talents are "the public," the huge mass that is never heard of; that doesn't strike, but takes its suffering manfully when troubles and shortages come, that doesn't organise, doesn't shout, but just goes on year by year, using its two talents honestly and faithfully, to the best of its ability. It is "the huge army of clerks, shopkeepers and their assistants, dealers and merchants and their helpers, lawyers and doctors, and the army of teachers, and marine officers, and all the thousands of women and children dependent on them." "This is the huge speechless army of the men of two talents," As Mr. Corbin says, "These were the people, who froze with cold in the colliers' strike of 1920 and 1921, not the others. The man of two talents was wearing the same suit in 1918 after the war, that he wore in 1914." True. What with war-profits and big wages they had struck for, the capitalists and labour people had all got new suits. They rode in cars; the man of two talents trudged on foot to his office. Yet, really, the middle classes are not a class, as the others are. They are found in all classes. They are the nation. They are too scattered to strike, and so they suffer and plod on, with the magnificent privilege of subscribing to soup kitchens when the other two classes get at loggerheads.

SQUEEZED OUT.

Now there seems to be general agreement that the Middle-Classes are being squeezed out. According to Mr. Gompers, if Five and One Talent quarrel, Mr. Two Talent had no rights at all. It he freezes and starves, let him. When wages go up for the labourers, the cost is passed on by Mr. Five Talents to Mr. Two Talents to pay them. The Middle Classes suffered most in the war. Their regular salaries did not go up. A typical case of men of two talents is that of curates and the mass of Nonconformist ministers in England during the war. How *did* they live and bring up families? It was a triumph of thrift and self-denial, and poverty borne in silence for Christ's sake, that must have caught the eye of their Lord in heaven, but failed to catch the eye of Five and One Talent on earth. One thing that is destroying the Middle Classes is that everything is being done for the others, but little for them. Mr. Corbin tells of a head clerk in New York, who was thrown out of work. Unable to get a position like the one he had lost, he went and took rooms with an Irish labourer, and went and worked at street work. He was a bit stiff at first, but soon got into it, and then everything was easy for him. As a labourer, he found endless things freely done for him; free education, free Maternity ward for his wife, free clinics, and so on. And all mostly paid for by the Middle Class he had left.

SI MONUMENTUM QUAERIS.

Now let us consider the effects of the elimination of the good man with two talents. First it is a serious thing for the nation in many ways. Take a journey round Great Britain You pass through splendid city after splendid city and each one of them is a monument to the honesty, the labour, the enterprise, the solidity of the man of two talents. London itself, Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Glasgow; who have made them; all suggest Middle Class names. Bradford the Salts, Manchester the Rylands, Sheffield, the Mappins, Newcastle the Armstrongs, and so on. So it is in America. The business men of these cities, not the nobles, have made them what they are. Take eminent men. In what families have they been born? Most of them in the homes of the men of two talents: Darwin's father was a doctor, Tennyson's a clergyman, Stevenson's a lighthouse builder, Gladstone's a merchant, Longfellow's a lawyer, Johnson's a bookseller, Milton's a scrivener, Newton's a farmer. This is the reward Middle Class parents have for making more sacrifices for the education of their children than any other class. Take public benefactors. In the United States and in Canada the Middle Classes have been lavish in public beneficence, as in the case of the Stanford University. In Great Britain the titled classes, all of whom have been educated at University, have done nothing for them. And while the same classes have drawn large revenues from the cities, it has been the men of the Middle Classes, who have given the great public institutions; as the great Rylands Library at Manchester, the Mappin Art Gallery at Sheffield. And, if we look back on history, we see that the men of two talents have been the champions of public rights. They fought the battle against hereditary privilege, ending in the Reform Bill; they fought for religious and civil liberty. This men of one talent often forget.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

Finally, we come to the religious life of our countries. No doubt all sections have adorned it by their character and service, but it has always struck me that the men of two talents, the Middle Classes, have been the most loyal to the Saviour and His Gospel. It is true of every church. The Church of England has most of the British nobility among its members. But, as far as I have ever seen, they do not form a large number of its workers and large givers. Its hosts of churchwardens and Sunday School teachers and workers are of the Middle Class. Nor are the working classes numerous. Indeed it is generally admitted that the working classes have left the churches. And if this is true of the Church of England, it is still more true of the Nonconformist churches. Their membership, their officers and officials, their workers and givers, their local preachers, their steady faithful people, who are the backbone of the church are mostly men of two talents. Turn to the missionary field. Pass your eye down the lists of men and women in remote, lonely and even dangerous places. you don't find many earls and viscounts among them. No. Nor many rich men. No. They came mostly from the Middle class. Cast your eye down the subscription lists of the great missionary and other great religious societies that support the workers in the field, send Bibles out in five hundred languages, and doctors for hospitals in heathen lands, you will find that they are made up of medium subscriptions, such as five shillings to five pounds. If we pursue this line of inquiry we shall find ourselves wondering, what, if the Men of Two Talents, are squeezed out, will become of the kingdom of God on earth.

LESSONS IN GOLF

VII.—Concerning Grips

(By Harry Vardon—Six Times Open Champion)

Early in this series of lessons, I said that where a player's manner of gripping the club has possibilities of producing the desired results and is more or less ingrained in his golfing constitution, I do not believe in altering it.

At the same time, it happens frequently that a bad grip is the cause of nearly all the adversity that a person may suffer on the links. Where his shots are repeatedly going wrong and he never seems to make much progress, a change of grip often promotes better results.

It is the first point that an instructor considers in connexion with the methods of his pupil, and sometimes it is absolutely necessary to suggest an alteration if the player is to advance at the game.

AN AWKWARD PROBLEM.

A new manner of holding the club is always in the nature of an awkward problem to the individual concerned. He has cultivated a habit, and to make a fresh habit take the place of an old one is, at the outset, invariably difficult.

I can assure the reader from a long experience, however, that the natural and easy grips are not the best for golf. Whichever principle the player may select, the mastering of it will usually cost him a little patient endeavour. The hands must work together in perfect unison, and to make them do this requires forethought and practice.

Among the multitudes of club golfers, the grip most often seen is that in which the [illegible] is under the shaft, [illegible] deeply in the palm [illegible]. The back of the left hand more or less faces the line of [illegible]. is the simple kind of grip might come naturally to a [illegible] and a few geniuses have [illegible] success of it.

For the great majority, however, it is unquestionably [illegible]. The chances against the hands working together as they should do are enormous when the learner adopts this system. If he is satisfied with his golfing [illegible] I would advise him to [illegible] overlapping grip, [illegible] though it may seem in the early stages of his experiments [illegible] with it.

HOW TO OVERLAP.

It may be that he has already tried it and given it up because he could not get on with it Many people have done that, and in the majority of instances, the reason has been a misunderstanding of the true principles of the overlapping grip.

It is generally realized that the prominent features of this grip are to have the right thumb resting on the left thumb and the little finger of the right hand resting on the forefinger of left—thus creating the overlapping effect. But numerous players appear to think that if they do these two things, the rest can be left to look after itself, whereas they have merely observed elementary — although conspicuous — points in the principle and may have violated others that are essential to the success of the scheme.

For instance, it is possible to overlap in the manner described and still exercise what really amounts to a palm grip. If the backs of the hands are so disposed that they are inclining towards the under-part of the shaft, not actually under it but tending that way, the club will be held in the palm.

I am convinced that the best grip for golf is that which appeals to one as being a finger-grip exercised with the thumbs and fingers; the palms not actually pressing on the shaft at all during the swing unless they do so involuntarily at the impact. To promote this finger-hold, the backs of the hands should be inclined in a very slight degree upwards rather than downwards, which would tend towards putting them under the shaft. Only in an exceedingly small measure should they be tilted towards the over-the-shaft position; just sufficient to keep the palms free from the shaft.

This is as important a detail of the overlapping method as any, but it is frequently ignored. To obtain the correct position, take the club in the left hand, and turn the wrist slightly so that you can see the knuckles of that hand. The natural result of this movement will be to make the thumb go round the shaft. But you do not want it round the club. You want it on top of the shaft; straight down the top of the shaft. So bring it back and place it there. This may seem rather awkward at first, but custom will soon make it easy, and it is an indispensable condition of the grip.

The other fingers take their positions naturally. We now have the left hand properly arranged.

THINGS SEEN AND UNSEEN.

The first thing to do with the right hand is to see that its thumb rests solidly on the left thumb—well over it, so that the fleshy part near the base covers the bottom of the left thumb and leaves only the end of the latter exposed to view.

The first three fingers of the right hand hold the shaft, and the little finger of the right hand presses on the forefinger of the left. Assuming that you have observed the details herein indicated, two interesting circumstances present themselves if you examine your grip by looking down at it when in the act of addressing the ball.

The thumb and forefinger of each hand form a V down the shaft. None of the other fingers of either hand can be seen, because the slight upward tilt of the backs of the hands has hidden those fingers from view.

If you can see the tops of the fingers of the left hand, then that hand is a little too much inclined to be under the shaft. Draw it

...r a trifle keeping the thumb, ...r, straight down the top of ...shaft—and it will hide the ... as it should do.

...rly, if you can see the ... the right-hand fingers, ...nd needs drawing over a ... that the fingers are drawn ...rrespondingly and disap- ...r from view.

...e firmest hold should be with ...thumbs and forefingers. I ... for the life of me under- ... anybody recommending a ...grip with the third and ...fingers, because their natu- ... is always to fit ... round and object and ...ghtly.

... they are deliberately ...ouraged to do this, they are ... to overpower the other fing- ..., and destroy the co-operation ... the hands.

VIII.—Back-Spin Iron Shots

... may assume that the ... so far proficient at the ...kind of iron shot that a ...le proportion of his ... to accomplish it meet ..., there is something ...nd far more exhilarating ...him to learn.

... iron shot invested with ... For the satisfaction ... ds when executed pro- ... there is nothing like it in ... Indeed, the person who has ...ver ...ed it does not under- ... real thrill of the game.

...At first, it may seem rather ...lt; and I am free to admit ... of practice are often ... to achieve even a ... measure of success at ... the apprentice-ship to it ... rth while. We all know ... for the ordinary iron ... we make our address ...it the hands slightly be- ...hind the ball, and hit per- ...aps half an inch behind the ...ll, so that the latter is struck ... the club-head is begin- ... to rise from the bottom of ...e are made by the swing.

...The ball, therefore, is lifted well ...to the air—that is, if we aim ...

...I a plain, ordinary, lofting ...ot—useful in its way, but cer- ...nly not the fine art of golf, ...so we never can be sure what ...going to happen to it.

... is little control over the ...ght of the ball, and none over ...s run. When it pitches, it will ...just as far as the ground is ...posed to permit, and that very ... means that it finishes in ... beyond the green.

A CONTROLLED SHOT.

...The back spin iron shot is in ... a controlled shot. It is ...ed with the object of ...abling the player to hit the ball ... a certain area, and make it ...op within a few yards of where ... alights.

...Here let me remark that it is ... principle adopted by all good ...rofessional golfers with every ...nd of iron club—even very often ...ith the niblick for bunker shots ...and certainly by the most ac- ...mplished amateurs. There are ...me players who execute their ...rives and other wooden club ...ots, as well as their iron strokes, ...this manner, although in the ...se of the full drive, most of us ... not mind how much run there ... on the ball, because we are out ...r all the distance we can obtain, ... long as we can obtain it in ... straight line.

...Those who practise the back- ...in shot with all their clubs do ... because they find it so fas- ...nating and dependable that they ...n never leave it alone.

...Naturally, it calls for a dis- ...active method of execution. We ...ill assume that the player is ...ying it with a cleek or a driving ...on, which, by the way, should ...ve a slight degree of left on it ...cause any shot with a straight ...ced iron is so difficult as to be ...itable only for a person very ...nerously endowed with golfing ...ility.

...The ball must be addressed with ...e hands slightly in front of it—...most, if not quite, an inch in ...ont of it. That is to say, the ...aft is inclined in a very small ...gree towards the line of play; ...is leaning forward a little, so ...at the club-face, too, is tilted ...rward towards the ball.

WHERE THE WEIGHT MUST BE.

...So much for the manner of ...ddress for the promotion of the ...st results. The player needs to ...and nearer to the ball, and swing in a more upright way, than for the ordinary lofted iron-shot; he needs to stand well over his work, so as to secure control over the ball. Consequently, his cleek or driving iron for this back-spin stroke can be quite two inches shorter than the club of the same nomenclature which he uses for the simple iron shot. He is now standing nearer to the ball, and therefore more over it, so that a rather shorter shafted club is an advantage.

Now we come to the most important detail of all. During the address, and throughout the swing, the bulk of the weight of the body must be on the left leg. The player must be conscious of the fact when he is learning the shot that most of his weight is in front of the ball. An easy stance, which enables him to preserve his balance without the slightest risk of losing it, is essential. But while, to secure this effect, he will permit a slight pressure—sufficient to beget confidence and security—on the right leg, he must have the feeling that most of the weight is on the left.

Thus disposed during the address, the player should maintain the same distribution of weight throught the swing—always forward. As a result, he will pivot less at the hips than for an ordinary stroke.

He should aim at the middle of the back of the ball—not the ground immediately behind the ball.

He will thus make the impact the instant before the club-head reaches the bottom of the arc of the swing, so that the club-head will shave off the grass just in front of where the ball has lain.

This is the essence of the stroke—to stand with the weight forward, and hit down on to the back of the ball instead of behind it.

POULTRY RAISING IN CHINA

Methods in China and America Compared: Sugestion that British Interests Should Improve Quality of Eggs Handled for Export

By a Correspondent in America.

Some years ago I was travelling on the Tsinpu Railway with an American and an Australian as companions. When we were passing through the egg-raising districts of Anhui, my Australian friend, noticing a whole junkload of eggs being poled down one of the canals, exclaimed.

"Look at the eggs! Eggs!! More eggs than you can shake a stick at!" (I never could understand this stick-shaking accomplishment of the Australians.)

But the Americam was unmoved. He was a Californian, he told us. He came from the place where they really raised eggs, and you should see, and you should do this or that—and if you did you would not be inpressed with the small industry in Anhui. Little did I think the time would ever come for me to see the egg regions in California to which he then so proudly referred us. But it did come. I have, as a matter of fact, just returned from a trip to a place in Northern California called Petaluma, which claims to be the veritably undisputed home of the hen. Indeed, one would really think this to be the case had he not been in Anhui, Hunan and other of the Yangtze provinces, where eggs are produced in remarkable bulk. Whereover one looked in Petaluma he saw closely-herded flocks of hens, and amid all the cackling it was hard to think. Eggs, eggs—everywhere eggs, and running to as high as fifty cents per dozen, American gold!

CHINA'S EGG PRODUCTION.

I was sufficiently interested when I got home to look up statistics of the volume of eggs and products of the egg that are exported from China to foreign countries, and I got the same sort of jolt that the average "North China" reader would get if he were to do the same thing. I was astounded to find that since the year of the Revolution of 1911 China's contribution of eggs to the world has risen from considerably less than five million taels' worth to nearly thirty million taels' worth. I wonder how many Shanghai people would have been able to tell me that without first having looked it up? In 1912, so my reference shows me, eggs and egg products—that is, albumen and yolk, fresh, preserved and frozen eggs—were sold by China abroad to the tune of Hk. Tls. 4.6 millions, which by 1922 had risen to the extremely creditable total of Hk. Tls. 29.8 million. I do not know the output annually from Petaluma, but I would hazard a guess that certain collecting districts in the Yangtze Valley, such as Tsinghiangpu, for example, would rank her pretty close.

But what a difference in appearance and quality. I wonder whether there are any old Singaporeans in the China ports who will remember eating any number of eggs from a dozen upwards at one sitting at a curious institution of the colony in those days called the "egg club." What the club existed for none of us used to care; all we knew and cared about was that the Chinese in charge of the club supplied unlimited quantities of eggs. I daresay that there are men in Singapore at the present day who are still taking similar risks—for most of those eggs could not by any stretch of human imagination be called fresh—and eating many more than a dozen eggs at a sitting, if the club has not closed down. No, those eggs, and the average China egg, cannot stand comparison for quality and appearance with the Petaluma variety.

And as I strolled round the poultry farms there I thought that it would surely be a fine investment for those interested in the China egg trade (and there are very few in the monopoly) systematically to undertake, by methods that have proved profitable in Petaluma, a general improvement in the egg produced by the hen and the duck in the supplying districts in China. Improve the quality of the commodity, and you improve the price abroad. Great Britain takes by far the greater bulk of these eggs and egg products from China, the trade being almost entirely in British hands, and an opportunity is presented, therefore, for the Briton in China to buckle down and improve a trade which has grown from absolutely nothing a couple of decades ago to the proportions above quoted.

COMPARISON OF PRICES.

I suppose that you are paying about 18 to 25 cents a dozen for eggs which you buy through your cooks in Shanghai to-day. Eggs in the San Francisco markets are selling about 39 cents gold, and in the winter the price sometimes runs as high as 70 cents and higher. I have bought in inland cities and small towns in China as low as one and a half cash apiece, but that was before the days when the paid collectors of the foreign hongs in the trade appeared on the scene to force up prices.

Two factors that weigh heavily in Petaluma poultry farms, which scarcely enter into computation at all in China, are nearness to markets, and available supply and net cost of feed. Petaluma has developed phenomenally as an egg district principally because farmers have gone into the raising on a strictly scientific basis, and because the city is situated near to important consuming markets like San Francisco and other large towns in Northern California, and also because there is efficient transportation, while grain can be purchased from harvest fields near by at lowest wholesale prices. So far as the foreigner who is conducting the business in China is concerned, however, he has no cause to worry over these factors, as he is not at all interested in the domestic markets and is buying, grading and packing and preparing eggs and egg products purely and simply for export abroad. The matter of feed is generally the raiser's affair, transportation does not give any concern to the foreign merchant, and all that he has to worry over is the price he can buy eggs at, with attendant regard to fluctuations of native exchange. Sounds simple, but the trade undoubtedly has its worries like all others. In my time in China this trade was conducted roughly as follows—all the work was done in the collecting areas by accredited Chinese compradores, who collected the eggs from the small supplying farmstead and delivered the cargo to the door of the warehouse or handling station, and the product was paid for at so much a picul either before or after grading had been done, the foreigner paying through these Chinese compradores, sometimes in silver dollars or sycee and sometimes in native cash at the rate of the day. What a gigantic graft for the Chinese, the go-between for the supplier and the exporter! As the trade increased tremendous strides were made by the farmers who supplied the eggs in relation to quantity, but I question whether the quality has been stressed as it might have been. I am of the opinion that if this egg trade were systematically developed under foreign supervision China would very soon become the greatest egg producing country in the world.

SIZE OF A MODERN FARM.

In this connexion it may be of interest to state that I found at Petaluma the size of the average poultry farm is from five to 20 acres. A ten-acre farm can accommodate from two to three thousand adult fowls and allow for the growing of green feed and young stock to maintain the adult flock. As high as a thousand or more fowls per acre are kept on some commercial farms, but not more than 500 per acre is greatly to be preferred if the land is to be kept free from contamination, the stock in continued good health and a most permanent success secured. Too great crowding is unprofitable. I was informed, I admit to my surprise, that poultry raising requires good farming land, because the green feed, at least, must be grown and because forage crops should also be raised as much as possible in the poultry yards if the soil is to be kept sweet and free from disease spreading contamination.

I noticed also that the value of resting the land from poultry and sowing to green crops—every few months, I understand—is so well recognized that the use of double "yards" for each pen of fowls is becoming more general.

Alkali land and barren hillsides are entirely unsuitable for poultry raising. Fowls will do well on practically any well drained agricultural soil. Light sandy and gravelly loams are preferred to the heavier soil types because of a more rapid drainage of surface water and the drying of the surface soil. For example, on sandy soils with good underdrainage, heavy rain will sink into the ground about as fast as it falls, the surface will be dry enough for fowls to use the yards soon after rain ceases, and such soils do not become sticky when moist. Sticky soil surfaces adhere, of course, to the feet of the fowls; they track this into the nests, and then the trouble commences.

What Petaluma has done at least a hundred places within a hundred miles from the banks of the Lower Yangtze could do, and those great cold storage plants at Nanking, Hankow and other places could become the greatest shipping points of the best eggs in the world. They may be the biggest handlers of eggs and egg products in the world to-day, for aught I know. What I want to stress is that the quality of the China egg might well be improved in appearance and size.

THE HILLTOP

To-day, on grey and silver wing,
The sun went early westering.
Sapphires and emeralds gleamed again
On grassy mound, in rutted lane.

The unclad willows, graceful-limbed,
Leaned where the shining river brimmed,
And, like a sudden shaft of blue,
The kingfisher went darting through.

Then how the clear sky seemed to call!
And purple hills perpetual.
Lured my slow feet till, stair by stair,
I clambered to the cleaner air.

And as the keen insistent wind
Left the warm valley far behind,
Something within me groped afar
Towards, then past, the evening star.

—Fay Inchfawn in the "Windsor Magazine."

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THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

On one occasion R. L. Stevenson made an interesting confession to Lloyd Osborne. "I am not a man of any unusual talent, Lloyd," said he. "I start on a line with many members of the race, my success has been due to my really remarkable industry—to the capacity to put [illegible] to the extreme end. What a man [illegible] to accomplish with ordinary gifts and decent opportunities, if only he has the energy to stick to his task! Everybody knows it; it's a commonplace, and yet how rare it is to find anybody doing it—I mean to the uttermost as I did. What genius I had was for work!"

∴

A volume of "Essays in Early Christian History," by Dr. E. T. Merrill, Professor of Latin in the University of Chicago, will be published shortly by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. It is believed that this book will take rank as a cardinal contribution to the history of the circumstances surrounding Christian origins. It is marked by high critical scholarship; it is written in an eminently lucid and attractive style, and it is entirely free from the prejudices of both the ecclesiastical and the anti-ecclesiastical mind. An essay which may be expected to attract particular attention treats of the problem of St. Peter's residence in Rome, and effectively disposes of the fundamental Roman Catholic claim that the Apostle was the first Bishop and founder of the Roman Church. In connexion with this claim Professor Merrill's conclusion is that "the historical base is not rock, but incoherent sand."

∴

We all know by this time that Mr. "Richard Dehan," who wrote "The Dope Doctor," is a lady, Mrs. Clotilde Graves. She has just finished another story with the pretty title, "The Pipers of the Market Place." It concerns a very strapping and gifted heroine called Marvina, who is comparable to such famous heroines as Maggie Tulliver, Rhoda Fleming, and Mercy of Charles Reade's "Griffith Gaunt." She is so big, so brave, so beautiful, so forthright, that she almost fills the whole of "The Pipers of the Market Place."

∴

Mr. Stephen Graham, the well-known traveller and student of life, must have had a theme after his own heart when he was writing "In Quest of El Dorado," which will be ready in March. When he set out on this new venture his idea was "to make a sentimental journey and trail an idea across the world." He followed in the footsteps of Columbus and all the explorers who sought the New World. He takes us first to Spain, whence the early seekers of El Dorado embarked. From Cadiz, like Columbus before him, he sailed on a Spanish ship and followed the explorers' keels over the waters to Porto Rico, Haiti, Cuba, San Salvador (the first land sighted by Columbus). He visited Panama, climbed a peak in Darien, and saw the Pacific for the first time as Balboa saw it. We are invited to follow the fantastic adventures of Coronado to the Seven Cities of Cibola and the Shalees Dance at the "centre of the earth." We visit Mexico, following the historical track of Cortes, and finish this quest of El Dorado at the ancient pyramids of the Anahuac plateau and the ruins of Mitla near the border of British Honduras.

∴

We have, perhaps, no English district so rich in associations with men and women as the Thames Valley between London and Windsor. Bacon, Pope, Swift, Fielding, Gray, Johnson, Shakespeare, Milton, Jane Austen, Shelley, and Thackeray all had connexion with this part of the Thames. In our own day it has had associations with Meredith, Swinburne, De Morgan, and Blackmore, who had a market garden at Twickenham. Mr. Gordon S. [illegible] has made a careful study of the Thames Valley as thus indicated, in order to write a book entitled "The Author's Thames," which Cecil Palmer is to publish before long.

∴

In "An Inquisitive Journey" Mr. [illegible] describes journeys through China and [illegible] Road in the East will [illegible] it because it is richly endowed with that rarest of qualities—humour that compels laughter. "Far Eastern Jaunts" is assured of a place among the humorous classics of travel.

DOWN DEVON WAY

The Hon. John W. Fortescue, the distinguished historian of the British Army, has in "My Native Devon" (Macmillan. 10s. 6d.) written a book of considerable charm, containing sketches of [illegible] with delicious scraps of [illegible] like the following account of a casual meeting between a cavalry officer, named Raymond, home on leave, and Jimmy, a small boy of the village:

"You'm to school, I reckon, Jimmy. Do you like schooling?"

"No," answered Jimmy, with decision. "Vather saith as there's too much schooling nowadays, both for boys and maids. Maids be growing tu vine to wash their own shimazes," he added oracularly, "so vather saith."

"Have you any sisters, Jimmy? Do they wash their own chemises?" went on Raymond.

"Tu," replied Jimmy, "Anne and Mary. They'm too small to wash yet, but I reckon they will."

There is a perfectly done portrait of a family butler of the old school, who brewed beer. When the foxhounds met at his house he was in his element. "He was proud of recording that at one lawn-meet the guests consumed 93 quarts of small beer and 22 of ale, which he took as a high compliment to himself."

A TRAVEL RECORD

24,000 miles in South America.
27,000 miles in Africa.
20,000 miles in Alaska and Yukon.
100,000 miles in the Southern Seas.

The above is not a complete record of the journeys of Mrs. Charlotte Cameron, O.B.E., F.R.G.S., the author of "Wanderings in South-Eastern Seas" (T. Fisher Unwin, 15s.), but it is sufficient to indicate the strength of her publisher's claim that she has the greatest travel record of any woman. Her pages bear the stamp of one who has a wide experience as a writer as well as a traveller, for this is the latest of several books. One is tempted to quote freely—there are any number of titbits. For instance, the story of the English traveller who asked a Chinese to explain the custom of his countrymen of putting false money into a coffin in order to propitiate the gods. The reply was: "He dead, he no savee whether good or bad coin. As the samee, you put flowers on grave—he no smell."

Mrs. Cameron gives a rather surprising description of the home of the wife of a native chief in Pango, American Samoa:—

I went in and sat in a yellow-painted rocking chair, truly American. On the floor were plaited mats. The beds, covered with thin tapa matting, looking like huge divans, stood at one end of the home; a sewing-machine and gramophone spoke of up-to-dateness. The other part of the room must have been the culinary department, for here were an ice-chest and a wire-screened cupboard, various cooking utensils completing the furniture.

Every modern device, in fact except a telephone and a wireless set

A 1924 GUIDE FOR ADVERTISERS

The 1924 edition of the Newspaper Press Directory is just to hand. The Directory has been appearing year by year since 1846, and can claim to have made newspaper and advertising history. The new edition includes a complete record of the newspapers, magazines and trade publications of the Empire, together with those of the principal foreign countries with which British traders do business.

The directory has established for itself a reputation of present an extremely much valuable information and statistics in respect to Inter-Imperial trade. In this issue, therefore, arising from the Imperial Conference of 1923, the publishers have pleasure in presenting an article entitled "Australia and Empire Development," by the Prime Minister of Australia, the Rt. Hon. S. M. Bruce, and also one entitled "New Zealand and Enpire Trade, by the Hon. Sir James Allen, High Commissioner for New Zealand. An article entitled "Britain's Export Trade" deals with the subject from a board of Trade point of view, and indicates some of the activities of this Department in the interest of British manufacturers. An informative article, "Inter Imperial," discusses in detail the general conditions and prospects on improved trade within the British Empire. Immediately preceding the gazetteer of each country is a review of the trade of that country, with classified lists of tariffs, duties, etc., showing the preference given to British goods where operative. It is doubtful if the whole range of trade information can be found so complete and comprehensive in any other one volume.

The Newspaper Press Directory is compiled and published by Messrs. C. Mitchell & Co., Ld., 1 Snow Hill, London, E.C. 1, and will be sent post free for 5/- (abroad 6/6). It contains over 650 pages, and is a wonderful five shillings' worth for the advertiser, the agent, and the journalist.

AUCTION BRIDGE

The Laws of Auction Bridge. As revised and adopted by the Committee of the Portland Club, January 1, 1924. De la Rue. 2s. 6d.

The revised laws are slightly shorter than the old ones and a good deal less ambiguous. The changes that have been made are not important, but the introduction of a penalty of 50 points for "looking at the last trick" is an interesting innovation which may do a good deal directly and indirectly to get rid of that rather tiresome laxity with which the game is often played outside the regular clubs. It is to be hoped that this and other minor penalties will be strictly enforced. Players often hesitate, especially when their opponents are their guests or their hosts, to exact penalties for careless breaches of the laws which do not actually affect the play of the hand. This is a mistaken indulgence. The careless player is a nuisance, and it is to his own interest, as well as to that of the game, that he should always be brought to book for his lapses. It would be a good thing if players read the Laws more often than they do; very few can do so at any time without being reminded of something that they have forgotten.

THE CHINESE STAFF OF LIFE

Rice. By Edwin Bingham Copeland, Professor of Plant Physiology and Dean of the College of Agriculture retired, University of the Philippines, author of "The Coconut." With Plates in Colour and other Illustrations. 8vo.

Professor Copeland points out that rice, "the world's greatest crop," has never before been the subject of book treatment in any Western language—a fact which gives special importance to the publication of this volume. It is a practical book for the grower and the merchant, as well as a text-book for the student, for the author has tried wherever possible to explain the details of field practice by their physiological effects, and he never loses sight of the general principle that all practice, and all advice, must be judged by business considerations. Separate chapters are devoted to the botany of rice; climate, soil, and water; diseases and pests; seed and varieties of rice; rice in the United States; rice in the Philippines; rice in other lands; the uses of rice; with a final chapter of general conclusions. The book is well illustrated and comes before the public as the work of a scientific expert who, as Professor of Plant Physiology in the University of the Philippines, has had special opportunities of studying the subject.

BRITAIN AND AMERICA

An Old Problem from New Points of View

The Contrast. By Hilaire Belloc. (Arrowsmith. 12s. 6d. net.)

British American Relations. By J. D. Whelpley. (Grant Richards. 14s. net.)

The two books to be considered here are of rather more than usual interest in their category. Working towards approximately the same end, the authors have written from exactly opposite points of view. The opposition does not arise from the fact that one book is by an Englishman (the argument that Mr. Belloc is a Frenchman is in the present instance largely academic) and the other by an American. The difference lies more in type of mind and motive. The fact is that there are two schools of thought as to the methods to be pursued in accomplishing an entente, or natural and sympathetic understanding between the two peoples. Both schools are well defined; both are partly right; and both err in their own directions. Mr. Belloc belongs to the one which says that America is now such an essentially foreign country that the only way we shall be able to get on with her is to treat her as a foreign country and to stop thinking of her as somehow English and a cousin with family loyalties. Mr. Whelpley, on the other hand, holds the more traditional view that the fundamental similarities are greater than the differences and insists that mutual explanations can effect and are in fact effecting a diminution of the superficial misunderstanding which has so often tended to undermine the basic sympathies of the two peoples in the past. Mr. Belloc talks in the manner of the European politician; Mr. Whelpley sounds more like the plain but understanding man of the people.

Mr. Belloc's book is brilliant, alarmist, and often misleading. The last adjective is justified because so many of Mr. Belloc's statements are inaccurate and superficial. Not that they are intentionally so, but rather inevitably, for it is practically impossible for one man to know and understand two countries equally and thoroughly well when one of them is his own. Moreover, "The Contrast," of course, contains all the good old Belloc phobias and complexes—the Jews, the Catholics, the Army, Monarchy, etc. Then, too, the theme of contrast has been greatly exaggerated, doubtless from well-intentioned propagandist motives. It will be seen, therefore, that this book should be read with extreme caution and should not be accepted as gospel by the ardent uninitiate. Although Mr. Belloc's point of view is not new (younger American writers have often expressed it) it may appear so to orthodox minds. There is nevertheless something to be said for it, and it should not be peremptorily dismissed by those whose affections are so strong as sometimes to cloud their vision.

Mr. Whelpley's book, as indicated, is of a very different character. By no means brilliant in the sense that Mr. Belloc's book is brilliant, it is nevertheless and fundamentally more sound. As far as it goes and it goes much further than "The Contrast"—it is thorough, documented, based on fact and common sense, good-tempered, and honest. The fact that Mr. Whelpley repeats himself a good deal and misses no opportunity to split an infinitive should not prejudice the reader against his matter and his conclusions. He is neither flawless nor unprejudiced. He errs, moreover, on the side of optimism. But on the whole there is much more to be said for his views than for Mr. Belloc's. He seldom engages in meretricious generalizations, but keeps to attested facts and faces logical difficulties rather than avoiding them. In fact, the courage and frankness with which he faces grave problems are the qualities which specially recommend his work. He traces the history of British-American relations up to the present day, discusses the influences as he sees them at work promoting or inhibiting understanding, and points cautiously to the future.

If the reader can be prevailed upon to read both of these books, he will gain a considerable understanding of the problems involved in a relation which must affect every one of us. If he can read but one, let him read "British-American Relations." He will get less fireworks at his entertainment, but more food.—Joseph Brewer in the "Spectator."

EUROPE'S LITEARY TREASURES

Morgan Library at Disposal of Scholars and Students

Mr. John Pierpont Morgan recently announced that as a memorial to his late father, Mr. Pierpont Morgan, the great financier and collector, he has made a gift of the great Morgan library in New York (valued at between seven million and twelve million dollars) for the use of scholars from all parts of the world.

The library which consists of 25,000 books and manuscripts, etc., is to be turned over to a board of trustees, to be entrusted with its maintenance, and with the princely gift goes the building which contains it and the grounds, valued at $8,000,000.

The terms of the gift explain that the use of the library must be confined to scholars and students, and will not be available to the general public owing to the fragility of the books and manuscripts.

SOME OF THE TREASURES.

The collection was probably the most splendid private one in the world. Here is a short list of a few of the treasures:

The Ashburnham Gospels.
The Golden Gospels of Henry VII.
Many Caxtons.
Rare Byron Manuscripts.
Blake's drawings for the "Book of Job."
Originals of Horace Walpole's Letters.
The Manuscript of Keats's "Endymion."
Shelley's Notebook.
The Manuscript of "A Christmas Carol."
Ten volumes of Dickens's Letters.
Letters of St. Francis de Sales, and other Saints.
Many originals of Burns's poems.
Manuscripts of Dr. Johnson.
The earliest existing letter of Napoleon.
Sir Walter Scott's diary and MSS. of some of his novels.
The MS. of "Vanity Fair."

The "Golden Gospels" was given to Henry VII by Pope Leo X., and the binding is supposed to have been designed by Holbein. The Gospels are inscribed on purple vellum in letters of burnished gold. The writing was most probably done by an Anglo-Saxon scribe for the Archbishop of York about A.D. 670.

Among other treasures are several shelves of Aldines and Elzevirs; books which have belonged to Kings and Queens, including one bound for Henry VII. and Catherine of Aragon; Elizabethan and Jacobean first edition; and Chaldean, Assyrian, and Babylonian tablets.

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

MRS. MILTON PURDY

Her Views on Woman's Suffrage

By Elizabeth Pepys.

"Why not talk about something really interesting?" was the modest way in which Mrs. Milton D. Purdy, wife of the newly appointed Judge of the U. S. Court for China, smilingly parried the efforts of our representative to interview her. No matter how inquisitive we tried to be, nor how personal our interest we found the dialogue adroitly directed to the general themes of China, politics, art or music, until we discovered that we had met a woman with a curious distaste for talking about herself. Well informed on all current topics, she turned the conversation down so many alluring byways that it was impossible to keep it to what should have been its central theme—herself.

With great determination, however, I returned to the charge, urging, "It has been said that you are an able and enthusiastic club woman."

"Now, who could have started that report?" sighed Mrs. Purdy, shaking her head deprecatingly, "At one time I belonged to a number of clubs, but I was only a worker in them, not one of the leaders." By that very admission, had she but realized it, she ranked herself as a genuine club woman, working for the common good and not for individual honours, which have, nevertheless, been forced upon her. But this is a digression, for Mrs. Purdy continued: "I became so much interested in the question of suffrage and the work of the Association that it absorbed all my energies and I resigned from my other activities. Since the granting of the suffrage to women I have retained my interest in the League of Women Voters, that unpartisan (no, not non-partisan) organization and I believe it is doing a very valuable work.

POLITICAL EDUCATION.

"The schools of political education which have been organized since the suffrage Amendment was passed have been tremendously useful. In Minnesota no less than 80 schools were organized the summer after the Amendment was passed in small country towns and women came from the farming countries around for perhaps a week's intensive course in citizenship, its duties and privileges. The Democratic and Republican women worked on practically the same lines and the result has been that women are making a much more intelligent interest in the affairs of their country.

"Not only that, but their enthusiasm has spread to their husbands as well and the table talk the children hear is far more educative so that they will grow up in an atmosphere conducive to open-minded citizenship. Yes, I'm an enthusiast on this subject.

"The Chinese women? I'm not prepared to say anything on that score but I look forward with interest to learning how they are working out their own problems as well as finding out how American women in the Orient keep in touch with political matters at home."

CHITS WE SHOULD LIKE TO SEND

To All Theatre Managers

By Elizabeth Pepys.

Gentlemen,—I have often wondered whether you read the newspapers, and have concluded that perhaps your vision is like mine, selective, and that your blind spot may cover things you do not wish to see. Pardon me, therefore, if I touch a sore spot in bringing to your notice the fact that the prompt comers to the theatre get rather annoyed at being walked over by the unco' late who will not even sit or stand in the rear until the scene is over. It really is rather horrid to miss the whole first act through no fault of one's own. I quite understand how you may have overlooked this fact and feel sure that now I have brought it to your attention you will correct this abuse at once, since it is so patently within your power. That's that.

And just one more thing, or at most two. Could you, without too much inconvenience, replace all squeaky or otherwise ill-mannered chairs in the auditorium so that enjoyment of beautiful music need not be marred by the creaking chairs of those who are unfortunately not entirely spellbound by the sweet strains discoursed? I might suggest a professional seat tester, to try out the chairs before each performance. Even a little oiling would help.

QUIET PROGRAMMES.

The last favour is that you print the programmes on non-rattling paper. It may not be easy to find non-rustling mediums, but I think it might be done. Couldn't you get some efficiency expert to eliminate the noise and this waste product to the Chinese theatres, or save it up until applause was needed? It has been estimated that the amount of rattling wasted during the course of a season's concerts would be sufficient for the imitation of a stormy night at sea or the gale that almost blows the Old Homestead down, if it could be properly conserved.

Trusting that you will find it possible to act upon these simple suggestions, I remain, as always.

THE PERFECTING TRIFLE

It is the Little Things that Count —Specially in Clothes

Looking back, a long way back, upon my childhood I seem to hear the sound of many voices, speaking in the accents of governesses, aunts, grandmothers and mother: "Remember, my dear, it is the little things that make the difference." The sayings of relatives and intimates are easy to disregard until the hard-earned experience of later years brings you up with the thought, "Why, that was what they were always telling me," and then you wish you had believed your elders a little sooner.

For it is the same thing that the modistes and the fashion magazines are dinning into our ears again, the dictum that we strive unsuccessfully to impress upon our Chinese tailors—"Be careful of details." Parenthetically I might remark that to me employing Chinese tailors seems only a wilder form of gambling. Not being able to demonstrate convincingly the effect I desire obtained, the results are problematic. If we lose we squander materials as well as the cost of making; but if we win (and stranger things have happened), Oh! the mad exultation.

It is the "little more and how much it means" particularly in dealing with tailored suits. One might expect the tailored vogue to remain stationary, and so perhaps it does, except for the details—ah, those little details that spoil the effect! The new shoulders, I understand, are an example. You must not have a drop-shoulder nor yet a normal armhole, if you wish anything highly distinctive just a cross between the two. This gives a slightly elongated effect. The unbelted frock, too, calls for looseness under the arm, a very necessary point, since the aim is to give the appearance of slim hips by increasing the width at the shoulders and under the arms.

The girdle, whether seen or not, must always influence the gown—that is, whether only a part of it appear in the disposition of the gathers over the hip, as a buckle, or the heading of the apron panel, there must be something to reassure one that it was not overlooked in designing the frock.

E. P.

VARIANTS OF THE SMALL HAT VOGUE.

HOUSEBOAT GLIMPSES

Scene I.—Morning by the Canal.

By Elizabeth Pepys.

A houseboat moored in a quiet inlet off the main canal, in the shade of a grove of elm trees, fluttered by soft breezes. To the right at the water's edge a wooden fence with barred gateway leading into a grave-yard, granite-guarded. Weeping willows droop their amber-green fronds against this background, and pensively regard their reflexions in the quiet water at the foot of the granite steps. To the left, beyond the grove, an impressive widow's pailou.

Over the deck of the houseboat an awning is stretched beneath that a table but recently deserted, for the fragrance of bacon still lingers on the fresh morning air. The Shanghai houseboy moves about in immaculate white amongst the blue-garbed boatmen. Across the canal stretch wide fields of golden rape blossoms, banded with strips and squares of mauve clover, while the exquisite perfume of the bean blossoms are wafted on the light breezes.

SCENE 2.—WOODS AND MEADOWS.

Across the gang plank and out upon the dewy grass file the campers, ready for a long tramp, the men courting sunburn in jerseys and shorts, the women knickered but sunhatted, all with stout sticks. Off through the dewy grass they move, across the fields, skirting the patches of clover, though little groves of pines, or elms, marking the more or less formal burial mounds. Buttercups and dandelions, "mock lilacs" and a variety of flowers fleck the grass with colour.

Under a matshed stone masons are blocking out granite slabs for still more graves. No matter how desperate a struggle for existence the survivors may have, no matter how little genuine respect or affection these elaborate tombs betoken, the clutch of the dead hand is impossible to break. Out here in the peace and beauty of the country one can be thankful that the rites due the dead at least bring the living out into these sylvan surroundings and furnish an excuse for what seems like a jolly family outing. See the food and wine placed round the tomb, the heaps of paper money, the family standing about from tiny tots to grandfathers, while the head of the house makes obeisance.

SCENE 3.—MID-DAY.

The trail has long since left the woods at the foot of the hills and winds around to the summit, through thickets of wild azealias, purple, mauve and yellow. White lilacs wave in the breeze which comes cool off Taku Lake. The sun is hot as one toils upward, but beneath the shade of the rest house the wind is piercing. Still higher up and the pagoda crowning the summit of the first peak left far behind. A temple extends over the top of the furtherest hill, its solid walls standing firm against the roughest gales of winter, little trails leading up to it from all the scattered hamlets lying below in the valley, and one wide stone road, overgrown with grass.

A curious mixture of new carvings and crumbling ruins within the temple. Smoke curling out of the great incense burner in the court yard, though there are no worshippers about; another burner pitched into a corner as refuse. Tables and stools in the main temple, with steaming tea brought to visitors as soon as they enter. The usual collection of Buddhas, drums, bells, embroideries and candles.

Two worshippers who have made the long, hard climb apparently on business of moment. One a toothless grandmother, the other a straight young slip of a girl, both poorly dressed. The priest lights the three red candles the girl has bought, the women chin-chin joss, the younger one reiterating her requests, then taking the fortune-telling bamboos and after more prayers shaking out a piece, and twice again until the priest gives her a bit of paper with characters marked upon it from the well-filled racks at the side, where prayers are also written. The final interpretation seems lucky, the old woman is especially delighted and after more devotions the two go off smiling. During this time two other foreign visitors have entered, one group leaving Pilsner beer bottles behind.

Out into the sun again and along the ridge of the hills towards the valley again. Chinese figures are hunting the hill-sides and putting their finds into tins and bottles Blue-green beetles are the quarry, ground up for 'cantharides and used in melicine, the Naturalist tells us.

SCENE 4.—SUNSET.

The crest of another hill awaiting sunset. A rosy glow suffusing the whole sky and reflected in the little patches of water dotting the valley. A rustling wind, chill with the approach of night. The impatient evening star hardly waits for the sunset before displaying her own brilliance. Other stars prick through the pale blue sky. The moon lingers for a spectacular entry. The night-jar chugs in the distance, the young hylas tune up. Down the hill, picking a stumbling way along a path where a water course has deposited loose stones, through the pine woods redolent with the fragrances drawn out by the wooing sun, and back to the houseboat again, just in time to see the moon rising, a vast orange round, through the trees on the western horizon. Quiet, save for the distance barking of dogs in the village, and the laugh of the villagers revelling in the warm spring night.

STYLE SUGGESTIONS

Straws Which Mark the Winds of Fashion

The words "strictly tailored" strike terror to the heart of the woman who cannot absolutely rely upon her tailor or modiste. But there are ways and means of circumventing the difficulties which surround the tailleur, and clever tricks which will give a tailored effect to what is really nothing but a dress. The setting in of the sleeve, as we indicated in a previous article, is a crucial matter, making or marring the whole jacket. What then? Doing without the sleeve is one way of solving the problem.

For instance, the sleeveless coat, made of the same or a contrasting material and slipped on over a frock will solve many a problem. Collars may turn up or down, according as one wishes to wear the dress at home or on the street, and deep gauntlet cuffs may be added to give an extra air of formality. The sleeveless Breton jacket over a smart frock buttoned the full length of the front is another useful device,, and even a long coat with a scarf collar may be sleeveless.

The cape is another handy way of transforming a dress into a street frock. A triple shoulder length cape may snap underneath the dress collar or a sleeveless cape falling to the knees may be cut with a flaring line. Another sleeveless coat is cut like a blouse, buttoning around the hips, and with a scarf collar, or one may even button on a front floating panel with a scarf collar, which falls flat and loose below the waist and gives the line of a tunic coat. By just such little touches one's wardrobe may be indefinitely extended without much expenditure, and a smart street appearance achieved without burdensome weight.

E. P.

SPRING SONG

Make me over, mother April,
When the sap begins to stir!
When the flowery hand delivers
All the mountain-prisoned rivers,
And thy great heart beats and quivers
To revive the days that were,
Make me over, mother April,
When the sap begins to stir!

Take my dust and all my dreaming,
Count my heart-beats one by one,
Send them where the winters perish;
Then some golden noon recherish
And restore them in the sun,
Flower and scent and dust and dreaming,
With their heart-beats every one!

Make me over, mother April,
When the sap begins to stir!
Fashion me from swamp or meadow,
Garden plot or ferny shadow,
Hyacinth or humble burr!
Make me over, mother April,
When the sap begins to stir!

Make me over in the morning
From the rag-bag of the world!
Scraps of dream and duds of daring,
Faded colours once so flaring,
Shreds of banners long since furled!
Hues of ash and glints of glary,
In the rag-bag of the world!

Let me taste the old immortal
Indolence of life once more;
Not recalling nor forseeing,
Let the great slow joys of being,
Well my heart through as of yore!
Let me taste the old immortal
Indolence of life once more!

Only make me over April,
When the sap begins to stir!
Make me man or make me woman,
Make me oaf or ape or human,
Cup of flower or cone or fir;
Make me anything but neuter
When the sap begins to stir!

BLISS CARMAN in "Songs from Vagabondia."

MORE MOTHER GOOSE

Sing a song of ricshas
A pocket full of dollars
Give the coolie forty cents
And then he always hollers.
But pay a dime and three cents
Which is his proper fare
He'll pocket it and walk away
And will not even glare.
Sing a song of Hongkew
A pocket full of tar:
Four and twenty Chinese
Packed in a car.
When the car was opened
They all were stuck together.
Oh! Wasn't that a pretty sight
All in the hot weather.

—J. L.

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

P. & O. S.S. Shinzuoka Maru Apr. 29
Per N.Y.K.S. Hozans Maru ,, 30
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Madison May 1
Per M.M.S. Andre Lebon ,, 2
Per T.K.K.S. Taiyo Maru ,, 3

OUTWARD

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON, ETC.—

Per N.D.L.S. Gneisenau Apr. 26
Per P. & O. S. Kaiyan ... ,, 29
Per L.T.S. Fiume L. ... ...May 3
Per N.Y.K.S. Katori Maru... ,, 3

FOR JAPAN, CANADA, U.S.A. & EUROPE:

Per T.K.K.S. Shinyo Maru Apr. 26
Per O.S.K.S. Arizona Maru May 2
Per A.O.L.S. President Grant ,, 6
Per T.K.K.S. Siberia Maru ... ,, 8
Per R.M.S. Empress of Asia ,, 10
Per P.M.S. Pres. Cleveland... ,, 10

FOR MANILA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND VIA HONGKONG—

Per R.M.S. Empress of Asia Apr. 26
Per P. & O. S. Kaiyan .. ,, 29
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Madison May 2

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per N.Y.K.S. Nagasaki Maru, April 17, from Japan. Mrs. S. Bastow, Mrs. F. C. Jones, Mrs. H. L. Gammack, Rev. J. du Merle, Mr. W. N. Buyers, Mrs. I. H. Correll, Dr. I. H. Correll, Mr. A. Stenc.

Per str. Soochow, April 17. From Tsingtao Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, Mr. P. Kutt.

Per str. Kungwo, April 17. From River Ports. Dr. A. E. Brown, Mrs. Ferguson, Miss Lindgren, Mr. M. H. Brown.

Per str. Sunning, April 18. From Hongkong and Canton. Messrs. H. W. Lyons, Dane, J. Rosenthal, C. A. Cousins, Vose, D. Kinnear.

Per str. Poyang, April 18. From River Ports. Mr. C. J. Bell, Mr. and and Mrs. P. Jenkins and three children, Mr. Nelson, Miss Czech, Miss Wilson, Miss Beslubbes, Miss Kukunsker, Miss Melzo, Miss Parker.

Per U.S.S. Patrocius, April 18, From Liverpool, etc. Mr. J. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Anderson, Mrs. A. Buchanan, Miss A. Buchanan, Master G. Buchanan, Mr. and Mrs. E. Camping, Master E. Camping, Master A. Camping, Dr. A. Benson, Mr. W. I. Carson, Mr. M. O. Davies, Mrs. I. S. Ellis, Mr. J. Garner, Mr. E. L. Gray, Mr. P. W. M. Horner, Mr. J. Hunt, Miss L. Hunt, Mr. N. V. Jiejin, Mrs. E. Jiejin, Master I. Jiejin, Miss I. Jiejin, Miss T. Jiejin, Miss Astafieva, Miss [illegible] M. O. J. Lang, Mrs. V. H. McCallum, Miss F. Menk, Miss A. E. Mosen, Miss A. E. Mosen, Mr. W. R. Myers, Mrs. O. Myers, Miss O. Myers, Miss A. Myeys, Mr. A. Ormiston, Miss M. Parsons, Miss A. Parsons, Mr. G. Philip, Mrs. M. Shane, Mr. A. Taylor, Mr. R. K. Veryard, Mrs. L. D. F. Veryard, Miss R. Whitcroft, Mrs. M. Wolfendale, Mr. C. W. Young, Mr. and Mrs. J. Lockhart, Mr. O. F. Campbell, Mr. K. Kuhn, Mrs. R. W. McIntyre, Miss F. M. McIntyre.

Per str. Ningchao, April 19. From River Ports. Mr. T. F. Doyle.

Per str. Kiangwah, April 19. From River Ports. Mr. [illegible], Mr. [illegible], Mr. Chacat, Mr. and Mrs. Davenport.

Per str. Changchow, April 20. From Swatow. Mrs. Kaccavar, Mrs. [illegible].

Per str. Luenyi. April 20. From River Ports. Messrs. Hughes, De Ross, Robin, Misses Benson (2), Johnston.

Per str. Hsin Ningshao, April 20. From Ningpo. Messrs. K. Dimetinader, R. J. Buckley, R. M. Hoxells, W. Howells, R. F. Linnestead, F. D. Mulvey, Miss P. Hunt, Miss Day, Mr. and Mrs. Jolly.

Per str. Tuckwo, April 20. From River Ports. Mr. R. M. Stone, Mr. [illegible] M. E. W. Turner, Mrs. E. Y. A. Easter.

Per str. Fengtien, April 21. From Tientsin. Mr. and Mrs. Gaillard and [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. Jessian [illegible], Miss Barrett, Mr. and [illegible], Mr. Hare. **From Chefoo,** Miss Mowday and two children, Mr. J. [illegible].

Per R.M.S. Empress of Australia, April 21 From Hongkong. Mr. A. M. [illegible], Mr. J. C. Bond, Mrs. R. W. [illegible], Mrs. M. F. Barker, Mrs. E. [illegible], Miss N. Bamber, Miss J. [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Gill, Mr. A. [illegible], Miss L. de Stevens, Mr. [illegible], Mr. [illegible], Hon. Miss Hay, Mr. [illegible], Mr. H. Hay, Mr. W. Hayes, Mrs. W. Dyer, Mr. G. Ford, Mrs. E. [illegible], Mrs. M. Gonzalez, Mrs. L. Gil, Mr. M. H. B. Hammond, Mr. C. J. [illegible], Mrs. A. E. Hay, Mrs. E. [illegible], Mr. J. W. Hazzard, Mr. G. [illegible], Mr. J. H. L. Mann, Mr. [illegible], Mrs. I. L. Macgregor, Mr. [illegible], Mrs. L. E. Mayo, Mr. W. W. [illegible], Mr. C. N. [illegible], Mr. [illegible], Mrs. T. S. [illegible], Mr. M. Olive, Mr. H. [illegible], Mrs. W. Rosenquist, Mr. [illegible], Mr. S. P. Soares, Mr. J. de Souza, Mrs. J. Soares, Mr. H. [illegible], Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Eggert, Mr. C. H. Tousley, Mr. J. H. Underwood, Mr. C. Y. Wen, Mr. D. G. Wen, Mrs. S. C. Wen, Miss Wen, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. F. Williamson, Mr. Ward, Mr. A. P. Berg, Mr. K. Doan, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Featherstone, Miss E. Featherstone, Mr. J. B. Swan, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mr. R. Osburn, Mr. and Mrs. R. de Kat, Mr. and Mrs. H. Deering, Mr. T. D. Hunter, Mr. H. Hansen, Mr. J. Kinnman, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Montenegro, Miss C. Montenegro, Miss C. Henderson, Mr. F. B. Marshall, Miss G. E. Bayne, Miss D. L. Bayne, Mr. L. Mr. C. E. Lee, Mrs. C. M. Beaty, Mr. N. Blumenthal, Mr. A. J. d'Assumpcao, Miss J. Goebaunoff, Mr. A. Hazipapas, Mr. F. H. Henig, Mr. A. J. Hatten, Mr. A. Anderson, Mr. H. Molen, Mr. Y. T. Mann, Mr. K. C. Pank, Mrs. P. Rathsan, Miss P. Rathsan, Master Rathsan, Mr. T. P. Cook.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, April 22. From Ningpo. Miss Morris, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Cobb, Messrs. D. Latimer, B. MacCarthy, W. E. Palmer, R. E. Butland, K. H. Broomhall, Laynaigue, Vanden Baxte, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. MacLennan.

Per str. Kiangan, April 22, From River Ports, Mr. and Mrs. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Blangean and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Plewenan and two children, Mrs. Stubbs and two children, Mrs. H. Key, Miss Morgan, Miss E. Casperson, Mr. and Mrs. Bulbrook, Misses W. H. A. Porter, R. Waugh.

Per P. & O. S. Plassy. April 22. From London. Mr. J. F. Jupp, Col. [illegible], Mr. [illegible], Miss B. Mc. [illegible], Mrs. Ludwell, Mrs. Couvelmi and child, Mr. F. Kirkman, Mr. E. Dewar, Mr. P. H. Flatt, Mr. G. R. West, Mr. W. F. Allan, Mr. J. Davies, Mr. N. Sycamore, Miss J. Wedland, Mr. M. Brooks, Mr. F. [illegible]. **From Colombo.** Mr. J. Andrew, Mr. Hallsof, Mr. Lorimer, Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] and Mr. D. Woods. **From Penang** Miss Pigott. **From Singapore** Mr. [illegible], Mr. A. A. Elliot, Mr. and Mrs. Williams. **From Hongkong** Capt. A. E. Watts, Mr. and Mrs. Cousins, Mrs. Robinson, Miss A. Stone, Mrs. H. Stephens, Mr. Kutsun.

Per str. Suiyang, April 23. From Hongkong. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter and child.

Per str. Kwokuto Maru, April 23. From Chinwangtao. Mr. and Mrs. Keay, Miss Zella.

Per str. Kutwo, April 23. From River Ports. Mrs. Langley and child, Mr. B. E. Nobles and child.

Per M. V. Glengarry, April 24. From London. Mrs. E. M. Lewis, Mr. W. Oldland.

Per str. Sunning, April 24. From Tsingtao. Mrs. A. Austen, Mrs. C. J. Small.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, April 24. From Ningpo. Messrs. H. Maingon, Y. E. Shamroose.

Per str Loongwo, April 24. From River Ports. Mrs. A. Rose, Mrs. Smith and son, Mr. A. Krobbel, Mr. B. G. Leonkieff, Mr. W. H. Janson.

Per M.M.S. Paul Lecat, April 24. From Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Telling, Mr. Demange, Mr. and Mrs. Dupuy and child, Mrs. Mousseenko, Miss Lanerwald, Mr. and Mrs. Estrine, Mrs. Martinengo, Mr. and Mrs. A. Gaan and three children, Mrs. J. Gaan and two children, Mr. Roman, Mr. and Mrs. Pilla and child, Mr. and Mrs. Parquier, Mr. Barolet, Mr. Berthelin, Mr. Merteus, Mr. Janssens, Mr. Labis, Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland and child, Mr. and Mrs. Casanova, Miss Revnelta, Mr. Orange, Mr. Gaffney, Miss Metz, Mr. [illegible], Mr. Tupier, Mr. Lavenaly. **From Singapore.** Mr. H. Zimmerman, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Neaven, Mr. Chill, Mr. Mahrani. **From Hongkong.** Mr. Damiens, Mr. and Mrs. T. [illegible], Mr. Dangerous.

Per str. Shuntien, April 25. From Chefoo Miss Lund.

Per str. Szechuen, April 25. From Hongkong. Mr. and Mrs. Frank.

Per str. Hsin Peking, April 25. From Ningpo. Mrs. Handley Derry, Mrs. A. M. Marsil, Mrs. H. Truelove, Rev. W. Turnbull.

Per str. Hsin Ningshao, April 25. From Ningpo. Mr. P. C. Bailey, Mr. J. J. S. Rumble.

Per str. Woosung, April 25. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Van Duyn and child, Mr. and Mrs. McKinnon, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. J. Jones, Miss Harding, Mr. F. F. Stanley, One Naval [illegible].

Per R.M.S. Empress of Asia, April 25. From Vancouver, etc. Mr. and Mrs. W. B. [illegible], Mrs. [illegible], Mrs. Cockburn, Miss B. Bashi and two children, Mr. O. Chievitz, Mr. S. M. Gillespie, Mr. S. J. Gaddsack, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gates, Miss E. Gill, Mrs. J. O. Hughes, Mr. H. Tatlow, Mr. C. H. Hoare, Mr. L. J. Hall, Captain J. E. Irish, Mr. M. [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. S. King, Mr. J. L. Macgregor, Mr. T. L. Macarthur, Mrs. R. F. Mann and two children, Mr. E. J. Nolan, Mr. K. A. Nackel, Mr. M. J. [illegible], Miss B. [illegible], Mr. T. Rosenzweig, Mr. and Mrs. D. Pool, Miss M. T. Sellers, Miss L. G. Sellers, Mr. J. R. Sellers, Mr. and Mrs. H. Sommer, Mr. H. W. Wenzenberg, Mr. C. A. Yonkers, Mr. D. Hoe, Mr. J. F. Bennet, Mr. D. E. Hoe, Miss L. V. McCann, Mr. A. E. Mann, Mr. J. C. Pugh, Mr. and Miss A. H. and Miss Rombard, Mr. J. O. Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Wilson and two children, Mr. C. S. [illegible].

OUTWARD.

Per str. Woosung, April 16.—For River Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. C. S. O. Davies, Mrs. G. Dietrich, Mr. A. R. Malcolm, Mrs. R. Kay, Miss F. J. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Crokam, Mrs. Barton, Sir Edward and Lady Pearce, Messrs. Brisker, F. S. Reynolds, O. M. Stromdahl, R. Whyte, F. Taylor, F. Bunker, Wm. Beauperts.

Per str. Lisan, April 17.—For Amoy. Mr and Mrs J. W. Lourerio, Misses Lourerio, Mr. G. Tashima.

Per str. Ningpo. April 18.—For Antung. Messrs. W. Bond and S. Baker.

Per str. Soochow, April 19.—For Hongkong.—Messrs. T. J. Fisher and P. S. Locke.

Per str. Tungchow, April 19.—For Tientsin Mr. C. J. Brown. **For Chefoo,** Messrs C. R. Smith, L. Paul. **For Weihaiwei.**—Mr. and Mrs. E. Wheen.

Per str. Poyang, April 19.—For River Ports—Captain Sanno, Mr. Vandersteegen, Mr. N. Johnson, Mr. Orimnston.

Per R.M.S. Empress of Australia, April 21.—For Vancouver, etc.—Mr. T. H. U. Aldridge, Mr. and Mrs. H. Bailey, Master J. Bailey, Miss R. A. Bailey, Miss F. R. Bailey, Mr. M. Bonifaco, Mr. T. Burke, Mr. C. J. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. R. Bassett, Master T. Bassett, Mrs. K. M. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Cruickshank, Miss L. H. Conger, Mr. A. J. H. Cordill, Capt. and Mrs W. E. Clark, Mrs. A. L. Davies, Mr. C. D'Arc, Mrs. P. T. Egbert, Master P. J. Egbert, Mrs. T. J. Eldridge, Hon. R. Everts, Mr. J. M. H. Ferguson, Mr. C. Coldrei, Mr. E. L. Gray, Miss P. Gaunt, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Gill, Mr. and Mrs. L. Garner, Miss M. Graham, Mr. P. Howard, Mrs. Hillman, Mr. W. Horman, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, Miss J. F. Hutchison, Mr. R. B. Herbert, Dr. R. Lee, Mr. C. Ieannon, Mr. R. W. Johnson, Mr. J. S. Johnson, Mr. H. W. Kenny, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Kingdon, Mr. B. Kuzunian, Mr. and Mrs. N. Lee Smith and child, Brig. Gen. McNaghton, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Mann, Miss Mann, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. McKee, Mr. and C. Naumann and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. Nordstrom, Master C. Nordstrom, Master A. Nordstrom, Mrs. J. Osborne, Mr. F. W. Potter, Mrs. R. R. Roxburgh, Mr. P. Rutherford, Mrs. M. N. Stone, Mr. T. Saphiere, Mr. and Mrs. H. Simpson and child, Miss Simpson, Mr. J. S. Smith, Mr. W. Smith, Mrs. Wm. Smith, Mr. L. Stedman, Mr. A. E. C. Thompson, Mrs. B. I. Thompson, Dr. A. A. Wood, Mrs. J. Wood, Miss Wood, Miss M. Wood, Master R. Wood, Mrs. S. W. Wolfe, Master P. Wolfe, Mr. C. W. Young, Rev. and Mrs. J. Bell, Mr. M. Bezzoth, Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Boehr and child, Master J. W. Boehr, Mr. C. H. Bethill, Mr. C. Bergloff, Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Birrell, Mr. E. Cormack, Mr. R. A. Colomb, Mrs. H. Corbett, Miss C. H. Couch, Mrs. C. P. Deal, Master S. W. Deal, Master C. G. Deal, Mr. J. Dubois, Miss A. Fast, Rev. J. Goforth, Miss H. M. Gates, Mr. S. Heap, Dr. F. J. Heath, Mr. and Mrs. P. Jenkins, Miss D. Jenkins, Master F. Jenkins, Master J. Jenkins, Miss G. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. F. Kohn, Miss Kohn, Mr. A. Miller, Dr. E. Martin, Miss E. J. Maddison, Miss E. Plummer, Rev. A. L. Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Richards, Mr. J. Ross, Dr. Solmon, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Silas and child, Mr. S. M. Vincent, Mr. G. C. Wilson, Miss J. Wilson.

Per str. Luenyi, April 22.—For River Ports—Rev. Father Guillout.

Per str. Yingchow, April 22.—For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. A. Macfarlane, Miss Macfarlane.

Per str. Shantung, April 23.—For Hongkong Mrs. Woodley, Mr. B. R. Newnham, Mr. H. F. Orane. **For Swatow**—Mr. H. J. Nairn, Mr. J. H. Giffin.

Per str. Fengtien, April 23.—For Weihaiwei—Mr. Loh. Mr. A. G. Mossop. **For Tientsin.** Mr. V. M. Hamovitch. **For Chefoo**—Mrs. J. E. Featherstone and child.

Per str. Shantung, April 23.—For Hongkong—Mrs. Woodley, Mr. Nathan, Mr. B. R. Newnham, Mr. H. F. Orane. **For Swatow**—Mr. H. J. Nairn, Mr. J. H. Giffin.

Per str. Hsin Peking, April 23.—For Ningpo Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Barker.

Per str. Chungking, April 24.—For Tientsin Captain A. E. Watts.

Per str Whangpu, April 23.—For Tungchow Mr. Barton.

Per str. Tatung, April 24.—For River Ports—Mr. E. H. Adams.

Per str. Liangchow, April 24.—For Hongkong—Mrs. T. J. Fisher and child.

Per M.M.S. Angkor, April 24.—For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. A. Durlot, Miss Durlot, Mr. and Mrs. Captain, Mr. and Mrs. Theureau and two children, Mr. T. C. Sernoon, Mrs. Berenguier and child, Mrs. M. Baker, Mr. C. G. O. Ayres, Mr. and Mrs. R. Chanleaux and child, Mr. and Mrs. R. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. K. Jensen and two children, Mr. M. Fergusson, Mr. L. Fabre, Mr. [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. C. Gaillard, Miss [illegible] and two children, Miss N. Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. Everett, Mr. and Mrs. F. Blangean, Mrs. A. Blangean, Miss L. Gerard S. Blangean, Mr. and Mr. Aveyard, Mr. M. Augeard, Mr. L. Estier, Miss E. E. Kestler, Miss J. Cot, Mme. de Geral, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Kellogg and two children, Miss N. Fredriksen, Mr. E. Gauthier, Mr. Ch. Barely, Mr. and Mrs. Tomath and four children, Mrs. M. Nicolawskaia, Mr. and Mrs. Zlobsky, Miss M. P. Zalla, Messrs. L. Kuntz, Th. Sore, E. Colin, M. Gray, Hagard, P. Kessenue, J. Olivier. **For Port Said**—Mr. Mertrays, Miss M. H. Warzee. **For Singapore** Mr. J. R. Collins.

Per str. Suiyang, April 25. For Hongkong Mr. and Mrs. Murray. **For Amoy**—Mr. T. S. Nielsen, Mr. W. D. Meredith, Mr. T. M. Elliott.

Per P. & O. S. Soudan, April 25.—For Bombay—Mrs. M. Kieler and child, Mr. and Mrs. K. S. Khambata. **For Colombo**—Dr. L. E. Harris. **For Hongkong** Miss F. Cullinane, Miss M. Cullinane, Mr. R. C. Grove, Mr. A. J. Harvey, Mr. W. Johnston, Mr. F. A. Nettheim.

SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer 9 A.M.	Wind Atte'od Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
Apr. 18	30.30	61.2	N	1	57.7	47.3	68.7	47.9	
,, 19	30.24	62.1	S E	2	62.1	52.0	72.9	41.7	c.
,, 20	29.99	61.5	S S E	1	68.6	61.0	83.3	55.4	c.
,, 21	30.11	63.5	N E	1	73.6	67.5	80.6	56.3	c.
,, 22	30.19	63.3	E S E	1	65.3	58.1	76.5	50.5	c. c.
,, 23	30.11	64.2	S E	2	67.7	64.2	76.5	55.9	c.
,, 24	30.00	64.6	W N W	2	59.4	58.1	62.8	57.4	c.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Rainfall Inches 1923
Apr. 18	50.0	48.8	64.0	60.8	Nil.	0.94
,, 19	47.0	44.5	68.6	56.5	Nil.	Nil.
,, 20	57.0	43.0	81.8	53.6	Trace	0.41
,, 21	60.6	49.8	75.4	57.4	Nil.	0.05
,, 22	51.0	51.6	72.0	56.0	Nil.	0.26
,, 23	58.0	50.1	72.0	57.8	Trace	0.09
,, 24	57.0	52.0	67.0	55.8	0.17	0.03

BIRTHS

FRASER.—On April 22, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. B. Fraser, a son.

MACKAY.—On April 23, 1924, at Hazelwood, No. 117 Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, Mrs. E. F. Mackay of a daughter.

MUMMERY.—On April 23, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. O. Mummery, a son.

WILSON WANG.—At 8.30 a.m. on April 20, 1924, at Margaret Williamson Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Wang, twins, a daughter and a son. North China and New York papers please copy.

MARRIAGES

CLARIDGE—BEER.—On April 12, 1924, at St. John's Church, Weihaiwei, by the Rev. C. R. Burnett, M.A., Lieutenant Gilbert Palmer Claridge, R.N., son of the late Mr. J. G. Claridge and Mrs. Claridge, of Streatham, London, to Margaret Ethel, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Beer, of Weihaiwei.

FLANNERY—HANSEN.—On April 21, 1924, at St. Joseph's Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Father Macdonald, Joseph Lawrence Flannery, of Messrs, Andersen, Meyer & Co., Tientsin, to Laura Marie Hansen, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Hansen, of Shanghai.

HILL—LIDDELL.—On April 17, 1924, at Lausanne, Switzerland, Thomas William Hill, M.C., of Messrs. Bradley & Co., Hongkong, second son of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Hill, 10 Kensington Park Gardens, London, to Rosalind Tirrell, third daughter of the late Mr. John Liddell and Mrs. Liddell of Shanghai.

MACINTYRE—McGROUTHER.—On April 23, 1924, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, before the Very Rev. Dean Symons, Alexander Macintyre, second son of Mrs. A. MacIntyre, Glasgow, to Elizabeth (Betty) Dugaid Ross, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. McGrouther, of Langside, Glasgow.

DEATH

THOMAS.—On April 21, 1924, at 184 Quinsan Road, Shanghai, Ada, dearly beloved wife of Austin Glyn Thomas.

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The North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT AND CONSULAR GAZETTE

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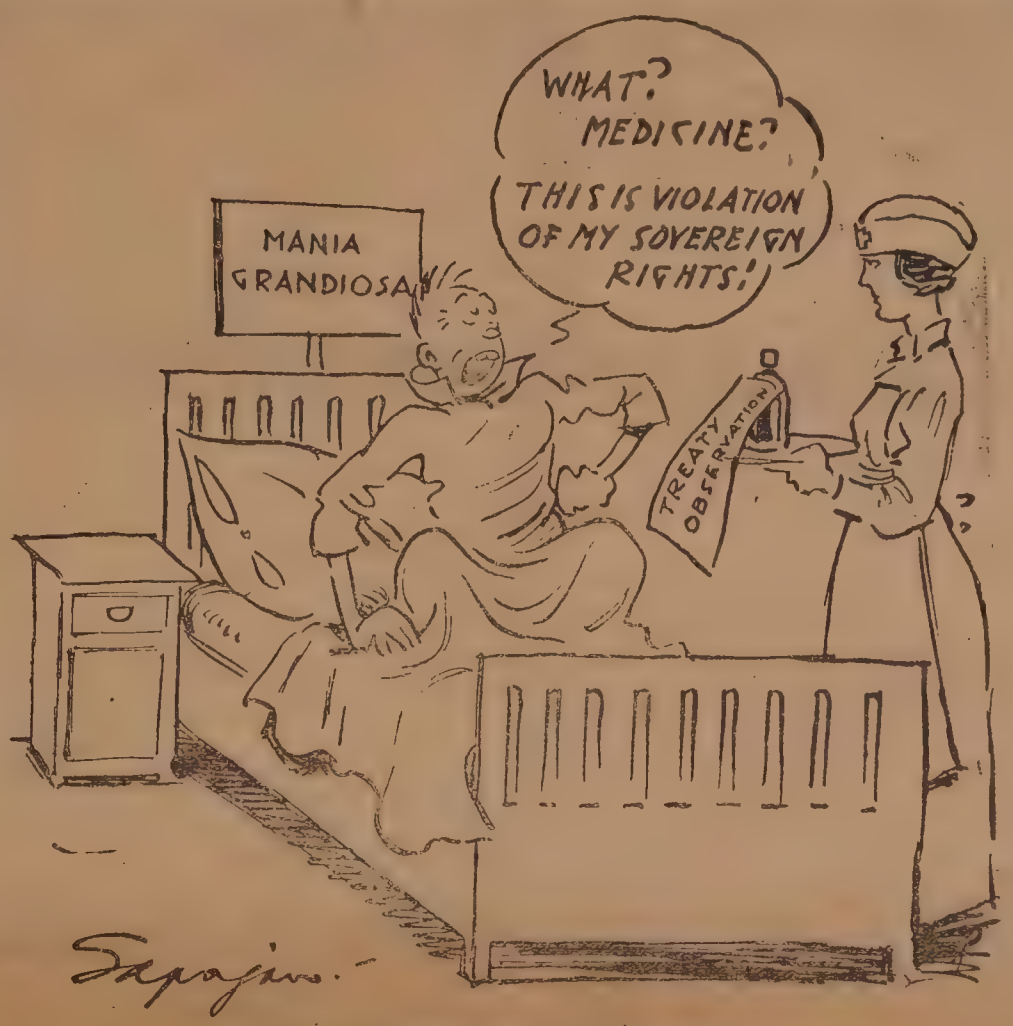

YOUNG CHINA'S PECULIAR ABHORRENCE.

NEW LIKIN STATIONS ON THE RAILWAY

Merchants Forced to Send Goods to and from Nanking by Water to Avoid Crushing Tax : Trade Crippled While Revenue is Filched

Will the Likin authorities persist in their intention to enforce the likin with all the rigour of which they are capable?

This is a question which merchants all over China are asking themselves to-day, and unhappily the answer appears to be in the affirmative. New tax stations have been established on the Shanghai-Nanking line and collectors have been put in and ordered to extort every cent the law allows them. The tax was ever an exorbitant one, but in the past it has always been collected in a very casual sort of way with the result that beyond general murmurings and occasional protests the merchants have never proved troublesome. Furthermore, by making arrangements with the various transportation companies outside of the railway, they have been able to a large extent to get out of the tax, for it is a well-known fact that by means of "private arrangements" with the likin authorities the transportation companies have secured reductions whereby they have been able to transport goods for the merchants more cheaply than the merchants could have got it done by going straight to the railway authorities, since with the latter there is no question of "private arrangements."

THE MERCHANTS ENRAGED.

With this latest move, however, this more or less happy state of affairs comes to an end. The merchants are enraged and find it impossible to send goods by rail without losing money. Consequently they are making arrangements at Nanking to send their goods by water, by which means they come under the Maritime Customs, whose taxation is not so heavy. The evil that is being done is obvious. The railways lose money, and are helpless to act in the matter; the merchants still lose, though not so heavily, and the actual taxation collected must of necessity work out at considerably less than has been the case in the past. At the present time we are informed by the railway authorities in Shanghai that the only goods being loaded at Markham Road and Shanghai North are goods sent on transit passes, exemption certificates, and perishable goods. Nothing which comes within the likin is being transported by rail.

Neither are these the only serious consequences likely to arise out of the tax people's action. New industries will be crippled in infancy and many of them ruined. As an example of this, take the new cement and lime works at Lungtan. The enterprise is a new one and was started with every prospect of success. The last news we had of it was that rioting of a serious nature had occurred, arising out of the enforcing of the likin tax. Dozens of incidents of a similar nature could doubtless be cited. The tax is an unpopular one and the only way to meet the wishes of the people will be to reduce it or abolish it.

HUGE DEFALCATIONS.

The whole question should be re-considered, for the position was a Gilbertian one in any case. Probably something like 40 per cent. of what should have been collected on the tax was collected, and only 10 per cent. of this, again, found its way in to the coffers of the Government. There has always been a huge leakage, and unless Chinese officials change their characteristics there always will be. The obvious and common sense course is to reduce the tax considerably first; and *then* set about enforcing it. This would probably meet with the satisfaction of the merchants and bring in more revenue to the coffers of the Central Government. The only opposition probable would be from the transportation companies which have been making quite a successful thing out of it.

It is interesting to note, also, that during the discussions on the subject of the proposed 2½ per cent. Custosm Surtax, with all the talk of abolishing likin in return for this surtax, the likin officials were quietly making arrangements for its more rigorous enforcement. The present position could not be made much worse whatever action is taken. The railways are losing business, the merchants are losing money, the tax authorities and the Government are losing revenue, and on the top of all, riots are occurring in different provinces and young industries are being crippled by reason of it.

THE RAILWAY POWERLESS.

It should be clearly understood that the arrangements the merchants are making with the ferry people at Nanking for the transportation of their goods by water do not amount in any way to a boycott of the railways. It simply is that they cannot possibly afford to use the railways and at the same time pay the likin. The railway authorities, of course, are powerless to act in the matter at all, since the quarrel is purely one between the merchants and the likin tax authorities. They are simply the innocent victims of the dispute.

PROTESTS BY KIANGSU MERCHANTS.

The action of the likin authorities has resulted in an extraordinary meeting of the various transportation companies. The meeting was held in Shanghai and representatives from Ningpo and Wusih were in attendance. It was decided to send a delegation to the authorities requesting them to use their influence to put back the date of enforcement five days in order that the companies might confer with their customers.

THE TUCHUNSHIP OF KIRIN

Gen. Chang Tso-hsiang to Succeed the Late Gen. Sun Lieh-chun

A CHANGE OF TITLE

Peking, Apr. 26.

According to reports from Mukden, the death of Gen. Sun Lieh-chun, Tuchun of Kirin, has brought forward two prominent aspirants for the post of Chief of the Kirin Administration. With the death of Gen. Sun the title of Tuchun lapses, and his successor will no doubt be called Vice-Commandant of the Three Eastern Provinces, the rank conferred on Generals Sun and Wu Chun sheng (Heilungkiang) by the Provincial Assemblies, after they had appointed Marshal Chang Tso-lin Commandant of the Three Provinces to give him a rank independent of the Central Government.

Gen. Chang Tso-hsiang, Commandant of the 27th Fengtien Division, appears likely to get the vacant post, but Gen. Chang Hsiao-liang, eldest son of Marshal Chang Tso-lin, is also a candidate. In the event of the former being appointed it is thought likely that General Chang Hsueh-liang will take over the 27th Division.

Apr. 29.

Gen. Chang Tso-hsiang has been appointed Military Governor of Kirin in succession to the late Gen. Sun Lieh-chun. Marshal Chang Tso-lin's son, Gen. Chang Hsiao-liang, succeeds Gen. Chang Tso-hsiang in command of the 27th Fengtien Division.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING'S DEVICES FOR GETTING MONEY

Wholly Untrue Report of British Govt.'s Policy

Peking, Apr. 30.

The British Legation emphatically denies a report in the local press to the effect that at a meeting of the British, American, French and Japanese Ministers on April 22 Sir Ronald Macleay, having received instructions from the British Government that policy of the Consortium was in contravention of the policy of the Labour Government, explained to his colleagues that the British banking group would have to modify their policy.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MONGOLIA ARMING

Peking, Apr. 24.

The Chinese Fress reports that a meeting was held in Peking on the 16th instant of Mongolian princes and notables under the chairmanship of Prince Kalaching. Several resolutions were passed, the most important of which was that each Mongol tribe should organize a well armed and equipped force for local defence. Other resolutions referred to education and industrial improvements.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE CHINA ARCHITECTS and BUILDERS COMPENDIUM

For full particulars see page 165

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS OFFICE
17 THE BUND, SHANGHAI

CHINESE BANKERS' CONFERENCE PRESSING FOR SURTAX

Review of National Chaos, Poverty, Unwieldy Armies, Bad Trade and Consequent Brigandage : Powers Urged to Grant Customs Increase

Peking, Apr. 23.

The Fifth Annual National Bankers' Conference held its closing session yesterday morning at the Peking Bankers' Association. Besides making final touches on various decisions reached at the previous sessions, the delegates assembled passed the following declarations to be issued to the public. Before the session was adjourned, Nanking was chosen as the conference place for the 1923 sessions.

The declarations read as follows:—

"The political turmoil of the country as prevailing both at Peking and in the provinces has resulted in one unique and unfortunate situation, namely, the increased hardship of the people's living and the fearful abundance of the bandits and outlaws. The principal causes of such a situation are attributed to the fact that an overwhelming amount of national revenue is disposed of every year for military purposes and hence the financial state of affairs of the country is rendered into disorder and tumult. As a consequence, commerce and industry have been greatly disorganized and starvation has become a common phenomenon, thus the mass of people are being helplessly driven to no other living except brigandage. The economic entity of the nation has been virtually broken down, and a remedy for the situation has been long sought for.

PEKING'S DEFICIT.

"Realizing the seriousness of the situation and the importance of financial reorganization, the Government appointed some time last year a Commission for the Readjustment of Finance to study details of all problems of financial difficulties of the nation. A preliminary report covering China's principal receipts and expenditure was published recently by this Commission. The chief features of the document show that the net income of the Central Government represents only 7 per cent. of the amount that it ought to have received, and the amount spent for administrative purposes is only $7,000,000 a year, less than 5 per cent. of the actual receipts. The total expenditure every year reaches somewhere around $120,000,000, an amount nearly as big as 17 times the meagre amount that is at the free disposal of the Government, that is, $7,000,000. Besides, the figure of the unsecured indebtedness, domestic and foreign combined, amounts to more than $723,000,000, a sum of liability China has to liquidate sooner or later. The only ray of hope that these financial difficulties of China can adequately be solved rests in the 2½ per cent. additional Customs surtax, and yet there is no sign that the Special Customs Conference as promised by the Washington Conference will be held in the immediate future. Such being the financial conditions of the country, there should be no doubt that these problems should be the common subject of worry of all well-wishers of China.

NATIONAL CREDIT.

"The national credit is the foundation of all financial undertakings of a country. China's credit has been suffering great impairment lately, and there is no hope that it can be restored as long as her vast amount of indebtedness remains unliquidated and unadjusted. Until her credit is restored, she will have hard times to get funds needed for her reconstruction and her people will not dare to make investment along industrial and commercial lines. The amount of yearly interest for her total indebtedness of $723,000,000 requires no less than $30,000,000. Therefore further delay of the Special Customs Conference means further delay of the readjustment of her unsecured indebtedness.

"It has been stated that the postponement of the Special Customs Conference is due to the unsettlement of a few diplomatic questions. It seems that diplomatic controversy should not be allowed to entangle with the Special Customs Conference, as the unsettledness of every diplomatic question has its particular reasons, while the Special Customs Conference has long before been authorized by the Washington Conference. Then, take the diplomatic question into consideration. It again seems that any question of importance should not be put aside indefinitely and that the Government should observe the public opinion and judge the respective importance of these unsettled diplomatic questions and render quick and responsible decisions upon them.

PROVINCIAL FINANCE.

"The financial situation in different provinces is also in bad state. The overflowing of unredeemable notes as well as bad silver and copper coins, the inefficiency of communication and transportation systems, the unsafety of travelling, the ever-increase of prices and the like all contribute towards the causes of poverty and social upheaval. The relation between a nation and its provinces resembles that of the trunk and the branches of a tree. The soundness of provincial finance is the basis of the soundness of national finance. We as people of the country should pay attention not only to the financial affairs of the Central Government but also to those of the provinces. It is important that we should pay attention to the receipts, expenditure and indebtedness of the Central Government; it is still more important that we pay attention to the problems of currency and transportation systems of the provinces. We should deal with these problems without partisanship, without prejudice and without fear. We should pass a fair and sound judgment upon the same.

"The question of China's finance often has close international relationship and hence international obstruction often arises. In our opinion, this is an erroneous policy on the part of our foreign friends. China's huge amount of foreign liability and her big volume of international trade are vital not only to the economic life of China herself, but also to the business enterprises of foreign nationals. If we look forward for the smooth and prosperous economic dealings between China and other countries, international co-operation is of primary importance, especially on the question of readjustments of China's finance.

THE IDEAL SOLUTION.

"In summarising the above points, the Fifth Annual National Bankers' Conference wishes to take this opportunity to make clear to the public that in our minds, the following problems should be immediately dealt with by the Government, by the people and by our foreign friends.

"1. The Government should announce a practical programme of financial readjustment at the earliest possible date, hasten the opening of the Special Customs Conference in order to straighten out the unsecured domestic and foreign indebtedness, and improve the communication system as well as readjust the liabilities of the Ministry of Communications.

"2. The people of all walks of life should devise ways and means to hasten the readjustment of provincial finance and to prevent the disorderliness of transportation and currency systems in the provinces.

"3. Our foreign friends are hereby requested that they should give their fair and just attitude towards the convening of the Special Customs Conference.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Some 400 troops of Gen. Chang Tz'ping, former Commissioner of Defence at Amoy, having been defeated and forced to flee from Fukien, passed through Shanghai during the week-end on their way to their homes in north Kiangsu and Shantung.

PREMIER AND FINANCE MINISTER

Rumoured Conflict of Opinion as to Gold Francs Case and German Bonds

Peking, Apr. 29.

Conflicting reports regarding the alleged impending resignation of the Premier continue to be circulated by Chinese news agencies and papers. It is stated on the one hand that Mr. Sun has resolved to go abroad and is merely awaiting a grant to cover his expenses for a tour during which he will sound the Governments concerned regarding a preliminary conference on tariff affairs. Agencies and papers more in touch with the Premier affirm that he has no intention of resigning, although he is much concerned over the financial outlook.

Independent quarters are of opinion that conflict of opinion between the Premier and the Minister of Finance is likely to end in the withdrawal from the Cabinet of one of these two Ministers. The main points at issue between them are said to be the gold francs case and the German bonds, the settlement of which would have an important bearing on the financial position.

May 2.

Gen. Wang Chen-ping, the Civil Governor of Chihli, has submitted his resignation. Gen. Wang recently was thrust into the position of intermediary between the President and Cabinet on one hand and Mr. Tsao Jui, Mr. Wu Ching-lian and Gen. Chang Ching-hua on the other, while Marshal Wu Pei-fu, to whom he owes the greatest allegiance, it is reported, recently reproached him for playing up to the Tientsin clique more earnestly than was necessary. President Tsao Kun is endeavouring to persuade Gen. Wang to retain the Civil Governorship.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FOREIGN GUNBOATS IN CANTON WATERS

A Provisional Withdrawal

Peking, Apr. 25.

It is reported on reliable authority that the foreign gunboats will shortly be withdrawn from Canton waters, but that they will be sent back if Dr. Sun Yat-sen offers any further menace to the Customs.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

KIANGSI-TULI IMPEACHED

Peking, Apr. 25.

The House of Representatives today passed a chaban against Gen. Tsai Cheng-hsun, the Tuli of Kiangsi, on the ground that he had established an opium monopoly in the guise of an anti-poison bureau. The House resolved to forword the chaban to the Government with a request for immediate action.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 1.

It is reported unofficially that the Government contemplates recalling Gen. Tsai Cheng-hsun, whose opium monopoly has created trouble in Kiangsi, and appointing Gen. Chang Hsi-yuan Tuli of Kiangsi. It is reported further that Gen. Tsai Cheng-hsun will be made Minister of War, the present Minister, Gen. Lu Chin, becoming Tutung of Chahar. It is understood that these proposals have been submitted to Marshal Chih Hsieh-yuan and, if he approves, a mandate will be issued making the appointments.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

REPORTED CHANGE OF HANDS OVER FOOCHOW

Peking, Apr. 30.

The *"Ye Shih Pao"* publishes a report that Admiral Tsang Chih-ping has occupied Foochow, driving out Gen. Sun Chuan-fang on April 27. The telegram says that Gen. Sun has fled to Pagoda Anchorage.

Neither the Government nor the Legations have received any news tending to confirm this report.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

HOW CIVIL WAR DESTROYS TRADE AND INDUSTRY IN KUANGTUNG

Dr. Sun's Troops Claiming Another Victory over Chen Chiung-ming: Piracy Rampant and Crime in Canton: Further Taxes to Fill the War Chests

Canton, Apr. 17.

Reports from the allied "constitutionalist" troops on the Eastern front indicate that they have succeeded during the last few days in getting control of the Canton-Kowloon Railway and driving the followers of General Chen Chiung-ming towards their stronghold at Waichow. Dr. Sun's men also claim that Poklo has fallen.

The people of Fatshan, a city ten miles west of Canton, after having closed their shops for five days as a protest against further taxation, finally ressumed business on April 16, upon assurance that the new imposts would not be emforced. This city, with a population of nearly 500,000, was occupied by Yunnanese mercenaries in January, 1923, and it has remained a Yunnanese spoil of war ever since. The other day the transportation companies and shipowners operating at Fatshan were ordered to make an extra charge of 20 per cent. on their freight and passenger rates and to turn the additional proceeds over to the Yunnanese commanders.

Owing to the prevalence of piracy along the West River and the extension of commandeering by troops from steam launches to small junks, very little business is being done, and the refusal of the ship-owners to pay the further tax was early this week supported by all merchants in Fatshan, they having gone as far as to stop shipments altogether as a protest against the many new taxes.

The merchants in Canton, however, may be unable to avoid the 20 per cent. increase in rates for their transportation. In Canton the tariffs of both the Canton-Samshui and the Canton-Hankow (Kuangtung Section) Railways have been more than once increased, the present rate being from 44 to 59 per cent. higher than a year ago, in order to provide funds for the war.

A TAX ON RELIGION.

Among the new taxes proposed this week is one of 30 per cent. on sums paid to priests for prayers for the living or for the dead. The proposed law also provides for a licence fee of $30 yearly from every priest holding religious services for the people. It is not believed, however, that the proposed tax can be enforced, as it would greatly burden the mass of the people. They would have to spend $1.30 in the future for every dollar they spend now for their worship in old style temples or in ceremonials where a priest is necessary. Many people fear that the priests would go on strike upon enforcement of the proposed new tax, bringing misery and discomfort to many persons.

The leading commanders of troops in Canton have jointly issued a statement assuring the people that they will no longer press men on the streets for the military transportation service but will ask a people's committee to engage coolies for them. It is understood that the people's committee has decided to enlist coolies at a wage of $20 a month.

LOKCHONG SHOPS CLOSED.

The merchants of Lokchong, a city in Northern Kuangtung, are still keeping their shops closed to avoid further taxation. It appears that the mercenaries stationed there are establishing tax collecting stations along the principal trade routes, sometimes charging as high as 25 per cent. tax on the value of the goods in transit. There are more than 50 such stations, including salt tax stations.

According to reports reaching Dr. Sun's headquarters the Hunanese mercenaries have taken the city of Hoyuen from General Chen Chiung-ming, whose forces appear to have withdrawn partly to the northeast and partly towards Waichow, which is now besieged.

General Chen Chiung-ming's men are also active in Southern Kuangtung. Dr. Sun Yat-sen is sending a detachment of the Anhui Army under General Fan Chung-hsiao to the south. As General Fan's troops will pass over territories now under other military commanders, right of way is being arranged so as to avoid possible conflict. A fortnight ago when General Chen Tien-tai, a Kuangsi mercenary commander, was leading a division for the south-west, his army was attacked and practically routed, and now General Chen is threatening to resign as a protest against the non-punishment of the Cantoneese forces who scattered his power.

SILK MEN FURTHER BLED.

The silk embroidery guild, the Kan Lun Tong, is being asked by the military authorities for a loan of $150,000. The guild is hesitating to comply, claiming that the silk merchants have been paying more than their sales have amounted to and that at present the silk market is not by any means bright.

To protect the life and property of Canton residents, Dr. Sun Yat-sen has ordered that troop commanders and groups of soldiers may not arrest any civilian without the aid of police, but so far his order has had but little effect. The local newspapers are filled with stories of murders, kidnapping, robbery, and other outrages committed by persons calling themselves soldiers. The latest method of extortion is for a soldier to hand a package to a laundryman for service and then return in a couple of hours to claim that a gold watch has been left in a coat pocket and he wants to have it back. As the laundryman never can return a watch which he has not received, an arrest follows and a fine is a matter of course.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MR. LIANG SHIH-YI IN LONDON

"The One Link Between Old and New China:" League of Nations Representation

London, Apr. 29.

A dinner, given last night in London by the Chinese Minister, Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, to the former Chinese Premier, Mr. Liang Shih-yi, was attended by a gathering which Mr. Chu described as probably the most distinguished assemblage of those coming from China, connected with China, or interested in China, ever held. The guests included Baron Parmoor, Sir William Joynson-Hicks and Sir Charles Addis.

Mr. Liang in his speech referred to the rather sudden advance of latest democratic and economic developments in China. He stated that China looked for the assistance of the League of Nations to uphold China's rights and place her in a better position among the nations.

Baron Parmoor agreed with the Chinese Minister that the Council of the League of Nations ought to have a larger representation. It was a great loss not to have China on the Council. He sincerely hoped that China would have a permanent place on it.

Sir Charles Addis reminded China of the great need of financial co-operation from the outside and that capital only flowed where it met with security. Foreign capital alone could set in motion the machinery for China's development. He described the guest of the evening as probably the only link between old and new China and said that he believed that his visit would have a great effect.—Reuter.

Peking, Apr. 29.—A mandate today appoints Gen. Lai Hsin-hai Commander in Chief of Szechuan Frontier Defence. Reuter's Pacific Service.

LEADING ARTICLES

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THE BANKERS' LOST OPPORTUNITY

Apr. 28.

NOTHING could well be more disappointing than the address which the Chinese Bankers' Conference has issued at the conclusion of its session in Peking. Their failure to say anything of real value to the country in this most critical stage of its history is proportionate to the importance of the occasion, the influence they wield and their own undoubted perception of what is wrong, which is clearly visible between the lines. Again and again they come within an ace of putting their finger on the true cause of China's ills, only to shy off from it like a frightened horse. No doubt Peking is not quite so comfortable a place as Shanghai would be in which to launch denunciations of the country's despoilers. Even more important people than bankers have found themselves unexpectedly in the capital's gaol when they were too plain-spoken. But the Government has so much need of the help of Chinese banks when festivals come round that it would hardly dare to risk offending them by resenting criticism and the Association of Bankers is of so much real influence that a clear call from it to the nation could not have failed to have useful results. The only call actually heard is to the foreign Powers, to grant something which the bankers know perfectly well could only add to the general confusion. It is the old device of trying to fasten upon foreigners the blame for China's misfortunes and to get them to do something for her which can never be done till she does it herself.

So far as outward symptoms are concerned the bankers' analysis of the general situation is true enough. Political turmoil and extravagant expenditure on armies results in excessive taxation, bad trade, crippled industry and people "taking to the hills" because official oppression allows them no other means of earning their living than as bandits. But when we are told that "the only ray of hope" lies in the granting of the 2½ per cent. surtax, it is time to register a very strong objection indeed. That this suggestion should be made, so closely after the publication of the Financial Commission's report (dealt with last Monday) excites suspicion that the bankers have secretly yielded to official pressure in advancing it. Peking, it is clear, is making a strenuous assault upon the Powers to grant the surtax, relying upon the influence in Western capitals of holders of unsecured Chinese loans, hopeful of being paid out of the proceeds. And this attempt every foreigner who has the true interests of China at heart should most strenuously resist. For, first and foremost, the surtax was never suggested as a means of solidifying China's unsecured debts but chiefly as a *quid pro quo* for the abolition of likin. This is perfectly clear from the terms of the Nine Powers Treaty signed at Washington. Secondly, the Bankers' adroit insinuation that the postponement of the Customs conference is "due to the unsettlement of a few diplomatic questions" is in the main groundless. France's refusal to ratify the Treaty is certainly due to Peking's equivocal behaviour in the gold franc question. But the Powers generally are perfectly well aware that to give Peking more money to play ducks and drakes with is to make matters worse rather than better. China's own request to the Powers that they would postpone the sending of the Commission, promised at Washington, to inquire into her fitness for the abolition of extraterritoriality, was a confession of general unfitness which has naturally had its effect in other directions. And lastly, the bankers know very well indeed that when Peking wants $121,000,000 annually to balance its books, a tax estimated to yield $25,000,000 is not going to solve anything.

There is, of course, only one solution, as the Bankers' Association must be perfectly well aware. Why is Peking over a hundred and twenty millions short annually and seven hundred and thirty millions in debt? Why do the provinces send no money to the capital and yet, though they are receiving far larger funds than ever they did under the Empire, are full of depreciated paper and bad silver and copper? We all know the answer: political intrigue; armies, the pawns of the politicians in their interminable chicanery; and "the spoils of office", flagrant unblushing theft of public funds. Even now Peking would be considerably nearer solvency if it were not for the swarm of sinecures in every Ministry where, one hears and can easily believe, that the number of employees is so great that, if all of them attended office at once, there would not be room for them to sit down. To attempt to make foreigners responsible for this state of affairs, because they are reluctant to agree to trade being further burdened with unproductive taxes, is unworthy of the bankers' reputation for common sense. The only line for the foreign Powers to take, if they would show true friendship to the people of China, is to withhold any monetary assistance in any form to the Chinese officials, with a view to compelling China to live upon her own resources, as she very well could. That is the only solution and nobody knows it better than the Bankers' Association.

ARMED ROBBERY AND SMUGGLED ARMS

Apr. 29.

AT no time since Shanghai was a settlement have armed robbery and the smuggling of arms been so prevalent as they are to-day. It is hardly too much to say that a regular state of war prevails, with the additional complication that political motives must frequently be supposed to be at the back of assaults recorded. During the past ten days four Chinese men and one woman have been shot down—three of them with fatal result—and in only one case would it appear that robbery was the cause of the crime. In respect of the Chinese found shot in Myburgh Road last Thursday, who died in hospital, and the man shot in Fokien Road on Saturday, no explanation for the attack has been found. It almost seems as if we are returning to the days of the Paris Apaches of twenty years ago, among whom it was considered a capital joke to "*faire une pante*", to stick a knife into some poor fellow asleep on a Champs Elysées bench just for the fun of the thing. Certain it is that the Chinese armed malefactor of to-day is utterly callous and ruthless. He shoots at sight and to kill. And unfortunately it is but too clear that he has no difficulty in obtaining arms and ammunition. One cannot but express once more one's deep admiration for and sympathy with the police of all branches in the hourly peril in which they go from these desperadoes. Many of them, those who have made a speciality of hunting down armed robbers, literally carry their lives in their hand. Their devotion and courage are worthy of all praise.

In these circumstances the new rule recently introduced at the Mixed Court that all armed robbers must be represented by lawyers, for whom presumably the Court pays, cannot but be viewed with some doubts. The question is an extremely delicate one, inasmuch as it is the first principle of justice that a man is assumed innocent until proved guilty and that he should be given every opportunity of rebutting an accusation. But the circumstances in which the Mixed Court tries a charge of armed assault are not quite parallel to a similar accusation elsewhere. It is safe to assume that the police will not bring such a charge without being fairly sure of their facts; and if there be any weakness in the latter, the Court has ample experience and, if we may venture to say so, intelligence, to detect the flaw. Furthermore, the Mixed Court is to some extent a court of first instance—in which accused men are often advised to obtain a lawyer, though none is provided for them—in respect of armed robbers: it cannot sentence to death, it cannot order the "cat" (undoubtedly the most effective punishment against gentry of this type), and even the terms of imprisonment it can pass are strictly limited. The present Military Court at Lungwa was instituted by the late President Yuan Shih-kai expressly to try crimes of violence, at the request of the Shanghai authorities. It is presided over by a very able magistrate, who is certainly in no hurry to convict blindly, but goes over every piece of evidence against men sent to be tried by him. There appears no danger of injustice being done in handing over at once to this Court prisoners against whom a *primâ facie* case has been established, as indeed is the practice in all Concessions elsewhere, and to do so would save the time of the much overworked Mixed Court. If this method of procedure is deemed impossible, then we would urge most strongly the introduction of the "cat". As matters now stand, there is not the slightest doubt that armed robbers have been greatly encouraged by the prospect that a clever lawyer will get them off on a legal technicality and the police proportionately discouraged.

To turn to the question of smuggling, there is here an urgent case for action by the Diplomatic Body. Scarcely a week passes without the seizure of arms and ammunition in some vessel and when, as in the case of the Paul Lecat, in which thirty Mausers and 175,000 rounds of ammunition were found on Saturday, a previous seizure has also been made at Hongkong, it is safe to conclude that what is actually found is nothing compared with the total quantity that gets into Shanghai and that there is some very serious lack of supervision on ships. No arrests can be made as matters stand—except in rare occurrences like that of the three men caught bringing arms from the Chambord last week, who were so foolish as to complicate their case by resisting the police—and the obvious remedy is some ruling whereby the captain of a ship on which smuggled arms had been found, or the ship herself, were made responsible. This could, we imagine, be done by the Customs with the support of the Diplomatic Body. It is a drastic remedy, perhaps; but we cannot overlook the fact that the circumstances of the time are abnormal and call for proportionate action.

JAPANESE EXCLUSION IN AMERICA

Apr. 30.

THE news received yesterday that President Coolidge has plainly intimated his intention of vetoing the new immigration restriction measures, unless Congress removes the obnoxious Japanese clause, is quite what was to be expected. Discrimination of this particular kind is no new thing. In the course of the past two decades it has more than once been advocated in Congress, though it has never yet been pushed to such lengths as in the present instance. The situation now is embittered on both sides for special reasons. California, which is and always has been the stronghold of antagonism to the Japanese, has been enjoying a time of unparalleled prosperity, and that harvest the Californian labour party are quite determined to keep for themselves; they dislike the Japanese who, they say, undersell them in the labour market and are "bad citizens," spending nothing in America but remitting all they can to Japan. The general feeling in the United States against the past excessive admission of "undesirable aliens" has given them their opportunity. On the Japanese side, in addition to the prospect of large material loss and the indignity put upon them, there is the feeling that they are being "hit when they are down" after the earthquake. As the chorus of protest in leading American newspapers and from religious bodies shows, Congress, not for the first time, has proved itself completely out of touch with the best feeling in America and President Coolidge will have the support of a large body of sober public opinion if he vetoes the objectionable clause.

The new measure, regarded as a whole, appears to be an attempt to remove some of the anomalies which have arisen in the United States since the Dillingham Act regarding the admission, as immigrants, of aliens into the country became operative. It has been recognized, as much in America as elsewhere, that in some respects the quota system is unfair in that it does not adequately recognize the post-war changes in the political map of Europe. Undoubtedly, since it became operative, there has been a decided falling-off in emigration from Europe to the United States. It may not generally be known that under this law the number of emigrants admitted from any one country is limited to three per cent. of the number of people from that country who were resident in the United States in 1910. The new bill is planned to supersede the prevailing system by one under which admissions will be classed as (a) Quota Immigrants and (b) Quota Relative Immigrants, the numbers being determined as follows: a basic quota of 200 plus two per cent. of the number of foreign-born individuals of such nationality resident in the United States in 1890. Quota relative immigrants will be admitted to the same number. The net result of this would be a reduction of 20,000 in any one year, with Britain (having a total quota of 125,000) benefiting to the extent of 48,000 as compared with the number allowed at present under the Dillingham Act, and Germany by over 35,000; while Russia and Poland would each be allowed about 20,000 less each, and Italy 34,000 fewer than at present.

Leaving quite apart the question of the effect on Japan of the proposed legislation, it would be interesting to know exactly under what line of reasoning the new measure has been worked out. The logical presumption is that it is desired to eliminate as far as possible the admission of those whose entrance will not have a lasting benefit to the country. If so, the further exclusion of Russians, with a consequent lesser possibility of the introduction of masses of the Bolshevik element, is understandable. With regard to Italy the reason is much more obscure. We believe we are correct in stating that the average Italian immigrant to the United States during the last half-century has been at least on a par with those of other nationalities, and some of the great railway systems of the country are a standing and imperishable monument to the skill and energy of imported Italian labour. It is possible that the real reason may be found in the patriotism of the Italian: Once an Italian always one at heart, nationalization as citizens of the United States notwithstanding. It is said to be almost a rule that the Italian entering the United States always keeps his heart in Italy, and if and when a sum has been accumulated sufficient to ensure retirement in Italy, the United States is left and forgotten. In the aggregate, this exodus of Italians to their mother country once they have become reasonably rich, must mean an enormous sum in negotiable dollars leaving the New World for the Old, and there is little doubt that this practice too has had an influence in bringing about legislation which appears to be unfair to some countries and extremely favourable to others.

CHINA THE FALSE AND THE TRUE

May 1.

In spite of possible to exaggerate, it would certainly be fatal to ignore, the seriousness of Mr. Rodney Gilbert's articles on the assault on Mr. Campbell and the growing anti-foreignism of which it is to be regarded as a symptom. For the outrage on the Peking city wall clearly cannot be regarded as an isolated incident. The perpetrator has been hailed as a hero and martyr and his arrest been made the excuse for foaming denunciation of the British Minister. Revolution and the disintegration of all government have brought to the fore a class contemptible indeed, but whose mouthings cannot be disregarded. For some years past the Powers by common consent have pursued towards China a policy of studied consideration, of allowing her every possible opportunity in which to prove the fitness of her new system; and they gave the most public expression to this policy at the Washington Conference. While this conciliatoriness has been received merely as a sign of weakness by Chinese politicians, they have made a ghastly mess of their opportunities. They realize that the Powers have found them out, and none can be so venomous as those who have been tried and have publicly exposed their ineptitude. It has caused surprise among foreigners that the bandit and other outrages of recent have not excited more reprobation in the Chinese Press, for, looked at from any point of view, they were a disgrace to China's good name. The explanation is to be found in the mad resolutions passed by a meeting of political inebriates in Central Park, in [illegible] Mr. Campbell's assailant. These are the people who control large sections of the Chinese Press, not only outside treaty ports, and their influence for mischief cannot be underrated.

There was, however, one sentence in Mr. Gilbert's article yesterday to which we would specially draw attention. "The average Chinese", he wrote, "whom one meets in ordinary life is not of this ilk. He is a gentleman, whether he happens to be up or down." This sentiment, we are sure, every foreigner will cordially endorse. In Russia, the out-and-out Bolsheviks were estimated never to exceed six hundred thousand. In Shanghai to-day the professional agitators do not probably exceed a couple of hundred. In all China the political class might be numbered at a few hundred thousand. As always in times of disorganization it is a minority which arrogates to itself all power and, like the Jubjub, "lives in perpetual passion"; and while the average Chinese, from coolie class to scholar, remains what he has ever been, a gentleman in every sense of the word, he passively allows himself to be misrepresented and trampled upon by creatures whom he would not suffer to pass his front door. For, be it remembered, whatever complaint foreigners may have against the professional politician, the Chinese people have a far greater one, and it is a constant subject of thought by all foreigners who love China and grieve at her sunken state whether they could not in some way manage to make common cause with the Chinese people [illegible]. At all times the contrast between the official and other classes in China has been a commonplace. Even in the past this official nexus was closely woven from the Throne downwards and it was impossible to get past it. To-day the politicians, as between party and party and province and province, are far less coherent than of old, while there appears reason to believe that the people's patience is very near the breaking point and that with encouragement they might well be nerved to throw off the incubus of the class that has battened on them since the revolution.

And in this connexion we would repeat what has been said more than once in these columns. The word Tuchun is commonly synonymous for everything that is corrupt and oppressive. We believe that conception to be almost entirely wrong. No doubt there are or have been exceptions; they were conspicuous. But we make bold to believe that the majority of the Tuchuns are probably as anxious to do well for their country as others could desire that they should be. The first-hand experience that we have of their doings in this province and Chêkiang is not so discouraging that we might not give other Tuchuns the benefit of the doubt, especially remembering that travellers from their provinces are by no means ungrudging in commendation of their work. But just as the old-time Chinese magistrate was a slave to "his sisters, his cousins and his aunts",—in other words, the whole family tribe for which he had to find jobs,—so the modern Tuchun is bound in the web of political intrigue and conventional patronage and in the floating mass of adventurers that surges about the yamên and the Provincial Assembly hall. We know that the cigarette tax in Chêkiang was clapped on without the knowledge of Marshal Lu Yung-hsiang and that both he and Marshal Chi Hsieh-yuan of Kiangsu are opposed to it. But they are not strong enough to have it repealed. In how many other of the flagrant injustices that we see throughout China, the Tuchun is the scapegoat for those about him, one can only guess. But we venture to think that it would profit both China and the Powers if the latter could get into touch with the principal rulers of the different provinces for a general adjustment both national and international. To do that, of course, requires recognition by the Powers that China is for the moment not one but eighteen or more separate states. But that they will be compelled to recognize sooner or later.

LABOUR'S FIRST BUDGET

May 2.

Anyone who had ventured to predict, three or four years ago, that the first Labour Government's first Budget would have been received with acclamations all round and an immediate strengthening of the stock market would certainly have been regarded as a madman and probably eyed askance as traitor to the cause of all that has made England terrible abroad. Yet once again it is the unexpected that has happened. Departing for its Easter holiday amid the [illegible] Conservatives, the Labour Government has reopened Parliament in a blaze of triumph. And there is nothing in Mr. Philip Snowden's Budget speech, as cabled yesterday, to suggest that the triumph is not deserved. It is true that, for the surplus which the Chancellor of the Exchequer has to play with, the Conservatives are mainly to be thanked; and it is a commonplace that the general outlines of any new Administration's first Budget are more or less fixed by its predecessors, the extent varying with the date at which the new Government comes into office. But Labour has been quite long enough in power to have seriously affected the year's showing, if it had been set upon the wild schemes advocated by its most extreme followers, and which its more implacable opponents still believe it will one day spring upon us.

That the food duties have gone or been notably reduced is as popular an announcement as it deserves to be. The reports that reach us of the food conditions of the average working-class family are not pleasant reading and improvement in that respect is to be welcomed. The disappearance of the McKenna duties is open to doubt. Watches, taxed or untaxed, would seem to be cheap enough, judging by the now almost ubiquitous appearance of the wrist watch. As regards cinema films, it is now clear that the popularity of a film does not depend on the fact that its producers may have spent a million dollars on it, in which respect nobody can attempt to compete with the Americans. Good acting, good photography and a good story can hold their own against mere Gargantua, and if British film producers can succeed in these respects, there appears no reason why foreign films should not be taxed to provide revenue. Most doubtful of all, however, is the removal of the duty on motor-cars. It is a curious fact that, since the war, the only British industry which has done consistently well has been that of motor-car manufacture and it has been heavily protected. So far from British makers taking advantage of this to put up prices, the development of cheap cars in Britain is one of the most remarkable features of the time and the excellence of British cars is second to none. Why take off the duty, especially when manufacturers say that to do so will mean the dismissal of hundreds of workers? To meet this danger we are told that the duty is to be continued until August 1, though there is no explanation as to what the effect of this postponement will be. The Government, which has lately obtained powers to lay down five cruisers in order to provide work for unemployed, can hardly risk throwing other hands on the market, and one can only conclude that the danger of this resulting from removal of the duty is not acute. But motor-cars are in a different category from raw materials and articles of necessity, and one does not see that the vote cast at the general election implies any obligation on the Government to remove the duty on them.

The general tone of Mr. Snowden's speech is admirable. Clearly, he says, available resources must be devoted to redemption of the country's debt: *the maintenance and improvement of British credit was a matter of very vital importance.* The italics are ours to emphasize a saying which ought to be of general reassurance, especially coming from the second Minister in the Kingdom, the controller of all its finances. There are many who believe firmly that the Labour Government has acted as it has done hitherto deliberately to lull us all into false security; it seeks to "dope" us all that it may then go through our pockets at leisure, they say. Surely that is a bitter and unworthy charge to bring against men like Mr. MacDonald and his chief colleagues, whose moral integrity whether we like their politics or not is above reproach. And in any case can we really believe so Machiavellian a design? No man, certainly no Briton, with ability to rise to the position of a Minister of the Crown can be unsusceptible to the lesson of the wonderful financial showing which Great Britain makes. In but four years of almost unparalleled depression, of grave international fears, of internal anger and strife, she has reduced her total indebtedness by £650,000,000, she discharges her liabilities to America, without a penny's worth of help from those who have liabilities to her and supports an army of old age and war pensioners. This truly wonderful performance is due to sound finance, cautious provision in advance for every debt contracted, dour resolution and endurance. It is impossible to believe that Mr. Snowden, Mr. MacDonald or any other Labour man now or ever likely to be in power will cast away these tried methods to go a-wild goose-chasing.

BOLSHEVIST MENTALITY

May 3.

On April 14 last the first meeting took place at the Foreign Office between the Soviet Mission and British representatives. Since then we have heard of various sub-committees being formed to examine various questions—much like Xenophon's soldiers marching forty parasangs and having breakfast—and that is all we know about the negotiations. On the other hand, we have heard several things which make more and more slender the chances of any material outcome of those negotiations and reveal new surprises in the mind of that strange creature, the Russian Bolshevist. These it may be of interest to recall.

Beginning at the end of March (about the time when the Soviet Mission would have been packing its portmanteaux) we find Zinovieff stating in Moscow that Britain's claims amount to some 10,000 million gold roubles, with three milliards for arrears of interest. But, he added,

> Russia did not intend to make concessions in this respect and she had presented a counter-claim exceeding Britain's demands.

Next comes Trotsky's famous apothegm at Tiflis on April 11, three days before the two sides met in London, that,

> Mr. MacDonald's Cabinet has absolutely no principles; nevertheless the success of the Anglo-Russian conference would strengthen its position.

In other words, Mr. MacDonald's recognition of the Soviet Government was merely a vote-catching device. There is nothing like insulting your *vis-à-vis* as much as you can in order to open negotiations in the best spirit, especially when you want to get something out of him.

The day before the Foreign Office meeting, leading London bankers sent a memorandum to Mr. MacDonald explaining that if the Russian Government wished to restore its credit in Britain, it must disgorge the property it had stolen, respect private rights and the sanctity of contracts and leave private trading untrammelled: as for a loan, the memorandum reminded the Soviet that that depends, not upon Governments or banks, but upon the confidence of private investors. All very simple and obvious, but it has stirred the good Bolshevik to frenzy. "This is to bid us cease being Communists" exclaimed Trotsky at Moscow on April 21. "Why do they require that of us, when we do not require them to cease being bourgeoisie?" Even more furious was the All-Russian Council of Trades Unions. "To ask us to recognize our debts," they cry, "will degrade Russians to the level of coolies."

> "If England gives us credits we shall repay a moderate percentage, but private property will never be returned to foreign owners. We shall forbid commercial negotiations between British bankers and private Russian capitalists."

The answer to Trotsky is, of course, that nobody cares whether he calls himself a Communist or a worshipper of Central African Juju; but if he wants to do business abroad, he must comply with the terms on which business is done. Rakovsky, head of the Soviet Mission in London, tried to neutralize the effect of the Trades Unions' declaration by explaining that they had no official status; and coming straight to the point, he pleaded for a loan, at the same time carefully pointing out that the bankers' terms were quite impossible; they constituted an impermissible interference with Russia's internal affairs; and, of course, no private property could be restored, though it might, perhaps, be leased to its former owners. The effect of these speeches and communications is in no way mitigated by the recent report of the jamboree at Moscow's Propaganda University which accompanied the sending forth of a fresh batch of Communist agents specially trained to foment revolution in Central Asia and India.

So now we all know exactly what to expect of the Soviet Mission in London and the sooner it gets back to Russia and stops wasting the time of Foreign Office clerks the better. Except for barren recognition, there is clearly nothing to hope of relations between Great Britain and the Soviet; and we should not be surprised if Mr. Ramsay MacDonald were beginning to be sorry that he was ever deluded into thinking otherwise, just as this paper is sorry. Yet there was a time when the evidence appeared at least very strong that the Soviet mind was changing; and had Lenin lived, it is possible that something might have been done to revive Russian credit in England. But with men like Trotsky, Zinovieff and Chicherin dealings are impossible. The issue is very clear, it did not really need the bankers' memorandum to explain it. "Credit" is only based on confidence, and if the Soviet wants to borrow money, it must convince lenders that they can trust it.

OFFICERS' PIRACY INSURANCE

May 3.

THE information which Reuter cabled from Hongkong on April 26 regarding the scheme of insurance of ships' officers against piracy inaugurated by the Hongkong Government has now been supplemented by the receipt of the Government Notice (No. 223) promulgating the scheme. The Notice reads as follows:—

> It is hereby notified for general information that grants will be made by Government in the event of the death or disablement of officers of ships on the Hongkong register by reason of piratical attacks, provided that, in no case will a grant be made unless Government is satisfied that the Piracy Regulations have been properly observed.
>
> In the event of death the equivalent of two years' actual pay will be credited to the estate of the deceased, and in case of disablement an allowance equivalent to the actual rate of wages of the injured officer will be paid so long as he is certified by a Government Medical Officer to be unfit to perform his duties, up to a maximum period of one year. . . . .

This is one of those regulations which everyone must hope never will need to be brought into operation, providing, as it does, for an eventuality which inevitably must spell bloodshed and suffering if it materializes. None the less, it constitutes a just provision and one that is absolutely necessary. The officers have been clamouring, and understandably so, for some such scheme for months, and its inauguration should dispel the dissatisfaction on this matter that *has been so* prevalent. A point worthy of notice is that while the Hongkong Government shoulders all of the financial responsibility of this particular scheme, it is made clear that the shipowner is by no means absolved from the inception of something on similar lines. Opinion among shipowners on this point is stated to be somewhat divergent, for while some are said to be definitely opposed to the payment of any insurance premia on behalf of their officers, on the ground that in paying taxes they pay for adequate protection, others are inclined to insure their officers. We know of one firm which already has each of its officers insured against the effects of piracy to a large extent, the premium being $360 a year for each officer and the insurance being effected with one of the biggest insurance concerns in the Far East. The clause in the Government scheme to the effect that in no case will a grant be made unless the Government is satisfied that the Piracy Regulations have properly been observed leaves a loophole for the Government, though it perhaps is uncharitable of us to say so. In the event of a piratical attack, it is conceivable that, owing to force of circumstances, the Regulations will be either disregarded or wrongly construed by some one on board, perhaps without serious consequences; such things have happened before and are likely to happen again. Let us hope that the Regulation means that if a master or an officer gets killed or wounded in repelling a piratical attack and it is afterwards proved that he personally complied with the Regulations to the best of his ability and opportunity, the grant will not be withheld.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

The Singapore Base

By this time most members of the British national societies will have received a circular asking their views on the question of the Singapore base—whether they are in favour of Great Britain proceeding with it or not and why they hold their particular opinions. The Navy League has been instrumental in securing the widespread publicity which the circular thus receives, and in doing so it has done a courageous and admirable piece of work. People who have lived out in the Far East and travelled its trade routes may be expected to envisage the question better than the man who has never been outside Europe and their opinion, whichever way it may go, deserves consideration from the authorities at Home. We trust, in the circumstances, that the circular will not be cast aside, but that a full and free expression of opinion may be given. While it is not our wish to attempt to influence opinion on the matter, we may point to one or two of the facts of the case and above all suggest that people answering the question may hold themselves free from all sentimentality. There must be none of that latter quality when discussing any military question which this undoubtedly is, but we must consider all the possibilities. The first point to remember is how the different trade routes in the East radiate from Singapore, and then to realize the position of neutrals in the Great War, how, for instance, Dutch and Norwegian steamers were sunk. We may some day find ourselves neutrals with an unscrupulous belligerent in these waters who will carry out the same policy, but he will do so only if we have no means of protection. With our Fleet based on Singapore he would not dare to do so, and our ships would sail the oceans free. We shall, doubtless, be asked who are the Powers likely to be engaged in such a war, and to this the reply is that any military authority who does not daily take into his calculations the "hypothetical enemy" will find himself sooner or later in a very bad way. "Hypothetical enemies" in the Far East have been freely and openly discussed by all the authorities in the world, and we need not go into that aspect any more, except in one respect. Japan—one of the category—is said to be down and out because of the unhappy earthquake disaster, but it is quite arguable that this theory is only on a par with that of the economists who said that a European war could not last longer than three months because the nations would be bankrupt. Let us remember 1914-18 in this respect. There is one other point, the oil in the Dutch Indies, which it is believed any nation engaged in a Pacific war would hasten to seize. If neutral and with a base at Singapore, Great Britain could forbid such a raid, but without a fleet there she would be impotent. The fact is, according to certain of the authorities, that with a base she could localize a conflict, while without it there might readily be another world conflagration, worse than the last, for not only Asia but Europe would be involved in it. The other point of view is that by fortifying Singapore we are simply provoking the animosity of other nations, and that is not to be ignored. Great Britain, however, in the past has not benefited by any policy of unpreparedness, and has the time come to try it again? It is a matter of opinion, just as much as the correctness of the assumptions stated above must be.

China Defaulting

A few weeks ago we were informed that the London Stock Exchange had decided not to quote certain Chinese securities owing to China's persistent refusal to pay interest on the German issue of the Hukuang Railway loan and default on certain other loans. "The Times" of a little before that date gives some interesting details of the default on the two issues of what are technically known as Chinese Eight per Cent. Sterling Treasury Notes. The larger of the two, that issued originally to Vickers, Limited, consists of an outstanding principal of £1,803,200 on which no interest has been forthcoming since April, 1922. The other issue, known as the Marconi Loan, amounts to £600,000, on which default has existed as and from August, 1921. The question of redemption will also arise shortly as the first drawing on the Marconi Notes is due to take place in August next, and the first drawing on the Vickers Notes should occur in October, 1925. "The Times" goes on to argue that the preliminary conference to discuss matters relating to the 2½ per cent. surtax, which China is very anxious to have called, would be a suitable time "to press home the need for a settlement of the claims of the noteholders." We sincerely hope that nothing of the kind will be done. Sir John Jordan, it will be recalled, recently protested strongly against any such idea. In the first place the time has not nearly come to discuss the surtax at all, nor will it until there is convincing evidence that the Government in Peking represents the country. In the second place, when the surtax is imposed it should be for something that will really benefit the country (Washington mentioned the abolition of likin) not for a mere liquidation of unsecured debts.

America's Mixed Population

In his letter, which appears to-day, our correspondent in San Francisco draws attention to the fact that it was probably not until the Great War that America actually woke up to the very mixed population that make up her one and one-tenth millions. The awakeningg came when Americans were forced to the realization that the country, "instead of being a homogeneous whole, was a jumbled-up mass of undigested racial material." Indeed, he quotes from an American writer who says that it was learned at that time that the country was no longer Anglo-Saxon nor Protestant, and that in some localities there were indications that it might not continue to be English-speaking. This may be a little far-fetched, but there can be no doubt that the population of America is made up of all sorts and conditions of men, many of them from the undesirable classes that came into the country in swarms about ten years or more ago when unlimited immigration was the advocated order of the day. One thing is certain, that, while native Americans have not intermarried to any great extent with these undesirable newcomers, in the long run intermixture is almost inevitable. Social and legal restrictions of miscegenation will postpone the evil day, but when two races live side by side they will eventually amalgamate. Propinquity leads to miscegenation. We believe that among Americans of the true type the danger is regarded with considerable alarm. It is not merely a matter of stopping immigration, however, because there are already in America large bodies of people who are racially incompatible with native Americans, and who are rapidly replacing the latter. Moreover, the death-rate in America continues to increase while the birth-rate continues to decline, and statistics show that the promotion of the true Americans into an upper class, resting upon strata of aliens of lower standards, is having the effect of reducing the native American birth-rate. In 1917 the literacy test was passed over President Wilson's veto by a vote of 287 to 106 in Congress, and a vote of 62 to 19 in the Senate. The present law was passed by a vote of 276 to 33 in the House and 78 to 1 in the Senate. But the difficulty, it appears, is not in passing such legislation when once before Congress, but in formulating the law, for there are large interests concerned not only in opposing further restrictions but in breaking down and making unpopular existing laws.

An Act of Indemnity

The case reported elsewhere in this issue in which Mr. Eric Moller consented to judgment for the sum of Tls. 157,000 cannot but call for sympathy for the unfortunate debtor, who is one of that small coterie of China Coast shipowners whose vessels were requisitioned by the Hongkong Government during the period immediately preceding and following the Armistice. It will be remembered that in respect of the requisitioning the owners were awarded tramp Blue-book rates, and that, while operating the ships for and on behalf of the Hongkong Government, meant to the owners the loss of many thousands of dollars, the Hongkong Government, from their commercial interest in the ships, benefiting to the extent of more than two million dollars. The owners (not unnaturally, it would seem) asked for all or some of this money to cover their own proved losses and to give them some of the profits which, without requisition, would wholly have been theirs. The Hongkong Government countered and countered, and while countering passed an Indemnity Ordinance which completely and for ever precluded the owners from even suing for the money. In the circumstances one can understand and appreciate the remark of counsel for the debtor who, in stating that his client consented to judgment, remarked that his client "would not, if he could, pass an Act of Indemnity."

THE CHINA

Architects and Builders Compendium

CHINA is one of the few countries in the world where no attempt has been made to collect and classify in book form the mass of local information that should be at the elbow of every architect, builder, civil engineer, and prospective or present house or land owner. The demand for such a work has been increasingly felt for a number of years, and the Compendium now published will meet that demand.

Shanghai, in common with many other Treaty Ports of China, is under divided control—International, French and Chinese. In the International Settlement there is a number of Consulates at which land may be registered at varying fees and under numerous regulations. The Compendium classifies these fees and regulations and also contains a mine of information relating to water, gas and electricity rates, costs of local material and labour, etc., that not only every architect must possess, but that is necessary to every prospective landlord and house owner.

The book is divided into four parts, as follows:—

Part I.—General Information connected with Land Property and Buildings:—

- MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENT SCHEDULES.
- NOTES ON LAND REGISTRATION AND PURCHASE IN SHANGHAI.
- INFORMATION AS TO TAXES AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FEES.
- CHARGES OF WATERWORKS CO., TELEPHONE CO., AND ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPT.
- CONSULAR FEES.
- SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL BUILDING RULES.
- ARCHITECTS' CHARGES AND SURVEYORS' CHARGES.
- BUILDING CONTRACT FORMS, LEASE FORMS, MORTGAGE FORMS.
- LAND REGULATIONS, PLANS OF SHANGHAI.

Part II.—Technical Information for Architects, Builders and Civil Engineers:—

- MEMORANDA AS TO STRENGTH, WEIGHT AND PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS.
- PRICE LIST OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND LABOUR.
- INFORMATION AS TO LOCAL CONDITIONS (*i.e.*, SOIL, WATER, ETC.)
- REQUIREMENTS AND USEFUL DATA FOR ESTIMATING COST OF BUILDINGS.
- NOTES ON ARTESIAN WELLS, ETC.

Part III.—A Directory containing:—

- LIST OF ARCHITECTS AND CONSULTING ENGINEERS IN SHANGHAI.
- LIST OF ARCHITECTS AND CONSULTING ENGINEERS IN OUTPORTS.
- LIST OF BUILDING CONTRACTORS IN SHANGHAI.
- LIST OF BUILDING CONTRACTORS IN OUTPORTS.

Part IV.—Catalogue of Building Material, etc.

- ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF ADVERTISERS.
- CLASSIFIED INDEX OF GOODS ADVERTISED.
- ADVERTISEMENTS OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES CLASSIFIED IN SECTIONS.

In addition to the above, the Compendium also contains

Maps of Shanghai and Hankow.

The map of Shanghai is the latest map drawn up by the Municipal Council (reduced in size) and contains many new roads hitherto unmapped.

The subscription to the Compendium is TEN DOLLARS MEX. Future editions will be supplied at FIVE DOLLARS per copy provided that the previous edition is returned.

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NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

THE ASSAULT ON MR. CAMPBELL ON THE PEKING CITY WALL

Symptom of Grave State of Feeling: The Growing Anti-Foreignism of the Element that Has Climbed into Power on the Wreck of Government in China

From Rodney Gilbert

Peking, Apr. 24.

Conditions in this country are rapidly coming to the point where it will be impossible for foreigners to reside anywhere but in fortified and garrisoned ports available to foreign gunboats. The only alternative to such a state of things within the next few years will be a punitive war. It is very doubtful indeed whether an international punitive campaign in China will be possible even within the next few years, so foreign residents throughout China might as well be prepared to pack up and leave or take up their residence in concentrated communities in fortified ports. "The North China Standard," an official Japanese organ published in Peking which voices the sanest and soundest editorial opinions expressed in this community, this morning remarks: "That an anti-foreign spirit is growing in China is now generally recognized by all observers except a few foreigners who, for reasons of their own, are still shutting their eyes to even the strongest evidence," and in another sentence, ". . . .—the authorities themselves . . . . are prepared to go to any length to prevent justice from being done." Neither the writer, in his opening remarks, nor the editor of the "Standard," in his leader, is inspired by panic or bilicusness but has reached these conclusions, as the majority of foreigners in Peking have, from observation not only of incidents and the official attitude towards them but of the temper of the people in the streets as well.

THE ATTACK ON THE WALL.

The particular incident which has brought these impressions to the surface is the Campbell incident. According to the Legation Quarter regulations, which have been on paper for a score of years, but have been very loosely applied, no Chinese soldier in uniform, whether armed or unarmed, is allowed in the Legation Quarter except as one of the retinue of a high Chinese official calling at a Legation. Thanks to the Diplomatic Body's time-honoured policy of letting everything slide, this rule is daily broken by hundreds of soldiers who saunter about the Legation Quarter on no particular errand and whose presence in the Quarter is never challenged. The section of the city wall which bounds the Legation Quarter, and which has been used for many years as a promenade by foreigners, is also forbidden by another ancient regulation to Chinese of the lower classes and in actual practice all Chinese have been excluded except when special permission was given for one reason or another.

The Sunday before last a very stalwart ruffian in uniform, by the name of Li, who is one of the Ministry of War guards, after assaulting two other foreigners, entered the Legation Quarter where he had no business to be, mounted the wall, where again he had no business to be, and set out to pick a fight with a foreigner. His first encounter was with Mr. A. K. Campbell, a British commercial traveller. Mr. Campbell is not only a big man in excellent physical condition but an expert amateur boxer as well, so the truculent one was knocked down in the first encounter. Mr. Campbell, instead of finishing a good job, strolled on, with the idea that the incident was closed, but the soldier pulled himself together and with a bag of copper coins assaulted Mr. Campbell from the rear, beating him over the face and head. After this the struggle was naturally much in the soldier's favour and there is no doubt that he would have made an murderous end of it if an American non-commissioned officer and two of the Legation Quarter's Chinese police had not interfered and overpowered the ruffian. He was taken to the Legation Quarter police station and the Legations were notified.

A WISE RETENTION.

The ordinary practice, of course, would be to turn the man over to the Chinese authorities at once, but under existing conditions this would simply mean that he would be made a hero among his fellows and that if his punishment were insisted upon he would be allowed to disappear or be transferred to some other post where he would be given preferential treatment. At the time of this affair Dr. Wellington Koo was still unable to arrange with the military for a proper trial of the Colonel Ch'en, brother of a presidential concubine, who made such a brutal assault upon Mr. Bessel at Fengtai, so it was rightly assumed that unless the Government were first pledged to try this man who had deliberately assaulted a foreigner in the Legation Quarter there was not the slightest chance that he would receive any punishment.

The prisoner was therefore held for six days, not because the Legations had any desire to retain such a guest but simply because the military could not be brought to promise that treaty stipulations would be recognized and that he would be tried before foreign official witnesses. That it took six days to exact such pledges is sufficient evidence of the official attitude towards foreigners and towards China's treaty obligations. During the period of his incarceration the prisoner certainly showed no signs of meekness or repentance. He remained truculent and bellicose. Neither was he in any degree insane. He had set out with a perfectly clear mind to help China put the foreigner in his place. For this reason the Chinese press has espoused his cause, has made a martyr of him and is daily launching the most vituperative attacks upon foreigners in general and the British in particular.

OUTRAGEOUS RESOLUTIONS.

To cap the whole affair, a number of Parliamentarians and radicals—nearly a hundred all told—held a meeting in the Central Park on Tuesday and passed a series of resolutions which merit reproduction in full. It is hard to believe that supposedly rational articulate bipeds could in conference initiate and endorse such nonsense, but the Chinese reports of this valuable meeting were practical identical in all Chinese papers yesterday.

The resolutions were as follows:

(1) That the British Minister should tender an apology to the Waichiaopu for his action in refusing to surrender the Chinese soldier to the Chinese authorities for several days, which is a grave insult to China; (2) That all famous places in the British concessions in China should be thrown open to Chinese; (3) That the British Minister undertake to offer no similar insult to China in the future; (4) That the Government should not defer to the wishes of the British Minister to in[illegible] punishment on the [illegible] of Li, a telegram should be addressed to the Lung Ch'ih Pa[illegible] and those present at the meeting [illegible] the British Minister; [illegible] the British Minister should be [illegible] forth the matter [illegible] and has brow[illegible] Chinese soldier [illegible] that the Chinese people may realize the majority of the Russian [illegible] That the Waichiaopu be directed to demand the surrender of the Russian who [illegible] with the Chinese soldier and that the stage be cleared out to [illegible] as to the soldier; (6) That in case the above demands fail of attainment the Chinese Government should put up the signboard "English men and dogs not allowed" at various places of historical and scenic interest.

It is not easy to make adequate comment upon this document. Each reader can do that for himself, but since the writer has made more than an ordinary effort for some years to think in the Chinese way and to follow the workings of the Chinese mind, a few interpretations of the Chinese attitude towards this case may be acceptable.

THE NEW CLASS IN POWER.

If the trend of thought revealed in this document were limited to an isolated group of cranks it would be easy to find it amusing and forget it; but it isn't limited to any such group. It expresses the feelings of a vast majority of those Chinese who can read newspapers and form opinions of their own. It is evidence of a movement in all the upper strata of Chinese society which is much more dangerous than the Boxer movement ever could have been. It is not inspired by patriotism, in the ordinary sense of the word, but is the outgrowth of cowardice and cowardly resentment. The most dangerous man in society anywhere is the coward, accustomed to cringe and petition, who finds himself immune from control and in a positions to swagger and swank and play the bully. The average Chinese whom one meets in ordinary life is not of this ilk. He is a gentleman whether he happens to be up or down. But the ruling caste which has been thrown to the suface during the political turmoil of the last 10 or 15 years is made up almost wholly of truculent cowards, swaggering misfits who, in their high positions, become more and more insistent upon the preservation of their dignity and their "rights," the more they make a hopeless mess of their country and forfeit all rights. The man who is conscious of his inferiority and of the mistakes which he makes through sheer incompetence is always the most vociferous champion of the innate equality of all mankind and the most earnest advocate of a sentimental regard for the unfit, the degenerate, the lazy, the weak-minded, and all the other discards of civilization.

Fear is the demon which inspires such documents, and it is a demon which is bound to inspire much more serious demonstrations unless it is checked. Fear is the whole inspiration of the new Chauvinism which has sprung up in China during the past few years and has been fostered by a limited group of intellectual cowards in the first instance and by the official caste, in the second place, because it diverts attention from officialdom and turns the tide of discontent against the foreigner, in much the same way that the Manchu Court in 1900 turned an anti-dynastic movement into an anti-foreign movement.

The present movement is much more significant than the Boxer movement for several good reasons. In 1900 the Chinese had many legitimate grounds for complaint against the foreigner. China had then a working Government which was being heavily imposed upon by many Powers greedily seeking concessions and busily nibbling away at China's territories and her "sovereign rights."

Under real provocation the only elements which responded in 1900 to the anti-foreign call were the downtrodden and exasperated peasantry of a few northern provinces and the most degenerate element in the worn-out Manchu aristocracy. Atrocities were of course perpetrated, and also counter-atrocities, but there are few foreigners of long residence in China who have not felt for many years past that the Boxers were in some degree supporting abstract justice and who have not therefore been inclined to lighten the huge burden of debt imposed upon China as indemnity for the Boxer enterprises. The situation now is entirely different. What purports to be the intellectual element and the ruling element in China is starting a new anti-foreign movement on the basis of concessions granted by foreigners, of treaties violated by Chinese, of a collapse of Chinese discipline in both political and military life, and of the country's inability to live up to her obligations, political, financial or moral. The worse things get, the more sovereign rights the Chauvinists unearth.

CHINA A CONFESSED FAILURE.

The man who assaults a foreigner now under provocation or in a state of temporary insanity is a poor simpleton who may easily be done away with; but the Chinese who attacks a foreigner without provocation, preferably in a settlement or a delimited Quarter, is a national hero and, if punished, a national martyr. Every conciliatory step taken by the Legations is interpreted by the Chinese of this feather-brained Chauvinistic school as a sign of relaxed discipline and is inevitably followed by trumpet calls sounding the "charge" throughout all the ranks of the official unfit. If Chinese soldiers can stroll through the Legation Quarter and can edge foreigners into the gutter unchallenged, the Chauvinists have a gleeful war-dance and decide that Chinese ought to walk on the Legation Quarter's section of the wall. The diplomats meet about this, disagree because someone has an arms sale in view, and decide to be deaf, dumb and blind, so the Chinese walk the wall and belabour foreigners with bags of coppers as a pastime. If one of them should happen to be interrupted in such festive horseplay, such interruption would of course constitute a breach of China's sovereign rights. If a particularly audacious soldier were to sneak into the British Legation and sand-bag a British Minister when he was looking at his lilacs, the incident would prompt the majority of China's intellectuals to demand the abolition of extraterritoriality on the spot and, if it were not granted, the Chinese press as a body would advocate a British boycott.

The whole difficulty of course is that the major nations of the world have for some years been united in their determination to give China a square deal and an opportunity to pull herself together. For this China was grateful until she discovered that the capacity for pulling China together did not exist within the nation. China is a failure but not a confessed failure. Rather than confess failure and incompetency China will strut and swagger and turn criminal. She has now turned criminal, as frankly and openly as ever a bank defaulter turned safe-blower, and she nurses precisely the same grudge against the world at large that the criminal cherishes against the police department that tracks him down.

DEGENERATE AND CRIMINAL.

The mental attitude of the people who met in the Central Park and drafted their seemingly asinine resolutions is precisely that of any group of degenerate criminal outcasts in any of the world's great slums. It is nothing to laugh at; it is no funnier than the Bolshevik doctrine of the rule of the unfit which Lenin and Trotsky brought back into Russia in 1917. It is dangerously criminal, but since it serves to divert Chinese attention from the hell that the present rulers are making of China it is only natural that the present rulers will boost it, as the Imperial Court did in 1900, and that they will then repudiate the whole performance when the big guns begin to bark, as the Manchus tried to do in 1901.

The writer has deplored in all previous articles every suggestion of intervention, not so much because conditions did not indicate intervention as because political conditions in the Occident did not seem to warrant such action. Conditions here do not yet warrant united action. There are still elements within the Legation Quarter in Peking that would rather compromise with Chinese anarchy in the hope of extracting a little profit from turmoil than undertake the protection of their arms-smuggling, opium purveying nationals. There are Ministers in Peking whose nationals have less vested interests in China than the rental and upkeep of their Legations but who, in the hope of winning Chinese tolerance for such strange enterprises as their few nationals promote, will always disrupt a diplomatic meeting. When they have not the "face" to appear in person and make personal objections, they write letters to the Doyen, stating what they will or will not agree to.

BEYOND REDEMPTION.

It is in the attitude of such Powers as these that the Chinese Chauvinists find their joy and strength. It was from such an attitude on the part of Soviet Russia that they hoped to derive the courage to give us all a generous smack in the face. If it had not been for Karakhan's inexperience and uppishness we might already have been roosting on our roof-trees supplying target practice for the Metropolitan Guards and the Christian Army.

Things have now gone so far, largely through the inability of the Legations to act together and apply the tradition that the cure in time saves nine, that we can only look forward to intervention as a cure of any sort. A certain number of our *chers confrères* will regret interference with their profitable game of stirring the puddle when such intervention comes. The Chinese will bluster and then submit to it quietly and pay the price. They would rather do that than attempt to check their own officials. The Russians will expend unlimited current in a great variety of wave lengths to demonstrate by wireless that the capitalistic Powers are again imposing upon Asia.

THE ANGLO-SAXON....

In the meanwhile this frightful hybrid, mixed-breed English language of ours is the most terrible enemy to Chinese officialdom that the Chinese Chauvinist has to face. He does not fear the French champion of the Gold Franc nor the Japanese claimant for security for the Three Bank Nishihara loans. But he is afraid of the tolerant, patient, good-natured, but ever-insistent Anglo-Saxon, whose sympathy and charity never outrun his sense of justice and who makes no allowance whatever for freakish conceptions of sovereign rights. No peoples in China used to be so assiduously cultivated and are now so well hated as the British and Americans. The way to get along with a Chinese official of the modern school is to make believe that he has deceived you. Some races find this qualification a light burden. Most of us who happen to speak English from birth find it rather difficult. The whole truth is that we cannot play the game of Oriental make-believe without losing heavily because we are not fitted for it and we had better drop it. That "honesty is the best policy" is such an ancient truism that it will probably be painful in repetition to most readers, but it does happen to apply with peculiar force to our several relations with China. Plain speaking seems to be the only possible first recourse and, if vernacular English still fails to carry weight in the Far East, we shall have to try the traditional Nordic heavy hand.

Mr. Campbell's Assailant to be Tried by Tahsing Magistrate

Peking, Apr. 25.

The forthcoming trial of the Chinese soldier who assaulted a British merchant on the wall overlooking the Legation Quarter and an American citizen and an Italian subject outside the Quarter, has been given consideration by the Chinese judicial authorities since the Minister of Foreign Affairs gave the assurance that the man would be tried by a civil court with a foreign official observer present. Chinese official circles point out that their consideration was directed solely to the question of the application of treaty rights to new Chinese courts and that there has never been any thought of thwarting the foreigners in connexion with the trial of the soldier.

More than one old treaty give foreigners the right to have official observers present in cases in which Chinese are defendants and the complainants are foreigners, foreigners having the right to protest if the penalty inflicted is not deemed sufficient to meet the ends of justice. Since these treaties were enacted the new Chinese judicial system has not been brought into effect, with the establishment of more modern courts. Chinese officials are of opinion that the treaty provisions referred to do not apply to the new courts, whereas the foreign authorities see no reason for not continuing to apply the treaties to all Chinese courts.

CONSTITUTION OF HSIEN COURTS.

The first intention was that the soldier Li should be tried by the Procurate Court, but when the case was referred to the Minister of Justice the latter realized that if this procedure were allowed it would establish a precedent in favour of the foreign view. The Ministry of Justice then decided that Li should be tried by the Tahsing Magistrate.

There are 24 hsiens in the Metropolitan area, and the Magistrates in 22 have retained their judicial functions, while the Magistrates of the Tahsing and Wenpong districts, inside the city wall, have not exercised such functions since the establishment of the new judicial system. It seems to be an open question whether or not they have legally lost their status as judicial [illegible]: hence the Chinese [illegible]ering to the trial of [illegible] a Special Court will [illegible]ed under the Tahsing [illegible] Trial by the Tahsing [illegible] would not limit the [illegible] to sentence, for Magistrates functioning under the old system have unlimited authority in that respect, subject to appeal to the nearest High Court.

In the case of Colonel Chen, who is to be retried for his part in the Bessel outrage, it is understood that a special court martial will be convened at Fengtai. The report that Colonel Chen had fled from Taku is officially denied. Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE CHEFOO-WEIHSIEN "RAILWAY"

Post for Its Director At Last on a Real Railway

Peking, Apr. 30.

Mr. Chu Ting-chi, director of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway, has resigned. It is reported that he will be succeeded by Mr. Chow Teh-san, director of the Chefoo-Weihsien line.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

*** We do not know what Mr. Chow's natural capacity may be; but his practical experience for the Kiaochou railway is small if he have none of railway work but *what he has gained* on the so-called Chefoo-Weihsien "line." For there is no such railway, there never has been and so far as we know there are no prospects of one. A few years ago we believe the merchants of Chefoo did buy a few sleepers, but we have never heard that the "line" got further than that. There is a road from Chefoo to Weihsien, somewhat "of sorts" on which motor cars run. That is all. To have a "director" of such a "line" is a glaring example of Chinese politicians' delight in shams and scandalous waste of public money.—Ed.

LUNGHAI RLWY. EXTENDED

Passenger Traffic Starting on the New Kwanyintang-Shanchow Section

On Thursday passenger traffic was to be opened on the newly completed extension of the Lunghai and Pienlo Railways from Kwanyintang west to Shanchow, we are informed by the Railway Administration. Freight traffic will be started on June 1.

The new line will ultimately be extended to Sianfu, the capital of Shensi province. Construction work west of Shanchow will be started in the near future.

CHINESE RED CROSS

Peking, Apr. 30.

A mandate issued at midnight appoints Dr. W. W. Yen President and Mr. Tsai Ting-kan and Mr. Yang Chen, former Foreign Commissioner at Shanghai, Vice-Presidents of the Chinese Red Cross Society.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ENGLISHMEN ASSAULTED BY FILIPINOS

Manila, Apr. 30.

Two Englishmen, Messrs. May and Brown, were attacked by 50 Filipinos at Iloilo on April 25, following an altercation. Both were arrested, but released on bond. The British Consul is investigating the matter.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FRESH BANDIT OUTRAGES IN S. E HUNAN

The Sack of Lanshan: Post Office and Mission Premises Looted: Whole Countryside Deserted: Brigands' Fiendish Cruelty: Hunan Getting Ready to Resist Northern Annexation

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chenchow, Hu., Apr. 19.

Within the past few months the city of Lanshan in southern Hunan has suffered from repeated attacks by bandits.. The gates have been barred ten or more days at a time, and the people within the city have kept watch night and day. Once at least the timely arrival of some of Shen Hung-yin's army saved the city from being robbed.

Recently Shen's soldiers left the city and within a short time afterward the bandits forced their way in again. The Chinese Post Office was sacked. That is all the news which has come through, for since then the city has been cut off from the outside. Without doubt the city suffered the same or a worse fate than did Kiaho a few months ago. We are expecting word to leak through any day that the entire city of Lanshan has been looted by these outlaws. Of course the unprotected country districts around Lanshan have long since been robbed. The fields are not under cultivation for there are no cattle to plow them, and the people dare not leave their hiding places and return to their devastated homes. The Lansham district usually produces large quantities of excellent rice, and is able to transport considerable quantities to other less favoured districts. But under present conditions there is sure to be a great shortage of food throughout this entire district.

LEADER A SHANGHAI LAW STUDENT.

Bandits operating in the Lanshan, Kiaho and Ningyuan districts are under Chen Yang-te, a native of Lanshan. He is a young man not much over 30. For a number of years he studied law at a Shanghai law school. He also acquired some knowledge of the English language at Changsha. He is considered quite well educated. Several years ago he lived in Chenchow with his family. Although he tried to find employment that suited him he was unsuccessful and he and his family were almost reduced to poverty. He took his family to Lanshan, and he has since become the head of the bandits. Under him are 18 other robber leaders who are more or less subservient to him. Their headquarters are on a high mountain quite central to the three cities named above. From his central locality the bandits are within easy reach of any of these cities and the surrounding districts. About one half of these bandit chiefs are Lanshan men.

HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE BUTCHERED.

In the Kiaho district alone, hundreds of country people have been cruelly butchered with knives, whole villages have been wiped out, the people killed or fled. Some time ago when the Kiaho was looted, the mayor and other city officials, together with about 100 people of whom about 40 were young girls, were carried to the hills. Those women and girls of 12 years and over who were not able to flee from the city before the bandits entered suffered unmentionable outrages. All the shops, homes, the Chinese Post Office and the American Presbyterian Mission chapel and day school were looted. The evanglist's son and the teacher of the mission school were among those taken to the hills and held there until hundreds of dollars for their ransom was paid. Even the girls in the Mission school were outraged by these fiends. Not a few of the people were killed.

Last year when Col. Liao Sing-chia was in charge of the Kiaho-Lanshan-Ningyuan district he executed many bandits and drove the rest to cover. The people long for the return of Col. Liao or an equally strong and brave leader. While Col. Liao was stationed in this district, Mr. I Kuang-ling was mayor of Kiaho and co-operated with the military authorities in ridding the district of outlaws. When Col. Liao was appointed the Mayor also left. The people are hoping that Mayor I Kuang-ling return.

At present Mr. Li Yu is mayor of Kiaho. He is from Ningyuan, the *hsien* bordering Kiaho. Mayor Li does not dare to do anything contrary to the wishes of the bandits, for these same outlaws are also abroad in the Ningyuan district. If Mayor Li should withstand them, they doubtless would attack and possibly kill his family and relations, and rob him of all his possessions. It is imperative that no local man act as mayor.

COWARDLY GARRISON COMMANDER.

The military protection of the Kiaho district has been left to Li Yong-che, a local man, who has about 300 soldiers under him. of whom about two-thirds are Kiaho men. For one reason or another they do not try to drive out the bandits. Some of Shen Hung-ying's troops from Kuangsi Province are still about in the Kiaho-Lanshan district. Whenever Shen's soldiers come to Kiaho the above-mentioned Li and his local forces flee, for they are afraid Shen's men may take their rifles, for rifles are none too plentful in Shen's army. Just prior to Kiaho being looted by the bandits it was rumoured that Shen's forces were marching toward the city. Li and his men fled, but instead of Shen the bandits came and sacked the city. After the bandits left, Li returned. A few days ago Shen's forces passed through Kiaho, and Li and his "braves" fled again. Afted Shen's men are gone and if Li does not return in time, the bandits may take advantage of this opportunity to rob the city again.

There are considerable numbers of soldiers stationed in this and other cities of southern Hunan, while the bandit-infested districts where they are needed remain unprotected. It seems strange that the military and provincial authorities do not send a strong force to these disturbed districts which have suffered so dreadfully. A well staffed and fairly well equipped army of 500 or more men could force these bandits out of their nefarious business within a short time. Although the bandits number thousands they have very few rifles. But very few good soldiers could put them to rout.

GETTING READY TO RESIST WU PEI-FU.

During the past few days there has been a considerable shifting of troops in the southeastern part of the province. Some of them who have been quartered in this city throughout the winter and spring, have moved northward to Leiyang. It is rumoured that the Governor's firm stand against Wu Pei-fu's demand that Hunan cease to regard itself as independant is responsible for this movement of the troops. In the event of Gen. Wu Pei-fu sending an army against Changsha these troops might help to put up a stiff fight. The troops which were at Ichang, on the Hunan-Kuangtung border have also been transferred. It is said that Yunnan troops from Kuangtung are coming to take their place.

BANDITS IN SOUTH CHINA

American Catholic Priests Attacked and Robbed of all Belongings

Hongkong, May 1.

Two American priests, Father Ford and Father Gleason, in the company of several Chinese Catholics, while crossing the frontier of the French concession of Kwangchowwan *en route* to the interior, were attacked by bandits who seized the entire party's money and belongings and captured two Chinese women. The French authorities later secured the release of the captives and the return of some of the luggage.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TAGORE IN PEKING

The Devout and the Irreverent

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Apr. 24.

It is probably no very humiliating matter to confess that most of us have not read more than casual sparks from Sir Rabindranath Tagore's forge. It would mean eternal immersion in the everlasting slough to confess any such thing in Peking at the moment, however. Apart from all else the various pronunciations of the holy name which are in vulgar use here even among the devotees, would probably make the most superficial Anglo-Indian squirm in horror.

To be very thoroughly condemned while he is about it the writer must admit that he has never read Tagore at all and has only the vaguest possible conception of his importance; but no one who has glanced over the following description of the Indian savant, which appeared in our local "Far Eastern Times," can fail to be moved by what Harvard used to describe as intellectual curiosity. Life is so dull to most of the hard cases in this case-hardened community that when a man comes along with sparkling eyebrows, straight aquiline noses and the beloved patriarchal manner, we smash our "w and s" glasses together with our equanimity on the alleged mahogany barrier and rush out to get a new thrill. By way of showing what really moves Peking to action, the following quotation from the "Far Eastern Times" (front page, 2nd column) is attached:—

An enthusiastic reception was accorded Sir Rabindranath Tagore, the world famous Indian writer, poet and philosopher, at the Chien Men station yesterday evening, by more than two hundred students of Nankai and Tsing Hwa, as well as by a large gathering of his own countrymen, upon his arrival from Tsinan, to deliver a series of lectures here.

Dressed in flowing brown robes or his native land and wearing the historic turban, Sir Rabindranath greeted his admirers with the same quiet reserve and warm hand clasp which have won him so many friends. He stated that he had had a most interesting trip from Shanghai stopping at Nanking, and proceeding from thence to Tsinan and on to Chufu, to visit the birthplace of Confucius. He is neither short nor tall, with the face of an assthete, deep set eyes beneath bushy white eyebrows that sparakle continually, a rather straight aquiline nose, and a flowing white beard that reaches nearly to his waist, giving him quite the appearance of a beloved patriarch.

WHAT IS A CHINA PONY?

Majority Vote to Decide in Tientsin Race Club

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, April 26.

Classification of "A" and "B" class ponies will hereafter be determined by a majority vote of the Committee of the Tientsin Race Club, is the ruling decided upon by an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Race Club held yesterday afternoon at the Tientsin Club. The adopted by-law reads: A pony, upon inspection, shall be placed in the Class to which it is elected by a majority of votes. Eligibility to race, when in doubt, to be decided by a majority in favour. In the event of equal voting the Chairman will have a casting vote.

This amendment was made retroactive to cover all classifications made to date, and, inasmuch as a record of voting has been kept, five old ponies, of the 13 originally relegated to "B" class, immediately became reinstated in "A" class. Among them are The Rambler, ex-Champions winner, Kismet, Gobi Son and Etamim.

An amendment to revert to the height limit of 14 hands was lost and the 13.3 limit was retained.

MR. J. C. Hill, assistant in the British Consulate at Amoy, has been transferred to Vladivostok with the British Commercial Mission which resumed its activities at the end of November, 1923.

SHIPPING ACCIDENTS IN GORGES

The Robert Dollar a Total Loss: Pakiang Now in Deeper Water

Ichang, Apr. 26.

The water has risen rapidly, causing the steamer Pakiang, which struck the rocks below Yehtan on April 16, to become a total loss. It is reported that nothing of her can be seen.

The steamer Robert Dollar from Chungking struck the rocks at the Taipantzu Reef near Changshou on Thursday morning and sunk in a very short time. The foreign passengers were all saved, but it is feared that a number of Chinese were drowned.

The steamer Wanhsien, proceeding from Chungking, had an accident at Lochi, but it is reported that it is not serious.

The steamer Kweilee, proceeding to Hankow on Thursday morning, met with a fog above Chikiang and struck the rocks while turning to anchor. The steamer Kuling has now gone to assist her with strong pumps.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, Apr. 27.

The American Legation has received a telegram from the American Consul at Chungking, who who went to the scene of the wreck of the steamer Robert Dollar, stating that the vessel was beached a mile above Changshou at 9 p.m. on the 23rd instant. The officers, crew, and passengers, both Chinese and foreign, were saved, and the cargo has been salved. The steamer is a total loss. The U.S.S. Monacacy is standing-by the wrecked vessel. The foreign passengers have since reached Ichang..

With regard to the Pakiang, it appears that the river rose seven feet in one day at Ichang. The flood water lifted the vessel and she slipped back into deepen water. She is now lying at a depth of between six and eight fathoms.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MAY DAY IN CANTON

Huge Parade of Labour Demanding 8-hr Day

Canton, May 1.

One hundred and seventy thousand Canton labourers paraded on Labour Day, demanding an eight-hour day. The parade was under the auspices of the Kuomintang which is also conducting a labour conference at which about 160 labour unions are represented. The conference will last five days. Mr. Liao Chung-hoi, the former Civil Governor of Kuangtung, presided at the conference while Dr. Sun Yat-sen addressed the Labour Day meeting.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

QUIET DEMONSTRATIONS IN JAPAN.

Tokio, May 1.

It is estimated that 50,000 workers participated in the demonstrations and processions on May Day which passed off without incident.

While the parade was moving to Uyeno Park at noon, a Naval balloon from Yokosuka to Kasumigaura fell down near the entrance to Hibiya Park. There were no casualties among the three occupants.—Reuter's Pacific Servicefl

Osaka, May 1.

May Day was celebrated by thousands of workers, including many women. The day passed off without incident.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TRAGIC END TO KOREAN HOLIDAY OUTING

Tokio, Apr. 26.

A telegram from Seoul reports the drowning off Ryutoho of a number of Korean school children who were being taken in a launch to inspect a Japanese destroyer in port. High seas dashed the launch against the destroyer. The children fell overboard and were drowned. Rescue work was hampered by rough seas.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PRES. COOLIDGE TRYING TO DEVISE EXCLUSION BILL COMPROMISE

Urged by Some Advisers to Veto It: Leaders of Religious Thought Denouncing Congress's Offensive Action

Washington, Apr. 25.

President Coolidge is attempting to make an arrangement with respect to the exclusion of Japanese, which will satisfy those in favour of restriction, and simultaneously avoid affronting Japan.

The arrangement is the outcome of President Coolidge's recent conference with officials of the State Department, and would permit the President to sign the bill. It is reported that he is considerably disturbed with regard to the bill, which some of his advisers have urged him to veto.—Reuter's American Service.

Osaka, Apr. 25.

The immigration exclusion continues to capture public attention here. The newspapers are full of accounts of citizens' mass meetings at Kobe and elsewhere and of resolutions passed by a large number of organizations interested in international relationship. All these speeches, resolutions and editorial articles show that here is not only anger at the affront to Japan, but also disappointment at America's "departure from her traditional leadership in international peace, racial harmony and human love." Not only the Japanese themselves, but the American residents also are astar at the action of the United States Congress.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TELEGRAMS OF PROTEST TO PRESIDENT AND SENATE.

Tokio, Apr. 25.

At the extraordinary general meeting of the American Association yesterday, it was resolved that a telegram be despatched to the President and both Houses of legislature in the United States, advising the withdrawal of the Exclusion Bill.

It was also decided to send Mr Kennedy, Chairman of the Association, to the United States "with the object of instigating the anti-Japanese agitation in that country, says the Eastern News Agency.

CONGRESS'S AFFRONT TO JAPAN.

London, Apr. 26.

The Daily Telegraph's" New York correspondent says that religious leaders almost unanimously criticize Congress for affronting Japan in a "peculiarly offensive" way, and urge the members to repair the blunder speedily.

The Federal Council of Churches, representing 20,000,000 church members, has requested Congress to add a section to the Immigration Bill summoning the State Department to confer with the Japanese Government with a view to devising a method of bringing about exclusion based on mutual consideration and goodwill and postponing the operation of the exclusion lause pending the conference.—Reuter's American Service.

THE OBNOXIOUS DISCRIMINATION.

Tokio, Apr. 26.

Viscount Kentaro Kaneko, the President of the America's Friends Society, has sent a letter to Secretary of State Hughes "for consideration of the President" appealing to the latter against immigration discrimination. While we understand the necessity for restriction of the number of alien immigrants to America for its national welfare, and are willing to submit to any restrictions if equally applied, we ask for consideration of the discriminatory clause which is an important question to Japanese honour. Viscount Kaneko requests temporary postponement of the passage of the clause and the finding of a reasonable solution to the problem, satisfactory to both countries.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICAN-JAPANESE ARBITRATION AGREEMENT.

Washington, Apr. 26.

Ratifications of an agreement extending the Japanese American Arbitration Treaty for five years were formally exchanged at the State Department to-day.—Reuter's American Service.

London, Apr. 27.

The New York correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" states that President Coolidge has intimated very plainly that he may veto the Immigration Bill if the clause excluding Japanese is allowed to remain. He expresses the opinion that the problem may be solved and the interests of California protected by adopting some measure which would be acceptable to all parties without the danger of giving affront to any.

It is understood that President Coolidge favours placing Japan, together with the other nations, on a quota basis based on her nationals resident in the United States in 1890, which would, without discrimination, to all intents and purposes exclude Japanese coolies.—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, Apr. 29.

It is authoritatively stated that President Coolidge has proposed to the members of the Immigration Conference that they shall make the effective date for Japanese exclusion far enough ahead to permit negotiations for a new Gentlemen's Agreement.

Later.

Several members of the conference between the two Houses on the Immigration Bill said that they hoped that they had reached a compromise on the Japanese question which would satisfy the sentiment of the country and placate Japan.—Reuter's American Service.

PROSPECTS OF A COMPROMISE.

Washington, Apr. 30.

It is understood that President Coolidge has suggested to the joint conference of representatives of both Houses of Congress, which is discussing the immigration Bill, that operation of the provision with regard to Japanese exclusion should be postponed until July 1.

The conferees later informed the President that an agreement on this basis might be reached within 24 hours. The vote of the conference is expected to be close as several Pacific Coast Senators intend to oppose the suggestion.—Reuter's American Service.

War Talk by Large Section of Opinion Over U. S. Exclusion Legislation

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Apr. 18.

Never since the period embracing the major portion of 1920 and 1921 has there been so much talk of war—and with the United States as there unfortunately is in Japan to-day, due to the American immigration legislation. But it is extremely temperate talk in comparison with that of the 12 months preceding the calling of the Washington Conference.

Superstition is abroad that she is fated to fight and that the issue must be faced this year. The superstition which flourished in 1920 and 1921 when ugly gestures were being made on both sides of the Pacific has been resurrected again. The Japanese then believed that any year containing the figure 4 would drag the country into the vortex of war. It is pointed out that she fought China in 1894, hostilities with Russia came in 1904; war on Germany came in 1914 and now there is the immigration issue and it is 1924. The superstition is being actively contested by the more healthy-minded, but that it has received a fresh lease of life is an ugly development in a situation that is yet tense.

The United States had two serious direct issues with Japan and several indirect ones. The direct issues were the status of Japanese in America which was inextricably involved with the immigration problem and the control of the cables in the Pacific. Both have now been settled, the latter to the apparent satisfaction of both countries, the former in a manner that Japan unanimously disapproves of. The indirect issues, such as Japanese expansion in Siberia and China and the presence of American naval and military forces in the Philippines, were supposed to have been satisfactorily adjusted at the time of the Washington conference.

A DEMOCRATIC ENIGMA.

One of the unfortunate results of the dramatic change of opinion by the American Senate is that the Japanese are now inclined to the belief that the American nation, as a unit, dislike them and that the dislike is based on racial prejudice. This, of course, is not true. But America is a democracy and claims that her representative legislative institutions reflect the will of the nation. How is it possible to convince the Japanese that the representatives of the American people, in deciding to legislate against the eligibility of Japanese to enter America, even on so small a quota basis as suggested by Mr. Hughes—which would limit the number going annually to the United States to under 250—were not reflecting the wishes of the whole nation as a composite unit.

The colour question comes to the fore in Japan quicker than in America. The press insists that colour prejudice forced the issue. The contention that the note of Mr. Hanihara was responsible for the Senate reversing its original intentions is scouted and the papers retort that this was made a pretext for rushing the anti-Japanese measure.

The wonderful improvement in communications, it is pointed out, has brought nations so much closer together that plain speaking is sometimes advisable. The press declares that there has been nothing in the note of Mr Hanihara for the Senators to get offended at and that the recent exchange of notes between Great Britain and France were couched in blunter language, but did not cause anyone to say that the national dignity or the sovereign rights of either country were imperilled.

Sarcasm, with a bitter undertone of disgust and anger, runs through the warp and woof of nearly every article or statement that has been made on the matter here. Of course the authorities are extremely discreet in their utterances. The Premier, Mr. Kiyoura, in a statement to the press, took the opportunity of declaring that the phrase "grave consequences" in the Hanihara note does not mean anything even remotely resembling war. Baron Matsui also told correspondents the same thing and appealed to them to use their influence in winning the sympathy of United States people, as distinct from the politicians, for Japan's case. The sympathy of local Americans is with Japan.

THE POWER OF THE PRESS.

The trenchant editorials of powerful American papers in the Eastern states of the Union, especially the larger dailies of New York, Brooklyn and Philadelphia, have been received her with much satisfaction. The hope that these powerful moulders of public opinion will yet be able to stay the legislation and that President Coolidge will veto the measure, causing the Senate to reflect again in a less passionate frame of mind, are clung to with almost pathetic confidence.

Educational associations and the Japan League of Nations Society have started a national movement for a big peace demonstration, to be held on Armistice Day this year, hoping thereby to counteract whatever insidious ideas may be held that hostilities are inevitable, believing rightly that such a state of mind should not be permitted to exist.

That the situation is tense and will continue to remain so for some time is evidenced by the comments made by organs which generally throw all their weight on the side of friendliness with all nations. Some of the most biting statements come from these.

The "*Jiji*," for instance, asks whether the language used by Mr Hanihara in his protest could be construed to constitute any reason for associating the protest with the Bill, and stamps the action of the House and the Senate "an open declaration of the anti-Japanese sentiment of America in the name of the American people."

The "*Yuzu Shogyo*," generally moderate in tone, asks whether if Mr. Hanihara presented his protest "like a beggar, bowing, fawning and flattering, such despicable and contemptible behaviour would have induced the Senate to vote in favour of Japan." Answering the question in the negative, it proceeds to tax America with insincerity and with "purposely insulting Japan."

The "*Osaka Asahi*," one of the most influential organs in Japan's commercial metropolis, declares that throughout the 3,000-odd years of her history, "Japan has not been treated with greater contempt," and wants to know whether the Japanese will "endure such an insult with equanimity." It then goes on to say that "despite the adverse circumstances in which Japan finds herself, now, she has always successfully surmounted national difficulties whenever confronted with them and is daring enough to grapple with any difficulties, however formidable these may be." This comment was in reply to an alleged editorial in the "Washington Post" to the effect that while "grave consequences" meant war, Japan was not in a position to fight for some years to come.

Japanese Opinion Growing Calmer

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Apr. 22.

To-day, April 22, the 200th anniversary of the birth of Emanual Kant, the famous German philosopher, has been availed of by the Japanese press in general, the bellicosely-inclined as well as the more sedate journals, to cease pratings of war and of the "iniquities" of the White race and to express fervent desires for the speedy dawn of the day when

"The war drum beats no longer and the battle flag is furled
"In the parliament of man, the federation of the world."

There is not the slightest sign of any anti-foreign feeling in Tokio at this writing, although some Japanese, level-headed and with broader visions, expressed to your correspondent a fear that such an undesirable tendency might develop. I have been walking in various parts of the city since the passing of the immigration bill and have yet to experience any unfriendly act or demonstration. Japanese friends of mine have deplored the action of the Senate, but, unlike the press, have also been ready to admit that the Hanihara note was ill-timed and worse worded and that a diplomat ought to have known that "grave consequences" (in the English or French tongue) meant, in diplomatic language, just what the Senate took it to mean.

Officialdom is generally inclined to wait and see, probably the only thing to do under the circumstances, and has intimated to the press that the hands of the Government, in effecting a workable compromise, would be considerably strengthened if jingoistic language were dispensed with by press, pulpit and platform.

INTEMPERATES TEMPERATE.

The official advice has not gone unheeded, and a meeting of Tokio *ronin* (this word once meant "knight errants," but has now degraded both in practice and in significance to "political strong-arm men" or what would be called in the United States "political gun-men") held yesterday was conducted in comparatively, charmingly temperate language. The meeting was held under the leadership of Mr. Matsuri Toyama, a grey beard of some 76 years, who has lived in two worlds—that of feudal Japan before the arrival of Commodore Perry when the *ronin* really were a species of knight errant and in the present when Japan is one of the recognized leading powers.

Originally called to protest against the recent actions of "insolent Russia" and to protest at the action of the authorities in trying to "turn the other cheek" to the Soviet, the cause for which the demonstration was at first intended was forgotten, and the immigration question soon took first, second and every place on the agenda of the meeting.

The Christian code was made a special target of attack on the ground that the discrimination practised by the United States was a defiance of every tenet and principle of Christianity which was declared to be "now stamped by the anti-Japanese discrimination as artificial and faltering. It is time to distrust the tenets of Christianity in order to make Japan safer for our posterity" went on the speaker who wound up by saying that "the descendants of Washington and Lincoln remain helpless while the law making body representing them hurls insults at us."

CALMER COUNSELS.

One of the speakers who urged calmness and magnanimity towards all Americans, especially towards those in Japan, was Mr. Usui, a well-known *Jiujutsu* expert who used to be Viscount Goto's bodyguard during the time the Viscount was conducting negotiations with Comrade Joffe. Viscount Goto had been threatened by several anti-Bolshevik societies and Mr. Usui followed him everywhere like his shadow.

Pointing out that Mr. Cyrus E. Woods, Japanese Ambassador to Tokio, and the American press men here were indefatigable in their efforts to acquaint the people of America, through the news papers, of the intensity of the feeling felt here, Mr. Usui insisted that every courtesy should be shown to Americans in Japan. "The Americans here are as helpless as are the Japanese in the United States," he said, "and we should treat them as friends, nay as brothers."

Only one untoward incident, connected with the passing of the exclusion act, has occurred so far, and this in Kobe where Mr. José Goyburu, Peruvian Consul, was mistaken for an American and attacked by an intoxicated workman. Mr. Goyburu was taking a walk at night when a Japanese, in the garb of a labourer, shouted "Baka" (literally "Fool," but the worst scold word in the Japanese language) and made for him. Mr. Goyburu managed to shake off the man and proceeded to the police station where he returned, accompanied by two policemen, who took the assailant into custody. The latter was still lingering in a near by bar room. That the furious editorials in the Japanese papers were the cause of the unprovoked attack was admitted by the accused. The police have, however, released the man, declaring that if Mr. Goyburu cared to prefer an action for assault he was perfectly free to do so.

LIFE PROBLEMS FIRST.

The way the Japanese papers talk one would be inclined to think that the nation is doing nothing else but talking, living and breathing the alleged insult to the country. As a matter of fact, it is doubtful if there is a large proportion even of the educated who fully realize the issue and even less who know the actual facts of the situation. The press, however, has been harping on the note that Japan has been insulted, that she has been slapped in the face, that such an indignity as has now been thrust on her she has never had since the beginning of her history. The unthinking accept the story and the specious reasoning bolstering it us, and if a few fools take leave of common-sense and sanity, the press is more to be blamed for thus misleading them. The majority of the people are more engrossed with the daily problems of life, especially as these are becoming more and more difficult.

Why does the press, instead of trying to educate the people into seeing both sides of the question and then drawing their own conclusions, on the contrary, fan passion to as high a heat as it can?

THE OTHER'S VIEWPOINT.

This does not mean that there is not a great deal to be said in favour of Japan's standpoint. The American papers themselves have said these things far better and to far greater ultimate effect than have the Japanese press. A recent editorial of the "Brooklyn Eagle," condemning the school boy like behaviour of the Senate, has been widely published and has been received with the most favourable comment. Nevertheless

less, the fact remains true that the Japanese press is generally unable or doesn't want, to see both sides of a question.

Viscount Goto (then Baron), in "Japan Dissected," a book of says of Modern Japan by pro nent Japanese, wrote: "The newspapers don't represent public opinion, but only make a pretence of doing so, and don't really represent anything more than ndividual ignorance, prejudice, sunderstanding, jealousies and very, but public opinion is so itless as to agree with them and to make a show of friend liness and respect towards them, either from fear of their power from motives of self-interest. And their influence becomes greater and greater and the abuses connected with them become worse and worse."

JUNK PASSENGERS DROWNED

Japanese Cruiser Collides With Boatload of Chinese: Many Lives Lost

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Apr. 26.

The Japanese Destroyer-Squadron which left Hankow last week was the cause of unfortunate incident on its down-river trip. Just below Huang Shihk'ang, a big Chinese barge, full of passengers was crossing the river, got in the way of the Japanese cruiser and was sunk. Although it was broad daylight, little or no attempt was made to rescue the passengers and a number were drowned. The incident has aroused no little indignation. A deputation has come up from Wusuch to Wuchang to request Tuchun Hsiao Yao-nan to look into the matter.

All classes are feeling the increased cost of living, and the teachers of the Government schools have petitioned the Provincial Assembly to raise their salaries. The police, too, have threatened to go on strike unless their pay is increased. But the Governor has pacified them by promising a rise to commence on July 1.

POOR PEOPLES' DOLLAR BANK.

In order to enable the poorer classes to save, the Wuchang Chamber of Commerce, in collusion with the Peking Chamber of Commerce, proposes to establish a new bank. It will be known as the People's Savings Bank (Kuo Ming Fu Tsu Yin Hang), and deposits as small as a single dollar will be sufficient to open an account.

CIGARETTE MAKING IN TIENTSIN

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, April 24.

The British Cigarette Company plans to extend its factory sites in the Russian Concession, by acquiring the land now owned by Gallusser & Co., on Nicolai Road The Cigarette Company at present occupies a portion of the property and buildings, which were formerly the old Russian barracks. The land measures a little more than twenty mow and the purchase price is reported to be Tls. 65,000. The Company, whose Shanghai Director, Mr. Morris, is in Tientsin making negotiations, intends to construct modern factory buildings on the new property, in order to cope with its expanding business in North China.

PIRACY IN THE SOUTH

Government Grant to Officers Killed or Wounded

Hongkong, Apr. 26.

In the event of death of officers of ships on the Hongkong Register owing to piratical attacks, the Government will pay a grant equivalent to two years' pay and in the case of disablement an allowance not exceeding one year's wages.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

WUCHANG A CENTRE OF LEARNING

"Universities" Galore: Students' Successful Strike: Violent Spring Storm

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Hup., Apr. 19.

One of the worst storms in recently years visited this locality on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. The wind was so strong that no ferry boat could cross the river. It is said that several houses outside the city wall and on the bank of the river in Hanyang were blown down, and one man was killed by the falling ruins.

At such times, the only means of crossing the river is by finding a boatman sufficiently venturesome to risk his boat and his life in the waves by offering him a sum rather more than the usual for a passage. Not infrequently the boatman, having got his passengers into midstream, tries to take advantage of the situation by refusing to go on until they pay more money than they have already promised. During th's storm, one boatman attempted to play this trick to his cost. Having ferried his bootload nearly over the river, he stopped rowing and began to practise the usual game of extortion. His passengers satisfied his demands; but once having safely reached the bank, they promptly arrested the boatman and marched him off to the police court. It is hoped that an example will be made of him which will somewhat deter his fraternity from abusing their position in the future.

HEADMASTER EXPELLED BY STUDENTS.

Another incident shows that the students are still contriving to get the upper hand in the educational world. Two schoolboys were expelled from the Fu Shoo Chung Hsioh, which is one of the Chinese Middle Schools run in connexion with the Normal University. The reason of their expulsion was that the Headmaster, Mr. Lin, had received letters informing him that the students in question had been expelled from a previous school on account of bad moral character. The students met in their "Self-Governing Society," and immediately declared a strike of all their number. They formulated three demands, which were (1) the dismissal of their Headmaster, (2) recognition of their "Self-Governing Society," and (3) the readmission of the two students who had been expelled. These terms were granted by the Principal of the Normal University, and the students immediately returned to their classes.

THREE NEW UNIVERSITIES.

The Wuchang Foreign Language School has recently proclaimed itself to be a university, changing its name to Wen Ke'oh Ta Hsioh (文科大學) which is equivalent to "Arts University." Wuchang now boasts of three such "universities." Of the other two, one is the Normal University mentioned above, which until last year was known as the "Higher Normal School." The other is the "Chinese University," Chung Hwa Ta Hsioh, which is a private venture of which Mr. Chen Shih is the headmaster.

Students of the first-mentioned institution are showing their acquaintance with up-to-day methods by taking a travel-study-trip at the completion of their course. A number of them have just taken a trip down the Yangtze to Shanghai, visiting various ports to study commercial conditions. Two of them have taken their wives with them.

HUGE FIRES.

There has been so much dry weather lately that fires have not been infrequent. Last night a disastrous fire broke out, owing to the carelessness of some gamblers, on the crowded Ma Loo of Hankow. It raged for six hours, during which a number of wooden houses and shops were burned down, and not a few people were badly injured. Three days ago a fire broke out in a timber yard in Hanyang, and owing to the high wind which was then raging it spread rapidly, involving a large temple and some 30 or 40 houses. Hanyang possessing no fire engine, it was difficult to bring the fire under control; but a Chinese steam launch came to the rescue, and by employing her engine to direct a steam jet contributed something towards subduing the flames. This is reported by the native press.

One of the improvements which Tuchun Hsiao has recently introduced into Wuchang is a fire tower. This is a tall red brick structure which stands in a commanding position on the Serpent Hill. From its summit, watchman by night and day look out over the whole city, and immediately report any fire which is seen to break out. Wuchang does possess a fire engine, and by this means it can be promptly despatched to any spot where it is needed. Serious fires are thus often averted, or prevented from spreading.

OBITUARY

Mr. James Edward Bolton

Tientsin, Apr. 22.

James Edward Bolton, of the Audit Department of the Kailan Mining Administration, Chinwangtao, who died at the Tongshan Hospital, yesterday, of heart trouble, was buried at 2 o'clock this afternoon in the Racecourse Road Cemetery. Mr. Bolton's wife and two children, officials of the Administration and many friends were present at the graveside, on which was laid a large number of beautiful wreaths.

Mr. Bolton came to Tientsin just after the Boxer trouble with the Indian Supply and Transport Corps, to which he was assigned from the 4th Hussars in India. He held the rank of Staff-Sergeant in Tientsin, where he was in charge of the temporary Indian Police force. In 1902 he obtained his discharge and joined the Chinese Engineering & Mining Company, now Kailan, and held positions in Peking, as Agent, Tongshan and Chinwangtao.

The deceased was born in 1877 at Bath, England, and was thus 47 years old at the time of death. He was a Past Master of the Tongshan Lodge and very popular with a large circle of friends in North China. His wife was formerly Miss Stevens, daughter of Mr. W. Stevens, of the K. M. A. mines at Linsi.

The Leader of Tammany Hall

New York, Apr. 25.

The death is announced of Mr. Charles F. Murphy, successor of Richard Croker as leader of Tammany Hall, at the age of 65.

Mr. Murphy began work in a wire works and was later a street car driver. He became leader of the 18th Assembly District, New York, in 1892, and was commissioner of docks and ferries, New York, and Treasurer of the board. In 1902 he was elected chairman of Tammany Denocracy.—Reuter's American Service.

Dr. Stanley Hall

New York, Apr. 26.

The death is announced of Dr. Stanley Hall, the former President of Clark University.—Reuter's American Service.

Baron Ijuin

Tokio, Apr. 26.

The death is announced of Baron Hikokichi Ijuin, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, at the age of 59.

On graduation from the Imperial University in 1890, Baron Ijuin joined the diplomatic service. At the time of the Boxer rising he was Consul at Tientsin and was decorated by the Government and received a grant for distinguished services. He received the 2nd Class of the Order of the Rising Sun in connexion with his services in the Russo-Japanese War.

Baron Ijuin, while Ambassador at Rome, went in 1918 as one of the Japanese delegates to the Peace Conference.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

EXEUNT SOUTHERNERS FROM SZECHUAN

A Bank President Held for Ransom of $1,000,000: Drought Causing Anxiety

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tzeliutsing, Sze., April 12.

The political situation here has been much cleared in the last couple of weeks, twenty to twenty five thousand men moving off toward the south apparently to make sure of the Southern army getting well out of the province, and according to reports this end has been accomplished with but little fighting. During the crowded occupation there was but little looting but a great spirit of relief was evident when the soldiers left. Most of the common soldiers seemed to be Kueichow men and were less mannerly than the average.

It is said the President of the branch of the Bank of China here is being held for $1,000,000 ransom. This involves the Salt Gabelle as this bank handles all its funds. One of the generals is said to be behind this move.

April was ushered in with a heat wave of 80 which fell to 46 three days later, with the result that many caught cold. To-day the thermometer is back to 80 and very dry and most of the public reservoirs are empty and water carriers from the river are reaping their harvest.

BOLD ROBBERY AT NINGPO

Armed Burglars in House of Well-known Chinese Banker

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ningpo, Apr. 26.

The residents in the Foreign Settlement of this City have been startled by the news of a very audacious robbery which took place in the house of Mr. Yee Jen-choen, which is situated near the Bund.

Mr. Yee holds a number of important offices in the commercial world of Ningpo among which may be mentioned the Managership of the Ningpo Commercial Bank and that of the Ningshao Steamship Company.

On the evening of the 24th instant a party of seven robbers wearing various disguises broke into the house after having previously cut the telephone wires. A maid servant who attempted to give the alarm was terrorized into silence with a pistol at her head. The party then broke into Mr. Yee's daughter's room and compelled her to guide them to her father's room which, when they reached they proceeded to enter by smashing down the door. Mr. Yee took opportunity to escape by the back window into his neighbour's house hurting his left leg, however, in his leap to the ground. Mrs. Yee was seized and under threats delivered up the keys of the establishment whereupon the thieves commenced to loot the place. Among the articles stolen are a gold bracelet and gold watch, a diamond ring and other jewellery, many silk garments and many valuable curios and ornaments.

In all the loss is estimated to be about $1,000.

It appears that the local police got information about the affair while the robbers were still ransacking the rooms and gathered round the front of the house but failed to catch the marauders who escaped over the back yard wall. A reward has been offered for the capture or the identification of the guilty persons but up to the present it has not been found possible to trace them.

O.S.K. STEAMER AGROUND

Tokio, Apr. 26.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer, Java Maru, is reported to be aground at Minasejima in the Inland Sea. Two destroyers have been despatched from Kure to help the steamer.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SOUTHERN TROOPS' BOREDOM

Lack of Money Responsible for Lull on all Fronts: Waichow Still Holding Out

From Our Own Correspondent.

Canton, Apr. 23.

During the past week there has been a considerable amount of activity on the East River, although the fighting there does not seem to have been very heavy. The Hunanese troops are in the neighbourhood of Hoyuen and the Yunnanese are advancing on Waichow, which has not yet been captured, but which is believed to be held not very strongly. The trouble with the troops seems to be that they are unwilling to do much serious fighting until they receive some more pay.

Strenuous efforts are being made in Canton to collect money, but much difficulty is being experienced. The new tax on mineral waters is being opposed by the dealers, and a protest has also been entered by the British Consul-General. The latest is that the dealers have offered a contribution of $15,000 per annum, instead of the tax.

Efforts are being made to get the Canton-Kowloon Railway through again, and progress has been made in this direction. The trains can run as far as Cheungmuktau, and repairs are being done on the rest of the line. It is not probable that the express will be started for a considerable time yet, as there is some difficulty over rolling-stock, but it is possible that the slow train to Hongkong will be running again in a week or so. This work on the railway has been made possible by the withdrawal of all Chen Chiung-ming's troops in the vicinity of the line.

NO PIRATES ON CANTON RIVER.

Gen. Li Fuk-lum is continuing his operations against the pirates on the Canton River and has met so far with consider success. It is now claimed that the Canton River is quite safe as far as Whampoa.

Steps are now being taken by the authorities to remove all the troops at present stationed in the city to the outside. They will be stationed for the most part at Yintong, near the White Cloud Mountain. It is proposed to build large matsheds there to accommodate them. This will be a great improvement as it will do away with a good deal of the unfortunate incidents which occur so frequently between soldiers and civilians in Canton.

SHEN HUNG-YING TREACHERY.

It is now fairly certain that Shen Hung-ying, the Kuangsi general who until recently was assisting Wu Pei-fu against Sun Yat-sen, has now surrendered to the latter, who has given him an appointment in Kuangsi. Shen is now operating in that province against Gen. Lu Yung-ting.

BIG FIRE IN TIENTSIN

Tls. 35,000 Worth of Native Cotton Destroyed

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, Apr. 25.

About thirty-five thousand taels worth of native cotton was burned during the heavy gale yesterday at the northwest goods-yard next to the ex-Austrian Concession between the East and Central Stations. Cotton is the extent of 20 thousand bales belonging to native dealers has been stored there for the past few days, having been brought down from interior points. The fire broke out at about 7 p.m. on the lee side of the stacked up bales, and before the ex-Austrian Concession brigade put it out 350 bales were destroyed, and manw more damaged. It is held unfortunate that the fire did not start on the windward side, for, with the force of the wind, the entire 20,000 bales would have been burned.

POST-WAR CHENGTU

City's Rapid Recovery Under Northern Rule: Tramway System Projected

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chêngtu, Sze., Apr. 2

Among the numerous activities of the new administration are New Roads. Gen. Yang Sen was recently present at a large meeting of citizens interested in the Good Roads movement. He spoke for over an hour on the advantages of good communications and promised his hearty co-operation. Chu Tao-kang, who in the early days of the Republic was a temporary Tuchun, was made President of the Movement. Paul King, from Shanghai, brought letters of introduction from Dr. C. T. Wang, and the local committee picked him for the post of General Secretary of the Szechuan Good Roads Branch. Objections were raised quietly because he was not a Szechuanese. Accordingly the next meeting for election of officers was packed with students who were allowed to become members at a 50-cent. rate. Before the meeting the ballot papers, 500 in number, were lost, and 500 more had to be hurriedly printed. At the meeting there were less than 500 people, but over 800 votes came in from somewhere, so the old committee was ousted, and one to suit the old-times was elected.

The influential group appear to be largely drawn from the old Railway Co. that allowed the funds to disappear years ago when some $15,000,000 had been subscribed and paid for the Szechuan Railway that never materialized. So now some of the enthusiastic promoters of the scheme are becoming wary. It is not intended that the "old gang" shall be allowed again to get hold of the funds and prostitute the new movement to their own ends. The Good Roads Movement is too good a proposition to be allowed to go the way of the Railway, and good roads are badly needed in Szechuan, but the "old gang" cannot make them. They have forfeited the confidence of the people.

A company formed some time before are proceeding with the construction of the Chengtu-Kuanhsien road. This will tap a rich agricultural country across the Chêngtu plain, and will connect with the irrigation scheme and mountain resorts at Kuanhsien.

TRAMS ROUND CITY WALLS.

Gen. Yang Sen with his progressive assistants has already outlined a tramway system for Chêngtu. Two lines will cross the centre of the city, connecting with the four main gates and intersecting in the busiest part of the city. To do this streets will have to be widened and many cherished buildings will have to make place for this modern innovation. The tramcars will be a great thing for the city. It is also suggested that the spacious city walls be utilized for a "belt-line." It will cost a mint of money, but will provide employment for an army of men.

Already this progressive General has had the beggars removed to concentration camps, carriers of night soil to must conclude their labours before 9 a.m. overhanging counters on the streets have been removed, as also have been small temples that obstruct thoroughfares. All entrances to public buildings, arcades and street openings have been cleared of vendors. So that already the streets have a clean businesslike appearance and traffic is more easily moved. Now a new road is being built from the Governor's Yamên to the West Gate. Labour employed is soldier labour. This pleases the people, who like to see the soldiers carrying loads of dirt and stones. Under expert supervision they are building a good serviceable road. The chances are there will be more military labour before long. This plan is much safer than disbanding soldiers, as the majority invariably become bandits.

A FLOWER SHOW.

The Annual Flower Show is now in full swing. It did not take place last year owing to the civil war, but as soon as Gen. Yang got [illegible] he issued proclamations that the Fair would be held as outside the city, and that tradesmen carrying goods there would be protected. [illegible] dressed troops parade the Fair each day, business is good, and great crowds are constantly streaming in and out of the South and West Gates to and from the fair. Gen. Yang opened the Fair with an auspicious address urging the farmers and industrialists to use modern methods and machinery in their business.

RETRIBUTION FOR TSINGTAO HARPIES

Unhappy Girls Chained by Debt: Chinese Magistrate's Action to Give Them Freedom

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, Apr. 23.

Barkeepers are struck with consternation by an important ruling given by a police magistrate here yesterday afternoon, for it is certain that questionable activities will have to assume a new aspect from now onwards. A couple of days ago, an inmate of one of these houses of questionable reputation which infest Tsingtao, ran away and presented herself before the authorities, requesting to be removed from the bar to which she was attached. She explained that she was tied down by a debt of $368 and that the barkeeper concerned, in this case a woman, was holding her as a virtual prisoner, using the Chinese laws as a lever. Under the Chinese laws, a debtor could be held and even imprisoned for a debt, no matter how legitimate. Many a barkeeper here has availed himself of this fact and has seen to it that the indebtedness of the respective inmates is not in any way decreased but from time to time increased.

The police gave the woman permission to stay away from the bar overnight on a written guarantee that she would not escape from Tsingtao before the case was settled. In the morning, the barkeeper was sent for and at 10 o'clock the hearing of the case commenced. At four in the afternoon the magistrate gave the following decision:—

"The debt of $368 is to be considered null and void, and defendant is given one month to return the plaintiff to the place from which she came—Harbin. Failure to observe this decision of the Court or any future complaint of a similar character will have a bearing on the continuation of the defendant's licence."

It is to be presumed that the foregoing decision will be a great factor in getting local barkeepers to be a bit more humane in their treatment of the unfortunate inmates of their establishments.

Mr. T. C. Kuo, the Director of General Affairs, in the Kao En-hung Administration is the official responsible for the present campaign to clean up the moral atmosphere here and has the support of the entire foreign community.

SZECHUAN EVER UNEASY

Jealousy of Lui Tsen-hou and Yang Sen: A Public Snub to Wu Pei-fu's Agent

Peking, Apr. 24.

According to Chinese reports General Liu Tsen hou, Tuchun of Szechuan, is calling a conference to which all the military leaders on the side of the Central Government will be summoned, with the exception of General Yang Sen. The object of the conference is to discuss means of rehabilitation. It is believed that some friction exists between Generals Liu and Yang, and that the former is seeking to undermine General Yang. The disorderly conditions prevailing throughout Szechuan provide a plausible reason for the conference. Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING, Apr. 25. Prince Yang Sang of the Hailinger Tribe arrived in Peking yesterday. He will take part in the Mongolian conference to be held this afternoon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPANESE EDITORS' IRRESPONSIBILITY

Best Japanese in Tsingtao Much Pleased With Our Recent Criticism

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, Apr. 23.

Those Japanese here who have read your correspondent's recent article on the irresponsibility of Japanese editors have expressed themselves in agreement with the information passed on to you for publication. It is regretted that a better atmosphere could not be introduced in local journalism. Some Japanese newspapermen have, on the other hand, expressed their resentment, and one has gone so far as to complain to the English Secretary of the local Administration as though he or his Administration could have any control over a foreign journalist. The complaint of these angry newspapermen is that in the article submitted, nothing at all was mentioned as to the identity of the papers concerned. They overlook the important fact that in their personal attacks upon the wife of a prominent local Japanese, they made no mention at all of the name of the lady, although their language was explicit enough to a large section of their readers.

A Japanese business man asked your correspondent not to pay particular attention to any protest of the angry journalists. He pointed out that some time ago one local paper declared in one of its headings that the monthly earning of the Kiao-Tsi Railway was $200,000 and yet in the body of the article itself the total was given as somewhere around $300,000. But the fact of the matter is that the monthly revenue of the Railway is considerably beyond any of these two figures, for the total annual income is about $9,000,000 net. When, my informant continues, he asked the newspaper office concerned for the source of its information, he was promised a reply "as soon as possible." Up till now he has not been informed.

Then, too, when Mr. Major, the British Consul, give a dinner in honour of Mr. Kao En-hung, one paper gave his name as Mr. Richardson, the Commissioner of Customs, who is quite a prominent local figure and is well-known not only to Chinese and foreigners but to the Japanese as well. When informed of his error, the reporter concerned did not take the trouble of furnishing his editor with a correction, or if he did, the latter did not publish it.

It is felt here that on the whole the articles submitted you recently has fairly hit the nail on the head and should stand uncorrected and unwithdrawn.

WHEN MARKS CRASHED

The Problem of Spending Your Money While It Was Still Worth Something

Those of us who sometimes wait a day or two before cashing a tael or Mexican cheque in hopes that the bank exchange rate will improve a cent or two can perhaps appreciate the situation in the recent fall in German money.

When your money is certain to be worthless to-morrow (worthless is about right), and a drop of 50 per cent. overnight is no unusual experience, you will not be inclined to save your money.

From newspaper and magazine accounts of the financial position in Germany, some features of that position were distinctly funny—to one who had no marks on his hands.

When shopkeepers only kept open long enough in the morning to take in the cash necessary for daily living expenses, and shut up shop and refused to sell any more just as soon as they had their daily expenses in hand, the job then became that of ridding themselves of the depreciating marks while they had still nearly the value they had when received. The man who waited too long was out of luck, for there was nowhere to spend his marks, and the rate of the next day would be half or less of to-day's.

In this dilemma there was one hope left—the post office. The postage stamps might be sold, for there are in Germany almost millions of collectors—and the post office did not care if the mark did depreciate: it simply raised the postage rate, and printed stamps of higher denominations.

This will account for the large quantities of unused German stamps that are being offered.

But soon the authorities found that the whole population was buying stamps in excess of its current needs, and spoiled the game entirely by making a ruling that no more stamps would be sold, and that people who wanted to mail letters must pay the postage in cash, the letters being simply marked "postage paid."

POCHOW IN ANHUI VERY DRY

Famine Impending but Opium Growing in Plenty

From Our Own Correspondent.

Pochow, April 25.

I do not mean that all have ceased to make and use that which stimulates from within—much as I could rejoice in such a state—but moisture for the earth has now been lacking, almost entirely since September last! There has been no snow at all and no really good season of rain in these months and, though the wheat crop was fully planted and had fine prospects till the past month, it is now dying in many places and if the rain comes even now, the yield will probably be quite less than half of a good average. Prices have been unusually high for several years and have been raised recently by a good deal per cent., so that there is every prospect for serious shortage of grain next spring. The autumn crops are not yet planted when they should be well up and cultivation begun.

I do not know how extensive this drought is. I do know that it extends as far as Kaifeng and I hear that at Pengpu and below there has been even an excess of rain.

Added to the reduction of the grain prospect, there is in this county a very heavy planting of opium and though orders have come from Anking to destroy it and the official tells me that he has been much in the country about the matter, there is no sign whatever of any of it having really been rooted up. The very tone in which the magistrate tells me of his efforts implies that he is not expecting and probably is not expected by the higher authorities, if there still be such persons, to do any serious damage to the growing crop, especially if heavy squeeze money is forthcoming. But it seems now that what the officials cannot or will not do, perhaps Providence will. The plant should soon be in bloom but it is not at all promising, though I understand that it was heavily fertilized, in some instances yellow beans being ground up and used for such purpose, even at a thousand cash a Chinese bushel!

You can readily see how that all these things will work toward famine conditions and you can also imagine the great zeal of these people-loving officials in offering to the benevolent, but perhaps hated, foreigner a vast opportunity to exercise his charity propensities.

I hear that in our adjoining county, Kuoyang, the official has seen to it that his soldiers have destroyed the weed and has written to Governor Ma, complaining that his neighour here is leaving it all. It seems also certain that on both sides of us in counties in Honan they have made a clean sweep of the weed. I wish to say again if any representative of any foreign power wishes to see the beauty of the blooming poppy he will have to come within the next month.

There is not much talk yet of bandits, but they are sure to start again when this opium is gathered.

THE Commissioner of Foreign Affairs at Ningpo has requested the Shanghai Commissioner to prevent foreigners from visiting Ziangshan, a hill in the vicinity of Ningpo, on account of the activities of the bandits there.

PAKHOI BRITISH CONSULATE CLOSED

House and Grounds in Perfect Condition: Resident's Regret

From Our Own Correspondent.

Pakhoi, Apr. 15.

The British Consul paid his regular visit here recently, and at the end of his stay officially announced the closing of the Pakhoi British Consulate. This step has caused much regret among the British residents of Pakhoi. The house was built in 1886 in a remarkably substantial way, and is in perfect condition, which cannot be said of several others of more recent construction in the neighbourhood.

The motor-road to Limchow is going ahead fast, though it was rumoured recently that it had been abandoned as a bad job. I had occasion to go to Limchow a few days ago, and in one place saw a large gang of men still working away on the road and widening one of the stone bridges. At the same time, a look at the newly made road just outside Pakhoi, would certainly suggest that this work had been abandoned, as it is cut up into deep ruts by the ex-carts crossing and recrossing, and no sort of surface has been laid on it, the turf having merely been removed. In some places where it ran over fields, the original crop sown before the road was made, has sprung up almost as profusely as in the untouched part of the field.

The work of the Salt Administration is still being carried on in the old French Post Office. During the past few days two Inspectors from Peking have been surveying both the work and the buildings belonging to the Administration.

The political situation remains quiet and it is said that many of the robbers holding the roads between Moli and Linushan are being enroled by the military: the road may become safe again in the near future, which is a thing very much to be hoped for.

The hot weather seems to be upon us in earnest now, after a long cool winter.

MUSIC AND DRAMATICS IN TSINANFU

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsinanfu, Sung., Apr. 22.

The foreign community on April 12 enjoyed a performance of "The Mollusc" under the auspices of the Tsinan Literary society. So far as one can tell, this is the first occasion, when in Tsinan amateur dramatics have blossomed out with all the accessories of stage and footlights. As all voted the evening a huge success, one hopes that the Literary Society will give a dramatic evening a regular place on its autumn and spring programme.

On this occasion the Society has been fortunate in securing the help of Mr. B. G. Tours, who, in addition to producing the play, sustained one of the characters of the caste. The other members of the caste were Dr. and Mrs. H. W. S. Wright and Miss Harpham. All acquitted themselves admirably, the pleasure of the audience being considerably augmented by the fact that the caste are all popular and well-known members of the Tsinan community. Mr. Hunter proved an efficient stage manager.

The newly formed Choral Society made its first public appearance on April 13, when at the Sunday English Service it rendered Stainer's "Crucifixion" in the University Chapel. The community gathered in force and much appreciated the rendering. People feel much indebted to Mr. Tours for his work in training and conducting the Society.

ACCORDING to the "Eastern Times" the Peking Cabinet has decided to dispose of the services of 257 secretaries. Apart from these, it is said, a large number of secretaries and advisers to the different ministries will be dismissed in accordance with the retrenchment policy of the present government. We wonder.

WHY A SINGAPORE BASE IS ESSENTIAL

The Empire's Shipping and the Weak Spot in the Long Sea Lanes

The security of British shipping all over the world has always been taken so much for granted that it has ceased to be a cause for wonderment. In the late war the submarine nearly proved the undoing of the British Empire, which was saved by the fact that British brains and ingenuity proved to be bigger than German. With our fleet weakened to an incredible degree, how much more in potential danger do we stand now!

The German Navy being *non est*, it seems most likely that the field of operation in any future war, no matter who the contestants, will not be in the North Sea, and this is evidenced by the British Admiralty's present policy of concentrating the major fleet in the Mediterranean. It is safe to assume that the trade routes from Suez to England would be comparatively undisturbed, for an enemy does not commit depredatory raids in the midst of his opponent's camp. Taking it then for granted that their policy would be to destroy our commerce, one must look in other seas for the weakest spot in our defence.

The Atlantic is safe for there is no base from which an enemy could operate which we could not bottle up with our Home and Mediterranean fleets: I have purposely omitted the North American coast as a possible base, because no power could use it save America and were *they* our enemies the trade routes would naturally not be in operation. The Cape route has its safer alternative in Suez, and should we lose command of Suez, we would have to withdraw from the Mediterranean, thus releasing our ships for the protection of the former route.

THE VULNERABLE POINT.

It is evident then that we must go farther afield and look to the long sea-lanes from Aden to Bombay, to Colombo and Calcutta, the Eastern route thence to Malaya and Hongkong, the south-eastern sailings to Australia, and the whole of the China Sea as the most vulnerable in our defence.

Let us now eliminate the strongest of these, those which are more capable of being immediately and well guarded without moving our fleet too far from its main base. We have naval bases at Aden and Bombay, and a coaling station in Colombo which is but approximately six days steaming from Suez for a light cruiser doing 25 knots or seven days for a battleship doing 20. Thus a light cruiser doing 14 days on patrol with bases at Aden and Colombo will cover the whole of the area from Mauritius northward i.e., that bounded by Lats. 20 South and 20 North and Longs. 50 East and 80 East: and with fuelling stations on the East African coast, the safety of that shore line could be preserved.

Going further east we come to the routes Aden or Colombo to South Australia, though, bearing in mind the experience gained in the late war that the long lonely routes are the most dangerous, the former is hardly likely to be used. Ceylon to Freemantle, 3600 miles from shore to shore, is then the way by which is carried the enormous quantity of wheat and frozen meat which feeds the British Empire. As the weakest part of a rod is the centre, so it will be seen that the most vulnerable point in this long line lies opposite Java and only 900 miles from the coast. Thus an enemy with its base of submarines, destroyers or light cruisers in the East Indies, would be in a strong position to do us harm: we have no base on which to call for protection except Colombo, already in use for the Arabian Sea patrols, and Freemantle, which is 1800 miles away. A nearer and stronger base is essential for the safety of Australian shipping unless the long route *viâ* the Cape is used, which means an additional 1500 miles steaming in seas almost equally fraught with danger.

THE CHINA SEA AND HONGKONG.

The Pacific Ocean is not so important to British trade as it would be to American, and is as difficult to attack as it is to defend; the South Seas should be easily held by the Australian squadron. But in the China Sea we are quite unprotected save by our present Light Cruiser Squadron and Submarine Flotilla stationed at Hongkong. The route to Shanghai lies in narrower waters than have been experienced since leaving Aden, and the coasts infringing these waters contain harbours which would make an ideal headquarters for a hostile force. Responsible for the safety of these routes are five light cruisers who, be it remembered, are equally responsible for the whole of Malaya, and the East Indies, and the submarines who could possible hold the Formosa passage and the Malacca Straits.

It may then be seen that were we threatened in these waters it would be necessary to call on a larger fleet, and had our opponent battleships within steaming radius of, say, Hongkong—that is at a conservative estimate of 5,000 miles there and back—our hold in the East would be in serious jeopardy. This estimate of 5,000 miles places our present main base within striking distance of an enemy stationed anywhere in Japan, North China, New Guinea or Rangoon. Our present fleet might be able to avoid capture, but by their efforts to do so their use in defence is immediately annulled. It is evident then that we must call on our battleships, and this is now impracticable because we have no place to harbour a squadron secure from submarine attack, and no place whatever to dock them in event of damage inflicted by the enemy or for the necessary overhaul during a prolonged war.

THE LESSON OF HISTORY.

It is thus apparent that, omitting the Pacific, in an area from 100 East to 160 East and 10 South to 40 North our trade routes are without sufficient protection and, worse, without the guarantee of immediate and full protection in event of war whether directed against us or between other belligerents. We stand in the Far East unarmed and unable to lift a weapon even in self-defence. Yet we are expected to be leaders in commerce, in development and in foreign policy. We have always done our best to keep the peace among the many bickerings inevitable in a land so heterogeneously populated: in fact, I think one may say, without offence to any other nation, that we have always led, been expected to lead and been respected for our policy in the Far East: as such we are placed in a position of trust which is a debt of honour both to the world and to ourselves.

We stand now by our prestige alone, and prestige is of little use without power to back it. We are unable to oppose even the slightest threat to the most minor point in our Eastern policy. In fact, with more to lose and nothing to gain we stand in a worse position than do the secondary powers of Europe in these parts. Singapore is essential as a main fleet base, as essential for the keeping of the peace and the efficient policing of the seas as it would be vital in time of war; and the pacifist who hopes to keep law and order without control has failed to learn the history of all the ancient past.

THE EASTER SEASON AT NINGPO

From Our Own Correspondent.

Apr. 26.

The only people here affected by the advent of this Christian feast were the missionary organizations and foreign business firms of the city. A number of visitors from Shanghai and other places have passed through the port into the beautiful hinterland, which now perhaps appears at its loveliest.

Though the season has been too late for the brilliant yellow of the rape flower to be seen at its best, yet the Chinese clover is still in full bloom on the plains and the azaleas with their exquisite tints still cover the hills.

Excursions have been fairly numerous and houseboats have been in requisition. The famous temples of Tien Dong and Nyuoh Wong have had their pilgrims, religious and otherwise, and the East Lake has been the resort of many who take a delight in picturesque Nature.

The Ningpo Methodist College utilized the short vacation by arranging a trip to Pootoo which was thoroughly enjoyed. The various temples were visited and all the natural wonders (so many in Poofoo) were explored.

The Riverside Girls' Academy celebrated the season by giving a concert of musical and dramatic items which was well attended by the relatives and friends of the students. Under the able direction of Miss Honey, the music teacher, the pupils showed their proficiency in piano playing and singing. A Chinese version of 'King Lear' was also rendered with great zest and cleverness.

On Easter Sunday a united Communion Service of the Ningpo Missionary Association was held in St. Paul's (English) Church the preacher for the occasion being Archdeacon Moule of Trinity College. The church was beautifully decorated with spring flowers by Mrs. Molony. Altogether about 50 missionaries received the Sacrament at the hands of Bishop Molony and the gathering might with fairness, be described as truly Catholic inasmuch as it embraced members of the Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and other Churches.

According to the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" several M.P.'s have introduced a Bill for the abolition of the civil service examinations.—We do not know of any such examinations; they certainly had not been held since the establishment of the Republic in China.

HUNAN COMING UNDER NORTHERN SWAY

Marshal Wu's Reported Ultimatum to Chao Heng-ti: 10,000 Northern Troops in Province

From Our Own Correspondent.

Siangtan, Hu., Apr. 16.

Rumour is rife that the present government at Changsha will overthrow the constitution of the Province and declare full allegiance to the North or be prepared to fight. The Northern leaders have evidently sent an ultimatum to Governor Chao Heng-ti. He must, it seems, leave, become the Governor legally appointed by the Government, or take up another post to which he may be appointed. Rumour has it that Mr. Chao has resigned, but that his resignation has not been accepted. It is reported that there are over 10,000 Northern soldiers in the Province, and that Ma Chi is still at Changsha.

EVERYBODY AFRAID OF THE SOLDIERS.

Reports of banditry in the country are more and more numerous. Soldiers in the city have been making themselves especially obnoxious recently. They have turned up wholesale to the Presbyterian Church Community Guild weekly cinema, demanding admission without money or tickets. Admission has now been refused to them, without a special half price ticket. One night recently a few of them deliberately came intending to make trouble for they had taken off their numbers and tickets, and demanded admission. When it was denied, they broke down the door, but left expecting to return. One of the Guild secretaries followed at a distance in the dark hoping to see where they belonged. He was recognized and stabbed with a knife. Fortunately the wound was not deep, having hit a rib and slanted upward causing a surface wound that bled profusely but was not dangerous. The case has been taken up with the authorities here, but little has been done or seemingly can be done, for the officials themselves are afraid of their own men.

COAL FAMINE.

Fuel has been at a premium here for more than a month.

Soldiers looking about for another place to make a little money have been going up the river commandeering coal boats, giving in return only a small fraction of the worth of the coal and in many cases selling the coal at the market rate, thereby making a good profit. Of course, when the boatmen up river heard of this they refused to come down with their coal, with the result that prices have gone untwofold compared with those usually prevailing at this hime of the year. As there has been little coal coming in, almost a coal famine has resulted. The Chamber of Commerce met and asked the military authorities to help solve the difficulty. The Chamber even promised to buy coal for the soldiers, if they would promise to stop further commandeering of coal on the river. The situation however, is now considerably improved. With the high water more coal is coming in.

Small steam launches owned by the Chinese are having a difficult time to make ends meet, because of course, the soldiers travel a great deal and never pay for their passage. With high-priced coal, increased expenditure, decreased travel and income from non-paying soldiers seem to be driving many of these boats of the run. Japanese boats are, however making good incomes again and there are rumours that an American registered fleet of launches is to be started soon.

The Rev. Mr. Ibbottson, of the C.M.S., here, who has been attending a Conference of his Church at Hongkong and has just returned. Dr. and Mrs. Tooker now of Kuling, have been here recently packing their household effects to take them to Kuling where they are to live permanently.

AMERICA A LAND OF MATERIALISM

Sir Rabindranath Tagore on the True Spirit of Eastern Civilization

Peking, Apr. 25.

Sir Francis Aglen presided at a luncheon of the Anglo-American Association to-day, when Sir Rabindranath Tagore was the guest of honour. Dr. Schurman, who is personally acquainted with Sir Rabindranath, delivered a speech welcoming the poet, after which he said that the Association was a sort of unofficial organ of the English-speaking family of Peking.

"While we cherish just pride in the civilization which our peoples have developed in their homes in the four continents," Dr. Schurman declared, "we are aware that, measured by the standard of the perfect ideal, it abounds in imperfections and superficialities and even in injustices and inhumanities. Practical and utilitarian our peoples indeed are, but the depths of their nature is a hidden fountain of idealism. This is the ultimate source of their highest achievements. No one could convince us in the English language that we are wholly given up to materialism and things of sense, which perish in using, for the speech he used would return him. Yet the West had much to learn from the East.

Dr. Schurman compared Chinese civilization with that of Ancient Greece. Different peoples, he said, develop their own characteristic civilizations and all nations contribute their quota. Above all nations is humanity.

Sir Rabindranath Tagore, who was warmly greeted, selected as a topic the Bengal educational institute bearing the Sanscrit name *"Visve Bharati."* His eloquent discourse was really a plea for idealism instead of nationalism which meant materialism. He referred to his early education and yearnings to see and understand the civilizations which had developed abroad. He spoke of his visits to England, Japan and America, where he had studied national and domestic life. He said that in England he found the chivalrous spirit of humanity almost more than in any other country. He was dismayed at the nationalism among the younger Japanese, which almost amounted to barbarism. He condemand Japanese inhospitable exclusivism, but among older Japanese he had found the true spirit of Eastern civilization. Sir Rabindranath spoke of the materialism of America and their disregard of the views of others, which, he thought, must have ill effects. After the war he again visited Europe where he was received with the utmost cordiality. His experiences there created the belief that Europe was not satisfied with its former materialism and wanted something better, which might come from India.

The attendance at the luncheon was very large and many were unable to obtain seats.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

YANG SEN'S COMMAND IN SZECHUAN

Proposed Removal from Military to Civil Control

Peking, Apr. 25.

Gen. Liu Tsung-hou has apparently thought of a simple plan to remove Gen. Yang Sen from his military command in Szechuan, for he has telegraphed to Marshal Wu Pei-fu suggesting that Gen. Yang should be appointed Civil Governor of that province. Marshal Wu has referred the matter to the Central Government, which is taken as an indication that Marshal Wu wishes to place the responsibility for decision on the Government.

Meanwhile, Gen. Chen Kuo-tung, a follower of Gen. Yang Sen, is on the way to Peking to report conditions in Szechuan according to the views of his Chief.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEN PICTURES OF AUSTRALIA

A Country of Vast Contrasts and Opportunities: Much Wealth: More Coming

The effects of the post war slump in trade are not felt so heavily in Australia as they are in this country.

Large fortunes have been and are still being made by the sale of land around the cities. Blocks of land suitable for dwelling houses and shops are eagerly snapped up by the small investor with a few hundred pounds capital to spare. Money is then lent by the banks for building purposes, or the land is left bare, then resold after an interval of from two to three years at a from 10 per cent. to 50 per cent. profit.

It speaks well for the internal prosperity of the country that a large proportion of the artisans and small shopkeepers own blocks of land and often the houses in which they live are their own property.

THE LABOUR HIGH WAGE.

Building and kindred trades are in a very flourishing condition, there is a great shortage of houses, and skilled workmen, such as brick-layers, plasterers, carpenters, etc., are scarce, the result being that these trades are able to command very high wages. sums of from £6 to £8 per week are usually paid for even a moderately good craftsman. The minimum wage for unskilled labour is from £3.10 to £4 per week. Even now the workers are not satisfied and are still demanding more money and fewer working hours from their employers. Ultimately, these employers will be unwilling or unable to comply with these demands and a long and serious period of industrial dispute will be the result.

Australia, like China, is a country of vast distances; for instance it takes five days of continuous travelling in a train to go from end to end of the continent, *i.e.* from Melbourne to Perth, consequently it follows that different climatic conditions prevail in the various cities.

CHOOSE YOUR CLIMATE.

According to general opinion, the climate of Adelaide, in South Australia, agrees with most people; it is warm in winter and the summer session is not too hot. Perth, in Western Australia, is hot and very dry, it suffers periodically from severe droughts, and has the great disadvantage of frequent dust storms in the summer.

On the contrary the climate of Melbourne (Victoria) closely resembles that of England, cold and wet, with a short comparatively mild hot season. A summer spent in Sydney is ideal, while the winter is rather cold, whereas in Brisbane, being further north in Queensland, semi-tropical conditions prevail. Very few Australians care to go there. In these tropical northern states black labour is a very vexed question. The slogan "A White Australia" is very prominent just at present; everyone will agree that where the climate is suitable and work is plentiful employment should be given to its white people in preference to black; on the other hand, very few Europeans will work on the plantations in Queensland, consequently the sugar and pineapples are left to rot in the sun because there is nobody to cut and gather them.

IMPORTED LABOUR.

The original natives of Australia, the aborginals as they are called, are practically extinct, they are rapidly degenerating and dying out, the words "black labour" in this case meaning imported labour from Africa, China and other places.

The land in the different states is suitable for all kinds of grass, cereals, fruit and vegetables. Large crops and rich harvests are obtained. Of course care must be taken that the different things sown are suitable for the climate, *e.g.*, tropical fruits like the pineapples will not grow in the cold southern state of Victoria, whereas the large quantities of grapes, peaches, etc., we get from the Mildura district could not be grown in Queensland.

THE CHINA TRADE.

Manufacturers and exporters in China are slowly awakening to the value of Australia as a market for the disposal of their goods. Unfortunately, the Chinese export duty, and the import duty on foreign goods at Australia are so high that the two combined seem effectively to kill any trade which might ensue between these two vast continents. It is a fact that there is an entire absence of Chinese goods for sale in any of the large retail shops in Sydney or Melbourne. Perhaps this could be remedied later on as it would bring increased prosperity and trade to both continents.

The people in Australia are extremely goodhearted and generous; they welcome the stranger, if he be a man and has grit, with open arms; no difficulty is experienced by the stranger and traveller in entering into the social life of the city if he be so inclined.

At present it is a young country, it has made mistakes and mistakes are still being made, it has not yet had time fully to develop, the change and improvements within the last few years have been little short of miracles. Let us hope that in the Australia of the future the "dream country" of our idealists and social reformers will be realized; a country where everyone is happy, where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary at at rest.

DISASTROUS FIRE IN SEOUL

Many Government Buildings Destroyed: Incendiarism Suspected

Seoul, Apr. 28.

A serious fire broke out to-night at 10-40, destroying a number of Government and other buildings. Troops were called out to help the firemen. Incendiarism is suspected, but the cause of the fire has not been ascertained.

It appears to have originated from the Chosen Printing Company's premises, and under a strong wind spread to buildings belonging to the Civil Engineering Department, the Land Surveying Bureau, the Tobacco Monopoly Bureau, the Railway Department and the Department of Justice. The Governor-General's office in the old Korean Palace is safe. The total damage is estimated at Y.1,000,000.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

NORTH KIANGSU FEARING A FAMINE

From Our Own Correspondent.

Suchien, N. Ku., Apr. 22.

The country is dry and the short wheat turning yellow: nothing but blue skies above us and scorching winds. For the last week nothing has broken the stillness but the sound of the drums of the "rain processions." The farmers cannot plant either beans or maize and look forward with fear and trembling to a famine year.

MONGOLIA AND EASTERN TIBET

Dalai Lama's Power Weakening

Peking, Apr. 29.

The Panchan Lama is now in Kansu *en route* to Urga and the Government have instructed the Tuh of Kansu to persuade him to come to Peking instead of going on to Urga. It appears that friction arose between Dalai and Panchan Lamas before the latter left Tibet and it is believed that he hopes to make an agreement with the Hutukhtu whereby the peoples of Mongolia and Eastern Tibet unite, thus weakening the power of the Dalai Lama.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The American Consulate-General would be glad to receive any information as to the present whereabouts of Mr Fred H. Harries, who is thought to have been resident in Shanghai.

M. D'OISY'S WORLD FLIGHT

Daring Frenchman Improving on an Early Flying Record: Description of Machine

"History repeats itself" is a good old stock phrase justified by the fact that it is often true. People who are a few years past their first quarter century can recount recollections of the early days of successful flying and there will be one outstanding incident in their minds. A big money prize had been offered for the first non-stop flight across the English Channel, for which many tried and failed. Another competitor came along and made preparations on a vast scale, so that half the civilized world was talking about him, and strangely enough no one seemed to be disappointed when every day for several weeks he had another excuse to offer for not making the flight. Then, early one morning, he was hurriedly pulled from his bed just in time to see a tiny speck well over the Channel. Unknown and unheralded, and without any preparations, M. Bleriot had come along and crossed at his first attempt.

It appears not unlikely that just such another feat, only on a vastly bigger scale, is to be performed by M. Peltier d'Oisy. Whilst the cables daily were giving long accounts of the preparations made to enable various groups of aviators to fly round the world, suddenly came a message to the effect that M. d'Oisy, hitherto unknown to the world at large, at short notice and without any preparations, had started off on a similar journey. We are indebted to M. Pierre Sennet for the following details regarding M. d'Oisy's machine:—

BREGUET SESQUIPLANE.

The Breguet XIX type sesquiplane, a two-seater of metal construction with tractor airscrew, was adopted by the French government as soon as it appeared, showing its great value. It may be fitted with a Renault 450 h.p. engine or with a Lorraine Dietrich 370 or 450 h.p. engine. It may be also arranged as a long range reconnaissance machine or as a bombing or fighting machine. Its leading features are as follows, according to the uses for which it is intended:—

1.—As a reconnaissance or bombing machine:—

Lifting surface	46m.
Weight of machine empty	1,180 kg.
Commercial load	450
Weight of fuel	350
Weight, total	2,080

2.—As a two-seater fighting machine (the type adopted by M. Peltier d'Oisy):—

Lifting surface	40m.
Weight of machine empty	1,100kg.
Commercial load	390
Weight of fuel	260
Weight, total	1,750

The following official results were obtained by the reconnaissance or bombing machine:—

Speed at ground level	228 km.
at 1000m.	228
2500	231
3500	226
4500	218
5500	208
6000	196

Time of climb:—

to 1000m.	3 min. 40-sec.
2500	9-min. 30-sec.
3500	11-min.
4500	19-min. 10-sec
5500	29-min. 05-sec.
6000	39-min.

1,250 Miles Non-Stop Flight

Paris, Apr. 25.

In a spectacular flight the famous French ace, Lieut. D'Oisy, who totally without preparation set out with the object of flying to the farthest European capital possible without alighting, reached Bukharest, covering 1,250 miles in 11 hours under bad atmospheric conditions. He is now continuing his flight to Tokio.

Apr. 26.

Lieutenant D'Oisy has reached Aleppo *en route* to Tokio. He covered the 940 miles from Bukharest to Aleppo in eight hours. He traversed the Taurus Mountains at an altitude of over 10,000 feet.

Apr. 27.

A despatch from Aleppo says that the airman, Lieutenant D'Oisy, has left for Basra.—Reuter.

Paris, Apr. 27.

The French airman, Lieutenant d'Oisy, arrived in Bassora yesterday evening and left to-day on his way to Karachi.—Reuter.

ARRIVAL AT BUNDER ABBAS.

Bagdad, Apr. 28.

Lieut. d'Oisy is accompanied by Sergeant Vesin. He is flying a Breguet aeroplane and is bound for French Indo-China for instructional work. He hopes to arrive at his destination in eight days.

The machine is not an amphibian, but the Frenchmen intend to keep close to the coastline, taking the risk of a forced landing on the coast between Basra and Karachi.—Reuter.

Karachi, Apr. 28.

Lieut. d'Oisy to-day descended at Bushire to deliver an official letter to the French Air Mission. He ascended again and has reached Bunder Abbas.

Later.

The Aeronautical Department has officially confirmed that Lieutenant d'Oisy is going to Japan. He will change his motor at Saigon and will thence fly to Nagasaki *viâ* Hanoi.

It is rumoured that after his flight to Japan Lieutenant d'Oisy will make an attempt to compete with the British and Americans in encircling the world.—Reuter.

Bombay, Apr. 29.

Lieut. d'Oisy left Bunder Abbas for Karachi this morning.—Reuter.

Europe to India in 38½ Hours

Paris, Apr. 29.

It transpires from the statement issued by the Aeronautical Department that Lieut. d'Oisy's flight is the result of lengthy and advanced preparations. It was originally hoped to organize a world tour. This was abandoned on the ground of expense. It was decided last year that Lieut. d'Oisy should attempt to link up France with Indo-China, continuing his flight to Tokio after his machine had been overhauled at Hanoi. The French Ministry obtained the authorisation of foreign countries to fly over their territory. Britain, Siam, and Japan consented to allow the airman to land at their aerodromes and take on fuel. The United States placed stores along the route of the American world flight at his disposal.—Reuter.

Karachi, Apr. 30.

Lieut. D'Oisy arrived this afternoon. He has created a record for a flight from Europe to India, his time being 38½ actual flying hours.

If the inspection of the machine at Hanoi is satisfactory, Lieut. d'Oisy will proceed to Tokio, *via* Canton, Shanghai, Peking and Haiju.—Reuter.

Peking, Apr. 27.

The Chinese Air Department has requested the military and police authorities to attend a meeting to discuss measures of co-operation with the provinces for welcoming the world flight parties now on their way to the Far East.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Lisbon-Macao Air Flight

London, Apr. 30.

The Portugese airmen, who are flying to Macao, have arrived at Bushire.—Reuter.

THE YIHYANG MARU CAPTIVES

Peking, Apr. 29.

The Japanese Consul at Chungking received on April 19 a letter from the Japanese captives saying that they have reached Tunghsichang on the Kueichow border, about 60 *li* due south of Chungking, where they will remain for some time. The Consul, therefore, will make another effort to hand over the ransom.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The Chinese Government Aeronautic Bureau at Peking is making arrangements for the arrival of the French flyers, about whom the Government has been notified. It is hoped that they will make use of the Nanyuan flying field in their visit there.

TIENTSIN'S PLAGUE SPOT

Purification of a Local Yang King Pang to Be Commenced Shortly

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, Apr. 21.

The Weitze Creek menace will shortly disappear when operations are begun on the new lock scheme agreed to by the Chinese and foreign authorities of Tientsin as a solution of the existing difficulties.

This tidal waterway, which has a very strong resemblance to the once notorious Yang King Pang, at Shanghai, runs diagonally from behind the Chinese city, in a southerly direction, through the Japanese, French, British and ex-German Concessions. It follows the line of the Mud Wall built for defensive purposes around Tientsin by Sankolinsin in 1859, known as "Sankolinsin's Folly." For many years it provided for small native boats a water communication with the extra-mural districts and at the same time a convenient channel for carrying away flood waters. To prevent it becoming empty at ebb tides in the Hai-ho it is controlled by a lock gate at its mouth at the ex-German Concession Bund.

PUMPING PLANT INSTALLED.

Following the record 1917 flood, it was decided to improve the canal to cope with flood and effluent waters, and, the Flood Relief Bureau declining to act, the British, French, Japanese and ex-German Concession authorities in 1918 entered upon a scheme whereby part of the Concession areas would be drained into the creek. The plan called for a pumping installation, which finally cost Tls. 160,000 in order to empty and flush the creek every day. The plant is capable of discharging 10,000,000 gallons of water in three hours. In 1920, after some correspondence, the Civil Governor gave control of the scheme to a body composed of representatives from each of the four Concession areas. It was necessary, in pumping out the creek, to instal another lock beyond the four Concessions, to keep out water from adjacent ponds and creeks which found its way into the Weitze Creek. The location of this lock created difficulties with the native population living behind the Chinese city. They felt they were being cheated of an outlet for their drainage and dug a channel around the upper lock, again linking up the creek with the principal canal, the Palitai. They also made representations to the Chinese Provincial Government and a deadlock eventually resulted over the control of the locks.

NEW LOCK TO BE BUILT.

The objections Chinese of the to cutting off their drainage were well grounded and have been sustained in the new arrangement between the Consular bodies of the interested Concessions and the Provincial Government. The upper lock will be abandoned and another lock placed several hundred yards beyond, at a point where the drainage canal of the Nankai district behind the native city enters the Weitze Creek. In return for this facility the Chinese will agree to cut off the Palitai canal, which runs away in a westerly direction over the plain and does not affect effluent drainage. It has another outlet to the Hai-ho by a circuitous creek that runs well to the south of the Concessions.

The additional expenses have been satisfactorily apportioned among the five areas drained.

The Weitze Creek had already become a menace to the foreign Concessions. Its odours at low tide were offensive and the decaying vegetable and other matter a source of disease. This will shortly be removed and Tientsin will have, thereby, accomplished another appreciable step forward.

Marshal Wu Pei-fu has telegraphed to President Tsao Kun urging him to take steps to prevent Mr. Sun Pao-chi, the Premier, from going abroad on an "investigation" tour.—"*Shunpao*"

DROUGHT AND SHANSI'S WATER SUPPLY

Vital Matter which is Forgotten by Officials of the "Model Province"

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kiangchow, Sha., Apr. 24.

Once again the drought is causing anxiety. The time for sowing cotton and other crops is passing, but the needed rain does not come. Instead there have been winds and sandstorms.

The water supply of this and several other surrounding cities is far from satisfactory, but does not seem to greatly concern the people.

In view of the many reforms which have been advocated, it seems strange that such matters as water and sanitation have not come to the front as municipal activities in which the "Model Province" might take a lead.

In ordinary Shansi cities wells are private property, and water carriers are under no public control. There is therefore no authority responsible for the purity of the water, nor the regularity of supply, In recent years many new wells have been sunk in towns and villages all over the country and many native methods tried, but very rarely can good water be obtained. The fresh water wells are quite inadequate for the population in this and many other cities that might be named. Artesian wells are needed badly. Every now and then some one is reported to be getting a real "foreign well," but it turns out to be some penny wise-and-pound-foolish scheme of some incompetent labourer who having perhaps worked for foreign engineers imagines that he can with native methods secure the same results as the "barbarian."

This city awaits the coming of it's new official. We understand that information was sent to the Capital that a too progressive official of the "New China" order would not be welcome in this district. Every city has a distinctive type of governor, as the Chinese shop keepers very well know.

Recently the local Chamber of Commerce, I am told, was reminded that the shops here were behind others in displaying toys and fancy nick nacks, useless and expensive articles such as are usually sold in bazaars, or at night near railway centres. Our shopkeepers have for generations preferred to deal in large quantities of regular stock lines and have thus to be prodded on to speculate in the endless odds and ends and "spurious imitations" which seem so popular among that section of Young China who consider such goods needful adjuncts of the "Renaissance."

BRITISH WORLD FLIGHT

Canadian Trawler's Stormy Voyage Preparing Arctic Bases

Tokio, May 1.

Writing from Paramuchiru Island on April 30, a correspondent of the Kokusai News Agency says:

"Following a two months' adventurous voyage in the turbulent Arctic Seas establishing bases for the British world-flyers, the Canadian trawler, Thiepval, arrived here this morning. She expects to continue to the south along the Kurile Islands as soon as permission is received from Tokio to allow calls to be made at places other than Kashiwabara Bay and Hitokappuwu, which are the only places at present permitted. Two Japanese liaison officers boarded the Thiepval and they will remain with her while in Japanese waters.

"Colonel Broome in a statement said that there were well established bases at Petropavlosk and East Kamchatka, Bering Island, Attu and other places along the Aleutian Islands. The jumps were much shorter than those of the American world-flyers. Ten days' provisions, fuel and spare parts were located along the line. The weather experienced was extremely disagreeable during the entire trip, which commenced on March 1 Colonel Broome was not overly optimistic with regard to the trans-Pacific leg of the flight on account of the bad weather. He intimated that the American world-flyers might not arrive from the Aleutian Islands for a considerable time. Colonel Broome expected the British flyers to arrive in Tokio in the middle of June. He declared that he intended to fly with them as far as Vancouver on account of his knowledge of the weather conditions. The bases did not discount the perilousness of the attempt at any time. Colonel Broome said that nothing had been left undone to insure the success of the flight though it was a long odds gamble at best.

"The weather here has cleared up slightly but it is still unfavourable."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

VISIT OF TAGORE TO TSINAN

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsinanfu, Sung., April 22.

Sir Rabindrath Tagore's visit to Tsinan to-day has greatly stirred educational circles. He has broken his journey to Peking and stayed off a day to speak in the Provincial Assembly. Such a large crowd assembled that the visitor had to leave the hall of the Assembly and give his address in the open air. Some three thousand students and others assembled for this meeting when the distinguished guest spoke on "Materialism and the Spiritual Life."

Sir Rabindrath Tagore and his party, in spite of the shortage of time, kindly accepted an invitation to visit the Shantung Christian University, and at five o'clock the staff and students listened to a delightful address by the poet on his school and the ideals that animated him in founding it and deve'oping it. In simple, dignified and beautifully phrased English he painted an inspiring and attractive picture of the institution, where he has put into practice his ideals of freedom and beauty and the spiritual life. He made his audience wish to see his school in working, and convinced all that he is thereby making a much-needed contribution to the cause of education. It is greatly to be hoped that Sir Rabindrath Tagore can pay a further visit to Tsinan before he returns to India. Peking is very happy in the prospect of listening to such a teacher.

LABOUR TROUBLES IN THE PHILIPPINES

Competition Between Japanese and Native Artisans Causing Trouble

Manila, Apr. 15,

Race prejudice arising from competition between Japanese and Filipino labourers, artisans and chauffeurs, in the province of Davao may result in serious trouble, according to a report just made by Mr. H. Cruz, director of the bureau of labour, to the secretary of commerce and communications.

The trait of "protectionism," practised by the Japanese nationals, Director Cruz declared, is largely responsible for the threatened trouble, as in virtually every industrial activity in Davao, of which a great portion, is in the hands of the Japanese, the Japanese labourers are given preference over Filipinos. Nearly one half of the Japanese in the Philippine Islands live in the province of Davao at present and as recently as three years ago some 12,000 Japanese were residents of that province, most of them being employed on hemp plantations. When the price of hemp dropped about three years ago many of the Japanese returned to their native land, leaving approximately 4,000 there at present.

Among other complaints received from Davao was one from th chauffeurs' union of the city of Davao, which alleged that Japanese residents refuse to use automobilies driven by Filipinos, but wait for cars driven by Japanese.

With the complaint of the chauffeurs came a recommendation that the law be changed definitely limiting the issuance of licences to Filipinos and Americans only.

Director Cruz has laid the complaints before Governor-General Wood with his own comment regarding the racial feeling existing in Davao.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

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SHANGHAI NEWS

M. WILDEN AND ADM. WASHINGTON

Luncheon Given in their Honour by American Legion Post in Shanghai

At the American Legion tiffin (Frederick Ward Post) held at the Parisien Hotel last Friday, M. Wilden, Consul-General for France, and Admiral Washington sat with Mr. Gardner Crane, Commander, as guests of honour. Among the other specially invited guests were Mr. Edwin S. Cunningham, U. S. Consul-General, Judge Purdy, and Mr. Stirling Fessenden, Chairman of the Municipal Council, and Messrs. Le Bris, Meyrier, M. Grosbois, Fiori, and Legendre. With the conclusion of the meal, which was attended by nearly 150 gentlemen, Mr. Crane introduced M. Wilden, who spoke in a light and pleasing manner about his early associations with the American people, being intimatley related through marriage.

Continuing, the speaker, dwelt on the siege of Peking and the Boxer uprisings and how he felt at that time the care-free and nonchalant, but highly efficient way, in which the American Marines participated along with the soldiers of the other allies, to which must be added the marvellous shooting of which they were capable, but the most remarkable of all was the extremely nimble manner in which the negro cook could find pig and chicken in the country already well combed over for fresh meat.

Turning to the modern war era, he regretted that he had been detailed to service in China before the Americans reached France in 1917, though he, as did every other French man woman and child, felt that with America active with them, the ultimate end was certain.

"It was with his regiment that Allan Seager fought for France—the young American poet, whose death was an irreparable loss, not only to his country but to France and to all humanity.

This is what a witness says—While attacking the enemy trenches his squad (Seager's) was enfiladed by machine gun fire (six guns). Alan went down, mortally wounded, but he cheered the others on and as we left him behind we heard him singing a marching song in English. (This was on July 4, 1916).

THE TRUE FRENCH FEELING.

When M. Poincaré last winter asked your government to allow leading Americans to take a part in the work of the Experts' Committee, he knew what he did. The name of Gen. Dawes will be revered and respected in France just as are the names of Wilson and Pershing.

Then more recently when the franc went 120 to the £ and 26 to the American dollar, the situation was so serious that it could be compared to the worst times of the war. Then the morning papers of March 17 announced that leading American banks headed by Morgan had opened a credit of G.$100,000,000—France was saved.

There are things and deeds that one cannot forget and I entreat you not to believe the people who tell you that we are ungrateful. Look at the Argonne and the huge cemetery, how the women of the neighbourhood placed wreathes on them—not one of them knew the men whose bodies were buried there, but each knew she had to replace the American mothers, far away—This is the true representation of the French feeling toward America.

THE U. S. NAVY IN CHINA

Admiral Washington, commanding the Asiatic Fleet, made a strong plea for the active support of the civilian population of China for cooperation in securing more ships for the China service. It was up to the American business man in China to demand strenuous efforts of the legislators of his own district at Home for what was most urgent they could maintain the prestige of the flag and the pre-eminent position of their commerce. Admitting that it seemed probable that six shallow draught gunboats, at the most, might be procured through the present Congress, he insisted that these ships were not for war but for peace, they would not be worth a snap of the fingers in an engagement with a first class power. In addition to these vessels for China river work, the Navy urgently required at least 40 light cruisers to act as the eyes of the battle fleet, if the American Fleet was to keep the proper ratio with the other signatories of the Arms Limitations Treaty, ie., 5-3.

Referring to the War, the speaker stated that in the opinion of most military men, himself included, it would have been much better for the world as a whole if the Armistice had not come just at the time when it did, but the Germans had so completly fooled the Allied commanders including Marshal Foch, himself, that the break came before they had prepared for it diplomatically.

CONTEMPT FOR SUBMARINES.

Dropping into an easy conversational tone, the Admiral spoke as to the proper manner of keeping up the morale of the men, by allowing them to grow confident, and cited an incident in the North Sea, after which one man stated with reference to submarines that he would just get his rifle when the next one appeared. It was about 2.15 p.m. when off Bergen (in the track of the German subs) that a torpedo was sighted off the port bow. He ordered the ship's helm over and paralleled the missile, it passing 200 yd. to the side. Just then the lookout reported another on the port quarter and the same manœuvre was repeated and the ship cleared again by 250 yd. Another submarine with two tubes sighted directly at them, fired after submerging, and the battleship was saved because the Germans had evidently deflected their range too much and the torpedoes passed below. He could barely make out faint bubbles of another, the last one, astern when it was reported and could not make out the direction of its flight, so full speed ahead was the only hope of safety. It was estimated that this torpedo passed 90 ft. below, after which it rose 150 yd. off to one side and spun round until it ran itself down. When the men saw that they had avoided three submarines and five torpedoes within 20 minutes their confidence naturally increased, while the German inactivity broke their own morale.

NEW MONEY

Peking's Reported Arrangement with a Shanghai Bank

According to news received from Peking, says the "*Mingkuopao*," a Chinese bank in Shanghai which is connected with the Peking Government is arranging to put into circulation here $15,000,000 new bank-notes through the medium of native banks and exchange shops. These latter will be required to pay 50 per cent. of the face value of the notes the balance being payable by debenture bonds. Thus they will make a handsome profit and Peking will get [illegible] The share holders and principal trustees of the bank, says the newspaper quoted, are of the opinion that the undertaking will cause the people to suspect that the bank is rendering financial assistance to the Peking Government, and this would affect the business of the bank. Therefore, they desire to have the matter carefully reconsidered. It is reported, however, that the bank already has completed its arrangements with native bankers. "We hope," is the concluding comment, that that native bankers will not, for the sake of comparatively small profit, pursue a course which will tend to prolong internal troubles."

Mr. R. Wood, assistant editor of the North China Daily News," left Shanghai on Sunday by the C. N. S. Sinkiang for HongKong, *en route* for Scotland on leave.

RIOT IN NORTH SZECHUEN ROAD

Misguided Agitators' Absurd Claim Over Widening Plan: Police Called out

The hysterical outbursts against imaginary infringements of China's sovereign rights, on the part of Chapei Street Unions, came to a head on Thursday, when a squad of 40 to 50 police, European, Sikhs, Chinese and Japanese, were called out to North Szechuen Road Extension post-haste to deal with an ugly mob of loafers and agitators, some 400 strong, who were threatening to attack workmen employed by Messrs. Brandt & Rodgers in pulling down a number of houses for the purpose of widening the road to Kiangwan. Some rioting followed, the police were showered with bricks and a free fight occurred on the roofs of the houses concerned between the mob and the workmen.

The history of the outbreak is as follows. Some time ago Messrs. Brandt & Rodgers decided to pull down some houses on their property on the left hand side of North Szechuen Road, a short distance past Jukong Road. The property is registered at the British Consulate, and when the Municipal Council heard of it, they realized that an opportunity had arrived for them to proceed with the scheme for widening and straightening the road to Kiangwan. Accordingly they purchased the strip of land alongside the road on which Messrs. Brandt and Rodgers's houses were, with the intention to pull them down and use the space for widening the road. News of this leaked out, and meetings of various street unions in the vicinity were held, in which many foolish and inflammatory things were said. There was a good deal of talk about China's sovereign rights and resolutions were passed urging the people in Chapei to protest, forcefully if necessary.

TENANTS INTIMIDATED.

The result was that a large number of bad characters and people of the slum classes foregathered at about nine o'clock on Thursday morning, to await the arrival of the workmen and prevent them from doing anything. The tenants of the houses, meanwhile, had been intimidated by emissaries of the trouble-makers and all sorts—of threats were made against them if they consented to leave their houses. Consequently, when the workmen arrived, they were met by opposition from the people in the houses and the mob outside.

Previous to this, the Settlement police had received warning of the impending trouble and a small squad of four European police, two Chinese and two Japanese was sent to watch developments. They were to have been met by a squad of Chinese police, under the Chinese authorities, who were to have remanned with the Settlement Police and assisted them in case trouble did arise. The Chinese police failed, for as soon as they saw how many S.M.P. men there were, they went away again and were not seen any more. The crowd became very menacing and reinforcements from headquarters were sent for. A squad of 35 Sikhs, armed with rifles and bayonets, proceeded to the spot, and had not been there long when trouble did break out. Some of the crowd had stolen [illegible] to the roof of the houses and uprooted the roofs, where they attacked the workmen. A short and sharp struggle ensued on the house tops, in which the workmen were assisted by the police and succeeded in removing the trespassers. The next thing that happened was a good deal of noise and a shower of bricks from the street. The police chased the crowd around and the foreign inspectors drew the Sikhs up as the "reads" to frighten the would be rioters. This action had the desired effect and the crowd was quiet for the rest of the day. The workmen were guarded by the police all day long.

During all the trouble the tenants of the houses sat apathetically in their homes, only taking a lively interest in the proceedings when told to move. Then they made their refusal clear to all the world, raising their voices loud in expostulation.

PHANTOM SOVEREIGN RIGHTS.

In spite of so much noise about China's sovereign rights, as far as these houses are concerned, and this road, China's sovereign rights do not exist. The road is owned by the Shanghai Municipal Council, and the houses, over which the trouble is being made, were, until purchased by the Municipal Council, owned by Brandt & Rodgers, a British firm, and were registered at H.B.M. Consulate. The Chinese have nothing to do with the matter whatsoever, and the only thing this disturbance can be attributed to is the irresponsible propaganda of ignorant agitators.

The workmen again will have the protection of the police today, and until such time as all prospects of trouble shall have passed.

WEDDINGS

McGillivray-Campbell

A very pretty wedding took pace on Wednesday afternoon at Union Church, which was decorated for the occasion with bamboo sprays arching the central aisle and green and white flowers banking the chancel, when Miss Margaret Campbell, who recently arrived from Scotland, became the bride of Police Sergeant W. D. McGillivray. The Rev. A. N. Rowland performed the ceremony.

The bride, who was given away by Mr. Thomas Robertson, looked charming in a simple white brocaded charmeuse, becomingly cut. Her long tulle veil was gathered into a little lace coronet, fastened with orange blossoms and she carried a sheaf bouquet of calla lillies. The matron of honour, Mrs. Thomas Robertson, wore a figured gown of fawn *crêpe de Chine*, two little bridesmaids, Mildred Abbott and Barbara Harris, were very picturesque in their Dutch lace caps and soft yellow frocks. They carried big baskets of sunshiny tulips. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. A. Cameron as best man.

After the ceremony a reception was held at 35 Paotung Road, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Robertson. Among the gifts displayed was a handsome chest of silverware presented by the groom's associates in the Police Force.

Clarke-Paice

Miss Ethel Paice, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Paice, of Merton Park, London, and Mr. Reginald George Cyril Clarke, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Clarke of Teddington, Middlesex, were quietly married in Holy Trinity Cathedral on Thursday afternoon, the Very Rev. Dean Symons officiating.

The bride, who was given away by Mrs. C. G. Patterson, wore a becoming gown of white georgette crepe embroidered in white beads and a white Leghorn hat, trimmed with white feathers. Her bouquet was of white carnations. Miss Toms acted as bridesmaid, wearing blue silk taffeta, with hat to match and carrying pink carnations. A reception, attended by close friends, was held at the home of Mrs. Patterson, 1 MacGregor Road. The honeymoon will be spent in Shanghai after which Mr. and Mrs. Clarke will make their home in Nanking, where Mr. Clarke is in business with the International Export Company (Kiangsu) Ld.

CONSTERNATION has been aroused in certain Chinese circles on the announcement in the vernacular papers recently that a certain Chinese bank, run on foreign lines, intends putting $15,000,000 into circulation. The local Labourers and Merchants' Mutual Association has sent a letter to the Foreign Style Chinese Bankers' Association pleading with them to take steps to prevent such a thing, as they are of opinion that if these notes are circulated by the Chinese native banks as suggested, a financial crisis affecting people in every walk of life, will be occasioned.

RUSSIAN EASTER IN SHANGHAI

Celebrated With Intense Devotion: Communists' Blunder in Abolishing Religion

When the Communists in Russia abolished religion from their country, they committed one of their gravest blunders; thousands upon thousands of possible adherents to the cause were lost to them, and the hatred with which they were regarded by a large section of their opponents was increased and confirmed, for the fervour of the Russians for their religion was heartfelt and genuine.

The period of the Russian Easter has just passed, and the devotion with which it was observed by the hundreds of refugees in Shanghai has aroused the admiration of all who have observed it. The period of *Paskha* as it is known, is to the Russians what Christmas is to us, and while Christmas is accorded great veneration in Russia, or was, Easter predominates as the outstanding festival of the year.

Sunday of this week is taken in the Russian Church as the Day of the Resurrection from the Dead, and the three Russian Churches in Shanghai observed the ceremony with due solemnity. The processions and services naturally lacked the splendour with which they were invested as of yore, by reason of the poverty of the Russian community here but even so the services were extraordinarily impressive and rendered the more so by the real religious enthusiasm of the people, who crowded out all the Russian churches, many people having to stand. And while the physical splendour of the scene was impaired by being more subdued than is usual, nothing could take away from the beauty of the chants and psalms.

The ritual is interesting. In each church a procession, led by the priests with all their signs of office, and in long flowing robes, enters the Church chanting sad and solemn tunes. A long service follows at the conclusion of which the procession emerges chanting in loud voices triumphal hymns and chants to symbolize that Christ has risen from the dead. These processions take place at 11 o'clock on the Saturday night and the people afterwards adjourn to their own homes to partake of special meals corresponding more or less to our Christmas dinner. All is given over to feasting and merry-making, the joy of which is heightend by its coming at the conclusion of a long period of fasting lasting for weeks, and during which no meat is eaten at all. This period of fasting is rendered the more severe and strict during the last week, so that the younger members of the families especially look forward to their *Paskha* dinner. The principal foods are huge hams and various kinds of meat, followed by unique cheese dishes and wonderful suger cakes. There is an old and somewhat curious custom, fully taken advantage of, whereby each young man is allowed to kiss any and all of the girls three times and no more after the services. This custom is merely a pleasant symbol of the general friendship and happiness felt by all at this time. Enmities are to be forgotten and the season must be observed as one of peace and goodwill to all men.

ALL FACTIONS UNITED.

A signifiant fact arising out of this year's ceremonies was the faithfulness with which this spirit was entered into. The Russian community is very much split up politically in Shanghai and hard things are often said. But at a period like this all political differences were dropped and the unity of the community as a whole made plain. Indeed, it could hardly be otherwise, for all are in the same ship of adversity and in unity alone can national self respect be maintained. The only section of the Russian community here which was not taken in to the general spirit of goodwill was that section composed of the Bolsheviks and Communists, who, since they have foresworn all religion, must of neccessity remain aloof.

The religious ceremonies will be carried on for some time to come, but to all intents and purposes the season is concluded as far as the people are concerned.

POLICE LONG SERVICE MEDALS

Presentation of 104 Awards by the Chairman of the Council: A Smart Parade at the Race Course

Despite the cold wind blowing across the Recreation Ground last Friday afternoon, a large number of people assembled to witness the parade of the Shanghai Municipal Police and the presentation of long service and meritorious award medals by the Chairman of the Municipal Council. There were 1,325 men on parade representative of all branches of the service, and presenting a very smart and imposing spectacle. The parade state of the various sections was:—European police, 150; Reserves, 82; Japanese, 30; Sikhs, 221; Indian warders, 60; Chinese, 782. Under Mr. K. J. McEuen, the Commissioner, the several detachments, commanded by the various Assistant Commissioners, formed up in a hollow square on the Polo Ground, the line on the north flank being composed of the mounted Sikhs and two battalions of armed Sikh and Chinese police. The other sides of the square were composed of the European police (a large number of whom had a brave showing of war medals), the Police Reserve, the Japanese police, detectives, and Sikhs and Chinese unarmed. In the centre was the S.V.C. band and in front of them the 104 members of the force who were to receive the medals. Amongst those present were Sir Skinner Turner, Mr. Peter Grain, Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G. (H. M. Consul-General) and members of the Consular staff, representatives from other consulates, Col. W. F. L. Gordon, C.M.G., D.S.O. Mr. E. S. Benbow Rowe (acting Secretary of the Municipal Council), several distinguished Chinese officials, etc.

Mr. Fessenden, Chairman of the Council, arrived on the ground accompanied by the other members of the Council, and was received with a general salute. After inspecting the lines, Mr. Fessenden returned to the saluting base and distributed the medals, with a few words of congratulation to each recipient. Following this there was a march past of the armed detachments and then the police were grouped on a large stand for a photograph to be taken.

Following is a list of those who received long service awards and, in addition, Sub-Inspector Hermitage was given the meritorious service medal recently awarded to him:—

FOREIGN BRANCH.

Rank.	Name.	Joined.	Bars.	
Commissioner	K. J. McEuen	19. 4.1900	—	
D. C. I.	W. Armstrong	1. 8.1897	2	1914—1918 1919—1923
Supt.	T. M. Wilson	20. 9.1883	4	1904—1908 1909—1913 1914—1918 1919—1923
Supt.	J. Bourlet	16.11.1886	3	1907—1911 1912—1916 1917—1921
Supt.	A. H. Aiers	1.11.1889	2	1910—1914 1915—1919
Supt.	T. I. Vaughan	16.11.1900	—	
Supt.	O. Dewing	25. 3.1901	—	
Gaol Supt.	C. Weatherhead	28.12.1901	—	
Chief Insp.	A. Eek	9. 1.1893	2	1914—1918 1919—1923
Chief Insp.	E. H. Lynch	7. 8.1895	1	1916—1920
Chief Insp.	J. Burnside	27.12.1900	1	
Chief Insp.	J. O'Toole	4. 1.1900	—	
Chief Insp.	R. C. Aiers	17. 5.1900	—	
Chief Insp.	W. H. Howell	17. 5.1900	—	
Chief Insp.	J. E. Wheeler	19.11.1902	—	
Chief Insp.	P. W. Reeves	19.11.1902	—	
Chief Insp.	W. R. Kinipple	10. 7.1903	—	
Inspector	G. Johnston	14. 9.1896	1	1917—1921
Inspector	M. Gibson	4. 1.1900	—	
Inspector	J. Dee	4. 1.1900	—	
Inspector	A. H. Aiers	7.11.1902	—	
Inspector	J. Shaw	24.10.1903	—	

SIKH BRANCH.

	Sikhs.		Joined.	Bars.	
Sirdar Sahib		Budda Singh	24. 2.1902	—	
Hav. Major		Soocha Singh	3. 9.1894	1	1915—1919
Hav. Major		Karm Singh	19. 3.1900	—	
Havildar	216	Motah Singh	1. 1.1903	—	
Havildar	139	Sant Singh	6. 2.1903	—	
Havildar	177	Jagat Singh	19. 3.1903	—	
Havildar	69	Chanda Singh	19. 5.1903	—	
Havildar	22	Kohar Singh	20. 8.1903	—	
Havildar	28	Kapoor Singh	20. 8.1903	—	
Havildar	61	Pal Singh	15.12.1903	—	

WARDERS.

Hav. Major		Bahah Shah	24.10.1901	—	
Havildar	21	Chanda Khan	29. 8.1903	—	
Havildar	18	Rajwali Khan	19.11.1903	—	

CHINESE BRANCH.

Sergeant-Major	Tai Mau Mau,		
C.P.S. 370,	C.P.S. 415,	C.P.S. 254,	
C.P.S. 243,	C.P.S. 190,	C.P.S. 135,	
C.P.S. 188,	C.P.S. 480,	C.P.S. 124,	
C.P.S. 357,	C.P.S. 217,	C.P.S. 176,	
C.P.C. 397,	C.P.S. 526,	C.P.C. 330,	
C.P.C. 326,	C.P.C. 129,	C.P.C. 502,	
C.P.C., 186,	C.P.S. 580,	C.P.S. 389,	
C.P.C. 390,	C.P.S. 766,	C.P.C. 588,	
C.P.C. 292,	C.P.C. 590,	C.P.S. 178,	
C.P.C. 431,	C.P.C. 665,	C.P.S. 520,	
C.P.S. 534,	C.P.C. 436,	C.P.S. 402,	
C.P.C. 563,	C.P.S. 187,	C.P.C. 552,	
C.P.C. 347,	C.P.C. 558,	C.P.C. 346,	
C.P.C. 677,	C.P.C. 758,	C.P.C. 559,	
C.P.C. 775,	C.P.S. 688,	C.P.C. 335,	
C.P.C. 732.			

C.D.S.I. Li Sing-foh, C.D.S. 8 Lieu Sung-daung, C.D.C. 18 Tsang Thien-ling, C.D.C. 30 Sung Ah-ngauh, C.D.C. 37 Zau Zung-tshoo, C.D.C. 71 Zi Ah-wo, C.D.S. 17 Sung Ah-ping, C.D.C. 7 Go Tsung-hyi, C.D.S. 22 Dzung Yuin-tsang, C.D.C. 70 Zau Ah-san, C.D.C. 36 Waung Kyung-sung, C.D.C. 15 Waung Kwe-ding, C.D.C. 46 Koch Tsoo-ntoen, C.D.C. 3 Tseu Ts-zung, C.D.C. 60 Li Ah-san, C.D.S. 5 Zau Oo-kyung, C.D.S. 52 Yeu Yuin-ching, C.D.C. 19 Dan Voong-dz, C.D.C. 11 Zia Sz-zien, C.D.C. 66 Waung Me-sung, C.D.S. 25 Yang Ah-zien, C.D.S. 39 Waung Soong-dau.

FIRE IN PRESIDENT MADISON

Contraband Matter Believed to Be the Cause: Mailbags Badly Damaged

Fire was discovered in the No. 5 hold of the str. President Madison early on Thursday morning, about four o'clock outside Fairy Flats and was extinguished by the good work of the crew. This hold contained the mails for Shanghai and Manila and it is thought by local shipping experts, that not internal combustion, normally caused, was responsible, but that contraband matter, shipped secretly in the first-class or parcel post matter, was the cause for the outburst.

The automatic fire detectors, which are affected by the suction tubes becoming impregnated with smoke, and a consequent alarm being sounded in the register in the pilot house, came nobly into play. Automatic fire extinguishers also got into quick action, which were supplemented by live steam from the boilers and short work was made of the trouble. This is not the only occasion that the automatic equipment of a President boat has checked a fire in its early stages and easily proves their extreme value.

To what extent the mails were damaged has not yet been ascertained and on Thursday evening the postal authorities were at the ship making a salvage as rapidly as possible, but not until a thorough check has been taken, will it be possible to estimate at all accurately how far the mail bags have suffered. It is, however, definitely established that a large amount of second-class mail matter is totally gone and many Shanghai people will find some of their letters charred and web.

ARCHDEACON MOULE AT THE C. E. M. S.

God's Revealed Plan for the World

In a simply delivered, pithy, address, Archdeacon Moule brought home to his hearers, the Church of England Men's Society and their guests, the scriptural truths embodied in his text—"God's Revealed Plan for the World"—at the Church House on Wednesday.

Outlining his address, the speaker declared that he must act upon three assumptions, namely, that there is a God, that He has a plan and, lastly that He has revealed it, made it known, through His Word. There is no intellectual conception of the Infinite Being. His presence is inevitable, and the belief in the Trinity from childhood was shared by countless number. Humanity coould not act upon the hypothesis that there was no plan, for every discovery of Nature and natural science made daily more clear that there was a calculated future, foreseen by the Divine, yes, the making of man, himself, was adapted to his future; the creation in his image, was the supreme conception of man's incarnation in God. Even the fall in the Garden of Eden was no surprise to the Creator, all such incursions being foreseen by Him long before they actually took place.

Archdeacon Moule went on to declare that the Bible, as the Word of God, contained the revelations of the Divine plan, beginning with the Voice in Genesis, and laying down a fixed time, which was to end, as the Scriptures asserted, at a definite time. The destiny of man was known, the issues were foreseen by Him and provision for the rescue of sinners who had become such by the original fall, had been made—the plan was all-inclusive and brooked no failure, for was it not of the All-high? The pursuit of the enemy, the devil, and his ultimate downfall, the conquest of war by peace and the triumph of right over wrong were not left to chance; God was omnipotent. A perpetual conflict would be maintained, but those who cry unto Jehovah know that Jehovah will be a light unto them—perpetual strife was a part of the plan, with no finite cure for natural ills, the remedy was not of this earth.

The message of the Cherubim, appearing to the chosen with the flaming sword, to Adam, to Isaiah, to Ezekiel and to the Apostle John, was portentous of the final outcome of the world. John saw the angel from Heaven, who came with chains to bind the evil one and to cast him into oblivion for 1,000 years, when the Son of man would come in a fiery cloud.

The speaker warned his listeners to keep an eye on Palestine for the development of God's plan, for the final purpose was to be brought to a successful conclusion through the chosen people of God, to Abraham and his descendants was entrusted the keeping of the plan and world salvation was to be accomplished through them; the monotheistic belief was to be preserved through the Jews and the hope of mankind rested with the Jew of Palestine.

Mr. Chang Yi-peng, chairman of the Shanghai Chinese Bar Association, who was, formerly Minister of Justice, has telegraphed to the Chapei Merchants' Association reporting that he has settled the Chapei Waterworks question and is drawing up an agreement with the Commissioner of Industry for the handing over of control by the provincial authorities to the local merchants. As soon as this is signed and approved by the Civil Governor, the change can take place. Meanwhile, the merchants have issued a statement to the effect that they will take over the company to-day.

DEEP-DRAFT WHARVES IN THE HUANGPU

Important Paper and Discussion by Shanghai Engineers

By Courtesy of the Engineering Society of China.

On the occasion of the reading of Mr. Karl Bryhn's paper on "Deep-Draft Wharves in the Huangpu" at the Engineering Society on the 15th instant there was an interesting discussion. (The paper was read by Dr. Chatley in the unavoidable absence of the author himself.)

Mr. Blom remarked on the unqualified recommendation of the open truss type of wharf and inquired if cross walls were not preferable to trusses and if caisson cylinder foundations had been considered. These caissons had given much satisfaction in Europe and in Java.

Mr. Powell said that the Vacuum Oil Co.'s Pootung wharf was partially founded on caissons and had proved satisfactory.

Mr. Clarke inquired as to the age of the piles examined for decay.

Mr. Forestier asked if a solid sheet pile backing was not apt to initiate a rupture plane and whether open spaced retaining piles were not preferable.

Mr. Keigwin gave some interesting details as to his experience with Holt's wharves in Hongkong and Shanghai. He mentioned in particular that in drawing some piles in Shanghai an initial force of 35 to 37 tons was necessary but that 20 tons sufficed to continue the withdrawal, these piles being 40 ft. in the soil. There appeared to be a tendency for the backfill to settle somewhat, even behind the sloping retaining wall and in the new wharf an attempt had been made to allow for the settlement of the rear piling by omitting certain cross bracing until equilibrium had been reached. He gave some particulars of the action of marine borers in Hongkong and, in regard to salinity, expressed the opinion that a well graded concrete of maximum density was almost impervious to sea water.

Mr. Tweedie Stoddart asked as to the low figure of 85 lb. per sq. ft. for skin friction in wharves.

Dr. Chatley, who had read the paper, said that his remarks were to be regarded as but incidental as the author was more in touch with the details of the work than he himself and would be asked to reply in writing to the questions.

As to the use of cross walls the minimum of hydrodynamic resistance under the wharf deck was very desirable to reduce silting. Caissons had not been studied to a great extent but it was probable that their obstruction to flow, relatively small surface area, and exposure to lateral thrust were objectable in the Shanghai soil. As to the Vacuum Oil Co.'s wharf the caissons were only used at the back and the wharf was not a deep draft one.

As to the age of the old piles, the oldest hardwood pile was 60 years and the oldest Oregon pine pile 40 years. Both were still sound below the level indicated as safe.

On the problem of planes of rupture and sheet piling he preferred to avoid discussion as this was a very involved question which would provide a subject for many papers and contained many complex factors. The stability was connected with the level of the appeal was adjourned.

He hazarded the opinion that the back settlement at Holt's wharf might be due to the overstrain which Mr. Bryhn indicated as occurring when the elastic limit of the clay was approached. He concurred with Mr. Keigwin as to the improved resistance of dense concrete, but suggested that the accurate grading of concrete was too new a process for the resistance to sea water to be accurately determined.

As to the low skin friction value this included an allowance for occasional large variations of loading. If the maximum load was really known the higher values at the top of the table could be used

A ROAD ROUND THE SETTLEMENT

Fresh Agitation by National Road Association to Hem In Shanghai

Once more the question of constructing a road round the Settlement to prevent "encroachment and usurpation" by the foreign community has been brought up by the National Road Construction Association (better known as the Good Roads Movement of China) which recently appealed through circular to the foreign community for funds with which to erect a new building and which is being administered in the foreign settlements, presumably because it is safer to work here than on Chinese territory where the organizers and secretaries would no doubt be liable to exactions from which they are free in the Settlements.

It is interesting to note in connexion with this report that the chairman of the Board of Directors is Dr. C. T. Wang whilst Mr. Hsu Yuan (Commissioner of Foreign Affairs here) is vice-chairman. The general secretary is Mr. Wu Shan (former Vice-Minister of Justice in Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Constitutional Government in Canton half a dozen years ago).

THAT WICKED COUNCIL.

In a letter to the "military and civil authorities, the members of the District Assemblies of Shanghai and Paoshan, the members of the Chambers of Commerce and the gentry," the National Road Construction Association states:—

"Apropos of the proposal of the foreigners (*i.e.* the Municipal Council, the Consular Body and the Diplomatic Corps) this Association, a year ago, lodged a strong opposition to the attempt of the Shanghai Municipal Council to extend the Settlement at Zaukadoo, to collect taxes and other revenues from the merchants and residents of that section of Chinese territory for four quarters, and to establish a fire-station in the vicinity. We suggested at the time that a road be built round the International Settlement and the French Concession to prevent foreigners from forcing their way over into Chinese territory and encroaching upon and usurping China's sovereign rights.

"Another year has passed but our suggestion has not been accepted nor has any action been taken. Now we learn that the foreigners are clamouring for an extension of the Settlements in return for the rendition of the International Mixed Court. A formal demand has been presented by the Diplomatic Corps. All kinds and all nationalities of people live in Shanghai: they see our Chinese territory and want to grasp it. They complain that Chinese territory is insanitary and unclean, but this is their pretence for their wanting to extend the Settlements.

'AS GOOD AS A BOYCOTT.

"If, therefore, we want to stop them, we must construct a road round the French Concession and the International Settlement, and thus get at the root of the evil. It will be as good as a boycott. In this we must have unity. Hence all concerned, your honourable selves and your honourable organizations, are invited to unite with us to secure the co-operation of the military and civil authorities, the law courts, the heads of different public organizations and the influential gentry and merchants in your district to oppose the foreigners' attempts. We must unite in demanding, under threat of punishment, of the authorities the immediate repair of the roads and the introduction of municipal government so that Chinese territory might be as well administered as in the Settlements. With the encircling road, there can be no question of extensions."

The Chinese press states that, owing to lack of orders, the Lunghua Arsenal is now turning out but seven rifles a day, the work on these taking up the full time of 800 workers. The other day we were told that the Arsenal was feverishly at work on munitions for Tupan Lu, of Chêkiang, who is reliably reported to be daily enrolling recruits at Hangchow.

MYSTERIOUS SERIES OF CRIME

A Chinese in Railway Employ Shot Through the Stomach: Work of Vengeance

A Chinese shot in the stomach and the jaw was found on Thursday of last week lying helpless in Myburgh Road and under police orders was removed to Paulun Hospital, where he was operated upon but died at 6.30 a.m. last Friday. From papers in his pockets it was found that he had lived in the French Concession and it was thought that he had been employed in the Railway Station. He evidently was the informer of the Chief Detective of the City police. Trails of blood, though faint, led officers from where he was found to Tsing Lien Alleyway, just north of Tsingtao Road, to the back door of 242 Park Road, where [illegible] found. The police believe that deceased was on his way to his work, when he was met and decoyed to the spot, whereupon the ruffians shot him. Struggling on his way to the Police Station he collapsed, in Myburgh Road. Residents deny any connexion with the affair, as also that they heard any shots. Investigations are proceeding.

CHASE OVER THE ROOFS.

The appearance of four robbers at 370 Lau Dong Ka Loong alleyway, one of them armed with a black pistol and all of them speaking the local dialect, was [illegible] received at West Hongkew, sent in by a Chinese constable off duty. A squad of men were detailed to the address, where they learned that three men had made off when the pistol was seen in the hand of one. They had gained admission through a back door of the premises, telling the amah that they desired to speak to Mr. Wong, residing on the top floor). The latter locking himself into his room, left it to the coolie and the amah to go for assistance. The police party searched the premises but could find no one, but on going on to the roof they saw a man on the drying-stage of [illegible] adjoining house who [illegible] over the roof [illegible] when [illegible] A chase ensued [illegible] would expect to see in the cinema, the robber outran his pursuers to [illegible] police and slid to the earth in safety, whence he made [illegible] with [illegible] shots fired.

LOOTING OF IRON WORKS.

An unarmed robbery of an iron works under construction at the corner of Pingliang and Ningkuo Roads took place last Friday morning at 1.30 o'clock. It was asing at 1.30 o'clock. It was ascertained that four men entered the premises, bound and gagged the watchman, whom they found asleep, with articles of his wearing apparel, stole his other clothes and shoes and $3. They proceeded into the yard and loaded wheelbarrows with castings and made off. The watchman unloosened his fastenings within half an hour and reported to his master what had taken place. The police went to the spot, but could find no traces and an alarm was sent out. About three o'clock a Sikh Havildar arrested a Chinese who stood beside two wheelbarrows full of loot, and took him to the station, where he divulged the names of two others and where they might be found. Acting on this information a party went to 179 Pingliang Road and arrested two more and recovered the remainder of the loot. A remand was asked for at the Mixed Court several hours later.

SHOOTING AFFRAY IN FOKIEN ROAD.

About 3.30 p.m. on Saturday information was received at Louza Police Station to the effect that a Chinese had been shot in Fokien Road, near to the junction with Hankow Road, and had been taken to the Shantung Road Hospital, suffering from a bullet wound on the right-hand side of the stomach. Inquiries elicited the statement that when walking along Fokien Road on Saturday afternoon, at the time mentioned, and near the corner of Hankow Road, he was met by two men, entire strangers to him, dressed in blue jackets and pants, one of whom, without speaking, drew a pistol and shot him in the stomach. Immediately afterwards he was found by a Chinese carpenter, who knew him, and was conveyed to hospital. The wounded man is 22 years of age and though recently out of employment was formerly a shop assistant.

TWO MORE CHINESE FOUND DEAD.

The startling record of crime with the revolver was added to on Monday by two cases of murder in the Settlement, making five within seven days. In both these cases, a .32 automatic pistol was used, the victim was shot in the back, and nothing was found upon the body of the deceased to assist the police in identification, similar baffling features having attended one or two of the other cases which have recently occurred.

The first case was reported to the police at Gordon Road station about 5 a.m. on Tuesday, a Chinese constable on patrol duty reporting the discovery of the body of a Chinese lying on a piece of waste land in the country off Penang Road. Upon examination, it was found that the dead man was about 33 years of age and apparently of the clerk type, fully and fairly well dressed. He had received two wounds, one in the back and one in the right breast, and on the ground near the body three empty .32 cartridge cases were found. There was absolutely nothing else for the police to work upon, and no information was to be got from people in the neighbourhood. There is only one small Chinese house, standing some distance from the spot where the body was discovered, and the occupier of this, upon being questioned, was only able to state that at about 8 o'clock on Monday evening he heard some noise which sounded like a shot, but took no notice.

The second case occurred about midnight on Monday in the Ziang Loong Dong alleyway, on the south side of the Recreation Ground near Taku Road, news of this being received by telephone from a Chinese constable. Foreign detectives who immediately went to the scene found the dead body of a Chinese, seemingly about 25 years of age, covered the alleyway, and with such deadly aim that the bullet entered the back of the head and passed out through the forehead. One empty cartridge case was found near the body. The deceased was very well dressed and had the appearance of a business man, and a curious feature is that, although his clothing exhibited no sign of disarrangement, such as might have been done by a search for money or valuables, the pockets were absolutely empty except for a solitary dollar bill, and there was nothing to lead to the identification of the victim. The crime was committed in a densely populated area, but again no information was forthcoming from people in the neighbourhood.

KING'S DAUGHTERS' FETE

Over 1,000 Guests at Marble Hall

The tea dance on Wednesday in aid of the King's Daughters' Society's Convalescent Home for Children was an unqualified success. All who visited "Marble Hall," the imposing residence of Mr. E. S. Kadoorie, where the function was held, were loud in their praise both of the beautiful house which they were privileged to see, and also of the excellence of the entertainment provided by the committee of the King's Daughters.

More than 1,000 guests were present, beginning with those who came early to enjoy a long afternoon of bridge or mahjongg in the panelled billiard room and ending with those who lingered on in the ballroom till the Hotel Parisien orchestra played their last foxtrot. The tea served was delicious and the Girl Guides of the First and Third Companies proved their efficiency as deft waitresses. The Boy Scouts of the Cathedral Company, too, were helpful in many ways. The sale of sweets, flowers and cigarettes added considerably to the funds, but the total profits could not be estimated yesterday.

Sir Skinner Turner, in a happy speech, voiced the thanks of the King's Daughters' Society to Mr. Kadoorie for his kindness in allowing his estate to be used for this purpose, adding as an aside that he was sure the doors could be opened to no better society. "This is a wonderful place," said Sir Skinner Turner, "and it is a wonderful opportunity for us to come out to see it. I will therefore ask you all to express your thanks in the customary manner." Hearty applause followed these words and Lady Turner was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

Miss Mabel Jansen, the Chairman of the Convalescent Home Committee, then thanked all present for their support and expressed her particular appreciation of the untiring service rendered by Mrs. Gensburger, of the Society, in making arrangements for this fête. She then presented a basket of flowers to Mrs. Gensburger.

Mr. Kadoorie briefly expressed his thanks to all who had assisted this worthy charity.

SEIZURE OF ARMS ON M.M.S. PAUL LECAT

175,000 Rounds of Ammunition

In a search of the M.M.S. Paul Lecat, on her arrival here from Marseilles, *vid* Hongkong, the Customs authorities discovered 90 canvas bags containing 30 Mauser pistols and no fewer than 175,000 rounds of ammunition, concealed in one of the ventilating shafts connecting with the engine-room. Difficulties always existing under the laws of extraterritoriality were perhaps responsible for the fact that no arrest was made and that the matter rests with the seizure of the smuggled munitions, but it is worthy of recall that in Hongkong, on the same steamer, 30 bags of which the contents were unknown, were seized by the Customs officials and four arrests were made.

MR. J. W. O. Davidson is expected to return shortly from leave and will proceed to Tientsin as Senior British Vice-Consul, taking the place of Mr. R. S. Pratt, who has left for England on Home leave.

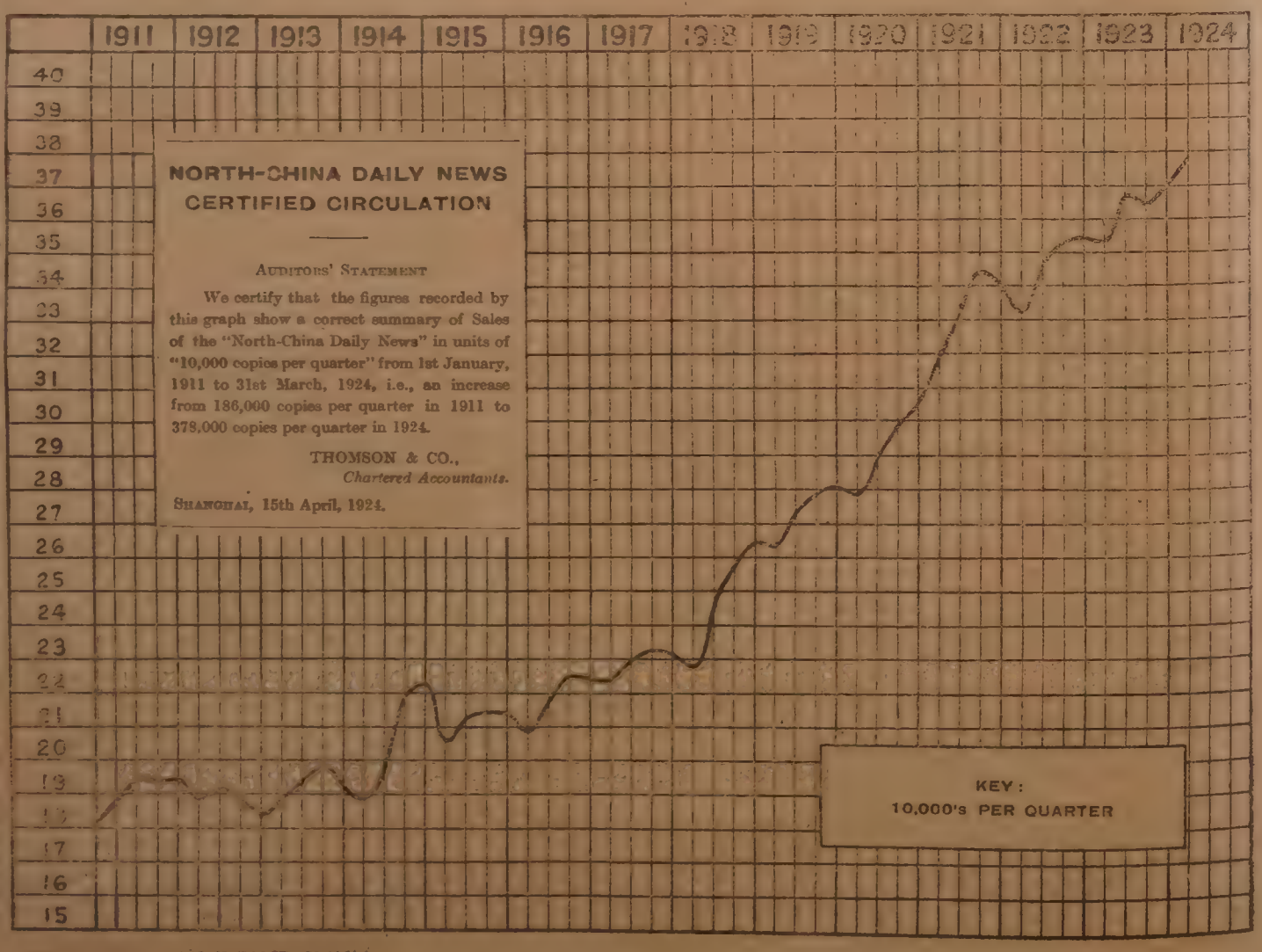
GROWTH OF "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS" CIRCULATION GRAPHICALLY ILLUSTRATED

Increase of Over 100 Per Cent. Recorded In Thirteen-Year Period Despite War Years and Post-War Depression

There was a day in the journalistic world when the circulation figures of a vast number of newspapers could be truly labelled "figures of speech." Meeting the claims of [illegible] was confined to the simple matter of adding a cipher to the figures for the preceding year. This practice of ungrounded claims was happily stopped by the advent in Great Britain and in America of an organization known as the A.B.C. (Audit Bureau of Circulation), growing out of the legitimate demand of advertisers for certified information as to the circulation of newspapers which received their expenditures.

The A.B.C. has not extended its operations to China, but the need for it is felt in the Far East, where more than one newspaper still is given to indiscriminate dealing in superlatives when speaking of circulation. The "North-China Daily News" long ago recognized the right of advertisers to demand known quantities and it is the only newspaper in China that publishes annually a statement of circulation certified by a public auditor.

Messrs. Thomson & Co., chartered accountants, recently completed their audit of our circulation books and the results are incorporated in the accompanying "graph", which will be found self-explanatory. It should be emphasized that the "growth" reflected in this chart is a purely normal, unforced growth, and that the present circulation has been attained without resorting to any special catchpenny device.



CHINA SOCIETY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS

A Lecture on Bamboo: Neither Tree nor Shrub But Grass

A well attended meeting of the China Society of Science and Arts was held on Saturday afternoon at the house of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Bena, 90 Jessfield Road. After tea had been served Professor W. M. Porterfield of St. John's University gave a very interesting talk upon "Bamboo," presenting many points new to most of his audience in a clear and graphic manner and illustrating his remarks with charts and exhibits.

To begin with Professor Porterfield stated that bamboo is neither a tree nor a shrub, but a tree grass, and as such, the oldest representative of the grass family. The whole bamboo plant is not a single culm with its basal roots, but hundreds of these culms or underground radial stems, all connected under the surface, and this is the reason why a bamboo tree will not grow alone, so that a grove of bamboo may be considered as one main growth.

The rapid growth of the bamboo was also mentioned, the lecturer saying that bamboos reach their full height in from 44 to 60 days. The square bamboo—specimens of which were shown—reaches its maximum height of 40 feet in 44 days and the giant bamboo is almost like Jack's beanstalk in its rapid increase, the record growth being 44 millimeters in a single day.

Some species of bamboo flower yearly, but the more ordinary flowering of this unusual grass is only once in 32 or 33 years and after such a late blooming the culm turns yellow and dies as do all grasses. Another peculiarity about this tree-grass is that bamboos in widely separated places will flower simultaneously, thus endorsing Professor Porterfield's contention that the family is the unit of bamboo life and that these brother and sister trees, although now far distant from each other, came originally from the same mother plant. In India during the famine of 1864 the bamboos flowered generally and furnished sustenance from their seeds for about 50,000 persons.

At the close of the lecture many questions were asked by the appreciative audience and a final vote of thanks to the speaker was proposed by Mr. A. de C. Sowerby.

"THE RECS"

Shanghai Recreation Club: Celebrating Some Famous Victories

One of the most successful seasons in the history of the Shanghai Recreation Club was celebrated by a dinner held at the Hotel Parisien on Saturday night and very well attended. It was no small distinction for the Club to be able to put on record the following successes:

Winners of the Cricket League, 1923; Winners of the Tennis League, 1923; Winners of the Wallace Lawn Bowls Cup, 1923; Winners of the Shanghai Football League (Dewar Shield) and of the Skottowe challenge cup, 1923-4; and the speakers of the evening might have been pardoned had they been anything more than what the popular President and chairman, Mr. R. P. Phillips, described as "a bit modest" about these sporting triumphs.

Among the guests were Mr. Sidney Barton, H. M. Consul-General, Sir Skinner Turner, President of the Shanghai Lawn Tennis Association, Captain E. I. M. Barrett, Mr. W. C. G. Clifford, and other representatives of the Shanghai Football Club, and Mr. F. S. Bridges, Hon. secretary of the Shanghai Football Association.

The evening was pleasantly spent, Messrs. G. B. Stormes, R. F. Willis, Graham Barrow and Kay contributing to the programme with songs and, the last named, with some exceedingly neat card tricks. There was a short toast list, beginning with "The King," and Sir Skinner Turner acknowledged the President's welcome to guests. He paid a tribute to the great part played for many years past by the Recreation Club in the sporting life of the Settlement, and expressed his appreciation of Shanghai's excellent status in amateur sport. Commenting on the wonderful use made of the Recreation Ground, Sir Skinner said he doubted whether there was another such piece of ground in the world of which such enormous use was made. Rumours had been heard about cutting a road through the ground, but he trusted this would never be done. The Recreation Ground was one of the best things we had in Shanghai, and it was to the interest of all to see that it remained as it is.

The popular ex-president of the Club, Mr. Frank Jones, proposed the toast of "Shanghai Sportsmen" in a great speech, and Captain Barrett responded, expressing his appreciation of the keen and sporting games which have for so many years been provided by the Recs in friendly rivalry with the Cricket Club.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH IN 1000 B. C.

Mr. Sowerby's Lecture on Medical Science in China

Mr. A. de C. Sowerby delivered a fascinating lecture to the literary section of the British Women's Association on Tuesday on the practict of medeicine by the Chinese.

This most ancient of the arts goes back at least 5,000 years, said the speaker, and claims the mythical Emperor Fu Hai as its first patron. His successor, Shen Nung, was the first to try the healing effects of herbs, even experimenting upon himself, and recorded his results in a herbal bearing his name.

Medical practice in China has been largely a secret art, and its carefully guarded formulæ have been handed down from father to son. The Chou dynasty (1000-300 B.C.) marked considerable advance in the healing art and a State Medical Service was inaugurated, consisting of the Ministry of Health for officials, a Public Health Department for the common people, a department specializing in the care of abscesses, sores and the like, an Imperial Dietry and a Veterinary Surgery.

Many books on medicine, surgery and healing have been written, beginning with the Emperor Sheng Nung's treatise on Medicine (2823 B.C.). The pulse was studied, but as these early practitioners had no knowledge of the heart and its functions their elaborate treatments based thereon had no value. An investigation into Chinese "pulse-practice" made by L. C. Arlington, will appear in the July issue of the "China Journal of Science and Art." Cupping, the use of plasters, of the needle or acupuncture and cauterizing are now practised by the Chinese. They employ most extraordinary materials, some of which have medicinal value while the worth of others is purely mythical.

Deer horn, at $80 an ounce, is used as a tonic and rejuvenator, and probably does possess certain tonic qualities. Bufin, an extract from the large warts on the back of a toad's neck, has a distinctly stimulating effect upon the heart. Their herbal remedies are far superior to any others and in this line of investigation the Chinese medical practitioners have done good work. More picturesque specifics are tigers' bones and blood for cowardice, wolf's brain for scarlet fever, snakes and dried lizards as tonics, magpies and woodpeckers for consumption and dried silk worms for fevers. Bears' gall stones are regarded as a cure for eye troubles and are worth $40 apiece.

The mysterious dual powers of Nature, known as the Yang and the Yin play a most important part, the Yang representing the male principle or positive and the Yin the female principle or negative.

CHARITY FAIR AT THE CARLTON

Successful Plan to Raise Funds for Destitute Babies' Home

The Charity to secure funds for the new building for St. Monica's Home for Destitute Babies, held in the Dining Hall of the Carlton Cafe on Saturday afternoon and evening was a decided success from a financial and social standpoint. The great room was decorated with bamboo and spring flowers against which the blue and white Fêe colours showed up most effectively, the same colour scheme being carried out by the ladies in attendance who wore white dresses with sky blue aprons and ribbands. The flower stall, commandingly placed in the centre of the hall, made a very attractive bower with its white trellised woodwork and exquisite plants and flowers.

At the ceremonies of opening the Fair Mrs. D. Lewis, the Chairman, welcomed the large number which had already assembled and said in part:

"The object in view is, I venture to think, one which must appeal to every man and woman, for it is to help most innocent and helpless things on earth—little babies.

"The work is not new; it has been going on for some time and has been steadily growing, so that the accommodation is no longer sufficient, and it is to raise funds to extend it that this Fair is being held.

"One thing more, the work is in the hands of the Rev. Mothers of the Institution of the Holy Family and perhaps some of you may wonder why none of the Rev. Mothers are present. The reason is that the rules of their Order (The Helpers of the Holy Souls) do not permit it but I am charged by them to convey to you their gratitude for your help and to tell you that your charity will never be forgotten.

"We have been so exceptionally fortunate as to secure Mme. Wilden to open the Fair, and I will now call upon her to do so and then I hope you will one and all cast economy to the winds and everyone of you spend right royally."

Mme. Wilden, the wife of the French Consul-General, then declared the Bazaar open, after which she was presented with a bouquet of pale pink carnations tied with blue and white ribbons, carried by one of the babies for whom the new building is designed, winsome Baby Josephine. The patrons had a busy afternoon inspecting the attractions offered on every side, trying their luck in various wheels of fortune, purchasing the beautiful and useful articles offered for sale, sampling the delicious waffles, punch and sweets for sale, taking tea and listening to the orchestra. Besides all these amusements there was an interesting programme arranged by Mr. J. P. Fonseca and given in the ball room during the afternoon, in which Miss May de Souza sang, Mrs. Moller danced, members of the Juvenile Lyrists performed and an appealing tableau by the babies of the Home was presented by Miss Armstrong.

It was reported in Chinese circles on Monday that the Peking Government, as the result of a recommendation by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, is contemplating the re-establishment of the Shanghai Bureau for the Registration of Trademarks.

A band of armed robbers who broke into a Chinese house at 610 Haiphong Road met with a hot reception from the owner, who, forunately for himself, kept a revolver on the premises. The men broke into the premises in the early hours of Wednesday morning by cutting a hole in the fence, through which they climbed. The householder heard them, and getting his gun crept on to the scene and fired at them as they were at work. He believes he shot one man, as he saw him drop, but the police can find no bloodstains. The shots were heard by a Sikh Police havildar and a Chinese constable near at hand who immediately proceeded to the scene, but they were too late. Though arduous inquiries have since been made, there have been no arrests. The owner of the house is a Mr. Wong Hong-chong, manager of the A.B.C. Underwear Company, at 169 Markham Road. His house has been entered by robbers on a previous occasion, which accounts for his preparedness.

MUNICIPAL GAZETTE NEWS

Volunteer Corps.

Reserve of Officers.—G. E. Mitchell, Esq., late Captain Machine Gun Co., to be Lieutenant.

Public Health Report for March.

The death-rate among foreigners was slightly below the usual March death-rate, and among Chinese about the average.

Smallpox has declined very much since February. Among foreigners 4 cases were notified. One, a very mild case, was a resident who had been successfully vaccinated 12 months ago. The other three, all non-residents, were fatal. One of these had never been successfully vaccinated; one had not been vaccinated since an alleged attack of Smallpox 12 years ago. The third had marks of vaccination, but not of recent date.

16 Chinese deaths were reported as against 29 last month.

Influenza.—Four deaths of residents were attributed to this disease, three of whom were Japanese and the fourth a Japanese-born British subject. Four other resident cases were notified.

Diphtheria.—Six cases were notified among the resident community.

Beri-Beri.—One Japanese resident died of this disease.

Tuberculosis.—Ten fatal cases were reported among foreigners, of whom six were residents.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—No further cases have been reported this month.

Vaccinations.—8,487 free vaccinations were performed at Branch Health Offices.

Mosquito Prevention.—Arrangements have been made for the active prosecution of this work, but its success must depend on the continuous co-operation of householders. One neglected backyard may breed enough mosquitoes to annoy a whole neighbourhood. In consultation with Mr. A. de C. Sowerby the Department is starting a mosquito-eating fish farm, and if the experiment is successful, we hope to be able to supply the fish gratis to applicants on whose premises they might be useful. They are likely to be of use chiefly in ornamental ponds, stagnant creeks, flooded fields and other collections of water which cannot, for various reasons, be satisfactorily treated with oil.

FURLOUGH

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SPORTS AND PASTIMES

BILLIARDS

Stevenson at the Country Club

Playing at the Country Club on Monday against Captain Barrett, Mr. H. W. Stevenson gave a beautiful exhibition of artistic billiards, and this notwithstanding that he was feeling poorly with a vaccinated arm and had been in bed all day. The game was 800 up, Captain Barrett receiving 350 and at the outset a warm tribute should be paid to the latter's very fine play. He showed admirable judgment and touch, opened with a break of 41, and played with much grace and accuracy. In the latter half he seemed to be so much overcome with admiration for his opponent that he rather forgot his own share. But he is none the less to be thanked and congratulated on his contribution to a delightful evening.

Of Stevenson's play, it is not so much the size of the breaks as his perfect artistry. He reminds one of some great musician who has all the tricks of technique which lesser men glory in but scorns to use any to excess. Nursery cannons, spot strokes, massés, middle pocket losers, Stevenson commands them all, but seems only to use each to just that extent which will, as it were, weave the whole break into some exquisitely variegated tapestry. His best break last night was 203 and it would be impossible to conceive one more gracefully arranged. It included every sort of stroke, and some magnificent top of the table play—a cannon, the red ball down and Stevenson's ball arranging itself for another cannon, again the red down but this time the white comes back for a new sort of cannon. Then a loser, then a long cannon from baulk and the red ball crossing over to the edge of the opposite top pocket. Twice in this break he extricated himself with a cushion cannon of great difficulty (there being so little room for the first object ball to clear the second) and in each case he found position again. Then came a beautiful series of about 40 nursery canons, no ball moving more than an inch or two, then more open play and then the break ended on a difficult winner. After the interval Stevenson opened with 158 which included two massés and a lovely run through, in which it seemed impossible the object ball should get out of the way, some more nurseries and some lovely screw shots. The great feature of these is the gentleness with which they are played, however acute the angle. And how the average amateur bangs at a screw shot. But unless Stevenson wishes, the object ball travels but a foot or two. Of course it really travels just where he wishes. That is the beauty of his play.

After the game he showed us several fancy shots, some amusing like the cannon with one ball on the floor, some valuable like the dead straight run through loser along the cushion or the massé with all three balls in a straight line and nearly touching. And then came a competition for a cue by the spectators—who should make the biggest break, with a wonderful set of balls which did the most unaccountable things But because this report had to be written we do not know who won. Probably the man who hit hardest.

To night Stevenson plays Mr. Porter at the Town Hall and no billiard-lover should miss seeing the game.

Johnson v. Porter

Having somewhat unexpectedly been dismissed from the championship, Messrs. R C. K. Johnson and C. W Porter played an "unofficial final" at the Town Hall last Friday and the game of 1,200 up resulted in Johnson winning by 89 points In the first session, Johnson was in excellent form and at the interval had scored 600 against Porter's 338, the leader's best break being 87. After dinner, he continued to maintain a comfortable lead, though in the latter stages of the game Porter, with several excellent breaks in the neighbourhood of 50, considerably reduced the lead. One of his best efforts was a nicely played 60 (after losing the white at 14), and a 53 brought him to within 55 of his opponent (1,100-1045), but Johnson got away again with several useful breaks and finally went to game with the score reading:

Johnson	1,200
Porter	1,111

Johnson was the more consistent of the two and on the whole played a better game, his striking and judgment of pace being the more accurate, while he made excellent use of the red ball in the middle pockets.

Stevenson v. Porter

The first of two exhibition games was played at the Town Hall last Tuesday, the ex-champion meeting Mr. C. Porter and conceding 350 points in a game of 800. Porter played very nice billiards, and got several breaks in the neighbourhood of 50 and one excellently played 69. He was no match for the professional, however, although Stevenson was not in his best form. His best work was a delightfully played 125, in the making of which he kept the balls at the top of the table and scored with beautiful precision. How fine an artist Stevenson is in this special scoring method was shown by comparison when Porter had similar position, Stevenson taking the balls to and fro across the table with wonderful accuracy and Porter usually breaking up position at the second stroke and finding refuge in a middle pocket. Stevenson was worth watching in everything he did, quite apart from the total of the break, his style of delivery and position play being perfect. It was noticeable that on every occasion he studied the the shortest route to the top of the table, using the middle pockets only to gain the necessary position, and never once playing a short or long jenny. Porter, as has been said, put up quite a good game, and was beaten by 81 points.

Stevenson v. Johnson

Stevenson was in great form at the Town Hall on Wednesday in his game with R.C.K., Johnson. The latter was unwell and scarcely fit for the game, and to add to his misfortune, the professional was in a particularly good scoring mood, the result being that Johnson was a spectator for the greater part of the game, scoring 100 by the time Stevenson had reached his eighth century. Beginning with a 35, and failing to drop the red—a shot which he usually plays with unerring accuracy—Stevenson went to the table again and set up a fascinating 102, 53 and 163 following in rapid succession. The latter break was a very fine example of Stevenson's extraordinary skill at the top of the table, delicacy of touch and, on the rare occasions necessary, force, being used with delightful accuracy in retaining or regaining position. A difficult kiss cannon from the top cushion to the middle pocket, missed by a fraction of an inch, brought the effort to an end Johnson could do very little with the position left, and Stevenson went on again with 14, 76, 99 and 136, another break in which mastery of touch and strength was shown. Johnson here put up a 32, also at the top of the table, and showing at least that Stevenson's exact science has been noted even if it cannot easily be mastered. Stevenson was left with 21 to get for game, and went out with a beautifully played final shot, having the balls in a dead straight line along the top cushion and running through both, leaving the balls well in position It was the best exhibition Stevenson has yet given.

ASSOCN. FOOTBALL IN ENGLAND

Cup Won by Newcastle United, Defeating Aston Villa After Magnificent Game

London, Apr. 26.

Newcastle United to-day won the F. A. Cup, defeating Aston Villa by 2 goals to nil in the final played at Wembley Stadium.

The weather was fine. Following morning and afternoon rain, the ground was heavy. There were 80,000 spectators, including the Duke of York.

Throughout the first half the speedy Aston Villa forwards showed superior form, but the splendid work of the Newcastle United goalkeeper and the fine defence of the backs prevented any scoring.

Newcastle United improved in the second half, playing with great dash.

Four minutes from the close Harris, the Newcastle United centre-forward, scored at close quarters and a minute later Seymour, the outside left, added a second goal, Newcastle United thus winning, 2-0.

The official figures of attendance at the match are 105,000.

LAWN TENNIS

Final Results of British Hard Court Championships

London, Apr. 26.

The finals of British Hard Court Championships were played at Torquay to-day.

Mr. Lycett beat M. van Lennep (Holland), 6/1, 3/6, 6/4, 6/3, in the Singles Final.

Miss Ryan beat Mrs. Beamish, 6/2, 6/2 in the final of the Ladies' Singles.

Messrs. Riseley and Wheatley beat Messrs. Gilbert and Greig, 11/9, 2/6, 8/6, 6/4, in the final of the Doubles.

Miss Ryan and Mrs. Shepherd-Barron beat Mrs. Colegate and Miss Ross, 6/4, 6/2, in the final of the Ladies' Doubles.

Mr. Lycett and Miss Ryan beat Mr. Wheatley and Miss Colyed, 6/1, 10/8, in the final of the Mixed Doubles.—Reuter.

BOXING

Carpentier-Townley Fight Postponed

Vienna, Apr. 27.

Owing to bad weather the fight between Georges Carpentier and the English heavyweight, Arthur Townley which was to have taken place here to-day, has been postpond until Thursday.—Reuter.

European Light-heavyweight Championship

Berne, Apr. 28.

In a 20-round contest for the Light-heavyweight Boxing Championship of Europe, Clement, the Swiss champion, defeated Bonnel, the French champion, on points.—Reuter.

INTERNATIONAL GOLF

Sarazen Defeated by Havers

New York, Apr. 28.

In a 72-hole match, the British Open Golf Champion, Havers, defeated Sarazen, the American champion, five up and four to play.—Reuter's American Service.

JAPAN'S OLYMPIC GAMES COMPETITORS

An Enthusiastic Send-off

Kobe, Apr. 28.

A party of 25, including 15 Japanese champions, for the Olympic games departed on board the steamer Katori Maru yesterday. An enthusiastic send-off was given them by over a thousand schoolboys and girls.

Three Japanese delegates to Geneva sailed on the same steamer.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ENGLISH BILLIARDS

Record Break by Newman

London, Apr. 26.

At Burroughes Hall, London, in the Professional Billiards Championship Final, 16,000 up, the half-way scores are:—

Reece (in play) ... 8,000
Newman 7,446
Reuter

Apr. 29.

At Burroughes' Hall, in the final of the Professional Billiards Championship, Newman made a break of 1,021, a record for any Championship.

The present scores are:—
Newman, 10,000.
Reece, 9,722.—Reuter.

BLINDFOLD CHESS RECORD

Wonderful Performance by M. Alekhine

New York, Apr. 28.

M. Alekhine broke the world's record for blindfold chess yesterday when he played 26 opponents. The score was 16 wins, five draws and five losses. Except for a short interval M. Alekhine played continuously for 12 hours.—Reuter's American Service.

20 MILES ROAD-WALKING CHAMPIONSHIP

London, Apr. 26.

At Windsor Park to-day the Twenty Miles Road-Walking Championship was won by F. Ponyton (Leicester) in 2 hrs. 49 mins. 17 secs. G. Goodwin (Surrey Walking Club) was second, in 2 hrs. 49 mins. 31 secs., and T. Johnson (Leicester) third, in 2 hrs. 54 mins. 17 secs.

Team placings were as follow:—
Belgrave Harriers 32
Surrey Walking Club ...41
Surrey Athletic Club ...49
—Reuter.

INTERNATIONAL RUNNING

Philadelphia, Apr. 27.

In a two-mile relay race Boston College won first place, Georgetown University second and Cambridge University third. It is believed that the Bostonians' time, 7 min. 47-3/5 sec., is a world's record.—Reuter's American Service.

NEW SPRINTING RECORD

Des Moines, Iowa, Apr. 27.

Charles Paddock to-day sprinted 125 yards in 12 seconds. It is believed that this is a world's record.—Reuter.

AMERICAN AMATEURS AND THE DAVIS CUP

New York, Apr. 26

The Davis Cup Committee to-day announced that it had accepted the resignation of Mr William T. Tilden from membership of the American team.—Reuter's American Service.

Philadelphia, Apr. 29.

Mr. Vincent Richards has followed Mr. William T. Tilden's example and resigned from the American Davis Cup team. Mr. Tilden made the announcement to-day on the strength of a telegram from Mr. Richards.

As in Mr. Tilden's case, the player-writer rule of the American Lawn Tennis Association is responsible.—Reuter's American Service.

HOME RACING

The City and Suburban Handicap

London, Apr. 30.

The City and Suburban Handicap (one and a quarter miles) was run at Epsom to-day and resulted as follows:—

Ulula	1
Verdict	2
Greek Bachelor	3

Ten ran. Won by three lengths, two lengths separating second and third.

Betting: 100 to 6 Ulula; 5 to 1 Verdict; 8 to 1 Greek Bachelor. —Reuter.

LAWN TENNIS

Davis Cup Competition

London, Apr. 30.

The British and Belgian teams in the first round of the Davis Cup competition, which will be played at Torquay on May 10, are as follows:—

Britain: Mr. J. B. Gilbert, Mr. Godfree, Lieut.-Colonel Kingscote and Mr. Max Woosman.

Belgium: Messrs. Washer, de la Veleye and Watson. Captain de Borman is also a member of the Belgian team, but will not play.—Reuter.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

SHANGHAI STOCK EXCHANGE

The Shanghai Stock Exchange has removed to new premises on the Second Floor in the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building, Entrance at No. 12 The Bund (next to Customs House).

Telephone Central 450 (Seven lines).

Telegraphic Address: "Stocks".

H. V. HUMMEL,
Secretary

May, 1, 1924.

SHANGHAI STOCK EXCHANGE

COMMITTEE:

Read, H. H.
Hayim, E.
Hummel, G. M. W.
Morgan, G. J. W.
Rutherford, N. H.

SECRETARY:

Hummel, H. V.

MEMBERS:

Anderson, A. L.
Barff, C. S.
Burrett, F. J.
Brady, A. A.
Clark, H. J.
Crighton, P.
Crossley, F. H.
David, M.
Elias, F. S.
Ellis, C. E.
Fitzgerald, G. J. F.
Gensburger, H.
Gubbay, D. M.
Gubbay, S. M. S.
Hatherly, A. H.
Hayes, J. A.
Hayim, A. J.
Hayim, E.
Hummel, G. M. W.
Joseph, E.
Joseph, J. M.
Judah, J. J.
Kadoorie, R. E.
Lemarchand, W. R.
Meyer, H. A.
Moller, O.
Morgan, G. J. W.
Myers, M.
Ollerdessen, H. B.
Pirie, W. G.
Potts, G. H.
Read, H. H.
Rowe, O. S. B.
Rutherford, N. H
Shaw, C. R.
Stewart, A. E.
Togg, S. E.
Vida, F. R.
White, C. J.
Woods, A.
Yearley, F. P.

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

Money and Exchange

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, May 2.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/2⅛=Tls. 6.29 at 716==$8.78

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 69¾=Tls. 143.37 at 716=$200.24

Mex. Dollars, market rate	7185
Native Interest	12
Copper Cash	267,300
Bar Silver	32 1/16
Bank rate of Discount	4%
Paris on London	Frs. 67.95
New York on London	G.$4.38½

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/2
Demand	3/2⅛
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	69½
Demand	69¾
PARIS—	
Demand	1073
INDIA—	
Demand	226½
HONGKONG—	
Demand	74¼
JAPAN—	
Demand	58¼
BATAVIA—	
Demand	191
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	73¾

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/2⅝
4 m/s. Credits	3/4
4 m/s. Docs.	3/4⅛
6 m/s. Credits	3/4⅛
6 m/s. Docs.	3/5
NEW YORK—	
Demand	70⅛
4 m/s. credits	73
4 m/s. Docs.	73½
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1140
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/2¼
New York T.T.	70

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR MAY.

Hk. Tls. 5.60 at 3/2½	£1
,, 1 at 1148	Frs. 12.79
,, 1.29 at 69½	Gold $1
,, 1 at 58¾	Yen 1.90
,, 1 at 228⅜	Rupees 2.54
,, 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
,, 1 at 15.575	It. Lire 17.35

Marks and Roubles no quotation

Sino-Italian Bank Quota tions

Selling Rates, May 2:—

It. Lire 15.40	Tl. 1
Swiss Frs. 3.89	Tl. 1
It. Lire 8.75	Y. 1

Sino-Scandinavian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates, May 2:—

Nominal:

Tl. 1: Norw. Kr.	4.92
Tl. 1: Swed. Kr.	2.56
Tl. 1: Dan. Kr.	4.01

Week's Exchange Notes

May 3.

At the close of business on the 1st. instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 33,521,000 and $44,330,000.

These figures include Tls. 7,390,000 and $26,560,000 in Chinese banks in which there were 2,751 bars.

BAR SILVER.

Arrivals were:—

145 bars from America.

Shipments were:—

132 bars to Bombay.
100 ,, ,, Yunnan.

232 bars.

SYCEE.

There were no movements of Sycee during the week.

DOLLARS.

Arrivals were:—

$80,000 from Soochow.
50,000 ,, Haimen.

$130,000

Shipments were:—

$100,000 to Hangchow.
100,000 ,, Chefoo.
100,000 ,, Dairen.
70,000 ,, Kiukiang.

$370,000

SILVER.

The price came yesterday as 32 1/16d. ready and forward, as against 33d. ready and forward last week, showing a decline of 1/16d. on both deliveries. China is reported both as a buyer and a seller, whilst India and the Continent bought. Reuter reports the market on Thursday, as steady, with the Continent buying.

Bars in stock, 3,461, including silver Yen 10 lakhs.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange closed last week at T.T. 3/2¼d., where it remained until Tuesday afternoon, when the official rate dropped to T.T.3/2d., where it still remains. Yesterday afternoon, the market was steady, with sellers at T.T. 3/2 3/16d. May, 3/2⅛d. June, 3/2 5/16d. July forward. Buyers in each case 1/16d. higher. G.$ T.T. 70 June, 70⅛ July forward. A fair amount of silk bills came out yesterday. Speculators were operating moderately both ways yesterday and their position is now estimated to be oversold in Yen about seven millions, and about square in Sterling and Gold Dollars.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

Temporary Falling Off in Piece Goods Demand: General Slackness in All Lines

May 3.

The markets in general again have taken on a dull tendency and the week has been very slack. Such dull periods not infrequently are laid to the account of race meetings and it is usual to hear that business always is slow just before, during and for a while after any big meeting. However, this time the blame is not being put on the races, though a large percentage of the ponies entered are poor enough to be blamed for anything. Mostly, the slackness is attributed to a reaction from the almost exciting times of the last few weeks. Chinese, too, have been attracted away from the cotton and yarn markets by what have appeared to them to be the better chances of making money offered by the heavy dealings that have been the order on the gold market.

PIECE GOODS.

A temporary falling-off in the demand made things somewhat dull, but there are no signs of easier prices. Indeed, there were improvements in cases where dealers had orders to fill, and it was only where there was a lack of orders that there was any falling away, so it is accepted that prices will remain quite strong. A useful trade demand for Greys and Whites continues, but it has comfortably been met by new arrivals of indent goods and first hand stock sales have been of no great account. New stuff has been going away very quickly, some even before it has seen the godowns. Manchester still is rather too near the clouds.

COTTON AND YARN.

China Cotton.—For some time past there has been a great deal of business on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange, but, as already stated, this week it was deserted in favour of the gold market and there was a distinct slackening of interest. There has been a report that Japanese mills in Shanghai have purchased 6,000 to 7,000 bales of Indian cotton. Yesterday morning's closing exchange quotations for China cotton were:—May, 46.95; June, 46.50; July, 45.85; August, 44.60; September, 40.90; October, 38.90. Spot quotations were:—Tungchow, 49; Shanghai, 45½; Shensi, 46 to 47; Hankow, 45.

Yarn.—This market suffered equally with cotton. Yesterday morning's closing quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange were:—May, 178.70; June, 176; July, 173.60; August, 171.80; September, 168.90; October, 165.80.

PRODUCE.

Political conditions at Home and in the United States have joined in the conspiracy to prevent exporters doing business, and, with the exception of a slight increase of interest in egg products, it only can be said that the produce market is unchanged, which means that there is next to nothing doing. European business generally is dull and buyers' ideas of prices continue to be considerably below local values.

U. S. COTTON TRADE

A Gloomy Outlook: Factories Overstocked With High-Priced Goods

London, Apr. 28.

A gloomy account of the cotton trade in the United States was given by Mr. Bartlett, President of the New York Cotton Exchange, on his arrival at Liverpool from New York this morning.

Mr. Bartlett said that last year, whilst the cotton boom was at its height, American mills took the bulk of American raw cotton. The boom had now gone and American manufacturers were overstocked with high-priced goods, while cotton goods from Britain were cheaper than American goods owing to the cheaper labour in Lancashire. It remained to be seen whether the new cotton crop, which was expected to be large, would ease the situation.—Reuter.

Decline in Production of U. S. Commodities

New York, Apr. 27.

The Federal Reserve Board reports that the production of basic commodities decreased by 3 per cent. in March. The wholesale and retail trade declined by about 8 per cent. Prices fell 6 per cent.—Reuter's American Service.

U. S. Bank Rate

New York, Apr. 30.

The Federal Reserve Bank has lowered the re-discount rate from 4½ per cent. to 4 per cent.—Reuter's American Service.

Hongkong & Whampoa Dork Co.'s Successful Tender

Hongkong, Apr. 29.

The Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company have secured in competition the order to build two passenger steamers for Sydney owners.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Rubber Export Duty

London, Apr. 30.

It is officially announced that the percentage of standard production of rubber exportable on the minimum duty from Ceylon, the Straits Settlements and the Malay States for the quarter beginning on May 1 has been fixed at 60.—Reuter.

Coal Output

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending April 19, amounted to 93,356 tons and the sales during the same period to 60,491 tons.

RAILWAY REVENUES

The Government Bureau of Economic Information gives the following as the operating revenue of Chinese Government Railways in November, 1923:—

Railway	Revenue	Compared with Nov. 1922 Increase	Decrease
Peking-Hankow	$3,224,183	$1,085,948	
Peking-Mukden	1,690,563	668,833	
Tientsin-Pukow	1,892,887	387,025	
Peking-Suiyuan	954,118	222,567	
Shanghai-Nanking	159,785	67,860	
Shanghai-H-Ningpo	327,986	31,046	
Chengting-Taiyuan	533,410	158,654	
Canton-Kowloon	—		$130,276
Kirin-Changchun	204,322		26,234
Taokow-Chinghua	103,535	22,928	
Lung-Hai	337,571	73,875	
Kaifong-Honan	201,366		281
Hupeh-Hunan	106,578		65,127
Chuchow-Pinghsiang	22,151		1,369
Changchow-Amoy	166		5,472
Szupingkai-Taonan	177,572	29,492	
Kiaochow-Tsinan	779,266		
Total	$11,315,459		
Net increase		$2,528,419	

NEW CHINESE BANKING LAWS.

Old Laws Amended and Brought Up to Date

The first general law governing modern banks in this country, consisting 16 articles, was promulgated in the 34th year of Kuang Hsu (1908), as was also the first law governing savings banks, which consisted of 13 articles. No revision of these enactments has taken place since the establishment of the Republic. In 1920, the Amended General Law Governing Banks, the Draft Rules for its Enforcement, and the Draft Savings Bank Law were framed, but they have never been officially promulgated, says the *"Sinwanpao."*

Since numerous banks organized on modern lines have come into existence in recent years, the enactment of some suitable law to enable the Government to exercise its supervision and control over the banking business, as well as to provide the banks with the necessary authority and guidance in the pursuit of their legitimate callings, cannot be further delayed. At several conferences held before, the Chinese Banking Associations passed resolutions on this subject and petitioned the Ministry of Finance to amend the old laws or to frame some new laws, but without result. It was only at their last conference at Peking, that the Ministry of Finance referred the General Law Governing Banks ment of same to them for con and the Rules for the enforce sideration and annotation.

The General Law Governing Banks consists of 25 articles, and the Rules for its Enforcement 18 articles. They appear to cover more comprehensive grounds and to have been more carefully drawn up than the laws handed down from the Ching Dynasty. they certainly are an improve ment to their predecessors. Their promulgation by the President will, it is hoped, soon follow, as it is always better to have a law, however imperfect, than to be without one.

Most of the banks promoted in recent years only applied for registration after starting business. The present Law is based upon the principle of exercising supervision at the outset and taking all possible previous precaution against abuse. It requires a bank to submit its rules and regulations for official approval and comply with all other stipulations of the Law, before registration is granted to it. If its capital is to be raised by share subscriptions, the sanction of the Finance Ministry must be obtained prior to inviting the pultic to take up shares. It must also request the superior local official to inspect and verify the amount of capital raised, sign a certificate to that effect and forward it to the Finance Ministry. The bank can only commence operations after having registered itself and obtained a business licence from the Ministry of Finance. Any contravention of the Law will be punished according to a separate set of penalty regulations.

Rubber Output

The output of rubber from the Taiping Estates for the month of March was 5,561 lb., the decrease being due to the wintering of trees.

Shanghai Market Prices

The Treasury Department's Bureau of Markets, 50 Avenue Edward VII, has issued its quarterly Shanghai Market Prices Report, for the period October-December, 1923. The monthly index prices are a well known feature of the Department's work and are invaluable for reference, and the quarterly report is equally valuable, giving a more detailed comparison of the fluctuations in the various markets. The wholesale prices in each month of the quarter and the average in Shanghai and Haikuan taels for every article of trade are set out in carefully arranged tables, and there also is an interesting review of trade during the period, as other features. The report should find a place in every business man's office library.

Insurance Dividends

We are informed that at the next ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld., to be held towards the latter part of May, the directors will recommend, subject to audit, the payment of a dividend to shareholders of 22½ per cent. ($2.25 per share).

At the next ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld., to be held towards the latter part of May, in the Yangtsze Insurance Building, the directors will recommend, subject to audit, the payment of a dividend to shareholders of 7 per cent. (Tls. 1.40 per share).

A telegram has been received in Shanghai from the head office of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ld., announcing that, at the forthcoming annual general meeting, to be held in Hongkong on May 16 the directors will recommend the following appropriations:—

1922 Account.—Final dividend to shareholders of 16s. 6d. per share.

1923 Account.—Interim dividend to shareholders of 24s. 0d. per share.

Shanghai Tramways

The following is the traffic return of the Shanghai Tramways (Foreign Settlement) for the week ended April 30, with figures for the corresponding week last year.

	1924.	1923.
Gross receipts	$86,157.24	$79,548.20
Loss by currency depreciation	39,952.93	34,087.82
Effective receipts	$46,204.31	$45,460.38
Percentage of loss by currency depreciation	47.77	44.47
Car miles run	118,155	115,091
Passengers carried	2,418,729	2,759,862

LAND AND BUILDINGS at PAKHOI FOR SALE

HIS Britannic Majesty's Government invites offers for the whole of that lot of land, less a small portion leased to the Church Missionary Society, at Pakhoi known as the British Consulate Lot together with the buildings thereon.

The land to be sold is held in perpetuity.

The buildings, consisting of one large substantially built residence and one small house, both with suitable servants' quarters and stables, were erected in 1885 and are in a good state of repair.

Copies of the Title Deeds and plans of the land and buildings may be seen, on application, at the Office of the Director of Public Works, Hongkong, at the British Consulate, Kiungchow, or at H.B.M. Office of Works, Shanghai.

Permission to inspect the land and buildings can be obtained on application being made to H.B.M. Consul, Kiungchow.

Offers which should be lodged not later than June 30, 1924, should be addressed to H.B.M. Acting Divisional Architect, H.M. Office of Works, Shanghai.

W. J. ROBERTS,
H.B.M. Acting Divisional Architect.

Shanghai, April, 1924.

COMPANIES NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., Ltd.—An Interim Dividend of two shillings per share free of Income Tax for the year ending June 30, 1924, will be paid on or after May 1, 1924, Bearer shares Coupon No. 24.

The Yangtsze Insurance Co., Ltd.—Subject to audit, the directors will recommend a dividend of 22½ per cent. (Tls. 1.60) per share.

The Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ltd.—Subject to audit, the directors will recommend a dividend of 7 per cent. (Tls. 1.40) per share.

The J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.—The 35th annual General Meeting will be held at No. 7 The Bund, on Monday, May 12, at 4 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 5 to 12, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Municipal Council Silver Loan 1924, 6% Debentures.—The Debentures of this issue will bear interest from the date of purchase at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, payable on June 30 and December 31 in each year.

The Debentures will be issued at Tls. 97½ per cent. and will be redeemed under the operation of a Sinking Fund on December 31, 1954, but may be redeemed by the Council in whole or in part on December 31, 1934, or on any subsequent date, subject to the Council giving six calendar months' notice in the Municipal Gazette and the public press of Shanghai.

In the event of any partial redemption of the loan, the numbers of debentures to be redeemed will be decided by drawing.

The scrip will be issued in denominations of Tls. 5,000, Tls. 1,000, Tls. 500, Tls. 100 to suit the convenience of applicants.

Application forms can be obtained from the Treasurer and Comptroller, Finance Dept., Administration Building, Hankow Road, Shanghai.

Share Report fo Week Ending May 2, 1924.

No. 24/17

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Codes in use A1 Code
A.B.C. 4th, 5th and 6th Editions
B. Broomhall's Imperial Chinese Cable Code
Bentley's Complete Phrase Code.
Telephone Cent. 171 & 174.

Members of Shanghai Stock Exchange.
Land, Estate & Insurance Agents.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building,
12 The Bund.
Post Office Box No. 244, Shanghai

There has been a little life in the local share market during the past week and buying quotations have been more general. "Rubbers" continue depressed owing to no improvement in the price for rubber, which remains at 1/4 a fraction over the needle in London and 11 4/7 cents per lb. in Singapore. Rubber shares remain nominally

RUBBER AUCTIONS.

The following telegraphic advices have been received:—

Singapore, April 30, 1924.

Spot or May	... ...	41⅞ cents
June	... ...	42⅜ ,,
July/Sept.	... ...	43⅛ ,,
July/Dec.	... ...	44¼ ,,

Market steady at the decline.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int. %	Payable
S'hai Municipal Council	1905	6 to 20	5-4-24	T97	£ 320,000	6	June-Dec.
	1907	do.	13-4-24	T99	500,000 ‖	6	do.
	1908	do.	11-3-24	T99	650,000 c	6	do.
	1909	do.	15-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
	1910	do.	17-4-24	T99	813,800	6	do.
	1911	10 to 30	15-4-24	T99	350,000	6	do.
	1912	do.	3-1-24	T99	510,000	6	do.
	1913	do.	3-5-23	T100	750,000	6	do.
		10 to 50	8-5-22	T74	500,000	5½	do.
	1914	10 to 30	11-4-24	T90	900,000	5½	do.
	1915	do.	11-3-24	T91	800,000	5½	do.
	1916	do.	24-4-24	T94½	1,400,000	6	do.
	1918	10	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
	1919	10	4-12-23	T104	1,793,300	7	do.
	1920	10	5-4-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
		10 to 30	29-3-24	£101	£750,000	6	do.
	1921	do.	18-2-24	$110	$1,000,000	8	do.
	1921	do.	29-4-24	T110	T5,006,100	8	do.
	1922	do.	1-5-24	T101	T8,000,000	7	do.
	1923	do.	17-4-24	T99	T6,000,000	6	do.
	1924	do.	1-5-24	T97½	T500,000	6½	do.
French Municipal Council	1911	do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914	do.	12-2-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
	1915	do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
	1921	do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8	do.
	1923	do.	17-12-23	T95	a T800,000	6	May-Nov.
S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	1921	10 to 30	25-4-24	T106	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
	1922	do.	6-6-22	T108	T500,000	8	do.
S'hai Gas Co. Ltd.	1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
	1908	do.	2-4-23	T94	e 300,000	6	do.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int. %	Payable
	1905	5 to 20	31-8-22	T96½	T250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1909	do.	1-4-24	T93	750,000	6	do.
	1911	do.	26-9-22	T92	250,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
	,,	do.	23-3-24	T93	250,000	6	May-Nov.
		do.			250,000	6	Jan-July
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.	1912	do.	2-4-24	T93	250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1913	do.	3-4-23	T93	250,000	6	April-Oct.
	,,	do.	11-1-24	T94	250,000	6	May-Nov.
		do.			250,000	6	April-Oct.
	1914	do.	22-3-23	T93	350,000	6	June-Dec.
	1916	5 to 25	3-4-23	T88	500,000	5½	do.
	1922	do.	12-2-23	T95	750,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
	1902	do.	10-1-24	T98	500,000	6	May-Nov.
Shanghai Club	1907	20	1-2-24	T93	450,000	6	do.
Country Club	1901	Perpetual			139,000	6	June-Dec.
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	1914	5 to 20			130,000	6	May-Nov.
	1915	do.			110,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld.	1906	do.			250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1911	do.	7-6-23	T93	300,000	6	do.
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld.	1923	10 to 20	27-2-23	T95½	h 270,000	6	do.
S'hai Race Club	1923	25	14-4-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
Dairy Co., Ltd.	1915	10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
Hall & Holtz Ld.	1914	5 to 20	14-10-22	T92	T230,000	7	Jan.-July
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	1922	5 to 20	..	..	T500,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

c—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—b—Tls.65,100; c—Tls.51,100; d—Tls.34,100; e—Tls.68,500; f—Tls.262,400; g—Tls.139,800; h—Tls.12,300; i—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output in st 2 fin. year: Year before	Output in st 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. yr. to 31-12-23	1923: Jan.	1923: Feb.	1923: Mar.	Total output this fin.yr. to date
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Alma	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	293,500	259,100	246,648	8.87d.	68,000	22,000	18,000	17,000	125,000
Amberst (New)	,, 500,000	Oct.	77,442	80,692	90,751	*4.83d.	19,020	8,214	8,475	14,662	50,371
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	650,000	540,000	600,000	8.45d.	..	64,000	50,000	65,000	179,000
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,524,711	1,663,150	..	6.70d.	..	184,000	164,100	187,000	535,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 300,000	Sept.	369,417	58,042	360,000	†0.24.41	..				
Batu Anam	,, 400,000	Dec.	255,516	217,822	185,793	9.01d.		12,500	11,500	15,000	39,006
Bukit Toh Alang	,, 500,000	Mar.	309,254	304,945	315,000	7.54d.	222,082	25,500	No.		248,182
Bute	,, 500,000	Dec.	220,067	177,850	159,516	11.11d.	..	17,500	16,600	13,600	47,700
Chemor United	,, 350,000	Dec.	314,794	267,627	..	8.40d.		27,200	23,300	9,500	60,000
Chempedak	£35,000	Oct.	145,769	163,063	..	1/5 42d.	30,700	14,000	4,400	1,000	50,100
Cheng	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.09d.	102,014	10,500	9,700	11,800	134,014
Consolidated (1914)	,, 375,000	Dec.	669,559	645,778	761,500	7.47d.	..	53,000	56,779	44,437	149,216
Dominion	,, 350,000	Dec.	271,150	324,516	306,867	9.63d.	..	23,020	27,651	15,999	77,685
Gula-Kalumpong	£500,000	Dec.	1,111,000	938,000	1,216,000	1/0 7/8d.	..	83,000	78,000	66,000	232,000
Java Consolidated	£85,000	Dec.	685,524	642,293	..	6.25d.	..	68,300	60,900	72,300	201,500
Kapayang	150,000	Dec.	189,232	116,710	..	†26.90	..	10,592	8,315	7,636	26,543
Karan	250,000	Mar.	111,879	104,783	84,000	8½d.	60,067	8,146	6,448	4,915	79,576
Kota Bahroe (1921)	300,000	June	178,230	130,970	..	..	160,918	29,156	26,919	19,180	236,103
Krowcock	£70,000	Dec.	449,000	583,881	549,000	0/7.24d.	..	59,000	55,000	59,000	173,000
Langkat	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	842,580	944,600	975,000	Gls-0.28	179,300	82,500	71,500	70,000	413,300
Padang	Tls. 500,000	April	209,711	220,225	..	10½d.	120,300	19,700	11,100	8,600	159,900
Pengkalan (1921)	,, 150,000	Mar.	122,023	133,253	176,088	†10.19	..	..	2,780	6,485	9,265
Permata	,, 250,000	Dec.	98,203	86,299	..	0/8½d.	17,585	8,030	6,003	5,867	37,585
Repah	,, 225,000	Dec.	65,340	217,057	..	..		17,400	8,700	15,900	42,000
Samagaga	,, 500,000	Sept.	367,816	250,813							
Sei Kee (1918)	,, 150,000	June	179,035	142,000	115,183	11.37d.	120,509	8,500	11,000	10,500	150,509
Semamon	,, 200,000	Dec.	164,155	215,703	158,264	0/9.37d.	..	13,400	13,100	7,600	34,100
Senawang (1921)	,, 300,000	Jan.	275,000	275,197	..	**7.45d.			14,500	16,100	30,900
Shanghai Kedah	,, 400,000	Sept.	211,111	207,242	..	8.42d.	67,625	21,456	17,000	17,024	126,104
S'hai-Klebang	,, 150,000	Dec.	122,106	160,034	..	11.35d.		8,700	8,000		16,700
S'hai-Malay	,, 600,000	Dec.	357,115	284,340	403,901	..		22,782	21,474	16,254	60,510
S'hai Pahang	,, 300,000	June	200,851	188,916	..	9.44.	100,973	16,172	14,475	14,846	146,736
S'hai Seremban	,, 125,000	Dec.	97,213	117,113	..	9.82d.	..	11,500	15,000	7,100	33,100
S'hai-Sumatra	,, 600,000	Oct.	666,000	679,710	850,000	Gls 0.38	111,341	61,110	51,170	45,357	267,138
Sua-Manggis	,, 200,000	Dec.	1,100	1,100	..	..					
Sungala	,, 100,000	Dec.	53,679	105,725		†7.20	14,010	3,592	..	..	32,912
Sungei Duri	£40,000	Dec	308,073	290,593	220,000	11.61d.	126,109	23,695	22,272	10,048	182,437
Taiping (1913)	Tls. 200,000	Dec.	107,011	120,000	99,000	**4.40	..	8,184	6,572	5,561	20,711
Tanah Merah	,, 750,000	Mar.	415,000	395,900	..	7.52d.	224,000	21,500	22,200	21,700	289,400
Tebong	,, 750,000	July	630,828	723,000	717,725	0/7.66d.	..	..	61,000	66,000	130,000
Ziangbo	£150,000	Dec.	514,500	522,000	600,000	7.24d.	..	67,500	58,200	58,000	183,700

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expense

† Straits $ cents.

Semambu Rubber Estate, Ld. ..	T	0.85	0.80			300,000		£1	a	T12,703			
									b	T20,000	Dec.	(To 15, 1922 .. .. ..

COMPANY MEETINGS

SENAWANG RUBBER ESTATE

Restriction Improves the Financial Situation

The fourth annual general meeting of shareholders in the Senawang Rubber Estates Co. (1921), Ld. was held on Tuesday at the offices of Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co., Mr. G. Grayrigge, chairman, presiding. He was supported by Hon. E. T. Eyres, J. S. Kadoorie and A. K. Craddock, directors, and Mr. W. S. Royston, representing the secretaries and general managers. The attendance represented 80,689 shares.

The Chairman said, in part:—

The profit and loss account makes pleasanter reading than its predecessor, for whereas the latter showed a debit of Tls. 3,186.70 for interest, the former shows a credit of Tls. 1,400.20, and after writing off preliminary expenses amounting to Tls. 2,308.21, results in a profit of Tls. 24,892.13. Under ordinary circumstances, this would have enabled the Board to recommend a dividend, but we have first to deduct the loss carried forward from previous years, *viz*: Tls. 20,075.18, which reduces the divisible balance to Tls. 4,516.-95. This sum in itself is not sufficient to meet the interest owing on the cumulative preference share captial, which is mentioned at the foot of the balance sheet, a total of Tls. 9,161.71. We hope, however, soon to accumulate sufficient profit to wipe this liability off the slate; but meantime we must ask forbearance. We have the cash ready, but must wait for enough profit to accrue. In fact, after providing for all known liabilities, our liquid assets amount to Tls. 45,703.24, of which Tls. 36,383.85 actually exist on cash money. I hope, Gentlemen, I have—made it quite clear to you that although we have to ask you to wait a little for this accrued interest, this Company is financially on a sound wicket.

I now beg to propose the first resolution, *viz*: That the report of the directors and statement of accounts for the year ended January 31, 1924, as presented be adopted and passed.

This is seconded by Mr. Kadoorie.

The above resolution was carried unanimously, as also the following:—

That Mr. G. Grayrigge be and hereby is re-elected a Director of the Company.

Proposed by Mr. Craddock, seconded by Mr. C. J. L. Stewart.

That the appointment of Mr. F. S. Kadoorie as a Director of the Company be and is hereby confirmed. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. A. J. Welch.

That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be and are hereby re-elected Auditors to the Company for the ensuing year. Proposed by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Woo Chi-ming.

The meeting then terminated.

THE TEBONG RUBBER ESTATE, LD.

Annual General Meeting

Mr. A. J. Welch (the Chairman) presided at the annual meeting of shareholders in the Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld., held at the offices of Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co., Ld., on Thursday supported by Messrs. W. Wakeford Cox, Chu Pao-san (directors), C. J. L. Stewart (secretary) and other shareholders, a total of [illegible] shares being represented. The secretary read the notice convening the meeting and the auditor's report.

In his speech the Chairman said in part:—

The only item in the profit and loss account that needs any explanation is debenture interest. The [illegible] is debited to this account, since the Tls. 49,300 worth of debentures that the company has bought have not yet been cancelled, but a compensating credit appears on the other side of the account. The net debenture interest paid by the company amounts to Tls. 16,056. The reason why these debentures have not yet been cancelled is that your directors have deemed it [illegible] to keep them in reserve so that in case any unforeseen [illegible] the company is pressed for cash, they will be available for resale. For the same reason no credit has yet been taken for the profit of Tls. 9,764 that has been made by purchasing these debentures.

There is very little to comment on in the balance sheet. The fixed assets, such as buildings, etc., stand in the accounts at figures very much below their actual value and it is proposed to depreciate them still further this year. The profit for the year amounts to Tls. 77,257.43, but this is unfortunately reduced to Tls. 63,383.44 when the loss brought forward from last year is deductes. This balance your directors recommend shall be dealt with as set forth in the report.

No questions were asked and the following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

"That the directors' report and statement of accounts, as presented, be adopted and passed." Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Chu Pao-san.

"That a dividend of five Candareens per share be paid."—Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. W. Wakeford Cox.

"That Mr. Chu Pao-san be re-elected a director of the company."—Proposed by Mr. E. Oxley Cumming and seconded by Mr. C. G. Copley.

"That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews be re-elected auditors to the company:—Proposed by Mr. G. Grayrigge and seconded by Mr. C. J. L. Stewart.

HALL & HOLTZ, LD.

A Successful Year

The annual meeting of Hall & Holtz, Ld., was held on Thursday morning. Mr. Eric Moller (Managing Director) presided, and was supported by Messrs. E. F. Shields and E. D. Thomas (Directors); 7,200 shares were represented.

In the course of his speech the Chairman said:—

General Reserve.—The $200,000 shown in our last accounts has been appropriated in accordance with the shareholders' resolution of May, 1923, viz. by transferring thereto the balance of the profit and loss account of $84,882 and writing off our 1923 stock the sum of $115,117 to cover the difference between the book value and the present cost of replacing same.

Depreciation.—In the usual manner, this has been written off buildings, against property reserve, and ample provision for depreciation of all other assets has been provided for.

Bank Overdraft has been increased by the moderate amount of $50,000, but this figure has already been considerably reduced, since the closing of the accounts, and to-day stands at $715,804 (reduced by $25,000) and further substantial reduction will take place in the near future, by the completion of the disposal of our Soochow Road property which, by agreement, must take place during the current year.

I may mention that during the year under review, our directors have been aware of persistent rumours suggesting the liquidation of the company, and I therefore take the opportunity of informing the public and those interested in the shares of the company, that these rumours are entirely without foundation, and I trust that this statement will satisfy all of those who have been perturbed by the rumours.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. E. F. Shields seconded the adoption of the report and accounts, and there being no questions the resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

On the proposition of Mr. J. Harris Purcell, seconded by Mr. H. M. Cumine, the appointment of Mr. E. O. Thomas as a director was confirmed.

On the proposition of Mr. Cumine seconded by Mr. W. J. Davey, Seth, Mancell & McClure were re-elected auditors.

CLUB AND SOCIETIES

SOCIETY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS

Medico-Biological Section

At the meeting of the Medico-Biological section of the China Society of Science and Arts on April 22 in the offices of the "China Journal of Science and Arts," the constitution and regulations drawn up by the committee appointed for that purpose were passed. Mr. A. de C. Sowerby, as President of the Society, presided at the meeting. The following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:—President, Dr. Eugene C. Peck; Vice-President, Prof. A. Bary; Secretary, Prof. W. M. Porterfield; Committee, Dr. F. Oppenheim, Dr. E. Hibert, Dr. Y. Tongu, Dr. Ruth Leonard. Dr. F. Reiss formerly resigned his office as secretary as he felt the duties connected therewith took up too much of his time.

The opinion of the meeting seemed to be that for the present there was no great need for a medical laboratory, but rather a need for a biological laboratory in Shanghai. Most medical men engaged in research work either had their own laboratories or had access to one in some hospital. The same did not apply to biological research work and it was felt that efforts should be directed towards the establishment of a well-equipped laboratory in Shanghai for biological research work, especially in relation to medical science. It was decided that not only qualified physicians and surgeons should be eligible for membership, but also professional biologiate.

The constitution and regulations will be printed shortly and circulated amongst the members of the section. All who are interested in the important work of medico-biological investigation are cordially invited to send in their names for membership in this section of the Society.

LAWN BOWLS CLUB

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Lawn Bowls Club was held last Friday evening at the offices of Messrs. Maitland & Co., Ld. The chair was taken by Lt.-Col. T. E. Trueman, President of the club, supported by Capt. F. C. Banham, Messrs. J. Munro, G. Dunlop, and H. Gordon Wright.

The Chairman, before dealing with the past year's activities touched on the deaths of their fellow members, Mr. S. H. McKean and Mr. J. E. Wilson, and expressed the deep sympathy of the club to their relatives.

The Chairman went on to say:

Last season we made a bad start and the results of the earlier inter-club matches played were very unfavourable to the club, as not only did we lose possession of the "Wallace" Cup which was won last year by the Recreation Club, but we lost both our matches with the Recreation Club—one to the Junior Golf Club and one to our old friends at Yangtszepoo.

SMALL DECLINE IN INCOME.

Turning now to the accounts: Compared with the previous year our income shows a small decline of $174.43 principally owing to our entrance fees being less through our having to cease admitting new members on account of lack of accommodation on the greens. On the other hand a considerable saving was expected under the headings of coolies' wages and upkeep of greens and fences—and I would like to mention that included in last years accounts is the sum of $246.15 the first instalment of the contract for relaying the New Green. We made our customary contribution of $100 to the Recreation Fund Trustees and other items show little variation from the previous year. On the season's working we made a surplus of $427.49 reducing our deficit to $516.86 which I think may be considered quite satisfactory.

In the balance sheet, property account shows an increase from $370.10 to $550.88 principally accounted for by the purchase of a highly necessary roller. I would here like to point out that owing to a printer's error the cash in the hands of the Hon. Treasurer is stated in the balance sheet as $222.45 instead of $122.45.

NEW GREEN.

During the present year a heavy drain on our reserves will have to be faced in the cost of the relaying of the New Green. As already advised you, gentlemen, by circular, your Committee decided after going very fully into the matter, and acting upon the expert advice of Mr. MacGregor that it was impossible to get the new green into playing condition, and therefore resolved to relay it from the foundation. A contract was entered into for this work to be done at a cost of Tls. 950.60, and it is hoped that part at least of the green will be sufficiently advanced to be at your disposal by the middle of June. A great deal will naturally depend on the weather during the next few weeks.

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. J. W. Burtwell the report and accounts as presented were adopted.

Lieut.-Col. T. E. Trueman, O.B.E., was unanimously re-elected.

Mr. F. Banham was appointed vice-president.

Other officers were appointed as follows:—

Captain: Mr. W. A. Turnbull.
Secretary: Mr. A. Knowles.
Treasurer: Mr. S. Butter.
General Committee: Messrs. J. W. Burtwell, W. Gater, D. M. Graham, J. M. Robertson and H. Gordon Wright.
Balloting Committee: Messrs. G. Dunlop, W. L. Gerrard, F. L. Marshall, A. McLure, J. Munro, A. J. Stokes, G. L. Campbell and F. Fletcher.

Some discussion ensued on the question whether the Club's committee should select representatives for the championship matches, or whether members should just put up their names to play as in the past.

Mr. D. M. Graham moved that the committee be empowered to select three rinks in such matches. Mr. Large proposed as an amendment that the committee be empowered to select one rink of four players, only.—Mr. Simmons seconded this.

The amendment was put to the meeting and carried by a fair majority.

The meeting concluded with an expression of thanks to the Chairman, and to Messrs. Maitland & Co. for allowing them the use of the room for the meeting.

RECREATION CLUB

Annual Meeting: Suggested New Golf Section

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Recreation Club was held on Tuesday evening, the President, Mr. R. P. Phillips, presiding, supported by Mr. Frank Jones, Mr. T. G. Main (hon. treas.) Mr. F. O. Madar (hon. sec.) and other members of the committee.

The Chairman, reviewing the past year's work said they had had a very successful season. They had won the Cricket League, the Lawn Tennis League (1st Division), the Wallace Cup at lawn bowls, and the Dewar League Shield and the Skottowe Cup at football. He hoped they would be as successful in the coming year and this time win the Mercury Cup. He expressed his appreciation of the excellent work put in by the various sports sub-committees, and the Club's thanks to Mr. Hughes for the way in which he had pulled them out of the Slough of Despond in the football world. He hoped, though, that the 2nd eleven would do better this coming season. They had done well financially during the year, the balance in hand being over $1,000, whereas last year it was only $252.85. Most of this would, however, be eaten up by expenses incurred in putting up new posts, etc.

After the adoption of the report and accounts the following officers were elected:

President: Mr. R. P. Phillips.
Vice President: Mr. Frank Jones.
Committee: Messrs. G. H. Ackerman, H. B. Ollerdessen, H. Veitch, J. L. Wade, T. G. Main, F. O. Madar, and R. J. S. Brandt.
Balloting Committee: Messrs. Hughes, Hawes, Evans, W. Wilson, W. J. Davy, P. W. Reeves, H. E. Peck, F. Tomlinson, H. Ambrose, E. Nokes and White.
Captain—Mr. H. B. Ollerdessen; Vice-Captain, A. J. Willis.

Mr. Reeves, at the conclusion of the formal business, suggested to the incoming committee that they consider the advisability of starting a golfing section to the Club. He said he had raised the point before a few years ago and was then informed that golf was not included in their by-laws and could not therefore be introduced. He suggested, therefore, that the committee might now deal with the matter. Quite a number of their members played golf and they had a good course right close at hand, on the Race course. Competitions within the Club could be arranged as well as competitions with other clubs.

Mr. Frank Jones said there was such a section in the past and they had played on the course by courtesy of the Shanghai Golf Club. Now the course had been made public and there was no reason why they should not use it again.

The Chairman promised the matter would be considered by the new committee.

THE SHANGHAI YACHT CLUB

A Record Meeting: Practical Demonstration with New One-Design Byrne Boat

The enthusiasm aroused amongst yachting men by the introduction of the Byrne boat one-design class to the Huangpu was fully proved on Tuesday evening on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Shanghai Yacht Club. Several very old members were present and they said that the ancient Foam, since she had been made the headquarters of the Club, never had accommodated so many people at one time save when the tiffin bugle has sounded on the occasion of opening and closing cruises. The saloon of the old boat was packed to its full capacity when Mr. E. T. Byrne, the Commodore, opened the meeting.

In proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, the Commodore said:—

I think you will agree with me in congratulaing our worthy honorary secretary on the good work he has done in compiling such an excellent record, which leaves very little for me to say.

Last season was most successful and the crowded closing cruise promised well for the future and you will be glad to hear the indications of increased membership give us hope for an even better in 1924. I have to congratulate Mr. Lintilhac, our Rear-Commodore, on the excellent way he has thought out the races, the result being that practically all of them coincided with the tides, and that every yacht has had a fair show. This, I can assure you, is by no means an easy task, as it requires a great knowledge of tides and the effect that a change of wind may have on them.

The Foam preservation account is now a separate item, but I am afraid the balance of $332.14 is not near enough to meet the actual work needed, and I can assure you your committee view with grave concern the time, near at hand I am afraid, when our our headquarters will have to be scrapped. However, I hope that with an increased membership and

more interest in yachting we shall be able to build up a bigger reserve this year for the rainy day in front of us.

THE NEW BYRNE BOATS.

The new Phantom class is now completed and I tried one for the first time this afternoon and can only tell you my expectations and hopes were fully realized. Rules will be drawn up for this class that will eliminate the chances of the longer purse being used to any advantage over those full of sport but not full of money, and I wish again to thank those who have come forward and helped to bring the cost of this class down to a really cheap bargain. As you will see by the specimen moored outside, I have endeavoured to make everything as simple as possible and the helmsman, if he so desires, can manage everything himself, although I would only recommend an expert to try it. As soon as the remaining five arrive here, the prospective owners will be invited to come here and draw for their boats, after which they will have to learn how to get the best out of them and I may assure you the best man will win, as the boats are exactly alike.

During the winter a case came up of a laodah leaving one boat for higher pay in another and your committee think it is time to formulate a scale of pay, and if possible registration, for which we might invoke the aid of the River Police. We must try by some means or other to get a decent class at a reasonable wage to man the fleet. The species laodah, as we all know, has the shark cold as far as rapacity is concerned, but knowing this peculiarity it is up to the owner to look out. When, however, we have dishonesty and incompetency combined, we realize there can be trouble of a very pungent nature and the only thing to do is to fire the man and hope for better luck.

The report and accounts were adopted without comment and the following officers then were elected:—Commodore, Mr. E. T. Byrne; Vice Commodore, Mr. H. E. Middleton; Rear-Commodore, Mr. W. C. Woodfield; Committee, Messrs. J. D. McClatchie, C. E. Lintilhac, A. L. Blechynden, O. Bersani and C. E. Hall.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MELLOWS.

The Commodore—I now beg to propose:—"That in recognition of his long and invaluable services to this club, Mr. T. Mellows be elected an honorary life member." This resolution is one that in a way gives me a lot of pain, as it means that one of our most valued friends and members is retiring from active work in the Yacht Club. Mr. Mellows has been your Vice-Commodore for many years and has carried on his shoulders the brunt of the work of the club. None know it more than I do. As a sportsman and a gentleman I take my hat off to him. Very few of us in his position could have kept to the path that he has trodden and I think none realizes it as much as the great institution that he has served so long and faithfully. Many of you probably wonder why he has never been Commodore. Well, I have suggested this to him often, but he has always declined the post on the grounds that the club would benefit more by his remaining as Vice-Commodore I think you can all realize what an act of unselfishness this is and it only proves once again what a real man we have amongst us. How many are there who would have acted like he has? However, we are not going to lose him, as I feel sure he will be on board the Foam whenever races are going on and I feel sure his advice will be at all times cherished as coming from one whose whole life has been concerned with ships, from H.M.S. Caroline to yachts like the famous Haikuan.

Mr. A. L. Anderson, in seconding, said that the resolution was a very proper tribute to a sportsman and a gentleman. Whether sailing the Haikuan or doing anything else, Mr. Mellows always behaved in a way that commanded admiration and demanded respect.

The resolution was carried with acclamation and the Commodore handed Mr. Mellows a handsome framed photograph of his famous racing yacht, the Haikuan.

Mr. Mellows suitably responded.

THE POLO CLUB

Annual Meeting

The 26th annual meeting of the Shanghai Polo Club was held last Friday evening at the Race Club and was well attended. Mr. E. H. McMichael, Captain, presided, supported by Messrs. A. O. Fisher, Hon. Secretary and Treas., and H. G. Robinson.

The Chairman, commenting on the activities of the year, spoke highly of the team's success in the Hongkong Interport, bringing back with them the Keswick Cup (Messrs. E. H. McMichael, N. W. Hickling, D. L. Newbiggin and J. C. Grieg). He paid a tribute to Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co., Ld., for their great kindness in transporting the ponies to that port, and to the Horse Bazaar in the same connexion. The accounts showed a very favourable balance, equal to the previous season, and there were now 65 playing members and 131 non-playing.

On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. H. G. Robinson, the report and accounts were adopted. Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., was elected president by acclamation, and Mr. E. H. McMichael vice-presilent; while Messrs. R. I. Fearon, A. O. Fisher, E. H. McMichael, J. J. Paterson, H. G. Robinson and G. N. Wilson were chosen as the incoming committee.

It was the general opinion of the meeting that if possible a reserve fund be built up to provide contingencies, instead of depending on the annual budget, while a further suggestion was made that a permanent hut be built instead of the usual matshed, erected every season at a cost of approximately $500.

THE CANADIAN ASSOC. OF CHINA

The Annual Meeting: A Presentation to Dr. and Mrs. MacGillivray

The annual general meeting of the Canadian Association of China was held on Tuesday at Dr. and Mrs. MacGillivray's house, when there was an attendance of 40 resident and visiting Canadians. A toast to the King preceded dinner, following which the Chairman (Dr. MacGillivray) reviewed the work of the Association during the year in detail and welcomed on behalf of the Association the visiting Canadians present.

Mr. Plewman, of Chengtu, replied on behalf of the visitors, giving the meeting a short but extremely interesting account of life in Western China.

The report and accounts for the year then were submitted by the retiring committee and were unanimously passed. A satisfactory balance was shown on hand in the bank and the Association had no outstanding accounts to meet.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Dr. J. W. Ross; Chairman, Dr. D. MacGillivray; Vice-Chairman, Dr. E. W. Wallace; General Committee, Mesdames Booth and Tomlinson, Miss McGeachie, Messrs. J. J. Evans, D. E. Ross and S. Wolfe; Hon. Sec. and Treas., Mr. R. W. Burton.

Upon the conclusion of the formal business Dr. Ross expressed on behalf of the Association the gratitude felt towards Dr. and Mrs. MacGillivray for the hospitality and assistance extended to the Association on so many occasions and, in view of the early departure of Dr. and Mrs. MacGillivray on a well earned furlough, begged them to accept as expressions of the members' regard certain articles purchased by subscription. The latter consisted off a leather travelling bag and portfolio for Dr. MacGillivray and a silk umbrella and handbag for Mrs. MacGillivray. The presentation was accompanied by a written address expressing the feelings of the Association and wishing Dr. and Mrs. MacGillivray a happy holiday and a safe return to China.

CORRESPONDENCE

PROHIBITION AND ITS RESULTS.

To the Editor of the "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

Sir, Under the caption "Prohibition" have appeared a number of letters pro and con. I wish to add a few words to the discussion which may or may not be pertinent.

Countries reserve the right to make such laws as majorities decree. The United States is trying an experiment in prohibition which she has every right to try and to try to make successful. It is really more than an experiment in prohibition, it is an experiment in efficiency. The law was framed with the aim to make the majority more efficient. If, after the experiment has been tried, it is conclusively proved to be a failure, it will be repealed because the majority of the people of the United States have common sense.

The law exists and should be respected by sister nations until such a time as the United States wishes to repeal it.

Another point, which seems to have been lost sight of in the discussion, is that there is not really more drinking and manufacture of these narcotizing alcoholics than there was previous to prohibition. Some papers say there is more but it is entirely unsubstantiated by the facts. Might I suggest that a really careful study of the situation be made by the editor before making statements which neither he nor any one else can verify. It would be well to look up the banking returns in wet and dry years to see where the evidence lies. Aside from the interests of those directly or indirectly profiting from the sale or manufacture of intoxicants, the big business interests of the United States do not desire a return to pre-prohibition days and would vote almost solidly against it.

Even in New York, the city cited by the editor and the one usually cited because it is the greatest offender against the law due to the fact that it had enormous holdings in the liquor trade, it is distinctly precarious for restaurants to serve alcoholics, and the editor would still be "impressed" by the fact that "practically everybody" still drinks water with his meals. This I know because I have recently been home and observed the fact in a trip through twenty-one of the states. Even in one state with decidedly wet tendencies there was so little drinking that it was negligible. It is entirely too strong a statement to make that even a large minority of the youths of the nation carry flasks on their hips. Some few came under my direct notice, but they were few indeed compared with the large number who had no flasks at all.

The editor says that the law is vicious "because it has created a whole series of new forms of lawbreaking." It would be enlightening to have the series analysed and the different forms of each series set forth. The reason for the outcry against prohibition is that it really does prohibit and that the law is in very deed more efficacious than the opponents of the measure had wildly feared.

At a dinner given by Sir Arthur—in Baltimore the writer heard a discussion of the question, "Does prohibition probihit?" The discussion was entirely informal and varying opinions were expressed as to the fairness of the law but it was interesting to note the unanimity with regard to the question. Finally Sir Arthur humorously ended the discussion by saying, "You have practical evidence before you that prohibition does really prohibit in that I have been unable to serve my guests with anything stronger than coffee."

On the contrary the writer was present at a banquet at which liquor was served as though there were no law with regard to it. This occurred in Chicago and the liquors were of the best. They had been procured by the host on doctor's prescriptions. Only one man got drunk and he had as much right to get drunk as the host had to serve the liquor.

The whole question is one of legality not of morals, now. There is a law. One who defies this law is a law-breaker. It is debatable whether or not the law is just. If it is not it will be repealed. If it is, it has come to stay no matter what you or I may say about it. It is a fact that the results of the law are financially beneficial, up to the present. If the bank returns continue to show the same pleasing balance in favour of the measure, it will be difficult for any group to get the law repealed.

Desiring to get a conference of the governors of the various states with an eye to introducing light wines and beers as exempt from the bone-dry law, New York called such a conference to take place at Washington to be presided over by the President. When the conference met only nine states were represented. They were not even interested enough to come, but were willing to leave that law where it is. When one thinks of the number of states needed to raise the question of repeal, it looks like a hopeless task for those interested in alcoholic narcotics. The law will stand as a result of the partial benefits accruing from prohibition. These benefits will become more apparent as time goes on and the experiment gets past the experimental stage.

The reason we have traffic laws is that they make for efficiency not that they prevent nuisances. On the basis of efficiency will the prohibition laws be justified or repealed and the moral element will largely be left out of the reckoning.

I am, etc.,
C. H. BARLOW.

Shaoshing, Che., April 20, 1924.

To the Editor of the "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—While visiting Shanghai recently I read an article in your paper entitled "Prohibition in the working." Palpably booze propaganda, unintelligent, untruthful, and misleading. No well informed American will admit that there is more drunkenness in America to-day than before prohibition was adopted; that it is not so, is self-evident and truthful statistics support it.

Your article gives some figures for the number of arrests for the years 1920 to 1922 showing a large decrease for the first two on a percentage showing, and these giving the total for the year 1922 as 254,000, and stating it exceeded those in 1918 by 1,500 (in number) at least that is the assumption. Now such figures do not give a true estimate of general conditions, for liquor drinking is almost entirely confined to the largest cities. In 1918 thousands of cases of drunkenness were left lying in the streets, and only the most desperate ones locked up because the gaols were full. To-day in order to make out a case against prohibition its enemies have to resort to dishonesty. If there is more liquor drunk under prohibition, why do the liquor interests want it annulled? What do they care about the increase in drunkenness. I sat in your best hotels while in Shanghai and saw men and women swill cocktails until their brains were muddled and they were unsteady on their feet. You could not see such a thing in New York if you searched for it. As for the claim that drunkenness is decreasing in Great Britain it is entirely due to three reasons. Shorter hours for sale of liquor, higher cost, and some awakening to the knowledge that men are better off without it.

Now as to the increase of crime under prohibition. This is another misleading statement. Prohibition has nothing to do with its increase. Crime has increased everywhere in the world as an aftermath of the war and is purely psychological in its origin. Any fool should know that soberness does not make murderers; but in almost every instance where a murder is committed the perpetrator is a liquor addict. As for drug addicts, the increase is prevalent throughout the world, but you don't find anyone advocating removal of restrictions against use on that account.

We were told in America that the adoption of prohibition would bring unemployment, and many hundreds of groceries and store rooms would be shut up. Our experience has proved the contrary to be true to the great benefit of every community.

England and the English people should hang their heads in shame: one has only to visit the two countries to note how high America stands above you in this respect. Almost the first thing one sees everywhere under foreign rule is whisky. Your newspapers are full if it. Your signboards are plastered with it, and your mentality is swayed by it.

As I said the article in your paper was untruthful. In one place it says the number of gaols has largely increased under prohibition. As a matter of fact many gaols have not had an inmate for weeks and in one instance three counties have combined, and closed two of their gaols and dismissed their employees. If you want to know what America thinks about prohibition, ask her business men, manufacturers, bankers and railroad men.

I am sending you under separate cover an American paper giving you the facts. Have you courage enough to publish the article?

I am etc.,
ROBERT NIMMO, JR.

Hollywood, Cal., Apr. 15, 1924.

*** Why did our correspondent spoil an otherwise admirable letter by that third paragraph from the end. It obliges us to remind him that, even if there are no other reasons for American prosperity than prohibition— a rather doubtful supposition—there are many other causes than non-prohibition to explain Great Britain's poverty—the unparalleled war that she fought for nearly 4½ years, her immense financing of her Allies and the crushing taxation she is enduring for the honourable discharged her debts.

To the Editor of the "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In your issue of the 26th appears a letter under the above caption, signed by the Rev. C. H. Barlow.

His letter reminds me of the one-time famous contortionist. Houdini. The only apparent difference between them is that Houdini disentangled himself from a rope knotted by anyone in his audience whereas the Rev. C. H. Barlow ties himself into knots and extricates himself with perfect ease. His letter is replete with slipknots.

He states that countries have the *right* to make such laws as the majority decree. Not at all. The majority may have the *power* but "Might is *not* Right."

The minority, which may be a very large one, have the *right* to contravene the provisions of any laws objectionable to them but, of course, at the risk of legal penalties imposed by the "Might-is-Right" majority.

There are two distinct forms of liberty. The Civic and the intimately personal. It is right that the City Council shall decree that automobiles shall not voluntarily use the sidewalk, that the expenses of administration be recoverable by process of properly imposed taxes, notwithstanding that a minority might object. But when the City Fathers tell me that I must, under pain of penalties, wear my pants inside out, stick my gum in my ear instead of under the seat of my chair at the movies, wear a "twicer" collar and a "Jemima" tie when I dress for dinner, then I consider it an arbitrary interference with my intimately personal liberty.

According to the Hong List the Rev. C. H. Barlow is a Baptist missionary. I am a Bush Baptist and would like to ask my reverend brother what he and others composing a very large minority would do in the event of a majority composed of, shall we say, Atheists, enacting a law compelling everyone to become an Atheist. Would they acquiesce or would they start in with a most unholy pow-wow? Such a law would infringe upon their intimately personal liberty and the

...morrow would be right on passing ... to any conceivable extent.

I may say that never in my life have I tasted whisky, neither have I in my life, although not wishing my readers, ever tasted milk and eggs. Supressing the nausea I decoped that I must have reward drink milk and eat eggs, resulting in ossification of the eyebrows and necessitating the use of tortoiseshell goggles. Am I to tamely submit

I am, etc.,
BIBBY

Shanghai, April 27, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Concerning the discussion now in progress in your correspondence column I beg to subscribe the following extract from a New York [illegible] dated April 4, 1924, written to me by a friend resident in Shanghai:

"I think I have drunk more vile liquor since I have been home than I ever did before in a lifetime. Prohibition here is a joke—[illegible] if one cares to pay [illegible] for it but no telling where it comes from or how good it is. Everybody has something in the house nowadays—even those who never did before—and every place you go to you have to sample somebody's home [illegible]. It's the greatest [illegible] and [illegible] are getting rich. I'd like to have a real drink once in a while that can still be had in free countries. First thing you know the American propagandists and reformers will [illegible] England [illegible] I can't understand why England and other countries will submit to such things as the recent [illegible] ships. They ought to tell the reformers here where they get off at [illegible] in the Eastern [illegible] Well, maybe I'll come back to China some day and get a real drink again."

I am, etc.,
CHESTAH

Shanghai, April 25, 1924.

THE THREE CIGARETTES.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In your issue of March 20 [illegible] comment regarding the [illegible] against [illegible] cigarettes [illegible] by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] The Wrigley [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

word. All kinds of nervous troubles, including paralysis and spinal deformities and nervous ex[illegible] were among the cures. It [illegible] can play so big a part in m[illegible] ill people well, then it ought to keep well people fit. In most kindergarten schools of Aus[illegible] the young are being ins[illegible] how to keep their bodies [illegible] and to do that they are told, amongst other things to eat wheat bread in preference to white. If the little I have said here proves to be of ever so little help to either foreigners or Chinese, then I shall feel that I have only done my duty.

I am, etc.,
B. E. N.

Shanghai, Apr. 28, 1924.

A FULL RIGGED SHIP.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Having been in an argument now for the past three days with several other friends, all seafaring men, I beg to request that you kindly publish in your esteemed "Notes" the following:—

How many ropes are there on a full rig ship, and what are the names of each rope?

Trusting that some of our old clipper hands will furnish us with the required information,

I am, etc.,
Ship's Bell Boy.

Shanghai, April 29, 1924.

*** It almost looks as if a full nautical treatise would be needed to answer this, but perhaps some one with the requisite knowledge would kindly oblige.—Ed.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—In reply to the "Ship's Bell Boy's" letter: The only *ropes* to be found on a sailing ship are, if my memory does not fail me, man-ropes, foot-ropes, and the tow-rope.

I am, etc.,
A Mere Landlubber.

Shanghai, May 1, 1924.

*** Another correspondent writes: "This is a catch. There are only three articles called ropes in a sailing ship; the remainder come under the various headings of guys, sheets, lines, slings and hawsers.—Ed.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Replying to Ship's Bell Boy in your issue of to-day's date as to how many ropes there are on a full rigged ship and names of same, for the information I would say they are as follows:—

Bell Rope
Back Rope
Foot Rope
Head Rope
Tow Rope

These are the ropes I can remember being referred to during my younger days at sea in deep water sailing ships.

I am, etc.,
Thos. M. Bowern.

Shanghai, May 1, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Unless my memory plays me false the answer to "Bell Boy" is seven and the names of the ropes are as under.

Man Rope, Buoy Rope, Foot Rope, Bolt Rope, Boat Rope, Tow Rope, Bell Rope.

The last mentioned had nothing to do with a bell but was attached to an old-fashioned pump in order that a greater number of men could work at it than could grasp the handles.

All other ropes, etc., forming the standing and running rigging of a full rigged ship had distinctive names such as graces, tacks, sheets, etc. etc.

This used to be an old catch for youngsters when they went to sea first.

I am etc.,
Mainsail Haul.

Shanghai, May 1, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—In answer to "Ship's Bell Boy's" inquiries in to-day's paper, I should like to point out that the question asked is really too vague to answer correctly.

Does he, "Ship's Bell Boy, mean a 3, 4, or 5 masted full rigged ship? Has the said full rigged ship royals, skysails, double topgallant sails or what? There would be a vast difference in the number of ropes in a full rigged ship, say with three masts and only carrying double topgallant sails, and a four-masted full rigged ship carrying royals and a main skysail yard.

I think if our friend "Ship's Bell Boy" stated definitely *what* he wanted to know there are plenty of square-rigged men out here who would be only too pleased to supply the necessary information.

Has "Ship's Bell Boy" ever been in a full rigged ship? Thanking you for space in your valuable paper.

I am, etc.
Lee Fore Brace.

Shanghai, May 1, 1924.

The German cargo steamer R. C. Rickmers, which struck a rock in Lyemoon Pass when on her way to Shanghai recently, has been successfully beached at Yaumati, near Stonecutters, and though she is taking in water through the hole in her side is lying on an even keel has been towed to Kowloon Dock for repairs.

Mr. Tang Shao-yi, in an interview with a representative of the Japanese press, is reported to have stated that he strongly opposes the new American immigration law. Mr. Tang, says the report, stated that America was a land of freedom and unselfishness, but now that such a law had been passed by the Senate it was giving its support to the racial prejudice creed and was acting against the course of world's events. He said that not only should the Japanese be angry and indignant, but the Chinese also.

Announcement is made of establishment of the new law firm, of Chalaire & Franklin, which will start business on May 1. Mr. W. Chalaire came to the Orient several years ago. In the Philippines, he successfully concluded negotiations for big New York interests, and then came to Shanghai where he has been since. Mr. C. S. Franklin, for many years U.S. District Judge in Honlulu, resigned to come to Shanghai three years ago, where associated himself with Judge Williams, who returned to America 18 months ago. Mr. Max Schoop, formerly in business with Mr. Chalaire in Shanghai, will act as the new firm's New York representative. Mr. E. Anthony, who arrived in Shanghai last year, will continue with the new firm, as will Mr. L. Hilden.

A story of a peppery American general who demanded to be allowed to land at Yokohama from the President Cleveland, though he had no passport, is published by the "*Osaka Asahi*." His demand was not granted, despite the fact that he claimed to be a close friend of Gen. Wood, Governor of the Philippines. The visitor was very indignant, the Osaka paper says, and denounced the Japanese officials as pig-headed. Democratic Americans, comments the "Japan Chronicle," will be pleased (if the story is true) that the officials were firm with one who put in such a snobbish claim for special privilege. The idea which seemed to be suggested in the Japanese press report, that this was the beginning of retaliation for the Immigration Bill, is rather farfetched. But it is rather striking that at the moment when the American Legislature was expressing its opinion that Japanese ought not to be allowed to land at all in America, an American general should boggle because he was required to have a passport. Not that we approve of passports, the "Chronicle" goes on. They are merely a device to vex the traveller and mulct him his cash without rendering him any service in exchange. But Japan is not the only sinner and not the worst one in this respect.

LAW REPORTS

JUDGMENT AGAINST MR. E. MOLLER

Yangtsze Insce. Claim: Judgment Admitted: No Act of Indemnity

A case involving Tls. 150,000 was dealt with in three minutes in H. M. Supreme Court on Monday, before his Honour Judge Sir Skinner Turner, the proceedings in effect constituting a formal protest by Mr. Eric Moller against the action of the Hongkong Government in connexion with his shipping claim.

Plaintiffs were the Yangtsze Insurance Association Co., Ld., and their claim was as follows:—

(a)—Tls. 117,092.71 money lent.

(b)—Tls. 25,324.41 agreed interest thereon at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum up to March 31, 1924.

(c)—Tls. 11,413.02 the amount of insurance premia due from the defendant to plaintiffs.

(d)—Tls. 4,066 money due under a letter of guarantee dated October 25, 1917.

Plaintiffs also claimed that the items (a) and (b) were due under a convenant in a mortgage of the str. Lindsay Moller, dated December 12, 1916, and/or a convenant of indenture dated June 15, 1923. There was a further claim for interest at the rate of 8½ per cent. upon the first item from March 31, 1924, up to the date of the writ and thereafter until judgment.

Mr. H. Lipson Ward appeared for plaintiff and Mr. H. P. Wilkinson for defendant.

Mr. Ward said that the proceedings were brought under a specially endorsed writ, and an affidavit had been filed by Mr. C. M. G. Burnie, general manager for plaintiffs, supporting the claim in accordance with Rule 100. No affidavit in reply had been filed, and counsel accordingly asked for judgment in the terms of the writ.

Mr. Wilkinson, for defendant, said: The bringing of this action is a direct consequence of the commandeering of the ships of Moller & Co. by the Hongkong Government. As Mr. Moller would not, if he could, pass an act of indemnity relieving him of his liabilities, on his behalf I consent to judgment. There is no dispute as to the amount.

His Lordship entered judgment for plaintiffs for Tls. 157,896, with costs.

THE TALE OF A DOG AND A CAR

Unsuccessful Claim for Tls.100 for a Damaged Peke: Sequel to a Friendly Lift

In H. M. Supreme Court on Tuesday, before Judge Peter Krain, Olga Ouralskaya claimed from Mr. Edward Lloyd the sum of Tls. 100, damages for injuries to a Pekingese dog.

Plaintiff's story was that she saw defendant outside the French Club one night last December, and mistaking him for someone else spoke to him. She accepted his invitation to go for a short car-ride. She had the dog with her, and in the car defendant hit it with his fist, bruising its eye and breaking a nerve. A few days later she saw defendant again and asked him for Frs. 1,000 for injuring her dog. She had the animal under her arm, and he hit it again, though this time she was not sure that he was not trying to hit her. She valued the animal at Tls. 100, because in addition to its being a pet, she made money out of its pups.

Defendant denied the whole story. He stated that he was trying to start up his car on December 16 at about 8 o'clock in the evening. It would not start very well because the night was cold, and the woman came up to him and asked if he was not Mr. Barry. He replied in the negative and she told him she had considerable trouble with her servants during the day, and her dog, a very valuable animal, would not eat. Would he give her a lift to a compradore's shop? He did so, unfortunately for himself, and a day or two later she went to see him at his office and demanded Frs. 1,000 because she had been in his car. He refused and sent her away. She came again later and he gave her $30, all the money he had on him, to get rid of her. She kept on coming to see him, however, and finally he consulted the police. After that when she came round he sent for Det. Hunter who put the woman out of the office. He heard nothing more till she brought this case, and since to the best of his knowledge he had never even touched the dog, he refused to pay. If he thought for one moment he had hurt her dog he would have paid.

Judgment was given for defendant with costs.

PRIESTLY PRISONERS

Ex-Granthis on Trial for Alleged Misappropriation of Ghee Funds

The trial of two former Granthis of the Sikh Gurdwara, upon a charge of having converted to their own use certain money entrusted to them by various Sikhs, opened on Wednesday before Judge Sir Skinner Turner, and a jury, at H. M. Supreme Court.

The prosecution alleged that between January and November of last year the accused—Sucha Singh and Amar Singh—misappropriated $910) handed over to them for the purchase of "ghee, peas, mustard oil, and woollen shirts," and to this prisoners pleaded not guilty.

At the outset, Mr. L. K. Kentwell informed his Lordship that on the previous evening the accused had applied to him to appear in their defence, and in these circumstances he desired the court to adjourn the hearing.

His Lordship—I do not think that is possible now that the jury has been summoned.

Mr. Kentwell—These men could not raise sufficient money to pay for their defence until last night, and until they had it they would not go near a lawyer's office.

His Lordship—But they were represented in the lower court, and have had ample time in which to prepare for the trial.

Mr Kentwell was unable to accept an adjournment until the afternoon, and accordingly withdrew, and his Lordship thereupon promised the accused to look after their legal interests.

In opening the case for the prosecution, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson (Crown Advocate), said that ghee was a form of butter compound used by the natives of India, and arrangements were made by Sikh police, watchmen and others to obtain consignments from India. Ghee for the men in the various police stations was taken over by the senior havildars and distributed by them, but that for the watchmen and others had been given to the two accused, who were Granthis attached to the Gurdwara in a priestly capacity There was, however, nothing of a sacred character about this business transaction. It was just a matter of convenience that they should distribute the ghee and collect the money for it. It was found at the end of last year that they were short in their accounts to the amount named in the charge, and when asked to explain, one of them said that some of the money had been spent for Gurdwara purposes and in the entertainment of a deputation of Sikhs who came here from Singapore. This, however, had nothing to do with the Gurdwara funds, and the accused were never asked to expend money in that way. A meeting was held at the Gurdwara, the explanations offered were not accepted, and the two accused were dismissed.

In answer to his Lordship, the Crown Advocate agreed that it would not necessarily be a criminal offence if the men spent money on an object they thought they were entitled to spend but in fact were not.

Evidence was then called, and Det. Sub.-Inspector Yorke said, with regard to the arrest, that one of the accused rang up Central Station and asked if there was a warrant against them, and later both men came to the station.

JEMADAR'S EVIDENCE.

Sirdar Sahib Buddha Singh, Jemadar, stated that the Ghee Fund was collected from Police and various other Sikhs and paid into an account in the Chartered Bank, and witness alone was authorized to sign cheques. A portion of each consignment was given to the accused to dispose of, and they were responsible for collecting the money and paying it in to the treasurer. They had no right to do anything else with the money. When the shortage was discovered and the accused were questioned about it, Sucha said he had collected $450, some of which he had used for himself and some for the Gurdwara fund, adding that he would repay it when he had been reimbursed by the Gurdwara and received some deferred pay due to him. Amar explained that he had used some of the money in connexion with the Singapore deputation. He also said that money had not been paid by Sikhs who had gone to Mexico. This accused also promised to settle up when he received his deferred pay. A meeting of Sikhs was held to consider the matter and the accused were dismissed from the Gurdwara.

TREASURER'S CROSS-EXAMINATION BY ACCUSED.

Evidence was given by the Treasurer of the Ghee fund, to prove the amounts unaccounted for, and at the afternoon session witness was cross-examined at considerable length by both the accused. He admitted that the account was made out in the name of the Gurdwara, but held that the accused were personally responsible. He denied having been furnished with a list of Sikhs who owed money to the fund, and said that a list now put in by Amar Singh was exhbited for the first time.

The trial was adjourned until next morning.

Accused Found Not Guilty

The trial was concluded on Thursday.

Havildar Jagat Singh, describing what took place at the Gordon Road Gurdwara when the accused were called upon to explain the accounts to the Committee, said that Sucha Singh admitted having collected $450 and spent some for personal use and some for the Gurdwara. He offered to repay the money, but he afterwards became angry and told the Committee they would have to sue him in court for the money. Amar Singh explained that Sikhs who owed money for the ghee had gone away and he could not collect, but he did not say how much was outstanding.

THE SINGAPORE DEPUTATION.

Jemadar Buddha Singh, recalled and questioned by his Lordship, said the accused were held jointly responsible because Granthis always worked together and shared responsibility. Witness denied having authorized either of the accused to spend money on the Singapore deputation. He could not say whether money had been collected from the men who went to Mexico, but he held that accused were liable whether they collected or not. They were responsible unless they put forward some explanation which was satisfactory to the Committee.

Witness also said that a sum of $150 had been paid which had not before been mentioned by the treasurer in his evidence.

His Lordship then intimated that he would be glad to hear from the prosecution what evidence there was to go to the jury that the accused had "unlawfully and fraudulently" converted the money to their own use.

The Crown Advocate replied that the accused had given no details of the amounts they alleged they had spent any at all in that way.

His Lordship—That is only inference.

The Crown Advocate—They have not proved spending a copper cash on the Gurdwara.

Accused then gave evidence, and [illegible] to the jury that the matter was one of account, admitting that certain sums were being paid over to the Ghee Fund treasurer; and asserting that some amounts due had not been paid by the purchasers.

"GOING TO SUE THE COUNCIL."

Sucha Singh told the jury that Amar Singh and himself proposed to sue the Municipal Council for wrongful dismissal from the Gurdwara, and the suggested that the Council had got one in first by initiating this prosecution. He went on to refer to a feud between police and non-police members of the Gurdwara, but his Lordship intervened, saying that this had nothing to do with the case.

In summming up, his Lordship reviewed the evidence at considerable length, and incidentally pointed out that throughout the case not a word had been heard with reference to the peas, mustard oil, and woollen shirts" included in the charge.

After a short retirement, the jury returned with a verdict of not guilty, and prisoners were discharged, his Lordship observing that on the evidence they had heard it would have been dangerous to convict the accused on a criminal charge. He thanked the jury for their attendance and attention to the case, and excused them from further jury service before 1926.

TWO YEARS AFTER

Guarantor Sued for Payment on Behalf of Deceased Friend

The case of a guarantor called upon to pay nearly two years after the death of the debtor, was before his Honour Judge Grain yesterday, when a Chinese sued Mr. W. E. Field for $307, balance due under a judgment of the Supreme Court.

Mr. J. G. Priestwood appeared for plaintiff, Kao Siao-yen, who gave evidence that his claim for $487 was before the court in 1920, defendant being Mr. W. A. Ellis. The case was adjourned *sine die* upon Mr. Field undertaking to be guarantor for the debt, and Mr. Ellis afterwards repaid $180.

Defendant—Mr. Ellis died 18 months ago.

Mr. Priestwood—But that does not affect your position as guarantor.

His Honour, observing that the case was a somewhat uncommon one, added that ordinarily a guarantor could not be called upon if it were shown that plaintiff had missed any opportunity of obtaining his money from the principal.

Mr. Priestwood admitted that no proceedings were taken against Mr. Ellis after defendant became guarantor. The man died without any assets.

Defendant told his Honour that he signed the guaranty at the request of Mr. Priestwood who, upon finding that nothing could be got from Mr. or Mrs. Ellis, went to him at the back of the court and asked him to be guarantor, saying "Ellis is your friend and you don't want to see him go to prison." After a lot of persuasion, witness consented to sign, Mr. Priestwood saying that it would not affect him at all, that it was a matter of form. When, 12 months later, the instalments were not being kept up and witness was called upon to pay, he spoke to Mr. Priestwood, who said "I am not worrying about Ellis. It is up to you. You are guarantor." He made no attempt to get the money from Ellis.

His Honour—It may be unfortunate for you, but the document is a clear and complete one and you have signed your signature.

Mr. Priestwood—I must disclaim any notion of having told defendant that he was not liable under this written document.

Defendant offered to pay at the rate of $50, and plaintiff asked for $80, his Honour eventually making an order for the amount claimed, with costs, to be paid in monthly instalments of $30.

PARIS, May 1.—The lists of candidates for the coming elections comprise 2,754 names.—Reuter.

TALKING TO A LADY

Police Story of Why Motorist Disobeyed Traffic Signal: Case Dismissed

F. C. Raeburn was summoned before Mr. G. W. King at H. M. Police Court on Monday for an alleged breach of a traffic regulation.

Mr. E. T. Maitland appeared for the police, whose evidence was to the effect that, driving a car from Thibet Road south, defendant turned into Nanking Road against a police traffic signal. The Sikh on point duty stated that defendant's car was 45 yards away when he signalled to the traffic to stop. A tramcar had to pull up sharply in order to avoid a collision.

Defendant said that he did not notice the signal, and the probability was that it was given at the moment he was turning into Nanking Road. He did not notice the tram car at all.

Mr. Maitland suggested that possibly defendant failed to observe the signal because he was talking to a lady in the car.

Defendant—I do not know that I was doing so at that particular moment.

His Worship—It does not seem a very serious case.

Mr. Maitland agreed, but added that there seemed to have been carelessness on defendant's part, and at this corner in particular people ought not to be careless.

His Worship dismissed the case.

MR. KELLY AND ASIATIC MOTORS

The Claim for Alleged Wrongful Dismissal and Return of Money

Mr. P. W. Kelly's claim for damages for alleged wrongful dismissal from the employ of the Asiatic Motors Co. was continued in the U. S. Court for China last Friday morning and afternoon before his Honour, Judge Purdy. The plaintiff claims arrears in salary, Tls. 1.433, the sum of Tls. 1,500 in lieu of three months notice, and G900 as reinbursement on shares bought from the company. Mr. F. J. Schuhl appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. R. S. Haskell for the defendants.

Mr. P. W. Giovannini, general manager of the Asiatic Motors Co., one of the witnesses for the defence, stated that there was general dissatisfaction with the service rendered by the plaintiff. Dr. A. C. Selmon, one of the stockholders in the defendant company, stated that he was dissatisfied with charges made by the company for work done on his car, and that his bill was cut down two thirds after his complaints.

Mr. R. S. Haskell, as secretary and director of the defendant company, read the minutes of the company meetings with reference to the termination of Mr. Kelly's services with the Asiatic Motors because of the dissatisfaction of the officers, and reported his conversations with the plaintiff on this point. A Chinese coolie formerly employed by defendants stated that he had been kicked and struck by plaintiff. The [illegible] and bookkeeper of the defendant company identified the vouchers and accounts of plaintiff.

Mr. Kelly himself then explained at length the poor condition of [illegible] for repairs, stating that the original manufacturers were responsible for their defective operations and that he could not be held accountable. Mr. H. H. Winbang, formerly garage manager of the defendant company, stated that he considered Mr. Kelly's services excellent and claimed that Mr. Haskell at one time wished to reorganize the company, eliminating Mr. Mark. This was flatly denied by Mr. Haskell who also stated that Mr. Winbang had come to him with complaints of Kelly. On closing the testimony Mr. Haskell filed a request for the findings on the facts. Arguments were then presented by Messrs. Schuhl and Haskell and the case was taken under advisement by Judge Purdy.

MR. HUSAR'S MISHAP AT SEA

The Final Evidence

The final hearing of evidence in the action of L. G. Husar v. the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. and the U. S. Shipping Board took place on Saturday.

Dr. Birt declared that he examined the patient twice, once in his office and then later with Dr. Martin, the purpose of the latter being to make a comparison of the X-Ray plates and the injured skull itself. Serious vascular meningitis was a very serious disease, even though localized. Plaintiff did not have the symptoms of the malady.

Mr. Schuhl asked if he had tested the nerve stimuli and was responded to with an assertion that he had stimulated the nerves at the 'seat of the injury, there was a normal blood pressure and he believed the plaintiff to have been affected with a mild form of neurasthenia. He would not consider extraction of spinal fluid serious, it would not be called an operation but a diagnostic method.

Mr. Husar, placed in the box in rebuttal, said that his doctor's fees had come to Tls. 750, and he thought that Dr. Birt had not been in his office more than 10 or 15 minutes altogether. The doctor had asked a few questions and looked at the scar, but had not felt his pulse, taken his blood pressure, nor tested his reflex actions.

A PRESCRIPTION FOR DHOBEE ITCH

Claim against American Drug Co. for Alleged Wrongly Prepared Ointment

The action for Tls. 50,000 by a customer against the American Drug Co. for alleged negligence in making up a prescription came before Judge Purdy at the U. S. Court yesterday. Plaintiff, Magdalena Guignard, in her petition, states that on or about November 22, 1923, her husband gave defendants a prescription written by Dr. F. Reiss which called for a mild ointment for the cure of dhobee itch. On November 26 plaintiff's husband inquired of defendants if they could duplicate said prescription, stating at the time that he had not with him the original or the copy of the prescription. Defendants did not deliver the ointment ordered but negligently substituted a different prescription, strong and dangerous, which fact was unknown to the plaintiff until after she was badly injured by its use, confined to her bed for some time, contracted internal injuries from which she will never recover, and has been unable to care for her young baby because of said injuries.

The defense alleges that the defendant company delivered the exact prescription asked for by plaintiff's husband and that since they were not informed as to the use of the prescription asked and made no suggestions as to its use they were not responsible. Mr. F. J. Schuhl and Mr. R. T. Bryan appeared for plaintiff; Mr. W. E. Fleming for defendants.

Mr. E. W. Miller, whose evidence was taken as he is shortly to leave Shanghai, said he was formerly employed by defendant company. Plaintiff's husband asked to have a prescription for ointment refilled which had been ordered by Dr. Reiss and originally filled on the preceding Wednesday or Thursday morning. No indication was given him as to the use of the ointment, nor had witness any knowledge of the previous order. Prescriptions, unless narcotic, were not usually marked with the name of the patient, and the prescription for ointment, ordered by Dr. Reiss on the Thursday morning, and sent to plaintiff on this second order had no mark to show for whom it was intended. The witness did not compound the prescription.

Witness thought the ingredients of the second prescription in question had been entered in the book and said that while it was stronger than the first prescription originally ordered for defendant he would not consider it unduly strong or dangerous. There was a difference evident to the ordinary eye between the two prescriptions. He stated that he had never told Mr. Guignard that he or that his company had made any mistake in the prescriptions although he had stated that a mistake had been made. When asked how he knew that the second prescription was the one filled on Thursday morning and not Thursday afternoon the witness said that he based his assumption on the fact that the writing was same as that of the other morning entries, and that the afternoon entries were made by another clerk.

The hearing was adjourned until May 22.

STATUS OF VISITORS OF KIANGWAN

Interesting Mixed Court Judgment: Club Servant who Assumed Police Duties

An interesting judgment was delivered in the Mixed Court, on Monday, regarding the claim of Mr. Solomon Libby against the International Recreation Club for Tls. 50,000 as damages for an alleged assault and imprisonment following on "a pretended charge of parking a motor car in an unauthorized place" during a race meeting at the Kiangwan course. Mr. F. J. Schuhl represented the plaintiff and Mr. G. H. Wright appeared for the defence.

The judgment states in part:—

With regard to the allegation of imprisonment, it is quite clear from the evidence that the plaintiff was imprisoned by the police of Chapei, who were on the premises of the defendant club to maintain law and order during the race meet which was being held at the time. These police were not the agents or servants of the defendant club, which, therefore, cannot be held liable for any of their acts. The Court, therefore, has to deal only with that part of the plaintiff's allegation which reads:—"That the said plaintiff was assaulted, his clothing torn and his person injured."

THE USE OF FORCE.

In spite of the statements of Pointsman No. 2 to the contrary, the Court is of the opinion that Pointsman No. 2 must have used force to compel the plaintiff to go with him to the small room within the enclosure. The plaintiff was entirely innocent of the charge for which he was being taken to this room and under such circumstances it was natural that he would resent such action and possibly resist such action. Furthermore, the guilty man was present at all material times and yet Pointsman No. 2 persisted in detaining the innocent party. Mr. Encarnacao, an entirely disinterested party, stated that he saw Pointsman No. 2 holding plaintiff by the neck and dragging him along.

The Chapei police were in the immediate vicinity for the purpose of maintaining law and order and Pointsman No. 2 should have called upon them to detain any person violating the parking regulations, rather than undertake that task himself, even though the offending party were willing, as he alleges. In the exercise of this force by Pointsman No. 2, it is reasonable to believe that the plaintiff was injured as he alleges. There is a possibility that plaintiff was also injured by the police later on, but since Pointsman No. 2 had no authority whatsoever to arrest anybody the benefit of the doubt on this point should be given to the plaintiff.

STATUS OF VISITORS.

With regard to the liability of the defendant club for the acts of Pointsman No. 2, the Court is of the opinion that it is liable. The defendant club cannot say, as its attorney stated in Court, that since it is a private club any person coming on its premises does so at his peril. Although the defendant is a private club, yet it depends upon the public for support and actually advertises to the public the dates upon which its race meets are held and invites the public to attend upon purchase of tickets at the entrance gates. The plaintiff attended the races on such an invitation and was not therefore a trespasser.

Furthermore, an incident of the kind at issue could easily have been avoided had the club given proper instructions to its employees as to the proper action to be taken when a visitor infringes one of the rules, namely, to call the police who were on the premises. In this particular case, the police do not appear to have been called at all; they appeared on the scene when the tumult caused by the acts of Pointsman No. 2 arose.

PLAINTIFF'S MISTAKE

Commenting on plaintiff's injuries, the judgment states that they were not very serious, nor were his clothes torn very badly, and it continues:—

With regard to the contributory negligence of the plaintiff, the Court is of the opinion that the plaintiff did not do all that he might have done to explain in a cool, calm manner his connexion with the parking of the car. He did not treat Pointsman No. 2 with all the deference which was due him as an employee of the club, as such the plaintiff recognized him to be, in assisting him in carrying out the parking regulations. Had the plaintiff, instead of arguing with Pointsman No. 2, immediately asked his friend, Mr. Giovannini, to park the car in the proper parking place, the incident would certainly never have occurred.

Judgment was given for Tls. 500 damages.

BOGUS LOTTERIES

Chinese Swindler and Gullible Seamen

A Chinese, who has, according to the Water Police, as well as those on shore, been victimizing the itinerant sailor in port was before the Mixed Court on Thursday morning. It was his custom, as the evidence showed, to frequent the wharves and jetties, when sailors came from their vessels, and with a cleverly worded plea, induce them to purchase worthless lottery tickets.

Inspector Woodfield told the Court of accused's actions in 1921 and 1922, at which time the "North-China Daily News" printed a warning to sea-faring men with reference to his nefarious swindles. Finally apprehended, he was then sentenced to serve six months in gaol, followed by expulsion.

During recent weeks accused had come into prominence again in a similar game and three sailors from the U.S.S. Penguin gave evidence as to how he had induced them to purchase three tickets at $20 per ticket. It also appeared that a steward from the str. Sarpedon had fallen a prey to his clever talk, while the officers from Hongkew Station, too, knew something of his actions.

Accused was sent to prison for two years and will then again be expelled.

A quiet wedding took place on Saturday noon at the Danish Consulate when Miss Esther Sherfig of Denmark was married to Mr. R. C. Jensen of the Great Northern Telegraph Company. A reception and tiffin at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. K. Rothe of 291 Rue Chapsal followed the ceremony.

CHINA Journal of Science & Arts, edited by Mr. A. de C. Sowerby and Dr. J. C. Ferguson, is a bi-monthly, profusely illustrated magazine. It contains authentic articles written by experts on the Arts, Literature and Science of China. The annual subscription is $10.00 Shanghai currency, or $6.00 gold for U.S.A. and Canada. Office:—Room 102, the Ben Building, Shanghai. Central 3247.

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

BRITAIN'S FIRST LABOUR BUDGET

Remarkable Revenue Returns: £49,329,000 Surplus from Last Year: Wonderful Reductions in the Nation's Debts: Considerable Reduction in Taxes: McKenna Duties to be Abolished

Deadweight debt March 31, 1923	£7,772,000,000
Deadweight debt March 31, 1924	£7,680,000,000
Floating debt March 31, 1923	£ 810,000,000
Floating debt March 31, 1924	£ 774,000,000
Deadweight debt December, 1919	£8,000,000,000
Interest on deadweight debt, 1919	£ 345,000,000
Interest on deadweight debt, 1924	£ 365,000,000
Total debt reduction since 1919	£ 650,000,000

London, Apr. 28.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, has cancelled some of his Welsh engagements in order to preside at a meeting of the Cabinet which will deal with the Budget to-morrow morning, differences having apparently arisen on the subject of the McKenna duties.

There are strong Liberal and Labour demands for the entire abolition of these duties, but it is now thought that they may only be reduced, and a crisis in this connexion is predicted in some quarters.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 29.

The House of Commons was crowded and animated when it reassembled to-day for the Budget. The Galleries were full, including the Dominions Gallery, in which were Sir Joseph Cook, the High Commissioner for Australia, and all the Agents-General. The Australian Senator Wilson and several Indians were among the oversea representatives.

The Ministerialists loudly cheered the entry of Mr. Philip Snowden, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who began by appealing for indulgence in view of his lack of Ministerial experience.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that a surplus had been realized of £49,329,000, which had gone to reduce the country's debt. Of the surplus, £18,500,000 was due to excess of revenue, £27,750,000 to reduced expenditure, and the balance to the surplus on last year's budget. A surplus of £7,178,000 in customs and excise was due mainly to spirits and tobacco. The increased consumption of spirits was apparently due to the long and cold winter and the effects of influenza, for which whisky was reputed to be a specific (laughter). Motor-[illegible] had increased by £1,000,000. Death duties had exceeded the estimate by £[illegible], and [illegible] by £8,331,000, but the Excess Profits Tax had been £12,000,000 below the estimate. Death duties had yielded £57,500,000 as compared with £56,871,000 the previous year. [illegible] amounted to £347,250,000, the surplus [illegible] Savings under these were due, *inter alia*, to the change of programme regarding the Middle East and Singapore.

Redemption of Country's Debts.

The total dead weight debt on March 31 was £7,680,000,000 as compared with £7,772,000,000 on March 31, 1923, and the floating debt on March 31 was £774,000,000 as compared with £810,000,000 a year ago.

As regards the provision made to deal with the Five Per Cent. War Loan, the precise figures were not yet available, but the sum converted was not less than £150,000,000.

The Government had to raise nearly £150,000,000 of maturing bonds. Mr. Snowden was afraid that the burden of debt must be very heavy for some years.

Pending the report of the Committee on the National Debt, [illegible] available resources must be devoted to reduction of the country's debt (cheers), which improved international trade and the terms on which money could be borrowed for industrial purposes, in view of the great reconstruction scheme we must carry out [illegible] (some Opposition cheers). The maintenance and improvement of British credit was a matter of very vital importance (cheers).

The dead-weight debt of £7,680,000 involved an interest charge of £305,000,000 as compared with the debt of £8,000,000,000 and interest of £345,000,000 in December, 1919 (cheers). Our one real external debt now was to the United States of £940,000,000 and £45,000,000 worth of market loans in America. The total debt reduction, external and internal, since December, 1919, was over £650,000,000, or practically the amount of the National Debt at the outbreak of the war (cheers). That was a wonderful and very creditable national achievement (cheers). Moreover, there were large debts owing to us (loud cheers). We had to pay interest on them, which was a very heavy burden on taxpayers. When we received interest on some part of these debts, we might hope to reduce our own indebtedness or taxation much more rapidly than was possible out of our own resources.

The total expenditure for the year would amount to £790,000,000, while the total revenue on the existing basis of taxation would be £828,000,000, leaving a surplus of £38,000,000.

Reduction of Duties on Foods

Mr. Snowden announced that the tea duty would be reduced by one-half.

The sugar duty is reduced by 1½d. per pound.

The duty on dried fruit is not renewed.

The postal rates are unchanged.

The duty on sweetened table-waters is abolished.

The McKenna duties are abolished as from August 1.

Tax on theatre seats up to 6d. is abolished.

There is no alteration in income-tax or super-tax.

The duties on cocoa, coffee and chicory are reduced by one-half, that on cocoa from April 30, and on coffee and chicory from May 5.

The duty on tea is reduced from May 5.

The duty on dried fruit will lapse on August 1.

The inhabited house tax is abolished.

The Corporation profits tax is abolished.

Only the recent 50 per cent. increase of duty on dried fruits is abolished, not the whole duty.

Mr. Snowden announced that the Government would introduce a Bill to re-establish the Land Valuation Department.

Imperial Preference.

Mr. Snowden stated that the Government were unable to endorse their predecessors' Imperial preference proposals. He greatly regretted any disappointment to the Dominions, but declared that the last Government were responsible (loud Opposition protests). No Government should attempt to bind Parliament over a period of years upon such a controversial issue as tariffs, as it only resulted in raising hopes which were bound sooner or later to be frustrated. The Government did not propose abolition of the preferences now in force, but reserved full liberty to propose to Parliament reduction or abolition of duties on all commodities to which preference was applied whenever they deemed it expedient. The Government would give an early opportunity for full and free discussion of the Imperial Economic Conference resolutions, and, if the House adopted any of them, the Government would make provision for them in the Finance Bill.

Two matters arising from the Imperial Conference required financial resolutions: (1) in regard to immunity of State enterprise from taxation, which he proposed to postpone till next year in order to afford opportunity for further consultation; and (2) he hoped to include in the Finance Bill a clause giving effect to the reciprocal arrangements made last year in regard to double taxation of shipping, it being understood that it was voluntary and permissive.

A reduction in the duty on sugar to 1½d. a pound would operate from April 30. This would cost £17,700,000 this year and £18,400,000 in a full year. Reduction of the tea duty by one-half from May 5 would cost £5,400,000 a year and reduction of the duties on cocoa, coffee and chicory by one-half (on cocoa from April 30 and on coffee and chicory from May 5) would cost £843,000. Non-renewal of the 50 per cent. increase on the dried fruits duty, imposed in 1915, would cost £250,000. Thus every one of the food duties would be reduced (loud Ministerial cheers). It was estimated that this would cost £23,700,000 this year and £24,893,000 in a full year.

McKenna Duties Abolished.

Announcement of the abolition of the McKenna duties from August 1 was greeted with loud Ministerial and Liberal cheers. This will cost £2,500,000.

Mr. Snowden declared that the country had given a very decisive vote against these duties at the last election and the Government was bound to give effect to that policy.

In addition to abolition of the tax on payments for admission to entertainments up to sixpence, the tax on payments up to 1s. 3d. would be reduced, costing £3,400,000 this year. Repeal of the Corporation Profits Tax would cost £2,000,000. The cost of all the reductions in taxation would total £34,050,000, leaving an estimated surplus of £4,024,000, which he would keep to provide for supplementary expenditure. He did not suppose that this would be sufficient to meet the expenditure on outside estimates, which Parliament might sanction during the year.

For example, the House of Commons was committed to removal of the thrift disqualification for old-age pensions and there would be calls for housing and unemployment.

Mr. Snowden was convinced that considerable economies could be effected during the year.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer spoke for an hour and three-quarters and was given an ovation when he sat down.

Note:—The McKenna duties were a war measure imposed in 1916. Mr. Bonar Law undertook to remove them after the war.

They included tariffs of 33⅓ per cent. on imported motor-cars, pianos, watches, clocks, cinema films and a few other articles.

There have been intimations in the newspapers lately and recently on the part of a number of manufacturers in the trades concerned, particularly motor-car makers, that abolition would mean wholesale dismissals of workers. Hence there was doubt whether the Labour Government would abolish the duties and Mr. Snowden's explanation to-day that the date of their abolition had been fixed for August 1 was in order to avoid inconvenience to the trades concerned.

Opposition Congratulations.

Later.

The necessary resolution with regard to the tea duty was carried and the remaining Budget resolutions agreed to.

While reserving the right to criticize the proposals later, the leaders of the Opposition congratulated Mr. Philip Snowden on his lucid statement and applauded the evidences of the sound condition of the national finances.

The ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Robert Horne, expressed the opinion that the statement, with slight modifications, might well have been made by either of the older parties (Labour cries of dissent). He twitted the Government with seeking a trade agreement with Russia and rejecting a trade agreement with the Dominions.

Mr. Asquith described the Budget as a thoroughly sound financial operation, containing nothing to which the Liberals were unable heartily to subscribe.

On the conclusion of Mr. Asquith's speech, Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George walked to the Treasury Bench and shook hands with Mr. Snowden. A little earlier Mr. Austen Chamberlain had thrown the Chancellor of the Exchequer a note, with which the latter was very pleased.

Press Tributes.

Apr. 30.

Papers of all shades of opinion pay tribute to the cleverness and moderation of the first Labour Budget, acknowledging with relief that "no more decorous or respectable Budget has been produced in the last half century," though the Conservative organs suspect that the moderation is more tactical than sincere, and suggest that the Budget is intended as a sleeping draught. They also roundly condemn the repudiation of the Imperial preference proposals and likewise the proposed abolition of the McKenna duties as a blow to important British industries.

The Liberal press complacently hails "the Free Trade Budget as safe, sound and practical." It notes with gratification its advance towards the ideal of a free breakfast table.

There are indications that the Budget has already considerably modified the recent dissatisfaction of the Liberals with the Government, whose position is likely to be strengthened. The Budget and its reception have gratified the Labourites.—Reuter.

A General Improvement in Shares; Reduction in Price of Sugar

London, Apr. 30.

The Budget was very favourably received on the Stock Exchange. The markets all round are good. Tea shares are active. Some heavy-priced shares are £1 higher and smaller-priced shares 5/- higher. Industrials responded well to the repeal of the corporation Tax. The produce markets were similarly affected. Sugar futures advanced in anticipation of a great improvement in demand. On the reduction of the duty coming into force today, refiners will reduce home prices by 14/-, the equivalent of the tax.

In the course of the Budget debate in the House of Commons to-day, Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Colonial Secretary, refuted in a spirited maner the idea that the Conservatives were the only party who were jealous of the position of the Empire. He stated that out of 32 resolutions of the Imperial Conference two were at present under consideration two were definitely opposed by the Government and 282 were being put into operation.—Reuter.

ALLIES' VIEWS ON PLAN FOR SOLVING GERMAN REPARATIONS QUESTION

Majority for Accepting Experts' Recommendations: France Insisting on Proper Guarantees from Germany

Paris, Apr. 26.

The Allied Governments' replies to the Reparations Commission regarding the experts' reports have been published.

The British Government promises to do its utmost to facilitate adoption of the reports in all matters coming within its jurisdiction: (1) restoration of the fiscal and economic authority of the Reich over all its territory; (2) to take steps to give a binding effect to new guarantees and controls in so far as they are not clearly covered by the Peace Treaty; and (3) inclusion of all Germany's treaty liabilities in a single annuity.

French Stipulations.

The French reply says that the Governments concerned have the right to expect from the Commission a definitive decision embodying the experts' conclusions, supporting them with argument, giving them practical form and completing them on certain points. It adds that the Governments can only take useful action after the Commission has completed this work, and states that the French Government must consider under what conditions the present French and Belgian guarantees shall be merged in or exchanged for those which will be handed as an undivided whole to all the Allies. These operations, it says, cannot be effected until Germany has effectively put the plan into execution.

The Belgian reply accepts the conclusions as a whole and expresses a hope that the Commission will consider the German draft laws and decrees and lose no time in preparing measures to enable the plan to be promptly enforced by common agreement of the Allies, with whom Belgium is entering into immediate contact.

The Italian reply states that the Government is prepared to adopt integrally the conclusions and the principles inspiring them.

The Reparations Commission has taken the first step in the application of the experts' plans by a dinner that the chief delegates gave to Mr. Pierpont Morgan, as the beginning of a campaign of consultation of leading international financiers, including neutrals, especially in connexion with the flotation of a German loan.—Reuter.

Chicago, Apr. 26.

General Charles Gates Dawes, in a wireless message declining an invitation to a dinner in his honour, explains that he and his associates on the experts' committee agreed neither to speak nor write regarding the reparations report lest their remarks should invite controversy or be construed as an interpretation of the report.—Reuter's American Service.

New York Ready to Lend.

New York, Apr. 25.

The International Acceptance Bank announces the establishment of an American banking syndicate for granting the new German gold bank unrestricted credit facilities. It is expected that these will lead to the reopening of channels of trade with Germany. An initial advance of $5,000,000 will be made.—Reuter's American Service.

German Secret Societies.

Berlin, Apr. 25.

The Allied Ambassadors have jointly requested Germany to put an end to the activities of secret societies, which are contrary to the peace treaty and are threatening the safety of the occupying forces.—Reuter.

Favourable Comment in French Press: Difficulties Not Unsurmountable

Paris, Apr. 27.

The replies of the Allies on the experts' reports are very favourably commented on by the Paris press, which emphasizes the conciliatoriness of the replies and declares that, though there may still be certain divergencies, and the Allied conversations may be long and delicate, there is no difficulty that cannot be surmounted and there is every hope that an agreement will be reached.

Later.

It is reported from Duesseldorf that the German Chancellor in an electoral speech advocated a policy of execution of treaties, thus helping a Franco-German *rapprochement*. He said that the advent of the Right extremists to power would spell disaster for Germany. It would mean the collapse of the whole of Europe. Fanatical patriotic propaganda was a crime against the German people. He noticed that the nearer he came to the occupied territory, the more reasonable the inhabitants were and the further removed from ultra-Nationalist ideas.—Reuter.

Conference Between French and Belgian Premiers

Paris, Apr. 28.

The Belgian Premier, M. Théunis, and the Foreign Minister, M. Hymans, arrived in

Paris to-day and conferred with the Premier, M. Poincaré, at the Quai d'Orsay.

They emphasize that the conversations do not constitute a formal conference, but merely an exchange of views prior to their return to London. They stated that Belgium thus marks her solidarity with France, though she cannot be expected to neglect her own interests. They denied that the object of their visit to Paris was to mediate between France and Britain.

Later.

Both sides express complete satisfaction and say that a perfect identity of views prevails following a meeting of over three hours of the four French and Belgian principals and the heads of all the French departments concerned in the experts' report, which, it is understood, was discussed in all its aspects.

Apr. 29.

It is understood in French diplomatic circles that MM. Poincaré, Théunis and Hymans have agreed:—

(1) Rigidly to insist that Germany shall put the experts' plan into operation before the persent control measures in the Ruhr and Rhineland can be withdrawn;

(2) That the re-establishment of the economic and fiscal unity of Germany does not necessarily involve the automatic cessation of the military occupation of the Ruhr;

(3) That the railway communications of the occupation troops must be safeguarded and not be dependent on German railwaymen. Reuter.

A Golden Opportunity.

London, Apr. 28.

Let there be no doubt about it,' said Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, the Prime Minister, acknowledging the presentation of an illuminated address at Port Talbot to-day. "The experts' report is an opportunity for a peace settlement, which, if not taken advantage of by European statesmen, would be one of the most golden opportunities ever neglected and lost."

Mr. MacDonald declared that the last thing he wanted was that France should be isolated. He wanted M. Poincaré to know that, as far as her security was concerned, France had no better friend than Britain.

The Prime Minister was profoundly convinced that the experts' reports, joined with four years' experience, would make both France and Britain see that by common friendship, by working with Italy and Belgium and small nationalities, and by offering Germany a real chance to make a pledge and keep it,—"only in that open and friendly allied way can we open the new door to peace and happiness and international co-operation."—Reuter.

Allied Experts in America

New York, Apr. 28.

General Dawes, Mr. Owen Young and Mr. Henry Robinson, the American reparations experts, arrived here to-day on board the Leviathan. They jointly made a statement urging American participation in the execution of the experts' plan, particularly with regard to flotation of a loan for Germany, which, they declare, would be amply secured, would start the Dawes plan working and would restore the economic tranquility and buying power of Europe and lead to an era of peace and goodwill.—Reuter's American Service.

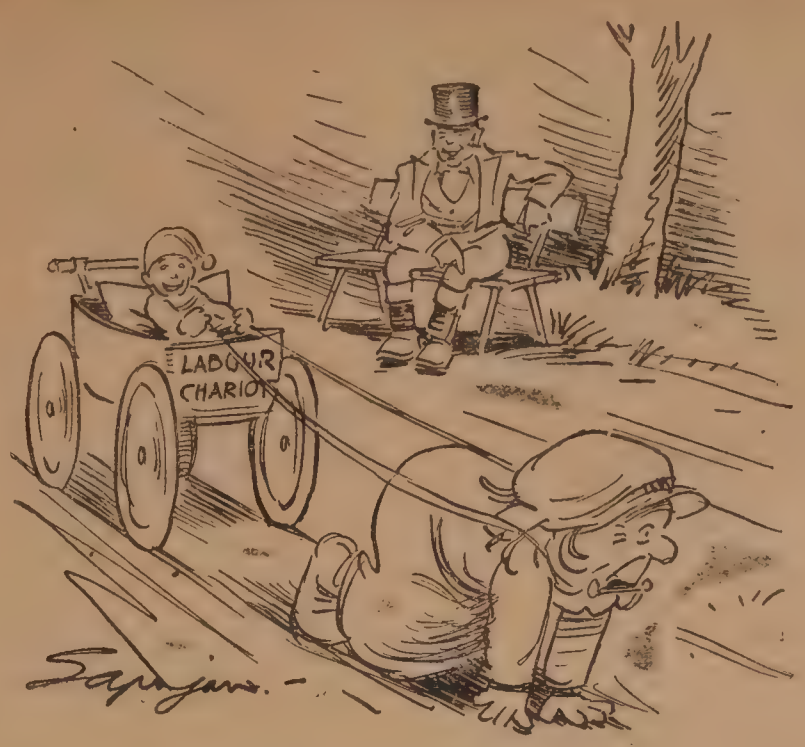
Washington, Apr. 30.

President Coolidge received today General Dawes and the other American members of the experts committees who have thus concluded their services regarding reparations. It is understood that they received the President's congratulations.—Reuter's American Service.

Paris, Apr. 29.

The Japanese and Jugo-Slav Governments' replies to the communication of the Reparations Commission of April 17, with regard to the experts' reports, have been received, and the Commission will consider them as well as the British and Italian Governments' replies.

Japan's reply states that she is prepared to adopt the experts' conclusions in their entirety.—Reuter.



The Liberal Party, so far from being able to strangle the Labour babe, complain bitterly of the rudeness of that tyrannical infant.

THE LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS

America's Extensive Naval Building Programme Approved by Senate

London, Apr. 30.

In the House of Commons today, Mr. John Harris (Liberal) drew attention to the American Bill authorizing construction of eight new cruisers, each of 10,000 tons, and suggested that the Government should approach the United States with regard to the possibility of another naval conference with the object of preventing a new race in the construction of cruisers.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, in reply, referred to the statement of President Coolidge on April 22 that it appeared impracticable at present to attempt any further limitation of armaments. He was glad to find that President Coolidge agreed with the attitude that the Labour Government had always taken up, that before discussing limitation of armaments we must first remove some of the difficulties of the political situation in Europe.—Reuter.

Washington, Apr. 30.

A naval building programme complete with air-craft carriers, destroyers and submarine tenders, light-cruisers, modern submarines and other units is urged by the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Coontz, in a statement which is given much prominence in the newspapers, alleging the inability of the American fleet to manœuvre faster than 10 knots, due to the slowness of the auxiliary ships and the failure of submarines to function in the work of the Fleet, and also severely criticizing the shortage of minesweepers and the incompleteness of the anti-aircraft batteries on the older ships.

Later.

The Senate to-day approved without a dissenting vote, and with little discussion, the Naval Appropriation Bill, providing for a total expenditure of $275,000,000, an increase of $700,000 over the sum approved by the House of Representatives. The Senate, like the House of Representatives, voted a rider calling a naval and aerial armaments conference, but adding the number of naval personnel to the topics to be discussed and broadening the rider to extend the proposed invitation not only to participants in the conference of 1921, but to such other nations as the President shall deem advisable.

There is accordingly no doubt with regard to the concurrence of Congress in any armaments conference the President may ultimately call.—Reuter's American Service.

Australia's Programme.

Melbourne, Apr. 30.

It is announced that the Government's Naval programme for the next five years includes the construction of four light cruisers and some long-range cruising submarines, costing about £250,000 each.—Reuter.

SOVIET DEMANDING BRITISH LOAN

But Totally Refusing to Admit Recognition of Debts and Return of Property

London, Apr. 26.

An earnest plea for a loan as the only way to solve the question of Russia's pre-war debts and to promote trade between Britain and Russia was made by M. Rakovsky in a statement to the press.

He declared that the larger part would be spent in England for orders already drafted. M. Rakovsky declared categorically that Russia would never concede some of the demands by the British bankers in their recent memorandum which were inadmissible and an attempt to interfere with Russia's internal politics. Neither would property be restored to its former owners, but he suggested that their enterprises might be leased to them on a concessionary basis.

The Russian Chargé d'Affaires in London emphasizes that the protest of the All-Russian Council of Trades Unions against the London bankers' memorandum to the Prime Minister must not be regarded as official: although it contains some points according with the views of the Government, it does not represent the policy of the Soviet in other respects.

M. Rakovsky states that hitherto the negotiations in London have gone very well. Goodwill is being shown and there has been no serious difference of opinion. He believes that definite results on some of the questions will be reached next week. It is not intended, he says, to postpone settlement of individual points until a general settlement is reached, but to conclude agreements as arrived at.—Reuter.

Communist Propaganda as Ever.

Riga, Apr. 25.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the foundation of the so-called Eastern University of Moscow, M. Trotzky, Mme. Clara Zetkin, Dr. Radek and others spoke enthusiastically of the Eastern revolutionary movement, which the University solemnly swore to support by providing "thousands of steadfast, loyal Communist revolutionary champions."

M. Trotzky incidentally termed Mr. Ramsay MacDonald more reactionary than the Turkish Nationalists.—Reuter.

More of Trotzky's Tactful Talk

Moscow, Apr. 30.

"If the British Labour Government had the courage and valour demanded by Russian workers, it would seize an opportunity to conclude a treaty with Soviet Russia which would result in re-mapping Europe," said M. Trotzky in a speech at the Bolshoi Theatre today.

He added that a combination of Russia's wealth and resources and British technical knowledge would enable both countries to dictate to Europe.

"But there is no such Government in Britain. Therefore we must be prepared to accept any agreement which we shall carry out in the hope of greater mutual advantages later."

M. Trotzky accused Mr. Ramsay MacDonald of suppressing Afghanistan's struggle for freedom and of increasing Britain's military burdens.

M. Trotzky is having a remarkable "come back." He received an ovation to-day and looked the picture of health.—Reuter.

THE ELECTIONS IN GERMANY

Acceptance of the Versailles Treaty and Experts' Report the Main Issue

Berlin, Apr. 27.

There were serious disturbances in Berlin to-night in connexion with an electoral meeting of the German People's party. Communists blocked the neighbouring streets and seized and belaboured supporters of the People's party with life-preservers and rubber truncheons until the police were reinforced. Over 40 persons were injured. Sixteen arrests were made.—Reuter.

Berlin, Apr. 29.

The main issue in the elections to the Reichstag is "Shall the Treaty of Versailles and the experts' report be unequivocally accepted by Germany as the basis of peace in Europe?"

Supporters of the extreme Nationalist party and the German National party reply in the negative; the Socialist party, the German People's party, the Centre party and the Democratic party reply in the affirmative. The Nationalists, who are also Monarchists and furiously anti-Semitic, are expected to poll in large numbers, but it will be impossible for them to secure a majority. Herr Helferich's death has weakened the German National party and Herr Stresemann's German People's party, which includes prominent industrialists, is adopting a middle course which favours the restoration of Monarchy by constitutional means, while the majority of the Centre party are Republicans.

The favourable reception of the experts' report will undoubtedly influence the elections in favour of the Democrats, Socialists and Republicans.—Reuter.

FRANCO-JAPANESE RELATIONS

A New Economic Entente in the Far East: Commercial Treaty Under Discussion

Tokio, Apr. 30.

Relations between France and Japan are being given much attention here in connexion with the visit of Mr. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, and the contemplated discussions on commercial relations in the Far East, which, it is expected, may be embodied in a new commercial treaty which Japan has already proposed to negotiate in Paris.

The fact that M. Merlin will be accompanied by the chairmen of three Indo-Chinese Chambers of Commerce is regarded as emphasizing the purpose of his visit. It is believed that the mission plans to lay the foundation of a new Franco-Japanese economic entente in the Far East.

It is pointed out that Japan wishes revision of the Indo-China tariffs, which have hitherto been regarded as discriminating against her, because the old treaty with France did not extend to Indo-China, and also opportunities for investment of Japanese capital in Indo-China's natural resources, in which the Mitsui firm is principally interested.

In this connexion, it is officially stated that a politicial understanding between France and Japan is not contemplated.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Paris, Apr. 30.

Viscount Ishii, the Japanese Ambassador in Paris, has recently been discussing with M. Poincaré the conclusion of a Franco-Japanese commercial treaty. The proposals of the Japanese Ambassador concerning this treaty are being considered by the appropriate departments.—Reuter.

Insuring Against Germany.

London, May 1.

Referring to the "growing Franco-Japanese Entente," the Diplomatic Correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" mentions the report that the Governor-General of Indo-China on his coming visit to Japan intends to negotiate an agreement for admission of Japanese emigrants on a large scale into Indo-China. He adds that there is little doubt that France's main purpose is to insure against a possible Russo-German alliance by means of a Franco-Japanese defensive pact.—Reuter.

RAILWAY DISASTER IN N. LONDON

Football Cup Special Crashed into by Electric Train Outside Euston

London, Apr. 26.

An electric train crashed into the rear of a special standing in a tunnel a mile outside Euston. The latter was crowded with excursionists from Coventry for the Cup final at Wembley. It is feared that several persons were killed and injured.

Later.

It is officially stated that the number of persons injured is not definitely known but probably 20. Two persons are stated to have been killed.

The special, into which the electric train crashed, was from Birmingham and elsewhere in the north. It was crowded with Aston supporters. It stopped near the terminus and the majority of the passengers were standing up and getting their wraps and overcoats when the electric train crashed into its rear where most of the casualties occurred. Rescue work was carried out in semi-darkness in the tunnel. Many were injured seriously. A few women were aboard the train.

Later.

Thirty-five injured persons in the train crash at Euston have been taken to hospital on stretchers improvised out of carriage cushions. Two persons have died. A few have broken limbs but most of the cases were slight injuries. All the victims were sur-

prisingly cheerful. Some of them, after their injuries had been dressed, expressed their intention of going to the Cup Final. Most were from Coventry, but four Londoners in the electric train were injured.

Later.

Altogether 50 persons were injured in the Euston disaster.

Distressing scenes were witnessed in the dark tunnel. Rescuers, working with light flares and acetylene lamps, were extricating the injured passengers from the *débris* of several coaches that had been smashed to matchwood.

The difficulties and dangers were increased by the stifling fumes of fused rubber-covered cables and gases, the train cylinders repeatedly catching alight.

A conflagration was averted by very prompt application of extenguishers and continuous supplies of water. The relief party wielded pickaxes and crowbars and improvised the woodwork of the carriages as stretchers.

The line was cut [illegible] for the rest of the day.

Later.

The death-roll in the Euston disaster has been brought up to four by the death in hospital of two of the injured. The condition of the driver of the electric train, whose legs have been crushed, is serious. The others are progressing favourably.

Good progress has been made in clearing the wreckage from the tunnel. It is anticipated that the full train service will operate to-morrow.—Reuter.

A Signalman's Negligence

London, Apr 30

The signalman giving evidence at the inquiry into the accident at Euston on April 26, when an electric train crashed into the rear of a special standing in a tunnel, admitted to-day that he had forgetfully passed the electric train to the line on which the express was standing.

Later.

The fifth death as the result of the Wembley collision occurred in hospital to-day.—Reuter.

IRISH BOUNDARY DISPUTE

Mr. Thomas's Difficult Task

London, Apr. 28.

Following the breakdown of the Irish Boundary Conference, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. J. H. Thomas, had a long interview at the Colonial Office to-day with the Prime Minister of Ulster, Sir James Craig, and the High Commissioner of the Irish Free State in London, Mr. James MacNeill.

Mr. Thomas is working almost continuously, trying to find a solution of the difficulties.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 29.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, announced in the House of Commons to-day that, as no settlement by agreement was possible, the boundary between North Ireland and the rest of Ireland must be determined in accordance with Article XII of the Treaty, providing for the establishment of a Boundary Commission.—Reuter.

DUTCH AIRPLANE TRAGEDY

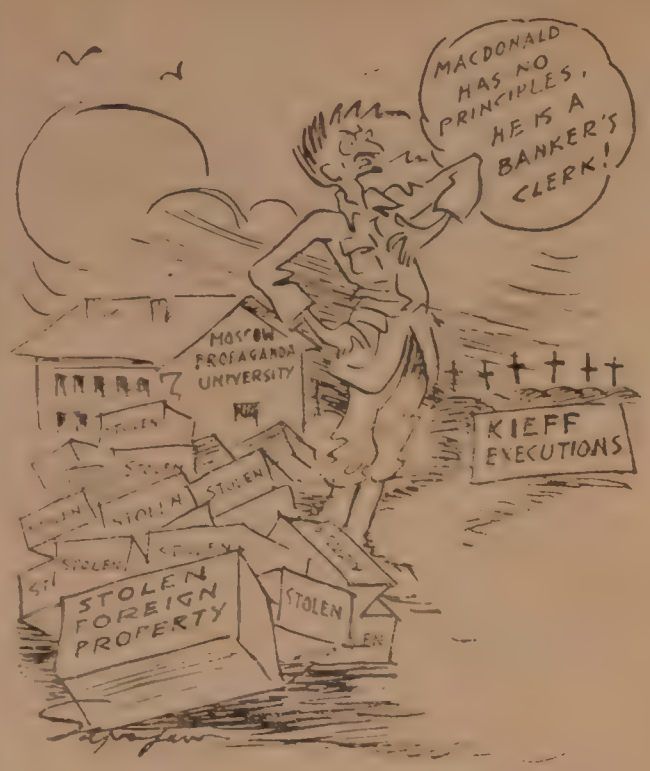
Trans-Channel Plane Lost with Two Passengers and Pilot

The Hague, Apr. 25.

An aeroplane belonging to the Royal Dutch Air Service, which left England for Holland yesterday evening with two Dutch passengers, is missing. Three naval aeroplanes and a torpedo boat are conducting a search. The company announce that there is no hope of rescuing the pilot and the passengers alive.—Reuter.

Amsterdam, Apr. 26.

The aeroplanes and warship have returned after vainly searching for the missing aeroplane.—Reuter.



M. Trotsky's virtuous indignation conveniently ignores a few little deficiencies of principle on the Soviet's part.

London, Apr. 26.

An exhaustive search for the missing aeroplane proved resultless. The pilot and passengers were all Dutch. One was M. Van Hein, a Dutch Indies planter. British and Dutch aeroplanes scoured the route all day yesterday. A Dutch machine saw [illegible] wreckage on the Goodwins at low tide. A British machine found oil on the surface of the sea near by but it is impossible definitely to establish connexion with the missing machine.—Reuter.

NAVAL WAR MEMORIAL

To 20,563 British Men and Women Who Died in Service

London, Apr. 26.

The Prince of Wales to-day unveiled at Chatham one of three memorials erected at British ports in memory of the 25,563 men and women who perished in the naval service during the Great War.

The memorial at Chatham contains 8,543 names.

His Royal Highness said that it was impossible to erect a monument to these heroes similar to those in the battlefields of France and Gallipoli, for all the seas of the world were their battlefield and their grave. Through the victory won by their sacrifice, the ships of Britain still sailed to the uttermost ends of the earth.—Reuter.

BRITISH SHIPPING CRISIS

Prospects of Peace

London, Apr. 25.

There is ground for hope that a serious industrial dispute has been averted on account of the shipyard union agreeing to the employers' invitation to submit to arbitration the national claim for an advance of 10/- a week, as well as the Southampton local claims.—Reuter.

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAY STRIKE

Wellington, N.Z., Apr. 28.

The Government stated to-day that the railwaymen's proposals were unacceptable and that it would not agree to discuss the demands until the ordinary work [illegible] of the railway was resumed.—Reuter.

Later.

It is officially reported that a number of guards have resumed duty and are now running a restricted railway service.—Reuter.

Wellington, N. Z., Apr. 29.

The railway strike has been abandoned.—Reuter.

THE REVOLT IN HONDURAS

Fierce Fighting in Capital

Washington, Apr. 25.

The United States has invited the participation of Costa Rica, Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala in a conference at Amanala (Honduras) to restore peace in Honduras.—Reuter's American Service.

Apr. 28.

After a battle, which lasted throughout the night, the Honduran revolutionaries entered Tegucigalpa. Hard fighting continues in the streets.—Reuter's American Service.

MINING DISASTER IN VIRGINIA

Over 100 Workmen Entombed: Rescue Work in Progress

Wheeling, Va., Apr. 28.

It is feared that there is little hope of rescuing over 100 miners entombed in a burning mine following an explosion which rocked the surrounding districts. Smoke is pouring out of the entries and preventing rescue-work. Up to the present, two men have been recovered through an airshaft. They were badly burned and both have succumbed.—Reuter's American Service.

Wheeling, Va., Apr. 29.

Forty-five bodies have been recovered from the burning mine. The rescuers are working incessantly to penetrate the portion of the mine where 66 miners are still entombed. It is feared that none will be found alive.—Reuter's American Service.

Wheeling, Va., Apr. 30.

Up to the present 79 bodies have been recovered from the burning mine.—Reuter's American Service.

FIRE ON OIL STEAMER

Casualties on Board the City of Singapore

Adelaide, Apr. 27.

The cargo steamer City of Singapore, from New York to South Africa, with a cargo of oil and motorcars, caught fire at Port Adelaide last night. The fire brigade's river floats were fighting the flames when a terrific explosion took place at midnight, killing one fireman and injuring several, who were taken to hospital. Then was a further explosion two hours later. The fire is still burning.—Reuter.

Later.

Two firemen are missing from the steamer City of Singapore and it is presumed that they were blown to pieces in the first explosion.

The total casualties are three killed and 11 seriously injured, including the chief officer and the fifth engineer. Scores off others have sustained minor injuries.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 28.

A telegram from Adelaide states that the fire on the City of Singapore is under control. The vessel is hard aground. From the engine-room aft the depth of the water is equal inside and out. The plating is damaged and it is feared that the vessel will be a total loss as regards construction, but she will be examined when the fire is extinguished.—Reuter.

GOVERNOR OF INDIANA GUILTY OF FRAUD

Sentence of Ten Years Imprisonment

Indianapolis, Apr. 29.

Mr. Warren McCray, Governor of the State of Indiana, who was convicted by the Federal Court on a charge of using the mails to further a fraudulent scheme, has been committed to gaol pending sentence.

The penalty for the offence is a fine not exceeding $1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both.

Mr. McCray was accused of forging hundreds of fraudulent notes and obtaining money under false pretences in connexion with the operation of cattle ranches.—Reuter's American Service.

Indianapolis, Apr. 30.

Ex-Governor McCray of Indiana, who was convicted by the Federal Court on a charge of using the mails to further a fraudulent scheme, has been sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment at Atlanta Prison and a fine of $10,000.—Reuter's American Service.

ASIATIC EMPLOYEES IN BRITISH SHIPS

Protest by Trades Labour Council

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Apr. 29.

The Trades Labour Council today adopted a resolution protesting against importation of Asiatics to man ships of the British Empire Steel Corporation and declaring that they will make the matter a national issue. The Halifax Corporation recently brought in a party of Chinese for a season's work as colliers.—Reuter's American Service.

ROUND-THE-WORLD AIR FLIGHTS

American Aviators Delayed by Bad Weather

Cordova, Alaska, Apr. 26.

Major Martin, the leader of the American round-the-world flyers, has arrived at Chignik. He is still one step behind his colleagues, who have been awaiting him at Dutch Harbour since April 20.—Reuter's American Service.

Tokio, Apr. 28.

It is reported from Paramushiru Island that the American airmen are expected to arrive on Thursday at the earliest, with luck, from Attu, according to official word from them. Weather conditions, snowstorms, uncertain winds, heavy fog and temperature below freezing point, however, portend difficulties.

The Canadian trawler Thiepval, with Colonel Broome on board, who will establish a base for Squadron-Leader MacLaren, is due next Wednesday from the Commander Islands.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Bagdad, Apr. 27.

The Portuguese aeroplane bound for Macao arrived here to-day.—Reuter.

British World Flight

Bombay, Apr. 26.

Squadron Leader MacLaren has been compelled to land at Parlu, north of Ajmere. The repairs are expected to take three days.—Reuter.

FEARFUL TORNADOES IN UNITEE STATES

Many Killed and Vast Damage Done to Property

Atlanta, Ga., Apr. 30.

Tornadoes have swept the South-Eastern States. Forty-seven deaths have occurred in various cities and at the Riverside Mills at Anderson, South Carolina, where the mill and 50 dwellings were blown down.

Atlanta, May 1.

Further accounts of the tornadoes which swept the South-Eastern States show that 50 persons were killed and many are missing and injured in South Carolina alone. Nineteen persons were killed in Alabama and 20 in Georgia. Three persons were killed and 40 injured in North Carolina. The paths of the storms are estimated at 2,000 miles long. Sixteen persons were killed at Morrill Hill in South Carolina where two tornadoes converged. Ficklia in Georgia was virtually destroyed. The damage is estimated at $10,000,000.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICAN HELIUM GAS-BEARING FIELDS

To Be Acquired by Government: War Measure: Export Now Prohibited

Washington, Apr. 30.

The Military Committee of the House of Representatives has reported a bill providing for the Government's acquisition of all the helium gas-bearing fields in the United States.

The measure is sponsored by the Secretaries of War, the Navy and the Interior. It also provides for research and experimental work with the gas, but prohibits its export.—Reuter's American Service.

REVOLT SPREADING IN TURKESTAN

London, Apr. 28.

A telegram from Riga states that the reported widespread insurrection in Turkestan is officially confirmed by an announcement by Moscow of serious counter-revolutionary activity in Bokhara and of an armed clash on the Afghan frontier between Red troops and insurgents from Afghanistan, who are said to be in revolt against the Amer.—Reuter.

London, Apr. 30.

A telegram from Riga states that it is reported that revolt has spread throughout Turkestan and also Bokhara, Semirestchensk and Choresma. Three divisions of infantry have been sent to Turkestan from the Caucasus and Ural. It is stated that the revolutionaries have captured almost the whole staff of Turkestan commissaries and the Central Committee of the Turkestan Communist party. Severe fighting is proceeding in Bokhara between the inhabitants and the retreating Reds.—Reuter.

COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN RUSSIA

Riga, Apr. 29.

It is reported from Moscow that the Communist party has adopted a programme enjoining all Communist institutions to destroy private wholesale dealers by withholding credit, arranging boycotts and granting privileges to State enterprises. It proposes at present to tolerate retail traders who purchase from Government wholesale stores, but declares that the co-operative societies must gradually capture the retail trade by systematic underselling.—Reuter.

Moscow, April 26.—A hundred cases of bubonic plague have been reported at Bokhara.—Reuter.

Protection Measures in Irish Free State

London, Apr. 25.

The Finance Minister of the Irish Free State, introducing the Budget in Dail Aireann, announced the adoption of a protective tariff on imported bottles, boots, confectionery and motor-cars and tyres. The duty on tea is reduced by 3d. a pound.

The new taxes include 3.3/5d. per pound on sugar, 6d. per pound on cocoa and 10 per cent. on soap and candles.—Reuter.

Newfoundland Legislature Dissolved

St. John's, Newfoundland, Apr. 25.

Following the vote of non-confidence, the Premier announced the dissolution of the Legislature. A general election will follow, probably within a month.—Reuter.

Immigration in Canada

Ottawa, Apr. 28.

The number of immigrants into Canada in the past year was 150,000, a record for the period since the war. This total compares with 73,000 for the preceding year.—Reuter's American Service.

Bavarian Revolutionaries

Munich, Apr. 28.

A number of persons who took part in the famous Hitler rising of November and were sentenced to 15 to 18 months' confinement in a fortress have all been released on parole.—Reuter.

Marriage of Miss Cornelia Vanderbilt

Ashville, N. Carolina, Apr. 29.

Miss Cornelia Vanderbilt, the only child of the late Mr. George Vanderbilt, was married to-day to Mr. John Amherst Cecil, a member of the staff of the British Embassy at Washington.—Reuter's American Service.

Adml. Jellicoe Leaving New Zealand

Wellington, N. Z., Apr. 28.

Admiral of the Fleet Viscount Jellicoe, the Governor-General, in a speech at a Government luncheon to-day, regretfully announced that he was leaving New Zealand towards the end of the year.—Reuter.

Dominions Defence and Singapore Base

Wellington, N. Z., Apr. 28.

Speaking at a State luncheon in connexion with the visit of the Empire naval service squadron, the Prime Minister, Mr. W. F. Massey, stated that the last had not been heard of the Singapore scheme. The Dominions must stand to their responsibilities. He hoped, if the scheme were not proceeded with, that the Admiralty would ask New Zealand to maintain another cruiser in the Pacific.—Reuter.

Holland's Economies

The Hague, Apr. 29.

An all-round reduction in the salaries of civil servants will come into effect on May 1. The Queen has reduced a portion of her appanage.—Reuter.

ITEMS

New York, Apr. 28.—A banking syndicate is offering $40,000,000 worth of 6 per cent. Dutch Government bonds.—Reuter's American Service.

Dunedin, Apr. 30. — The Special Service Squadron cruisers, Dauntless and Dunedin, received a most enthusiastic reception from dense crowds on their arrival here to-day.—Reuter.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

ROUND THE WORLD AIR FLIGHTS

American Aviator Missing or Weatherbound: Portuguese Held Up in Persia

Washington, May 1.

A despatch from Alaska states that there is anxiety regarding the whereabouts of Major Martin, the leader of the world-flight.

Major Martin was detained at Chignik by severe weather and 400 lb. of ice accumulated on his machine. He left this morning to join his comrades at Dutch Harbour and nothing has been seen of him since. It is feared that the prevailing storms may have forced him to an isolated, precarious landing. Fishing vessels have been requested to keep a look-out.—Reuter's American Service.

Chignik, May 2.

In spite of the search by all available vessels, no trace of Major Martin has been found, but it is hoped that he took refuge in one of the numerous coves along the desolate Alaskan coast.—Reuter's American Service.

Lisbon, May 1.

The two Portuguese military pilots, Captain Britopaia and Lieut. Sarman Tobeires, who left Lisbon for Macao on April 2 on a Breguet biplane, are held up in Persia owing to their passports not having been visaed.—Reuter.

Paris, May 1.

It is learned that a complete overhaul of his machine necessitates Lieut. d'Oisy remaining at Karachi until May 3.—Reuter.

The British Flight.

Boulogne, May 1.

A new engine for Squadron-Leader MacLaren's amphibian arrived to-day from England. It was immediately entrained for shipment to India.—Reuter.

FRANCO-JAPANESE ENTENTE

M. Merlin's Visit to Japan: Expected Settlement of Economic Relations

Paris, May 1.

A long semi-official statement regarding the visit to Japan of M. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, deprecates the "tendencious comments of the British press." It says that M. Merlin is merely perpetuating the tradition, well established by the visits to Japan of his predecessors. He is going in order to offer the condolences of the French Government on the occasion of the recent disastrous earthquake and the congratulations of the French Government on the marriage of the Prince Regent. He will also probably lay the foundation stone of the new French Embassy.

The statement adds that it is also possible that the Japanese authorities will take the opportunity of discussing with M. Merlin questions affecting the Customs between Japan and Indo-China, which conversations might lead to a settlement of Franco-Japanese economic relations. The statement officially contradicts the reports that Indo-China will provide an outlet for Japanese immigration.—Reuter.

CANADA'S PROHIBITION REGULATIONS

British Steamer Seized for Smuggling Liquor

Halifax, Nova Scotia, May 1.

Customs officers to-day seized the British steamer Wyke Regis, with a cargo of liquor, following the arrest of the ship's boatswain, who brought ashore four bottles of brandy.—Reuter's American Service.

THE RECOGNITION OF THE SOVIET

Resumption of Negotiations with Belgium and the Netherlands

The Hague, May 1.

Replying to a question by a Liberal Deputy regarding the Netherlands' alleged change of attitude towards Russia, the Minister of Foreign Affairs explained that the recent Russo-Dutch negotiations for the conclusion of a commercial treaty were broken off because Russia insisted that complete recognition of the Soviet Government should precede any settlement. The negotiations have been resumed on the understanding that, if a satisfactory agreement is reached, diplomatic relations will be restored.—Reuter.

Brussels, May 1.

It is semi-officially stated that the Belgian Government have intimated that they are disposed to accept the Soviet Government's invitation to commence pourparlers with a view to resumption of normal Russo-Belgian relations. The negotiations would take place in London.—Reuter.

MAY DAY IN EUROPE

Disorderly Demonstrations in Paris, Athens and Koenigsberg

London, May 1.

Three thousand people marched in procession in the rain to Hyde Park to-day to attend the international Labour May Day demonstration, which was very orderly.

Just before a meeting at Kentish Town under Liberal auspices in support of free speech was timed to begin, two chars-à-banc drove up, filled with sturdy young men wearing badges inscribed with a large "F." The leader explained: "We are members of the British Fascisti and we intend to check the rowdyism which has recently occurred at meetings."

The celebrations in Paris were also conducted in a holiday spirit.

The only trouble in Germany occurred at Koenigsberg, where two persons were killed and two wounded in a collision between police and Communists, while the police in Berlin prevented the Communists holding open-air meetings.

Crowds gathered at Athens in spite of prohibition of meetings and refused to disperse when a fire-hose was turned on them, but fled when troops fired in the air.—Reuter.

Paris, May 1.

The May Day calm has been broken. At the conclusion of Labour meetings demonstrators threw stones and fired with revolvers at trams driven by members of the Union Civique. There were minor injuries due to broken glass. One arrest was made.—Reuter.

Berlin, May 1.

Two were killed and five wounded in a collision between police and Communists at Hindenburg in Upper Silesia.—Reuter.

Amsterdam, May 2.

Speaking at a Labour Day meeting yesterday, the Socialist leader, M. Troelstra, paid a tribute to Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's pacifist policy, as exemplified by the abandonment of the Singapore base, which, he said, contributed to the disarmament idea.—Reuter.

Tretzky's Boast.

Moscow, May 1.

May Day was a general holiday throughout Russia. A trade union procession marched past Lenin's tomb at Moscow, in the presence of MM. Rykoff and Kalinin. The whole city was decorated with red flags and banners.—Reuter.

London, May 2.

It is reported from Moscow that, in the course of a speech at the May Day celebrations, M. Trotzky declared that Russia wanted to help the Chinese and other Eastern peoples to win the liberty which the Soviets had fought for and won.—Reuter.

Warsaw, May 1.

Two hundred arrests, mostly of Communists, occurred during the May Day celebrations. Mounted police were called out to deal with the crowds.—Reuter.

ADVENTURES OF U. S. NAVAL OFFICERS

Mistaken for Russian Pirates by Japanese Watchmen at Paramushiru

Paramushiru, Apr. 24.

The John D. Ford was caught in the tide-rip late this afternoon and narrowly escaped colliding with the Tokitsukaze by dragging her anchor. She was, however, brought under control, another was dropped, and her anchorage was shifted.

Three redoubtable Nimrods from the North country, Capt. George O. Clark, Ensign Arthur H. McCallum, both Language Officers attached to the Embassy in Tokio, and Ensign W. R. Cooke, attached to the Ford, were this afternoon mistaken for Russian pirates and nearly shot, when they unearthed two of the island's inhabitants, both of whom laid an ambush as the explorers advanced.

The mistake was quite a natural one, as all have neglected to patronize the barber since leaving Yokohama.

The officers, luckily for themselves, succeeded in establishing an entente cordiale with the inhabitants, who proved to be two Japanese employed as watchmen of a small canning factory operating during the summer, and who had not seen anyone for more than six months, and had heard lurid tales of Russian atrocities.

The Japanese promised to assist in solving the food problem by directing future bear-hunting and fishing activities.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ALLIES AND GERMAN REPARATIONS

Meeting of British and Belgian Premiers

London, May 1.

Importance is attached to a meeting at Chequers, the Prime Minister's country residence, tomorrow between Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and the Belgian Premier, M. Théunis, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Hymans, on reparations and allied subjects, especially in view of the fact that MM. Théunis and Hymans have already conferred with the French Premier, M. Poincaré, and will afterwards meet the head of the Italian Ministry, Signor Mussolini, at Milan.—Reuter.

ORDER TO MOBILIZE ULSTER POLICE

Determination Not to Yield on Boundary Question

London, May 1.

It is report from Belfast that the Ulster Government has prepared an order for mobilization of special constabulary at Armagh. The order has not yet been issued, pending an opinion on the legality of the action. This is significant in view of Sir James Craig's declaration in London yesterday that Ulster would not yield an inch on the boundary question.—Reuter.

OBITUARY

Mr. William Hutchison

London, May 1.

The death is announced of Mr. William Hutchison, Conservative M.P. for Glasgow (Kelvingrove).—Reuter.

EXTRAORDINARY TRAGEDY ON B.-I. STEAMER

Three Men Suffocated by Betel-nut Fumes

Calcutta, May 1.

An extraordinary tragedy occurred upon the arrival of the British India steamer Talma from Hongkong. An Indian, who descended into the hold, failed to reappear. The Fourth Officer, Mr. Clayton, who went to investigate, also did not return, nor did a second Indian who did likewise. The Second Officer, Mr. Fletcher, wearing a smoke helmet, finally descended and found the three unconscious. They died on their way to hospital.

It is presumed that the cause of their death was poisonous fumes from wet betel-nut.—Reuter.

NAVAL COMMAND ON THE CHINA STATION

Admiral Leveson's Successor

London, May 1.

Vice-Admiral Sir Allan Frederick Everett has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the China Station in succession to Admiral Sir Arthur Cavanagh Leveson. He will assume command approximately on November 7.—Reuter.

AUSTRALIA LOOKING FOR FOREIGN MARKETS

Melbourne, May 1.

The Commonwealth Prime Minister, Mr. Bruce, in a speech today dealing with the statement of the Imperial Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. J. H. Thomas, in connexion with the Imperial preference proposals, said that Australia was now faced with the necessity for action, adding that it was obvious, in view of the decision of the MacDonald Government, that Australia must look for markets outside Britain.—Reuter.

ELECTION DISORDERS IN FRANCE

Paris, May 2.

With the approach of the elections on May 11, the campaign is waxing ever hotter. There are daily acts of violence at election meetings in Paris and other large cities. M. André Tardieu has been attacked several times. A Radical youth assaulted Prince Murat at Cahors. The Mayor of Mélun was shot at as he entered his motor-car at the close of a meeting.

The *"Journal des Debats"* declares that revolutionary teaching is bearing fruit. Most of the voters have to choose out of seven and sometimes eight mutually antagonistic lists.—Reuter.

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FROM THE FOUR WINDS

AN ENGLISH TRAVELLER IN AMERICA

China's Demand for Machinery for Her Factories: The Moral to Be Drawn: Coueism in America: Crusade for Restriction on Immigrants

San Francisco, Mar. 28.

The observing foreigner from China who moves around the commercial offices of the large centres in this country cannot fail to be struck with the increasing number of native Chinese manufactures that are finding their way into the American market in increasing volume. In the big department stores one finds evidence of the work of energetic Americans who have introduced all sorts and conditions of Chinese wares. Similarly, to anyone conversant with prices in China one hesitates to determine how these same energetic merchants can work on such close margins, for the prices that are asked are very often practically identical to, or very little above, those charged for similar articles along the Nanking Road—plus, of course, the American duty.

ASPECTS OF CHINA'S INDUSTRIES.

Apropos, I may remark that despite the fact that trade has been bad in China for some three years or more, I am astounded to find the progress being made, admittedly against the greatest odds, of native industries and the export of products from your native factories. There is only one sound principle for the development of industries in any country, *i.e.*, to purchase and if necessary also export the maximum quantity of raw material, and to produce and export the maximum quantity of finished products. An ideal Customs tariff would admit raw materials free and exempt native-finished products from export duty; while, on the other hand, it would place heavy import duties on foreign-manufactured goods except productive machinery, and a heavy export duty on native raw material. How far this will be realized in China at some future date is a matter of doubt. In some ways it would not suit the foreign merchant, whose admitted aim is largely to carry on his own country's trade—the Briton for British, the American for United States' trade, the Japanese for Japan's trade, and so on—with an application of the above principles to that particular country instead of China.

Nevertheless, it seems to me that the tendency for China to become a manufacturing country with such a policy is unavoidable, and has, in fact, been largely stimulated by foreign merchants at Shanghai and other ports, who, partly through altruistic motives and partly with a view to immediate profits, have fallen in with the natural desires of the Chinese people. Whereas in the early days of China trade (as your studious readers will know) China exported to this and other countries only somewhat unique products, such as tea and silk in exchange for foreign products unknown in China, she is now importing multifarious necessities for herself and exporting abroad foodstuffs and a host of other more or less useful products which are emerging in increasing volume from her own native factories.

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE MATTER.

While talking on this subject, one may notice another change that is slowly but surely going on—a fact which men in China do not so readily sense, however. By importing machinery and acquiring technical knowledge, China will supply herself with growing quantities of necessities that she previously bought from other countries. You can see this today in a hundred articles if you care to make comparison of Customs records of, say 1910 and 1924 no, I beg the Customs pardon, the 1924 figures will not be on hand for several months! Soaps, candles, all sorts of household goods, not to mention the cheaper cottons and manufactures that run into fairly big money, come within this category. China ceases to buy from abroad immediately she finds that she can make for herself more cheaply. In the long run this must embrace practically all her necessities, so that the general imports that the foreign merchants of the China of the future will handle will be largely machinery and luxuries—China will be making all the rest, and possibly not only supplying her own domestic needs but entering into competition in other Asiatic markets. There are those who will smile, but I fear that our grandchildren will not be able to ignore the fact as we to-day may think we can. How remote is this stage would do us no good to discuss, but I think that we may as well proceed irrespective of the political situation in China, which must, however, naturally affect the speed at which China will move in this economic emancipation.

We all are prepared to admit that China must become a gigantic buyer before she can become a serious competitor, but I think the average man who does business with the Chinese in the China ports often loses sight of the fact that, while the market for machinery may be large, it is not indefinitely so, whereas the markets for the products of the machinery may be almost illimitable. The byword of to-day in China-commerce, therefore, should be cooperation. Foreigners should combine with Chinese and encourage them in their industrial development. The foreign business man in China who does all that he can to quicken the cooperative spirit between himself and the Chinese is doing more for the permanent upbuilding of trade than the man whose horizon is bounded by his immediate profit taking.

"EVERY DAY, IN EVERY WAY . . ."

A few nights ago I listened with several hundred others to a discourse by Emile Coué. The evening was frankly enjoyable. While I heard him talking I could not keep my mind from wandering to China—what would happen, thought I, if we could produce a dozen Coué's to help the Chinese nation solve its ills? Coué has had a remarkably successful tour in the United States, and his latest book is one of the best sellers. I am not prepared to dogmatize, but I believe that the American public will have been done some good if one-half of one per cent. of the people who heard him heed his wisdom.

That auto-suggestion is a channel by which man can be shown that the burdens of life are, at least in large measure, of his own creating is, to my mind, beyond doubt. We reproduce in ourselves and in our circumstances the thought of our own minds, and the universe, it may be said, exists in mind—in our mind. If we can get the unconscious to accept an idea, realization follows automatically. The only difficulty which confronts men in the practice of induced auto-suggestion is to ensure acceptation, and that is precisely the difficulty which no method, prior to that of Coue's, it is claimed, has satisfactorily surmounted. We can think of the unconcious, so Coué tells us, as a tide which ebbs and flow. In sleep it seems to submerge the conscious altogether, while at our moments of full wakefulness, when the attention and will are both at work, the tide is at its lowest ebb. Between these two extremes are any number of intermediary levels. When we are drowsy, dreamy, lulled into a gentle reverie by music or a picture or poem, the unconscious tide is high; the more wakeful and alert we become the lower it sinks."

One would assume that every man who thinks at all would have known this, but the audience showed a quite uncommon enthusiasm, giving the busy alert little Frenchman a rousing reception.

By the way, Coué is alleged to have been "discovered" to the English-speaking world by Lady Beatty, and the announcement she is said to have made to the effect that she had been cured of serious illness by the exponent of thought-suggestion attracted the attention of England and America. Auto-suggestion presents endless possibilities for good. Coué claims that it will cause a revolution in our system of education, for hitherto we have been training only the conscious mind, but by his methods we can reach and train the more important sub-conscious. Well, well,—here is the chance for some practical Frenchmen in China to get busy and induce Coué to first learn Chinese and then do for mankind in China what he will probably never be able to do in any other country; convert them to Couéism by the million!

IMMIGRATION AND THE MELTING POT.

The question of a further restriction of immigration is a topic of growing importance all over the country here. The proposed legislation reducing the quota and changing its basis from the census of 1910 to the census of 1890 will be acrimoniously debated during the present session of Congress. Ten years ago there were many who openly urged an absolutely unlimited immigration in the United States, while nominally conceding the desirability of forbidding the entry of the insane, criminal and diseased. But what a changed opinion in a decade! The old American idea, as I saw it put a day or two ago, inherited from the 19th century, of the efficacy of the "melting pot," still prevailed 10 years ago. Looking back over even a short period of time (I quote from a long article in one of the academic magazines of the month)

"it seems strange that this fatuous belief in the all-pervading power of Democracy to obliterate race characters in a single generation could persist so long. One would suppose that our three centuries of experience with the Negro problem would have militated against this very satisfactory self-confidence, but it was not until the passions generated by the Civil War had evaporated that we Americans were able to regard that problem in its true light. When we did so regard it we found that we had acquired several similar problems, both racial and religious. The awakening came with the Great War, when Americans were forced to the realization that their country, instead of being a homogeneous whole, was a jumbled up mass of undigested racial material. Then they learned somewhat to their surprise that the country was no longer Anglo-Saxon nor Protestant, and that in some localities there were indications that it might not continue to be English-speaking."

The statement is then made that the population of the United State would be substantially as large as it is now if no immigrants whatever had come in during the last hundred years, and it is equally certain that the Americans would not have despised manual labour as they do now. Only in parts of the country and in occupations where the competition of the alien is not felt, the native American works cheerfully at the most laborious tasks. The immigrant, it is asserted, has thus done a very serious damage to America "by teaching our youth to despise hard manual labour." The promotion of Americans into what is characterized as "an upper class," resting upon strata of aliens of lower standards, has also had the effect of reducing the native American birth-rate. This is undeniably true. It is a phenomenon universal in Europe, and by no means of recent date; the upper and wealthier classes tend to lower their rate of reproduction, while reckless breeding generally goes on among the lower classes.

Statistics given out by the Census Bureau at Washington only yesterday show the annual death rate of the United States to have been 12.6 per 1,000 of population in the first nine months of 1923, compared with 11.8 for the same period of 1922. The annual birth-rate was 22.8 per 1000, compared with 23.1. It may be noted that Montana had the lowest death-rate (with 7.0 per 1000) and Vermont had the highest (with 15.8). North Carolina had the highest birth-rate with 30.2 Montana, with 17.5, being the lowest.

"LOAN OF AT LEAST $500,000,000."

Many of your readers will remember Mr. Charles Denby, who was American Consul-General at Shanghai from 1907 to 1909, if I remember rightly. Mr. Denby has had a long career in China, and his opinion on things Chinese is to be respected. He served as secretary of legation at Peking from 1885 to 1897, and acted as foreign adviser to the Governor-General of North China, and in 1918 was special representative for the Department of State in Japan and China. In the "North American Review" for March, Mr. Denby contributes a very readable article on the "Crisis of the Chinese Government," and one finds oneself entirely is sympathy with him until he begins to point out that the purpose of his article is to show how the Central Government at Peking may be put in order. This is Mr. Denby's plan:—

"The best plan would be to select the most acceptable strong man in China now in conflict with other strong men and help him, by moral and financial support, to overcome his rivals. This support might take the form of a loan to the recognized Government of sufficient funds to pay off the armies of rival military leaders and to meet the most urgent of China's financial obligations: with the provision that this loan should be administered under expert supervision, that the taxes for its repayment should be levied, collected and distributed under foreign control, and that so far as this involved foreign protection armed foreign guards should be admitted into the country. In short, leave to China the formation of her own Government and the handling of her own people, and reserve to the foreign Powers such control as to assure a well conducted Government and an honestly handled revenue. Under such conditions China's credit would be good for an initial loan of at least five hundred million dollars. . . . Such a plan would involve the least interference with China, the least use of military force, and the least use of foreign money, and it would promise an economical and trade development which would repay a thousand fold the efforts necessary to put it into effect."

Mr. Editor, I have no comment to make—the man or the government who takes this on in all seriousness will go down to history as having proved that the race of optimists is not yet dead.

Foot and Mouth Disease in California

April 6.

One of the most serious problems that has faced this part of America for many years is the foot and mouth disease that has been raging for some weeks. So serious has this now become that another appropriation of $1,000,000 is to be asked for at Washington by the Department of Agriculture. The chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry is to come out West, and several other foot and mouth disease experts from adjoining states are either already on the spot or on their way. For as long as modern farming has been carried on in this state, such an epidemic cannot be remembered, and it looks as if hundreds of large cattle ranchers will become paupers. In America, however, they certainly use all the knowledge at their command, together with money, to stamp out dangers to agriculture, no matter what form they take. Strict embargoes against all livestock, dairy and agricultural shipments from California have been imposed by Arizona and other neighbouring states, as also by the Hawaiian Islands. In many sections up and down the coast dogs are not allowed to be carried in motor cars, police permits have to be obtained for travel on highways running through infected areas, golf links are closed in places for periods from three days to a fortnight, and at some county lines passing automobiles are subjected to an interior spray with a preparation of sheep dip—an extremely odiferous preparation.

I hear that 23 lions at Universal City, of movie fame, are facing starvation. They have been fed on horse meat, but this is now not allowed to enter the city. The animals cannot eat beef because of its fattening qualities, and horse flesh is absolutely necessary to keep them alive. As a matter of fact, the movie people are being hard hit. The Fox Company want to take three camels to a "desert" scene in Southern California, but the law says no, and work on the whole picture is held up. One of the biggest carcuses in the country, also, which regards this time of the year as its best season has been forced back into winter quarters.

SNOW SURVEYING: A HINT TO CHINA.

During the last day or so, however, heavy rains have fallen throughout the states on the Pacific Coast, which will doubtless ameliorate conditions with this dreadful foot and mouth disease.

Drought has been a serious affair also. For many months, up to very recently, California had had no rain, and fruit was regarded as being a doomed product for the coming season. But now comes the news that in addition to the rains the snows have been surveyed, with the discovery that there is more snow than was anticipated. By the way, this surveying of the snows will be of interest to China readers who have watched the peculiarities of the Yangtze at Hankow soon after the snow waters have come down. In my time it was always a hazard as to how much snow water there was to come from far-away Tibet, but nobody seemed ever to know, least of all any Government department. It is, therefore, of interest to learn that extensive "snow surveys" are often made by the Weather Bureau of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in regions where the water required for irrigation is obtained almost entirely from melting snow. The mountain slopes constitute natural reservoirs, from which the moisture that falls in the winter as snow is gradually fed through the spring and summer to the surrounding country. In order to ascertain the total amount of water available, the snow surveyor travels over the watershed, often on skis or snow shoes, cutting sections of snow with a cylindrical snow "sampler" and weighing them with a small spring balance. The Weather Bureau also maintains in certain parts of the country a number of special stations at which daily measurements of snowfall are made for the benefit of irrigation projects.

The heaviest snowfall in the United States occurs in the high Sierra Nevada (of California) and in the Cascades (of Washington and Oregon). At places in both of these regions more than 65 feet of snow has fallen in a single winter. China is a long way from such scientific procedure, but there can be no doubt that famine might be avoided if something of the kind were instituted, for in this way the farmers would know well ahead what water they were likely to get for their crops.

NAVAL MATTERS—ENTER WILBUR.

Denby has gone (but is not forgotten), and Wilbur has entered into the guardianship of naval matters. Mr. Curtis Dwight Wilbur, the new naval chief, is a Californian and a very popular Californian, and many people are convinced that President Coolidge has made a wise choice. So soon after his arrival at Washington it would be futile to express an opinion or even form a conclusion on what he will do, but I see that some enterprising Washington journalist has been getting him to talk. This is, in America, an absolutely necessary affair. No matter what you want to do, you must talk, and in very many cases you are compelled to pay fairly heavily for your publicity. But you must have publicity. Without publicity you will get nowhere—and so you talk, and endeavour to secure as much publicity as you can, much of which will be crude. What is published may not be, probably will not be, what you said, or even what you intended to say; but still, it is publicity, and if you "put over" publicity you are on the road to success. Your personal power in persuasive publicity will determine success.

So it is, probably, that Mr. Wilbur, the new head of the Navy, found time to explain to a newspaper man, as he is reported, that he was a firm believer and staunch supporter of two American institutions: one of these is the Navy and the other is marriage. Wilbur has not been known at Washington, so the reporter gives us this sketch of the man:

Physically, he is a big chap, like one of the California trees, or the corn of his native Iowa. His grey blue eyes twinkle behind plain gold rimmed glasses, of a type now almost obsolete. His grey hair reaches up

[illegible] high brow; his cheeks have [illegible] out of ruddiness, as though he [illegible] the outdoors—and he does. The [illegible] sweeps through his manner at [illegible] moments, and then again the [illegible] twinkles in his eye, as, for instance, when he told how Mrs. Wilbur fell in love with Washington. "She loves the city. She has gone out house hunting, pleased [illegible]."

Mr. Wilbur then stated crisply his position on conservation—the conservation of the Navy's oil and of the nation's resources generally. A conservationist, but not a miser, he is reported to have said that he intends to keep and develop all that he can for the Navy, and to make the American Fleet the most effective in the world. Mr. Wilbur announced that he stood for a thoroughly modernized sea force, and said that it was neither patriotism nor economy to have ships that are outranged by the ships of another Power. . . . "It would be terribly wrong, if we ever have to face a foe, to send our young men to face him with guns less effective than his. The people are interested in the Navy now. We'll never have a big army—our people won't stand for it, but they want a bang-up Navy."

Thus Mr. Wilbur is reported to have spoken. He has not yet announced any programme, but it will be interesting to see what stand he will take when he definitely gets into harness.

KAISER'S NEPHEW IN NEW YORK.

Prince Wolfgang, of Hesse, a nephew of Wilhelm, tried to slip into New York *incog.*, under the name of "Wolfgang Wildhof, of Frankfurt," but it didn't work for long. He seems to be a more than ordinarily handsome young man, wealthy so it is said, but what the New Yorkers cannot understand is that he is extremely shy. He told his friends in the east that Niagara was the only thing that he had seen in America to come up to his expectations, and ran the risk of being ejected lock, stock and barrel when he declared publicly in New York that Riverside Drive—the place lying nearest the heart of all true New Yorkers—was not to be compared to Unter den Linden. Having seen both, I regret that I cannot agree with him.

He also shocked a good many when he told them that he thought New York more drunken than Berlin. He is not alone in his opinion, however. for I notice that a very reputable Republican, from Massachusetts, lately declared that another part of the country—the district of Columbia—was "300 per cent. more drunken than Paris and 200 per cent. more murderous than London," and he straightway gave figures to prove his point. He said that statistics of police departments disclosed a civil depravity and social disintegration under present conditions in the national capital of the United States that was appalling.

JAPAN'S GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT.

In the opinion of certain prominent public bodies at San Francisco, Japan should be placed on the "quota" basis for immigration. A few days ago representatives of the American Legion, the California branch of the American Federation of Labour, the Native Sons of the Golden West and the California State Grange—all of them highly responsible institutions—telegraphed to President Coolidge as follows:

"It is established beyond controversy that the so-called 'gentlemen's agreement' between the United States and Japan for more than ten years has been and is now being violated by Japan and her people. In 1909 the Pacific Coast was assured by President Roosevelt in a telegram to the California Legislature that if such an agreement failed to accomplish a reduction in the number of Japanese in the United States, the Federal Government would take such action as would accomplish that purpose.

"Such population has not decreased, but, on the contrary, has greatly increased, and in our judgment the time for Federal action in accordance with President Roosevelt's promise is at hand. The provision in the House Immigration Bill excluding from entry aliens ineligible to citizenship with certain classes exempted offers the speediest and surest means of accomplishing that purpose."

KRUPPS' PROPOSED TRANSFER TO SPAIN.

I wonder whether your readers have noticed, or if they have noticed, fully appreciate the significance of the announcement made that Krupps are transferring their great shipbuilding establishment to Spain? This is certainly one of the most important sidelights upon the European situation, and incidentally one of the most vivid disclosures of the temper and intent of Germany. In Spain, of course, they can resume and expand their manufacture of war material, which the Versailles Treaty disallows in Germany.

The "North Atlantic Review," one of the sanest magazines published in the United States, recently referred editorially to this matter, remarking that if this were to be the case Krupps "would be doing in Spain for a potential German navy what is being done for a German army by the huge German establishments which have been organized in Russia." There are also to be added the transfer of hundreds of millions of dollars of German capital to Great Britain, the United States and other countries, so that it cannot be levied upon for the payment of Germany's just debts, and so that the German Government can plead poverty and piteous pleas can be emitted for succour for the starving children of the Fatherland. Of course, as the writer I quote from says, "all this is nothing more than was to be expected of Germany," but it was not expected, after that great day when peace was declared, that the Powers would permit themselves thus to be duped and flouted.

OUR PARIS LETTERS

Fiscal Proposals: Pathetic Life Story of Princess Louise

From Our Own Correspondent.

Paris, Mar. 7.

M. Poincaré is not at all pleased with the lack of alacrity shown by Parliament in accepting his fiscal proposals, which are now before the Finance Committee of the Senate. This body sent the newspapers a note to the effect that, while they accepted most of the proposals, they did not see the necessity of giving the Government power to legislate by decree. Yesterday morning the chairman of the committee, M. Milliès-Lacroix, went to see M. Poincaré, to tell him the committee's views and let him know the points on which they desired information. The interview was of a somewhat heated character, and M. Milliès-Lacroix hastily sent out a notice to his colleagues to meet early in the afternoon. M. Poincaré attended this improvised meeting, and said very plainly that too much time had been wasted already, that the note issued by the committee was a mistake and likely to damage the public credit. He requested the committee to accept the scheme just as it came from the Chamber and report on it at once, so that the Senate would be able to begin the debate in four days. He added that unless he received a promise to this effect, he would go to the Elysée that very evening and tender the resignation of the Cabinet. M. Milliès-Lacroix was about to say what he thought of this attitude on the part of the Premier when the latter left the room, remarking that he had no intention of going into details on that occasion.

The committee talked it over and decided to send M. Poincaré a letter intimating that they would hear what he had to say at whatever time would suit him best. This closed the incident, at any rate for the time being. It is simply a repetition on a small scale of what has repeatedly happened in the Chamber of late. M. Poincaré says in effect: "If you don't like my plans, find another Government."

THE PAUPER PRINCESS.

The death of Princess Louise of Belgium, no doubt reported by cable, took place in an hotel at Wiesbaden just a week after she had won her action against her creditors and, for the first time in her life, was likely to have money of her own. M. Jules Sauerwein, of the "*Matin*," who was one of her most chivalrous defenders, relates that she once said to him: "I have had a good many troubles in the course of my life. I have been slandered by my husband's family and my own, shut up in a madhouse for seven years and driven from town to town, and never once did I have any money I could call my own. I always had to borrow, sometimes at ruinous rates of interest." Had she lived another month or so, she would have been in possession of over a million francs, but it was just at this point that her robust constitution broke down and she succumbed to pneumonia. At the end of January she wrote to M. Sauerwein: "How I regret Paris! Although it must always be associated in my mind with a great grief (the death of her faithful companion, Count Mattachich) its atmosphere was indispensable to me, because in Paris there were some people who, I knew, sincerely sympathized with me. Here in Wiesbaden I suffer in solitude. I have neither fixed income nor pocket money; nothing but good advice. If the little girl behaves nicely she shall have 3,000 Belgian francs a month and promises for the future. How dreadful it is to be unable to get anything one wants and to be dependent on such people! I hope something will be done, but the future is dark. I seldom go out, I see nobody, and I work so as to forget my troubles."

HER LONELY DEATH.

After she was taken ill, Princess Louise was anxious to see her daughter, the Duchess of Holstein, but this consolation was denied her. The Duchess of Holstein did not arrive until after her mother's death. Two maids and a lawyer were with the unhappy princess at the last.

Lawyers have always figured prominently in her life. When her father, King Leopold II, died in 1909 she left Budapest for Brussels with an escort of six, consisting of four lawyers and two representatives of her creditors, who had formed themselves into a syndicate. They were all watching her closely, so as to get all they could out of her expected share of her father's great wealth. Unfortunately the will gave her no satisfaction, and produced nothing but lawsuits so far as she was concerned. Even her mother's fortune was sequestrated in the interest of creditors.

UNABLE TO PAY HOTEL BILLS.

The princess had to resume her wanderings from hotel to hotel and from town to town. Several times she was literally turned out because she could not pay her bills. It was the business of Count Mattachich, who got her out of the lunatic asylum, to borrow money for her at all costs It was such an arduous task that after his death the princess said of him: "He worked every day for 18 years to keep me alive." Her sisters and other relatives more than once showed a disposition to help her, but always on condition that she left Count Mattachich, the only man who had even been really devoted to her. When she left Paris two months ago she was told to go to Wiesbaden and was promised enough to live on. In the meantime the gold mark made its reappearance in Germany and her pension became insufficient. An appeal was made to Baron Goffinet, private secretary to the late King Leopold and trustee of the Empress Charlotte's estate. He finally made the journey to Wiesbaden, probably with money in his pocket, but it will have served chiefly for the funeral expenses. Princess Louise survived her faithful friend only five months. She was certainly anything but a calculating woman. She was extravagant, but she never knew the value of money and was not brought up to know it.

A BRAVE WOMAN.

Some of her relatives persecuted her, and others grudged her what they could very well have spared. They were very numerous: perhaps each one hoped that the other would do the generous thing, or perhaps they felt that Louise of Belgium's disregard of conventions was a disgrace to their order. It was not a clever calculation, because the spectacle of a princess begging the necessaries of life from her family does not help to sustain the prestige of royalty. When the principle of *noblesse oblige* is forgotten, people argue, what respect are we to feel for highly-placed personages who show themselves no more generous than the masses? It is a great tribute to Princess Louise to say that she was never soured. She still believed in humanity, and she has been known to shed tears over an anonymous letter expressing sympathy with her in her troubles.

BARBARITIES OF PENAL SYSTEM.

Several reported escapes of convicts from the penal settlements in French Guiana have drawn from an official of the Prisons Department the reassuring statement that these gentlemen are very unlikely to return to France and wreak vengeance on the witnesses. It is not at all unusual, he says, for a convict to get away, but he very seldom regains his liberty. If he escapes being shot by a warder, he finds himself defenceless in a forest containing a fair share of wild beasts. Should he get through the forest, he must find the greatest difficulty in keeping alive until he reaches civilization, as he has no clothing. Nine out of every ten escapes are made from a camp called Charvein, to which all the most insubordinate convicts are sent. In local slang they are called the "incos," a corruption of "incorrigible."

NAKED CONVICTS.

As Charvein is called a "repression camp" it can hardly be a pleasant place to live in, and the prison officials, knowing that desperate men will take almost any risk to regain their liberty, have tried the expedient of depriving them of clothes. Their costume consists simply and solely of a straw hat. In spite of this, some convicts have been known to make repeated attempts to escape, ending in their being driven back to the camp by hunger. It has been suggested that recaptured convicts should be guillotined "to encourage the others," but the official who supplied this curious information added that he did not think the death penalty would have any effect, so great being the thirst for freedom among the "incos." Perhaps some future French Government will realize that the system of transporting white prisoners to an unhealthy tropical climate is an anachronism that ought to be abolished.

Fresh Light on Daudet Tragedy: Action of Political Police

Mar. 13.

The inquiry into the death of Philippe Daudet, son of the Royalist deputy who is editor of the "*Action Francaise*," continues to raise fresh questions as to the doings of the Sûreté Générale, the body which combines the functions of Scotland Yard and the political police—a survival of the organization which Napoleon found so useful. In theory, detectives exist for the purpose of finding out facts and communicating them to the persons entrusted with the administration of justice.

In this case an examining magistrate was appointed as soon as M. Daudet asked for an inquiry into the death of his son, but it now appears that the Sûreté Générale knew a good deal more about the matter than it cared to disclose, and that it held back material information which should have been submitted to the magistrate without delay. M. Daudet is now doing his best to find out the motive of this action. As I have related in a previous letter, he believes that his son was found at Le Flaouter's bookshop in the Boulevard Beaumarchais by detectives, who did not know his identity and who had been told to look out for an armed anarchist, and that, thinking Philippe was about to draw a pistol, one of the detectives shot him. This, according to M. Daudet, was very unwelcome to the officers in charge, who knew who the youth was, and they concluded that the best way out of the difficulty was to stimulate a suicide. They accordingly put him into a taxicab, primed the driver with the necessary story and promised him protection.

AN OFFICIAL ADMISSON.

It is certainly curious that Le Flaouter, on reading a paragraph in a newspaper about an unknown youth who had shot himself in a taxicab, should take the trouble to go to the hospital and see the body. Although he recognized it as that of the youth who had been to his shop, he pretended ignorance, but lost no time in going to M. Lannes, an official of the Sûreté Générale, and telling him what he had seen. A week later M. Lannes said to him: "We have known since November 27 that Philippe Daudet, who shot himself in a taxicab, was the anarchist who came to your shop, but I was not allowed to tell you."

Another singular circumstance is that, on November 26, two high officials of the Sûreté Générale, MM. Delange and Blondel, went to the hospital to make inquiries about the supposed suicide—a task they would certainly have left to a subordinate had there been nothing more in the case than what met the eye. They afterwards told the examining magistrate that at this time they had no idea that there was any connexion between the unknown suicide and Philippe Daudet. The head of the hospital having declined to give them any information, on the ground that the Préfecture of Police already had the affair in hand, they accepted the situation and, with rare docility, went away.

MATERIAL INFORMATION WITHELD

Still another point that requires clearing up is why M. Delange paid another visit to the hospital more than a month later (December 31) to make sure that Philippe Daudet had not said anything after his admission to the ward. He questioned the nurse who tended the unfortunate youth, and he was able to take back the report that Philippe Daudet was in a state of coma from first to last and did not utter a word.

When called as a witness before M. Barnaud, the examining magistrae, M. Delange told the story of his first visit to the hospital, but said nothing about the second. He even closed his deposition by stating that he took no active part in the case after November 27. So remarkably discreet was the Sûreté Générale that the mystery would have remained impenetrable had it not been for the operations of another force, the *police judiciaire*, which was set to work by the magistrate. Quite by chance, a detective called on Le Flaouter, who was known as a "militant" and asked him if he knew anything about Philippe Daudet. In this way one set of the police stumbled on information which another was carefully hiding. Why?

HIGH POST FOR LANDRU'S JUDGE.

It is customary in the Chamber of Deputies, when subjects of a technical nature are under discussion, to give the Minister in charge of the Bill outside assistance. He can appoint a "Government Commissioner," almost invariably a high official, who takes a seat on the front bench next to the Minister, gives such information as may be required, and answers questions, without, of course, taking any personal part in the debate or endeavouring to influence votes by argument. During the consideration, two days ago, of a proposal to alter two clauses of the Penal Code, a new Commissioner appeared in the Chamber and set forth the pros and cons of the matter with an ease and fluency that showed the practised speaker. His bearded face seemed familiar to many of the members. They had vague recollections of caricature and photographs in the newspapers, but could not "place" the Commissioner. They made inquiries and found that he was M. Gilbert, who was the presiding judge at the trial of Landru and who performed the social duty of passing the death sentence on that sinister criminal. He also officiated at the trial of Mme. Bessarabo, the literary lady who killed her husband, packed his body in a trunk and sent it off to Nancy, for which feat she is now serving a long sentence. In France the judicial function does not possess anything like the independence accorded to it in England. A judge is simply an official under the Ministry of Justice, which has several higher positions in its gift. One of these was conferred on M. Gilbert, and he is now Director of Criminal Affairs at the Ministry. It was in this capacity that he appeared in the Chamber of Deputies and, instead of putting questions, had to confine himself to answering them.

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

Scuttled German Fleet to Be Salved: Gigantic Task that Will Take Six Years

From Our Own Correspondent.

Edinburgh, Mar. 11.

When the German Fleet was [illegible] the case of the [illegible] a start of [illegible] the [illegible] North of Scotland, [illegible] by the [illegible] and its [illegible] Scapa Flow, [illegible] Orkneys, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

SPECIAL ARTICLES

THE WORD OF LIFE

A Sermon Preached by the Rev. A. N. Rowland, M. A., in Union Church, Shanghai, on Easter Sunday, April 20, 1924

"The Word of Life"—1 John 1:1.

This is John's definition of the Gospel—the Word, Message or Revelation of Life. In other parts of the New Testament it is called the Word or Revelation of the Kingdom, of the Truth, of the Cross, of God's grace, of our salvation. But at Easter we specially think of it as the message of Life. That puts it in tune with the spring and the glory of it. Spring is the gospel of renewal for every cell and seed. Easter is the gospel of renewal for the soul.

When we think of the gospel as the word of truth we know it is in need of constant revision as the human mind moves on. When we think of it as the message of the Kingdom it is evidently in need of continual extension if it is to keep pace with social advance. But these cares and toils are wonderfully lightened when we remember that the gospel is also the word of life, that it tells of a power that can carry us on and finally brings us home when we are done with the study of truth and the service of the Kingdom.

THE RESURRECTION STORIES.

Let us consider the root of that Easter confidence and joy under the shadow of which the Church has sat down nearly 2,000 years. We think first of the immortal stories which close the Gospels of Luke and John, that tell us how the original disciples were convinced, how their doubting minds were satisfied, their aching hearts comforted. We rejoice with them as they become conscious of the Real Presence in the rapture of early morning by the lake, or at evening on the Emmaus road when "the holy time was quiet as a nun breathless with adoration," or again in the happy hour of lively fellowship with one another. With its power of surprise it counteracted and healed the shock of the crucifixion. It transformed their careers, and made a group of peasants the pivot of a new world.

THE STRANGER IN THE VILLAGE.

But I am convinced it would be a mistake to look to these proofs of the resurrection as our final evidence for the truth of personal life in the Beyond. We are not driven to pierce together the reports of those experiences until they present a flawless case. The manifestations of the Lord after his death fitted in with what the disciples had known of him before. It is enough for us that they were satisfied, that in spite of the scepticism of cold hearts their conviction triumphed. But we have reasons for our belief that could not weigh with them. Our evidence is bound up with the very being of Jesus. The heavenly home was the secret of all his prayers and labours, the strength of his endurance in all circumstances, his satisfaction when everything else was taken away. As one of his followers put it, it was "for the joy set before him" that he endured the cross.

We are like the inhabitants of some remote village, some of whom have never crossed the district boundary or seen the other side of the hill; but they have read newspapers that belong to the metropolis and they wear and use things with the stamp of the city upon them. One day a visitor arrives, like themselves but with something about his speech and manner that fits in with what they have read in the papers. And there is no need for them to ask the question for they know whence he comes. So it is with Jesus Christ. It is Himself who brings home the proof of personal reality in the unseen, who persuades us that life's source and fulfilment are not here but there.

SPRING SPEAKS TRUE.

The question of our hearts is whether there is a song of the redeemed to match the music of Spring. Has the magic of the renewed earth a meaning for us or is it a mockery of our intuitions? Can it be that the physical creation is better off than this personality of ours? Or does the restoration of nature bear witness to a human resurrection?

In giving us his answer to these questions our Lord did not let us remain in any doubt. (1) Consider how his teaching was based upon the hypothesis that life's meaning is to be found in the fuller light of God. He recommended his disciples to live strenuously and generously so as to furnish mansions in the Father's House. He begged them to be faithful in the smallest things and so to enter into the joy of a Lord who was not yet in evidence. He persuaded them to be meek and self-forgetful because it was the road to a royal influence. He encouraged the free expenditure of love because it counted for so much beyond the terms of this life. He himself took infinite pains with the humblest person, happy to think of the rejoicing it caused among the angels of God.

THE FAITH OF CHRIST.

(2) Beyond all that he taught it is clear that Christ staked his very life on the truth that our hopes are not invalid, our intuitions not mistaken. His whole mission turned on the fact of personal life beyond. In Paul's famous argument for the resurrection he declared "If Christ be not risen then our faith is in vain." Might he not have gone farther and said "If Christ be not risen then his own faith was in vain?" In the unspeakable event the cross would have been the final refutation of any hope in God. There is a touching sentence in Luke that "Jesus began to be about 30 years old." He began his ministry when he had grown to the height of his powers and reached the prime of his pure life. And he deliberately let it all go, not in a mood of despair, not because his life was taken from him, but because the Eternal Spirit called to the spirit within his breast, and he answered "Lo I come, to do Thy Will O God."

JOHN MORLEY ON EASTER.

What would be left of the faith of Jesus Christ if there were no centre and home of personal reality beyond our ken? That Death is only "the shadow that is cast by turning" from a lower to a higher phase of existence is a truth that was interwoven with every word of his teaching and every act of his life. It is a grand mistake, or foolish error, as Paul has told us, to let our faith in the resurrection turn upon questions as to the form and substance of the body. In the name of the entire ministry of Christ we are to broaden the basis of our belief. Lord Morley in his "Recollections" tells of his hero and teacher John Stuart Mill, how towards the end of his life he broke away from his agnostic set and wrote a book on Theism. There he gave a philosophic estimate of God and an aesthetic appreciation of Christ, but he left out Easter. And Morley has to admit that "this scheme of possible contingencies, low degrees of probability, permissive hope and dubious potentialities could never bring comfort worth the name to aching hearts at 'eternal parting of the ways,' and although Mill's estimate of Jesus Christ was glowing and sincere, a book without the sunshine of Easter reduced the full shining noon of Christian faith to a dim twilight of bare possibilities and blanched peradventures." In fact it would be a gospel from which the strength had leaked out.

NO EASTER NO CHRIST.

Let no one imagine then that the doctrine of the resurrection, that is of personal life beyond, is a kind of postcript to the life of Christ and can be cut off as if it meant no more than striking sail; it would be more like springing a leak. Or let me give you this homely illustration. You have seen potatoes growing in luxuriance between the long furrows, and you might think it a small matter to cut off the green tops for you do not eat them. Yes, but they are the means of life and growth to the tubers beneath, and if you cut off the tops you destroy the hidden parts. Just so if you cut off the resurrection of Christ you destroy the power of his ministry. All his ethical teaching, all his spiritual standards go with it, for he always read life *sub specie eternitatis* and reckoned every value from the standpoint of immortality.

My message this Easter is that we cannot remain in the twilight; we are faced with these alternatives. If Christ is not risen there is no Christ, and we may as well close our churches and our Bibles. We must either choose that darkness or accept the astounding fact that true life, like light, is not centred here but there, and let that fact of sunshine have its full effect upon our outlook, our behaviour and the whole temper of our life. That is to be a Christian, for Jesus Christ is the heart of the Word that reveals and interprets Life.

CHINA'S SKIES FOR MAY

By Sirius.

1-6 Meteoric showers in the Aquarids.
4 New moon ●, 6.46 a.m.
Mercury in conjunction with the moon, 4 p.m. Mercury 6°.2 N.
6 Venus at greatest Northern declination.
Moon in apogee, 9.8 a.m.
Commencement of Summer (Chinese Calendar) *Lih-hsia* 立夏
8 Transit of Mercury across the sun's disc. The geocentric phases are as follows: 1st contact, 5.47 a.m.
Centre, 9.41 a.m.
Last contact 1.35 p.m.
Venus in conjunction with the moon, 9 a.m. Venus 7°.9 N.
Neptune in quadrature, 8 p.m.
12 First quarter (moon) ☽, 10.0 a.m.
13 Occultation of Regulus, in Leo, 0.57 a.m.
15 Occultation of Gamma Virginis (a double star), 11.33 p.m.
17 Saturn in conjunction with the moon, 4 a.m. Saturn 1.7 S.
18-26 Meteoric showers in the Herculids.
Mercury in aphelion, 5 p.m.
19 Full moon ○, 5.38 a.m.
Moon in perigee, 4.1 p.m.
20 Jupiter in conjunction with the moon, noon. Jupiter 4°.1 S.
Mercury stationary in the heavens, 4 p.m.
21 Sun enters Gemini, 5.22 p.m.
24 Mars in conjunction with the moon, 4 p.m. Mars 3°.4 S.
25 Last quarter (moon) ☾, 10.2 p.m.
Venus at greatest brilliancy. 2 p.m. (9 times that of Sirius)
27 Uranus in conjunction with the moon, 5 a.m. Uranus 1°.4 N.
30 Meteoric showers in the Pegasids.
31 Mercury in conjunction with the moon, 6 p.m. Mercury 1°.2 N.

PHASES OF THE MOON.

	Day.	Hour.	
New moon	● 4	6.46 a.m.	Peking time
First quarter	☽ 12	10. 0 a.m.	
Full moon	○ 19	5.38 a.m.	
Last quarter	☾ 25	10. 2 p.m.	
Moon in apogee	6	9. 8 a.m.	
,, perigee	19	1. 1 p.m.	

RISING AND SETTING OF THE SUN AT INTERVALS OF 5 DAYS.

	Rises	Sets
1	5.17 a.m.	6.37 p.m.
5	5.13 a.m.	6.40 p.m.
10	5. 9 a.m.	6.43 p.m.
15	5. 6 a.m.	6.47 p.m.
20	5. 3 a.m.	6.50 p.m.
25	5. 1 a.m.	6.53 p.m.
30	4.59 a.m.	6.56 p.m.

In this month the mornings increase 18 minutes (42 at Greenwich), and the afternoons 19 (43 at Greenwich), making a total of 37 minutes for the whole month.

ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPAL PLANTS.

MERCURY.—An evening star in the first week of the month, but setting too near the sun, for naked-eye observation; at the close of the month it becomes a morning star.
In conjunction with moon on 4th; crosses the sun's disc on 8th, in aphelion on the 18th; stationary on the 20th; in conjunction with moon on the 31st.
Rises on 25th at 4.2 a.m.

VENUS.—An early evening star, moving into Gemini. Splendidly brilliant during this month, and visible for about 3½ hours after sunset in the first half of the month; and 2½ towards the close.
At greatest declination North on 6th; in conjunction with moon on 8th; at greatest brilliancy on 25th (lying then near the Twins and Procyon, or the Little Dog).
Sets on 1st at 0.21 p.m.;
on 16th at 10.14 p.m.;
,, 30th at 9.43 p.m.

MARS.—An early morning star in Capricornus, increasing in brilliancy, and rising before midnight at the end of the month.
In conjunction with the moon on 24th.
Rises on 1st at 0.42 a.m.;
on 16th at 0.13 a.m.,
,, 30th at 11.39 p.m.

JUPITER.—An early evening star in Scorpio. Visible nearly the whole night, and becoming more and more brilliant. In conjunction with moon on 20th.
Rises on 1st at 9.30 p.m.;
on 16th at 8.24 p.m.;
,, 30th at 7.18 p.m.

SATURN.—An early evening star in Virgo, hastening its rising towards the end of the month. Remains still very bright (having been in opposition on April 19).
In conjunction with moon on 17th.
Rises on 1st at 5.30 p.m.;
Souths at 11.11 p.m.,
16th at 4.26 p.m.;
Souths at 10.8 p.m.;
,, 30th at 3.22 p.m.;
Souths at 9.4 p.m.

TRANSIT OF MERCURY ACROSS THE SUN'S DISC.

Mercury, being an inner planet revolving within the orbit of the earth, passes periodically between the earth and the sun. This occurrence is called inferior conjunction, and happens on the average every 116 days. The planet, however, usually passes a little north or south of the sun, but on May 8, of the present year, it moves right across the disc, and will be visible upon it as a small dark spot, but not large enough to be seen without a telescope.

The diameter of Mercury is about 3000 miles, while that of the sun is 865,400 miles, or 288 times larger. The first contact takes place at 5.47 a.m., a short time after sunrise; least distance of centres 9.41 a.m.; last contact 1.35 p.m., standard time of the China coast. Mercury moves on its orbit from East to West, advancing at the rapid rate of 30 miles a second, while the sun moves Eastwards in an opposite direction.

Weather being favourable, the whole phenomenon may be well observed in China.

VENUS AT GREATEST BRILLIANCY.

Venus, which is very high up in the Western skies, and approaching our earth since its greatest Eastern elongation, will be very brilliant during this month, attaining its maximum on the 25th. At this period, the planet offers a beautiful spectacle after sunset, and is visible for over 3 hours in the early part of the month, but hastens its setting towards the end.

Venus is in Gemini, in the neighbourhood of the Twins and Procyon.

JUPITER OPPOSITE VENUS IN THE EVENING SKY.

In this month, Jupiter rises in the East before Venus sets in the West, both being diametrically situated at opposite points of the horizon. In the early part of the month, Jupiter rises about 9 p.m., while Venus sets a short time after 10 p.m. The planet increases in brilliancy, and will be at its nearest point to the earth on June 7.

THE SONG OF THE CAMEL BELLS

Sitting by the fire as the dark comes creeping
Through the heavy burdened boughs drooping 'neath the snow,
Through the cold white silence of earth's tranced sleeping,
Strangely loud I hear them, deep and sweet and slow—
Camel bells a-swinging
With a cadenced ringing,
As the pacing caravans through the desert go.

Oh! that sun-steep'd evening, when we heard them coming
Through the rose-red tamarisks to the river strand!
How their mellow music sent old memories homing
To the chiming belfries of a northern land!
Camel bells a-swinging,
Peals of silver ringing,
As the pacing caravan half the sky-line spanned.

What was it he told us—that swart youth who led them.
As we touched a rocking bell and sent its note astray?
Bone—not bronze—the clapper whose soft swaying speed them,
Bones of camels long since dead on that desert way—
Camel bells a-swinging,
Plaintive dirges ringing,
For the pacing caravans of a long-past day.

MURIEL E. GRAHAM.

A SHANGHAI WORLD EXHIBITION

A Sure Commercial Success and a Means to Secure a Fine Permanent Museum

By Arthur de C. Sowerby.

Mr. G. A. Bena's scheme for having a world exhibition in Shanghai, which was reported in the "North-China Daily News" on April 22, seems to be making a very wide appeal to the residents of this port. The benefits to be derived from such an exhibition, not only to Shanghai as a business centre, but to China in general, have been sufficiently dealt with to show that there would be every prospect of success if the project came to a head. Commercially the undertaking could only result in enormous profits to the community at large, as such exhibitions always show a considerable profit if they are properly handled, and the only question here is if we have enough of the right kind of public-spirited people to handle such an undertaking. Knowing what one does of the Shanghai community, both native and foreign, one is inclined to the view that there are plenty of people thoroughly capable of handling such a project and making of it a thorough success.

The article in the "North-China Daily News" lays stress on the business advantages to be derived, though mention is also made of possibilities and benefits to be derived in other lines of human activity. There would, of course, be a large section devoted to the many branches of science that are being carried on in this country, and from this point of view alone such an exhibition would be well worth while. China's mineral wealth is proverbial, and her fauna and flora are admittedly amongst the richest in the world. An ethnographical exhibition showing all the various costumes, household utensils, modes of living, etc., of the different tribes and races in China and neighbouring regions would be a very strong drawing card, for there is no manner of doubt that not only are foreigners interested in the people of China, but the Chinese themselves are also keenly interested in their fellow nationals.

A PERMANENT MUSEUM.

But in such an exhibition as Mr. Bena suggests science would only be a section. Art would come into its own and who can resist the idea of a pavilion devoted to the art products of China, both ancient and modern? We are used to small exhibitions, but never in the history of the port has a really representative exhibition of Chinese art been held. Here would be the opportunity. The writer has frequently urged both publicly and privately, as well as in the newspapers, that Shanghai should have an institution devoted to art, science and literature and there is no need to go over the arguments in favour of this again. A little while ago, working in conjunction with Dr. Chatley, I outlined a scheme whereby, by a small addition to the rates, a fully equipped institution of the value of about $500,000 could be erected in Shanghai in some suitable spot and paid for in about 30 years, leaving the community of Shanghai the richer for having a temple devoted to the intellectual side of life. Now comes Mr. Bena's suggestion that after the exhibition some large central building which has been used during the exhibition for meetings, congresses, etc., should be used at its close for a permanent museum such as has been repeatedly outlined in Shanghai papers. By this means Shanghai would become the possessor of a very sorely needed institution and I feel sure that those who represent the intellectual side of the community will give their fullest support to Mr. Bena's suggestions.

RABINDRANATH Tagore, the famous Indian poet, visited the ex-Emperor Hsuan Tung, in the Forbidden City on Monday afternoon. The former Emperor, who speaks excellent English, had a long conversation with the philosopher in the Imperial Garden.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE BOWLING CLUB NOW LEAVING ITS ANCIENT HOME

I.—Founded Nearly 70 Years Ago and Same Old Buildings Still in Nanking Road But Now Sold

So the Shanghai Bowling Club's alley in Nanking Road has been sold to the proprietors of the Fives Courts, and with it disappears the last visible remnant of the romance of Old Shanghai, So far at least as foreigners are concerned. The old decrepit walls, the ancient door and uneven steps, all are to go. That startling contrast it presented, to stand now for so short a time, of old and modern will be lost, never more to arouse the bewilderment of the uninitiated and the griffin.

The history of the Bowling Alley is a long one and varied, and it has taken us, with the aid of Dr. Goodie, the present honorary secretary, some time to compile but the results have been well worth the trouble. The names of old residents long forgotten leap out at us from the pages of the old minute books and documents recalling memories of men once famous in the Far East, and now forgotten,—almost unknown, excepting to the few.

The idea of the Club was first conceived in the early 'fifties and on February 8, 1855, we find recorded in an ancient minute book the report of the first meeting. The account is not a very comprehensive one, but is worth giving in its entirety. It reads:

At a meeting held at the Jinkee Hong a few days since the undersigned were requested to act as a committee to make arrangements for the construction of a building suitable as a bowling alley. We now beg to submit the following report.

The contract has been made [illegible] sions on the land belonging to the Fives Court, the building to be 124 feet long outside, the walls to be built of brick 1 foot thick with 4 brick pilasters on each side, 2 windows in and a door———ft. by——ft. the entire building inside to be plastered: the alleys to be 90 ft. long and 80 ft. of Singapore wood and 10 feet of China wood, to be bolted through and through by 50 iron rods in each alley: [illegible] corner with a fire place, the whole to cost complete $1,550.

Sgd. JAMES CRAMPTON.
D. O. KING.
F. FOSTER.

The wording is somewhat peculiar and hardly does the grammar of our forefathers much credit. However, the contractor seems to have understood it, for the building was erected. It is interesting to note that no mention is made as to where the alley was to be placed, and right throughout that particular minute book, lasting as the Club as it does from 1855 to 1880, no mention is made regarding the Club's situation. In fact the books were kept in a very happy go-lucky style throughout till more recent days. For instance a somewhat startling error, which was not noticed by any secretary in office at the time, occurs between the years 1858 and 1870. In the minute book there is a gap, no entries being made during those years, until, on June 17, 1870, the then Secretary, Mr. John H. Purden, makes the following statement:—

"The proceedings of subsequent meetings to this are entered in the visitors' book. This is an error, so this book, the proper one, is resumed. June 17, 1870, J. H. Purden, Hon. Sec."

How such a remarkable mistake could have been committed it is difficult to understand, and unhappily the visitors' book in which the entries were made cannot be found.

But to revert The report of the first meeting concludes with the following paragraph:—

The undersigned hereby agree to pay their proportional part of the expenses of erecting a bowling alley in accordance with the plans submitted by the building committee, the number of members being limited to 20.

Sgd.
W. S. WETMORE, JOHN FOSTER. D. N. SPOONER, J. SAUER, J. CROMPTON, F. FOSTER, C. D. NYE, ENG. BRUSSENELT, D. O. KING, W. N. PICCOPI, J. A. WHEELCOCK, R. STURGIS JR., F. LOUREIRO, O. W. ORME, A. F. HEARD, E. DEACON, L. MACANDREW, A. E. A. CAMPBELL.

EXTERIOR OF THE BUILDING.

This, then, was the actual founding of the Club. Whether any rules were then made, or conditions laid down it is impossible to relate, for at no time till recent years were any rules ever entered in the minute book. What the original rules were we should dearly like to know.

CAUTIOUS FINANCE.

In the early days of the Club the members seem to have chosen some cautious secretaries and treasurers, for while the reserve fund always stood at a huge figure the balances in hand were frequently showing a deficit, a fact which later aroused the indignation of one old-timer who complained of the harshness of the word deficiency when applied to their balance in hand, and all the time there was a huge sum standing in the reserve fund. But this happy state of affairs did not last for ever, and the time came at a later stage in the history of the club when the finances got into an extraordinary tangle. Subscriptions were collected in advance to pay old debts, money was borrowed to meet expenses which should have been met by the former year's subscriptions, already collected, and more money was borrowed again to pay off the first debtor.

During the period when the error occurred whereby the minutes were entered up in the visitors' book, however, the Club seems to have been fairly flourishing, for at the annual meeting in 1870 the Chairman, a Mr. Bell, comments on the fact that there are more applications for shares than there are shares to be had. Considering that the cost of one share was Tls. 130 it would certainly seem that the Club was in a flourishing state.

THE FATE OF PROHIBITION.

Judging by the records whiskey was practically unknown in the club Brandy and sherry appear to have been the favourite drinks and enormous quantities of both were consumed. One rule, rashly made, ordered that the bar should be closed during the hot summer months between June 1 and September 1, but by general consent members remained blind to the regulation, the officials forgot it and probably the boys never knew

THE ALLEY.

it. Certainly no one ever enlightened them and a delicate subject was left well alone till 1870, when Mr. John H. Purden, who seems to have been one of the most energetic secretaries the Club has ever had, took the bull by the horns and suggested at the annual meeting that the rule be either rescinded or put into operation. Needless to relate it was rescinded. His suggestion that members should bring their own liquor met with strong disapproval.

Perhaps the suggestion was not so seriously meant, however, for Mr. Purden was very much of a humorist in his way. He it was who brought in one man to the Club and got him elected strongly against his will. The victim was a Mr. Singer and he protested strongly. He wrote the words "not a member" against his name posted in the Club and retired in great indignation. It was useless, however, for one morning he received a letter on his breakfast table from Mr. Purden asking for his share money. Some very acrimonious correspondence ensued, Mr. Purden's attitude being one of pained indignation at Mr. Singer's ingratitude. Mr. Singer appears to have been not pained but furiously indignant and said so. However, matters righted themselves somehow, though the record gives no indication of the methods or whether Mr. Singer did finally agree to join.

A TACIFUL REMINDER.

John Purden also seems to have been gifted with tact, for what could be more beautiful than this letter, circularized to members for the benefit of the defaulting ones:

"September 30, 1868.

Sir,—The club is somewhat indebted to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the estimable manager of which, however, scorns to take advantage of this and pays his subscription like a man, setting an example

ANOTHER VIEW.

that all should be emulous to follow. Other amounts are owing to an absent shareholder, one of the champions, for his share in the victory over the Junior Club and to the late Secretary. But the greatest deficit is from the honourable members absent and present not paying. Behold the accompanying list and see if it is one worthy of the senior bowling club. The undersigned therefore confidently appeals to those persons, who have in the excitement of tea and telegrams overlooked the little matter to devote a compradore's order to it and to the representatives of the absent but not forgotten ones, and to take responsibility of paying the amount due."

The exhortation concludes,

"Pray pay and play with a pleased conscience.

Sgd. JOHN PURDEN."

A demand couched in these terms must have come as refreshing after the usual curt and ominous demands from creditors to which most people are used.

II.—Involved Financial System and its Disastrous Results

As stated previously, the Club's finances at one period got into rather a muddle, and judging by the system (?) on which they worked this is not altogether surprising. Either the old hands were extraordinarily optimistic or steeped in the Eastern spirit of *maskie*. We have one amazing instance of this in 1868. The Bowling Alley received a challenge from the Union Bowling Club. The records go to show there was a considerable amount of bickering and voluminous correspondence on the subject of terms, and though the minute book is somewhat vague, we may reasonably take it they eventually decided to play for Tls. 500. The game was played, and although the Bowling Alley had been very pressing on the subject of the stakes, they were the recipients of a hearty licking. The consequence was they could not pay up and got much behind with the accounts. Matters were put right eventually by a private subscription, but the evil had set in and they soon got into a most bewildering tangle.

ARE WE DOWNHEARTED?

In August of 1872 the treasurer informs the Club that the rent has not been paid for four years, and they are Tls. 200 in arrears. Further more they had not the money to meet it. But does this worry the members of the Bowling Alley? Not a bit of it. The solution is simple, just collect 12 months' subscriptions in advance. This they did and at this same meeting, in spite of these new debts we read the Club accepted the offer of Mr. Farnham to relay the alleys and repair the building at a cost of Tls. 1,500.

The following year the old members are surprised to find themselves in debt, and another Tls. 1,000 is borrowed from Mr. Bell at eight per cent. per annum. At the same time the monthly subscriptions are increased to Tls. 5 to pay off the capital and interest from time to time.—On January 6, 1874 Mr. Bell goes home and it is decided to pay him Tls. 500 and interest, at the same time borrowing Tls. 250 from a Mr. Paterson.

By 1878 matters become so muddled that a meeting is called with the object of proposing the re-organization of the Club to improve the "tone" and put it on a different basis. "Putting the club on a different basis" really meant borrowing Tls. 1,500 from the Trustees of the Recreation Fund. Furthermore a repayment of Tls. 100 of his share to each member was made out of the Reserve Fund in order to make shares cheaper and so attract more members and the membership was increased from 20 to 30.

By 1879 they appear to have got straight again, for Tls. 750 is repaid to the Recreation Fund, and a few years later the membership is officially reduced to 25, at which figure it stands to-day.

THE SABBATARIANS.

A problem which produced a rift in the lute for many years was the question of Sunday bowling. We are apt in these modern days to think of the real old timers as very bad lads, hard drinking and hard hitting, working like mad when the mails come in, and painting an already very pink town red the rest of the time. It comes as something of a shock, therefore, to read of the stern opposition this revolutionary measure met with. The alleys were always closed on Sundays in the old days, and the idea of using them on the Sabbath was first mooted by Mr. Wheelock in 1868. The Sabbatarians won a grim struggle by nine votes to eight, and the matter was allowed to drop till '76, and this time the Sunday bowlers were overwhelmed, the motion for Sunday play being defeated by 10 votes to two. Two years later Mr. Burroughs brought the matter up and a very fierce argument seems to have occurred. Mr. Burroughs' point of view was that most other clubs in the Settlement played their games on Sundays and there was no reason why they should not do the same. They had no neighbours to annoy and Sunday games would be a convenience to himself and others. As regards those people who objected on sabbatarian grounds only, it was up to them not to vote. A heated discussion ensued in which the opposition claimed that the alleys needed one day's rest in seven for oiling and cleaning and to keep them in condition. A Mr. Davies commented bitterly on what he termed the selfishness of new members. He seemed to be of the opinion that new members should be seen and not heard, for he said outright that the wishes of the old members should be accepted. Again the motion was lost, but its adherents kept on plugging away till a special meeting in 1890, when victory was their's and a rule was obtained whereby the alleys may be used on a Sunday providing notice be given to the boy before 11 a.m. That rule holds good to this day.

OUTSIDE MATCHES.

The Club's chief bowling opponents in past days appear to have been, primarily the German Club Concordia, the Union Club and Junior Bowling Club, all three of which are now extinct. Kobe frequently sent over interport teams and occasionally Hankow and Amoy, but the Shanghailanders usually won. The Club Concordia matches appear to have been annual affairs, and, sad to relate, more often than not resulted in the defeat of the Bowling Club. However, it should be remembered the alley had but 24 men to draw from and the Concordia some dozens. The Bowling Alley's method of getting a team is rather a unique one, for instead of selecting men, a ballot is taken.

Probably the most distinguished team to roll the bowls in the alley was a naval team headed by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh and containing as well the names of Admiral Lord Charles Beresford and the then Captain Stanhope, both of whom have achieved fame. The other members of the team were Lord C. Scott, Lieutenants Rougemont, Fitzgeorge, Hallifax and Borien. They were well beaten by the Alley, however; this was in the '70's.

In the early history of the club they also ran a cricket team, which, though it never became famous, always acquitted itself creditably. There are, hanging round the walls of the Alley, a number of photographs of club teams, and it is really remarkable how well known to-day are most of the names.

THE CANDID FRIEND.

Printed and framed directly underneath the photographs is a commentary, frank and without flattery, on the merits of the players. Some of these are well worth giving; they read:—

R. Carr.—A hard hitting bat with little defence owing to his hitting too much from the shoulder. A fair change bowler and a good field. Might with advantage buy a new cap and should not look so surly when spoken to by the captain.

He seems to have taken this advice for we read under his 'photo the following year:—

"Wears his new cap consistently owing to generosity of the Club. What price authority?"

T. S. Nazer.—With practice might bat a little. Is a slow field and has been known to bowl; did bowl in one match.

R. Macgregor.—An excellent captain. Had better fortune this year with the bat. Hits well to the "on" in a somewhat crumpy style. Has kept wicket throughout at which position he is an adept at placing the field. For further particulars see match "All New York *v.* English Amateurs,—Sept. 1868.—Chews gum.

H. A. J. Macray.—. . . has skill as an all-round good cricketer we are told. The peak of his cap usually faces the ladies tent.

XI.—When the Premises Nearly Collapsed: A Wife's One Exception: The Duke's Excuse

The dilapidated appearance of the Bowling Alley is familiar to almost Shanghailanders and mild surprise is occasionally expressed that the premises have never fallen down. It might be of interest to readers to know, therefore, that on one occasion they very nearly did. This was one Saturday night in 1919 when the Secretary of the Club received an urgent message from the boy to the effect that he thought the building would collapse if something were not done pretty quickly. Investigation showed that in connexion with some work going on in the premises on the west of the Bowling Alley a channel had been sunk in the earth, undermining the walls of the Bowling Alley. Heavy rains fell during the night and the Alley walls had sunk two feet into the earth. Hard work on the following Sunday averted the danger, however, the walls being shored up with the aid of P.W.D. coolies. Further inquiries went to show that when the Club was originally built no foundations had been laid at all, the walls being just built on top of the earth.

PECULIARITIES OF A CUP.

In modern days the Club plays nothing like so many matches as in the past, but the habit of match playing has not altogether fallen into disrepute, for games are frequently played with naval teams, and annual meetings take place between the Bowling Alley and the P. & O. Company, and, until fairly recently, the Alley and the China Mutual.

One of the proudest possessions of the Club to this day is the Leverett Cup, presented by a member of the Club in 1911. One of its peculiarities is that it is almost impossible to win right out, for as soon as a member shows promise of doing so, the handicappers get to work and see that the task is put beyond him. To be won out right the trophy must be won four times in succession, and though it has been won three times consecutively on a number of occasions it has never been won a fourth. It stands on a wooden pedestal, round which are three shields inscribed with the names of winners, and containing over 70 signatures.

THE DUKE'S EXCUSE.

H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh during his stay in Shanghai spent a considerable amount of his spare time in the Alley, and was very popular with its members. Indeed, it is whispered, that on many occasions, at the conclusion of dinner he would jump up in a martyred kind of way, frown heavily, mumble something regarding an important despatch and then make the best of his way to the Alley. The Duke was the contributor of a number of cakes to the Alley, which are said to have been made by Mrs. Clarke of the Kalee Hotel. Cakes have always been more or less linked up with the history of the Bowling Club and it has been the custom for many years past for old members to present the Alley with a big Buzzard's cake at Christmas.

Hung on the walls of the Alley, and containing well over a hundred names, is a roll of those members who have made the highest score it is possible to make, 300. The roll dates from 1864, and the last name on the board is that of Mr. Cannan, who made his 300 in 1917, since which time the score has not been registered. The outstanding name on the roll is that of Dr. Little which appears no less than 18 times. Among the more recent names comes that of Captain E. I. M. Barrett, who seems to have excelled at this as at all other sports, his name appearing some five times

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

A casual glance through the old visitors' book brings to light very many well known names, names not only famous in the East but famous throughout the world. We find the signatures of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, Lord Charles Beresford, Sir Wootton Brown, the well known aviator; Sir Ronald Macleay (British Minister to China), Sir Reginald Edward Stubbs (H. E. the Governor of Hongkong), Sir James Jamieson and a host of others almost equally familiar.

An unusual source of income to the Alley is the Roll-off Fund,—whereby members are penalised and fined on every occasion they fail to knock over any of the pins three times in succession, and on one occasion not so very many years ago one gentleman rolled-off so many times and paid so much in fines that the members unanimously agreed to present him with a Roll-Off Cup, suitably inscribed and purchased out of the Roll-Off funds, all of which was carried out as per plan.

THE ONE EXCEPTION.

An amusing story is told of another member of the Alley whose wife allowed him to go to no other Club in or out of the Settlement. The poor lady heard such terrible tales of the drunken carousals that were supposed to go on in every other club in the town, that her unfortunate husband found it impossible to persuade her to give him permission to enter them. A distinction was made in favour of the Bowling Alley because there, as he virtuously explained, "it is impossible to sign a chit." Whether or not the lady had ever seen a copy of the regulations showing her that her spouse was entitled to drink as much as his principles allowed, is a doubtful point.

In concluding these brief recollections of the Alley and its members, we take the opportunity to wish the Shanghai Bowling Club every success in its future home, wherever that may be, and a future existence longer and as interesting as the one we have traced from day to day in these columns.

LESSONS IN GOLF

IX.—Slicing and Pulling

By Harry Vardon—Six Times open Champion.

The intentional slice and the intentional pull are among the most scientific shots in golf—only, indeed, to be attempted by the person who is tolerably certain of hitting the ball in exactly the manner he proposes.

Of much more concern to the average player are accidental slices and pulls, with all the punishment that they heap upon their perpetrator in hazards and long grass. Nearly everybody—even to the golfer of championship rank—suffers at more or less frequent intervals from an attack of slicing or pulling, and it is necessary to know some of the causes before seeking the cure.

If, of these two evils, there is a worse, the distinction can surely be accorded to slicing, for, in addition to making the ball swerve off the line, it involves a loss of distance by reason of the "cut" spin.

STANCE FOR THE SLICE.

The first point to consider is the stances. When a good golfer wants deliberately to slice a shot, he stands so that the body is more behind the ball than when he is attempting a straight shot. In fact, he has the ball opposite the left big toe, with the right foot in a forward position, the result thus being to turn the body farther towards the left than for an ordinary stroke. The reason for this is that, with the body thus turned appreciably towards the left during the address, the tendency of the club-head during the down-swing will be to cut across the intended line of flight from right to left.

It is because the club-face is coming across the ball from right to left at the impact that the slice is imparted. Consequently, when you are slicing without meaning to do so, it is as well to note how you are standing.

You may be too far behind the ball, with that object more or less opposite the left foot, and the right foot so far forward as to pose the body for a slice. To all intents and purposes, the only result possible in these circumstances is a slice. The first thing to do is to bring the right foot back several inches—sometimes it is necessary for a bad slicer to bring that foot back six or seven inches. This will have the effect of compelling the left foot to be put forward a little so that the player's body is turned less towards the hole, and the ball, instead of being opposite the left foot, is well inside its limits.

A VITAL INSTANT.

No doubt it is realized that swaying the body towards the right during the up-swing will cause slicing. In point of fact, this much-discussed fault will cause anything, so we must assume, for the purpose of dealing with a special complaint, that the player is not a swayer, but is slicing in spite of the fact that he is screwing the body round correctly at the hips and not leaning towards the right in the process of taking the club back.

Then the chances are that he is beginning the down-swing wrongly. This, indeed, is by far the most prolific cause of slicing, and all the mischief is done in a fraction of a second.

What happens is that the player starts to unscrew the body at the hips before he moves the club head from its position at the top of the swing. The result is that the club-head is late by an incalculably brief but vital period of time.

It is trying to catch up with the movement of unscrewing the hips, and to do this, it takes a short-cut down. Instead of descending by the same track as it followed when ascending, it is thrown forward a trifle at the beginning of the down-swing. The premature turn of the hips throws its forward. There is no other way in which it can catch up with the movement. And being thus thrown forward, it cuts across the back of the ball at the impact, and so produces the slice.

I know what happens in my own case at the top of the swing. When the club is there and ready to come down, my hands—and, therefore, the arms—drop two or three inches. This occurs before any other part of the body moves from the posture at the top of the swing.

The result of this slight dropping of the hands is to recover the club from the back of the player's head without allowing the implement to be thrown forward. It starts the club-head from its topmost position without turn and the club-head begins to any attempt at hitting. Once it is completed, the hips begin to work up speed for the impact.

HOW TO HOOK.

To secure a deliberate pull, the player needs to stand in front of the ball, which should be about opposite his right foot. The body should be turned in some small degree away from the hole—that is, with the left foot a little in front of the right.

The rest consists largely of turning the right hand over slightly at the impact, and this is promoted by holding the club comparatively slackly with the left hand and firmly with the right.

As a result of the stance and the slight turn over of the right wrist at the instant of striking, the method of hitting at the ball is rather like that of a person mowing grass with a scythe. The club-face turns over in a small degree on to the ball, and "draw" is imparted to the shot.

The stance here indicated was once the accepted and recommended manner of standing for all wooden-club shots, presumably because the ancients believed in the pull. Faith in it has declined a good deal, save as a special shot for special circumstances, and nowadays one seldom sees a player standing with left foot in front of the right.

Accidental pulling comes mostly of faulty wrist-action. It may be caused by a failure to turn the left wrist towards the body at the start of the up-swing. If that left wrist is arched outwards instead of inwards at the top of the swing, it may drag the right hand over coming down—and, as we have already seen, the turn-over of the right hand at the impact promotes a pull.

Similarly, an unduly tight grip with the right hand will tend to hook the ball round to the player's left. That is why people who hold the club deeply in the palm of the right hand, instead of mostly in the fingers, are often hookers.

X.—Some Special Shots

It is one of the charms of golf—charming because of the variety that it introduces—that the player has to enter into competition with Nature as well as with his mortal rival.

Wind and the configuration of the ground both demand his earnest consideration. For this reason it seldom happens that any two shots in the round are alike, although they may be of the length and present similar aspects to the casual observer.

To the average golfer, no influence is more harassing than a stiff wind. Frequently, however, the efforts to cope with it are carried to excess. A real gale unquestionably is very troublesome; it calls for all the skill in ball control than even a champion can summon to his aid.

WHERE A MISTAKE IS MADE.

In what we may term an ordinarily stiff breeze, blowing across the course, I am certain that a great many players make a mistake in trying to impart slices or pulls to their shots with the object of getting the spin to work in co-operation with the wind and so add to the length of the shots.

We saw plenty of this in the days of the gutta-percha ball—a light article, the flight of which might be affected by any wind stronger than a mere zephyr. With the wind blowing from right to left, the player would hit his ball out a trifle to the right and try to impart pull spin to it, so that as its velocity was dying it would swerve round towards the left with wind to assist in lengthening its carry.

With the wind blowing from left to right, the player would drive slightly into it and endeavour to introduce slice spin, so that when the slice took effect, the wind—coming from the direction in which the ball was now spinning—would enter into the scheme of adding 10 yards to the shot.

These were very skilful strokes, although I often wondered whether they were worth the risks that they entailed and personally did not practise them except in such turbulence as offered no alternative.

THE STRAIGHT PATH.

In a stiff breeze from the right, for instance, I did not try to work the pull so as to come in from right to left with the wind. I preferred to hit the shot straight down the middle with cut on it so that it would not be carried to the left towards the end of its flight, but would fight its way into the wind through the influence of the cut spin, and so finish on the middle of the course.

I found fighting the wind more profitable than trying to work with it—for winds are fickle institutions. One may have sacrificed a few yards in this way, but one could depend fairly well on keeping straight. Still, the old fascination of trying to make the wind help has not disappeared; many players are to be seen succumbing to it and often paying heavily for their experiments.

In an ordinarily stiff wind, the present-day ball flies so strongly to play a straight-forward shot, that the safest plan is, I think, without deliberate slice or pull. One may allow for the probable influence of the wind on the ball's flight, but to attempt to introduce spin in one direction or the other is only to add to the difficulties of the game.

DOWN OR AGAINST WIND.

Drives down wind or against the wind afford more favourable opportunities for variation of method, since the player does not depart from the fundamental principle of trying to hit the ball in a straight line.

Against the wind, it will profit him to keep the shot low, since it will suffer less resistance at a low altitude than at a high one, where the wind is in full blast.

To do this we need a slightly lower tee than usual, with the ball mid-way between the feet instead of rather nearer to the left foot than the right. We want to come down on the back of the ball the instant before the club-head has reached the bottom of the arc of the swing. In that way, we do not hit it up.

Conversely, for a drive down wind, we need to hit the ball up so as to obtain the assistance of the following wind. Therefore, we tee a little higher than in the ordinary way and stand more behind the ball than for a normal drive. By these means, we strike the ball just as the club-head is beginning to rise from the bottom of the arc of the swing.

These are shots without quite the same complication and danger as intentional slices and pulls.

UPHILL AND DOWNHILL LIES.

Another phase of the golfer's competition with Nature is represented by the variety of stances which he may have to adopt in the course of the round.

Often his ball lies on a slope. It may be uphill or downhill. In either case, it presents an awkward problem.

When the player is presented with a hanging lie—that is, the ball resting on a downhill slope—my principle is to stand a trifle more forward than for a simple shot.

It is only a matter of an inch or so, but I have found that if one stands in the ordinary way, with most of the body behind the ball—where the ground is higher—there is considerable danger of striking this higher ground just before making the impact. Standing an inch or two forward helps to bring the club-face into direct contact with the ball and avoid the high ground behind it.

When the lie is uphill, I believe in standing a little more behind the ball than usual. The fact that the ground has a rise immediately in front of the player—and, indeed, even at his very feet—makes it easy to come into contact with that incline a fraction of a second too soon. And then the club is checked and the shot is spoilt.

If the player stands an inch or so farther than usual behind the ball for an uphill lie, he may hope to make the impact just as the club face is rising from the bottom of the swing and so adapt its passage to the rising ground.

THE Citizens' Defence League Against Japanese Diplomacy is making arrangements to celebrate on May 9 the "Day of National Disgrace." If the present unhappy state of affairs is allowed to continue, a single day will scarcely suffice to do justice to the occasion.

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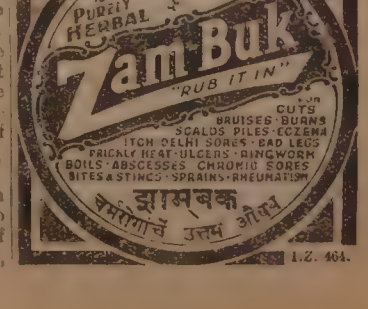

THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

Louis Couperus is the only Dutch novelist with whose works British readers are familiar. Messrs. Allen and Unwin, however, are publishing "The Fortunes of a Household," a novel by Herman Robbers, regarded, since the death of Couperus, as the most distinguished of Dutch fiction-writers.

∴

Mr. G. K. Chesterton has evidently turned playwright. He has already completed one play, and is in the thick of another dealing with the Crusades.

∴

Mr. Fred M. White, in his new story, "The Conscience of Falconhoe" (Ward Lock, 7s. 6d.), has invented an international detective agency, and with the help of wireless, aircraft and foreign plots, has concocted a narrative for the students of the exciting life.

∴

Those who only know Mr. "Ian Hay" as a playwright and a novelist, have yet to make his acquaintance as an observer of life, its pathos, its humour and its foibles. They may do so in a book entitled "Playtime," which he has appearing with Hodder and Stoughton. He calls it "Playtime" because it is the fruit of some of his recreations as, for instance, seeing a football match, a cabaret show, or the Oxford and Cambridge boat-race. We also find him in the gallery of the Lyceum among the gods, on an Paris-bound train going to Paris, studying the animals at the Zoo, or taking a rest cure by looking on at a professional billiard match. He has a specially good subject for one essay because it is on the opening of the "Tiddler Season" at the Serpentine.

∴

We are this spring to get quite a lot of reminiscences, and among them will be one promised by Mr. Thornton Butterworth, "Myself Not Least." This does not mean that Mr. Butterworth has written it, although he probably could, for we are not told who the writer is, and he just signs himself "X." What we are told is that behind the most impersonal letter of the alphabet there is concealed one of the wittiest and vivid personalities of the time, a personality with a name that has long been familiar in literary, journalistic, political and social circles. Naturally he would thus meet most of the prominent and interesting people who have figured in our public life. It follows that he should give us a wealth of lively and significant anecdotege with stories of people like Queen Victoria, Lord Randolph Churchill, Charles Stewart Parnell and Bernard Shaw.

∴

Do houses, through the impress of personality that has been made upon them, exert a definite influence on their inhabitants? This is the text on which one of our most intellectual women novelists, Mrs. Elinor Mordaunt, founds a new book appearing with Hutchinson, "People and Houses." It is not to be taken or mistaken for a mere random collection of short stories. It is a volume of delicately portrayed impressions of houses and the rooms in houses which seem to be intimately associated with the people who live or have lived in them.

∴

No kind of book, if it once greatly succeeds, keeps a hold on the public longer than a history. Macaulay's "History of England" is an old example of this, and Green's "Shorter History" a nearer example. Some 40 years ago Mr. C. A. Fyffe wrote a history of modern Europe, covering the period 1792 to 1878. It was accepted as a valuable and permanent contribution to our knowledge of European history, being scholarly in style and authoritative in its materials. The work has been out of print, but now Cassell are to publish a new, revised edition in two volumes, which will be welcome.

THE REAL JAPAN

Revelations in a Realistic Novel

Japan, the land of the Rising Sun, the home of the cherry blossom, the dainty background of the charming little geisha, has provided many a European novelist and dramatist with the material of many a pretty, whimsical tale. That was in the days when the Anglo-Japanese Alliance was a novelty and the little people of the East seemed to us delightful children in a delightful setting. Since then, however, Japan has come to imitate the West, and unsentimental travellers from the West have visited Japan. And it is a different tale about Japan that the novelists and travellers are telling us now.

One of the foremost prophets in this new realism of the Orient is Mr. John Paris. In a new novel, "Sayonara" (Collins, 7s. 6d. net), Mr. Paris resumes the attack from a new and interesting angle.

In this story his hero is one Richard Aylmer, a priest of the Church of England, who goes to Japan full of lofty missionary ideals. Part of his idealism is that, in order to convert Japan, he should marry a Japanese wife, and circumstance brings it about that he does marry a girl who has escaped from immoral surroundings. The result is degradation and the swallowing up of Richard Aylmer by the baseness of native life. How he is rescued may be left to the reader to find out.

Indeed, the story is not what matters in this striking book. Mr. Paris has a thesis to expound, and his characters are not much more than lay figures who point the moral he wishes to bring out, which is just that of Kipling:—

> East is East, and West is West,
> And never the twain shall meet.

But it is a novel full of striking descriptions and sensational opinions about Japan and the Japanese.

A HIDEOUS SYSTEM.

It was Richard Aylmer's first "convert" to the Christian faith who introduced him to O Yuki, the courtesan he was to marry. She came from a place of evil:—

> The Japanese kuruwa is an institution which is entirely antagonistic to our ideas and our hypocrisies. We prefer to daub our vices with a camouflage of romance. We prefer the casual encounter at the street corner or in the café, the pretence of love, the illusory self-congratulation which would fain believe that the purchase is a conquest, and the spurious coquetry of our demi-monde. But it is otherwise in Japan. There is no mistaking the market or its purpose. It is advertised clearly by its solid architecture and by its beating drums. It appears to be—and it is—a public building of municipal importance, like a school, a library, or a town hall.

And O Yuki had been sold into the kuruwa by her perfectly respectable parents, according to Japanese custom, in order to save the family fortunes!

THE JAPANESE INTELLECTUAL.

Then this semi-Europeanized "convert" of Aylmer's! Mr. Paris gives us some startling specimens of his conversation. This is how he explained his difficulties about accepting the Christian faith:—

> "I am just now pragmatical philosopher," exclaimed the Japanese, his spectacles falling from his nose at the excitement of this avowal; "also I sow wild oat."

> "Do you read your Bible?" Dick asked.

> "Bible I find many superstitious tale for old woman and babes—silly thing for progressive person."

> "But Jesus Christ—what think you of Him?"

> "Inspired leader of men, but not enough pep, I think. I think more great Bismarck."

So Richard Aylmer's eyes are opened, until he learns the truth about Japan Mr. Paris would have us believe. It may not be the whole truth, but this document is not to be ignored. "Sayonara" is not meat for babes. It is, however, a necessary antidote for those who have derived their notions of the East from "The Geisha"—"that amiable epic of a non-existent Japan."

THE CALL OF THE KEYHOLE

A Best-Selling Volume of Gossip

By Philip Gwedalla.

"Uncensored Recollections." Anon. Nash and Grayson. 12s. 6d.

The tone of this compilation is strangely familiar. The patient cultivation of the Great, the sedulous avoidance of the Good, a passing brush from the wing tips of Royalty itself—these are qualities which evoke from a publisher, usually so unemotional, the ecstatic comment that "it is probably the best Book of Gossip that has been published during the last 20 years." If only it could be the last also.

Mr Beerbohm epitomised them all, years ago, in the margin of a drawing entitled "Noblemen's Memoirs," and depicting a lady in the act of writing:

> Industrious Anonyma: I saw a good lot of the Prince of Wales—afterwards Edward VII. in those days, and I must say that a truer sportsman—and, I may add, a better pal—never stepped in shoe leather. I remember once after I had been having rather a rotten day at Newmarket he came up to me and, slapping me on the back said etc., etc.

It is an unchanging formula. Our present author opens with the Royal gambit:

> Oddly enough, one of my very first recollections of anything is connected with the late King Edward, and in rather a comic way. . . . He (himself then a mere youth) came suddenly into the nursery . . . I remember the incident because my nurse, Coralie. . . .

One is far from asserting that the book and others of its kind are deliberate compilations fabricated to meet a purely commercial need. It is enough to say that the present example makes no pretensions as literature, and that as history its claims can hardly be higher, since its author shows himself to be afflicted with a memory so unreliable upon points where his assertions can be checked, that one hesitates to accept him as a guide in the more problematical regions which he normally frequents.

A MISTAKE ABOUT A DUKE.

One can make no claim to speak with equal authority upon the elegant misdeeds of the British aristocracy, upon which he dwells with such loving detail. But in his contacts with the facts of French history under the Second Empire he is singularly unfortunate. It is hardly surprising that a memoirist of this calibre repeats the familiar myths that Napoleon III. was the son of a Dutch admiral, and his Empress the daughter of an English peer. But when this highly-placed personage ("the Ney family," we learn, "are cousins of ours") describes Morny as "the Empress's illegitimate brother by the Comte de Flahant (*sic*), and of course, and without the least doubt, the person who engineered the entire *coup d'état*," one is a trifle shocked. A misprint is pardonable; but a misstatement which overlooks Maupas, Saint-Arnaud, and Louis Napoleon himself, is less venial. The story proceeds with equal insouciance: "But when the *coup d'état* came, hey presto! all was changed. Morny became Duke and Foreign Secretary, and the first time Hancock waited on him at the Quai d'Orsay. . . ." Morny, alas! did not become a duke until 10 years after the *coup d'état*; and he was never Foreign Minister. So poor Hancock at the Quai d'Orsay is left rather in the air.

Our author has no luck at all with Morny. He miscalls his little farce about M. Choufleury; and his narrative of the Duke's last days seems to owe at least as much to his acquaintance with Daudet as to his visits to the ducal table. Somehow, one hesitates to accept from so tangential an authority a new story that Louis Napoleon "often stayed. . . . with his friend, Walter Savage Landor," upon whom he is hitherto known to have called but twice.

A PROPHETESS.

On a later page the author makes a grave contribution to the history of the dark antecedents of the war of 1870. His prefatory observation that "the insolence of Benedetti threw all the fat in the fire" suggests that caution is advisable. And when he relates as "a well known fact" that Madame de Pourtales foretold war with Prussia over the Spanish succession "some months before the incident of Ems," one is tempted to wonder how the prophetic lady managed it, since the Hohenzollern candidature was only launched in its provocative form 12 days before the declaration of war. But the strangest story is to the effect that the Emperor changed his mind after a conversation with the Empress about 6 o'clock one morning, and sent a melodramatic pencilled note to Baron de Rothschild in these fevered terms: "*Tout est changé: c'est la guerre.—N.*" One is the more curious as to the episode, to which our author assigns no date, as the decision was hitherto believed to have been taken in the late afternoon of Tuesday, July 12.

He adds a vivid and rather horrible detail to the story of Maximillian's execution in Mexico, describing the Emperor in agony after the first discharge "tearing the buttons off his waistcoat." Unhappily the tragic garment exists, and has been photographed. The bullet-holes are there, but all eight buttons are in place.

Perhaps, however, it is unkind to look too closely after accuracy in a breezy *raconteur* who tells us: "I remember when the Liberals went out and the Tories came in (71, I think), I was staying at the Derbys." One would naturally remember staying at the Derbys. But need one forget that Mr. Gladstone remained in office until 1874? Enough, perhaps, has been written to show that our author's memory sometimes betrays him. Perhaps it betrayed his judicious publisher into that unguarded remark about "The Best Book of Gossip." Because the best gossip is frequently accurate.—"Daily News."

BOMBARDIER WELLS

"Physical Energy." By Bombardier Billy Wells. Werner Laurie. 3s. 6d.

It appears that Bombardier Wells was walking one day in Kensington Gardens when he came upon G. F. Watts's equestrian statue, "Physical Energy." It struck the Bombardier "all of a heap," as the saying goes, like a right to the jaw from Dempsey. It filled him with the desire to write. It was, in fact, "the source of inspiration for my ideas of a new method of Physical Culture"—ideas which he has now published to the world in book form.

After all, there is nothing very revolutionary about it. The "new" method of keeping fit is simply to take up boxing, using the punching-bag when no sparring partner is available. And even then the Bombardier feels compelled to admit by implication that lawn tennis is just as good. He proves from his own career that a man who has learnt to box has incidentally prepared himself to play most other games as well; and he certainly makes out a damning case against that kind of physical culture which relies on what schoolboys call "physical jerks," and only succeeds in producing "strong men." But there is nothing "new" about all this.

FRENCH STATESMEN

"As They Are: French Political Portraits." By X. X. X. Translated by Winifred Katzin. Heinemann. 7s. 6d.

It cannot be said that this little picture gallery of living French statesmen gives one a very high opinion of the condition of politics in France. To adopt a well-worn phrase, it does not leave a particularly pleasant taste in the mouth.

The name of M. Caillaux is second on the list and there are others. But the author does not presume on his anonymity. There is no idle gossip and no bitter cynicism here. Indeed he does not conceal his personal predilections.

The unkindest thing he can say for M. Poincaré (whom he evidently likes) is that "his business is to plead causes, and at the present moment he happens to be pleading the national cause, and that is all." He has the confidence of the nation, and "every Frenchman's wish is for his success." While M. Caillaux gets what he deserves, M. Loucheur seems to be treated with undue severity. To the foreigner, who perhaps sees most of the game, it would seem that the one player with a personality of outstanding interest is M. Clemenceau, and the author so far acknowledges this as to put him first on the list. But his analysis of the Tiger's character is meagre. "The peace he made was in his own likeness, the peace of a master off polemics pursuing a philosophy one hundred years out of date."

THE RED MAN

"Indian Days in the Canadian Rockies." By Marius Barbeau. Macmillan. 12s. 6d.

In the days of the explorers and the fur traders the American Indians commanded respect and inspired hatred or fear, but now that they have dwindled rapidly in the great national reservations, our attitude has changed to one of sentimentality. This fascinating study of the Stonies and Kootenays of the Rocky Mountains is an attempt to gauge the mind of the Red man, and his attitude to white civilization, as shown by folklore and the visions and prophecies of the native seers or witch-doctors. Mr. Barbeau explains why the tribes sullenly refused all the blessings of European civilization except disease, firewater and the rifle. The difficulties of the early missionaries are exemplified by the subtlety of a noted sorcerer among the Western Crees, "an adroit imposter who had been baptised," and claimed in trance to have gone to the white man's Heaven; he reported to his tribe that it was far too exclusive a Kingdom for the dusky people of the prairies and mountains, that he had found there none of the spirits of his ancestors, nor fishing, hunting and dancing.

BREATHLESS

A gigantic bank robbery—a simultaneous plundering of several of the biggest banks in New York—makes a good and exciting opening to Victor MacClure's thrilling and exceedingly well-written romance of the near future, "Ultimatum" (Harrap, 7s. 6t. net). The staffs have all been put to sleep in a mysterious and unexplainable manner, and any gold article in the vicinity of the raid is mysteriously tarnished. All the stolen securities are quickly returned by the thieves, but two and a half million dollars in gold have been spirited away. This outrage upon society and security is swiftly followed by the raiding of a liner carrying gold. As with the bank watchers, the passengers and the crew have all been doped into unconsciousness. Then comes a raid on the Bank of England, and the discovery that these successful assaults on the gold stores of the world have been instigated by a League that has deliberately brought about this chaos in the world's commerce to show its mighty power.

The League has for its object the abolishing of war, and demands the disbandment of all armies and the destruction of all weapons of war. Mr. MacClure has so ably invested his story with actuality and excitement that it would be unfair to hint at the way in which the world deals with this threat of the League. "Ultimatum" is a breathless yarn which should be very popular.

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

SHANGHAI MOTHER GOOSE

Dickery, dickery, dock!
They've taken away the clock.
Now every one
Awaits the gun.
From eleven o'clock to the height
of the sun
There really is not very much
work done.
At last! The delicious shock!

Extravant Frank
Went to the Bank
To fetch a bag of money.
He waited awhile,
Received a smile
That was anything but sunny.
The manager laughed,
"More overdraft!
No! really this is too funny!"

Little 'Change Broker,
Straight as a poker,
Rode on the step of his trap.
He felt full of swank
As he dashed to the Bank,
But came out a humble wee chap.

There was an old lady who lived
in Hongkew.
She'd so many servants she didn't
know what to do.
Boy pleased her but "squeezed"
her;
Cook fed her but bled her;
And amah's relations got deader
and deader.
So at China New Year, when the
whole of them fled her,
She took to her bed-a-bed-bed-ah.

J. L.

ART'S ACME

The Happy Union of the Useful and the Ornamental

By Elizabeth Peyps.

We were talking of the latest thing in the Arts—of pictures so futuristic that no one in the present knew what they were intended to represent, of music so modern in its cacophony that no one could bear to hear it, of poems so subtly perfumed with suggestion that all music was lost in the significance of its undertones. In short we were being our best high-brow selves, and feeling rather successful inasmuch as there was that indispensable concomitant to every brilliant salon, a few good listeners.

One of the latter, however, began to show lamentable signs of getting out of hand, her glance roamed round the room or out through the windows to her gardens just putting on their spring lovelinesses. Since we had all been lavishly tea-ed, cigarettes were within reach of every one and it was hardly time to serve cocktails, her failure to give the speaker of the moment her undivided attention was annoying. A clever talker deserves a rapt audience.

To bring back the erring sister to the fold Chloe tactfully included her in the conversational circle. "And speaking of music, Doris, are you keeping up your music with that adorable Professor Stepansky?" No, she had dropped that for the time, and also her work on the illustrations of her husband's book. Perhaps she was continuing her correspondence course in the Short Story. Repeated negatives seemed to waken Doris to the fact that something was expected of her if she would retain her place in this little coterie of earnest thinkers, so stung to it, she finally came out with her defence: "I've been working out a little theory of mine in sublimation, and there will be just time for me to demonstrate it to you before the cocktail tray comes in—if you're interested that is."

SUBLIMATING THE ART URGE.

Those who had been leading the conversation were patently not so anxious for a diversion as were those who had been trying vainly for the last half hour to introduce a theory of their own; but we all assented more or less warmly. After all she *was* our hostess.

"You may think I'm materializing, instead of sublimating," continued Doris, as she drove us upstairs to the library and flung open the door into her own room, "but it's given me the self-expression my soul craves, and what more could Freud do?" Her more timid hearers winced, others brightened up. We were all surprised when amah appeared in the doorway with a hat in her hands.

"This is no place for a bachelor," announced our best amateur poet, sliding to the door. But he was stopped by an imperious gesture from Doris, and a command to her husband "Let no guilty male escape, Tom. I'm tired of having hats and frocks and wraps and the all-important accessories looked down upon, as if the fine art of dressing were a soulless occupation. Look at this hat!"

We did so. It was worth looking at. Even the men had to admit that. It was made in cloche style, with the little turn-up to the brim that marks the great gulf fixed between the cloches of this spring and last winter. I fancy all the women grasped this important fact at once. Doris explained it cogently to the men. "You must have the scientist's observations and accuracy; you must have the painter's eye for colour, you must have the creative artist's daring, but the greatest of all these is knowing what suits your type," and with a flourish Doris pulled the *almond vert* hat with its grosgrain cockade down on her shingled head, and after extinguishing one eye, looked round for approval with the other.

A TANGIBLE INSPIRATION.

She got it, and proceeded. "Of course I could have written three sonnets and done a sketch or two in the time it took me to make that hat." Polite murmurs of incredulity from the women and admiration from the men. "Of course I didn't make the straw, silly, but I found it, and had it reblocked and cut off a bit here and a bit there and selected the ribbon for the cockade and found just the angle to wear it. Personally when I wear it I feel I'm contributing as much to the world as if I had given a recital and dragged you all to it."

"Moreover," continued Doris, beckoning to amah to bring in some spring costumes, "here are the other volumes of the trilogy, a green-yellow jumper made of ribbon faggoted together, an almond green flannel skirt plaided in black and the cape to match. The ribbon struck the spring note of the symphony. We had to orchestrate the rest of it. Don't tell me that the time I spent assembling these from different shops of Shanghai and instructing the tailor would have been better spent on writing an essay on early Chinese art or psycho-analysis. Why the tailor is modern Chinese art, and didn't I have to psycho-analyze myself before I could tell what would fit my type, spiritually as well as physically?"

"And besides," she continued, "there's a heap of research and laboratory work behind these simple frocks. I appeal to you as a biologist, Phil, to tell me what this is?" Mystified, but obliging Phil followed her pointing finger to the embroidered motifs, slender, arrow tipped lines, about the middle of the long straight dress.

BIOLOGY APPLIED.

"That's, that's a white line on a rose dress?" "Not a bit of it, that's the vestigial waist. That's to indicate that women once had waists, to give the suggestion of the girdle without actually expressing any thing so demodé. What's that?" An expression of defeat crossed the scientist's face and Doris went on: "That's the reminder of the sleeve, an interesting style survival. That splashing bow is a bustle in embryo. This scarf is the great-granddaughter of the useful muffler. If I only had time to learn a few catch-words I could speak so scientifically you couldn't tell the difference between a style talk and a lecture before the Quest Society. Are you willing to admit it takes an intellect to dress properly? Yes? Then this will be all for to-day.

THE OUTDOOR FROCK

Country Clothes for Summer Months

By Elizabeth Peyps.

Are there among our readers those with experiences that date back to the days when to be a good sportswoman was to sacrifice beauty to comfort and becomingness to efficiency? Probably not. Gone are the days of the Dr. Mary Walker suit, the bulky Turkish trousers of the emancipated Mrs. Bloomer, the impossible Greek-like draperies of the Delsarte enthusiast—gone save for their revival by an irreverent group of college girls portraying the now and the then of it.

To-day if one's sports clothes are up-to-date one hardly needs to worry much about other day costumes for after all, the most popular type of informal frock is that adopted by the woman who may take an active part in the current tournaments at the Country Club or who may again join the comfortable, if lazing, onlookers in the shade.

SMART SIMPLICITY.

The simple frock not only holds its own but drives its elaborate competitors from the field. The tub dress of crépe de Chine, wash silk or voile never needs

STREET VOGUES

to apologize for its severity. Indeed we are all paraphrasing Tennyson and saying.

Howe'er it be, it seems to me,
'Tis only stylish to be plain.
Tub clothes are more than fluffy frills,
And simple frocks than gewgaws vain.

Both the plain white and the apple-green, rose, beige, mauve, yellow or powder-blue shades are used but perhaps the quite white costume has the preference and certainly it lends itself advantageously to decoration with the gay scarves to which we have all succumbed.

The trim trigness of men's wash silk shirts, than which few things seem tidier, has been seized upon for sport clothes. Scant trimming is seen on these demurely smart little dresses, but pleats are always permissible, and what cannot be done with them? The pocket, whether a genuine repository, or a mere decorative blind, may also be introduced on almost any occasion and with the ubiquitous monogram adds a crisp, yet effective decorative touch. When it comes to "Button, button, who's got the button?" most of us can play at that game, for besides the undeniably utilitarian value of buttons they are decidedly ornamental, without appearing fussy. The crystal buttons on coloured backgrounds are charming, and used as cuff links on bright blouses add another fascinating bit of glitter.

AMUSING FADS.

Those who cannot be content without a bit of embroidery may always find the appropriate bit of handicraft in the monogram or initial or even more in the motto which is all the rage. One favourite device, the motto of one's house, or, in the instance of the unco young and frivolous, a college slogan or the slang phrase of the moment may furnish interest as well as ornament.

White felt cloches are most affected, though natural straw or even brown, worn with matching or harmonizing shoes, gloves and pocketbooks are also popular. Shoes and stockings or even stockings alone often convey the one note of colour in a costume Sweaters and separate skirts are always good form and flannel, jersey and other light wool fabrics are the most used.

The sports clothes designed by Parisian artists have an entirely different air, although you can see that the creator has manfully struggled to be breezy and debonair. Despite his efforts, however, the French frock is most useful on the side lines where scant skirts are not maddening and where touches of lace and an occasional ruffle do not look out of place. These are the only turnouts with which jewels may be worn, and a high-born spectator is reported as having appeared in a black and white costume continued with one black and one white pearl ear-ring, with the same combination in rings and diamond and onyx-set watch. But before we wander further from the simple and appropriate sports frock to its alluring imitators, let us write a hasty Finis.

SPONGES

Some Social Parasites.

No. I don't mean the people who never ask you to their parties although they always come to yours. I don't mean the tribe of borrowers and beggars who infest every grade of society. I mean quite nice people like little Mrs. So-and-So, who fastens on to you like a leech and doesn't let go until she has drained your mind of all it contains, and clever Mr. This-and-That, who peppers you with questions until he knows not only your past and present but your probable future as well.

After an interview with persons of this calibre you feel rather like a squeezed lemon, sourish and lacking in sap. For these human sponges make a habit of absorbing everything and yielding nothing in return.

"AN IDEA FOR AN IDEA."

The old saying of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" might be paraphrased for social purposes in this wise—"An idea for an idea, a thought for a thought.

But never an idea does any member of the sponge tribe proffer for the purposes of exchange. Parasites of the worst description, the members of this tribe descend upon you at all hours uninvited, and there they sit waiting for you to dole out subjects which they persistently tender back with a "What do you think about it?" Should you retaliate in kind you are checkmated by an enigmatic smile and an—"Oh, I hold my own views on the subject." But either they regard their listeners as too devoid of intelligence to understand these views or else they do not deem it worth their while to expound them to "the likes of her." Certain it is, you never glean any light beyond the distored flash of the "Monna Lisa" smile—that smile which is the first and last resort of the female sponge.

IMPALED ON AN INTERROGATION POINT.

While sinners of this sort abound among women the type is by no means exclusively a feminine one. The most colossal sponge I ever met was a man, and a well-known author. This gentleman, I have since learned, makes a regular practice of probing the mind of every person he encounters. The milk-boy, the city magnate, the woman from whom his wife buys her jumpers—all manner of people he draws within his net. Then he proceeds to subject them to a barrage of questions until they find themselves stripped of every vestige of their mental reserve.

It is rather a terrifying experience, a meeting with this author. When the introduction looms in prospect you find yourself shivering all down your backbone as you meditate fearfully upon his fame, afterwards, when the ordeal is over, you remember only the sickening sensation you experience when he impaled you, in the manner of a small boy handling a butterfly on the pin of an interrogation point and watched, his ugly, protruding eyes bulging with a cold curiosity, your writhing attempts to escape.

"What did he talk about?" asks the ardent admirer of his works, all innocent of the fact that the said writer never talks save through the mouths of the characters in his novel. Incidentally, instead of "delightful diversions" by the brilliant Mr. Z., these novels ought, by rights, to be described as the drips that emanate from a monstrous human sponge.

THE VAMPIRE AND THE SPONGE.

Compared to this type of person, the bookborrowed and the bazaar fiend are the most harmless of individuals. What they acquire from you is mere trash in comparison to that which the human sponge extracts. It is she or he who robs you of your vitality, your humour, your fund of reserve strength. It is she or he who despoils your mind and leaves you as limp as the discarded remant of a drapery sale ramp.

In the days of our youth a novel entitled "Dracula," containing a gruesome description of a vampire, was wont to curdle the blood in our veins. The human sponge is the lineal descendant of this vampire. So far however, as I am aware no modern author has immortalized the species in book or verse. Can this be because in every writer there lurk certain of the attributes of the sponge, the tendency to glean instead of to give, except, of course, at so much per line? Perish the thought! I prefer to believe, the habits of Mr. Z. notwithstanding, that it is because so much of the present day fiction is pure autobiography that the sentimentalist rather than the sponge figures as the hero of every other modern noved.—Ann Adair, in "Glasgow Herald."

EARTH'S LYRIC

April. You hearken, my fellow,
Old slumberer down in my heart,
There's a whooping of ice in the
rivers;
The sap feels a start.

The snow-melted torrents are
brawling;
The hills, orange-misted and blue,
Are touched with the voice of the
rainbird
Unsullied and new.

The houses of frost are deserted,
Their slumber is broken and done,
And empty and pale are the
portals
Awaiting the sun.

The bands of Arcturus are slackened:
Orion goes forth from his place
On the slopes of the night, leading homeward
His hound from the chase.

The Pleiades weary and follow
The dance of the ghostly dawn;
The revel of silence is over;
Earth's lyric comes on.

A golden flute in the cedars,
A silver pipe in the swales,
And the slow large life of the
forest
Wells back and prevails.

A breath of the woodland spirit
Has blown out the bubble of
spring
To this tenuous hyaline glory
One touch sets a-wing.

Bliss Carman.

FOUND

Who is that charming lady
Her nape I quite adore?
Her chin is most familiar
I've seen it oft before.
Her hat so closely fitting
Discloses not her hair
Yet that confounded necklace
I must have seen somewhere.
Did I not see those moccasins
Once toying with the cat?
That strip of fur that lined the
skirt
The color of a rat?
Shall I step forth to greet her
Or shall I just stand pat,
"Good morning, Cousin Alice,
I knew you by your hat!"

J. C. de B.

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PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per str. Shengking, April 26. From River Ports. Mr. Andersen.

Per str. Kiangsaun, April 26. From River Ports. Mrs. Milligan, Misses Milligan (2), Mr. and Mrs. Ball.

Per str. Hsin Kiangtcen, April 26. From Ningpo. Mrs. P. B. Yollu, Mrs. H. Muller, Mrs. K. Macleod, Mrs. E. Wellenlour, Miss Macleod, Mr. P. B. Yolu.

Per str. Lucuho, April 26. From River Ports. Mr. Moon, Mrs. Trinett, Mrs. W. S. Dupree, Mr. and Mrs. Harrop and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Johns, Mrs. McMurdo and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Patterand, Mr. I. Jigson.

Per str. Hsin Peking, April 27. From Ningpo. Misses Lang, Robertson, Messrs. Colman and Davis.

Per str. Tungchow, April 27. From Tientsin. Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Robertson, Mr. A. G. Mossop, Master McKangil.

Per N.D.L.S. Coblenz, April 27. From Dairen. Messrs. Kingsburn, Forgeron, Pai. **From Tsingtao.** Messrs. Husson, Bataille, A. W. Spiro, Conrad, Misses Erika, I. Busse.

Per R.V.F.S. Simferopol, April 27. From Vladivostok. Misses S. Kachanovskaia, E. Geintze, L. Supranovich, Messrs. A. Shkardun, G. Kachanovskii, I. Merleas, A. Kachanovskaia, N. Sarebrakoff, K. Geintze, H. Hmeleff, N. Hmelevra, N. Supranevich, G. [illegible] A. Kuzin, A. Tuzov, A. [illegible]

Per str. Kungwo, April 27. From River Ports. Mrs. A. Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. F. Stanby, Miss B. Ballord, Mrs. Bodford, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. T. Begg and child, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Crokam, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Sorenson, Sir Edward and Lady Pearce, Mr. and Mrs. Schutlze and child, Mr. and Mrs. L. Daniel, Messrs. M. G. Brisker, G. Matheson, Mrs. A. Coubilisky, Mrs. R. Kay, Mrs. F. J. Harris, Messrs. G. Smeard, Barton.

Per str. Poyang, April 28. From River Ports. Mr and Mrs. Newmann and [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. Birgne and [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Roberts, Misses Roberts, Messrs. Leif G. E. Helde, Mrs. Nicehakino, Miss Mareeboriff, Dr. N. E. Andrewschekevikh.

Per str. Sinkiang, April 29. From Hongkong. Mr. and Mrs. Charles, Miss Masons, Mr Van der Spar.

Per str. Hsin Kiangtcen, April 29. From Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs. S. Y. Dwight, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Moule.

Per str. Kiangwah, April 29. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Bunker, Misses Dean, Wulff, Captain Butland, Captain and Mrs. Levers.

Per str. Hsin Peking, April 30. From Ningpo. Mr. Hiram, Miss Shaolebing, Mrs. Marshall.

Per str. Ningpo, May 1. From Antung. Mrs. Seth.

Per str. Hsinchi, May 1. From Foochow. Mr. T. F. Manning.

Per str. Hsin Kiangtcen, May 1. From Ningpo. Bishop and Mrs. Malony, Mr. A. W. Malony, Mr. and Master Gustafson, Misses Davies, J. Hughes, Merriman.

Per str. Luenyi, May 1. From River Ports.—Mrs. and Miss Dietrich, Mrs. J. W. [illegible], Mrs. Eadens, Mrs. Shelton, Messrs. R. H. Mulley, P. T. [illegible], A. [illegible], J. W. [illegible], Officers, One British Naval Rating.

Per str. Soochow, May 1. From Hongkong and Amoy. Mr. and Mrs. M[illegible] and children, Messrs. G. Ichow, J. Fairley, E. M. Cenbados. Interwave, G. M. E. Gillivay, Kirk.

Per str. Fengtien, May 1. From Weihaiwei. Mr and Mrs Ryde, Mr. Oswald.

Per str. Tuchwo, May 1. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Raddon, Dr and Mrs A. J. Baxter and six children, Misses Therolf, Brodbeck, Bestal, Fitchford (2), Mr. and Mrs. Fitchford, Mr. and Mrs. Hunter and two children, Rev. Trivett, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Vines, Mrs. L. J. Vines, Messrs. Vines, Olsen, Mayer, J. G. Lyon, E. L. Creighton.

Per A.O.L.S. President Madison, May 1 from Seattle, etc. Messrs. L. L. Abrahamson, J. Audinet, R. Brigge, Rev. D. G. Beville, Misses H. B. Chapin, G. Erbes, Messrs. F. R. Clough, C. Davis, F. Fagan, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Gooch, Miss T. Gooch, Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Hayes, Mrs. J. M. Parish, Messrs. A. Isaacson, E. W. Langdon, P. H. Mckay, O. Pruessman, M. R. Sullivan, J. T. Traphagan.

Per str. Whangpu, May 2. From River Ports. Mr. Humphreys.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 2. From Ningpo. Mrs. Gustafson and child, Mrs. Hubert.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Chekiang, April 25.—For Chefoo.—Two Franciscan Sisters.

Per str. Hsin Peking, April 25.—For Ningpo.—Mr. H. F. Coleman.

Per str. Woosang, April 26.—For River Ports.—Mrs. Strangman, Mrs. C. Martin, Miss Martin, Mr. Bordelogne, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ojanpera, Master Gontieff, Mr. Tomrereff.

Per str. Szechuen, April 27.—For Amoy.—Dr. Lui Book King.

Per str. Pakhoi, April 27. For Tsingtao.—Captain Thorvig.

Per str. Shuntien, April 22.—For Tientsin.—Mrs. T. E. Watts, Miss Eccles, Mr. J. M. Wardrop, Col. and Mrs. Green Hill, Messrs. G. Curry, C. A. Goldenberg, Mrs. F. Oake and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hunter and child. **For Weihaiwei.**—Mrs. M. C. Cooper and Mrs. A. E. Cooper.

Per str. Hsin Peking, April 28.—For Ningpo.—Mr. and Mrs. Zakreson, Messrs. J. Halday, C. J. Hiram.

Per str. Kanchow, April 29.—For Tsingtao.—Messrs. F. S. Gibbings, H. Schultz.

Per str. Tungchow, April 29.—For Weihaiwei.—Mr. J. R. Elias. Eng.-Cmn. and Mrs. O'Dogherty. **For Tientsin.**—Mrs. J. Johnston. **For Chefoo.**—Mrs. L. E. Brown, Misses E. Busse, I. Busse, Wille, Dr. and Mrs. Wille.

Per str. P. & O. S. Kalyan, April 29.—For Hongkong.—Messrs. G. M. Barradas, L. Husson, Mr. and Mrs. H. Y. Hawley, Miss V. Hawley, Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Stewart, Mrs. Bagot. **For Singapore.**—Messrs. G. N. Heaphy, R. W. Whitcomb. **For Port Said.**—Mr. G. Savage. **For Marseilles.**—Mrs. M. I. Lind, Messrs. C. Mandelkoff, D. Ritchie, C. W. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. D. Turnbull, Mr. and Mrs. E. Van Duyn and child. **For London.**—Mr. J. Douglas, Miss D. M. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Hebron, Masters A. and R. Hebron, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Hammond, Mrs. W. Iseamann, Miss Limby, Mrs. A. Moutrie, Mr. and Mrs. H. Marshall, Miss F. Marshall, Master H. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Pratt, Miss Pratt, Messrs. H. and W. Robertson, Mrs P. J. Smith, Miss P. Smith.

Per str. Chengtu, April 30.—For Hongkong.—Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Bailey and child.

Per str. Poyang, April 30.—For River Ports.—Messrs. P. E. White, White, E. S. Wilkinson, Mrs. G. E. Griffin and child, Miss R. Wheatcroft, Miss P. Clayton, Mrs. J. H. Cameron and child, Rev. A. N. Rowland, Misses Brown, Rowntree, Major P. H. Bush, Mrs. Laurenz.

Per str. Sinkiang, May 1.—For Canton.—Miss Tantzrieff.

BIRTHS

HAYES.—On April 25, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. L. Newton Hayes, a son.

JENSEN.—On April 30, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. Manley C. Jensen, a son.

LE BRIS.—On May 1, 1924, at 68 Route Dounier, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. P. Le Bris, a daughter.

RUTHERFORD.—On April 28, 1924 at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. Norman Rutherford, a son.

STUBBINGS.—On April 30, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Stubbings, a daughter.

MARRIAGE

KLYHN-HARVEY.—On April 26, 1924, at the Danish Consulate, Shanghai, before Mr. Hugo Hergel, Vice-Consul, and afterwards at the Free Christian Church, before the Rev. Dr. H. G. C. Hallock, Hans Klyhn to Daisy Harvey, both of Shanghai.

DEATHS

ANDING.—On April 26, 1924, at Kuling, James Randall Anding (of Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld.).

DE SOUZA.—On April 27, 1924, at Malacca, Maria Pia de Souza, the beloved sister of J. M. C. de Souza.

WEBSTER.—At 18 Darroch Road, Shanghai, John Webster, age 63. deeply regretted. Hongkong and Japan papers please copy.

WOOD.—On April 24, 1924, suddenly, at Yulin Road, Shanghai, James Edward, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Wood, aged 5½ years.

SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Att'ed Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
Apr. 25	30.03	63.8	W N W	2	64.6	58 5	71.1	49.8	
,, 26	30.17	62.4	E S E	2	61.7	49.9	68.9	43.3	B. c.
,, 27	30.19	62.2	E	3	59.2	53.6	67.1	51.6	B.
,, 28	30.15	62.4	S E	3	64.2	58.3	74.8	48.2	c.
,, 29	29.86	64.4	S S E	4	70.7	65.3	84.4	59.5	B. c
,, 30	29.99	65.1	N	1	60.5	57.7	72.0	58.1	c.
May 1	29.93	64.4	E	1	60.8	57.7	75.2	53.6	c.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Rainfall Inches 1923
Apr. 25	54.0	45.0	70.0	66.4	Nil.	Nil.
,, 26	48.8	49.5	63.8	62.0	Nil.	Trace
,, 27	53.0	54.8	69.0	64.4	Nil.	0.34
,, 28	51.0	55.0	71.0	71.0	Nil.	0.14
,, 29	60.8	58.0	82.0	80.6	0.36	Nil.
,, 30	56.0	60.0	71.2	84.2	0.23	Nil.
May 1	54.0	58.0	70.6	72.2	Nil.	Nil.

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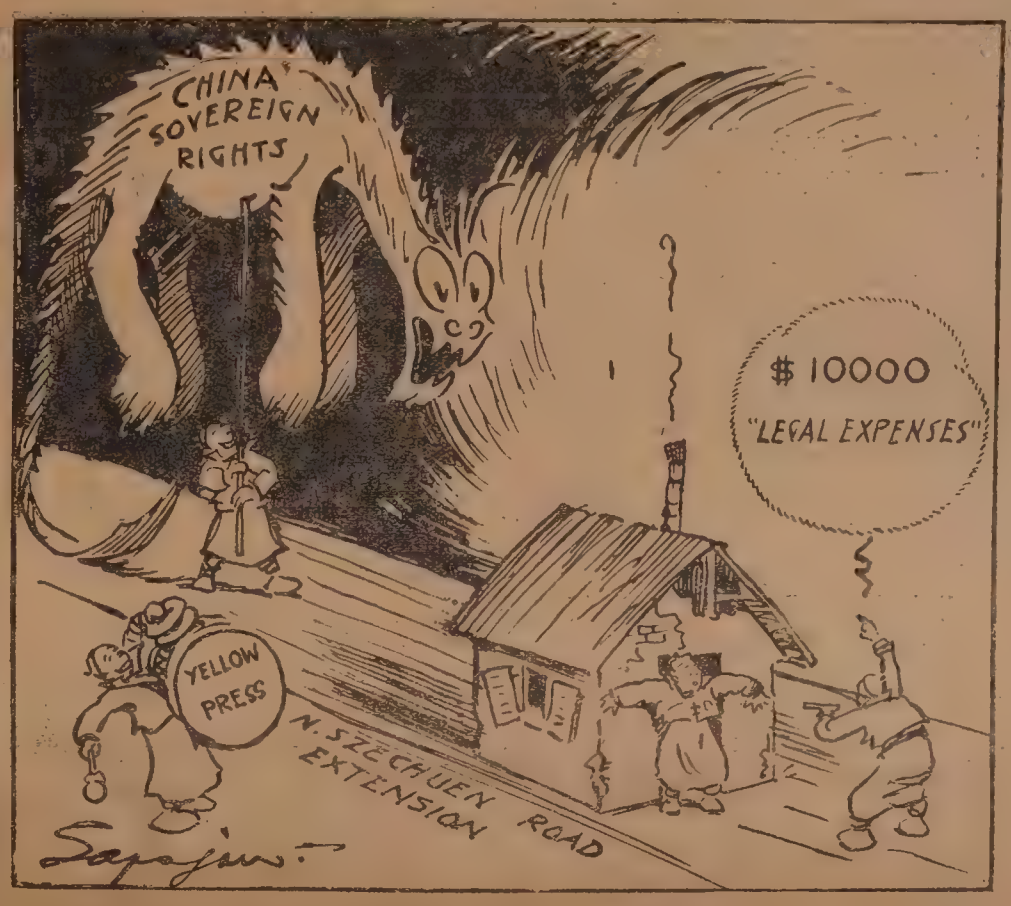

The Perquisites of Patriotism

PEKING'S APPEAL FOR THE SURTAX

Strong Opposition by London "Financier" to Granting More Money to Peking for Game of Ducks and Drakes

Without knowledge of the facts, the significance of the Chinese Government's request for a preliminary conference with the object of establishing a 2½ per cent. surtax may not be fully appreciated. This surtax was agreed upon by the Washington Conference, but has not become operative owing to the opposition of France, but Peking now seeks to have the increased tax put into force in order to consolidate the financial position and enable liquidation of the huge unsecured debt to proceed. This, at first glance, would appear a laudable object, but, to quote the considered opinion of one competent to judge, "to allow Chinese officials to impose a further tax on trade under the conditions of misgovernment prevailing to-day is merely to hit the foreign merchant without doing an atom of good to China."

If the 2½ per cent. surtax is granted it will place large additional funds in the hands of a weak Administration in Peking, temporarily bolstering up their position at the expense of the development of the internal trade of China as a whole. Deplorable conditions prevail to-day, for the great Provinces are virtually independent kingdoms under powerful military control antagonistic to the Central Government. They have long since ceased to remit revenue to Peking, and they flout all authority from that quarter. The land tax goes into the coffers of the military governors, and the *likin*, or internal tax, on foreign goods is abused in every possible way. Taxation is extorted wherever possible, and the opulent, though lawless, Provincial rulers grow stronger daily. The root of the trouble is the vicious circle of imposts, having the *likin* as a foundation. Until this is abolished, definitely and abasolutely, nothing can be done. The Treaties of 1902 and 1903, to which Great Britain, Japan, and America were signatories, aimed at the abolition of *likin*, but in practice nothing resulted. Even at that period it was suggested that surtaxes amounting to 12½ per cent. might be imposed if the pernicious system of inland taxation was eliminated. Matters drifted on, culminating in the Washington Conference, which agreed that, as the old 5 per cent. tax had, by the reduced value of goods, become only equivalent to a 3½ per cent. levy, it should be reinstated as a 5 per cent. effective *ad valorem* duty The surtax of 2½ per cent. was further agreed to conditionally upon the repeal of *likin*. Peking, it will thus be seen, wishes to secure the advantages of the surtax, but entirely for its own ends. To quote the "North-China Daily News and Herald," "until Chinese politicians show that they can so govern China as to enable the effective 5 per cent. to prove of benefit, it would be sheer folly to grant them a further surtax, and the Powers should therefore take further advantage of the reservations which govern this surtax coming into effect." These reservations include the abolition of the internal tax on foreign goods, and Sir Robert Borden's view, expressed at the Washington Conference, holds good to-day in a manifold sense, *viz*: "The provision of great revenues, or the placing of large funds at the disposal of a weak Administration, is not of itself effective." Sir John Jordan, whose long service in the highest official circles in China enables him to form an authoritative opinion, fully endorses this view, and has recently stated that Chinese public opinion is naturally opposed to the country being saddled with loans for the exclusive benefit of the Peking Government. Sir John maintains that both the British manufacturers and merchants and the Chinese consumers are all one in insisting that the taxation of foreign goods shall not be utilized as an expedient for settling accounts with importunate creditors and patching up an arrangement which, at best, could be only a temporary palliative for Peking's disordered finances.

It is estimated that the unsecured indebtedness of China aggregates £40,000,000, largely for material supplied in addition to which there are other huge sums accruing for less tangible services rendered. Japan and America suffer equally with Great Britain. It is poor consolation to the English holders of the "Vickers" and "Marconi" bonds to learn that at least two American loans are also in default, and that Japanese lenders have not been able to get a penny of interest for years. Nevertheless, the hard facts must be faced, that the unsecured debts stand but a remote chance of liquidation while the present internal chaos prevails. Merchants, not unnaturally, exclaim: "Why put a surtax on our goods to provide funds for old lenders, who must have realized the risk of advancing money without security?" The Provinces say: "Why give Peking new money by surtaxes when we ignore its authority, and the funds may be used against us?" The outlook is by no means a hopeful one so long as the menace of the military despotism in the Provinces is allowed to continue. The revenue from the salt tax itself, which is a contribution to the secured debt service, is in some respects jeopardized. So far as the International Commission which controls the salt tax is concerned, it is effective in its organization and collecting power, and within the sphere of the Peking Administration works without interference, but revenue collected in other Provinces is liable to interception. The military governors are avaricious, and the revenue figures published last January show that some $30,000,000 which should have been remitted to Peking "were either retained locally or appropriated by the Provincial authorities and the military chiefs." The despotic action of the latter is without bounds, and as an instance of the evil effects of their oppression landlords are driven to the recultivation of opium as a means to provide funds to meet the ever-growing extortionate taxation. Thus the patient toil of many years for the cessation of opium cultivation has been stultified.

China has a population exceeding 400,000,000, and her foreign trade is immense, being estimated for last year in the neighbourhood of £300,000,000, but progress has been crippled by the internal chaos, and before fresh facilities are granted to China it is obvious that she must first put her house in order.

POLITICAL TANGLE IN PEKING

Resignation of President Now Denied: Finance Minister Not Resuming Work

GEN. WANG REQUESTED TO REMAIN IN OFFICE

Peking, May 2.

The report that Mr. Sung Hung-yi, former Minister of the Interior, will arrive in Peking shortly is being quoted as an indication of the impending resignation of Premier Sun Pao-chi. It is stated officially, however, that Mr. Sun has now consented to remain as Premier, and that the visit of Mr. Sung, who has frequently been mentioned lately as the future Premier, has no connexion with the political situation.

Mr. Wang Ko-ming, however, shows no disposition to resume the work of Minister of Finance, and the political tangle appears to be becoming more complicated.

Mr. Wang Yu-chih, Chief Secretary of the Presidency, has telephoned to General Wang Chen-ping this morning urging him to withdraw his resignation and asking why he wished to vacate his post.

A group of Members of the Chihli Provincial Assembly headed by Mr. Wu Yung-pin, arrived in Peking this afternoon with the object of urging the Government not to accept Gen. Wang's resignation.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

RENDITION OF MIXED COURT

Further Application by Peking to Diplomatic Body.

Peking, May 2.

On April 10, as previously reported, replying to the demand by the Chinese Government for the abrogation of the Mixed Court in Shanghai, the Diplomatic Body agreed conditionally to allow civil cases between Chinese citizens to be dealt with in a Chinese court, but the Chinese Government, not being satisfied with the proposal made by the Diplomatic Body, has addressed another Note to the latter in this connexion, declaring that the proposal referred to is not only incompatible with the wishes of the Chinese Government but is also contrary to the spirit of the Washington Conference.—Eastern News Agency.

THE CIGARETTE TAX

Peking Appealing to Provinces to Take it Off

Peking, May 2.

In response to protests frequently lodged by the British and American Ministers to Peking against the imposition by local provinces of the tax on cigarettes, the Chinese Minister for Foreign Affairs, as a result of a consultation with the Premier, Mr. Sun Pao-chi, to-day wired to all provinces concerned requesting them to stop the imposition of the tax. —Eastern News Agency.

Peking, May 6.

In order to obtain first-hand information regarding the collection of the cigarette taxes in Kiangsu, Dr. Wellington Koo has sent the chief of the Cigarette Department, Mr. Hsu, to make personal investigations and report to the Waichiaopu. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

KIAO-TSI RLWY. COMMISSION'S REPORT

More Dismissals Likely

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tsingtao, Apr. 27.

After many days of hard work, Mr. Chuan Liang has completed his investigation of conditions prevailing along the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway and left here for Peking on April 23 for the purpose of presenting his report to the Ministry of Communications. Mr. Chuan was met at Tsinan by Mr. Shao Heng-chun, the new Managing-Director of the Railway, who has now arrived here and taken over his post. Mr. Chuan took the opportunity of making various suggestions to Mr. Shao, calculated to benefit the line.

It is reported that the Commission sent here for the purpose of inquiring into the prevailing conditions and future possibilities of the Railway has sent a report to the Ministry of Communications embodying the following features:—(1) general affairs, (2) financial aspects, (3) transportation problem, (5) maintenance of Admiral Wen's squadron; (6) railway police, (7) accident problems, (8) murder of Mr. Keh.

It is generally believed that during the next three months there will be no extensive changes in the personnel of the Railway employees, but after this period a wholesale dismissal of superfluous men will in all probability take place, for it is well known that the Tupan and the new managing director are fast friends and that the former has suggested to the latter to curtail overhead expenses as much as possible without affecting the successful working of the Railway.

Peking Must Support Wen's Squadron

It is worthy of note that the English secretary of Mr. Kao En-hung, in reply to inquiries as to the future operations of Admiral Wen's squadron, affirmed that (1) the squadron was to be supported financially by the Central Government, which meant that it was the business of the Ministry of the Navy and the Ministry of Finance and that it had nothing whatever to do with the Tsingtao Administration so far as the qustion of financial support was concerned, (2) that the squadron would patrol the Gulf of Pechihli, traversing to and fro to guard the port of Tsingtao, the port of Lungkow, the port of Chefoo and the coast of Pehchili, and (3) that the squadron was considered to be a part of the defences of the Territory of Kiaochou Bay.

This statement is reassuring, for up till now it would seem to have been the object of all concerned that the squadron should be supported by public utilities.

The New Managing Director

Tsingtao, Apr. 28.

Mr. Shao Hung-chun, the new Managing Director of the Kiao-Tsi (Kiaochou-Tsinanfu) Railway, succeeding Mr. Liu Kun, who has been transferred to the managership of the Eastern Division of the Lunghai Railway, assumed his duties on Saturday and received a warm welcome from staff officials and employees.

Mr. T. C. Chu, Vice-Managing Director, greeted the new executive on behalf of the railroad and Mr. Shao, in voicing his appreciation of the welcome accorded him, asked for the co-operation of all in the continuance of the service performed by the line for the benefit of the general public, which, he said, he hoped to make more efficient.

Mr. Shao was Consul-General at Vladivostok for a number of years and for the past few years has been engaged in educational work. He was formerly a member of the staff of the Minister of Communications during the incumbency of Mr. Kao En-hung, now Tupan of this territory. Mr. Shao and the Government have been fast friends for many years and a closer coordination between the railway and the Administration is forecast.

Just before the arrival of Mr. Shao, the special commission, appointed by the Ministry of Communications to conduct an inquiry into the status of the railway, completed its labours and is now formulating the results of its investigation into a detailed report to be submitted to the Ministry, which, in turn, will forward it to the Cabinet. Any recommendation of the commission must have the approval of the Ministry and Cabinet, in which event it will be announced and put into effect by Presidential Mandate.

The railway officials are keenly interested in that portion of the report dealing with the expansion scheme for the line, which was submitted to the Ministry of Communications some time ago. This programme calls for the expenditure of several million dollars on many new bridges, rolling stock, double-tracking and equipment.

Funds for the Navy.

Rear Admiral Wen Shu-teh, Commander of the naval squadron at Tsingtao, Weihaiwei and Chefoo, returned to this city yesterday morning and was welcomed at the depôt by a crowd of several thousand, including naval and territorial officials and the naval band. A guard of honour escorted him to the Naval Administration Building.

Admiral Wen has been able to obtain a certain amount of financial support for his squadron, and repairs to the vessels will be made in the near future. They will need a thorough overhauling as they have not been re-conditions for several years.

HIGHWAYS IN CHINA

The Inevitable Regulations

Peking, May 1.

All the Cabinet Ministers with the exception of Mr. Wang Ko-ming, attended the meeting this morning. The official report says the meeting approved the regulations to govern the preparatory department of highways throughout the country, of which Gen. Chang Ching-huai is Tupan.

The meeting also approved the proposal brought forward by the Ministry of Education for Educational Commissioners to be sent from Peking to Chahar, Suiyuan and Jehol districts and for a fourth Commissioner to be appointed for the Metropolitan Area.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

WHEN CHINA COMPLAINS

Instant Satisfaction Promised.

Peking, Apr. 30.

The British Legation has been in communication with the Waichiaopu on the subject of the alleged assault by Mr. Darcy Weatherbe on the Octroi official, and Reuter is informed that in the event of a complaint being lodged at the British Consulate the case will be heard in the usual manner in accordanee with treaty obligations.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE WEATHERBE CASE

British Minister's Note to Waichiaopu as to Correct International Procedure

Peking, May, 3.

The British Minister sent a formal Note to the Waichiaopu yesterday regarding the Weatherbe case. It referred to Sir Ronald Macleay's letter to Dr. Wellington Koo of Tuesday last and the conversation between the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the British Minister on the same subject on Wednesday, pointing out that the Octroi official should lodge his complaint over the alleged assault with the British Consul, who would then issue a summons to the defendant. When the preliminary arrangements had been completed, the Legation would notify the Waichiaopu so that a Chinese official observer could attend the hearing of the case.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 5.

The Waichiaopu has instructed the Octroi Department to furnish depositions concerning the Weatherbe case, which the Ministry will then forward to the British Legation.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MARCONI CONTRACTS IN CHINA

Claim by Commission Agent: Rebates of £80,000 Paid to Officials

Mr. Godfrey Isaacs on March 22 gave evidence for the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co., Strand, London, in the action brought against them by Mr. James A. Malcolm, of Victoria Street, Westminster, heard by Mr. Justice Acton in the King's Bench Divison. Plaintiff claimed commission of 5 per cent. on business done under three contracts with the Chinese Government. The Marconi Co. had advanced money as well as supplied wireless telegraph material to the Chinese Government, and they denied that plaintiff, who, with a Mr. F. Birchal, now deceased, was at the time of the contracts their agent in China, was entitled to any commission on the loans to the Chinese Government.

Mr. W. A. Jowitt, K.C., for the Marconi Co., said they had never before accepted an order for the sale of materials that was coupled with an obligation to lend money to the purchaser. On the general aspect of the case he found this peculiar result in the case of two agents—that one was able to secure a clear order for the sale of £300,000 worth of goods and received a commission of 5 per cent., while the other agent got an order for £300,000 worth of goods with the onerous condition attached that £300,000 was to be lent. If the lattter was to get a commission twice over that would be a curious conclusion to arrive at.

Counsel suggested that to pay 5 per cent. commission on a loan was a ridiculous amount. He submitted that the parties in this case were thinking of 5 per cent. commission on orders for materials and not on the financial business. In fact, no business was done up to the time of Mr. Birchal's death, and no business resulted from plaintiff's efforts. The business was done apart from the plaintiff. Transactions with the Chinese Government, said Mr. Jowitt, could not be visualized in the same way as could transactions with Western Governments. If the same code or standard were applied as had to be applied in the case of our own government no orders at all would ever be got. When negotations were started with the Chinese Government for the sale of anything to them certain Chinese officials had to be, should he say, compensated.

Commission Terms

Mr. Godfrey Isaacs, managing director of the Marconi Co., gave evidence regarding the contracts. Witness said plaintiff was introduced to him by one of his colleagues. There appeared to be a working arrangement between plaintiff and Mr. Birchal, and in consequence of Mr. Birchal's experience in China witness was anxious o secure his services in connexion with the Marconi Co.'s operations in that country. The company's first scheme was a big one for a loan and the supply of goods to the Chinese Government. Messrs. Birchal and Malcolm were to receive 1 per cent. on the financial part and 1½ per cent. on the business part. Prior to this the company had never lent money as a condition of obtaining an order. The business which was then contemplated did not, in fact, materialize.

Before it fell through, however, witness received a report that the Chinese Government were asking for tenders, and as the Germans were then active competitors in China—that was the year 1923—withness was anxious that Great Britain should, if possible, get in there. Witness said he had never heard of a commission of 5 per cent. in respect of the fixing of a loan. Such a commission would be an impossible one. Five per cent. was the usual commission on orders received. Defendant company had always been willing to pay that commission to plaintiff's agency on orders received from the Chinese Government, but no orders were, in fact, obtained through plaintiff's agency.

Business in China

Cross-examined by Mr. Henderson, K.C.: It is common in China for two gentlemen to sit down with most serious faces and make out a formal agreement which means something quite different to what it appears to be and both of them know it?

Witness said he had no knowledge personally of how business was done in China, but knew that certain payments had to be made. Witness, said he approved of the business, but did not approve of the payments to the Chinese Government officials, and knew nothing about such payments till some time after they had been made. The whole business was left entirely to the syndicate, which had been formed for the purpose. Witness agreed that the rebates etc., to officials amounted to £80,000, and imagined the price of £220,000 of the contract was increased to £300,000 for that purpose. Plaintiff knew all that was being done and approved of it. Plaintiff and Mr. Birchal stayed their hands at defendant company's request. It was found impossible to do big business in China unless you had behind you the British Foreign Office and the British Legation in Peking.

Mr. Henderson: Your company is associated with companies carrying on business as bankers?—Yes, in a way.

For instance, in Hungary you are bankers?—We are largely interested in a bank.

You control it?—We have together with someone else a controlling share.

I think you are president?—I am a co-president.

Monopoly Contract Broken.

Witness said his company was doing business in Austria with the Government as large shareholders. The Marconi Co. lent money to associated companies in order to assist them in conducting their business. As far as he could remember he had never paid any commission to anybody in respect of money lent. The whole business the Marconi Co. had done with the Chinese Government was under the three contracts in question in this section, and the third contract had been violated by the Chinese Government because they gave a monopoly to the Marconi Co. and had given a contract to an American firm to the amount of many millions sterling. The Marconi Co. were disputing the right of the Chinese Government to enter into that contract.

Mr. Jowitt said the Marconi Co. had never disputed that plaintiff was entitled to commission at 5 per cent. on £66,000 in respect of the second contract when the Marconi Co. got payment under that contract.

His Lordship said he would give judgment at a subsequent date.

THE AUTONOMY OF HUNAN

Promise of Cancellation

Peking, May 2.

Gen. Chen Chia-mu, Military Commissioner and Commandant of the 25th Northern Division (formerly commanded by General Hsiao Yao-nan) has been instructed by Marshal Wu Pei-fu to remain at Yochow and not proceed to Changsha, for the present. The reason for this order, according to Chinese unofficial reports, is that there is a probability of Gen. Chao Heng-ti carrying out his promise to cancel the autonomy of Hunan at an early date.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

AMERICA AND THE BOXER INDEMNITY

China Relieved from Further Payments

Washington, May 7.

The House of Representatives today adopted by 211 votes to 114 a resolution relieving China from further payments of the Boxer Indemnity.—Reuter's American Service.

RAILWAY FUNDS AT TSINGTAO

Marshal Wu's Denial of Seizure

Peking, May 8.

Marshal Wu Pei-fu requests Reuter's Agency to state that there is no truth in the statements in the foreign press concerning his alleged seizure of railway funds at Tsingtao and elsewhere for military purposes.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PAYMENT OF PEKING POLICEMAN

New Method by Institution of a House Tax.

Peking, May 1

With regard to the scheme of instituting a house tax to raise funds, inter alia, for the payment of the metropolitan police, Mr. Wan Chun, Member of the House of Representatives, has lodged an interpellation with the Government. Mr. Wan points out that the metropolitan police are controlled by the Administration and should be paid by the Government. In the event of the public refusing to pay this tax, Mr. Wan asks whether or not the Government would feel relieved of its responsibility for their protection. Payment of the police by the municipal authorities should give the latter control over the police. This would require the whole present police system to be changed. Mr. Wan asks the Government to give him a definite reply explaining its attitude on the question.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE FUKIEN CAMPAIGN

Differences Between Naval and Civil Officials at Amoy: Decided in Favour of Navy

Peking, May 3.

According to a consular report received in Peking, Admiral Tu Hsi-kuei is expected to leave Nanking shortly for Amoy to settle the differences that have arisen over the local administration between Defence Commissioner Chang Yi and Admiral Yang Shu-chuang. The Defence Commissioner protested against the continued occupation of the city by the marines in a recent dispatch to Gen. Sun Chuan-fang, and Admiral Yang then appealed to the Naval authorities for support. Admiral Sah Chen-ping, whose marines control the Nantai section of Foochow and who is the Senior Naval Officer in Fukien, has refused to be drawn into the dispute at Amoy.—Reuter's Pacific Service

Peking, May 7.

The Cabinet to-day approved the proposal of the Minister of the Navy to appoint Vice-Admiral Yang Shou-chang Defence Commander of Amoy in accordance with Admiral Tu Hsi-kuei's recommendation.

Thus the question of the control of Amoy, which has recently been active has been settled in favour of the Navy.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

KIANGSU AND CHEKIANG

Complete Agreement Between Tuchuns Resulting from Discord Elsewhere

Peking, May 6.

A foreign official telegram from Shanghai states that Gen. Chi Hsieh-yuan, the Tuchun of Kiangsu, and Gen. Lu Yung-hsiang, the Tuchun of Chêkiang, have reached complete agreement, which was facilitated by the rivalry between Marshal Wu Pei-fu and Gen. Chi on the one hand, while the recent defeat of Gen. Lu's supporters in Fukien, Gen. Wang Yung-chuan and Admiral Tsang Chih-ping, placed Gen. Lu in a position in which he was bound to accept the opportunity of ending the friction between Kiangsu and Chêkiang.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINA AND THE SOVIET

Moscow, May 4.

M. Davtian, the Assistant Soviet Representative in Peking, who has returned here, asserted to-day that China's public opinion was increasing its pressure on the Government in favour of the draft Russo-Chinese agreement. He believed that its signature would not long be delayed.—Reuter.

TUCHUN Hsiao Yao-nan has issued instructions to the Chief of Hankow Police to put certain restrictions upon the Chinese Race Club. In future, it is said, only the formal Spring and Autumn Meetings will be allowed and any racing carried out at other times is to be looked upon as simple gambling. Members participating in such events will be liable to arrest.

LEADING ARTICLES

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PROHIBITION

May 5.

DISCUSSION concerning the prohibition laws in the United States is so contentious and confusing, as our own correspondence columns have recently shown, that it may be well to state clearly our position in order to remove existing misunderstandings. With all wisely directed movements to promote the physical and moral welfare of mankind the "North-China Daily News" is in hearty sympathy. Therefore it approves all efforts to eliminate drunkenness and to improve the defective social conditions which so often conduce to it. We advocate the safeguarding of children from temptations to intemperance, and the closing of the drinking saloons in the United States we regard as a much needed reform because these places were usually associated with everything that was vile in political and social life. But when prohibitionists go much further and declare that the one and only way to suppress drunkenness is to make the consumption of even weak alcoholic beverages an offence against the law, and when they upbraid other countries for not taking the same prohibitive measures, we join issue with them on the ground that the success of prohibition has not yet been proved, and that the citizens of a free country should not be deprived of their individual moral freedom. As to statements concerning the efficacy or otherwise of prohibition, all that we publish are impartially drawn from American sources. It is regrettable these statements are so contradictory. On one side it is alleged that prohibition has brought the millennium; on the other, there is the equally positive assertion that the country was never so near utter lawlessness and perdition as it is now. As the whole subject is very complex, involving questions of politics, morals, physiology, biology and eugenics, it should be considered calmly, justly, and with an open mind.

It should be clearly understood that in what is here said the elimination of drunkenness is not the subject; the point in dispute concerns the control of the harmless private acts of individuals by the State. Therefore our first question is, has the State the right to formulate new moral principles, declaring acts to be morally or legally wrong which were never so held before, and which the citizen's own religion does not condemn. The question almost answers itself. With all respect we ask, is the average politician or the average voter in the United States really competent to exercise this spiritual power? Do the legislative bodies, whether Congress in Washington or the State legislatures, evoke the loyalty, reverence, and confidence of the American people? It may be contended that the State as a purely political organization has the inherent right to enact any laws it deems necessary, regardless of the rights that may be claimed by the individual. This is, or was, the German contention. The German people practically worshipped the State and sold their souls to it. They accepted implicitly the pronouncement of one of their greatest philosophers that the State "is the absolute power on earth; it is its own end and object; it is the ultimate end which has the highest right against the individual." Under this system of government the nation unquestionably became very efficient. What was the end? Having surrendered their moral freedom, the nation followed their leaders blindly, and terrible disasters came when the leaders went astray. On the other hand, English writers of political influence maintain that the power of the State to control the private life of the individual should be confined within very narrow limits, as they believe that it is only through moral freedom and the training which it gives that a people can reach its highest political and moral development.

We can logically take our stand on either side but we ought not to change from one side to the other according to our predilections. The Prohibitionists, consciously or not, stand for the absolute power of the State, and in doing so they condemn their ancestors who fought against the State because they held there should be no taxation without representation, also their Pacifist friends who had conscientious objections to army service. If an American patriot and orator of this generation, a Patrick Henry, were to exclaim passionately, "Give me Liberty or give me Death," the Prohibitionists would reply, "No, Patrick Henry, we cannot give you liberty as we are afraid you may abuse it; you must drink water whether you like it or not. Nor shall we give you death, unless you happen to drink impure water without first boiling or filtering it." This is paternalism in government carried to an extreme degree. The moderate consumption of alcohol is not *per se* a moral offence, and in the long run the State is best served when its citizens are morally free.

Next, as to the ideal of the Prohibitionists. What are their ultimate hopes and expectations? One of our correspondents, eloquent and enthusiastic, confidently predicts that when all Americans are total abstainers, "then in wealth, health, character, power and achievement, America will show the world to what heights a self-governing people can rise when freed from the chains of alcohol." This is splendid. But there is one fallacy. It is quietly assumed that alcohol is the root of all evil, and that abstainers are shining patterns of all the virtues. Unfortunately, the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil remain even when alcohol is banished. There are nationalities at the present day which have religously abstained from alcohol for hundreds of years, yet they are not at all remarkable for their moral and political progress; indeed, it would be interesting to obtain the opinions of Greeks and Armenians concerning the moral qualities of one of the most noted of these nations as manifested during the Great War and afterwards. Another correspondent wrote a week ago that Prohibition is an experiment in efficiency and that as long as the results of the law are financially beneficial, it will not be repealed. Efficiency in what? In these days of scientific burglary, efficient burglars are probably total abstainers. Is efficiency an end in itself, to be worshipped as Oriental fishermen long ago used to worship their nets? Some Americans appear to think so. An American writer in describing the life of a friend who drank nothing but black coffee, remarks in a recent "Atlantic Monthly," "As with most powerful business men in America to-day, his business was not a trade nor an intellectual pursuit, but a game of wild excitement, played day and night, not for money or the advancement of knowledge, or the benefit of mankind, but for the excitement of the game itself. . . . . His whole life was one huge gamble—which he ultimately lost." Is this the kind of life to which we are to be driven? Our Prohibitionists have little to say of the joy, beauty, human companionship, and other gracious things of life; they speak of nothing but wealth (which is apparently made the measure of national greatness), health, character (quality undefined), power, achievement and efficiency. We are reluctantly forced to the conclusion that prohibition hopes are very materialistic.

We have stated above that with all wisely directed efforts to promote the moral and physical welfare of mankind we are in hearty sympathy and therefore approve of everything that is being done to get rid of drunkenness and the bad social conditions which so often conduce to it. But we do not agree with the Prohibitionists when they attempt to make men sober by force rather than by persuasion, and we hold that to make it a legal offence for anyone to drink a weak alcoholic beverage is an unwise interference with the moral freedom of the individual, and that to grant such powers to the State leads to that worship of it which has caused the downfall of at least one European State. We also maintain that the hopes and expectations of the Prohibitionists, if realized, would create no earthly paradise.

Further, the science of eugenics does not give much support to Prohibitionists. The consumption of alcoholic liquors is coeval with civilization and generally seems to satisfy some physical need. What led to the formation of this instinct, habit, or need is an interesting question. Alcohol in moderation gives a temporary feeling of well-being and promotes sociability, but there must have been other causes. It is a reasonable conjecture that for long ages moderate drinking was beneficial in the struggle for existence. When swallowed in its natural state water is by no means a harmless fluid. Totally ignorant of the dangers of impure water in every generation multitudes of those who drank it perished. Epidemics of cholera at all times and in all lands have swept away with appalling rapidity tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands of people. Typhoid fever is another dangerous water-borne disease. For years in the United States 35,000—40,000 persons died of it annually. So late as the beginning of the present century, in the South African war the British Army consisting of 557,653 officers and men had 57,684 cases of typhoid fever with 8,225 deaths, while only 7,582 men died of wounds received in battle. What would have been the mortality all down the ages if impure water had been the only beverage? Prohibitionists should frankly acknowledge that if alcohol has slain its hundreds or thousands, water-borne diseases have slain millions. Between a glass of water heavily infected with the germs of typhoid fever or cholera, and a mild alcoholic beverage free from such germs, only those who prefer death to liberty will prefer the former. It may be that with the purification of drinking water our habits should change. That is a point which remains to be proved. Physiologists still have their problems concerning the action of alcohol in the human body. Some of our Prohibition correspondents have quoted Professor Starling, yet he says: "Our knowledge of the physiology of the nervous system is not sufficiently profound to enable us to give a complete description of the first effects of alcohol in purely physiological language," and these words are also applicable as to the part taken by alcohol in the physiology of nutrition. Experiments in glass tubes are not conclusive.

However, whether a moderate amount of alcohol is injurious or beneficial, there can be no doubt that Nature eliminates families prone to drunkenness, because the failing is evidence usually of a defective family strain that handicaps in the struggle for existence. Heartless though it may seem to say so, from the eugenic point of view this is a better way than artificial protection as the survivors are of a higher type. The Jews at one time were not a very sober people as their sacred writings testify; but they are so now although not prohibitionists, and the contributions of this marvellous people to the higher type of the human race are inestimable. So with the nations of southern Europe that drink weak wine; drunkenness is ordinarily uncommon among them, because those with a propensity to drunkenness have been weeded out; similarly, the "six-bottle men" and their descendants have been weeded out from the English aristocracy. It is a mistake to assert that drunkards must first have been moderate drinkers. There are people of defective strain who have been carefully guarded by relatives so that they knew nothing of alcohol, yet on reaching adolescence and happening to take it without knowing the danger, a terrible appetite was awakened, as if a lighted match had started an inextinguishable conflagration: thereafter they drank and went steadily downhill. As these defectives can transmit their infirmities to their descendants, they are a weakness to the nation and to preserve them artificially is not in accordance with the principles of eugenics. They may be fairly safe under prohibition laws, but there is no certainty that a nation will always pursue the same policy. History shows us that governments and peoples are always swaying from one extreme to the other. A period of puritanical severity under a Cromwell may be followed by a morally ruinous reaction under a pleasure-loving king. The saying of the English bishop that he would rather see England free than made sober by act of Parliament is not to be lightly dismissed. It is considerations such as these which make us doubt the wisdom of prohibition. Once more and in conclusion, let it be clearly understood that we do not approve of drunkenness, we admit the right of every man to be a total abstainer if he chooses, we are in sympathy to no small extent with the Prohibitionists, but we claim that no citizen of a free country should be deprived of his moral freedom. Now let the discussion go merrily on. The word "merrily" is used advisedly, as the pens of some of our Prohibition correspondents seem to have been dipped in gall and wormwood. After all, in morals more is done by reasonable and pleasant persuasion than by harsh force.

PEKING, May 6.—The report that Gen. Chi Hsieh-yuan, the Tuchun of Chekiang, has resigned is officially denied.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING, May 6.—Mr. Kawamura, President of the South Manchuria Railway, will leave Dairen for Peking on May 11.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE N. SZECHUEN RD. BLACKMAIL

May 7.

LEST any reader should think we have been giving undue prominence to the story of the recent disturbance over the North Szechuen Road widening, we would ask him to read the report giving the full facts of the case which appears to-day on the front page of our section. And those facts are that the whole episode was a very ugly case of blackmail. The agitators demanded Tls. 50,000 of the landlord and when they could not get it, they turned on hired rowdies to make trouble. They did unfortunately squeeze the tenants for $10,000. With students shouting for "sovereign rights" one can to a certain extent sympathize. Wrongheaded as we many think them, they are inspired with a feeling of patriotism. For the blackmailing agitator, who brings the Settlement perilously near to a riot for his own selfish ends, one can only regret that corporal punishment is not available. We must regretfully add that the Chinese newspapers come very badly out of the affair. Of the Chapei police proclamation, which we reproduce, they must have known, but never a word have they said of it. Why? It is by no means improbable too, that they knew a good deal of the truth of the story. If they have so little decent feeling towards the administration under whose protection they live and prosper, that they did not hesitate to fill their columns with the palpable and inflammatory falsehoods which they have been publishing, at least they might have thought of their countrymen whom they were exposing to the dangers of a riot. From the professional agitator we expect nothing better. From the best Chinese newspapers of Shanghai we do. They have sadly stained their reputation.

In the general upshot it is a matter for congratulation that the ejection of the tenants and demolition of the premises for road-widening passed off with so little actual disturbance. It is disquieting to think that at one time Sikh police were drawn up with their carbines at the "ready" and to realize that we were within an ace of very serious trouble. The police handled a difficult situation with equal firmness and discretion. A little too much of either quality might have provoked the resistance which it was their duty to avoid and, that the critical moment passed without the necessity for a resort to drastic measures, is a very welcome ending to a most deplorable affair. That this part of Szechuen Road is in urgent need of widening and straightening is beyond dispute. There is no place in Shanghai where so much traffic passes over such a narrow and tortuous path. Accidents do happen and the marvel is that they are not more frequent. Chinese residents know this as well as foreigners and it is extraordinary that the agitators, seeking to revenge themselves on the landlord who would not be blackmailed, should have been able to persuade respectable shopkeepers to lend themselves to an agitation so fraught with danger to themselves.

Blackmailers apart, however, there is always a certain section of Chinese with whom it is hopeless to reason on any question about which it is possible to drag in the bugbear called "sovereign rights." They are like the Stuart Kings who held that they had a divine prerogative to govern wrongly. Like them, too, they are unable to see that a possession of "sovereign rights" presupposes a recognition of "sovereign duties." They imagine that a stubborn opposition to all progress is a mark of

patriotism whereas it is, as a matter of fact, both unsocial and unpatriotic. It is now nearly fifty years since the first Shanghai-Woosung railway was laid down, running from the place now occupied by the temple to the Queen of Heaven north of Honan Road bridge to Woosung. The laying of that railway was a great feat for those days and the foreign merchants who invested their money in a very doubtful enterprise deserved well of China. Their ancestors ought to have been ennobled to the third generation at least. On the contrary it happened to them as to the men who now propose to widen North Szechuen Road. They were execrated by the fathers of the present generation of obstructionists and the railway itself was torn up; it was a manifest encroachment on the twin gods "sovereign rights" and *fengshui*. The present generation of Chinese knows that those who opposed the railway fifty years ago were mistaken, but the men of fifty years ago were just as sincere and patriotic in their opposition to the railway as the men of to-day are to road widening and posterity will pass an equal measure of condemnatory judgment on both. There was the same opposition to steamers. When it was proposed that inland rivers should be opened to steamboat traffic there was an outcry that China's rights were being trampled on and that Chinese boatmen would be ruined for the profit of the greedy foreigner. To-day there is scarcely a river without its fleet of steam launches making for swift and easy transport as compared with the old junk traffic. Ninety-nine per cent. of the trade is in Chinese bands and "sovereign rights" seems to get along all right in spite of the innovation.

But no argument has any weight against unreasoning prejudice. If it had it would be easy to recall that scarcely more than a stone's throw from the place where the road is being widened there was a disastrous fire little more than a month ago. A silk filature factory was destroyed and a number of women workers lost their lives in the conflagration. The approach to the factory was by the usual narrow and winding alleys to be found in all Chinese territory. The fire engines could not get close to the building and the poor workers were trapped without hope of rescue. The whole district between North Szechuen Road and the railway is now a dense congeries of alley-ways without one good road to give access to it. Little more than five years ago it was a vacant space on which the coolies dumped the rubbish collected from the dust-bins in the neighbourhood. More than once the Municipal Council essayed to pierce the waste land that has now become a confused mass of houses, with a wide road which would have been of inestimable benefit to the health and wealth of all residents in the locality. The obstructionists, backed by official assistance, succeeded in preventing this beneficial object from being accomplished and so turned what might have been a healthful, residential, Chinese quarter into a slum. And the pity of it is that even educated Chinese applaud their action.

THE KID-GLOVE CADETS

May 8.

In the closing years of the Manchu dynasty two British naval instructors, one a navigator the other an engineer, were lent to the old Imperial Naval College at Nanking to train young men for the Chinese Navy. Of the normal difficulties of their work, even as they arose in teaching the students things which they ought to have known, it is unnecessary to speak. In the river at that time one or two cruisers were lying and it occurred to the engineer-instructor, who was a large, hopeful, breezy personality of undismayed optimism, that there was no reason why these should not be used for practical demonstration. The then Viceroy, the late Tuan Fang, was not unnecessarily eager to provide the necessary coal. However, a few cruises were actually made and regularly once a week there was a demonstration among the cold engines. Did the students appear grateful or eager to profit by their instructor's efforts? They did not. While the British naval engineer crawled round about and in and out among the machinery, perspiring and oily, they stood back as carefully avoiding whatever might soil their hands and clothes as possible and observed with the detached condescension of the truly superior man. They too, like the cadets of the Hwah Jah, had gone, or proposed to go, to sea to be not sailors but captains.

Very deplorable, in the midst of much laughable, is the story we publish to-day of the training-ship Hwah Jah, which awakes these recollections of the old Naval College; and much sympathy must be felt for her captain and officers, who found themselves in an undignified, not to say dangerous position and have ultimately had no alternative but to resign. The Hwah Jah, it will be remembered, was despatched with some ceremony, not to say a flourish of trumpets. It was the first time in China's history that such an experiment had been made. Yet from the outset it became clear that her outfitting had been performed in a very perfunctory way. We do not doubt that the syndicate which financed her paid for everything necessary but, in the usual way, the work was not done. As for the cadets we may sympathize with them in their discovery that instead of going round the world they were to carry coal for a Japanese firm. It was a double indignity. But after all, they were sent to sea to learn seamanship and while this could have been learnt as well on one voyage as another, they showed utter inability to grasp the first duty of a seaman, which is to do the job that has to be done first and take the rough with the smooth uncomplainingly. But we were forgetting: these young gentlemen went to sea to be captains, not sailors; they must not dirty their hands; they must not exert themselves before food; and certainly they must not neglect to wear spats. One wonders if they ever paused to consider how much rough and dirty work a captain of the British navy or mercantile marine has had to do before he reached the bridge.

Seventeen years ago an American athletic teacher, coming to Shanghai to teach Chinese boys physical culture, found that some of them literally could not jump off the ground with both feet together. Their ancestors had never done such a thing and the necessary muscles had to be taught to obey the order of the brain from the beginning. But with the recent cultivation of football and cross-country running among Chinese, one might have hoped for a different spirit among the cadets of the Hwah Jah. Is the tradition of centuries that manual labour is derogatory, which inculcates the long fingernail habit, to show that the owner has never worked with his hands, still unbreakable? Or is it China literally cannot deal in realities and that everything she does is just a gigantic pretence, in which, if face be saved, the whole end is gained? That, it is to be feared is the root of the trouble, when one considers the imposing laws which no one obeys, the armies which never fight and the students who appear to believe that a smattering of Western learning is an unchallengeable passport for high office.

By the way, one of the most curious features of the Hwah Jah episode is that the Chinese ex-Engineer Admiral, now in charge, is said to possess an engineer's certificate No. 0001 issued by the Chinese Department of the Mercantile Marine. Readers will remember some correspondence in these columns a few weeks ago on this very point, that China has no machinery for certificating her officers. It looks as if that correspondence had borne fruit. But it would be interesting to know under what regulations this certificate was issued, as, to the best of our knowledge, China possesses no shipping laws of any description, apart from the altogether unavoidable observance of the international rules for the prevention of collisions at sea, regulations which must be and are accepted by any country owning ships.

BEAVERS AND RATS

May 8.

An American writer recently stated that the great mass of his fellow countrymen could be divided into what he termed beavers and rats, or in other words, the builders and the destroyers. In the earlier days of the States the beavers were in the great majority, in fact rats scarcely existed. The former built up America because it was in their nature to build. Then the rat people came along to house under the roof that others had constructed and it is their nature to destroy. The state of our civilization and its continuance depend on the proportion of the beavers to the rats. The extreme position is reached when the latter outnumber the former. Then civilization collapses as in the phase of the rule of the unfit through which Russia is passing. But then the rats, true to type, turn upon and destroy each other, the result being chaos and anarchy.

To-day, possibly more than at any time in the world's history, we need to keep our eyes on the human rats. It is true there have always existed a number of these vermin in every civilized country, but modern conditions tend to make them increase in both numbers and influence. The rat to-day works in a more scientific and business-like manner than did the underminer of former days. He employs means of propaganda formerly unknown. He makes use of the smattering of what passes for learning and the general lack of a true education which, in their short-sighted efforts to economize, legislators have imposed on their constituents. The spirit of the age favours the efforts of the men of the rat type. The pioneer spirit does not flourish as it did in the old days. The growth of the great towns and cities, while it has in some respects promoted enterprise, has, on the other hand caused many people to live and work under conditions which can only inculcate discontent with their lot. As we know, the occupations of large numbers of people resolve themselves into mere mechanical forms of labour, and, however well it be paid, the human mind is so constituted that it revolts against mere mechanical work. It seeks to expand its wings; it feels the need for pastures new, while still modern conditions fail to offer the scope that those of the old days held. There is the rats' opportunity. They whisper that the only way to obtain release from a burdensome position is to destroy. They do not see, perhaps do not want to see that revolution may be brought about by peaceful methods. They only want to destroy.

The rat species is, however, not confined to any one grade of society. It is to be found among the deep-dyed Tories as well as among the Communists. The man who fails to see that real democracy is a growing power and that the people must come to have more and more say in matters of government may be just as much a rodent as he who preaches revolution. Fortunately the predominance of the rats is a part of the inevitable after math of war. That cannot cease to be felt for some years yet. But there are plenty of beavers in the world and more and more are conditions becoming favourable for their much-needed work.

A FOOL OR A PHYSICIAN?

May 9.

Nobody can possibly feel at his best in the sort of hot, damp, sticky weather we have been experiencing for the past two or three days. No time, therefore, could have been more auspiciously chosen for the week's Health Campaign which is now being intensively prosecuted by a number of institutions both Chinese and foreign. For those who know the Chinese most intimately tell us that, even though in their own country, they are just as susceptible to changes of weather as foreigners. This seems rather at variance with the fact that Chinese flourish in every climate from Pole to Equator. But paradox and the Son of Han are interchangeable terms. Undoubtedly Chinese are weighed down by heat and every house-mistress knows that a sudden cold snap makes them dull and heavy, when they huddle together in the kitchen and let all the other fires in the house go out. So the health campaign organizers have an excellent atmosphere in which to work.

Every man, says the proverb, is a fool or a physician at forty. By which, we take it, the philosopher really meant to imply that anyone who has not sown his wild oats and learnt that "ginger is hot i' the mouth" by the time he is forty is past praying for. In the literal sense, we are all physicians nowadays at a very much earlier age. And this not only in the Far East, where we discuss our insides with a freedom and wealth of detail staggering to the new comer from Europe. But all over the West, and increasingly so, we are happy to think, in the East as well, the inherited, almost instinctive knowledge of hygiene is astonishing. In this at least we may boast that "we indeed are greater men than our fathers." In the reign of Henry III, when the most beautiful cathedrals were being built, an open kennel ran down the middle of Westminster Hall; the floors of the wealthiest baronial halls were strewn with rushes into which the refuse from the table was swept pell-mell, to be left unchanged, perhaps, for weeks; and plague was endemic in the dark, narrow and filthy streets. There were a few men who were ahead of their time: Dr. Caius, in founding his college at Cambridge five and a half centuries ago, was specially insistent that all rooms must be arranged to let in as much sunlight and air as possible, which he realized were the best check on disease. But much nearer our own times, knowledge of rules of health, now common to all, was non-existent. The Lady Napier whose husband was Governor of the West Indies in Nelson's time, describes in her memoirs the gargantuan meals which the merchants ate several times a day, under the popular belief that food was less nourishing in the West Indies than in Europe, (one has heard of this idea in China too), further fortifying themselves with huge draughts of brandy. Sir Frederick Treves's recently published recollections gave a perfectly appalling account of surgical operations in his early days, when one bowl of water and one sponge were considered enough for washing the wounds of a whole ward-full of patients. And it is certainly not more than thirty years since the night air was considered to be peculiarly malignant and closed windows, heavy curtains and feather beds were indispensable to every well ordered home.

In matters of hygiene, as in nearly everything else, the Chinese are a law to themselves. It is the fashion to laugh at their notions of medicine, which certainly in many respects are absurd and even horrible; but at a medical conference in Shanghai some three years ago, it was frankly admitted that some things in Chinese medical practice were well worth preserving. In domestic and social ways China is largely where England was in Henry III's day. Yet the Chinese are certainly lovers of fresh air; they fully understand the importance of hot cooked food; and their methods of agriculture solve one problem of all communities which is the source of many ills. But it would be idle to pretend that there was not abundant scope for health campaigns; and while we wish them yet more success, it is only fair to pay a tribute to the work that they and similar propagandists have already done. There is, for instance, no difficulty now in getting any Chinese in Shanghai to come and be vaccinated; and even in an old-world conservative city like Anking, as we were told the other day, a vaccination campaign achieved great results A special meed of praise should be given in this connexion, to the great influence of medical missions. There is not one of which we hear that does not annually report increasing demands on workers; and from these centres knowledge in the ordinary things of domestic life goes out in an ever widening circle by which the health of the whole nation is gradually bettered. Nor is there any lack of enthusiastic Young China coadjutors, without whom indeed very little could be done. These movements are less spectacular than banditry and politics. But they are not to be forgotten as we look to China's future.

THE ROUGH-HEWN ENDS

May 10.

The story of the arrangement made for Old Bill's declining years leads one to the reflexion, not for the first time, that the destiny of animals is just as strange and unaccountable as that of human beings. One of Old Bill's owners, it will be remembered, lives alongside Lord Rosebery, near Epsom, and the latter has become so much interested in the pony's career that he has asked to be allowed to give him a home in the paddocks of the Durdans when he is too old to race any more. Why should this one pony out of the hundreds that come down from Mongolia every year be thus singled out for favour and distinction? Why has the racing public so entirely taken him to its heart, that when he canters out to the start, cheers break out all along the rails? Other ponies have had records equally wonderful and more so, Blackberry, Cotswold, Marengo, Bornite. But they never captivated popular imagination quite as Old Bill has done. Furthermore, destiny does not necessarily depend on physical ability to do a certain thing better than competitors. It would be possible, up to a point, to breed A 1 men and animals instead of C 3's. But

their destiny is beyond control. We may say that much of Old Bill's popularity is bound up in his being happily named. But that only puts the question further back: by what chance were his owners so happily inspired? Furthermore we all feel that there is something "cute" in his personality; he has a look in his eye which comes from something within him; like many animals he has a keen though primitive sense of humour; and he never fails to respond to the applause by waltzing crabwise through the crowd and pretending to do his best to knock over the cinema and snapshot photographers.

As of Old Bill, so of other ponies and animals. Why should one kitten or puppy be born into a household which will make much of it all its life, provide it with the best food and call in veterinary surgeons when it is unwell, while another is born into a slum, gets nothing to eat but what it can hunt up in the gutter and lives the life of an Ishmael to the end of its days? Mere prettiness cannot explain it. Many a gutter cat would be a handsome beast if cared for; and many a parlour favourite is artistically a mistake or, if a dog, a shocking mongrel. Destiny again the inexplicable. Moreover, destiny extends its capricious influence over inanimate things also. We have in mind a certain household into which there entered at Christmas time a little toy monkey that walks by clockwork rather cleverly. Instantly he became a universal favourite. Christened Eli, he has been provided with a special little bed to sleep or nap in (when he is supposed to feel tired) and takes all his meals with the family. Everybody who comes to the house falls under his fascinations and when, the other day, he was supposed to have a cold and kept his bed, one lady gravely brought him a little kettle to steam his throat. It may be said that this was merely the ordinary concession of a grown-up making play for the children. In part, yes: but undoubtedly some part of it was a tribute to Eli's winning little ways. For just as Old Bill's personality has undoubtedly developed in answer to the crowd's fondness, so do the toys on which children lavish special affection become endowed with something which cannot be explained by any material combination of pigments and fabrics. And so too, do the toys of grown-ups. Motor-cars undoubtedly have a soul and moods of their own: any motorist who takes some part in looking after his own car, as contrasted with the man who leaves everything to the chauffeur, knows this perfectly well. There are days when the car is in a happy temper and days when she is not, and no material explanation as to the effect of atmosphere on her component parts, or of lubrication, will explain it. Her driver knows better. Again, we are all familiar with that curious fact of the individuality of rooms and houses. Some are restful and pleasing, some are a perpetual irritant. Furniture has nothing to do with it. The most charmingly furnished room can fail to charm, where one that is utterly casual and haphazard in its colours and arrangement is a haven of rest and good feeling. They have picked up something from the personality of the people who use them and made it a living part of themselves.

We remember reading a story about a boy and a monkey, who had an uncanny affinity for each other; which the old naturalist who kept the monkey explained by the theory that animals' bodies contain the souls of fallen and worn-out men and women, so atrophied and shrunken as henceforward to be useless for human bodies. The idea is altogether repellant. Surely if the like spirit animates a dog or cat that dwells in man, it is on the up, not the down, grade. And who can say that it does not? The late Archdeacon Wilberforce firmly believed that he would meet his dogs in heaven. "I am much surer of meeting them," he would add, "than a lot of people that I know—and I would much rather." What then about the so-called inanimate things of life? May it not be that the beliefs of scientist and pantheist touch and complete each other? The scientist teaches us that nothing in all nature is wasted, that there is only transmutation and that a candle is just as much existent when apparently burnt out as before it was lighted. The pantheist sees divinity everywhere, like St. Francis of Assisi who spoke of Brother Wind and Sister Rain, and the logic of what we have been discussing is that that divinity might go much farther than we commonly suppose. In the history of mankind there is a good deal of "going up and down in the same place" and civilization as measured by aeroplanes and wireless telephony is not necessarily in advance of that recorded in Pyramids or Parthenon. *Eppur si muove.* We no longer burn witches and there is decidedly more altruism in the world than there was a hundred years ago. Assuredly there is such a thing as progress, but whether it derives from new life continually pouring into the world or old life repeating itself in expanded form is beyond mortal ken. Perhaps in a future existence Old Bill will win the Derby and Eli will be a real monkey and give performances in public like Consul. One rather likes to think so; for then it must follow that all the other animals and teddy bears and toy dogs now pursuing their unnoticed lives—not without secret envy, perhaps, of their more brilliant mates—are on the ascending scale and will yet have their chance to shine.

Dr. Wellington Koo's plan for the construction of a museum in Peking is making good progress, says the Eastern News Agency. A commission is first to be organized with 15 committee-men including Dr. W. W. Yen, Mr. Kao Ling-wei and Mr. Chang Kuo-kan under the chairmanship of Dr. Wellington Koo, and the expenses required are to be derived from a portion of the Boxer indemnity due to the United States. The site for the construction of the museum is to be in the old Palace grounds.

It was announced at the meeting of the Russian Refugee Committee held on Thursday afternoon at the rooms of the King's Daughters' Society that arrangements had been made for the repatriation in the near future of 50 more Russian men from the Eldorado. These men applied for assistance, being very desirous of returning to Russia, and the committee is making all arrangements and advancing what money is necessary, without, however, giving any guarantee as to safe conduct. The two previous groups, of 47 and 50 respectively, which were repatriated previously have sent back very encouraging reports It was stated that the number of applicants at the Soup Kitchen had risen to 700.

The announcement by the Government that grants will be made in the event of officers on ships on the Hongkong register being killed or disabled by reason of piratical attacks, has brought forth the question as to whether this concession is meant to be retrospective. The grants, state the Government, will be made provided that in no case will a grant be made unless the Government is satisfied that the Piracy Regulations have been properly observed. A "China Mail" representative was informed that any claim previous to the announcement would be considered by the Government. This means, that relatives or representatives of officers concerned will have to satisfy the Government that at the time of the attack, the Regulations were properly carried out.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Our New Dress.

Readers will note a difference in the appearance of the "North-China Herald" to-day, which we hope will prove a great improvement on the fashion in dress, or type, we have just discarded.

The type that has been used in printing this paper, probably since it was first published, has been what is known as "modern roman." This is a type face whose principal characteristics are the thick and thin lines that form the letters. Here is an enlarged example:

"Three Blind Mice"

It will be seen that the thin lines are very thin and, consequently, unless they are printed on a slow speed press they have a tendency to disappear altogether and give the page a grey appearance. Further, they are harder on the eyes than some of the newer type faces—a greater strain, though probably an unconscious one, being required to define them.

The new type now used is halfway between the modern roman and the old style roman, and is known as Century face. The thick lines of the modern roman have been slightly lightened and the thin lines slightly thickened. The type must speak for itself, however. An enlarged example for comparison with the above is here shown:

"Three Blind Mice"

But not only is our type face changed. The linotype machines we have used for the past 10 or 15 years have seen their best days and have been partly replaced this week-end by a new battery of eight new models, making ten in all, which we have every confidence will increase our speed of production and improve the appearance of the paper.

The Road Agitation

The violent attack levelled on the "North-China Daily News" by the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" indicates ignorance of the subject on the part of the writer, equalled only by the ignorance with which he credits us. In the first place the statement that it was the workmen who first attacked the innocent tenants, and that the huge crowd outside the houses offered no violence, is a flat falsehood. The reason such a large squad of police was called to the scene was the threatening attitude of the crowd, whose leaders were actually known to the authorities for agitators and bad characters. That a few tenants, unaided, could prove so dangerous to a large force of armed police that it was necessary to level rifles at them is too absurd to be further dealt with. The opposition offered by the tenants was of a very half-hearted description, and would never have been offered at all but for the encouragement of the crowd outside. With regard to the question of sovereign rights, we can simply reiterate our assertion that the land is registered at H.B.M. Consulate in the name of Brandt & Rodgers, a British firm, by whom it was sold to the Shanghai Municipal Council. Surely the Council have every right to do as they wish with their own property, especially when what they propose doing is of benefit to the entire community. The tenants were notified of the proposed demolition some months ago when Brandt & Rodgers proposed it themselves, but as soon as it is noised abroad the Shanghai Municipal Council intends the demolition, we immediately have a hysterical outcry and disgraceful scenes instigated by anti-foreign agitation.

"Truth" and Swaraj

"Truth," admirable paper as it is in many ways, has never had a reputation for being much in love with Imperial ideas and there is therefore the greater pleasure in quoting the following comment from it on the recent tactics of Swaraj:—

The Swarajists are forcing on a critical issue in India, but if they persist it is chiefly the permanence of the Home Rule experiment itself that will be in issue. The rejection of the Finance Bill in the Legislative Assembly and in the Provincial Councils is an undisguised attempt to make government under the present system impossible. The Government has been able to defeat the attempt in the Legislative Council, but, as I understand the affair, only because the short-sighted tactics of the Swarajists gave a loophole for carrying the Bill over the heads of the Assembly. Things cannot go on in this way. In effect, India has been granted a certain measure of self-government "on probation." If her representatives cannot make any better use of this concession than to "hold up" the Government, they demonstrate that the concession was a mistake and must be rescinded. As to that there is practically no difference of opinion in this country, whatever temporary unpleasantness may result from reversion to the old method of government.

The only further comment one would offer on this is that Swaraj's real object is precisely what "Truth" says at the end of the first sentence—to put the whole Home Rule experiment in India in issue. The Swarajists, so far from welcoming the Montagu-Chelmsford scheme are violently opposed to it, because it is genuinely democratic. It would, in fulfilment, make all sorts of people in India whom the dictates of caste cause the Swarajists to regard as so much mud, politically on an equality with them. Therefore they are fighting it tooth and nail. What the Swarajists really want is not democracy, but bureaucracy, a supreme oligarchy composed of themselves with a British army near but out of sight to protect them from the consequences of their folly at home and the British fleet just over the horizon to shield them from abroad. Though there is

(*Continued on Page 206.*)

THE CHINA

Architects and Builders Compendium

China is one of the few countries in the world where no attempt has been made to collect and classify in book form the mass of local information that should be at the elbow of every architect, builder, civil engineer, and prospective or present house or land owner. The demand for such a work has been increasingly felt for a number of years, and the Compendium now published will meet that demand.

Shanghai, in common with many other Treaty Ports of China, is under divided control—International, French and Chinese. In the International Settlement there is a number of Consulates at which land may be registered at varying fees and under numerous regulations. The Compendium classifies these fees and regulations and also contains a mine of information relating to water, gas and electricity rates, costs of local material and labour, etc., that not only every architect must possess, but that is necessary to every prospective landlord and house owner.

The book is divided into four parts, as follows:—

Part I.—General Information connected with Land Property and Buildings:—

- Digest of Municipal Assessment
- Notes on Land Registration and Purchase in Shanghai.
- Information as to Taxes and Municipal Council Fees.
- Charges of Waterworks Co., Telephone Co., and Electric Light Dept.
- Consular Fees.
- Shanghai Municipal Building Rules.
- Architects' and Surveyors' Charges.
- Notes on Building Contracts Forms, Lease Forms, Mortgage Forms.

Part II.—Technical Information for Architects, Builders and Civil Engineers:—

- Memoranda as to Strength, Weight and Properties of Materials.
- Price List of Building Materials and Labour.
- Information as to Local Conditions (*i.e.*, soil, water, etc.)
- Requirements and useful data for estimating cost of buildings.
- Notes on Artesian Wells, etc.

Part III.—A Directory containing:—

- List of Architects and Consulting Engineers in Shanghai.
- List of Architects and Consulting Engineers in Hankow
- List of Building Contractors in Shanghai.

Part IV.—Catalogue of Building Material, etc.

- Alphabetical Index of Advertisers.
- Alphabetical Index of Goods Advertised.
- Advertisements of Building Materials and Supplies classified in Sections.

In addition to the above, the Compendium also contains

Maps of Shanghai and Hankow.

The map of Shanghai is the latest map drawn up by the Municipal Council (reduced in size) and contains many new roads hitherto unmapped.

The subscription to the Compendium is TEN DOLLARS MEX. Future editions will be supplied at FIVE DOLLARS per copy provided that the previous edition is returned.

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Notes and Comments

(*Continued from Page 205.*)

no caste in China, the situation is much the same—a predatory ruling class, filled with profoundest contempt for "the stupid people." Unluckily there is no much-abused but efficient Raj to see that the work of government is done.

When the Legations "Fell"

The "Saturday Review" contains an extremely interesting recollection of the late Mr. R. S. Gundry, formerly editor of this paper, from one of its correspondents.

The death of Mr. R. S. Gundry, the well known authority on Chinese matters, reminds us of the days when all Europe was scrambling for a bit of China and the Boxers were singing the hymn of hell, he writes. Gundry, who edited the "North China Herald," and set going that powerful society, the China Association, was against the policy of grab. But the "Saturday Review," for which Gundry wrote on China during all those epic times, will most remember him as the man who —when it was everywhere believed, and the "Times" and "Daily Mail" had stated in detail, that all the foreign legations in Peking had been burned and the Ministers and their staffs murdered, printing memoirs of the dead—had the pluck to question the report and declare his belief that all were safe. It was Gundry **contra mundum**. Unfortunately the editor of that day preferred to put his confidence in the world. The significant point was that Gundry came to his conclusion on no information—for he had none—but from his knowledge and understanding of China and the Chinese. But Gundry carried his knowledge lightly—a fine old English gentleman of infinite charm.

By the way it has never been satisfactorily explained who sent the famous "Daily Mail" description of the supposed end of the Legations though it is on record that the late Lord Northchiffe changed his mind three times before finally deciding to publish.

Diogenes up to Date

The "*Soir*," of Paris, has set itself, like Diogenes, to find an honest man, and has chosen a rather ingenious means of making the test. It caused a remittance of five francs to be sent from a private address in pretended mistake to members of different occupations, and has published the proportions of each class which returned the money. Here are the results. Politics and literature divided the first place with 80 per cent., while Civil Servants, doctors, and chimney-sweeps leaned to virtue's side by a narrower majority. Among clergymen and magistrates the balance was regrettably the other way, while the cases of restitution among business men were less than one in twenty. The average of honesty proved to be 30 per cent. On the whole one is rather surprised that it was so high. The curious thing is to notice the different categories in which the eighth commandment does not seem to apply. For example, books: there are many people who would be most indignant if their honesty were impeached, who nevertheless appear to think that books borrowed need never be returned. Umbrellas too are apparently considered fair game. It is useless to battle with tradition in these respect. But what is to be thought of the people who deliberately bag expensive opera cloaks and scarves in places of entertainment and even clubs?

Japanese Killing of Chinese

Apropos of our Tokio correspondent's strictures to-day on the sentences passed on Japanese guilty of killing Koreans, the "*Osaka Mainichi*" reports that the Japanese Government has agreed to negotiate with China on the subject of the killing of large numbers of Chinese in the confusion following the great earthquake. This is interesting news (says the "Japan Chronicle") in view of the fact that Dr. C. T. Wang's visit to Japan to investigate the murders was denounced in the Diet at Tokio as an insult to Japan. The "*Mainichi*" breaks the news very gently to its readers, mentioning the negotiations on this episode at the end of a long list of minor affairs in respect of which Japan has claims against China. The paper says:

"An agreement having been reached between the Japanese and Chinese diplomatic authorities that the many problems still outstanding between the two countries should be solved quickly, Mr. Oka, Councillor in the Japanese Legation, met Mr. Chen, the Chinese Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, on the 26th ultimo to conduct preliminary negotiations. As regards the wireless controversy and the Nishihara Loan problem, they are excluded from the list of issues which are now receiving the attention of the Japanese and Chinese diplomats, because they are too grave and complex.

The "*Mainichi*" explains that all of these affairs have often been taken up by the authorities of both countries for negotiation since they occurred, but for various reasons no final resolution has yet been reached.

Telegrams to Canton

The "China Mail" of Hongkong contains the welcome announcement that it is once more possible to send telegrams to Canton. Ten days earlier our contemporary had reported the evacuation of the East River region by the anti-Sun Yat-sen troops, thus clearing the territory through which the land-lines pass. Workmen were sent out and repairs have been effected with the result that the service is now resumed. Other installations are being pushed ahead so that the service will be at least brought back to the highest pitch of efficiency it has attained. Some months ago, an arrangement was made with the Eastern Extension Co. whereby cables were sent to Canton *viâ* Macao. The extra cost entailed will be dispensed with now as the old rates will be charged for the land-line service.

Revival of Queues

Are pigtails coming in again? One certainly sees more of them in Shanghai than three years ago. At a meeting of leading merchants and gentry convened the other day by Marshal Chang Tso-lin we are told that out of 500 who attended, some 320 wore the old badge of servitude. Further evidence of a return to the queue comes from Tientsin, where the Commissioner of Native Police has taken upon himself to interfere with the liberty of the subject by ordering citizens of 60 years or under to remove their pigtails. Millions of Westerners even to-day can hardly imagine Chinese without pigtails, but the signs are not wanting that China may become the romantic China that it is in the eyes of these Europeans. This China New Year festival was observed with even greater ceremony in numerous cities of the interior than towards the close of the Manchu Dynasty, no Chinese will adopt the Gregorian calendar, the barbarous justice of the old Imperial Code is frequently administered, while everywhere, our up-country correspondents tell us, there is a marked tendency towards reversion to picturesque ceremonial and customs of the past. Some observers will say this is merely one aspect of the anti-foreign movement. We are not inclined to attribute it entirely to this movement. Mr. Ku Hung-ming's "educators" who teach but are unlearned, will continue to do so, still more electric light plants will appear in small, out of the way towns along the creeks of Kiangsu and Chekiang, railways will be built, but going on within is a movement resembling in many ways the Renaissance in England. There has not been a reaction against Western learning in China, but that learning has undoubtedly awakened a desire to preserve much more of her old culture. Scholars at present are keenly interested in the literature of the country. At present are they not paying homage to one great "congenial mind from afar," Rabindranath Tagore.

"Plumbers is Plumbers."

It is probable that no profession (with the possible exception of that of the mother-in-law) has been for so long the butt of the humourist at Home as the noble occupation of plumber, with its age-long traditions of procrastination and forgetfulness, added to a penchant for overcharging compared to which, at times, the most rapacious brigand would appear somewhat of a philanthropist. 'Mr. Punch" has given us some priceless drawings and jokes on the subject, not the least famous of which is the one depicting the master-plumber arriving at the church to get married and then, when everything was ready for the ceremony, making a dignified return to headquarters to retrieve his best man and the ring, which, as a true plumber, he naturally had forgotten. It seems, however, that the Home variety is not a species apart and alone, but rather that a plumber is a plumber the world over. One day last week a local resident purchased, at a private auction, a fitting connected with water-supply. It was necessary, after the fitting had been removed, to have a small plug inserted in the water-pipe. A plumber was sent for, the messenger carrying a description of exactly what was needed. After what seemed an interminable wait, the plumber arrived. He surveyed the job at length and quoted a price which was promptly cut by 50 per cent. and agreed upon. He was then asked to get on with the work as the purchaser was in a hurry to get away. "Sorry; no can just now," he said. "Must go back catchee small boy and tools." As that entailed nearly another hour, there is no doubt that our friend is a distinct ornament to his profession, worthy of comparison with the most accomplished of his plumbing brethren in the United Kingdom.

Agriculture in China

China is a wonderful hunting ground for reformers, for well nigh every section of them known to the modern world can find its particular subject in this great country. A little success may come to a few, but progress generally is so slow that many must early became disheartened. It is quite possible that agricultural improvements have been urged upon the Chinese since the earliest days of the foreigner in China, though the effect scarcely is noticeable, but it seems probable that soon there will be great changes, particularly on the live stock side of the farmer's account. Quite recent happenings include a live stock show in Shanghai, the development by a foreign lady of what is believed to be a profitable poultry farm, the opening of several well-kept foreign dairies, the suggestion by Major Keylock to establish pony stud farms (the operation of which necessarily must go beyond the mere care of race ponies), another suggestion to lay down wide grazing tracts, the importation on quite a large scale of pedigree and grade Australian cattle and poultry, and the announcement that a big cattle ranch is to be established somewhere in the provinces. Yesterday a paragraph was received, stating:—

Edmonton, Alberta.—By arrangements made by the Hon. George Hoadly, Minster of Agriculture, a trial shipment of cows and steers will be made in the near future to Japan for the purpose of testing out the possibilities of a market for Alberta's live stock in that country. It is also the purpose of the Department to send with the shipment a qualified investigator who will look into the possibilities of a market for all of Alberta's farm products.

The pushful Canadians are unlikely to stop at Japan and are certain to extend their operations to China. Surely some permanent improvement must develop from the combined effects of all these achievements and suggestions. If Mr. Bena and his associates succeed in bringing the Shanghai World Exhibition into being, they would not go far wrong if they included an agricultural section, but it is most likely they already have that in mind.

Postal Delays

One can afford to be lenient in criticism of the Post Office, for, considered as a whole, its work is wonderful. Any thinking person can form a rough idea of the work necessitated by the collection and delivery of a letter for which the compensation to the Post Office is one cent, and those who have had the privilege actually of following the process from beginning to end only can marvel that there is any profit in the work at all, or any punctuality or guarantee of safe delivery. Yet, knowing what marvellous systems have been evolved by postal experts, occasionally one wonders whether some of the lapses of the Post Office in Shanghai could and should have been prevented. Take the case of a member of our staff. As secretary of a certain institution, he posted about 200 very important notices in the pillar box at the far end of Avenue Road at 11 o'clock one Wednesday night. He spent practically the whole of Friday answering telephone calls from most of the 200 people, who had not received the letters. He was one of many scores of people to whom formal invitations to the opening of our new offices were sent several days before that event last February, and who did not receive them, and to this day he has not received his. On January 19, a married lady friend posted to him a most important annoncement, and it was delivered on Thursday. He has been wondering for months why she has seemed rather distant, and she, of course, has been wondering why he has omitted to make formal inquiries after the little cherub's health, weight and lung capacity, colour of eyes, teeth (if any), etc. Admittedly the letter was sent to an address which had been vacated long before, but as several letters simply addressed, "Mr. ——, Shanghai," in the interim have been safely delivered, it seems curious this other should have been held up for nearly four months. Our Hong List is quite a good reference book.

Protection of Game

Many sportsmen have tried on many occasions to secure the enactment and, what is still more important, the enforcement of a rigid and humane series of Game Laws in China, but never have they met anything but failure. Periodically we refer to the necessity, in the hope that something will follow. The matter comes up again on the complaint of a sportsman, who, while walking in the country, met a Japanese gunner returning with two pheasants, a cock and a hen, that he had shot. In a mixture of English and Chinese he succeeded in getting the Japanese to an understanding that he was entering a protest against such "sport," but he did not manage to impress on him the folly and cruelty of shooting game birds out of season. Even an attempt to show the gunner that he would ruin his own sport at some future date failed. The point principally to be noted is that the Japanese was not a person wilfully evading a written or unwritten law, but one acting in sheer ignorance and suffering from an incapability to understand the consequences of his act, and he is but one of many hundreds, not all of them Japanese, Portuguese or Chinese. The same gentleman on another occasion engaged in conversation with a Chinese professional gunner who was out for snipe, but who admitted that he shot pheasants when he found them. This fellow had some sort of an idea that he was doing at least an unwise thing, but he said that there was no law against it, and at any time there was a market for pheasants. A bird meant more money to him than he could afford to overlook when faced with the opportunity of gaining it, and so he shot pheasants and would continue to shoot them. Game laws, as against the Customs surtax, brigand suppression and similar great questions, may seem too small a thing to worry about, but China must have them soon, and enforce them, or her game areas will be denuded.

A Public Ferry-boat Service

To those whose business carries them about Shanghai harbour by day and night, and to whom the private launch services maintained by the shipping and other companies are not available, a fast public ferry service, operating at all hours, has long been a necessity. The volume of the passenger-carrying trade, by sampan, across and along the river, is so great that it is surprising that a public service, similar to some of those at Hongkong, has not been an accomplished fact for many years. The need has been apparent for a very long time, and it seems more than strange that business enterprise has not acted on the undoubted possibilities afforded by this field of enterprise. It is true that four years ago, when it was estimated that in 24 hours something like 30,000 people crossed and re-crossed the river, or proceeded to and from their ships, by sampan, there was a serious project for the formation of a ferry service by means of a fast fleet of motor-boats, but for some reason or other the idea was not proceeded with. Now comes the news that within a few weeks a public ferry service, touching all parts of the river, will be brought into operation, and there seems no reason why the enterprise, if properly conducted, should not be an outstanding success from the beginning. It is being commenced on modest lines, but should the volume of traffic call for more boats than will be put on at first, we understand they will be forthcoming. We on shore, with our motor-cars and trams and ricshas, cannot wholly appreciate the difficulty that confronts those who have come to Shanghai from vessels moored or berthed a long way down the river and who want to return to their ships late at night. Generally, the sampan is the only means—slow and uncomfortable, and at times leaving the unsophisticated foreign seaman an easy prey to the rapacity of the sampan-man. But apart from this aspect of the matter, there appears little doubt that, with a high-class steam ferry service offering good facilities and reasonable rates, there would be few whose business takes them along the harbour who would not patronize the ferry-boats. The need of them is so apparent that although the new service may be some time in inaugurating a completely satisfactory service, once such a service is an accomplished fact the enterprise of those responsible will be well rewarded.

SONNET

On some triumphant morning when the sky
Is like an oriflamme and the wind's breath
Like victory—*then* is the time to die—
Oh! when I'm mad with joy come to me, Death!

Not when the heart beats mournfully beneath
A drizzle of gray moments, drenched and tame—
Quench not, I pray, the half-extinguished flame,
Break not the sword that rusts within the sheath.

This rapture's mine. I'll hold it as a glass
Catches, close-burning to a point, the sun—
Let cowards make happiness their daily bread!

I'll fade into delight as at High Mass
Music and incense mingle, and not one—
O'Life!—shall dare to think of me as dead.

LADY MARGARET SACKVILLE.
in "Poems."

ACCORDING to a report issued by the Shanghai Rice Dealers' Association, there was stored in Shanghai during the month of April 65,437.5 piculs of the grain. Of this amount 38,974 piculs was in godowns or rice-shops to the north of Soochow Creek.

THE "*Shuntienshihpao*" (Peking) reports that a certain *high* authority intends to relieve Mr. B. Lenox Simpson of his advisership to the President and that Mr. Simpson is also anxious to resign and devote his exclusive attention to newspaper work. The paper further adds that Mr. Simpson, who has been in China for many years, is the chairman of a local bilingual paper.

MARSHAL Wu Pei-fu, hearing of the serious illnes of Marshal Hsiao Yao-nan, Governor-General of Hunan and Hupeh, has invited Gen. Chin Yun-peng, a former Premier, to visit him at Loyang. It is stated that Marshal Wu is considering the appointment of Gen. Chin as successor to Marshal Hsiao and the appointment of Gen. Chow Shu-mo as Governor of Hupeh, the latter post being held concurrently by Marshal Hsiao.

HARBIN reports say that the two Japanese army officers whose release has been demanded by Japan, have been safely taken out of Vladivostok to Chita *en route* for Moscow. The measures taken by the Soviets were to prevent any forcible seizure of the officers by the Japanese navy, owing to the manœuvring of a Japanese squadron outside Vladivostok, and the Soviets have declared martial law in the maritime province.

ADMIRAL Washington, Commander of the U. S. Asiatic Fleet, arrived at Hankow on board the U.S.S. General Alava on Wednesday evening of last week. The arrival of the Admiral was the occasion for the exchange of many naval salutes and the exchange of complimentary visits with Chinese officials, foreign Consuls and naval representatives kept the port lively throughout the day, several other salutes being fired as occasion demanded.

TIENTSIN is flooded with light-weight copper coins, reports the "*Sinwanpao*," which states that now 215 can be obtained for a silver dollar and prices for foodstuffs are soaring. It is believed that the coins come from Japan, *viâ* Mukden, and are being brought from Mukden by the railway employees. Marshal Chang Tso-lin, having received reports to this effect, has ordered his subordinates to investigate into the matter and to execute any persons found smuggling the coins.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

THE MURDERED MISSIONARIES OF SZECHUAN

Memorial Stone to Mr. Whiteside and Mr. Watt on Scene of Their Death: Indifference of Local Chinese Authorities to Their Disgrace

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Mienchow, Sze., Apr. 13.

We are having a spell of decidedly hot weather, and are feeling badly the need of rain. For upwards of three months there has been no rain, and the spring which supplies the two Mission schools on the hill outside the city has begun to cause us inconvenience.

We have always regarded it as perennial and a good day's rain would restore it to normal.

By the courtesy of the Rev. H. J. Howden I am enabled to send an account of a Memorial Service which has been held recently in connexion with the Watt-Whiteside tragedy.

One reads it with mixed feelings, and it gives food for reflexions' on the state of China generally.

The disappearance of the Commissioner appointed by General Yang Sen to represent the Government in connexion with the event; as also the failure of the soldiers to remain with the party through the journey into the brigand-infested district is significant of the intricacies of bandit and government society. The failure is doubtless due to fear of reprisals and perhaps, which is more serious, to a certain unwillingness to admit the justice of such action.

Undoubtedly if a Chinese citizen were treated by British lawbreakers as these deceased men were treated by the bandits, the British Government would be very definite in its endeavour to show its disapproval of such doings. A failure to rise to these heights of magnanimity seems a serious defect.

Mr. Howden's account is as follows:

The Memorial Party.

Mienchow, April 12.

"Another event in connexion with the tragedy and loss of the two C.M.S. Missionaries, the Revs. R. A. Whiteside and E. J. Watt, last year was completed on Saturday, April 5.

It became apparent to many that a Memorial Stone should be erected in the neighbourhood of the murder as a standing witness and record of the fact. For this purpose a party of three members of the Church Missionary Society accompanied H.B.M. Consul General, G. A. Combe, Esq., proceeded to the mountainous District which lies to the north of Mienchuh, Hsien, which city is two days from Chêngtu.

The range of mountains in this part of Szechuen fringe the vast and wealthy Chêngtu Plain. Immediately outside Mienchuh the view presents a beautiful and unvaried scene of spring crops, mustard, beans, and many other sorts in full flower. Large tracts of opium cultivation are seen within a short distance of the city, and this plant is visible everywhere in increasing quantity even to the more inaccessible recesses of the hills. Busy markets lie at the principal openings of the valleys. At one of these, Han Wang Miao, the party made a halt for a meal, and also to inspect the stone which was being prepared. At this point, ten miles from Mienchuh, the military escort joined, consisting of a *ying* or battalion of four companies. It should also be mentioned that General Yang Sen had deputed a representative from Headquarters at Chêngtu to accompany the Consul.

Lovely Surroundings.

On resuming the road, which enters the valley, the track ascends gradually to the border hamlet of Shui Kin Men, four miles onward. The river runs at the bottom of the ravine, and presents an ever-pleasing picture of rugged beauty interlaced with patches of cultivation. Shui Kin Men is the border hamlet between the county districts of Mienchu and Maochow. The road from here continues to Ta Pa, It was this direction which the two missionaries took last year, winding their way through the hills to T'ien Ch'ih.

The present party, however, took a shorter road to the lake and plateau of T'ien Ch'ih. Crossing by a picturesque covered bridge to the left of Shui Kin Men, they followed a coal coolie track for five miles The last piece being up a very steep zig-zag path.

The escort was now stationed at intervals along the road and only one company ascended to the cluster of houses at T'ien Ch'ih. It was not possible to investigate the district that evening. The lake of T'ien Ch'ih is about 15 Chinese acres in surface, and nestle amid a bowl of high hills, the one entrance is by the zig-zag path referred to. The inhabitants in the immediate vicinity are not many and were no doubt surprised at the party of foreigners, carriers and military arriving amid their seclusion. The sleeping quarters occupied were the same as those used by Messrs. Whiteside and Watt last year, in the Long Wang Miao (Dragon King Temple), no other shelter being available.

The Memorial Service.

The original intention was to wait here for the Memorial Stone to arrive on the Saturday morning; it was obvious, however, that no place would be possible for the setting up of the Stone without some delay. Moreover except for coal coolies using the path at this point very few others pass this way, hence the purpose of the stone would be lost. The late Messrs. Whiteside and Watt had continued their journey from T'ien Ch'ih, intending to join another C.M.S. party on the other side of a mountain, Peh Yuin Shan, and had already passed some paper factories three miles away. They met the brigands not very far from this spot.

After following a footpath in this direction and learning from the guide many facts concerning the evidence in hand. on returning to the hamlet again, it was seen that the main part of the military escort had withdrawn without any previous information being given, and the representative from General Yang Sen was nowhere to be found, nor did he put in any appearance at the Ceremony later in the day. It was decided therefore to descend the steep hill and meet the stone carriers on the road. About midday the stone arrived, and a spot was selected by the side of the main road, between the market of Shui Kin Mên and the bridge, within the district of the Maochow magistrate.

Haec Meminisse Juvabit.

The main stone is about five Chinese feet high, with a headpiece and base in addition. The inscription on the front is an account of the facts of the murder of the two missionaries, while travelling in the district of the Maochow magistrate. On the reverse side is a short description of the pastorates which Mr. Whiteside held and the scholastic appointment of Mr. Watt.

The ceremony was short but none the less impressive. By one o'clock quite a number of people had gathered in addition to those who belonged to the party and their followers. Prayers were read by the Rev. H. J. Howden of Mienchow and a portion of I Cor. XV by the Rev. V. H. Donnithorne of Anhsien, and an address who given by the Rev. T. Caldwell, C.M.S. Seretary of the West China Mission, and the ppaster of Mienchuh, explaining the purpose and importance of setting up such a record as that on the Memorial Stone.

In adition to the Consul-General being present, Dr. J. H. Lechler of the C.M.S. Hospital, Mienchuh, attended the function.

The party then resumed the homeward journey arriving in Mienchuh about 6.30 p.m.

It is to be hoped that everyone who reads the inscriptions of this memorial stone will ponder upon the loss of these two devoted men, who in the prime of their profession and the efficiency due to long years in China laid down their lives."

OBITUARY

Mr. Fei Chia-lu.

Our readers will, perhaps, be able to recall the series of charming articles commenting on Wu Pei-fu and China in general, published about three years ago in these columns, from the pen of Mr. Fei Chia-lu, whose decease it is our painful duty to announce. His writings are among the best we have received from our Chinese contributors. He had a number of friends in Shanghai, and still more in the north. How sad this intelligence must be to them, we can realize from our own knowledge of his lovable personality, high intelligence, and unimpeachable character.

Mr. Fei Chia-lu was a native of Chinghai, near Ningpo. With the exception of the few years' of school life in the Public School for Chinese, Shanghai, where he received his grounding in the English language from Mr. G. S. Foster-Kemp, it may be said with exact truth that he was a self-educated man. Shortly after he left the School, he joined the "National Review," and there he soon displayed sufficient proficiency in a profession which he was never to abandon even when he was occupying the highest position attainable for his age, namely that of the Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior.

Busy Days in Peking.

It was seven years ago, in 1917, when he left Shanghai for Peking to take up his work as Professor of English in the Peking Government University. He had not to wait long to be admitted into the group of the Intellectuals of the University, consisting of men like Dr. Hu Suh, the well-known leader of the Literary Revolution. The lectures in the University were, however, not sufficient to satisfy his ardent spirit, and he devoted the evenings to newspaper work, which he knew was his real vocation. He was firstly assistant editor of the "Peking Daily News," and then assistant editor of the "Peking Leader," of which he afterwards became the editor.

All this time, he had made a reputation for himself, as much by the honesty of his character as by the excellent quality of his work. Therefore, when Dr. Wang Chunghui formed his Cabinet, which in spite of its many faults, was distinguished by the honesty of its rule, Mr. Fei was given the Secretaryship in the Ministry of the Interior. In this position, he again distinguished himself by his sense of duty and fearlessness of consequences. Some documents, which revealed wholesale corruption in the Ministry, came into his possession, and he petitioned and was given the authority to make a thorough audit of the accounts. The result was that the Vice-Minister had to tender his resignation and left his office with half of the ministerial staff. But services of such value were not recognized when the Government changed, and Mr. Fei had to go with Mr. Wang's Cabinet.

Wu Pei-fu's Appreciation.

If China did not know how to appreciate her deserving servants, General Wu Pei-fu, however, knew how to appreciate an honest man. Twice, Mr. Fei was specially requested to go down to Loyang when this warlord had got himself into difficulties with the foreigners. The last time was in connexion with the Lincheng Affair. When the invitation came, Mr. Fei was far from being well, but realizing the gravity of the incident, he went; against the advice of his medical advisor. Though he was able to do much in setting free the foreign captives, his health, never robust, sustained an injury from which he was never to recover.

This year being his father's 70th anniversary of his birthday, he arrived during the China New Year to make preparations for the celebration. But the trip proved too much for his battered constitution. Shortly after his arrival, he was confined to his bed.

It may be some consolation to his friends to know that during his last days he was under the care of the Sisters of St. Marie's Hospital and had the benefit of the best medical attention. He passed away peacefully in the evening of May 2, 1924, at the age of 34, in the first class ward of the St. Marie's Hospital. In spite of the many important positions Mr. Fei has occupied, he may be said to have died a poor man. His whole estate when realized will hardly amount to more than $4,000 among which is included a sum to be received from his life insurance policy.

Mr. Fei has left a widow and three children, for whom the sincerest sympathy is felt as well as to his bereaved parents.

Dean C. Worcester, Well-Known Scientist of the Philippines.

Manila, May 2.

Mr. Dean C. Worcester, former Secretary of the Interior for the Philippines, died here to-day of heart-disease at the age of 57.

Mr. Worcester was born at Thetford, Ver., in 1866. He was a well-known zoologist and had made extensive studies of birds and mammals of the Philippines. His first visit to the Islands was in 1887, when he accompanied the Steere scientific expedition. Subsequently appointed Assistant Professor of Botany at the University of Michigan, he returned to the Philippines again with the Menage expedition in 1890. He returned to his work at the University and became Assistant Professor of zoology and Curator of the Zoological Museum. He became a member of the United States Philippines Commission in 1899 and remained in the Philippines, becoming Secretary of the Interior in 1901, which post he held until 1913. Amongst Mr. Worcester's published works are "The Philippine Islands and their Peoples," "The Non-Christian Tribes of Northern Luzon," "The Philippines Past and Present" and many papers on zoological subjects. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

APPALLING STORY FROM HANKOW

Chinese Press Report of Cannibalist Practices by a Foodshop

Details of an appalling crime, or series of crimes, in Hankow were published last Friday in the Chinese press. It is stated that the proprietor of a food shop in the native city came under suspicion in connexion with the disappearance of a child, and when, on Wednesday of last week, the police searched his premises the skeletons of eight children were found as well as human remains suggesting that a revolting practice in the way of trade was being carried on. Five arrests were made.

When the discovery was noised abroad, a great crowd quickly gathered outside the premises and a rush was made for the shop, the place being set fire to before the police had left with their prisoners. The crowd was infuriated, and in the excitement of the attack the prisoners escaped from the police, seized various weapons and laid about them as they ran out into the street. In this way, three people are said to have been killed and several injured. Troops had to be called out to assist the police in dealing with the situation.

AN OLD MYSTERY OF THE YANGTZE

There are no doubt still some who remember the sensation caused at Shanghai and up and down the River by the arrest and trial of C. W. Mason, a Customs assistant of Chinkiang, for importing a cargo of arms for the Ko Laos in September, 1891, and his subsequent escapé from Shanghai Gaol.

At his trial before Mr. Jamieson, the Consul-General, and the late Sir Nicholas Hannen, Mason preserved an obdurate silence and pleaded guilty rather than betray his accomplices; and although for many weeks the Shanghai papers advanced exhaustive guesses as to his motives—whether he was really a Ko Lao, whether he was the catspaw of the Peking Government, whether the Customs were in any way implicated, or whether he was simply a monomaniac—the truth was never revealed.

Now at last, after 30 years, the truth comes to light. Mason himself tells the story in his "Chinese Confessions of Charles Welsh Mason," which has just been published in London by Grant Richards, Ld., at 7/6 net, and which can be ordered from any bookseller. It will, the publishers say, be found more enthralling than a novel. The picture of Anglo-Chinese life in the 'nineties is, it is claimed, the most accurate to be found in the work of English writers.

Mr. Mason is said to have led an amazingly adventurous life during the 33 years since he left China, and it is hoped that this book will be followed by other autobiographical volumes.

THE PRESS GANG IN KIENNING

Only One of the Country People's Woes.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Kienning, Apr. 26.

We seem more than ever drifting into anarchy; the hordes of soldiers marching back again to the south of the province, still continues and with all the iniquities of the press-gang. Day after day one hears fresh stories of misery.

A week ago a proclamation was put out—a kind of apology for the wrongs which had been recently perpetrated; and assuring boatmen that no more boats would be commandeered, gradually boats which all had disappeared began to put in an appearance. and with the greatest perfidy they were all seized again to transport troops.

In Sungki county the poppy is in flower, and looks as if it will shortly be cut. The Civil Governor, and Gen. Chou, the Assistant Military Governor, have both issued instructions that it should be stopped, but the *hsien* snaps his finger at them, and goes on getting his blood money!

A few days ago a catechist was held up by a sergeant, beaten and told he was abducting his bride, whom he was taking up to his station. If bystanders had not intervened the consequences would have been much worse.

The military government is destroying trade by their extortions.

The people look on the soldiers as their greatest enemies and are only too delighted to see them go south.

A few days ago some bandits stole into the city and attempted to seize some guns in the yamên of a notorious bandit chief, who two or three years ago surrendered to the government, and is now a major. These men were caught redhanded, and to save their lives turned King's evidence. They led a set of disguised soldiers into the bandit rendezvous, with the result that over 10 of these mauraders were caught and executed.

BUILDING OPERATIONS IN TIENTSIN

Big New Bank and French Municipal Building

TIENTSIN NEWS SERVICE.

Tientsin, Apr. 28.

Work has started on the foundations of a new bank and office building at the corner of Rue de France and Rue du Consulat, French Concession, for Mr. S. J. Vordoni, one of Tientsin's pioneer merchants. When finished at the end of this year the bank premises will be occupied by the Tientsin branch of the Sino-Italian Bank, and the flats above will be rented out as offices. On the north end of the Rue de France frontage there will be a modern store, also to be rented.

The new building will be two storeys, brick-built, cement-faced with a frontage on Rue de France of 85 ft. and on Rue du Consulat of 75 ft. The entire corner of the building's ground floor will be taken over by the bank, with main entrance on the corner. The bank compradore's offices will be placed at the east end of the Rue du Consulat frontage. The store on Rue de France will have a modern glass front, extending 38 ft., and a depth of 56 ft.

The present estimated cost of the building is $75,000, and it will stand on one and a half mow of land valued at $30,000. The architects are Credit Foncier d'Extreme Orient.

The present premises of the Sino-Italian Bank, on the opposite corner, will be pulled down when the Bank moves out to make way for road widening plans in connexion with the proposed new French Municipal building in the old Market Square immediately behind the present bank building.

THE FOUR WRECKS IN THE GORGES

Exact Details of the Recent Unparalleled Series of Disasters

The following additional details of the recent wrecks in the Gorges, from an authoritative source, will be of interest as showing what exactly happened in this unequalled series of interests.

Ichang April 21.

The str. Pakiang (under Italian flag), is reported a total loss at the Yeh-tan, 50 miles up river from Ichang, on the 15th inst.

She left here at daylight on above date, under command of Captain Turner, and was on her 14th low water trip this season. She had only one pilot on board, the other having gone to the str. Yungkiang, to bring her down from Chungking, that vessel having been sold to the military.

The Pakiang carried a cargo of case oil for the S. O. Co. and a small quantity of general cargo. She was drawing 7'6", being greatly overloaded. She passed the dangerous Hsin-tan and Kungling-tan rapids, but came to grief at the Yeh-tan, striking, it is said, the same rock as the Lichuen struck some years ago. It is not clear whether it was a case of the vessel sheering owing to being overoaded, or an error of judgment, but all interested in low water navigation regret this accident as Captain Turner, who was piloting at the time of the accident, has had a most successful season, and ran at levels hitherto thought impossible.

The vessel was beached on the right bank below the rapid, and had a salvage pump been available she would probably have been salved. She was holed in the forehold and boiler room just at the bulkhead. Junks were procured and lashed alongside the forepart, but the water rose rapidly at the rate of one foot an hour, causing the spars supporting the fore end to break. The after part then rose with the water, and the vessel broke in two at 1.00 a.m. on the morning of the 19th. The water at Chungking suddenly rose from 1' to 9'0" and this sudden rise was responsible for the total loss of this vessel. Had the accident happened when the water was at its lowest, she would doubtless have been saved.

There was no loss of life and most of the cargo is salved.

Total Loss of Robert Dollar 11

This vessel left Chungking at about 6 a.m. on the 24th and at 9 a.m. struck the rocks on the left bank at mileage 310.4 at Ch'ai P'an Tzu. The vessel at the time was proceeding full speed, and it appears the rocks pierced the port quarter, and must have torn almost the whole of the after end out of her. She heeled over to a dangerous angle. The captain at once put the helm hard aport and beached her on the Shashih shingle bank at the lower end. Almost immediately the vessel settled down by the stern and heeled over to starboard, submerging the stern. The vessel is now probably covered and will become a total loss as the river is rising rapidly.

It is known that two Chinese children were washed overboard and drowned, and an authoress, who was travelling under the auspices of the Robert Dollar Company to write a descriptive handbook of the Gorges, was washed overboard, and carried by the current on to the shingle bank.

30 Chinese Drowned

It is feared that 30 Chinese passengers may have lost their lives, so quickly did she settle down, which would indicate that had she not been promptly beached she might have gone down in deep water with a heavy loss of life. All cargo is lost.

At the time of the accident the Shuhun was one third of a mile ahead. She turned round steamed back and anchored close under the stern of the wrecked vessel, taking on board the foreign and some Chinese passengers.

Capt. Piowaty was in charge on his maiden trip. He had been to Chungking several trips during the low water becoming familiar with the river prior to taking over the vessel.

The Kweilee on the Rocks

The str. Kweilee left here (Ichang) in early morning of the 25th and encountered fog at 3 a.m. In turning round to another she stranded on the rocks below Ita on the left bank. The fore hold is badly damaged and three feet of water was reported shortly after striking. The ship's pumps, however, were able to keep the water under control, and it is reported this morning that the vessel is in no danger, and no cargo damaged.

The Kuling left this morning with salvage gear, and a motor salvage pump, supplied by Messrs. Rochs & Co.

While the vessel is in no immediate danger it must be remembered that she is very old, and her bottom plates are most probably in very bad condition. The water today is still rising, but not so rapidly as to cause any anxiety.

Probably Holed

The str. Wanhsien is anchored at mileage 320 above Loochi, having struck a rock on the upward trip.

It is uncertain whether the vessel is holed forward or aft, but she is reported to be down by the stern. Assistance was offered by the Anlan when passing down, but was refused.

The ship is said to be in no immediate danger and will proceed to Chungking after temporary repairs.

A Chapter of Accidents

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ichang, April 28.

It is happily unusual to have such a chapter of shipping accidents occur as we have recently had. The following three were all heard of in one day: The Robert Dollar was on her way down from Chungking when she ran on to a ledge of rock, and ripped her side open. There were three adults and five foreign children passengers on board. One lady was still in her cabin, and when the ship struck she threw on a fur coat and ran out, but just then the ship lurched and she was washed into the river. Fortunately she was near the bank and got ashore safely. This lady happens to be on a visit to the Yangtze, getting material for the writing of a book, and one can well imagine the graphic description of the experience that will be told there. The fortunate thing about the accident was that one of the Shuhun pilots happened to be looking astern and saw that the Robert Dollar was in difficulties. The Shuhun was only about five minutes ahead of the Dollar boat, and at once turned back to her assistance. It is said that a good many Chinese were drowned, but how many no one knows. There is more than cargo carried as "pidgin" on these boats.

Then news came that the Wan Hsien was badly holed at Loc'chi about 35 miles below Chungking. The Wan Liu went to her assistance, and later she was reported to have reached Chungking, but will doubtless have to make a trip to Shanghai for repairs.

The same evening we learned that the China Merchants str. Kuei Lee on her way to Hankow had run on to rocks at a place about 35 miles down river. She is holed in her bows, but they hope to get her off.

The Rev. Father Trudo Yans, who has been a member of the R. C. Mission here for many years, has been chosen as the new bishop and is now on his way to Changsha for consecration, the ceremony to take place on May 1.

Rain is falling heavily and all fears for sufficient water to transplant the rice will be at an end.

OVERBOARD IN THE GORGES

Mrs. Gordon B. Enders' Thrilling Escape: The Struggle for Life: A Tribute to Humanity

The miraculous escape from drowning of Mrs. Gordon B. Enders, one of the passengers on the ill-fated str. Robert Dollar II, is a most remarkable incident and one which will long be told to offset the usual stories told of the Yangtze's relentless malignity.

The wreck of the str. Robert Dollar II occurred on April 24, some three hours after leaving Chungking. About 9 a.m. she struck the rocks on the left bank. Although this is a dangerous part of the river, with a rapid current, no danger was anticipated as the water was nine feet above zero. How the accident occurred is unknown, although it is conjectured that the current may have swept the vessel upon the rocks. The initial shock brought the passengers to the forward deck, with the exception of Mrs. Gordon B. Enders, author of "Swinging Lanterns," who had taken the Gorges trip to collect material for another book which will soon be published.

From Cabin to Cataract

Mrs. Enders was still in her cabin as the boat began to scrape over the submerged rocks. Hastily flinging on a long sealskin coat she ran along the cabin deck aft, the furniture in the saloon flying out through door and windows as she passed. Then came a monster wave sweeping over the ship, which had heeled over to a dangerous angle, and she was thrown over the railing into the swift running river, and carried for some distance under water. Fortunately she was hurled in the direction of the shingle, on which the boat was afterwards beached, so that when she came to the surface she was not more than 20 or 30 feet from it.

At first she did not realize that there was any chance for escape but her foot struck against a rock and she realized that there must be land near, so with every bit of energy she could muster she swam desperately toward the island and dragged herself out of the water, exhausted, but still unafraid. In spite of the well-nigh irresistible force of the current she had managed to get to shore, even though handicapped by the heavy fur coat. In the face of what seemed certain death she had no time to fear. Which miracle is the greater it would be hard to say, but the fact that in the presence of danger she instinctively did the right thing is an encouraging thought for timid folk to dwell upon.

Fine Seamanship

Again, the seamanship and judgment of the men in charge of the steamer is something to be proud of. Capt. Oscar Piowaty, was in charge on his maiden trip, although he had been to Chungking several times during low water, becoming familiar with the river. His decision was instantaneous. Had he not at once put the helm hard aport and beached the ship on the shingle bank she would probably have gone down in deep water with a heavy loss of life, for the rocks had torn almost the whole of the after end out.

The First Officer, Mr. Milton, and the Chief Engineer, Mr. Walker, rose to the emergency instantly and the officers were in command of the situation throughout. With that uncanny instinct for being on the spot when their services may be required, small Chinese sampans hurried to the ship and the passengers were transferred to the shingle and later to the str. Shuhun, which luckily saw that the Robert Dollar II was in distress and put back to her assistance. The U.S. Marine Guards who were on board rendered every assistance and with the male passengers risked their lives hunting for two foreign children who were missing for some agonizing moments, but afterwards found safe. It was at first reported that some 30 Chinese passengers were probably lost, so quickly did the boat settle down, but it has since been learned that no bodies were found and it is hoped that all, with the exception of the two Chinese children escaped. Every effort was made to salvage passengers' property and almost every thing was saved.

Chinese Good Behaviour

The Chinese, while panic-stricken, acted splendidly, it is reported, and there was none of that bestial crowding and winning of safety at the expense of others' lives which is so often one of the most terrible accompaniments of such accidents. One Chinese man was seen carrying a bound-foot old woman on his back to safety and there were other such incidents which one is glad to dwell upon.

Though the Diplomatic Body is still leaving unanswered the counter-proposal made by the Chinese Government in connexion with the demand for the Lincheng indemnity, it is expected that the Body will shortly forward a further Note, rejecting the proposal for the organization of a joint commission to investigations into the amount of the Lincheng indemnity, says the Eastern News Agency.

CLIMBING MOUNT EVEREST

The Sunrise Seen from Darjeeling.

In connexion with the recent controversy in these columns about seeing, or not being able to see the Sunrise on Everest from Darjeeling, a correspondent sends us the following with picture appended from the "Bournville Works Magazine." Unfortunately the picture will not reproduce, but it quite clearly shows, as indeed two or three correspondents bore witness, that Sunrise on Everest is quite easily seen from Darjeeling. Even without the picture the article is most interesting. Another attempt, one reads, is shortly to be made on Mt. Everest. Will it succeed any better than its predecessors?

Apart from the exciting details of experiences undergone, what probably impressed most of those who were present at Captain Finch's lecture on January 8, was the extraordinary lengths to which man's fixity of purpose will carry him, and the endurance of which the human frame is capable before the extreme limit is reached. Many stories have been told of the privation and exposure which pioneers of science have undergone in the exploration of almost inaccessible parts of the earth, yet the recital of the Everest climb, with the accounts of terrific battles against nature, revealed with a new vividness the real meaning of an expedition of that kind, and the demand made by it on the nature of man.

Starting from Darjeeling in northern India, a town only 90 miles in a direct line from Everest, a circuitous route had to be followed through Sikkim, to the plateaux of Tibet, which are devoid of vegetation and are constantly swept by icy east winds. The only feasible means of transport in this almost lifeless region is the yak, a useful animal when properly treated.

The last of the Tibetan villages at the foot of Everest is as picturesque as it is solitary, and the loads were here transferred from the yaks to Nepalese carriers. The endurance and enthusiasm of these carriers was only exceeded by that of the climbers themselves.

A base camp was made at the foot of the Rongbuk glacier, from whence a climbing party went forward along the glacier. They reached the altitude of 26,800 feet and had to return. Meanwhile a second party, of which Captain Finch was leader, set out. Leaving the base camp they made three advance camps at stages on the journey, the stores being carried by the splendid Nepalese. The final camp of all was on "North Col," an ice covered depression between Everest and "North Peak." Here the first party were rescued as they descended from the mountain in the last stage of exhaustion.

From this camp a party of three took a tent and a little food to attempt to conquer the mountain. They were very greatly handicapped by the intensely cold wind which blew constantly with hurricane force, and at last were compelled to seek the shelter of the rocks and pitch the tent. After two nights and a day, during which time the gale blew with indescribable fury, when snow penetrated the tent and even their many thicknesses of clothing, and when oxygen was the only thing that kept them alive, a restart was made. The third member of the party had to fall out after a short struggle, but Captain Finch and Geoffrey Bruce climbed on There came a moment when even these two knew they must turn back or perish, though they could distinguish the individual stones on the top of the mountain. The journey back to North Col was safely accomplished, and their 30-hour fast very effectively broken. They had suffered such hardships that they were taken to the lower camps on sleighs after receiving medical attention. The highest point reached was 27,300 feet above sea level.

Such tales of pluck and daring always thrill the listener, and this lecture has been spoken of as the finest ever delivered at Bournville. It was illustrated by a very large number of unique slides, and it is worthy of note that even on the return down the snow slopes, when the party were utterly exhausted, Captain Finch managed to take one or two photographs.

ELECTRICITY SPREADS IN CHINA

British Machinery Installed at Yangchow and Now Everybody Can Get Light

From a Correspondent.

Yangchow, Ku., May 3.

The new 300 K.W. electric lighting unit installed at the Yangchow Power Station has now been in operation for some time and it is now possible to find one's way about the city without the aid of lanterns. The plant first started with an 80 K.W. steam engine but the demand was so large that the company was soon compelled to add a 180 K.W. Belliss & Morcom steam engine. Soon followed a 50 K.W. Muncie Oil engine and about three years ago the installation of a 100 K.W. Crossley gas engine. In 1923 the demand was again greater than the supply and eventually the lights got so bad that the majority of the consumers refused to pay for current used, others reverting back to the oil lamp for illumination. Instead of the 200 volt lamps being used it was necessary to change to a 60 volt lamp to get a fairly decent light, whilst the street lights were so dim they could hardly be discerned at the top of the poles.

The order for the new equipment was eventually placed with the Jardine Engineering Corporation and consists of a 450 B.H.P. "National" gas engine fed by a 500 H.P. "National" suction gas plant. The alternator is by Mather & Platt and is direct coupled to the engine. The engine is of the vertica-tandem type and has six cylinders fitted with dual ignition. Starting up is accomplished by means of admitting compressed air at a pressure of 300 lb. per square inch. The engine is supposed to be one of the largest suction gas engines of its kind imported into China and a great deal of interest is being taken in the unit by reason of its being so economical to run.

A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW'S GRUESOME ACT

Human Flesh to Cure Illness: How to Drive Demons from a Possessed Wife.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Taiku, Sha., April 28.

A gruesome story comes from the north of this province. A gentleman who had formerly held the post of district magistrate in one of the wealthiest and most progressive districts on this plain became seriously ill. The Chinese physician attending said that the only certain remedy would be a piece of human flesh cooked with a medicine. Upon hearing this the widowed daughter-in-law of the ex-magistrate at once cut a piece of flesh from one of her legs and insisted that the remedy be forthwith prepared. The Chinese newspapers commend this as in the highest degree praiseworthy filial devotion.

It is reported that in Showyang in the east of the province a young woman had attended the funeral of a relative, and in so doing had been seized by the "demon" of the deceased. Being so afflicted her husband asked advice and was told that whipping the victim was the only way to rid her of the devil. This he proceeded to do, and so effectively that the poor woman died under the blows.

Such incidents would seem to show that the "enlightenment" of the model province is not yet so conspicuous as to cast much of a glow, either direct or reflected, over the rest of China.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is again to lodge a demand, within the next few days, with the Diplomatic Corps for the rendition of the International Mixed Court in Shanghai, states the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce." The request of the Diplomatic Body for the extension of the International Settlement will be returned.

KOREAN WHO THREW BOMBS AT JAPANESE IMPERIAL PALACE

Strange Story of a Plot to Revenge Murders of Koreans After Earthquake: A Conspirator's Association with the Revolutionists of India

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tokio, Apr. 27.

Knocking down a policeman who tried to bar his way, hurling three small bombs one after the other in the course of a struggle that eventuated between himself and the policeman and soldier sentries on duty at the entrance of the Nijubashi (Twin Bridges) gate to the Imperial Palace who rushed to the assistance of the minion of the law when the latter set up an alarm, and rushing in through the gate on to the wide sweep of parklike grounds that surround the stately Japanese-style buildings that form the chief residence of the Reigning Family, a Korean, named Kin Shi-sho, was finally overpowered and taken into custody.

The attempt to bomb the Imperial Palace was made on a stormy evening on January 5 this year, while a heavy rain was deluging the capital, at about 7.15. All the bombs, but one, proved to be duds and simultaneous with the arrest of the perpetrator, a censorship edict was issued by the police whereby all mention of the affair was strictly prohibited. The ban on publication of the news was lifted to-day when four Japanese and two Koreans, including the accused, were haled before the Tokio District Court which, after a preliminary hearing, found all the accused guilty of a conspiracy aimed at bombing the Imperial Palace and endangering the lives of the inmates thereof. The evidence consisted largely of the confessions of the prisoners.

Directed by "Giretsudan."

Bombing of the Imperial palace was not originally on the programme of the misguided men. The Koreans concerned in the conspiracy were members of the Giretsudan, an organization of Korean extremists said to have headquarters in Shanghai, the members of which are alleged to have taken a vow to employ all and every means available for rescuing Korean from the thraldom of Japan. From time to time the Giretsudan has been behind the scenes of many a deplorable and worthless—for it did not promote Korean freedom any nearer—tragedy. The attempt made in Shanghai to murder General Tanaka, then Minister of War, some two years ago, resulting in a running revolver fight in the streets of the International Settlement and culminating in the death of an American lady, is believed to be work directed and instigated by the Giretsudan.

The massacre of Koreans wholesale, for no other reason but that they were of the people belonging to the once Hermit Kingdom, in the shameful chaos and confusion that followed the earthquake, naturally stirred Korean malcontents whose rage became all the greater when it became known, through questions put in the Diet by a member of the Opposition who produced duplicate telegrams issued by responsible officials of the Government and the Police, that the authorities really had more than mere moral blame to shoulder for the disgraceful dillings that formed one of the immediate and most disgraceful aftermaths of the September disaster.

Bombs were secured, believed to have been smuggled from Russia, and steps were taken so that Kin Shi-sho could come to Japan without being suspected of being a Korean.

Korean Smuggled Into Japan.

This was not easy to do as the Japanese harbour police keep a lynx-eyed watch on all Koreans and Chinese coming into Japan. A Japanese in Shanghai, for a monetary consideration consented to talk to his brother steward on a Japanese freighter and the latter, for a further consideration, talked to three other members of the crew and smuggled the Korean into Japan. When Kin came to Tokio, the Diet had adjourned for the New Year recess and, as he was walking in the wide stretch of ground at Babasaki-mon, flanking the inner moat of the Imperial Palace, he decided to make an attempt on the Imperial Palace.

He chose a very rainy eveing and approached the Nijubashi (Twin Bridges), one of the chief entrances to the Imperial Palace, dressed in conventional Japanese kimono. Something in his attitude excited the suspicions of the policeman on duty near the bridge who challenged the intruder. Kin reached into the folds of his kimono and, as answer, hurled a bomb at the police officer which exploded and sent the minion of the law reeling. The shouts of the policeman brought two of the sentry soldiers, always on guard here, to the scene who promptly barred the route of the Korean. Kin dived into the folds of his kimono once more, drew another bomb and hurled it at the soldiers. It failed to explode. He drew forth another and hurled this too, but it didn't explode either. By this time the soldiers and the policeman leaped on the man and, after a fierce struggle, over powered him.

Soviet Hand Seen.

At the police station he talked in an excited and high-pitched voice, refusing to disclose his identity, but admitting that he was a member of the Giretsudan and that he was merely carrying out orders. The prisoner was promptly put through the third degree and afterwards revealed the names of his accomplices. The other Korean involved, Shin Shei-yi by name, is still missing.

It was also discovered during the unearthing of the details of the plot, according to the police version, that the perpetrators of the attempt to bomb the Imperial Palace had received considerable pecuniary assistance from the Russian Reds. In November last year, a conference of Far Eastern peoples was held at Moscow, and Kin Shi-sho made himself prominent at the meeting by advocating violence in any and every form, on the ground that more literature and verbal propaganda were too slow, in themselves, to wake up Far Eastern races.

Planned a Rising in India.

An interesting fact about Koji Hideshima, one of the Japanese involved in the present conspiracy, is that, while residing in Shanghai during the war, he conceived the ambitious plan of going to India, putting himself at the head of a band of revolutionally-inclined Indians and stirring up trouble—according to the Japan police. The money for the venture was to be obtained by smuggling opium from India into China. The whole thing became a sorry fiasco and the daydreams of leading turbanned revolutionaries against the loyal troops of the Indian Government faded most prosaically when some of Hideshima's friends, engaged in the preliminary opium-smuggling venture, were arrested and put behind iron bars. Hideshima escaped to Russia.

The lifting of the police ban on publication of the details of this plot—which followed close on the heels of the attempt made to assassinate the Prince Regent, less than ten days separating the two events—has for the moment even crowded the immigration issue out of the most prominent portion of the newspapers, columns on columns being devoted to this polt.

The policeman who put up the first fight against Kin Shi-sho and who was injured by the bomb thrown at him has been rewarded with a money gift. Kin and his accomplices will be tried by the Supreme Court on charges of high treason and attempted murder

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PEKING, May 6.—At the Cabinet meeting to-day, Mr. Fu Tung was nominated Chancellor of the North-Western University, which is being established at Lanchowfu.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ONE of the gifts sent to Marshal Wu Pei-fu on his birthday is reported to be 10,000 cigarettes. On each is printed a Chinese proverb of four characters, "a pillar in the flood," indicating the strength of the leader. Other gifts are mentioned to include a large jar of yellow wine reputed to be 100 years old. a musical instrument of the Chow Dynasty, a painting by Mei Lang-fang and endless curios.

AN EARLY MISSION TO TIBET

An Englishman's First Visit

BY "CLAUDIUS" IN THE "ENGLISHMAN."

Tibet, known to Marco Polo as the desert of Lop, and said to be haunted by evil spirits and goblins, was first visited by an Englishman, in 1774, when Mr. Bogle was sent on a mission to Tahsilumpo. No practical result was achieved by this mission or the one despatched in 1783, which returned to Calcutta after an absence of 15 months.

The premature death of Mr. Bogle was a great loss for it frustrated the design he had formed of presenting the public with a narrative of his interesting journey. A record of this journey, however, was found in a letter from Mr. Stewart, one of the mission, which, although it gives some particulars of the country through which the mission passed, is overshadowed by the accounts left by the mission under Major Turner. Before proceeding with an account of this mission, a short account of the Bhutias with whom the mission first came in contact, during the seige of Dalingkote in 1772-73 is well worth recording.

"When the British force, under the administration of Mr. Hastings, carried their arms northward to the mountain boundary of Hindustan, they came unexpected upon an enemy bearing no resemblance to any they had been accustomed to cope with on the plains. These warriors were clothed in furs, and armed with bows and arrows; their appearance was uncouth, their assaults furious, and when their spoils consisting of arms, clothes, utensils and the images of their gods, were brought to Calcutta, these objects were found to be decidedly Tartar. This was the people of Bootan, who, it seems, were on their part still more astonished when, instead of the timid and naked Hindoos flying before them at the first assault, they saw troops uniformly clothed and accoutred, moving in regular order, and pouring forth such deadly vollies of musketry and artillery."

It was soon judged that these would be serious persons to deal with in a hostile manner; and the Teshoo Lama, the spiritual sovereign of this mountainous region, judged it wise to send a mission to Calcutta to mediate a peace between the British Government and the Deab Raja, the immediate governor of Bootan."

Commerce with Bhutan.

It appears, that the presents of gold, gold-dust, musk, Tibetan woollens and Chinese silk, which gave a formidable idea of the wealth of Bhutan, induced Mr. Hastings to concede to their demands; especially as he saw that the commercial intercourse with these 'new people' would be advantageous in the highest degree.

Shortly after Mr. Bogle left Tashilumpo, the Tashi Lama set out in 1779, on a visit to China at the invitation of Kien Lung (1736-1795). After three months he reached the monastery of Kumbum, where he passed the winter and was worshipped by large crowds. His chief occupation seems to have been of daily making several thousand impressions of his hand on paper, which were well paid for as relics. One chief alone is said to have presented him with 300 horses, 70 mules, 100 camels, 1,000 pieces of brocade and 150,000 shillings in silver. After a journey of two months escorted by princes, governors, officials and soldiers, and the chief Court Lama of the Chinese Emperor, he reacked Kien Lung's summer residence, and was received with the pomp befitting his position. Here he was put to some inconvenience, for even the Court favourites insisted on seeing him. He sat dumb and motionless behind a transparent curtain, casting down his eyes so as not to be polluted by the sight of beautiful women. All this came to a deplorable end. The Tashi Lama fell ill and died, and it was affirmed that the powerful Emperor had caused him to be poisoned, because he suspected him of a design to free himself from the supremacy of China with the help of Warren Hastings.

The disappointing news of the death of the Tashi Lama was followed not long after by news that the Lama had reappeared on earth in the form of an infant of about a year old; who having displayed all the characteristic marks of identity, was accepted by the nation as their spiritual head and sovereign.

Warren Hastings' Diplomacy.

Here comes an amusing account of Mr. Hastings' diplomacy. "Mr. Hastings anxious to cultivate the connexion with his old friend, even under these reduced dimensions, determined to send another mission to Teshoo Loomboo." This was the mission sent in 1783 under the leadership of Major Turner who was accompanied by Messrs. Saunders and Davies. Leaving Calcutta at the beginning of 1783, the mission passed through the level and swampy plains of Bengal and arrived at Buxa Dooars, or rather at the foot of the hill on which this frontier fortress stands. The road then became steep and ragged, and it is stated that "rocks of coarse marble crossed their path." The prospect became now inconceivably grand, presenting hills clothed to the summit with trees, deep and dark glens, and the tops of lofty mountains lost in the clouds. "The whole district at the foot of these mountains was choked with a rank luxuriance of vegetation, which combined with excess of heat and moisture, generates amid these impervious woods an atmosphere truly fatal to the human constitution."

SHANSI VINEYARDS FROST-SMITTEN

Young Vines and Peaches Ruined by Untimely Cold with Grave Loss

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Taiku, Sha., April 28.

I am writing this 20 miles from home, in the great orchard and vineyard district of central Shansi. A feeling of pessimism at present pervades the district, for on the night of the 24th, there was a heavy, killing frost. Since that date I have travelled pretty well through the entire district. The greatest damage was done to the peaches and the vines. Where the bloom had fallen, or was about to fall, from the peach trees it is estimated that about 80 per cent. of the buds have been killed. Throughout the whole district fully one half of the shoots on the grape vines have been killed. This, coupled to the drought at present prevailing all over Shansi, gives anything but a cheering outlook for the year. The cold was so severe on the date mentioned that even the young wheat in many fields was scorched and blackened. Before this catastrophe the peach orchards, heavy with pink blossoms, had presented a glorious picture.

A Much Needed New Railway

The long moribund Tung-Cheng Railway project is, according to the native newspapers, being resuscitated. They report that a Belgian engineer has recently visited Shansi and has proposed a change in the route, from the east to the west side of the central Shansi plain. So built the railway would pass through the leading coal producing and industrial districts of this part of Shansi, and would have its terminus, for the present, at Fenchow, Sha. This would, however, pass by the cities of Pingyao, Kihsien, and Taiku, which are the great banking centres of the province, and it is not likely the gentry of those districts will submit to the change without protest. It remains to be seen if anything will come of this new movement.

The Rev. Albert Lutley, of the China Inland Mission, for many years superintendent of that Mission in this province, has recently returned with Mrs. Lutley and is at present visiting the stations of the Mission in south Shansi. Another recent visitor to Shansi has been Commissioner Pearce of Peking, head of the Salvation Army in North China, who has been inspecting the stations of the Army in this province. His messages, both in and out of the S. A. halls, have been greatly appreciated.

Dr. J. H. Gray, of the Y.M.C. A., has also spent two or three weeks in Shansi, lecturing in Taiyuanfu, Fenchow and Taiku. His work has been very effective, particularly among the great student population of Taiyuanfu.

HOURS OF CHINESE MILL WORKERS

Intolerable Conditions Shown up by Bishop Roots: Man's Duty to Man

In accordance with the suggestion of the Industrial Commission of the National Christian Council that the churches in China should follow the custom widely observed in England and take as a sermon theme on the first Sunday of May, following "Labour Day," "The Application of Christian Principles to Industry," the Rt. Reverend L. H. Roots, D.D., Bishop of Hankow, was asked to speak on this subject on Sunday morning in Holy Trinity Cathedral. Bishop Roots is also one of the four secretaries of the National Christian Council of China.

In his address Bishop Roots outlined the Christian principles involved in industry, their application to great industries and to domestic, office and public service. The ideals of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man involve recognition of the value of every human being, and a realization that they are not bits of machinery to be exploited.

In applying these principles to great industry the National Christian Conference in its meeting in Shanghai two years ago formulated the following demands: That no children under 12 should be employed in power-driven industries; that one day's rest in seven should be given to workers; that hours of labour should not be over-strenuous; that sanitary demands should be met; and that dangerous machinery should be safeguarded. Modern machinery, the speaker continued, was often installed without any guards and in consequence shocking accidents had occurred, especially in the case of little children employed at night, who became sleepy and fell into the machines, one child being literally scalped.

Bishop Roots stated that in the cotton weaving industry in Hankow one weaving shed is known as a model because in it the women work only from 4.45 a.m. to 8 p.m. whereas the usual hours are from 4.15 a.m. to 9 p.m. In cotton spinning around Shanghai two shifts per day are generally employed, each group working 12 hours. In Wuchang, he added, there is a mill where there are approximately 20,000 employees, men, women and children, and of these some six to eight thousand are children, most of them under 12 years of age.

These conditions are not due to the cupidity or brutality of employers, foreign or Chinese, the speaker held, but are partly caused by ignorance of actual conditions and partly by the necessity of meeting competition. No employer can handicap himself by adopting measures which will give his competitors an unfair advantage over him, and in the world family no man can do right unless others will agree to act rightly as well.

In the application of Christ's principles to domestic service, the over-worked chauffeurs, the clerks, or public servants with long hours, the typist who is never shown the principles of the work he is doing, but is simply regarded as a machine to turn out so much copy, the underpaid ricsha-runner or the bullied domestic, the speaker brought home to all his hearers their personal responsibility for exemplifying these ideals of brotherhood and for showing Labour that the church is sympathetic to its movement.

AN appreciation of "Pereira" appears in the "Empire Review" from the pen of Lady Hosie. She writes that debonair was the word that that best described Pereira. He was tall and dark and thin; but, despite his lean looks, he was a hearty man, always good-humoured, and with the faculty of finding every one he met worth meeting. He was badly wounded during the war. Although he was for some time on the Staff, he spent much more of his time in the front trenches than was strictly needful. He loved the welcome he received in the mud there from his old China acquaintances. His was a gay spirit, and he had the power of making friends wherever he went, not only with men of his own race but with those of very different origin. He had a habit of joking with native chiefs and Chinese magistrates that was Elizabethan in its jollity. English people in China had a great pride in Pereira.

CHINESE ATHLETES OF WUCHANG.

Wesley College Sports: Display of Wonderful Feats by Gymnast Professor.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, April 28.

Last Saturday came with bright sunshine to favour the spring term athletic meeting.

The new buildings, which are steadily rising right across the south end of the football field, have encroached to a certain extent upon the space which was available last year for sports. But this has been compensated for to some extent by filling in the low ground which lies at the farther end. It is no longer possible to lay down a "220 straight"; but the quarter-mile track can still be fitted in.

Seeing that two other large schools in Wu-Han were holding their sports on the same day, a large number of visitors was hardly expected. But a contingent of some 40 boys from the Wuchang First Middle School turned up early in the day with their athletics instructor: and various old boys, together with students from Kung Ching Middle School, the Normal University, and the Wuchang Commercial School, helped to swell the crowd.

Some Fine Performances.

The competitors were in good form, and their results showed an improvement upon last autumn, although on the whole they were not quite so good as last spring. Wu Kuang-teh carried off seven first places and one third, showing himself easily the best all-round athlete in the school. His distance of 18 ft. 4½ in. in the long jump probably constitutes a school record. In the high jump, he did no more than equal his last year's record of 4 ft. 11½ in., but he has been known to do better in practice. Hu Ren-ching's time of 25 secs. in the 220 yards is also the best performance that has been seen hitherto on the Wesley College ground.

The obstacle races provided some amusement. Half-way round the course, the competitors had to crawl underneath a net which was stretched tightly upon the ground; and after the course was finished, each had to eat a dry bun. The inspection of mouths was performed by the judges. Several tugs of war were pulled between staff and students, old boys and present, etc. The visitors' race was again won, as last autumn, by one of our visitors from Kung Ching Middle School.

Chinese Boxing.

Perhaps the most attractive feature of the whole proceedings was one which had been arranged and got up entirely by the boys themselves. This was a display of Chinese boxing. It is quite different from English boxing. In the latter, one's main object is to get at one's opponent and punch him out. But in China, the gentle art of self-defence is quite otherwise. Your main object is not to hurt your opponent, in the well-founded confidence that he will be equally careful not to hurt you. Hence a Chinese "boxing" contest between two people consists of a striking of attitudes, more or less threatening, a waving of arms and smitting of thighs (generally one's own), varied by certain kangaroo-like hops and flounders, sudden turns of the body, and alternate advances and retreats.

Squad drill was performed under the direction of Mr. Liu Ching-seng, who is the professor of Chinese boxing employed by the Chin Wu Athletic Club in Wuchang. Mr. Liu comes from Shantung, but he has been three years in Shanghai and three in Hankow, and he came last year to reside in Wuchang, where he teaches his art in six or seven schools. Mr. Liu has two enthusiastic disciples in Wesley College, and in response to their request he has recently been giving some of his time to training a selected number of the boys.

The Sword Dance.

Mr. Liu was kind enough to give a display by himself of one or two of the tricks of his trade. While Chinese boxing by no means comes up to the foreign idea of "sport," there is no question but that some of the feats shown to us must require considerable skill, which could only have been acquired by years of practice. Among these are the sword dance, in which the performer keeps two swords whirling around his head and limbs like Indian clubs, with long sweeps coming thrillingly near to his throat and other vital spots. Still harder than this is the display with a long steel chain, composed of thick and heavy links. Holding this by one end, Mr. Liu kept it whirling around his head, twisting about his neck and untwisting again, passing it beneath his whole body while he appeared to be lying at full length upon the ground, then again rising and making it describe figures round his body.

At the close of the day, the medals were presented to the winners by Mrs. Thomas, the headmaster's wife.

NEW BRIDGE OVER THE HAIHO

Thirty-one Tenders in All Currencies for the New Tientsin Project.

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, May 2.

Thirty-one tenders were opened by the Haiho Conservancy Commission yesterday afternoon for the construction of a new International Bridge across the Haiho, and within a few weeks the award will be made to the successful bidder. Tenders have been received from practically all principal resident nationalities in many different currencies which makes it difficult for the examiners to arrive at an early decision. Some bids were made in Francs at the low rate prevailing six or seven weeks ago, whereas at present, the Franc having gone much higher, these bids must be worked out accordingly. Other bids are in gold dollars, pounds sterling, Belgian francs, Italian lire and Yuan dollars.

In addition to the exchange rate problem the plans must be examined carefully by the Haiho Conservancy engineers for practicability, conformity with tendering regulations and other features. Each tender had to be made in two parts, the supply of materials according to the tenderer's design, and the erection, and had to be a complete bid. Contractors could not tender separately for either one of these two parts.

The new bridge, which must be road level and have a road width of 40 feet with additional pedestrian accommodation, will be erected to the west of the present bridge, and form a continuation of Rue de France. Buildings now standing directly opposite the end of Rue de France on the Russian side of the river will be taken down and the road to the East Station curved out in an easterly direction in conformity with the new bridge line.

As to the type of bridge, none was specified in the tender forms, but it is considered by local experts that the most suitable type is the Bascule, or vertical lift bridge. There is no centre pier, the two long spans reaching out from each bank and meeting at the center of the waterway. Each span lifts rapidly into a vertical position, by means of counterweights and electric motors, leaving a clear passage for river craft.

The present bridge with its 28 foot roadway has long been inadequate and when the new bridge is completed, as it is expected to be, by the end of 1925, it will do much to facilitate communications and commerce.

PIRATICAL OUTRAGE ON THE WEST RIVER

Two Foreigners Killed and 40 Passengers Kidnapped

Hongkong, May 5.

The passenger motor-boat Oporto, voyaging to Kongmoon from Canton, was attacked by pirates and the Portuguese skipper and an Indian guard killed. Forty passengers were kidnapped.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The American Minister has requested the Chinese Government to instruct the Fukien authorities to protect American citizens in that province as of late many cases of bandit outrages have been reported.

DIVORCE IN CHINA

A Practical Impossibility: "Face" and Conjugul Infidelity.

By The Rev. T. B. Grafton.

Haichow, Apr. 25.

Several times of late there have appeared statements from various sources that divorce under the old *régime* was a common and easy thing in China. Whatever may be true of China as a whole it is certainly true of Northern Kiangsu that divorce has always been and is at the present time practically unknown except in cases where the wife has been found guilty of illicit relations with another man. The contrary opinion has doubtless been brought about as a logical deduction from the general position of woman in China. But it is never safe to draw logical conclusions from the practices or statements of illogical people and many of us have observed that the rules of logic have small place in the lives of the sons of Han.

Curiously enough the Chinese themselves will in nearly every case give a misleading answer to the question of whether or not a man can of his own free will divorce his wife. They will promptly tell you that he can and if the investigation stopped there the inquirer could pile up an enormous mass of evidence that would doubtless be convincing, but if the first question be followed up with another, "Do you personally know of any such a case?" the answer is almost invariably in the negative. Several times of late after getting an affirmative answer to the first question, I have put the second only to note a look of surprise and bewilderment at the inability to mention any concrete case. Perhaps the chief ground for the prevalence of the belief that divorce is not only possible but frequent is the tacit recognition of the fact that in an immense number of cases (some say practically all) a bride is obtained by practical purchase, and it follows that what a man buys he naturally can sell. But the plain matter of fact is that he does not do it.

The Unfaithful Wife's Family.

If the reader will stop to reflect on some of the well-known characteristics of the Chinese, he will have little difficulty in seeing how divorce is a practical impossibility in China except in cases of infidelity. There is first of all the formidable matter of the wife's family. She certainly cannot be sent back to her own people, for as likely as not they are the very ones who have insisted on an early marriage of the girl in order to rid themselves of her support. Any proposition to send her back to the place from which she has definitely been counted out will meet with an opposition as violent as it is sudden and automatic. In this connexion one should note the stability of the widow in the Chinese home. She is frankly recognized as a burden by her husband's family and they are generally willing enough for her to depart but are utterly unable to force her out. Whatever may be the written law upon the subject, in universal practise the widow has a perfect right to eat out of the family kettle and live under the family roof all of her days. And only one who is mentally deficient will ever relinquish her inalienable rights.

"Face"

If the wife's mother's family be well enough off to view the expense of her return with equanimity there would be the still greater matter of "face." I can think of no greater an outburst of bitterness and no greater a legal battle than if one of the prominent men in this district should attempt to divorce a wife who had also come from a prominent family. Plural marriages are distressingly common and apparently there is no sign of their decreasing, but there is never the question of putting away the original wife. She may be neglected by the husband and if she is too weak to defend herself she may be browbeaten most sorely, but she stays on where she is and, no matter how much she may be hated by her husband, she is still the first wife, in the eyes of the public and also his immediate family.

We have a case at the present time in our circle of acquaintances that well illustrates conditions. A man of the most prominent family in the city has been off to see the world and has brought back with him two new wives. He has made it very plain that he would be delighted to see his first wife depart, but she is serenely "sitting tight," perfectly confident of her position.

Most Stable of all Marital States

My observations point to the Chinese marriage relation as the most stable of all the relations yet devised and practised by man. The methods by which a Chinese marriage is arranged will never appeal to the Occidental. The average marriage relations would not appeal to us as "happy," but for pure stability, Gibraltar is sinking sand in comparison.

In this connexion it may be remarked that most people either forget or have failed to observe that while the Chinese woman has "no legal rights," the law ignores her misdoings except in extreme cases, when she puts poison into her husband's gruel or puncheotes her mother-in-law with a carving knife. The Haichow Girls' School is having ample evidence of the immunity of women from arrest or prosecution. The school was organized last year and started out with glowing colours, taking many pupils from the Mission's girls' school. But alas! They attempted to expel a girl some weeks ago and the young lady refused to be expelled. She made a round of the families of all the other pupils berating every one in sight and also came to school and raised such a row that it was impossible to carry on the school. Being of a prominent family it was impossible to arrest her or even have her kept away. The magistrate was appealed to, but the only remedy he suggested was to close the school! (A wise man!) The lady principal refused to teach under such conditions and it was thought that if she left the affair might blow over. But being a Chinese woman she refused to leave —and there you are.

So in this land where women are counted as nothing we have the spectacle of a single girl openly defying and putting to rout the gentry who are supposed to wield unlimited power and the officials who can cut off a hundred heads without asking anybody. When in the process of time this slip of femininty becomes a wife and her husband decides to divorce her, we hope to be on hand to see the fun!

JAPANESE IMPERIAL WEDDING

Public Celebrations Shortly to be Held: a Series of Imperial Banquets

Tokio, Apr. 24.

Arrangements for the public celebration of the wedding of His Imperial Highness the Prince Regent and Her Imperial Highness Princess Nagako Kuni, are to be announced officially to-morrow.

It will be remembered that when the Imperial Wedding took place last January, all public festivities were postponed, partly because of the inclement wintry weather, but principally because such festivities seemed out of place so soon after the September disaster. According to present plans, however, the public celebration of the auspicious event will take place on the four days commencing from and including May 31.

So far as the court is concerned, the celebration will take the form of a series of imperial banquets, that on the first day being reserved for the members of the Imperial Family, while those on subsequent days will be participated in by the Diplomatic Corps, Government officials, representatives of public bodies, and those prominent in various walks of life. Leading foreign residents of Tokio and Yokohama will also be invited.

Popular celebrations of the event will be organized by the municipal bodies of the chief cities and towns of the Empire.

That in Tokio will take the form of a public function on the grounds immediately adjoining the Imperial Palace, when Their Imperial Highnesses have consented to be the guests of the Municipality.

For the amusement of the general public, open-air entertainments will be staged in different parts of the city, the streets will be decorated, a lantern procession organized, and decorated cars will be run through the principal streets each evening.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

OPIUM TRAFFIC ON UPPER YANGTZE

Sales Quite Open: Soldiers' Source of Revenue: Rice-fields' Want of Water

Ichang, Apr. 28.

The opium traffic is still flourishing here. The Customs burned 10 piculs of the drug on the foreshore this morning, this being the results of seizures during the past few weeks. This amount is roughly valued at about $25,000 at the present time. The trade is being carried on quite openly, and pipes and lamps are being exposed for sale on hucksters' stands on the streets. Opium is to be seen everywhere. While travelling in a steam launch the other day, Reuter's correspondent saw cakes of it being put out on a window-sill to dry.

The Kueichow troops, who have their recruiting and refitting headquarters at Itu, are depending on sale of the drug for their support. About a fortnight ago they despatched a consignment of 400 piculs to Hankow or Wuchang, from the sale of which they will obtain pay and equipment.

The wreck of the Robert Dollar was a tragic affair. The Shu-hun was travelling ahead of her and had safely passed through the channel 10 minutes before the Dollar boat struck the rocks. The Shu-hun saw that something was wrong and came back to render what assistance she could. The Robert Dollar listed over to about 70 degrees, and one lady passenger was thrown into the water: fortunately she could swim and made for the shore. The other passengers escaped, but their baggage was damaged by the water. The ship lay with her stern deep in the water and the river washing her to about amidships. A steamer, which arrived to-day, however, reports that the water has fallen and there is more to be seen of her than at first. It is very doubtful whether it will be possible to carry out salvage operations.

The Wanhsien was not badly damaged and has since been able to make Chungking.

The Kweilee, which is one of the Ichang-Hankow steamers, had also the misfortune to get on the rocks near Chikiang. The Kuling took a strong motor-pump to her assistance and she has now been cleared of water and has proceeded to Hankow.

The river has fallen again and it is reported to-day that there is only 3ft. 7in. at Chungking and that the water is still falling. All the larger steamers are being held up there, as they dare not come down with such a low water-mark.

It has been a very dry spring and the farmers are in a very bad way for want of water for the planting of rice.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ROBBERY AND MURDER IN TSINGTAO

Japanese School Accountant Shot Through Head and Robbed of $4,200.

Tsingtao, Apr. 28.

A sensational robbery and murder threw a city into a commotion on Friday. The Japanese accountant of the Japanese Middle School was slain while returning to the building with $4,200 on his person with which to pay the monthly salaries of the teachers. He was waylaid on a narrow road, passing through a small wood within a hundred yards of the school, and was shot through the head before he could defend himself. The money was snatched from his pockets and he was left dead on the road.

The police have arrested a Japanese contractor and one of his Chinese workmen who were engaged in making some repairs at the school building. It is alleged that they have knowledge of the crime, although not actually guilty.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The French Minister was received on Saturday by President Tsao Kun, states the "*Sin-waupao*,". when he presented President Millerand's congratulatory note in reply to President Tsao's autographed letter notifying the French Government of his assumption of the Presidency.

WUCHANG CHAMBER OF HORRORS

Effigies of Tortured Souls Furbished-up for Annual Fair: Splendours of Estern Hell Temple

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, May 1.

The 28th day of the 4th moon brings round one of the big annual festivals of Wuchang. It is kept at the "Temple of Eastern Hell" outside the east side of the city. No one seems to know the origin of the festival, or even its meaning; but for three days the road is blocked with people of all ages and both sexes coming to and fro, while beggars of the lowest type line the road and reap a harvest of coppers.

This year the big temple has been given a special furnish-up in preparation for the great day. The tiles of the roof have been repaired, and the walls have had a clean coat of whitewash given them, on the outside. More than a month ago, idol-makers were at work plastering up the images and giving them a fresh daubing of paint. In the main temple, several rows of hideous idols stand eight feet high, in all their splendour of vermilion, blue and yellow newly laid on. The dim background of the central shrine is lit up by hundreds of wax candles, like constellations in dark sky, by whose light grim dragons are dimly seen sticking out their ugly heads from the wall.

A Buddhist Hell

Along either side of the central court are side chambers, five on each side behind a screen, showing the tortures that await the soul after death. Here are figures having their heads cut off or being sawn asunder, bound to redhot pillars or being flung from a height on to sharp stakes, some plunged into a sea of fire and others into a lake of ice. Devils with black faces are busy with pitchforks and chains and knives, or blowing up the fires through bamboo tubes. One wonders if erring mortal ever sinned a sin the less for having the horrors of retribution portrayed in such terrible detail!

The crowd that throngs the temple is not a serious one. One man kneels before the central shrine, while the lots are thrown, and draws a tally for which the priest hands to him the corresponding oracle, ready printed on a slip of yellow paper. Another goes from one image to another, *kowtowing* before each one. But most of them are obviously idle sightseers, out for the day's enjoyment. The open court is crowded with tables at which coolies are noisily feasting.

But the real excitement is outside the temple, and for half a mile along the road. Here are peepshows and fortune tellers and snake-charmers and actors and hawkers—all the kind that gather at a fair in both east and west, and that draw the crowd by their offers of new sights, half mysterious and half grotesque. No doubt in three days they earn enough to buy several times over their tawdry stock-in-trade. The noise of the crowd and the eternal beating of gongs goes on all day and far into the night.

In Hankow, the collapse of a native theatre while a performance was going on has caused injury to some 40 or 50 people. Most of the injuries were slight, but three cases were serious enough to be taken to hospital. The building is known as the Mei Ch'eng Theatre and was only that built last year. The prevalence of this kind of jerry building that so quickly brings disaster is astonishing.

JAPANESE ATHLETES IN HONGKONG

Olympic Games Team's Trial with Local Talent

Hongkong, May 7.

The Japanese representatives who are on their way to the Olympic Games met a number of Hongkong athletes to-day. The visitors won all the swimming and running events except the one-mile running relay race and the 100 yards flat race.

One of the Japanese tennis players, Mr. Ohta, is in hospital being operated on for appendicities, and it is understood that he had abandoned his visit to Paris.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LEPROSY WORK IN PHILIPPINES

Need for Government Annual Appropriations to Continue Task of Cure

Manila, Apr. 22.

The greatest problem now confronting the Philippines health authorities in the Culion leper colony is to keep the field already won so that the disease may be completely put under control, in the opinion of Dr. Victor C. Heiser, Far Eastern representative of the Rockefeller Foundation, who has just returned from an inspection of the Culion colony. Dr. Heiser at one time was director of health of the Philippines.

"This work can be done by continuing annual appropriations from the legislature to carry on the task so well started," said Dr. Heiser. "The greatest danger is that some day the taxpayers may get tired of supporting the colony and drop it altogether. All the ground so far covered in the fight against the disease would be lost, should the appropriations for support of the colony and the treatment of the lepers be cut off.

"The Government spends annually about $500,000 for leprosy work in the Philippines, the *per capita* cost being about 25 cents to the people of the islands. There are now 5,500 leper patients in Culion and approximately 300 are cured every year under the new treatments. Of the newly arrived patients in Culion, 20 per cent. recover and this proportion may be raised to 90 per cent. should the present treatment be continued. The new treatments, the ethylesther, the Mercado and Indian treatment, are employed according to each individual case."

Dr. Heiser said the work of combating leprosy in Culion would be made easier if goat's milk were available in large quantites, as it is considered perhaps a more substantial food than cow's milk and the latter is hard to obtain.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST RLWY. OFFICIAL

An Accountant in Open Arrest: Penalty for Not Supporting Adml. Wen?

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tsingtao, Apr. 30.

Mr. T. L. Ku, the Chinese acountant of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway, has been placed under police surveillance in his own home. The house is surrounded by the railway police. Mr. Ku's telephone has been cut off. His friends are endeavouring to save him from prosecution.

It appears that almost simultaneously with his assumption of office as Managing-Director of the Railway succeeding Mr. Liu Kun, Mr. Shao dismissed Mr. Ku because, it is alleged, he had granted undue credit to a Sino-Japanese company, amounting, I understand, to some $280,000. Those in the know, however, say that this is an attempt to get even with him for his refusal to sanction the handing over to Admiral Wen of any sum of money as directed by the Wu Pei-fu clique.

Mr. Lu Pien-tien, formerly President of Nanyang University, was immediately appointed to succeed Mr. Ku as Chief Accountant of the Railway. Mr. Lu assumed his post this morning.

The foregoing will not make the Kao En-hung Administration more popular, although foreigners are well aware the new Tupan and the new Managing-Director of the railway are working for a common cause.

The head of a prominent local firm, who wishes to remain unidentified, expressed the opinion that the prosecution of Mr. Ku will be followed by that of all officials connected with the old *régime* who were responsible for the disappearance of millions during their tenure of office.

If Mr. Ku is being held for the purpose alleged, then it would be worth while quoting the written assurance of the Governor's Secretary to me, that the Administration is not in any way connected with the financial support of Admiral Wen's squadron, which is a matter for the Central Government to handle.

Official Explanations

May 3.

The detention of Mr. Ku is officially explained as "being due to his carelessness in allowing the debt of the Sino-Japanese transportation company known as the Nikka Kyoshin to mount up to some $350,000, whereas their financial security never exceeded $79,000 at any period." It is denied that any attempt is being made to get even with him for his refusal to part with a single cash for the benefit of Admiral Wen's squadron.

The whole position appears to be that at the time of the Japanese administration of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway, the transportation company had a monopolistic working arrangement whereby the railway granted rebates on all shipments effected by them. This arrangement was carried on the basis of monthly payments. In other words if the total monthly freights due to the railway by the transportation company amounted to $100,000 the latter, when sending in their cheque, would deduct the rebates due them. There has never been any hard and fast contract between the Japanese Administration and the transportation company except in the shape of an order issued by the former.

Action Taken Against Japanese.

It is this order which the Chinese take exception to, maintaining that with the transfer of the railway from Japan to China, it has automatically lapsed. The Japanese have all along argued that inasmuch as the Chinese Administration of the Railway has never rescinded the order issued by the Japanese Administration, it was logical for the Nikkh Kyoshin to conclude that the working arrangement hitherto in existence was recognized and continued. The Chinese argue that the whole thing does not depend upon logical conclusions, but upon legal points and have, consequently, carried the issue into the Japanese Consular Court here. Attempts are being made to hold a Japanese accountant of the Railway, jointly responsible.

The Japanese consular authorities informed me that inasmuch as the whole issue is now *sub-judice* they could hardly make any statement, but they appear to be not unsympathetic with the Chinese argument that with the retrocession of the railway to China all previous arrangements, not bound by contracts, have lapsed.

The Chinese directors of Nikka Kyoshin when approached by their authorities on the question of the debt, declared that they had severed all relations with the company which, although styled a Sino-Japanese concern, was, in reality, now entirely owned and controlled by the Japanese directors. The company is registered in Tokio, hence the suit filed in the Japanese Consular Court here.

Curse of Monopolies

There is one aspect of these monopolistic arrangements which business men here have not lost sight of, and that is that all arrangements hitherto entered into with transportation companies have been found most unsatisfactory. It is for this reason that they have welcomed with open arms the abolition of the coolie monopoly held by the Kiao-Ao Transportation Co., It is becoming more and more evident, business men say, that these transportation companies have been get-rich-quick schemes in the main, instead of for the purpose of rendering service to the merchants.

MR. TEICHMAN CHINESE SEC. OF BRITISH LEGATION

Peking, May 7.

Mr. Eric Teichman, the acting Chinese Secretary to the British Legation, has now been appointed Chinese Secretary.

Mr. Teichman, who has recently been ill with scarlet fever, will resume his duties in a few days.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MARSHAL Wu Pei-fu has ordered the Survey Department of the Central Government to prepare 30 up-to-date maps of each of the different provinces, marking on them plainly strategic centres. Should the districts be of any importance, the Department is ordered to make separate maps, states the "Journal of Commerce." Marshal Wu also requires 100 maps of each of the Three Eastern Provinces, concludes the report.

THE MEMORIAL IN SZECHUAN

Sanctity of Foreign Life Given a New Emphasis by Chinese Action.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Chengtu, Apr. 16.

Mr. Combe, H. B. M. Consul-General, has just returned from a trip to Mienchu where he took part in the erecting of a memorial stone to Messrs. Watt and Whiteside, who were murdered on August 14 last. This is the latest step taken by our aggressive Consul-General in this notorious case, and is the climax of an unremitting pressure brought to bear for the past seven months on all officialdom here to prevent the recurrence of such a tragedy and to bring home the fact to all bandits and lawless soldiery that British citizens cannot be murdered with impunity even in the wilds of West China. The Consul-General left on April 2 with an escort of 200 soldiers supplied by General Yang Sen in charge of a personal representative. From Mienchu to the scene of the murder, a guard of 400 was supplied by General Liu Bin, Mr. Combe was accompanied by the Reverends Caldwell, Howden and Donnitherne of the C.M.S. and later joined by Dr. Lechler. They made the arduous climb of the mountain to Tien Chih (Heavenly Pool) and put up in the temple, "Lung Wang Miao"—Dragon King Temple, where the murdered men spent their last night. This was at an altitude of 5,000 feet. In the morning they reconnoitred the position for a favourable spot to locate the stone, and found it near by at Kao Chiou-"High Bridge," at the fork of two main roads where it will be conspicuous. The clergymen mentioned conducted the service, Mr. Caldwell leading, the Consul-General being present in full uniform, before an audience of carriers, countrymen and soldiers, Photographs were taken of the stone and lake, and the magistrate was requested to take adequate measures for the protection of the stone, and the party returned, the Consul-General arriving in Chengtu on the 8th.

The whole expedition has elicited very satifactory comments. It is fully recognized that the sanctity of foreign life and property has received a new and strong emphasis in the West. A brief summing up of the results achieved will testify to this. Of the band of eight brigands concerned directly in the murder, the leader of the gang was captured and committed suicide, four others were killed while resisting arrest, the other three are fugitives from justice, who are being followed and every effort being made to apprehend them. This is exceedingly difficult as practically all these men are in a secret society and a few of them very high up and are being protected by their brothers. Also two accessories before the fact have been tried and imprisoned. The right of having trial in Mixed Court with the Vice Consul present to watch proceedings and ask questions was a decided advance. The Commissioner of Foreign Affairs and two magistrates have lost their positions over the case. So there is very reason to believe the case has really come to Chinese officialdom and they are coming to understand that the long arm of the law will follow wrong-doers. Considerable credit is due to Mr. Combe for his strenuous and unremitting efforts to bring the murderers to justice and to rouse the officials from their accustomed lethargy.

The Consul-General is leaving in a day or two for an extended trip to Taitsienlu. An interesting point in the proceedings with the officials at present is that the C. G. is asking for a report once each month as to their success in following up the remaining fugitives.

General Yang Sen is exceedingly vigorous in his campaign of reform and really accomplishing things but seems to be hampered financially. On the day of "Ching Ming" he ordered an Arbor Day, and with hundreds of students and thousands of the populace proceeded out the East Gate for the tree planting ceremony. He made a speech, then the students of the Union University under the direction of Mr. Dickinson of the Agricultural Department planted over 300 trees. The General is attending many public functions and makes good speeches. He is anxious to examine all the educational institutions, foreign and native. He met the foreign community recently at the British Consulate when Mr. Combe invited all the foreign men to meet the General and partake of buffet lunch. It made quite an international occasion with five nations represented.

AMERICAN FLEET AT CHEFOO

Admirable Arrangements of the Navy "Y" to Provide for Thousands of Men

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Chefoo, May 2.

Another month should see the vessels of the American Asiatic Fleet anchored in the bay. Plans are already being made for their reception and it is understood that the first representative of the Navy Y.M.C.A. will arrive here within a few days time to commence the organization of the local depot.

The work done by this organization in past years has been highly commendable and it is to be hoped that their efforts this year will be attended with equal success.

It will readily be understood that the arrival of several thousand men in a town of this size would have a very disturbing effect unless provision were made for them. The Navy "Y" copes with the situation as no other institution could and the residents are duly appreciative. The new hotel, which has now been given the name of the Broadway Hotel, is nearing completion and should be ready to receive visitors next month. As I mentioned in my last letter, it will be under foreign supervision. It is very conveniently situated and should go a long way towards solving the problem of accommodation which has in past years been such a draw-back to the success of Chefoo as a summer resort. Visitors this year will have three hotels at their disposal, the Broadway Hotel, the Astor House and the Sea View Hotel. Despite this fact, however, it is anticipated that there will be a large demand on all available accommodation.

Chefoo Races Revived.

There is at present a good prospect of the Chefoo Race Club being reorganized. We are to have a two days meeting on May 9 and 10 when there should be about 30 ponies in competition in the various events. Stable colours have been revived and a very successful meeting is anticipated. There is to be a big sweep on the Champions, the first prize totalling over $5,000, and if all tickets are sold the Race Club will have a good start in the way of finance in its effort to become again established.

M. MERLIN IN JAPAN

Euthusiastic Reception for Governor-General of Indo-China

Tokio, May 8.

M. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, arrived in Tokio today. He was welcomed by Government and municipal officials, members of the French Embassy and leaders of the French colony. M. Merlin will be received in audience to-morrow by the Prince Regent and will attend an Imperial luncheon in his honour.

Many of the morning newspapers in their editorial articles welcome the visitor as an opportunity for cementing friendship and economic friendship and economic relations between France and Japan.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

HONORARY DEGREE FOR DR. MAXIMILIAN TOCH

Peking, May 8.

Dr. Maximilian Toch, Professor of Industrial Chemistry at the Cooper Institute of New York, who came to China at the invitation of the Chinese Government in order to deliver a course of lectures on wood oils and the means of correct adulteration of them, to-day received the degree of Doctor of Science, conferred for the second time by the Government University.

Dr. Toch left for London this evening, *viâ* Hankow, accompanied by Mr. J. J. Keegan.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

A JOURNEY HOME BY SIBERIA

How to Get Your Passport: The Tuchun and His Ponies: A Polyglot Train

The following letter is from Mr. H. E. Morriss, who recntly started for Home viâ Siberia.

May 1, one hour from Harbin.

I must keep you posted about my trip home so as to give as much information as I can for friends who intend making the trip across Siberia. I went to the Soviet Mission in Peking where they were most obliging and courteous, and got my passport with their visa on it. I must mention that these visas which are granted in Peking, are in the light of urgency visas, and I understand that Moscow may curtail this privilege if too much resort is made to Peking. One should make up one's mind about seven weeks beforehand and apply through Shanghai or Peking to Moscow. A certain amount of time and anxiety can be saved by wiring to Moscow through the Mission to ascertain if the permit has been granted. My visa cost $11. I saw a real live Tuchun last night. He came on the train that left Mukden at 10.20. When seated in the train my attention was drawn to a portly figure with a rough, weather beaten, but good humoured face, and wearing on his little round black hat an enormous diamond, about the size of a 20 cent piece, set over a square amethyst, and everyone was very deferential to him, I noticed.

He was Gen. Wu Tsen-sheng, the Tuchun of Heilungkiang, and had been to a conference at Mukden, with regard to filling the vacancy, caused by the death of Gen. Sun Lieh-chen, recently the Tuchun of Kirin. I believe the new Tuchun is Gen. Chang Tso-hsiang, an old friend and relative of Marshal Chang Tso-lin.

I apparently was known to some of Gen. Wu's entourage, whose headquarters are at Tsitsihar, in connexion with former pony activities, and when the train left was introduced to him. He offered me half a dozen, and said they were very fast because they had some foreign horse blood in them. On hearing this I had to suppress a rising flood of tears. I pulled out my one bottle of vodka, thanked him, wished him good-night, and went to bed.

The Changchun train left at 8.15 a.m. for Harbin. It is a delightful train, and you couldn't wish for anything better. On going into the dining car for breakfast just now I was greeted quite warmly by the Chinese waiter there, whom I had seen on previous occasions years ago, when up in these parts on my way to buy ponies. A Chinese at my table on noticing this, engaged in conversation, and on my disclosing where I was going, two Norwegians, good seafaring looking people, got up and came over to say they were going home too *viâ* Siberia. And then a Swede chipped in and said he also was going. As one of the former speaks German, and the latter speaks Russian, it's going to be all right.

My Chinese friend turned out to be Mr. Sia, chief secretary to Dr. C. C. Wang, and works with the Board of Directors of the C.E.R., at Harbin. Trains always leave Harbin on Fridays, by Siberia, so I shall push off to-morrow happy in the prospects of being not entirely with strangers. We leave to-morrow 4.25 p.m. Friday. Leave Manchouli 6.50 p.m. Saturday. Leave Chita about 5 p.m. Sunday, and are due in Moscow the following Sunday, May 11, whence I will write you again on this more important part of the trip.

THE MURDER OF KOREANS AFTER THE JAPANESE EARTHQUAKE

Sentences on the Accused that Excite Comment: No Compensation Yet Paid for any Death

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, April 27.

Further proof of the farcical trials that have been conducted in connexion with the murders of Koreans and Chinese during the species of mob law that prevailed in several parts of the regions affected by the earthquake of last September and supporting the criticism, expressed even in Japan's own Diet on more than one occasion, that implicit trust and confidence cannot be reposed in Japan's judicial machinery, is afforded by a judgment pronounced a couple of days ago by the Yokohama District Court in the case of eight Japanese who killed several Chinese labourers in the Ashigara district, near Odawara, some 40 miles from Tokio.

Four of the accused were sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour each, while two others were sentenced to 18 months' rigorous imprisonment each, the other two being released on the ground that the evidence against them was not conclusive.

As though these absurdly light sentences for murder were not farcical enough in themselves, the court further announced that those found guilty and on whom sentence had been pronounced shall be given two years' grace before they serve their sentences, which is tantamount, in practice, to all the offenders being released scot free.

The public procurator, corresponding to the Crown prosecuter in countries where English law prevails and to the District Attorney in lands administered according to American principles, generally the terror of the individual unfortunate enough to be in the dock, pleaded in fact on behalf of the accused, declaring that "if wild rumours had not been circulated immediately after the September disaster, the accused would not have been driven to the point of attacking and killing Chinese nationals." He wound up by asking the judge to deal lightly with the accused.

It is true that wild rumours had excited the populace and that these canards made a blood-thirsty mob of otherwise unoffending country folks, but it is just as true that the authorities themselves were responsible for the dissemination of these canards, some of so absurd a nature as that the Chinese and Koreans, in conjunction, had thrown bombs about the city, had set the petroleum tanks of the Standard Oil Company and the Rising Sun Company on fire, and had thereby encompassed the destruction of the city.

None the less the Chinese and Koreans had to pay for the canards with their lives. The accused are found guilty and are practically set at liberty, the sentence of the court, with the proviso that a period of two years' grace will be allowed making of such a sacred thing like the administration of the law nothing else than a solemn farce.

No proper compensation has as yet been made for the families of the Chinese and Koreans murdered, nor has there been forthcoming any official regrets at the gruesome deeds done, some under the cloak of official protection.

Just at the present time there is much talk in the Japanese press of how the Chinese are ready to fall into the arms of the Japanese making common cause with this country over America's exclusion of Japanese, on the ground that this is a mortification for the Chinese too. What effect other than disgust and distrust can be the reaction the absurdly droll sentences just meted out on convicted murderers by the Yokohama District Court?

According to the "*Shunpao*," the German Minister has instructed the German Consul-General at Shanghai to investigate into reports that a local German firm is selling arms and ammunition to Gen. Lu Yung-hsiang, of Chekiang.

A new English daily has made its appearance in Canton. It is reported that a group of Americans, British, Chinese and Japanese are interested in the paper, of which Mr. Hin Wong is the chief promoter, editor and manager.

PIRACIES IN CHINESE WATERS

Shipowners' Responsibility for Compensation to Dead and Disabled Officers

London, May 5.

In the House of Commons to-day, Sir H. Kingsley Wood, Unionist Member for West Woolwich, asked for information with regard to the anti-piratical measures in Chinese waters and compensation to dead and disabled British officers.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, replied that he was awaiting the report which would doubtless deal with the question of compensation and the detailed steps taken. He said that British owners of vessels concerned had not been approached by the Colonial Office on the subject of their responsibility for compensation.

Viscount Curzon, Unionist Member for South Battersea asked whether Mr. Thomas was able to do anything to increase the use of wireless on ships in Chinese waters.

Mr. Thomas said that the difficulty was being considered in all its widest aspects.—Reuter.

Kwong Tak Pirates Executed.

Hongkong, May 6.

In the presence of representatives of the Hongkong police force, 38 Chinese concerned in the recent piracy in Hongkong waters of the steam-launch Kwong Tak were shot by the Chinese authorities of the Heungshan district.—Reuter Pacific Service.

SHARKS IN MANILA BAY

Supposed to Have Been Driven into Harbour Owing to Earthquake Shocks

Manila, Apr. 22.

Fishermen have reported an unusual number of sharks in Manila Bay in recent weeks and some scientists believe that the many earthquakes experienced in the Philippines and adjacent islands have driven the sharks into less disturbed waters. While a majority of the sharks are small and presumably harmless, a few of the man-eating variety have played havoc with fishermen's nets. Local markets are flooded with these small sharks, which the Chinese prize highly for food.

It is said that in the days when Dewey's ships were lying in the bay near Cavite, "swimming call" for the crew was sounded each day, but now crews of the American fleet are forbidden to swim in the deep water unless they remain within the wire screening at Canacao Bay, where the Cavite naval station is located.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SEVERE EARTHQUAKE OFF PHILIPPINES

Manila, May 7.

A severe earthquake about 625 miles off the Pacific coast of the Philippines was recorded here at 12.10 this morning. It was followed by four after-shocks.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

DOCK STRIKE IN RANGOON

Rangoon, May 6.

Work on the docks is practically at a standstill owing to a strike of stevedores and coolies in connexion with a wages dispute.—Reuter.

ASSAULT ON ENGLISHMEN IN ILOILO

Manila, May 6.

Governor-General Wood's aide is leaving for Iloilo to investigate the brawl in which two British subjects were recently involved with Filipinos.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ALLEGED RAIDS ON THE BABUYAN ISLANDS

Manila, May 6.

Governor-General Wood to-day confirmed reports that Japanese from Formosa had been raiding the Babuyanes Islands, north of Luzon, and stealing cattle and timber.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPAN AND THE SOVIET

Moscow, May 6.

A statement in the Japanese press that the Russo-Japanese pourparlers were hampered by M. Karakhan's inadequate powers is officially and categorically denied. On the contrary, it is pointed out that M. Karakhan possesses full powers, but that notwithstanding his direct demand and the Soviet Government's reiterated representations, Tokio obstinately refuses to invest its Minister at Peking with the same full powers which might enable preliminaries to be immediately reopened.—Reuter.

"NO-SOLDIER BLESSING"

Quiet, Prosperous Corner in Honan

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kueiteh, Ho., Apr. 28.

A trip around the Yungcheng and Hsiaih districts has shown that whilst we in Kueiteh have been greatly needing rain, and getting duststorms instead, those districts have been getting rain in sufficient quantities. The autumn crops have been planted and I saw kaoliang at Hsiaih in many fields which is already a couple of inches high. The country is enjoying a time of exceptional peace and quietness too just now for which the people are very thankful. They had their share of trouble last year when Lao Yang-jen's men were quartered there. Now they are enjoying the "no-soldier blessing" (無兵之福) as their expression goes, for they are fortunate enough not to have any of the regular soldiers quartered in these towns but only their own militia who do not mutiny.

There is a glorious rain falling here in Kueiteh to-night for which the people will be thankful indeed. Owing to the drought it has not been possible to plant the autumn crops, Kaoliang and millet, upon which the poor depend for their food and fuel and the spectre of another famine was already appearing before the vision of the people. This timely rain has dissipated this terror, however, and the sowing will not be too late. Barley has headed out all through the district and the wheat, although somewhat yellowed and stunted, will still probably produce quite a fair crop now that the rain has come.

MILITARY AFFAIRS IN SZECHUAN

The Struggle for Supremacy Between Rival Generals to be Investigated.

Peking, May 1.

Gen. Sung Chih-tien, Chief of Staff to Marshal Wu Pei-fu, has arrived at Hankow en route to Chungking, where he will make an investigation into the military affairs of that province. His report to Marshal Wu is expected to settle the struggle for supremacy between Generals Yang Sen and Liu Tsun-hou.

According to reports received by Chinese military circles in Peking, Gen. Hsiong Keh-wu has reached Yungning, southwestern Szechuan, with his forces. The men are said to be tired and dispirited. They are short of ammunition and have received no pay for several months. —Reuter's Pacific. Service.

SHIPPING TAXES AT CANTON

Traffic Suspended in Protest

Canton, May 6.

Canton shipping was suspended to-day as a protest against the recent increase of 20 per cent. in the freight and passenger traffic taxes, which is going to the support of the war. Shippers are protesting, on the ground that the taxes are already too heavy. Traffic in Canton and the locality is practically stopped. The Hongkong-Canton traffic is not affected, because the military order does not include foreign-owned bottoms.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen's aviators are so badly in need of ammunition and bombs, says the Chinese press, that of late they have been dropping big stones over Waichow, the headquarters of Gen. Chen Chiung-ming!

ATTACK ON MISSIONARY

Outrage at Tongshan: Ferocious Assault on the Rev. F. B. Turner

("North-China Daily Mail.")

Tientsin, May 5.

The Rev. Frank B. Turner, of the United Methodist Mission, who has been long resident in China, was attacked in Tongshan a day or two ago, without the least provocation, by a Chinese armed with a short scaffold pole.

The man came up behind and struck the missionary a heavy blow on the head. Mr. Turner, who might have fallen dead on the ground like the Russian officer in the French Concession at Tientsin recently, bore the blow bravely, and turned round to face his assailant. The latter then struck him another blow, tearing open the flesh across the face.

Mr. Turner, greatly shaken and damaged by the blows, was taken home, where his injuries were attended to, and he was afterwards able to come to Tientsin for surgical treatment.

No complaint has been lodged at the British Consulate and it is understood that Mr. Turner does not wish publicity to be given to the matter.

PANCHAN LAMA'S VISIT TO PEKING

Movements still Uncertain: a Probable Sojourn at Wutaishan

Peking, May 5.

Mr. Ta Shou, who has been appointed Chief of the Committee to receive the Panchan Lama and arrange for his accommodation during the forthcoming visit to Peking, held a similar office when the Dalai Lama visited Peking, in 1908. Mr. Ta Shou accompanied the Living Buddha of Tibet to the Mongolian border when the Dalai Lama left Peking at the end of that year.

In the first telegram from Gen. Lu Hung-tao announcing the arrival in Kansu of the Panchan Lama it was stated that the Tibetan visitor did not wish to reach Peking during the hot weather, which would be a severe contrast to the cool climate of Tibet. It is thought, therefore, that the Lama's visit to Peking may be brief and that he may determine to spend the hottest period of the year at Wutaishan, Shansi, where it is comparatively cool even in the hottest months.

Wutaishan possesses one of the most sacred Lamaist temples in China. Great historical interest attaches to it, and, as it is both a "Red and a Yellow" temple, it would be a suitable place of residence for the Red Lama and his suite.

Since being informed that the Panchan Lama hoped to leave Lanchowfu on May 2, the Government has received no further word from Gen. Lu Hung-tao, and it is not definitely known which route the Lama will travel by. The Government suggested that he should come by way of Sianfu and Kuanyintang, but it is now thought that he may prefer the more direct route *viâ* Paotouchen and the Suiyuan Railway.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE YIHYANG MARU CAPTIVES

Peking, May 5.

The $100,000 sent to Hokiang to ransom the two Japanese officers of the Yihyang Maru has now been brought back to Chunking, and arrangements are being made for a sufficient escort to convey it to Tunghaicheng, a journey of four days from Chungking through bandit infested country.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Mr. L. A. Lyall, the local Commissioner of Customs, learns that the report that Sir Francis Aglen has memorialized the President by proposing the deepening of the West River, Canton, out of the funds of Canton's share of the Customs Surplus, is "inaccurate and highly misleading."

HIDDEN WEAPONS IN TIENTSIN

Rumour of Vast Hidden Stores of Munitions Emphatically Contradicted

TIENTSIN NEWS SERVICE.

Tientsin, May 5.

The report issued to-day by the "Far Eastern Times" that "There is enough arms and ammunition stored away in Tientsin to blow the city into the middle of the Yellow Sea," is absolutely denied by responsible authorities, who say further that there is no foundation whatsoever for such a disturbing report.

Since the Italian arms and ammunition left Tientsin, no other war material of any description has reached the Concessions, and the only arms imports to the port of Tientsin have come from Shanghai on a Government "huchao," and are stored in the Customs Magazine at Tangku. Part of this shipment came last December, part in January and a small part recently. The entire amount is not considered large enough to warrant inclusion in the Customs Daily Returns, which are printed and published every day in the week. This small shipment will be passed on to places designated by the Peking Government when certain irregularities in the "huchao" are straightened out.

In any case there are no war materials, whether large or small shipments, stored in Tientsin at the present moment.

Rumours have been circulated that the Germans have been and are importing large quantities of ammunition and Mauser pistols, and that these materials were due to come in by recently arrived German ships. However, in spite of careful searching, the only hardware found on these boats has been iron wire nails. If any quantities have been smuggled in, they cannot, it is held, be large enough to dispossess Tientsin of its present geographical location.

The Authorities' Powers.

In connexion with the same newspaper's report, the statement that "none of the foreign concession authorities have the power" "to prevent the wholesale importation of arms," is untrue in fact and in substance. Article 28 of the Land Regulations of the British Concession provides for the possession of firearms, the licensing of holders, and states that "any person infringing or offending against the provisions of this regulation shall be liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding $300 or to imprisonment for a period of three months with or without hard labour." The regulations further state that conveyance through the concession of arms and ammunition or materials for the manufactures of such is prohibited under a penalty not exceeding $50 and that the possession or storage of same is prohibited under penalty of a fine not exceeding $200. The owners, lessees and occupants of premises on which such material is found shall be held liable under these regulations. The sale and supply of arms and ammunition to Chinese in the Concession is also prohibited under penalty of $500 and confiscation of the goods.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN JAPAN

Three Killed and 20 Injured

Tokio, May 8.

Last night at 10.40, an express-train on the Tohoku line was derailed and upset while passing Nagamachi station, near Sendai with the result that three men were killed on the spot and over 20 more or less seriously wounded.

On the train were Mr. Takahashi, President of the Seiyukai, and party, who were on their way back to Tokio from their election campaign, but fortunately they escaped injury.

The railway accident was due to a misplaced switch which caused the express train to collide with a freight train.

The suspicion of a deliberate attempt against the Seiyukai leader is without foundation.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Later.

Late last night a train in which Viscount Takahashi, President of the the Seiyukai party, was proceeding to Tokio from Amori was wrecked near Sendai. Four persons were killed and several injured. Viscount Takahashi and his party escaped unhurt.

A deliberate attempt against the leader of the Seiyukai party is suspected, similar to that made before the opening of the Diet in January, when a train in which leading members of the Seiyukai, including Viscount Takahashi, were travelling was wrecked near Nagoya.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

WRETCHED REFUGEES OF KIRIN

Terrible Silent Suffering Among Russian Exiles: Hope Well-nigh Dead

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Kirin, Apr. 30.

You will think that I send you little general news these months and that I am obsessed with the Russian refugee problem. I fear that it is true. It is still the uppermost thing in my mind.

When miners are entombed how tense is the feeling round the pit-head. Is everything being done that can be? What are the chances of rescue? The whole community is deeply moved. But when it is a long drawn-out tragedy such as we here are now witnessing of tens of thousands of despoiled and dispossessed wanderers marooned in a strange land sympathy gradually evaporates. As many are finding a means of earning a meagre living there are fewer striking evidences of their distress. As day-labourers, carters, wood-cutters, small shop-keepers, and tradesmen they are managing to exist. Still the fact remains that there is an appalling amount of silent unseen suffering in our midst. I am speaking chiefly of Manchuria and particularly of the Chinese Eastern Railway zone. Thousands there are underfed and insufficiently clothed.

Generous Help from Chinese.

The Chinese are a humane people and are unobtrusively helping more than is generally known. I heard the other day of a comparatively poor Chinese merchant giving $40 to a Russian to enable him to buy a horse in order to do carting to support his family. A hundred suits of wadded Chinese clothing were distributed by the Chinese officials in this city recently. We do not hear a tenth of what the Chinese are doing for these stranded aliens. Oftener than we dream do they not up to their own saying "Benevolence that is known is not true benevolence."

But what of the mental suffering? Some of us have had experiences which enable us in some measure to realize it. The magnificent pictorial moralities of G. F. Watts are familiar to all of us. His best known is perhaps "Hope." The impression which this picture makes upon one is ineluctable. I have seen more of its profound and subtle import since being brought into close contact with the refugees, during the last 18 months. The blind-folded, solitary, helpless, pathetic figure clinging to her lyre and bending to catch the music of the one remaining string—could you imagine a more vivid emblem of the exiles in our midst! Their religious faith is being tried as by fire. They pray and the heavens are as brass. Their faith in human nature is wavering. They have witnessed such cruelties and experienced much callous indifference. Is it to be wondered at that some of them are becoming cynical. To them who have not bread enough to eat the every-day display of luxury and wealth in the great cities of the Far East must appear incongruous. Despair is not far off but Hope has still her trembling finger on the last string.

The League of Nations, which is the largest and most humane and sympathetic political organization that the world has ever seen, has now the matter in hand. I believe that the timorous hope of the outcasts will soon be justified.

THE memorial service for the late Baron Ijuin, ex-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Japanese Government, was observed at the Public Hall Tientsin yesterday. The service was attended by leading Japanese residents as well as by many distinguished Chinese, including Marshal Tuan Chi-jui, Mr. Tsao Ju-lin and Yang Yi-teh, Chief of Police Administration of Chihli.

BETTER AND BIGGER WARS

"Life's" Mock Contest: A Gentle Rebuke from Ex-Japanese Ambassador

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tokio, April 29.

The immigration issue has given birth to at least one humorous episode in Japan when "Life," the well-known American comic weekly, caught Baron Shidehara, former Ambassador to the United States, napping.

In its February issue, "Life" declared that it wanted "bigger and better wars" and announced a prize contest, with monetary rewards to those submitting "the best suggestions on how to start another war." Apart from the fact that "Life" is a recognized humorous paper, the conditions attached to the contest prove that nothing but a glorified joke was intended. For instance, one of the conditions says that "the contest will close on April 15, 1924, . . . and that it ought to be possible to have the fighting begin on April 30 sharp."

Now talk of this kind, even in joke, is uncompromisingly frowned on by the Japanese Police who are the nation's censors. Copies of "Life," containing this proposal for dishing up new ways to have another outbreak of hostilities, were banned, the Police confiscating such issues as came into the country. Not all were, however, thus disposed of and some containing the suggestion—which the Police regard as the most dangerous of "dangerous thoughts"—managed to enter the country through secret and underground channels.

The former Ambassador, Baron Shidehara, it is said, was an eager reader of "Life" during the time he was tenant of the Japanese Embassy in Washington. To "Life," he turned when he wanted some respite from the tedium of difficult diplomatic duties. After he returned to Japan, "Life" was sent to him regularly and he read it as assiduously here as he did when in the United States. The February issue demanding plans for "bigger and better wars" stirred the ire of the former diplomat who either did not see the joke, or, more probably, decided that "Life" was carrying a joke too far in jesting about matters so brimful of misery to humanity.

Accordingly Baron Shidehara wrote off the following letter to the editor of "Life":

> In reply to your inquiry regarding your campaign for bigger and better wars, it is my opinion that it is doomed to failure. You cannot accomplish it; we have too much strength on the other side. Even if you succeed in persuading the American people of the great gain and the incomparable honour to be achieved, I believe the rest of the world would succeed in defeating your purpose.
>
> "At this extremely critical time which is one for the most complete frankness, I may be permitted to divulge the fact that a tacit and unwritten, although none the less definite, agreement, the League of Nations which is known in the highest circles as well as amongst the masses, exists between Japan and several other Powers, and that we are feverishly at work enlisting the association of as many nations as possible. The object of this association, however unworthy you may consider our cause, is to maintain peace, promote friendship and develop commerce.
>
> "With the greatest respect for 'Life' and without in any way desiring to criticize you or your countrymen, please permit me to contend that Americans are altogether too ambitious. You have in the United States most of the best and biggest things in the world, but we think the recent World War will retain the record as the biggest and best for a few weeks, and, we hope, for a few months longer.
>
> With assurances of my highest esteem, I remain, Mr. Editor,
> Most Undiplomatically,
> Your enthusiastic admirer,
> KIJURO SHIDEHARA.

OUR Mienchow correspondent writes that Mrs. Watt and Mrs. Whiteside, widows of the murdered missionaries, together with the Rev. and Mrs. F. Boreham, left that city two ladies leaving China for good. Mr. and Mrs. Boreham had an unfor Home early in April, the former pleasant experience while passing into a big rapid near Taihochen on the journey down river. Their boat struck a rock, and became half full of water. Fortunately they escaped with their lives and baggage. Shortly afterwards another misfortune overtook the wayfarers. Master Gordon Watt developed measles. This necessitated a halt while two of the party went on ahead to procure a foreign doctor.

CHINA'S SOVEREIGN RIGHTS ON THE ATHLETIC GROUND

Two Days of Sport in Wu Han: No Meddlesome Foreigner Allowed to Interfere with His Tiresome Ideas of Organization and So a Glorious Muddle

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, May 3.

The postponed Wu-Han Athletic Sports have just been held, to-day and yesterday, on the big Public Sports Ground near the Hupeh Provincial Assembly Hall, which was given last year by Tuchun Hsiao to be used for public sports by all the schools in Wuchang. For the second time in history, the Wu-Han Sports have been planned and carried through by a committee formed by the Government Schools of Wuchang, and without the aid or advice of the interfering foreigner; and the result was an even more glorious hotch-potch than last year. As a Chinese friend, whom I met yesterday on the field, said to me with some indignation: "There is no order and no organization."

But, after all, why should we easy-going orientals allow ourselves to be inconvenienced by these rigid western ideas about law and order? When we are out for sport, let us have it, and not spoil it all by making too much hard work of it. What we want is gaiety and show and a general holiday, and not the strenuous competition and expenditure of energy that make a burden of life.

Why Worry.

So, in the first place let us have a good ambitious programme, without worrying too much as to whether it can be carried out in the brief space of two days. Two pages of the names of officials, who will wear coloured badges and give a general tone to the proceedings, makes a good start. Then the names of 650 competitors from 45 different schools looks like real business; and if, for instance, the entry of 105 runners for the 400 metres race makes it necessary to have seven preliminary heats,—well, perhaps they won't all turn up to run. Mere races and jumping, even on so large a scale as this, will prove far too dull an entertainment; so let us combine with them a football league, games of hockey and basket-ball, and exhibitions of drill and boxing. And now we have a programme which, in scope and variety, for a two-days' athletics meet has probably never been rivalled!

In the next place, if things do not take place exactly as planned, it does not really matter, for the programme is capable of infinite variation. If competitors do not turn up in time for their races, they can easily be given another opportunity a little later on of showing the crowd what they can do. If only one football team turns up to play off the league matches, so much the better: not having been beaten, they must be the winning team, and they have every reason to be pleased with themselves. If a volley-ball pitch happens to be marked off on part of the hockey ground just before the hockey players have had time to mark out their own lines, the game of hockey can easily be scrapped and no-one the worse for it. Even the race of ten-thousand metres need not really worry us; for it is getting too late in the day for such a lengthy performance, and in any case, the competitors do not intend to hurt themselves by more than an ambling pace, so that they are not likely to break down over it.

The Too Eager Spectators.

The enthusiasm of the crowd knows no bounds. So eager were they to get a close view of the athletes, that an avenue only two yards in width was left for the hundred metres race, which had to be postponed until a more convenient season. The heavy shot was skilfully put down a lane only three feet broad. The discus landed on a spectator's umbrella; he was a lucky fellow not to get his head cut open.

Later on in the day, a combined effort of soldiers and police succeeded in driving the crowd to the outside of the 400 metres track, where the scouts were able to more or less hold them at bay. But the greatest excitement of all was when a dog, escaping through the barrier, ran right round the course urged on by the cheering of the crowd and the poles of the scouts. Every-one was anxious to see him do a second lap; but the poor brute refused to oblige, and, luckily for him, he managed to escape by putting his nose through a gap in the line of spectators and pushing his way through.

It was a glorious two days, spoiled only a little by some wet weather and cold wind. But every-one was in good spirits, and no-one was hurt. If the object of athletic sports is to provide harmless amusement to both athletes and spectators, and to send every-one away filled with a sense of satisfaction at a brave show carried out with *éclat*,-then the Wu-Han sports this year must be pronounced a huge success.

NEW CHURCH AT YANGCHOW

Impressive Ceremony of Consecration: A Large Attendance

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Yangchow, May 8.

A significant event, the consecration of Immanuel Church, took place in Yangchow on Friday, May 2, beginning at 10 a.m. After a recital on the new organ, by the Rev. W. R. Roberts of Nanking, there was a quiet interval, interrupted by the choir outside the church, announcing that the procession was at hand by singing "The Church's One Foundation." On reaching the front door, which had been closed for five minutes, the Bishop knocked and the door was opened by the vestry of the local congregation. The 24th Psalm was read the Bishop walked down the centre aisle followed by 13 clergy, Chinese and American, from various stations of the Kiangsu diocese. Then came the vestry, for whom a bench was reserved in front of the pulpit. The choir came in last.

Mr. Chen, the local Chinese clergyman, read the Sentence of Consecration. The Consecration service proper was conducted by Bishop Graves, and was followed by Morning Prayer. The sermon was preached by Mr. S. C. Kuo, rector of St. Peter's Church in Shanghai. The Lord's Supper was celebrated by the Bishop. Several other clergymen, Chinese and American, took various parts in the services.

Among those who attended the Consecration of the new church, were the student body of Mahan School, girls from St. Faith's School, the older students from two day schools, and representatives from each of the congregations in the city.

The building is of Gothic architecture, and within to either side, are six high, arched columns. The church, including the chancel, seats about 500 people. The pulpit, communion table and other special furnishings for the chancel, were made in Shanghai.

OPIUM CULTIVATION IN ANHUI

Farmers' Protest and Request for Investigation of Taxes and Conditions

Peking, May 6.

The International Anti-Opium Association has received the following communication from Anhui: "We, farmers of Hsuihsien, Anhui, beg to inform you that we are now compelled to cultivate opium by our local Magistrate, Wang Shu-kung. Each mow of opium fields is taxed $15. We beg you to appeal for the Magistrate's removal, as he does us nothing but serious harm, also to ask you to telegraph to the Provincial Government urging that exemplary punishment should be inflicted. If you could despatch secret investigators to this place they could reach here by travelling on the Tientsin-Pukou railway as far as Fulichi station, and if they went on then to Hueikuchi, they would find that this place is covered with poppy. (signed) Husi Hsien Public Groups. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE ROUND-WORLD AIR FLIGHTS

Scheme of Peking Government's Permission for British Flight over China

Peking, May 6.

The scheme granting special permission for British aeroplanes to fly over Chinese territory on particular occasions is as follows:—

1.—The British aeroplanes shall fly over Chinese territory on this occasion only after formal notice in advance by the British Minister and the granting by the Chinese Government of special permission. They shall be subject to examination by the officer or officers appointed for the purpose by the Chinese Government.

2.—The British Minister shall furnish information on the following points:—

(a) Object of the flight.

(b) Places of entering and leaving Chinese territory.

(c) Route to be followed and dates of sojourn in Chinese territory.

(d) Number and names of aviators or other persons employed in connexion with the flight.

(e) Number and descriptions of aeroplanes, marks, descriptions of engines and horse-powers.

3.—The British Minister shall furnish a statement of the route to be followed by the British aeroplanes in flying over Chinese territory and this shall, upon receiving the sanction of the Chinese Government, be definitely fixed upon and must be adhered to by the aeroplanes, which shall not leave the fixed route or be free to land or restart at any place or places outside it. The width of the route zone shall be 20 kilometres.

4.—The British aeroplanes shall, for military reasons, not have the right when flying within the prescribed route, to fly over places within a five-kilometre radius of the Ma Wei shipyard at Foochow (Pagoda Anchorage), or the Woosung forts, or the Arsenal at Shanghai.

5.—For the occasion of the present visit of the British aeroplanes to China the Chinese Government shall assign places at Foochow and Shanghai where the establishment of temporary aerodromes will be permitted, but this permission shall extend to the present occasion only.

6.—The aeroplanes shall carry no articles of contraband, photographic apparatus, wireless apparatus, postal matter, or merchandise.

7.—The aeroplanes shall not fly at a low altitude over thickly populated places lying on the route so as to endanger the lives or property of the public, nor shall any objects be dropped from the air.

8.—The British aeroplanes shall on their present flight over Chinese territory carry all necessary flying certificates, etc., as well as logbooks, which documents shall be open to inspection. They shall conform to all regulations applying to aviation.

9.—This scheme is a temporary one applying only to the especially permitted flight of British aeroplanes over Chinese territory on the occasion of the present attempt to fly round the world, and has no connexion with the international aviation convention which has not yet been signed by the Chinese Government.

(It is understood that the conditions set out above are to apply equally to the American fliers.)—Reuter's Pacific Service.

In a despatch to the "Daily Telegraph," Mr. Perceval Landon gives an account of a visit he had made to Wu Pei-fu at his headquarters at Loyang. The restoration of the ancient Chinese capital of Loyang which is the cynosure of all eyes at this moment, he tells us, has been entirely the work of Wu Pei-fu, who selected this spot as that from which he could best survey and influence the half-dozen actual or possible theatres of war with which he is now dealing or will have to deal. This, the nerve-centre of the Republic, does not betray its real importance at first sight; the map explains its strategic value. Wu Pei-fu will probably make Yochow, in Hunan, his second base as soon as active operations begin, should he not then be satisfied with the condition of affairs in the south.

A RAIN OF SILVER IN KANSU

Peasants Who Find that the Old Dog Trough is a Valuable Antiquity

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Lanchow, Kan., May.

I have had occasion previously to speak of the Swedish archaeologist, Dr. J. G. Anderson, who has been making such interesting discoveries right under the very noses, as one might say, of old residents in Kansu. Sites of ancient burial places, that date back to the days of Neolithio man, have been unearthed in the near vicinity of Lanchow. It has been all really funny from a certain point of view, because of the change of the point of view of our local people. Naturally, the urns and pots of the old graveyards have from time to time been brought to light. They were esteemed of little value, however, so that when Dr. Anderson gave $100 for one urn, some months ago, the news of such windfalls was carried far and wide. Art dealers, farmers, coolies, all started in the great search. One man, who fed his dog out of such a pot, heard about it, cleaned his pot up, took it to Dr. Anderson, and got an encouraging price. The result of course was that the scientist's yard was filled with men and urns, and resembled a little village fair. A slump followed. Dr. Anderson was able to buy things of considerable value, from his point of view, at moderate rates, and heard of several good sites. He has now gone to do digging at one or two of the most hopeful of them.

Wu Pei-fu's Insinuating Hand.

The political situation here remains rather nebulous. The Tuchun, Gen. Lu Hung-tas, appears determined to keep his post as long as possible. His wife is now on her way from Tientsin to join him, but whether this is his wish or hers, is not certain. Reports say that when she appears, his secondary wife will have to beat a hurried retreat. Lu has ousted the Civil Governor, Lin, as he wishes to get the whole of the opium tax into his hands, it is said. So that Lu holds both offices for the present. Ma Fuh-hsiang, the well-known Moslem leader, is said to be trying to get the post of Civil Governor. It is hardly likely that he will succeed, as the local prejudice against Moslems is so strong.

Wu Pei-fu, according to reports, is trying to get his old teacher, Gen. Wu, now in Suchow, to be appointed as Commander of the troops here. Gen. Wu is well spoken of, but the Tuchun is not likely to allow himself lightly to be robbed of power in this way. Wu Pei-fu is sending, we hear, quite a number of officers to take charge of various branches of the troops in Kansu. Some people think he wants in this way to get rid of the present Tuchun. Lu, however, has plenty of money, and will doubtless let Wu Pei-fu have a good share of the spoils of his opium growing orgies. Indeed, at present Lu's policy seems to be to give hush money, or presents to all who interfere in any way with his plans, foreigners included. Medallions and Orders of Merit flow freely. Perhaps they will form a new kind of depreciated currency some day soon.

THE "British Medical Journal," commenting on the cases reported of players of mahjongg suffering from severe inflammation of the skin of the hands, attributes the trouble to the extract from the Japanese lacquer tree used in embellishing the boxes. The beautiful imported mahjongg boxes, covered with Japanese lacquer, should be regarded with some suspicion at present.

THE National Road Construction Association letters from the Ministry of War, the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce, and Marshal Hsiao Yao-nan, Governor-General of Hunan and Hupeh, approving of the Association's suggestion that soldiers be used for the construction of national highways. But surely the only road the N. R. C. A. is interested in is that round Shanghai?

CURRENT ISSUES AND TRENDS

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SHANGHAI NEWS

THE TRUTH ABOUT NORTH SZECHUEN ROAD EXTENSION DISTURBANCE

Plot by Agitators to Extract $50,000 from Landlord: Failing in This, They Got $10,000 from Tenants "Legal Expenses"

CHAPEI POLICE PROCLAMATION AUTHORIZING REBUILDING BY LANDLORDS WHICH CHINESE PRESS NEVER PRINTED

It was to be expected that the Chinese press accounts would be biassed and intentionally distorted. The inflammatory articles appearing daily in the vernacular press attacking the native authorities, fostering anti-foreignism, and furthering the cause of a few paid agitators, could not be accomplished anywhere else but under the aegis of the Foreign Settlements and the Consulates under which the papers are registered, whose protection they seek whenever in trouble. These yellow sheets, instead of presenting the case impartially and publishing the facts as they find them, go out of their way to suppress whatever is unfavourable to their contentions, and give the widest publicity to only one side of the question, their own, thereby misleading the public, and inciting the people to resist law and order, on the ground apparently that any settlement in law according to the principles of Justice in favour of foreign interests must be wrong and fought to the last ditch. They are not concerned with equity. It is hard to say what this sort of mentality really wants. If there had been no misrepresentation and suppression of facts well-known to them, by the native press, this "mild riot" would never have occurred.

A Plot to Get Money

Coming down to bed-rock, the whole thing was engineered to extort Tls. 50,000, demanded by three professional agitators, which they sought to impose upon the owner as the price of immunity from "popular trouble." To bring to a head this systematic inflaming of the public mind, improper propaganda was used with the aid of the native press enjoying the hospitality and the protection of the Foreign Settlements. Banditry, so long rampant in the interior, has lately been extended with impunity to include all sorts and conditions of foreigners as victims. Why not, therefore, here in Shanghai? This is the state of mind responsible for this latest attempt to impose the notorious Chinese methods obtaining everywhere where dishonesty is the best policy, upon law-abiding residents of these Foreign Settlements, making the issue, when various other expedients failed, one of "Sovereign Rights" and national prestige. This last cuts both ways. But the rabble are not concerned. They take their pay and go their way, and are assured of protection. They have nothing to lose, and all is rice that comes to the bowl. Who were the creators of the disturbances? Some 400 men. Where did they come from? They were not the tenants, or even residents of the neighbourhood. They were assembled for unlawful purposes, and the Chapei police, after appearing, withdrew. Comment is needless. These professional disturbers of the peace are given a free hand by the very protectors of the peace.

Owner a British Subject

The usual irresponsible innuendoes and misleading statements emanating from professional agitators, and not from any recognized organization or public bodies, have appeared in the press, one often repeated is that the owner of the property is a Chinese for whom a foreign firm is agent. The truth could easily have been ascertained if there had been any doubt about it. Acting on these and similar allegations, the Chinese authorities concerned had already made a thorough investigation, and were satisfied that the legal and beneficial owner is not a Chinese but a British subject, and in consequence they gave wide publicity to their finding, caused a proclamation to be issued and exhibited in public reciting the facts of the case, requested the tenants to vacate within one month, and publicly stated unequivocally that Messrs. Brandt & Rodgers, Ld., were entitled to commence building operations on such.

This proclamation could not possibly have escaped the notice of the Argus-eyed Chinese press. Yet this important news was not published; neither was any notice taken of the fact that all regulations of the Chinese authorities had been complied with; not one word about the free and gratis surrender of land required by the Chinese public Works Department for the widening of the two Chinese thoroughfares on the north and south respectively of the property, only a great furore about the concession to the Municipal Council's road on the east, the most important and urgent requirement of all.

Tenants Six Months Free

Does anybody know that the tenants did not pay any rent for six months? Did they have anything to say about this? In short, the native reports were partisan, prejudiced and libellous in the main, with the object of creating ill-feeling against foreigners in general. The "Sovercign Rights" cry was served up in various forms *ad nauseam*, and the assistance of the native press unstintingly given, knowingly or unknowingly, to the mischievous tactics employed by the few agitators, who are fostering anti-foreignism, tinged with Bolshevism, for the sole purpose of lining their pockets.

In this, though the expected extortion from the landlord has failed of realization, they have had a measure of success, as a sum exceeding $10,000, the rents due to the landlord, have been collected illegally from the tenants by these unauthorized collectors, who gave out that the money would be used for alleged "legal expenses." The tone of the press which countenances and condones such high-handed proceedings is deplorable, and the art of making trouble for purposes of extortion has been reduced to a fine art.

The trouble subsided with the suppression of the paid fighters, and contrary to the statements of interested parties none of the tenants were hurt or even roughly handled, nor did the police have any occasion to use physical force on them. All credit is due to the Municipal Police for their handling of a situation fraught with possiblities admirably and tactfully, affording thereby an object lesson to the neighbouring police administration which failed to come to the scratch. As it happened, the large force of Municipal Police was necessary to subdue the numerous gangs of paid hooligans assembled for the purpose of resisting the law. As in other cases, toleration is always taken for weakness, and stern insistance on full rights is the only possible course, in face of the almost daily encroachments we now see paramount.

Chapei Police Authorization

The owner's petition for summonses to be served on the recalcitrants by the Mixed Court was sent to the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, who refused to forward it to the proper quarter, thus leaving the landlord no other alternative than to appeal to the native authorities concerned, who, upon a thorough investigation to the ownership and claims of the owner, caused a proclamation to be issued jointly by the Chinese Police Administration and the Chinese Public Works on March 26, 1924, ordering the tenants to remove within one month, and permitting the landlord to commence building operations on such date. A free translation of this proclamation is as follows:—

PROCLAMATION ISSUED BY THE SHANGHAI & WOOSUNG POLICE COURT AND CHAPEI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, dated March. 26 12th year R. C.

"Whereas the owner of the premises Ni Lou Lee Alleyway, Ju-kiang road, Brandt & Rodgers, Ld., has written to the effect that the buildings on said premises situated on the corner of N. Szechuen Rd. are decaying, it was resolved to reconstruct the said buildings; application was thereby made in the month of November of last year for issuance of a permit for reconstruction to our Council and was duly granted; but, a considerable period having elapsed, the proposed work could not be commenced on account of violent interference committed by various tenants, consequently the contratcor for said buildings demanded a damage amounting to more than Tls. 10,000 resulting from depreciation of values of the materials; the petitioning Company bought the said premises in Chinese territory with a view to developing the market, the Municipal Council has already issued permit for reconstruction of the buildings on said premises, therefore the rights of the owner should be protected; and furthermore the petitioning Company has complied with all the regulations of the Municipal Council and has surrendered a part of the premises for sake of public road, and as the said contractor has repeated his demands on said Company, so the petitioner is compelled to write to request this Council to take steps to eliminate such interferences in order to facilitate such commencement of work and let the petitioner have an early reply.

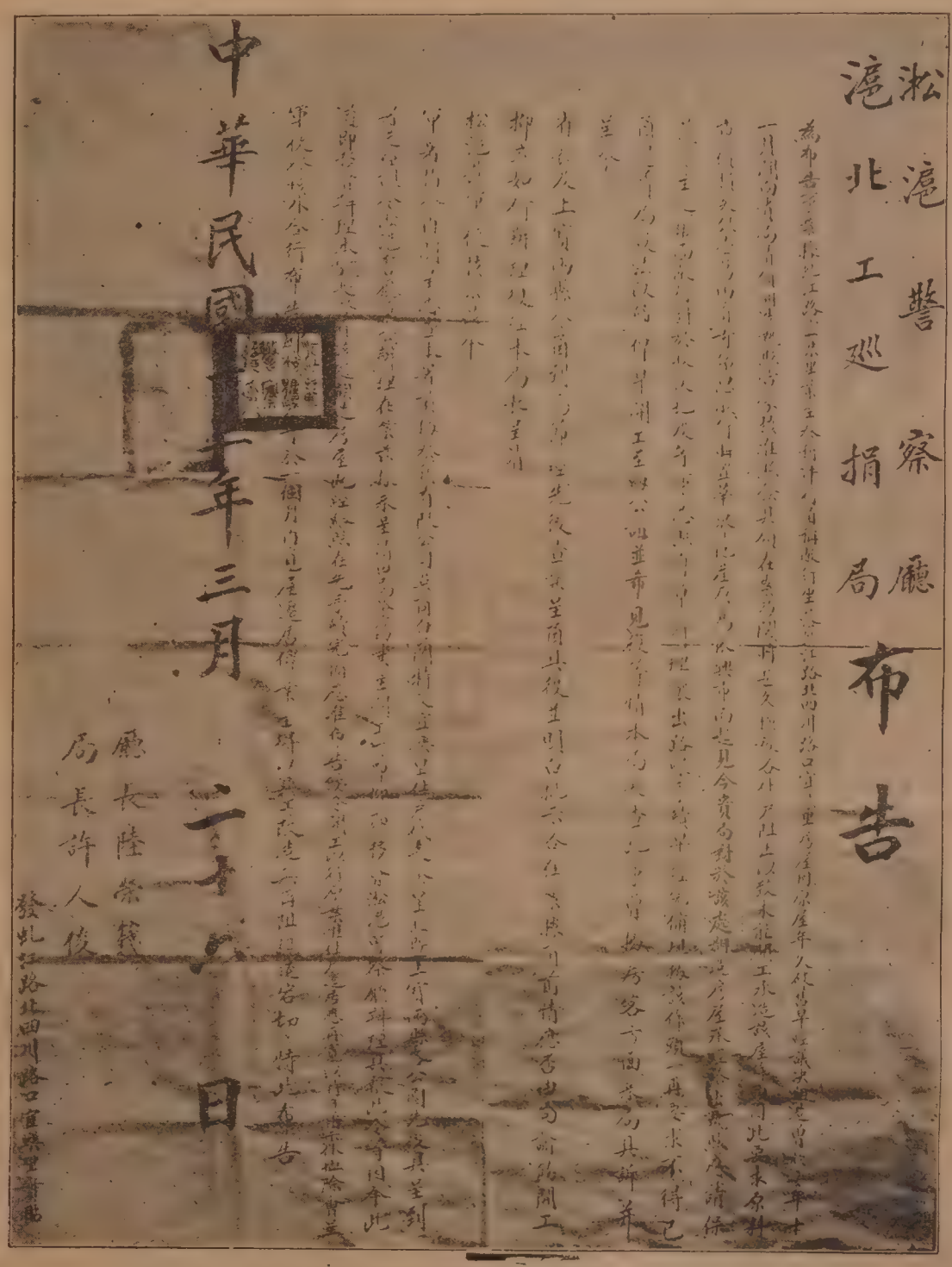
The Chief of this Council, having found out that the tenants did file a petition to this Council, that communications were received from the Civil Governor and Shang-poa Cities Magistrate and replies were respectively given to same, and that rulings were clearly made on said petition, has referred the matter to the Defence Commissioner, asking for instructions as to whether this Council shall order aforesaid commencement of work or take other steps in the premises, and received instructions from the said Commissioner to the effect that whereas Mr. Brandt, of Brandt & Rodgers, Ld. (British), and Yu Sin Pei, the representative of the tenants of the premises of Ni You Lee, and public bodies of Shang-poa cities, filed petitions to this office, instructions were given to the Shanghai & Woosung Police Court to deal with the matter in accordance with justice, and as to your proposal for issuance of an order directing the commencement of work by the owner, you are hereby authorized to do the same in conjunction with the Shanghai & Woosung Police Court, and duly report to this office, therefore we, the Chief of Police Court, and the Chief of Municipal Council, being satisfied that the permit was issued for reconstruction of the buildings on the said premises, and all requirements have been complied with, do hereby issue this Proclamation ordering commencement of work in order to confirm our original decision, but, for the sake of showing leniency to the tenants, time will again be given to prepare them to quit the premises.

Besides reporting the matter to the Defence Commissioner as instructed, this Proclamation is hereby issued ordering the said tenants to quit the above premises within one month in order to facilitate the commencement of work and construction of the above premises, and that no further interferences of whatever nature should be made to cause any delays in said work."

(Signed and sealed by) LO YUN CHI
Chief of Shanghi & Woosung Police Court.

(Signed and sealed by) SHU ZUN TSIN
Chief of Chapei Municipal Council.

Being under the pernicious influence of the three paid agitators; the orders of their own authorities were disregarded, slighted and



THE CHAPEI POLICE PROCLAMATION AUTHORIZING BRANDT & RODGERS TO PULL DOWN AND REBUILD THE HOUSES AND FORBIDDING INTERFERENCE WITH THE WORK. A TRANSLATION OF THIS APPEARS IN THE ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE.

treated with contempt. Placards were issued and posted, banners were [illegible], and [illegible] were even affixed next to the said Proclamation defying the authorities, [illegible]. "We shall here, and [illegible]. What can you or the law do if we refuse to move out?" So these misguided people went ahead and created an impossible situation, with the cognizance of the police of the district [illegible], besides [illegible] their own authorities and propagating anti-foreign sentiments, which they deemed to be the proper thing for [illegible] public sympathy.

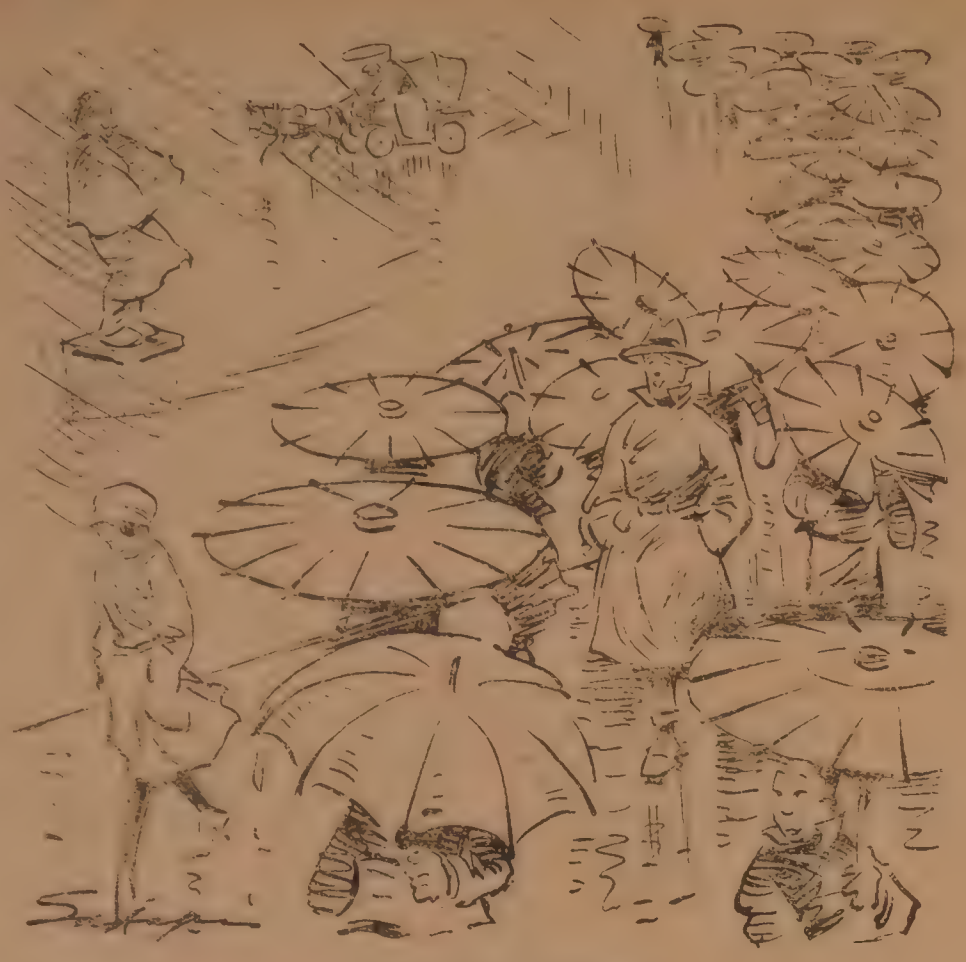
"In the meantime (they say), with the rent unpaid for the last six months, and no rents to pay for the future, with the tenants rooted to the spot, what are you going to do? You are losing the rent, some $10,000, and the contractor is claiming damages for the holding up of his works, another $10,000, and if you consider what the loss of rentals from the completed new buildings now delayed would amount to, we think we are letting you off lightly. What can you do? Petitions filed in the International Mixed Court will not be forwarded by the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs. We do not think you will resort to diplomatic action, as the earliest results you can get thereby will take you at least two years. So, we assure you it would be worth to the landlord Tls. 50,000, as a minimum, to settle with us, amicably!" There you have it, and the story is not exaggerated.

[illegible] while the sun shone. They collected the rents which were due to the landlord, ostensibly for "legal expenses" and propaganda for the ousting of all foreigners from the North Szechuen Road district. All of which needs money,—and they got it; but what they are using it for is quite another story.

Paid Rowdies

As the majority of the respectable inhabitants of the district were against support of such a movement, these characters fell back on the age-old contrivances of malcontents in China, the staging of a public demonstration by paid hooligans, hoodwinking the public into believing it to be a popular rising of the people against oppression, and adopting suitable slogans and inflammatory catch-phrases such as "Sovereign Rights," "Foreign Encroachment," etc. In order to arouse public sympathy and support, wide publicity was given to the fact of the widening of the North Szechuen Road, a matter of absolute public necessity, which they made out to be detrimental to China's (or their) sovereign rights. The road in question had recently been widened at several places, but nothing was said about it. The entire business was handled by a few agitators, but attributed to certain high-sounding self-styled organizations, with the assistance of paid rowdies and the criminal element, merely for the sole purpose of extorting money from the landlord. If the native editors do not stop the inflammatory articles appearing in their sheets, it is time for the Settlement Police to have a look in. Public peace demands that criminals shall not control Shanghai, even if they have the whole of the Chinese press, always irresponsible, behind them. The consequences in this mixed community of the continued disregard of rights of law-abiding residents are likely to be very serious, for which the Chinese press will carry the chief blame, for being in the position of leaders of public opinion, they have become, instead, instigators of public turmoil, often flagrantly untrue, misrepresenting facts which had to be [illegible] and suppressing inconvenient truths altogether.

Why did not this sacred native press publish the proclamation referred above? Why did they make [illegible] by the Chinese authorities? Why concentrate on jingoistic lines [illegible] could incite the people. What is [illegible]



A WET DAY IN SHANGHAI.

THE EARLY MORNING THUNDERSTORM

Damage by Lightning to Aquarius Plant: Extraordinary Freak of Nature

The Aquarius Co. suffered an uncommon and rather disturbing experience during the thunderstorm that took place early on Wednesday morning. The main power and light cables enter the new factory in Thorburn Road through the wall of the watchmen's house by the main gate. About 7.40 a.m. all the lights flickered up and down, a violent explosion was heard, and smoke and fumes were observed coming from this house. The foreign staff hurried to the scene, and found that the cables had acted as a lighting conductor, passing a heavy electric discharge into the main meter, which was seriously damaged. A telephone message was promptly sent to the Electricity Department, and within a few minutes two foreign engineers were on the spot and the work of renewal was put in hand.

The two Sikh watchmen, who were sheltering in the house at the time, appeared quite unperturbed, and seemed to prefer the choking fumes inside to the torrential downpour outside, although the electrical discharge in the small room must have been enormous, as the explosion was audible at least half a mile away. One of the Sikhs, however, did remark that there was "plenty too muchee noise."

As the Aquarius Co. have steam power for their distilling plant, they can utilize this as an alternative to electric power for driving their machines, and the work of manufacture could thus be carried on without interruption.

LIKIN STATIONS ON THE SHANGHAI-NANKING RY.

Semi-Official Assurance That Merchants Have No More to Fear than Before

[illegible] reports in connexion with the establishment of a new Likin Bureau on the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, that rumours have been circulated in the Chinese circles to the effect that this is a means of levying a [illegible] duties on railway cargoes were collected by the likin stations on the railway. On account of the corruption and squeeze perpetrated by the taxgatherers the authorities of this province finally transformed the aforesaid likin stations into railway likin bureaux with their head office at Hsiakwan, Nanking, independent of the likin headquarters to which they formerly belonged. The sole object of such a transformation towards reorganization and betterment rests in the financial administration of this province and has nothing to do with the designated taxes themselves. The merchants have nothing to gain or nothing to lose by this act and to declare a boycott would be unfortunate and foolish, says the Chinese Press. As to the loading of goods against invoice, this is in full accord with the original agreement entered into between the Railway administration and the Bureau of Finance of this province.

ANOTHER HUGE HAUL OF SMUGGLED ARMS

Thousands of Rounds of Ammunition and 50 Pistols Found: Arrested Ship's Stewards

Another huge arms seizure was made by the Customs over the week-end.

Searching the M.M.S. André Lebon, which arrived on Friday night with M. Merlin, Governor-General of Cochin China on board, the officials on Saturday afternoon turned their attention to the funnel casings. Hidden behind them were 116 suspicious looking bags, containing 50 pistols and approximately 220,000 rounds of pistol ammunition.

While the search party was making the big seizure, Customs Officer Carver was on duty on the gangway of the vessel, and intercepted one of the vessel's stewards going ashore, whom he searched and found to be in possession of two automatics. Mr. Carver handed the man over to the Water Police who handed him over with three others arrested later to the French Police.

At about half-past seven o'clock the same evening three more of the vessel's stewards were arrested by two Chinese water policemen in a sampan. Both parties were in sampans. The men were found to be in possession of nine automatics, and it is alleged that they offered the police a bribe to let them go. They, also, were handed over to the French Police, and all four will be tried in the French Court in due course.

Mr. Sheng Chu-hsu, chairman of the Chinese Bankers' Association of Shanghai, returned to Shanghai form Peking on Tuesday after attending the National Bankers' Conference. Mr. Sheng is local manager of the Bank of Communications.

LADY MISSIONARY'S DEATH

The Late Mrs. L. N. Hayes

The funeral of Mrs. L. N. Hayes took place at Bubbling Well Cemetery on Monday afternoon and was attended by a large number of friends. The service was conducted by Dr. D. W. Lyon, the Rev. C. N. Drury and Mr. C. W. Harvey.

Miss Frances Gray (as the deceased lady then was) came to China in 1910 for the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and became a teacher and later principal of the Mary Porter Gamewell School for Girls in Peking. Because of her unusual ability and strength of character she wielded a great influence with the faculty and student body of that institution. She was married in April, 1923, to Mr. L. N. Hayes, of the National Committee of the Y.M.C.A. and since that time had been a resident of Shanghai, where she had soon a large circle of friends.

Mrs. Hayes was born in Madison, New Jersey, on September 5, 1885. She was a missionary of the third generation, her father having been in medical work in the United Provinces of India. Her grandfather, the Rev. John Henry Budden, was an early missionary of the Church Missionary Society, who went to India from England about 1845. She graduated from Wellesley College in 1910 having previously finished the missionary training course at the Folts Institute, Herkimer, New York. She leaves to mourn her loss a husband and a son, Francis Newton, only a few days old, a brother, Dr. J. H. Gray, of Shanghai, in addition to a mother and two sisters and two brothers resident in America.

The taking away of Mrs. Hayes is keenly felt by her large circle of friends in North and Central China, who consider that not only the friends but the causes for which she has worked have sustained a great loss in her untimely death.

M. de Wichfeld, Counsellor at the Danish Legation, Tokio, was due in Peking on Tuesday. After having spent three years in Tokio, M. de Wichfeld is on his way to Denmark, but is returning *via* Peking in order to confer with his official chief, M. Henrik de Kauffmann, the accredited Minister to Japan and China. M. de Wichfeld will return to Denmark *via* the United States and *en route* visit his uncle, M. Brun, the eminent Danish statesman who has represented his country for so many years in Washington.

MAILS DESTROYED IN THE PRES. MADISON

48 Bags from Seattle and 36 from London; Post Office Statement

The following statement, issued by the Chinese Post Office, will be of great assistance to readers who expected mail matter by the President Madison last week in estimating the amount of the losses they may have suffered through the fire on board that vessel

The mails received here on Thursday of last week by the President Madison consisted of mail matter and parcels from Europe, America and Japan posted in Europe between March 28 and April 4; in America between the April 10 and 15; in Japan on April 28. The President Madison should have brought 1,335 bags of mail matter, out of which number 702 bags were received in good condition, 423 were damaged by fire or water, and 210 were almost totally destroyed. Of parcel mails there should have been 345 bags, out of which 113 were received in good condition, 159 were damaged and 73 almost totally destroyed.

All articles with sufficiently clear addresses have been delivered and where addresses are not legible the covers have been opened to ascertain, if possible, the right address, or, if this could not be done, the names of senders so that the articles might be returned. The charred contents of the badly damaged bags have been carefully sifted and whatever mail matter was deliverable has been disposed of.

The following is a complete list of mails (bags) for Shanghai:—

	In good condition	fire or water Damaged by	Totally destroyed
Seattle	258	202	48
Vancouver	—	1	4
London	154	45	36
Birmingham	1	2	1
Bradford	2	5	2
Bristol	1	6	2
Dover	1	1	1
Edinburgh	1	5	1
Glasgow	7	2	—
Folkstone	—	2	1
Liverpool	1	2	1
Manchester	30	10	7
Southampton	—	2	—
Amsterdam	—	5	3
Rotterdam	—	4	1
Paris	—	2	1
Christiania	—	3	2
Tralleborg	—	5	6
Geneva	3	5	3
Havana	—	2	1
R. de Janeiro	—	1	—
Sea Post	15	16	40
Kobe	2	2	3
PARCELS (BAGS)			
Seattle	75	76	25
Vancouver	—	—	6
London	—	—	11

Mails for outports suffered in a similar manner and each Post Office concerned is being duly notified of the number of damaged or missing bags.

WEDDING

Rogers—Lauritsen.

Holy Trinity Cathedral was very prettily decorated in green and white for the marriage ceremony which took place on Saturday morning when Miss Anna Jensine Lauritsen, daughter of the late Mr. L. P. Lauritsen of Humlum, Denmark, was married to Mr. Hardy Rogers, son of the late Mr. E. H. Rogers of Wallasry, Cheshire. The Very Reverend Dean Symons officiated. The bride, who was given away by Mr. A. G. Dovey, of the firm of Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., with which the bridegroom is also connected, wore a very chic gown of cinnamon georgette crêpe, trimmed with lace of a darker tone, and worn over gold satin. A large hat in the same shades was worn with this and the bridal bouquet was of pink carnations. Little Miss Janet Momber acted as bridesmaid, wearing a frilled pink organdie and a wreath of pink forget-me-nots.

Mr. C. Trenchard Davis acted as best man and Mr. E. C. Baker as usher. After the ceremony a very pleasant reception was held at the residence of Mr. Dovey, 2 Yates Road, after which Mr. and Mrs. Rogers left for Peking and Tientsin, where they will spend their honeymoon.

Admiral Tsai Ting-kan, chairman of the Tariff Revision Commission, has returned to Shanghai after a lengthy stay in Peking.

REMARKABLE STORY OF CRUISE OF THE TRAINING-SHIP HWAH JAH.

Cadets Who are Training to be Captains: Unhealthy to Work Before Food: Greasy Spanners and Kid Gloves: Trials of Foreign Members of the Crew

It will be remembered that a few months ago the str. Hwah Jah (an ex-Austrian Lloyd steamer which was taken over by China on her entry into the war) left Shanghai "on a trip round the world," carrying about 45 cadets, drawn mostly from the Chinese colleges in this part of the country. The original idea was that the cadets should make this trip round the world to allow of their seeing other countries and observing the manners and modes of other peoples, and at the same time, by means of a more or less intensive course of instruction in the duties of a seaman, during such periods as their vessel was at sea, prepare themselves for employment as officers of the Chinese Mercantile Marine. Arrangements were even made, we believe, for certificates to be issued to those who passed the course and the test. The trip was financed, we understand, by a concern calling itself the Far Eastern Shipping Syndicate, in which a prominent Chinese from Singapore is stated to have held a predominant interest.

Judging from information and reports that have reached us, the cruise appears not to have been as successful as at first was hoped and anticipated, and there appears to have been considerable defection in one of the most essential features to the successful outcome of such a venture—the discipline of the cadets.

The following letter from a foreign member of the crew of the Hwah Jah, which was received in Shanghai a few days ago, and which is supplemented by further details obtained at a personal interview, throws an interesting, if not a vivid, light on the conditions on a modern Chinese cadet ship and on the viewpoint which the average Chinese mercantile marine cadet would appear to take of the serious duty of learning to be an officer. The letter is reproduced in full, excepting that a few references, either personal or irrelevant, have been omitted.

A Few Little Oversights.

Str. Hwah Jah,
Tsingtao,
April 28, 1921.

"DEAR. . . .

"I have been intending to write to you for some time to let you know how things were going on but we have had so much trouble here that I did not know where to start. However I will try and tell you all I can. When we left Shanghai on January 12 we had to anchor at Woosung with slight engine trouble and when I let go the starboard anchor the 15 fathom shackle jammed in the pipe and on investigation I found that the 15 fathom shackle on both sides had been put on the wrong way round, that is round end coming on board first, and who was responsible for that I don't know. The next trouble we had was on the way to Yokohama from Dalny. We got into a heavy gale and one morning we found 4'9" of water in No. 4 bilge on both sides and we just managed to keep it at that until arrival. All the cargo in No. 4 was damaged and we found that in making the cadets' quarters in the poop, a lavatory pipe had been cut and no flange put on, the hole on the outside of the ship being only 1'6" above the water line when loaded; so we were lucky to get to Yokohama at all. Then at Vladivostok I was just on the point of going ashore, ship nearly loaded, when the cassab came to me (by the way we have had no carpenter since first arriving at Yokohama, he cleared out) and said have got 5'7" of water in No. 1 bilge. I thought he was crazy, but soon found out that it was there all right. On looking for the trouble I found it in the fore—peak, in the shape of three holes in the shell plating near the bow and on the starboard side.

When the Anchor Was Dropped.

"I plugged up the holes as best as I could but could not successfully stop the water coming in. Next day we got a diver and he plugged up the holes from outside and I cemented inside and we thought we would be safe until we got to Yokohama again, but no such luck. We got heavy weather again and the plugs came out and she started making water again. We could not get any pumps to work for more than 10 minutes or so, so had to put all hands bailing and the water was making about a foot a day on us. Such a lively crowd of sailors I have got. The fore-peak bulkhead which is supposed to be watertight must be leaking somewhere as the water all went into No. 1 hold and if the bilges had not got choked up with bean cake we would have been able to pump it out that way. On that same day during the gale of course the steering gear buffer carried away, but I fixed that up all right. Well, we arrived at Yokohama again, it was about eight in the morning and we had to anchor and wait for a pilot. Well, the Captain sang out let go the starboard anchor and it went all right, also 15 fathom chain. Goodness knows what happened but the next minute I was laid out, something hit me a h— of a blow in the back, I was laid up for a few days but no bones were broken. Believe me she is some ship all right. . .

The funnel caught fire once and down came the main topmast stay and three funnel guys. To-day shifting ship one of the barrels of the windlass broke clean in two, and a sailor had three of his fingers nearly cut off and his back hurt.

No Work before Chow.

"Now a few words about the cadets. They are a fine bunch all right and there is not the making of an officer in any of them. They are all afraid of work and are lost in an emergency. One night in Yokohama I told them to come and pull up the life boat they had been ashore in and they told me they had expended all their energy and besides it was not healthy to pull up boats before chow. Another time when they were not puiling all together I said to them You will never make sailors if you don't all pull together, and they said they came to learn to be *Captains* not sailors. It is very amusing, believe me. At present the cadets are running the ship and doing just as they please and I have done my best to try and keep them in order.

"The stores have been handed over to the 2nd Officer, a Chinese. Well, I should like to have put my time in here but I am absolutely fed up now and have put in my resignation to-day, hoping to be relieved at Hongkong. . . .

"I am enclosing a copy of an anonymous letter I received in Yokohama, also a copy of a letter I am sending to Shanghai. Well, Mr. . . . this would make a good story for the "North China" and it is all facts, but you will know just what to do. Oh, another thing, we cannot get stores or very little and cannot even get oil for the steering gear and before we can discharge this cargo at Hongkong they must get some cargo wires. We are leaving for Hongkong to-morrow night. . . .

World Cruise Abandoned

Interviewed in Shanghai, the writer of the letter reiterated, and another foreign member of the crew corroborated, what has been given, with some additional details which are no less interesting than those in the letter.

Whether the plans for the projected world cruise were somewhat vague, or whether something went wrong with the arrangements, is not clear. After clearing from Woosung in January, the Hwah Jah went to Dairen and other ports and eventually to Japan, where, it would seem, all of the original plans were changed, as the ship was chartered for six months to the Yamashita Kisen Kaisha as a coal carrier. This change of plan appears, perhaps not unnaturally, to have annoyed most of the cadets, who were thus deprived of their cruise around the world. Some of them went so far as to send to the headquarters of the Syndicate, in Shanghai, a telegram, *in plain English*, protesting against their vessel, flying the Chinese flag, being chartered to Japanese owners. An appeal which was made by the captain and his officers, to the effect that the telegram be not sent, was unavailing. Relations between the cadets and the foreign officers on board appear to have become gradually more strained, our informants alleging that this was due mainly to the officers' desire for discipline and work from the cadets, which they were unwilling to give.

The Cadets' Spats

Our informants are emphatic in their statements that the cadets are utterly opposed to any semblance of discipline and equally indisposed to perform the work to which, on a British ship carrying cadets, cadets are put. The cadets almost invariably wore spats on board. We are told of one engineer-cadet who possesses a beautiful pair of hands and who, before he touches a greasy spanner or anything of a kindred nature, sees to it that his hands are gloved or otherwise protected from the contamination associated with manual labour in the engine room of a ship. Another uses cotton waste.

Matters appear to have reached a climax when the Hwah Jah arrived at Tsingtao towards the end of April. The chief officer sent in his resignation, on the grounds that he had been instructed, by a representative of the Syndicate, not to use any paint whatsoever on the ship; that the second officer had been placed in charge of the ship's stores; that at Yokohama, three of the foreign members of the crew had received anonymous threatening letters, in one at least of which a sudden and early demise of the recipient was hinted at; and that discipline among the cadets was so lax that they were simply doing as they pleased. We are in possession of a copy of the letter.

On April 30 a representative of the Syndicate came on board and dismissed all of the foreign staff—captain, chief officer, and chief and second engineers. There seems to have been a little difficulty regarding payment of the month's pay in lieu of notice to which all were entitled under the agreement (we have seen a copy), but the ship's register was withheld till the money had been paid.

An Engineer's Certificate

At Tsingtao, too, the supernumerary second engineer, who is said to be an ex-Engineer Admiral in the Chinese Navy, was made "First Chief Engineer." He is stated to be in possession of First Class Engineer's Certificate No. 0001, issued by the Chinese Department of Mercantile Marine and good for five years. Two of the engineer cadets were offered a joint salary of $150 a month to assume the duties of assistant engineers to help to take the vessel to Hongkong. They refused.

Altogether, it appears to have been a most interesting cruise.

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Meeting and Enjoyable Social Evening

The annual meeting of the Community Church was made the occasion for a delightful social evening on Tuesday, the members turning out in good force to eat the excellent dinner prepared by the Navy Y.M.C.A. restaurant and served in their gymnasium. During the evening the various tables, where the guests were seated according to the months in which their birthdays fell, each presened some impromptu "stunt," April, a joke, June a bride, others songs or stories. Mrs. Charles Lavers gave a beautifully harp solo and Mr. McGill sang two solos which were enjoyed by all.

The more formal programme was opened with the singing of the Doxology, followed by a prayer from the Rev. C. E. Patton, after which the toastmaster, Mr. W. W. Lockwood, took charge and called upon the following to respond to these sentiments: "We Need You," Rev. C. M. Drury; "We're Here," Mr. D. W. Lyons; "The Governor," Dr. J. B. Fearn; "Our New Church," Mr. C. L. Boynton. Preceding the election of eight members to the Governing Board, Mrs. Vanderburgh read the minutes of the last annual meeting. Mr. Charles Gunn, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, then presented the report of that body and the following members were elected by ballot: Mr. H. H. Cameron, Mr. R. J. Corbett, Mrs. P. H. Dunbar, Dr. J. B. Fearn, Mr. Egbert Hayes, Miss Mabel Jansen, Dr. J. C. McCracken, and Mrs. R. M. Vanderburgh. The meeting closed with the singing of the hymn, "The Church's One Foundation."

OBITUARY

Mr. E. Bruce Shepherd

Mr. E. B. Shepherd, recently employed at the "North-China Daily News" Office, died at the General Hospital on Wednesday morning, after a fortnight's illness which followed a long period of ill health.

Mr. Shepherd came to Shanghai from Hongkong many years ago, where we believe he was at one time with the Land Investment Company. He was a keen member of the Hongkong Yacht Club and a good sailor, and for some years a member of the Shanghai Yacht Club also. Mr. Shepherd was employed as secretary by Messrs. Hall & Holtz, Shanghai, but for the past two or three years has been in the publishing department of this office, his duties being the supervision of the issue of the "North-China Daily News" in the early morning. In him we lose a good worker who carried on a rather thankless task with cheerfulness and courage.

The funeral took place at Bubbling Well Cemetery on Thursday in the presence of members of the staff of the "North-China Daily News" and other friends. The service was read by the Very Rev. Dean C. J. F. Symons, M.A., and Messrs. R. W. Davis, T. Mellows, A. G. Hickmott, T. D. Davy, A. Haslam and W. Watson acted as pall-bearers.

HEALTH DEPT.'S GREAT WORK FOR SHANGHAI

Mr. E. Kilner on Its Manifold Duties

Lecturing to the Rotary Club at the Astor House Hotel on Thursday Inspector E. Kilner gave an account of his experiences in public health work during his 21 year service in Shanghai and five at Home.

He had visited the health departments of Hongkong, Singapore, San Francisco, Seattle, Vancouver, Victoria, some of the London boroughs, Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Glasgow and many other large towns in Great Britain, said Mr. Kilner, but in none of them was the work so varied as it is in Shanghai. A certain amount of work which was undertaken by the State in other places, had to be done here by the Municipality. The work of the Health Department included almost everything that one could mention. From your birth to your death, you were attended to by the officers of this department. They saw you were properly looked after at birth, watched you as a child, cared for you as you grew, protected you throughout your life and then at last saw that you are decently laid aside.

ARRIVAL AT COPENHAGEN OF YACHT SHANGHAI

Long Voyage from Shanghai to Denmark in Small Boat Safely Completed

A cable was received by the Shanghai Yacht Club, on Thursday, from the Royal Danish Yacht Club, announcing the safe arrival at Copenhagen on Wednesday, of the auxiliary ketch Shanghai. It will be remembered that the Shanghai, flying the local yacht club's burgee and manned by five of its members, sailed from the Huangpu on February 20, 1923, on a voyage to Dedmark, the progress of which has been recorded in our columns from time to time. The yacht had many exciting adventures, but survived them all, and she was accorded the honour, on more than one occasion, when making a leg from some lonely island to another, of temporary commission as a mail-boat.

Many doubts were expressed as to the possibility of making the long trip in a small boat, but the intrepid yachtsmen would not be persuaded that it could not be done and they are fully deserving of the congratulations which Mr. E. T. Byrne, Commodore of the Shanghai Yacht Club, has asked the Royal Danish Yacht Club to convey to them on behalf of the local club.

JOCKEYS' FAREWELL TO BILLY HILL

Enthusiastic Gathering at the Race Club: Straight Talking on China Racing

The "past and present" jockeys of the Shanghai Race Club attended in force at the Grand Stand on Thursday evening at a complimentary farewell dinner to Billy Hill, who at the end of this week is retiring from China. It was a vastly enthusiastic gathering, those present, possibly in a desire to forget their sorrow at losing such a capable and popular member of their own little circle, giving full vent to their opinions on China racing matters in general. Such matters may never come to general knowledge, but it would be all to the good of racing in China if they did.

Mr. C. R. Burkill, possibly the one racing man in China whose opinions are beyond question, presided and, in proposing the health of Mr. Hill, made such a speech as only he could. He mentioned that Mr. Hill made his first appearance in race riding in Queensland in 1898, when he won in a field of 15. He first rode in the East at Hankow in 1903 and he won the Champions in that place in 1905. Since then he had won other Champions in Shanghai, Hankow, Hongkong and Tientsin. Amongst his greatest achievements were the winning of 18 races at Hankow in one meeting, 16 at Hongkong, 12 at Tientsin and 13 at Shanghai. At Hongkong he had won four Derbys out of five and in all China he had a total of over 600 firsts to his credit. Since September last he had ridden 50 winners.

"The highest praise that could be given to Billy Hill," said Mr. Burkill, "is the fact that every owner in China wants him to ride for him, and if the pony can win, it is a 99 per cent. sure thing that with Billy Hill up he will win. We are losing one of the best. He is top of the tree and there is not a finer rider in all China."

There was much more complimentary speaking by men well qualified to do it, and on the excuse of such toasts as "The Shanghai Race Club, coupled with the China pony" and "The Future Jockey Club of China" there was a deal of thoroughly sound and sane argument, much good advice to young jockeys and some very straight talk to Press critics. Indeed, as one who could judge said, "This is something approaching a Gimcrack dinner," and there could be no greater compliment than that.

An excellent entertainment arranged by Mr. G. B. Stormes punctuated the speeches, the appropriate refrain of "William the Konk" running continually through it, and not the least pleasing feature was the conjuring of Mr. Reginald Kay, assisted by Mr. Archie Knoll.

WE learn that a large quantity of opium has been landed from a small launch in the Soochow Creek, in Chinese territory in the vicinity of Old Stone Bridge, and that the opium was landed in the presence of a local official whose duty it is to suppress the importation, sale and smoking of the drug. Do the local Chinese authorities know of this smuggling, which looks as if it has been going on for some time.

ECZEMA ALL OVER CHILD'S HEAD

Could Not Rest. Cried With Pain. Cuticura Heals.

"My little girl's head broke out with small pimples that broke and formed a wet eczema. The eruptions spread all over her head and the irritation was very great. She could not rest day or night and cried continually with the pain.

"The trouble lasted about a month. We tried several remedies but got no results. We sent for a free sample of Cuticura Soap and Ointment which helped her, so purchased more, which healed her." (Signed) Mrs. Dishot, 8, Chapel St., Spitalfields, London, E. 1, Eng.

Use Cuticura for all skin troubles.

Soap 1s., Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. Sold throughout the Empire. For sample each free address F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27, Charterhouse Sq., London, E.C.1. Also for mail orders with price. Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

CORRESPONDENCE

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN CHINA

An Appeal for Funds

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—I am approaching you in a matter in which I feel you could be of considerable assistance.

Dr. Shirokogoroff who is an anthropologist of very high standing and who has been busy in Eastern Siberia, Manchuria and China for some considerable time working upon ethnographical problems connected with these parts, is very anxious to complete his ethnographical and anthropological investigations in China as soon as possible. It is necessary for him to visit Canton, Hankow, Chungking (Szechuan) and possibly also Shansi, Snensi and Kansu, in order to secure measurements, etc., for the completion of his investigations.

The only trouble is his complete lack of funds. Formerly he was with the "Academy of Science" in St. Petersburg, which institution supported his work in Eastern Siberia and Manchuria, but latterly, of course, this means of support has been cut off, and he has been forced to carry on his investigations under very trying conditions here in China, giving part of his time to other work in order to earn sufficient to go on with his main object, the complete ethnographical investigation of the Chinese.

Dr. Shirokogoroff has appealed to the China Society of Science and Arts," one of whose objects is to encourage original scientific research work in China.

As this Society has no funds as yet to devote to such work, it has been decided to make a public appeal to secure the necessary funds for Dr. Shirokogoroff's proposed expedition.

The following is an estimate of the sum required which you will agree with me is remarkably low, and to one but an enthusiast would be willing to undertake the hardships necessary to travel on such a small allowance.

As a matter of fact a sum of $1,500 would probably cover the whole cost of his investigations, and it seems to me that it should not be difficult to raise this sum by public subscription in Shanghai. If the public are willing to contribute to this laudable object, the far-reaching results of which cannot be overestimated since they will give us the clue to many problems connected with the Chinese and other Asiatics, I, and those associated with me in the China Society of Science and Arts will guarantee that the funds will be properly disbursed.

Already a publisher has been found who will be willing to publish the results of Dr. Shrokogoroff's work in book form at his own risk so that that side of the undertaking is provided for. May I therefore ask you to open a public subscription in your columns for this purpose. The subscription collected through your valuable paper would be paid into the funds of the China Society of Science and Arts, which are controlled by thoroughly responsible parties, namely, myself as President, Dr. H. Chatley and Dr. J. C. Ferguson, as Vice-Presidents, and a committe of five well-known scientists in China.

I enclose herewith a statement which I should be very glad if you would publish together with this letter in making the appeal for funds for the purpose outlined above.

Thanking you for the courtesy

I am, etc.,

[illegible]
President,
China Society of Science and Arts.

[illegible] May [illegible], 1924.

Anthropological Investigation in China

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

MONEY AND EXCHANGE

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, May 9.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/2⅜=Tls. 6.21 at 71.70=$8.66	
Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 70½=Tls. 142.35 at 71.70=$198.53	
Mex. Dollars, market rate	71.9375
Native Interest	12
Copper Cash	268,000
Bar Silver	33⅛
Bank rate of Discount	4 per cent.
Paris on London	Frs. 70
New York on London	G.$4.38⅜

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/2½
Demand	3/2⅝
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	70
Demand	70½
PARIS—	
Demand	1163
INDIA—	
Demand	227
HONGKONG—	
Demand	74
JAPAN—	
Demand	57½
BATAVIA—	
Demand	193¾
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	72¾

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/3½
4 m/s. Credits	3/4½
4 m/s. Docs.	3/4⅞
6 m/s. Credits	3/4⅞
6 m/s. Docs.	3/5½
NEW YORK—	
Demand	71½
4 m/s. Credits	73½
4 m/s. Docs.	74
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1230
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/3
New York T.T.	70¾

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR MAY.

Hk. Tls. 5.60 at 3/2½	£1
„ 1 at 1148	Frs. 12.79
„ 1.29 at 69½	Gold $1
„ 1 at 58⅜	Yen 1.90
„ 1 at 228⅜	Rupees 2.54
„ 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
„ 1 at 15.575	It. Lire 17.35
Marks and Roubles	no quotation

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates for May 9:—	
It. Lire 15.65	Tls. 1
Swiss Frs. 3.94	Tls. 1
It. Lire 8.75	Y. 1

Sino-Scandinavian Bank

Selling rates May 9, Nominal:	
Tl. I.: Norw. Kr.:	4,92
Tl. I.: Wed. Kr.:	2,58
Tl. I.: Dan. Kr.:	4,03

WEEK'S EXCHANGE NOTES

May 10.

At the close of business on the 8th instant, the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 35,043,000 and $44,560,000. These figures include Tls. 7,340,000 and $26,040,000 in Chinese banks, in which there were 2,751 bars.

Bar Silver.

Arrivals were:—
1,522 bars from America
Shipments were:—
Nil.

Sycee.

No movements of sycee during the week.

Dollars.

Arrivals were:—

$100,000	from	Nanking
100,000	„	Riverports
80,000	„	Ningpo
50,000	„	Chinkiang
$330,000		

Shipments were:—
$100,000 to Hangchow

Silver

The price yesterday was 33⅛d. ready and 33⅛d. forward, against 32⅛d. ready and forward a week ago. China has been buying. In the end of last week the Continent was buying, but this week it has been reported as holding off. The market yesterday was reported Steady.

Bars in stock, 4983, including silver Yen 10 lakhs.

Stocks of sycee and dollars amount to Tls. 350½ lakhs and $445½ lakhs, against Tls. 231½ lakhs and $434 lakhs on May 8, 1923.

Exchange.

Exchange left off last week with the official quotation T.T. 3/2d., where it remained until yesterday, when it was raised to T.T. 3/2½d. The Spring Race Meeting in the beginning of the week interfered somewhat with business. On Wednesday morning the Chinese speculators transferred their attention from Yen to Sterling, with the consequence that rates immediately began to rise. The market yesterday opened firm, with sellers T.T. 3/3d. May/June, 3/3⅛d. July/December. Rates have advanced to T.T. 3/3½d. May, 3/3⅝d. June forward, and T.T. G. $71 near and 71½ for forward delivery has been done. Practically no bills offering.

The speculators yesterday were reported oversold Yen 6 millions and £600,000.

THE GOLD MARKET

American Imports and Exports

Reporting from London on March 26, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on the 19th instant amounted to £126,276,305, as compared with £126,274,905 on the previous Wednesday.

A fair amount of gold was on offer this week, but only a moderate proportion was taken for the Indian bazaars. Gold valued at $4,365,000 has arrived in New York from London.

The gold production of Australia and New Zealand for 1923 is given in a preliminary estimate as approximately 835,431 fine oz., valued at £3,548,681 (excluding premium), and shows a decrease of £195,719 as compared with 1922. The total value of £3,548,681 for 1923 compares with £10,836,072 for 1913 and £18,340,563 for 1903. The 1923 total includes 708,261 oz., (or £3,008,499) for Australia, while New Zealand is Calculated at £540,182, the same as for 1922, pending actual returns.

During 1923, the branches of the Royal Mint at Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth issued £3, 051,024 in sovereigns, and £167,615 in bullion, a total of £3,218,639 as compared with £3,624,480 in 1922.

The recommendation of the standing committee of the Swedish Riksdag that the export of gold should be unfettered, and the import of gold regulated with view to assist the stabilization of internal prices, is very interesting.

U. S. imports and exports of gold during the calendar year 1923 were as follows—:

	Imports $
France	19,036,301
Germany	49,551,586
Netherlands	13,291,819
United Kingdom	149,672,340
Canada	49,374,549
Mexico	6,581,439
Argentina	5,337,914
China	5,588,015
Other Countries	24,281,849
Total:	322,715,812

	Exports $
France	2,660,000
Switzerland	1,379,957
Canada	1,704,605
Mexico	4,706,475
British India	14,637,246
Hongkong	2,377,219
Other countries	1,177,219
Total:	28,643,417

We append details showing the total yearly imports and exports of gold to and from the U.S.A. since 1912:—

	Imports $	Exports $
1912	66,548,772	47,424,842
1913	63,704,832	91,798,610
1914	57,387,741	222,616,156
1915	451,954,590	31,425,918
1916	685,990,234	155,792,927
1917	552,454,374	371,883,884
1918	62,042,748	41,069,818
1919	76,534,046	368,185,248
1920	417,068,273	322,091,208
1921	691,248,297	23,891,377
1922	275,169,785	36,874,894
1923	322,715,812	28,643,417

THE SILVER MARKET

Reporting from London on March 26, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. states:—

The market remained singularly steady until Monday, when some silver commenced to be sold on China account and prices began to sag away. The Indian bazaars have been sluggish, and on the whole business has not been active.

We understand that at the close of business on the 11th instant, the amount of silver undelivered against Pittman Act purchases was 955, 592 oz.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and forward delivery are respectively the same as and ⅛d. below those fixed a week ago.

Messrs. Mocatta & Goldsmid, reporting from London on March 27, states:—

The silver market has remained very quiet, but there has been rather more business during the past week and the price has fluctuated between 33⅛d. and 33½d. India has been a moderate buyer whilst the selling has been on China and Continental account. Stocks in Shanghai have recently increased considerably and the market has become very dependent on India for support, but unless China becomes a big seller we do not expect any important movement in the price at present.

JAPAN'S TRADE IN 1923.

The statistics of Japan's foreign trade for 1923 clearly show the effects of the earthquake upon the country's overseas commerce. There is a very substantial increase in the adverse balance, which is a result of a shrinkage in exports rather than of an expansion in imports, as may be seen from the table below:—

	1922 Yen.
Imports	1,890,308,000
Exports	1,007,452,000
Excess of imports	252,856,000

	1923 Yen.
Imports	1,987,063,000
Exports	1,447,749,000
Excess of imports	539,314,000

The principal increase in imports is shown by raw cotton, which rose by over 85 million yen, and wool and woollen yarns, which are up by 52 million yen. Imports of iron and manufactures thereof declined by 31½ million yen, while food imports fell by over 38½ million yen. Raw silk accounts for 103 million yen of the decrease in exports, while cotton yarns contributed 36 million yen towards the decline.

COAL OUTPUT

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending April 26, amounted to 96,026 tons and the sales during the same period to 121,749 tons.

Messrs. George McBain have received a telegram from the manager of the Mentoukou Mine stating that the output of coal for the month of April was 17,392 tons.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

A Dull Time During Race Week: Exporters Waiting for Drop in Exchange Rates

May 10.

It has been a very uninteresting week in all lines. The races generously are treated only as a coincidence, and the explanation is said to be that there was a sudden unaccountable falling off of orders, particularly as regards piece goods. Exporters have had very little to do, for though there have been some inquiries, they have not been of a nature to bring business and transactions are unlikely until there is a more favourable exchange. The Chinese cotton and yarn markets were dull enough anyway, but, to make the stagnation more pronounced, the Chinese all took a busmen's holiday yesterday, attending the exchange, but ignoring possible business and spending the day in the smoking room discussing the political situation

Piece Goods.

The rise in values during the past six weeks, though slow, was so steady that it was evident there would be a reaction, even though slight and this came during the week. Expect locally, the weather conditions have been favourable and it is hard to understand quite why the market suddenly has gone groggy. The fact remains, however, that there has been a lack of orders and a more or less general decline in prices. There does not appear to be anything seriously wrong, but for some obscure reason business has fallen off.

Cotton and Yarn

China Cotton.—Very little business was done on any day during the week and yesterday was a holiday. The closing quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange on Thursday were:—May, 47; June, 46.45; July, 45.90; August, 44.80; September, 41.25; October, 38.95. Spot quotations were:—Tungchow, 49; Shanghai, 45.50; Shensi, 47.50; Hankow, 45.50-46.50.

Yarn.—Thursday's closing quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange were:—May, 178.90; June, 176.50; July, 174; August, 172; September, 169; October, 165.60.

Produce.

The market has remained in about the same condition as it was last week. Exchange is hampering business, otherwise there would be some improvement to record, for it is recognized that, as soon as exchange comes down, the export business must take a change for the better. At present trade is hanging fire, awaiting better prices. Very few inquiries have been received from Home. There were some for egg products, suggesting a tendency to do business, but nothing definite resulted. There are no stocks of sesamum seed and ground nuts cannot be got rid of.

INVESTMENTS IN THE PHILIPPINES

General Increase Over Last Year

Manila, Apr. 22.

American investments in the Philippines increased slightly during the year 1923 compared with 1922, Chinese more than doubled their investments over 1922, while Filipino investments slumped by practically two thirds compared with 1922, according to figures compiled by Fidel A. Rayes, Director of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry.

During the year 1923 there were registered 384 corporations and partnerships, of which 50 were American, with an aggregate capital of $1,111,000, compared with 49 the previous year with a capital of $1,050,000; 143 Filipino, with capital of $1,325,000, compared with 120 the previous year with capital of $4,400,000; and 171 Chinese, with capital of $4,325,000, compared with 125 Chinese concerns with capital of $1,900,000 in 1922.

Twenty other concerns from various countries were registered.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE RUBBER MARKET

Export from British Malaya

An official report from Singapore states that the gross exports of rubber from British Malaya in the month of February amounted to 19,395 tons. The amount of rubber imported was 7,440 tons, so that net exports amounted to 11,955 tons, as compared with 15,818 tons in the corresponding month of last year. Appended are the comparative statistics:—

Month	1923 Gross Export Ton	1923 Net Export Ton	1924 Gross Export Ton	1924 Net Export Ton
January	22,871	18,513	23,848	14,981
February	19,907	15,818	19,395	[illegible]
Total	42,778	34,331	43,243	26,936

APRIL'S WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

The total index number for April, as compiled by the Treasury Deparment's Bureau of Markets, is 153.7, being 2.7 per cent. lower than the previous month and 2.6 per cent. lower in comparison with the corresponding month of last year. This month has the lowest figure since September last. Among the various kinds only other food products, fuels and sundries show a slight increase, while other groups all have falls, especially cereals and textiles.

The monthly figures since April, 1923, are given below:—

Last Wed.	Cereals	Other Food Products	Textiles	Metals	Fuels	Building Materials	Industrial materials	Sundries	MISCELLANEOUS Averages	Total Averages
Feb. 1923	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
April 1923	150.1	156.3	154.1	160.3	177.0	168.4	189.7	135.1	167.6	157.7
May 1923	154.1	159.8	154.9	162.4	169.5	162.3	177.7	134.3	160.9	158.4
June 1923	153.7	152.6	155.8	157.8	167.7	159.1	172.5	126.0	156.3	155.2
July 1923	152.8	154.4	155.9	155.8	168.1	160.9	170.8	132.8	158.1	155.4
Aug. 1923	150.0	148.5	153.5	156.8	164.2	162.4	162.9	132.4	155.5	153.1
Sept. 1923	153.2	150.3	154.8	166.9	165.2	163.7	173.0	131.7	158.9	156.8
Oct. 1923	146.1	152.9	160.0	160.8	166.0	166.3	180.6	129.5	160.6	156.1
Nov. 1923	141.5	157.4	165.8	157.9	166.4	167.2	193.0	129.7	164.1	157.3
Dec. 1923	141.2	155.8	165.7	161.0	172.2	162.9	189.6	129.7	163.6	157.5
Jan. 1924	139.1	154.9	165.7	157.9*	169.9	163.8	183.5	128.8	161.5	155.8
Feb. 1924	145.6	159.8	167.9	166.6	159.5	160.5	179.0	130.5	157.4	159.5
Mar. 1924	141.2	154.9	165.8	172.0	157.9	155.9	170.6	130.5	153.7	157.5
April 1924	131.9	156.9	158.7	167.4	159.3	155.4	166.9	132.9	153.6	153.7

*Corrected.

CIGARETTE IMPORTS INTO SHANGHAI IN 1923

Figures are not yet available showing the total cigarette importations into China for last year, but the total indicated in the annexed table, compiled by the Government Bureau of Economic Informaton, may be used as an index. In 1922 the port of Shanghai received 36 36 per cent. of the cigarette shipments coming into all China, in 1921 it received 30 per cent. and in 1920, 22 per cent. These percentages are by value. The 1923 imports into Shanghai give an average value of Haikwan Tls. 2.73 per 1,000 cigarettes. The 1922 average for Shanghai was Tls. 2.93, and the 1921 average Tls. 2.99. The average for all China in 1922 was Tls. 2.91, 1921, Tls. 2.99, 1920 Tls. 2.97. The total cigarette imports into China in 1922, as recorded by the Chinese Maritime Customs, was Haikwan Tls. 28,339,143; and of cigas, Haikwan Tls. 878,316 (1 Hk. Tael equals approximately U.S. $0.75, or Sterling 3/5).

Imported From	Value over Hk. Tls. 12.50 for 1,000 Mille	Value Hk. Tls.	Value over Hk. Tls. 8.50 for 1,000 Mille	Value Hk. Tls.	Value over Hk. Tls. 6.50 for 1,000 Mille	Value Hk. Tls.	Value over Hk. Tls. 4.50 for 1,000 Mille	Value Hk. Tls.	Value over Hk. Tls. 3.300 for 1,000 Mille	Value Hk. Tls.	Value over Hk. Tls. 1.50 for 1,000 Mille	Value Hk. Tls.	Value over Hk. Tls. 15.50 or less. Mille	Value Hk. Tls.
Egypt	3,100	55,342	181	1,937	178	1,448	110	1,310	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Britain	2,639	36,860	119,824	1,154,240	142,644	1,161,984	105,955	621,115	3	—	61,751	163,491	—	—
United States	307	6,838	4,775	50,141	—	—	5,272	23,975	25,800	116,055	6,926,894	17,231,002	110,700	143,481
Italy	100	2,160	—	—	—	—	408	2,545	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	6	114	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,200	20,034	780,280	1,964,043	16,654	31,217
Germany	18	234	5	54	—	—	13	65	—	—	25	61	—	—
Japan	—	—	2	29	8	25	5	26	—	—	—	—	—	—
Netherlands	—	—	1	6	4	28	120	541	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	—	—	9	81	—	—	250	1,244	2,310	9,950	32,626	76,966	25,082	37,101
India	—	—	—	—	250	1,338	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manila	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,118	4,800	57	104	2,430	2,996
French Indo-China	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	75	104
Total	6,170	101,548	124,797	1,206,470	143,079	1,165,323	112,133	650,821	650,821	34,431	7,801,633	19,435,667	164,941	214,899

COMPANIES NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Yangtsze Insurance Co., Ltd.—Subject to audit, the directors will recommend a dividend of 22½ per cent. ($2.25) per share.

The Eastern Insurance Co., Ltd.—Subject to audit, the directors will recommend a dividend of 7 per cent. (Tls 1.40) per share.

The J. Llewellin & Co., Ltd.—The 5th annual General Meeting will be held at No. 7 The Bund, on Monday, May 12, at 4 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 5 to 12, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Municipal Council Silver Loan 1924, 6% Debentures.—The Debentures of this issue will bear interest from the date of purchase at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, payable on June 30 and December 31 in each year.

The Debentures will be issued at Tls. 97½ per cent. and will be redeemed under the operation of a Sinking Fund on December 31, 1954, but may be redeemed by the Council in whole or in part on December 31, 1934, or on any subsequent date, subject to the Council giving six calendar months' notice in the Municipal Gazette and the public press of Shanghai.

In the event of any partial redemption of the loan, the numbers of debentures to be redeemed will be decided by drawing.

The scrip will be issued in denominations of Tls. 5,000, Tls. 1,000, Tls. 500, Tls. 100 to suit the convenience of applicants.

Application forms can be obtained from the Treasurer and Comptroller, Finance Dept., Administration Building, Hankow Road, Shanghai.

The Lane Crawford & Co., Ltd.—The Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 9A Nanking Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, May 22, 1924, at 5.15 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 7 to 22, 1924, both days inclusive.

Share Report for Week Ending May 9, 1924.

No. 24/19.

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
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With the Shanghai Race Club Spring Meeting as a counter attraction to the financial market generally very little business has been done during the past week on the local share market. With a further slight decline in the prices offering for rubber in London and Singapore the demand for "Rubbers" is negligible. Hongkong & Shanghai Bank shares are firmer and business is reported to-day at local $1 less. A nearly nominal cost basis for all the sound local investment stocks but few parcels obtainable at the figures now offered.

London market quotations indicate a dull tone except for Singapore Trams and Shanghai Electric Construction Co. both of which show a marked tendency to go higher. The following are the latest prices offered to or by sellable lots this week:—

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Gold Loan 1913, B.I.	£ 70. 0. 0	(Middle Price)
" " " " " " F.I.	68. 0. 0	" ex B.I.R.S.
" " " " " " R.I.	68. 0. 0	" cum "
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"	3. 12. 8	"
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Estates, Fully Pd.	1. 11. 3	"
" " 10/- pd.	0. 13. 3	(Buyers)
Shanghai Electric Cons. Co., "B"	9. 14. 9	"
British-American Tob. Co., "B"	5. 7. 6	(Middle Price)
Imperial Tobacco of Great Britain (Ord)	3. 17. 9	"
Singapore Electric Tramways	0. 3. 8	(Buyers)
Chinese Govt. 5% Shan. & Nanking Rly. Bonds	65. 0. 0	(Sellers)

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/21 1/2.

Shanghai, May 9, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

MAY	3rd Cash	3rd June	5th Cash	5th June	6th Cash	6th June	7th Cash	7th June	8th Cash	8th June	9th Cash	9th June
RUBBERS												
Tanah Merah Rub. Est., Ld. Tls.	..	..							0.47½	..	..	..
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
Langkats (combined) .. .. Tls.	..	26¾										
S'hai Land Invest. Co., Ld. "	..	..							120	..	..	..
S'hai Elec. Cons. Co., "B" "	..	..							17	..	..	..
COTTONS												
DEBENTURES												
S.M.C. 1919, 7% Debs. .. Tls	..	..							..	..	102	..
" 1922, 7% " "	..	..							..	..	104½	..

SPRING RACE HOLIDAY

SPRING RACE HOLIDAY

SPRING RACE HOLIDAY

FORWARD SETTLEMENTS FOR 1924.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, MAY 9, 1924.

STOCK	Last business done	Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc.	Firm's year ended	Last Dividend etc.	Part of 1923
BANKS.									
London	£	132½							
Hongkong & Shanghai Bkg. Corpn.	$	110	110	61)	400,000	H $125	Dec.	Final $3 & Bonus $2, mkg. $5 (1923) less I/T	25-2-24
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. ..London	£	19 3/16			600,000	£5	Dec.	Final 7s. & Bonus 6s. 3d. (mkg. £1 0s. 3d.) free of I.T. 1923	9-4-24
INSURANCE.									
Union Ins. Society of Canton, Ltd	H $	240		55)	200,000	d £4	Dec.	Final 15s. (mkg. £1) ex 1921 Work. a/c. Interim 24s. & Bonus to Contributors, 20 % ex 1922 Work a/c	25-5-24
North-China Insurance Co., Ld.	T	138			10,000	s £5	Dec.	Final 15s. (mkg. 30s.) ex 1921 Work a/c. and Interim 15s. ex 1922 Works. a/c.	30-6-24
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld. ..	$	29½	29½	21)	250,000	$10	Dec.	$2 (or T1.46) ex 1922 Work. a/c. payable in Taels at Exchg. 73	30-5-24
Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld.	T	22		1)	50,000	T20	Dec.	T1.20 ex 1922 Work. a/c.	30-5-24
Canton Insurance Office, Ld.	H $	730	720		10,000	f H $100	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $40) ex 1921 Work. a/c. and Interim H $18 ex 1922 Work. a/c.	11-5-24
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld. ..	H $	550	530		8,000	g H $50	Dec.	H $25 ex 1922 Working a/c.	27-3-24
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	H $	145			20,000	h H $20	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $3 ex 1921 Work. a/c. ..	25-5-24
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	F	500			14,000	F500	Dec.	None, Floated 1918	....
SHIPPING.									
Indo-China S.N. Co., Ld. .. (8%-cum pref.	H $	23	23½	2)	120,000	£5	Dec.	Pref. 6s. at Exchg. 1/4 London Warrants less I/T a/c. 1922. Def. Ord. Nil	15-3-24
(def. ord.	H $	140		2)	120,000	£5			
Shell T'anort & Trading (ord.	'B'		24.1.50	56)	20,000,000	£1			
Co., Ld. (7%-cum 1st pref.	£			21)	300,000	£10	Dec.	Interim 2s., free of I/T, Coupon 42	5-1-24
(7%-cum 2nd pref.	£			57)	10,000,000	£1			
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co., Ld. ord.	T	87½			20,000	T25	Dec.	Final Ord. T1.50 (mkgs. T7, 1923)	11-3-24
(7% pref.	T	51½	53		10,000	T50		Final Pref. T1.75 (mkgs. T2.50, 1923)	11-3-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.									
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld. ..	T	95		47)	55,700	T75	Apr.	T7.50, 1922-23	27-7-23
Hongkong & W'poo Dock Co., Ld.	H $	152		‡	60,000	H $50	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkgs. H $9, 1923)	21-3-24
New Eng. and Shipbuilding (ord.	T	5½	5½	42)	500,000	T5			
Works, Ld. .. .. .. (8% pref.	T	4.95	6.05	65)	500,000	T5	Dec.	Ord. T0.25, 1923	10-2-24
								Pref. T0.40 1923..	10-2-24
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co., Ld.	T	192½		‡31)	40,000	T100	Dec.	Final T10 (mkgs. T13, 1923)	4-3-24
H'kong & K'loon W. & G. Co., Ld. ..	H $	168	165½		30,000	H $50	Dec.	H. $6 & Bonus H. $3, 1923	26-2-24
MINING.									
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ld. ..	£	12/-		24)	500,000	G.$10		——	
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ld. (Boarer).	T	21½	21	†‡64)	2,000,000	£1	June	Int. 2% free of I/T. 1923-1924 (Coupon	
London	£		£3:10:9	£3:13:9			June	No. 24)	1-7-24
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ld. ..	H $	5			200,000	£1	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	21-5-10
								2s. less I/T 4s. 7½d in $ (Coupon 21) .. — ..	16-4-24
LANDS AND HOTELS.									
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld. ..	T	120	119	‡)	78,000	T50	Dec.	Final T3 & Bonus T2 (mkg. T8. 1923)	21-3-24
H'kong Land Invest. & Agcy. Co., Ld. ..	H $	111	108		240,000	H $25	Dec.	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares (mkg. H $5, 1923) H $2.50 on 40,000 new shs.	28-1-24
(New Reg.)									
Humphreys Est. & Finance Co., Ld. ..	H $	24	23½		150,000	H $10	Dec	H $0.80 and Bonus H $0.80, 1923	11-2-24
Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld.	T	6			3,674	T20	Dec.	T1.20, 1923	13-2-24
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld. ..	T	115½	119	‡23)	18,000	T100	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg. T8, 1923-24)	3-4-24
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld. ..	H $	19 old 12½ new	18 12½	33)	500,000	H $10	Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000 shares (mkg. H $2 (old)	21-2-24
Carlton, Ld.	T	53		14)	10,000	T50	Mar.	Floated April 1, 1922	
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	G $	100		‡18)	10,000	G $100	Dec.	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware 1922, 7 %	4-1-23
Raven Trust Co., Inc. — .. (ord.	G $	10	12½		••100,000	G $10			
(pref	G $	10	10			G $10		Ord. Pref. 1st gr. 1923, 12 %	4-1-23
PLANTATIONS.									
Alma Estates, Ld.	T	5½	5½		70,000	$1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23 .. .. —	19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld. ..	T	0.25		‡62)	500,000	T1		Oct.		
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld. ..	T	2	1.80	12)	400,000	10s.	a T30,242	Dec.	T0.20, 1923	14-4-24
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T	5.10		4)	500,000	10s.	a T12,442			
							c T372,167	Dec.	Final T0.30 (mkg. T0.55, 1923..	25-4-24
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld.	T	21	20	27)	30,000	T10	a T16,223			
							b T22,000	Sept.	Final T2.00, (mkg. T2½) 1922-23	24-12-23
							c T69,960			
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld. ..	T	0.70			400,000	T1	a T24,777	Dec.	T0.05, 1923	11-4-24
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T	1.12½	0.85		500,000	T1	a T20,402	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	26-7-17
Bute Plantation (1913), Ld.	T	0.75		28)	500,000	T1	a T3,503	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	28-3-17
Clonmor United Rubber Co., Ld.	T	0.35	0.75	0.35	400,000	T0.20	a T17,873	Dec.		
							c T12,000		Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)..	3-4-24
Chempedak Rub. & G'bier Est., Ld. ..	T	4½		39)	35,000	£1	a (Loss) T13,135	Oct.	2nd Interim, T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17)	16-10-17
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	1			675,000	T1	a T4,129	June	T0.20, 1916-17	1-11-17
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ld. ..	T	2.12½		26)	500,000	2s.—T0.75	a T16,983	Dec.		
							b T60,000		Final T0.15 (mkg. T0.21, 1923)..	9-4-24
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T	1½		19)	350,000	T1	a T2,775	Dec.	T0.10, 1923	16-4-24
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T	7½	9	†48)	750,000	21;450,000 5s;200,000	a			
							c			
Java-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee							a T17,215			
Est., Ld.	T	10½		8)	85,000	£1 at 2/3½	c T2,685	Dec.	Final T0.75 (mkg. T1.25, 1923)..	18-4-24
Kali Gludik Coffee Estates, Ld.	T	6.10			70,000	T5			Incorporated 1923	....
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld. ..	T	9.40		35)	15,000	T10	a T6,977		(T0.50, 1922	19-4-23
							c T4,023	Dec.	(Interim 1923, T0.50	17-7-23
Karan Rubber Estate Co., Ld. —	T	4			25,000	T10	a T5,028			
							b T20,000	Mar.	T0.60, 1922-23 .. —	1-6-24
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Ltd.	T	0.75			350,000	T1	a (Loss) T2,745	June		
Kroewoek Java Plantations, Ld.	T	12	10	20)	70,000	£1 at T5.00	c T4,000	Dec.		
Padang Rubber Co., Ltd.	T	24			60,000	T50	a T2,000	Dec.		

RUBBER AUCTIONS.

The following telegraphic advices have been received:—

Singapore, May 7, 1924.

Spot or May	... ...	38¼ cents
June	... ...	39 ,,
July/Sept.	... ...	40½ ,,
Oct./Dec.	... ...	41½ ,,

Market dull with downward tendency.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
S'hai Municipal Council	1905	6 to 20	5-4-24	T97	d 320,000	6	June-Dec.
	1907	do.	15-4-24	T99	500,000	6	do.
	1908	do.	9-5-24	T98	650,000	6	do.
	1909	do.	15-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
	1910	do.	17-4-24	T99	343,800	6	do.
	1911	10 to 30	9-5-24	T97½	250,000	6	do.
	1912	do.	3-1-24	T99	310,000	6	do.
	1913	do.	3-5-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
		10 to 50	8-5-22	T78	500,000	5½	do.
	1914	10 to 30	14-4-24	T90	900,000	5½	do.
	1915	do.	9-5-24	T89	800,000	5½	do.
	1916	do.	9-5-24	T97½	1,400,000	6	do.
	1918	10	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
	1919	10	9-5-23	T102	1,793,200	7	do.
	1920	10	1-5-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
		10 to 30	29-3-24	£104	£75,000	6	do.
	1921	do.	18-2-24	$110	$1,000,000	8	do.
	1921	do.	29-1-24	T110	T5,000,000	8	do.
	1922	do.	9-5-24	T104½	T8,000,000	7	do.
	1923	do.	9-5-24	T97½	aT6,000,000	6	do.
	1924	do.	1-5-24	T97½	T500,000	6%	do.
French Municipal Council	1911	do.	8-10-23	T95	400,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914	do.	12-2-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
	1917	do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
	1921	do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8	do.
	1923	do.	17-12-23	T95	a T300,000	6	May-Nov.
S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	1921	10 to 30	9-5-24	T107	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
	1922	do.	6-5-24	T103	T500,000	8	do.
S'hai Gas Co., Ltd	1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
	1909	dc.	2-1-23	T94	e 800,000	6	do.

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—b—Tls.65,100; c—Tls 61,100; d—Tls.34,100; e—Tls.68,500; f—Tls.262,400; g—Tls.139,800; h—Tls.12,300; i—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1923: Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Total output this fin'r: to date.
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Alma	Tls. 620,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	246,618	8.87d.	68,000	22,000	18,000	17,000	19,000	144,000
Amberst (New)	,, 500,000	Oct.	72,412	80,692	90,751	*4.89d.	19,020	8,214	8,479	14,662	14,670	66,941
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	650,000	540,000	600,000	8.45d.	..	64,000	50,000	65,000	62,500	241,500
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,524,711	1,663,400	..	6.70d.	..	154,000	164,100	167,000	173,000	706,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 300,000	Sept.	369,447	58,042	360,000	†0.24.41	..	..	..	..	..	..
Batu Arang	,, 400,000	Dec.	222,510	214,350	187,500	9.01d.	..	12,500	11,500	15,000	15,300	54,300
Batu Arang	,, 500,000	Dec.	265,048	24,152	310,000	7.54d.	..	..	..	..	25,000	25,000
Bukit Toh Alang	,, 500,000	Mar.	220,077	1,475,50	159,516	11.11d.	..	17,500	16,000	13,600	Nil	47,100
Bute	,, 500,000	Dec.	249,291	267,627	..	8.40d.	..	27,200	23,200	9,500	16,900	76,800
Chemor United	,, £25,000	Oct.	115,764	163,063	..	1/5.32d.	30,700	14,000	4,200	1,950	33,250	63,400
Chenpedak	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.09d.	102,014	10,500	9,000	11,500	14,400	145,414
Cheuk	375,000	Dec.	669,899	649,775	761,500	7.47d.	..	53,000	56,772	44,537	44,528	199,758
Consolidated (1914)	,, 350,000	Dec.	271,150	324,546	306,887	9.63d.	..	28,032	27,654	16,999	19,369	91,054
Dominion	,, £500,000	Dec.	1,113,000	920,000	1,217,000	1/0.4d.	..	88,000	78,000	66,000	83,000	315,000
Gula-Kalumpong	£85,000	Dec.	686,324	622,225	..	6.25d.	..	68,200	60,900	72,300	72,900	274,400
Java Consolidated	£50,000	Dec.	159,239	116,710	..	126.9c.	..	10,591	8,315	7,656	7,990	32,141
Kapayang	,, 250,000	Mar.	104,753	79,576	81,000	84d.	..	..	..	..	6,950	6,950
Karah	,, 300,000	June	138,330	339,970	..	..	180,918	29,156	26,949	19,180	15,640	255,743
Kora Rahroe (1921)	,, £70,000	Dec.	419,000	582,881	540,000	0.7.24d.	..	59,000	55,000	50,000	56,000	220,000
Kroestock	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	842,589	913,000	975,000	Gld.0.28	179,300	82,500	71,500	70,000	64,000	477,300
Langkat	Tls. 500,000	April	709,711	227,222	..	10d.	120,500	19,700	11,100	8,000	12,000	171,000
Padang	150,000	Mar.	15,234	9,595	176,088	†10.19	..	..	..	..	..	..
Penkalan (1921)	,, 250,000	Oct.	87,203	86,240	..	0.81d.	17,556	8,000	6,000	5,000	..	31,556
Permata	,, 275,000	Dec.	68,584	217,087	..	..	..	17,400	8,700	15,900	11,000	53,000
Repah	,, 600,000	Sept.	361,816	250,813	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sumatra	,, 100,000	June	17,000	14,000	115,183	11.37d.	120,500	8,500	11,000	10,500	8,200	138,750
See Kee (1918)	,, 300,000	Dec.	164,104	241,599	155,264	0.9.37d.	..	13,100	15,100	2,600	1,600	50,000
Semanis	,, 37,500	Jan.	37,500	37,100	..	*1.35d.	..	..	14,000	16,100	14,700	44,100
Senawang (1921)	,, 400,000	Sept.	314,411	240,412	..	8.12d.	67,620	24,496	17,259	17,021	22,000	148,411
Shanghai Kedah	,, 200,000	Dec.	178,000	166,004	..	11.57d.	..	8,700	8,000	..	..	16,700
Shanghai Kedah	,, 500,000	Dec.	353,171	288,716	10,961	..	..	22,750	21,134	16,251	7,983	68,118
Shell-Mex	,, £100,000	Dec.	200,881	155,016	..	9.1d.	100,373	10,142	14,157	14,811	11,100	150,583
S'hai Tobacco	,, £50,000	June	1,000,000	14,142	..	9.82d.	..	11,000	13,000	7,500	6,000	42,500
S'hai Securities	,, £100,000	Dec.	1,000,000	14,142	..	9.82d.	..	11,000	13,000	7,500	6,000	42,500
Siak-Sumatra	,, 600,000	Oct.	661,350	679,119	650,000	Gld.0.33	111,341	61,110	51,170	43,200	39,000	308,221
Sua Manggis	,, 250,000	Dec.	184,000	147,100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sumala	,, 100,000	Mar.	105,757	22,902	..	17.20	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungei Duri	£40,000	June	308,073	286,588	228,000	11.61d.	126,409	23,098	22,272	10,048	10,789	193,196
Sungei Duri	200,000	Dec.	10,011	15,879	20,000	*1.00	..	..	5,572	5,061	..	20,133
Taiping (1913)	Tls. 750,000	Dec.	290,000	310,000	..	7.7d.	..	..	..	..	27,500	27,500
Tanah Merah	,, 200,000	Mar.	230,000	234,000	717,750	0/7.66d.	..	61,000	58,000	53,000	59,000	59,000
Tebong	£150,000	Jan.	630,585	725,000	600,000	7.24d.	..	67,600	58,200	68,000	63,300	247,000
Ziangbe	,, £150,000	Dec.	514,566	523,600								

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expense † Straits cents

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Correspondence

(*Continued from Page 218.*)

remained longer. The girls have a rest from their sordid life; some do a little knitting or other work, or learn a few characters; they are treated kindly and befriended in many ways. Some have gone back to homes or friends; others have been cared for in hospital; probably many have come back into the vortex from which it is not easy to escape. But all have shown appreciation of what has been done for them, and the ultimate good results we may never know; but they will be worth while.

The Home is badly in need of funds to keep it going; over $200 per month is required, but our income for this special object has fallen short, which is disappointing as we hoped this particular work would be sure of public support. We feel sure there are many who would be glad to help if the matter is brought to their attention. This Home is an experiment which is well worth trying and supporting; it may lead to something permanent for the benefit of a needy class, a class which in China especially claims our sympathy, as so many have had no choice in their fate. A recent case was a girl from the country whose uncle promised to get her a job in a factory at Shanghai, and then sold her for $200. She had been in a brothel for six months before being arrested for solicitation; she refused to go back to the life, so stayed at the Home after her time had expired, while her owners hung around for an opportunity of decoying her away. Pending arrangements to have her returned to her home, two or three days' journey distant, she has gone to the Door of Hope where she may ultimately choose to remain for a time and make a fresh start in life. But for our Home, probably a $5 fine would have been paid and the girl returned to her wretched life against her better feelings.

The M. W. L. is guiding the Home through its initial stages, and we confidently appeal for help to continue the work; it would be deplorable if it had to be given up for lack of support. Contributions, large or small, will be welcome, and may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Rev. J. W. Crofoot, St. Catherine's Bridge.

We are, etc.,

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MORAL WELFARE LEAGUE.

Shanghai, May 3, 1924.

THE FULL RIGGED SHIP.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I thought someone would "buy it"! Now that Mainsail Haul has given us his answer and as Lee Fore Brace goes into details, I would be much obliged if either of these old salts would describe the exact use and position of the "Galley Tripping Line" and what member of a sailing ship's company should be asked for the "Key of the Kelson." Further, what is "Belaying Pin Soup"?

Thanking you for the space,

I am, etc.

A MERE LANDLUBBER.

Shanghai, May 3, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In addition to "Mainsail Haul's" list of seven ropes may I add "mast rope, heel rope" and I think "head rope."

As for "Lee Fore Brace's" inquiry as to what was meant by a full-rigged ship, I think it too funny for words. I was always under the impression that the name "full-rigged ship" meant a ship with three masts, square rigged on each mast. Anything with more than three masts was called a "four masted ship" or "five masted ship" provided each mast was square rigged.

And surely he knows that the amount of ship's gear actually called ropes is the same on the smallest brigantine as on the largest ship afloat.

Might I inquire, has "Lee Fore Brace" ever seen a square rigged ship? Reed's "Seamanship" gives a good description of the running and standing gear of one.

I am, etc.,

INVERCLYDE

Shanghai, May 4, 1924.

PROHIBITION

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—It is getting almost exciting to take up the paper these mornings—thanks to the inevitable structure on prohibition.

Wade in my native land of America. I was never an advocate of prohibition. I don't trust her as champion the attacks of our British cousins the advocate me to [illegible] and ardent defence and advocacy of our great American institution. There must be other Americans in the same [illegible] where the attacks of our British cousins have always placed me since the days when John Bull and his son Jonathan disagreed about whether a certain [illegible] should be called a church or a meeting house. My slumber is normally being disturbed by having to lie awake and ponder upon new lines of defence of our dryness against the bitter thrusts and sharp vituperative sarcasm of the Briton. It recalls my first trip home after prohibition came in force. In the dining saloon on the boat I sat at table with some Englishmen, who, of course, enlivened every meal by "knocking" vigorously at prohibition. And while I had set out from Shanghai as much opposed to prohibition as any of them, I give you my word that when I reached 'Frisco after 21 days of hearing my country abused for its dryness I would have gone out gladly and marched with the most fanatic saloon league procession that ever paraded a main street in the whole length and breadth of the land. However, removed from the "knockers," my pugnacity began to die down and in a few weeks I had resumed my usual attitue on the drink question. Now, again, I feel stirring within me that same patriotic fervor for my native land and its institutions. A few more meetings of it, and I believe my state of mind will warrant my [illegible] to go to England itself to join the Pussyfoot missionaries there who are bringing [illegible] however much derided—an era very different from the time when was sung "Britons never, never will be slaves—to prohibition."

And this reminds me of the serious object of my letter, *viz.*, to quote from an article in a leading American magazine by a well-known publicist (The "Century Magazine," January, 1924, Charles Edward Russell) who writes impartially under the caption "Is the World Going Dry?" The writer fears that the world is going dry because of the fact that business men everywhere have realized that workers are more efficient without any sort of alcoholic drink. He relates the facts that during the War Great Britain realized that drink was cutting down the efficiency of workers in munition and all other factories and to meet the situation, took, "not the beer away from the working man, but took the alcohol out of the beer." Since that time prohibition in America has been watched closely by British business men. They have observed the following—for instance.

"In the first year of national prohibition the business of the department stores of America increased 17 per cent.; of the chain groceries 43 per cent.; of the chain drug stores 43 per cent.; . . Estimates of the annual increased revenue of the moving picture business that prohibition has wrought are made in hundreds of millions of dollars.

"In 620 savings banks the deposits increased under one year of prohibition by $6,001,750,000 against an increase of $4,599,000,000 the previous year. . . . These are but samples . . . .

". . . master producers in *all countries* (italics mine) are looking with wry faces at the new figures of American production and production costs. . . . competition will drive Europe in self-defence to adopt prohibition. . . .

". . . When the *British Parliament* (italics mine) is in session, hardly a day passes without discussion or mention of the subject, and from hour to hour across the debates moves the shadow of an obvious uneasiness. Like a graveyard whistle comes now the once confident assurance that Britons never, never will suffer life without beer, while 267 societies in England alone are working for prohibition. . . . .

"After two years of American prohibition, Mr. G. C. Lyle, a British [illegible] anti-prohibitionist, came to this country to observe the workings of the new reform. On his return he was quoted as declaring in a speech in Birmingham that seven American [illegible] with the same plant, [illegible] same facilities, would produce more than ten British workingmen. . . . ."

Big business plays the tune we dance to. Money talks—whether in the vernacular of pounds or dollars.—we listen. Both in the country that has been called the land of materialism and in that once described as a nation of shopkeepers. Alas, 'tis too true. And on that basis prohibition will win the day not only in America but in Britain. Watch it!

Sadly and belligerently,

JOHN BULL'S GREAT-GRANDSON.
JONATHAN.

Shanghai, May 5, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In reply to Jonathan, I would like to state that neither a cousin nor grandson of John Bull could possibly have adopted his line of reasoning in regard to Prohibition simply because the average Briton thrives on criticism, and it would be difficult to find even a cousin of a Briton so antipathic as to attempt to convince himself against his own better judgment that a thing is right merely because a traditional adversary says it is wrong.

If Prohibition were an entirely American institution, Nationalism might justifiably be introduced into the discussion, but it must be borne in mind that Persia, Arabia and Turkey were enjoying the blessings of compulsory abstinence long before America was even thought of, and the Prophet does not say whether the chain drug stores or moving pictures in Persia have prospered or the savings banks in Arabia have declared an extra dividend or whether the Turkish working man is more efficient than a hairy Ainu.

The article quoted from a leading American magazine in defence of prohibition is typical of the state of mind in which the average American finds himself after being deprived of certain liberties by Constitutional Amendment.

Lacking the perspicacity to criticize his own country's instructions, the only thing he has left to hope for is that other nations will forgo beer and wine, not because of the right or wrong of it, but merely to justify his own short-sighted policies.

I am, etc.,

E. F. ATKINSON.

Shanghai, May 7, 1924.

Y.M.C.A. AND ANTI-FOREIGNISM

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Next Friday is the "Day of National Shame," and at the Y.M.C.A. on Sunday I learned that this week is being kept as "Civic Week," when the duties of citizenship will be emphasized. The idea of inducing the Chinese populace to take an intelligent interest in politics is excellent: but is it not unfortunate that the notion should be introduced that to be a good citizen one must be a good hater of foreigners? At the Washington Conference Japan made reparations for her former blunders, and the only decent thing for Chinese Christians would be to "clean the slate," and to "let bygones be bygones." Japan has been very patient: for instance, over the attack on an Upper Yangtze Japanese steamer several months ago: the Japanese officers taken captive then are still not released.

Various "patriotic" cartoons are exhibited at the Y.M.C.A. One represents a Chinese staggering under an enormous burden, the greater part of which is marked as the foreign debt of $1,269,000,000, while a much smaller part is marked as the domestic debt of $257,400,000. It appears to me that this cartoon is simply anti-foreign and nothing else: it makes me wonder for what sort of Christianity the Y.M.C.A. stands. As a matter of fact, the foreign debt would have been enormously greater if appeals of dishonest Chinese officials had not been refused by foreign financiers—in the interests of China. And the reason why the domestic debt is so small is partly because Chinese do not trust their own government sufficiently to lend money: and partly because, instead of asking for loans, the various tuchuns, nabobs, and officials of various kinds make illegal and tyrannical requisitions and exactions, or allow their licenced troops to loot the populace.

The state of China must be discouraging to patriotic Chinese; but the Y.M.C.A. will not improve matters by fostering the anti-foreign spirit.

I am, etc.,

FRATERNITY.

Shanghai, May 6, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The letter signed "Fraternity" in your issue of to-day gives an opportunity to explain that the Y.M.C.A. of China are observing this week as "Good Citizenship Week" and to let your readers know something of the purposes of this observance.

The purpose of the special week is to emphasize by lectures, cartoons and other printed matter the importance of citizenship and to call attention to those qualities of character which are required in the good citizen. The Association does not consider this as "anti-foreign."

It is felt by many that in recent years the "national spirit" in China has too often spent itself in negative ways. This has been particularly true of the celebration of "National Disgrace" day, the Fifth of May, when the chief feature has been demonstrations calling to mind the Twenty-one Demands and blaming the Japanese Empire for all present day ills.

From this you will see that the purpose of the week is just the reverse of that suggested by your anonymous correspondent. It is true that one of the cartoons represents China as struggling under the load of debt a part of which was marked as "foreign" and a part "domestic" but it is rather far-fetched to consider this as "anti-foreign."

The Association believes that the future of China depends upon the character of the individual citizen. For this reason its activities have to do with the development of the individual in mind, body and spirit. May we repeat that the Association does not concern itself with partisan politics and certainly does not teach or encourage "anti-foreign spirit." We have in China the representatives of five or six nationalities on the staff of secretaries working together for the same end. We have in Shanghai a very effective Japanese Y.M.C.A., affiliated with the National Committee, and doing an excellent work among the Japanese of this community.

If "Fraternity" desires to know more about "what sort of Christianity the Y.M.C.A. stands for" he will be welcomed at any of the meetings. We believe that the work in Shanghai and elsewhere will yield convincing proof that the Y.M.C.A. in China and abroad is one of the greatest forces for international goodwill to be found.

Apologizing for taking space on a subject which is probably already well known and appreciated by most of your readers,

I am, etc.,

W. W. LOCKWOOD.

Y. M. C. A. of
Shanghai, May 7, 1924.

To the Editor to the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I cannot but admire the "generous" spirit of the author of the article which appeared in your columns to-day under the caption of "Y.M.C.A. and Anti-Foreignism."

As I wish to be further enlightened on the subject, I am sure the Y.M.C.A., the Chinese in general and I myself would appreciate a candid answer from Mr. Fraternity to the following question:—

Suppose, Mr. Fraternity, you have a very beautiful house in town and supose, that it happens one day that one of your neighbours enters into your house very suddenly and says, "Look here, Mr. Fraternity, get out of this room and let me take it. Here is the list of things that I want to take from your house to my own. No one in this house should do anything without first obtaining my consent. If you do, you have to suffer the consequences."

Now, Mr. Fraternty, how would you handle this case? Would you be Christian enough to "clean the slate" or "let byegones be byegones?"

Mr. Fraternity, you have done creditably for the official organ of Imperial Japan for which you deserve a First Class Order of the Rising Sun from the Mikado. Congratulations.

I am, etc.,

A BROTHER OF THE FRATERNITY.

c/o Y. M. C. A.

Shanghai May 7, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Mr. Lockwood is mistaken in construing my letter as a personal attack on the work of the Y.M.C.A. For much of this I have unqualified approval. But if Mr. Lockwood thinks for a moment he will admit that unthinking Chinese [illegible] about 90 per cent. of the [illegible] will regard this "Good Citizenship Week" as mere camouflage, and imagine the Y.M.C.A. is joining in the annual celebration of anti-Japanese hatred. Will Mr. Lockwood use his influence that in future years this "Good Citizenship Week" shall not synchronize with this anti-Japanese festival?

As to the cartoon: I maintain it is simply anti-Japanese and nothing else. Will Mr. Lockwood allow me to make a comparison? Britain is now doomed for many years to pay vast sums of annual tribute to U.S.A. The great majority of Britons feel that if any useful purpose could be served by dilating on this matter, there are points that could well be discussed: but it is generally admitted that no useful purpose would be served, so we shall regard as undesirable any emphasizing of these points in a way that would arouse animosity against U.S.A. Now the effect of this Y.M.C.A. cartoon, not only on unthinking Chinese, but on all, must be to aróuse hatred against the foreigners—as the proportion of foreign debt is so much greater. What other effect can the cartoon possibly have? So may I appeal to Mr. Lockwood, in all friendliness, to use his influence to secure the withdrawal of this anti-foreign cartoon.

I am, etc.,

FRATERNITY.

Shanghai, May 8, 1924.

SOME BUDDHIST SYMBOLS.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I am not a Sinologue, but merely an ordinary individual very interested in all that pertains to the country we happen to be living in, namely, China.

During my one-time frequent trips in the interior, I often noticed the sign of the Swastika on the figures of Buddha in the temples I visited. No priest I ever asked was able to give me a wholly satisfactory answer, and indeed some frankly expressed ignorance.

What likewise is the precise significance of the Lotus Leaf in the mythology of the Buddhist religion?

Finally any information in regard to the meaning of the Chinese "Pa-Kua" would be much appreciated.

Perhaps some kind reader, well versed in the lore and legends of this most interesting country, will not disdain to impart a few items of information which will be greatly prized.

Thanking you for the courtesy of your columns,

I am, etc.,

TERRA INCOGNITA.

Shanghai, May 3, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Your correspondent "Terra Incognita" asks for information regarding some Buddhist symbols. The difficulty about replying is that these symbols have so many and, sometimes, contradictory meanings that a very long letter would be needed to treat the subject adequately. I have not time to look up authorities but if "Terra Incognita" will be satisfied with a rough explanation I will try to oblige him.

The Swastika.—The symbol is in Chinese equivalent to the character 萬 *wan*, meaning 10,000. A myriad being such a large number the word *wan* came to mean *all*. Thus 人 *jen*, is a *man*. *Wan-jen* means *all men*. 難 *Nan* means *difficult* to the point of impossibility. *Ch'uan* 全 is perfect. *Wan-ch'uan* is *absolutely perfect*. Now when the Swastika is imprinted on the figure of Buddha it indicates that he is the being of 10,000 perfections. It very likely means in esoteric Buddhism very much besides, but I cannot explain Buddhism.

The Lotus Leaf.—The Lotus is in Chinese lore what the lily is to us; the symbol of purity. It has its roots in the mud but it lifts its head above the pool pure and fragrant. It is the picture of a person being in the world but not of it. It is a Buddhist sacred symbol.

Kwanyin is said to have floated from India to China on a lotus leaf and if your correspondent will visit the island of Pootoo the priests there will show him the spot where she landed. Devout Tibetans chant "Om mani padme hum," "O' the jewel in the lotus flower." The jewel may be the pure heart in the body of the disciple. It may also be the secret meaning of the sacred law. But these instances show why Buddha is appropriately represented seated on a lotus.

The *Pa-kwa*.—This is not a Buddhist but a native Chinese symbol. It is said to have been copied by the legendary Emperor Fu Hsi B. C. 3480 from the back of a tortoise which emerged from the Yellow River. The diagrams represent the forces of nature. Three straight unbroken lines stand for heaven. Three lines of equal length but broken in the centre represent earth. And so on fire, water, thunder, etc. If 'Terra Incognita' will walk past the Y.M.C.A. building in Museum Road, he will see a sheet in the window with the eight diagrams and the *"Yin yang t'u"* or diagram of the male and female principles in nature, in the window. These diagrams are now the chief stock in trade of fortune teilers.

I am, etc.,

J. D.

Shanghai, May 7, 1924.

A LINCHENG MEMORIAL

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—If I am permitted to hazard a proposal; as a fit commemoration of the Chinese heroism so seldom praised by the barbarians, I beg to start a subscription with 20 cents for a shield (silver) for Lao Yang-wen and a bronze tablet for Sun Mei yao on the anniversary of the heroic deed of the Lincheng holdup. I will hand the money where and when directed.

The fact that it was heroic to hold up a steel train whereon were travelling strong barbarians is emphasized by the fact that Dr. Wellington Koo had to study the matter of indemnities, etc., only when he could not help doing what he did not want, i.e. listen to the barbarians' importunities. China is a civilized country.

I am, etc.,

BARBARIAN.

Shanghai, May 6, 1924.

AN APPEAL FROM KUANGTUNG

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I should be much obliged if you would permit me to appeal, through your columns, on behalf of the famine-stricken villages of the district inland from Swabue, in which the English Presbyterian Mission is working.

Last year a twofold disaster overtook the people—typhoons in July and August, and four days of heavy rain at the end of September. The damage was particularly serious in the centre, where there are two large village-groups known locally as Tangsua and Suakang. An inlet of the sea runs between this, and many of the fields lie on low land on either side: the tidal wave swept up this inlet, not only destroying what was still in the fields, but so flooding them as to make them unfit, at least for a time, for further cultivation. Then, just as the sweet potato crop was becoming available, heavy rain fell, destroying elsewhere 50 to 60 per cent. of the crop, but here some 80 to 90 per cent.

The result was inevitable—famine. Unhappily, owing to the isolated nature of these village-groups, and the fact that they have little or no dealings with one another, not to speak of the outside world, the suffering had reached in some places the point at which deaths from starvation occurred, before this was known. The Mission and the local Church at once took up the work of relief, and I am appealing far and wide for help. But there are no foreigners here except the missionaries, and we cannot make known the need.

In one village the people said, "We are ashamed: never before has a man from Tangsua gone out to beg, but there are hundreds this year who went from [illegible] to beg for food, died by the roadside. In Orkia there were 16 [illegible] in one day. Sometimes the whole family has had to be taken into the houses, as no one was left with strength to fetch it. The young men have in many cases gone abroad for work: the launches running to Hongkong had once to refuse passages to any more, lest there should be too few left to prepare the fields for the next harvest. In one house there were two old women and a child: when rice was offered, the women said, "Give it to her, she has a chance: you are too late for us!" The last wire from Dr. Ross, who is in charge of the relief work while I am away raising funds, is as follows:—"Many families already dead starvation: reckoned 6,000 will die unless supported two months, *i.e.*, until the sweet potato crop is once more ready."

Under these circumstances, I am appealing to Hongkong, Swatow, Amoy, and the Straits, for a total sum of $50,000, to be spent on rice distribution, and on such work as the drainage and cultivation of the fields. May I, therefore, ask you to make public this appeal to the generosity of the Shanghai people? What is wanted is wanted at once: delay will prove fatal to some, at least.

All money should be paid in to the account of the English Presbyterian Mission, Swabue: Relief Fund, with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Hongkong.

I am, etc.,

(Rev.) E. L. ALLEN.

English Presbyterian Mission,
Swabue, Kwangtung,
May 1, 1924.

THE Y. W. C. A.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—You have noticed how Chinese women walk. Why is it? Isn't it partly the effect of the enturies of bound-footed ancestry and partly the result of lack of training in sports, in athletics, in health principles?

On Kinchow Road is a unique school where Chinese girls go for two years of specialized physical training. In spite of their preliminary education many of them enter this new school as shy, awkward girls with narrow chests and poor postures. A few months makes a surprising difference and at the end of the two years they step out as alert, well-poised exponents of health, trained in principles of hygiene and physical education, able specialists in sanitation and public health and directors of sports. One could not imagine a more graceful type of womanhood than one of these graduates as she directs a mass drill of a thousand school girls at a Provincial Athletic Meeting. Back to their home cities and to schools all over China these young women go to build up lastingly and scientifically, the health of this land.

You who from childhood have had the inclination and opportunity to enjoy sports and health-giving recreation,—what will you do to help Chinese children and girls and women into sturdy living?

The Young Women's Christian Association is conducting a land, building and budget campaign for its *Chinese* and *Foreign* activities. We look to you to "play the game," to show "good sportsmanship," to offer generous help to the women and girls.

I am, etc.,

MISS Y. W. C. A.

Shanghai, May 6, 1924.

THE NATIONAL DEBT REDUCTION

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Your recent cables announced the reduction of the National Debt by £650,000 000 during the last five years. About the same time it was announced that the sale of surplus war stores by the Disposal Board during the same period amounted to £665,000,000.

Was this sum accounted for in the general totals? If so it would appear that the revenue not only did not wipe out any of the debt but was absolutely less than the expenditure by £15.000,000.

Can you throw light on this subject?

I am, etc.,

EDWARD S. LITTLE.

Shanghai, May 7, 1924.

THE JUNK ACCIDENT AT WUCHANG.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—My attention has been drawn to the article from your own correspondent at Wuchang under date of April 26 and appeared on page 7 of your paper dated May 1 with the headline, "Junk Passengers Drowned; Japanese Cruiser Collides with Boatload of Chinese; Many Lives Lost," and since I, being then aboard the Flagship of the Japanese Squadron as Japanese naval agent in Shanghai, find the article above-mentioned somewhat contrary to the facts of the case, I will, by your permission, herein give the real account of how the accident happened.

In the first place, your correspondent appears to be exaggerating the case when he says that the junk was a big Chinese barge, full of passengers, for the fact is that the barge was a small one with only about 10 persons aboard, of whom, according to Mr. Udagawa, who was then acting as pilot of the Japanese Squadron, five were drowned and one wounded to death.

Furthermore, your correspondent points out that although it was broad daylight, little or no attempt was made to rescue the passengers, but this accusation is a canard, for no sooner had the collision taken place than life-buoys were thrown to the drowning Chinese and a life-boat was promptly lowered by the destroyer, Nokaze, to rescue them. In addition to this, the Nokaze and the destroyer No. 1 immediately broke from the line and tried hard to rescue the unfortunate Chinese but in vain, owing to the fact that the destroyers were speeding along at the rate of about 15 knots at the time of the collision and consequently it took them time to make a turn-about, a little too long to be in time to rescue the Chinese. Judging from the above, you will see that the Japanese Squadron did all it could, never showing even a shadow of indifference despite of the false report from your own correspondent. Immediately following the accident, the officers of the Nokaze and the destroyer No. 1 went ashore at Tayeh where they conferred with the Chief of the Chinese Water-Police on the matter, and as a result of their joint investigations into the cause of the collision, it was agreed that barge was entirely at fanlt due to the reckless attempt to get across between the Japanese destroyers which were then in a single line, sailing down the River at a high rate and consequently the destroyer, Nokaze, which ran into the junk, had no chance at all to avoid the collision.

As for the matter how to relieve the bereaved families of the victims, the Japanese naval officers concerned, leaving the matter in the hands of the responsible Japanese residents in Tayeh have returned home, simply because they had no time to remain there until the case had been settled, but I feel convinced that the matter will be solved before long to the satisfaction of both parties.

Thanking you for your courtesy,

I am, etc.,

COMMANDER INOSE.

Shanghai, May 8, 1924.

TRAFFIC AND CRAWLERS

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Judging from the articles which appear now and then in the daily press, Shanghai's traffic is in a terrible condition, and, so it seems, is steadily getting worse. There is, however, a very simple method of improving its condition a little, and that is "speeding up."

Now, I know that there are hundreds of people in Shanghai who go down to office every day in motor-cars, and who, when they get to Nanking Road or Avenue Edward VII, reduce their speed to about 15 miles per hour, on the [illegible] of about 20 cars, all moving along at 15 miles per hour, like a huge crocodile, all because one nervous individual either hasn't the confidence to drive faster himself, or doesn't trust his chauffeur's skill enough to let him drive faster. That sort of man ought to travel in a ricsha, not in a car.

A worse type is the man who drives down in his two-seater roadster, with a buttonhole in his coat, cream gloves, Ascot hat, etc., and drives leisurely along so that all and sundry can observe his beautiful car, with what grace he puts his arm out to signal, and how well his car rides when driven slowly. That is the true road hog, the man who takes up the middle of the road so that the others behind are forced to travel at his speed. He it is who holds up the traffic.

The same remark applies to both the above types. Let them drive slowly if they must, but *don't* do it where others can't pass. Move to the side if someone wants to get by. Even if they don't care what time they get to office, there are others who do.

Nobody objects to these worthies showing themselves off on, say, Bubbling Well Road, because one can pass them and forget them, but they have absolutely no right to hold up the traffic in roads where it is forbidden to pass. It is pure selfishness, nothing else.

Now, I'm not a back seat driver. His opinion goes for nothing, though he generally thinks he knows exactly how the car should be driven. One hears this sort of thing: "Oh no, my dear, I never let my chauffeur drive more than 15 miles an hour in Nanking Road. It's so dangerous, don't you know." Those people ought to have special roads of their own to travel on.

It is a popular fallacy that the reason why it takes so long to get down Nanking Road is because "there is so much traffic about." But it is not the quantity of traffic that is keeping cars back, it is the deliberate blocking of the road by road hogs. If Mrs. Palmyra Whympole-Slipperkins went too fast, nobody would be able to admire her superb limousine, and besides, don't you know, one doesn't look so dignified driving fast, does one? She probably never had a car at all at home, but had to take the tram. I know what I'm talking about, because I never have any delay when the car I am driving is the first in the string. Very often I start from a crossing with another car just on my tail, and then, about 50 yards further on, I look into my mirror and discover the helpless individual crawling along yards behind.

Going back to what I said about trusting to one's chauffeur, of course one can't trust them all, the majority of them are perfectly capable of driving down Nanking Road at between 20 and 25 miles per hour, with a fairly clear road before them. If they can do it with safety, let them. After all, if a man's or a woman's nerves are so bad that he or she can't drive at that speed, there are others who can, and whose judgment of a safe speed is perfectly reliable.

I feel quite confident that if every slow driver is Shanghai speeded up his driving by five or 10 miles per hour in those roads where passing is prohibited, the traffic problem would be greatly relieved.

I am, etc.,

JAMES.

LT.-COL. Greenhill is now O. C. Troops at Tientsin, relieving Lt.-Col. Moberly Bell, commanding the 1st. Bn. Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. The new Commandant arrived at Tientsin in company with Mrs. Greenhill.

CANTON authorities are, the "Journal of Commerce" learns, raising money for the erection of a bronze statue to the late Dr. Wu Ting-fang, the famous Chinese diplomat, and for the establishment of a memorial library. Facts are being collected by a committee concerning Dr. Wu's career for a biography, so that his name might go down in the annals of Chinese history.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary, Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury S., Rhodesia.

The giving of advice to prospective settlers will be facilitated if applicants will advise the Board in detail of their circumstances and the amount of capital they would be prepared to invest in a suitable venture.

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SPORTS AND PASTIMES

RACE CLUB SPRING MEETING

Old Bill, Shenkoland and Abbeyfield all Beaten: Very Easy Victory for Ataman.

The weather was cold and dismal, the course, during all the sea of mud many expected it to be after the rain of Saturday and Sunday, was very slippery, and there were several surprising reversals of form, but nevertheless the opening day of the Shanghai Race Club's Spring Meeting on Monday was most enjoyable from a racing point of view. Close finishes were not the order of the day, but the races mostly were run with fine judgment and probably the gaps at the post were due to the fact that, in the sticky going, the jockeys preferred to make certain of success when they had the position.

Results in details:—

FIRST DAY.

1.—THE CHEFOO CUP.—One mile and three furlongs.

	lb.
Mr. Henry Morriss' grey, Patsfield (Mr. Heard)	161—1
„ Day's dun, Bonnie Scotland (Mr. A. N. Dallas)	161—2
„ Darger's grey, Kashmir (Mr. C. R. Burkill)	155—3

Also ran:—Castle Sycee late Every Time late Castle Sycee (Capt. Sassoon), Dalmeny late Del Monte (Mr. Patterson), Fascination Dahlia late Thomas à Becket (Mr. Hill), Harbin (Mr. J. K. Brand),.. Jack-o-Lantern (Mr. Knoll), Piracy (Mr. Crokam), Sentiment (Mr. Ralph), Gargany, (Mr. Greig).

A length: three lengths.
Time, 3 min. 0⅘ sec.

2.—THE CRITERION STAKES.—One mile.

	lb.
Mr. Sokoloff's. ches. Ataman (Mr. Sokoloff)	152—1
„ Toeg's brown, McKenzie (Mr. Crokam)	155—2
„ Campox's bay, Old Bill (Mr. J. K. Brand)	152—3

Also ran:—Aotea Kazoo (Mr. Maitland), 'Erb (Mr. Springfield), The Knut (Mr. Moon).

Many lengths; a length and a half.
Time, 2 min. 09 sec.

3.—THE GRIFFINS PLATE.—Three-quarters of a mile.

	lb.
Mr. Harry White's cream, Don Alphonso (Mr. Patterson)	161—1
„ Day's grey, New Zealand (Mr. A. N. Dallas)	158—2
Liddell's bay, Ryecroft (Mr. Brand)	152—3

Also ran:—Boston Boy (Mr. McBain), Cyrus (Mr. Heard), Harry M. late Goonfield (Mr. Springfield), Irish Lad (Mr. Charles), Karmala (Mr. Burkill), Outrigger (Mr. Maitland), Prairie Flower (Mr. Baker), Silkeborg (Mr. Hill), Tennessee (Mr. Crokam), Young Mongol (Mr. Knoll).

Half a length; many lengths.
Time, 1 min. 32⅘ sec.

4.—THE CATHAY CUP.—One mile and quarter.

	lb.
Mr. Harry White's dun, King's Cross late Sunlight (Mr. Patterson)	158—1
„ Henry Morriss's grey, Englefield (Mr. Heard)	158—2
Messrs. Potts & Hayim's brown Harvest King (Mr. Hill)	155—3

Also ran:—Forestland (Mr. A. N. Dallas), St. Blaise (Mr. J. K. Brand), White Knight late Skyscraper (Mr. Moller).

A length and a half; three lengths.
Time, 2 min. 50⅘ sec.

5.—THE POU-MA-TING CUP.—One mile.

	lb.
Mr. Fash's grey, Silver Spear (Mr. Heard)	155—1
Messrs. P. M. Lancaster & W. A. White's black, Irrepressible (Mr. McBain)	155—2
„ E. A. B. & N. W. H.'s grey, Light Hand (Mr. J. K. Brand)	152—3

Also ran:—Desert Gold (Mr. Springfield), Don Fernandez (Mr. Patterson), Georgia (Mr. Knoll), Majestic (Mr. Brodie), Rollo (Mr. Charles), Savoyard (Mr. Rea), The Bittern (Mr. Hill), Trumpeter (Mr. Sturrock), White Bill (Mr. Moller).

Two lengths; many.
Time, 2 min. 12⅘ sec.

6.—THE HART LEGACY CUP.—Half-a-mile.

	lb.
Mr. Henry Morriss's bay, Henryfield (Mr. Heard)	152—1
„ Harry White's p'bald. St. Pauls (Mr. Patterson)	158—2
„ Toeg's ches., Archer (Mr. Crokam)	155—3

Also ran:—Ashinoff (Mr. Brodie), Comanche (Mr. Rauld), Dinna Forget (Mr. Geiler), Farmland (Mr. A. N. Dallas), Lucullus (Mr. Charles), Roman Merlin (Mr. Hill), Settrington (Mr. Maitland), Sir Colin (Mr. Knoll), The Country Bird (Mr. J. K. Brand), Wanderer (Mr. Springfield).

Two lengths; many.
Time, 60 sec.

7.—THE NANKING CUP.—Three-quarters of a mile.

	lb.
Miss Billy Coutts's bay, Skyros (Mr. Knoll)	152—1
Mr. Day's grey, Shenkoland (Mr. Dallas)	158—2
„ Liddell's grey, Carlington (Mr. Brand)	152—3

Also ran:—Aroha (Mr. Maitland), Battletree late Aintree late Battlewing (Mr. Sassoon), Carbon (Mr. Patterson), First Chance (Mr. Rea), Lot One late Christmas Cracker (Mr. E. McBain), Mirzapur (Mr. Burkill), Right Royal (Mr. Heard), St. George (Mr. Springfield), The Hawk (Mr. Hill), Tommy Lad (Mr. Greig).

Half a length; a length and a half.
Time, 1 min. 34⅘ sec.

8.—THE KIANGSU CUP.—One mile and three-quarters.

	lb.
Messrs. Day & Toeg's bay, Columbia late Carthorse (Mr. Dallas)	161—1
Mr. Henry Morriss's grey, Abbeyfield (Mr. Stewart)	164—2
„ Henry Morriss's ches. Letchfield (Mr. Heard)	155—3

Also ran:—Redstone late Broomfield (Mr. Springfield), Seabird (Mr. Hill).

Many lengths; two lengths.
Time, 3 min. 55 sec.

9.—THE ECLIPSE STAKES.—One mile and a quarter.

	lb.
Mr. Liddell's grey, Ravenscroft (Mr. Brand)	155—1
„ Day's grey, Borderland (Mr. Dallas)	158—2
„ G. D. Coutts's grey, Plumpton (Mr. Burkill)	152—3

Also ran:—Barnaby Rudge (Mr. Springfield), Christmas Bond (Mr. Heard), Don Carlos (Mr. Patterson), Sir Galahad (Mr. Knoll), White Prince (Mr. Moller).

Half a length; a head.
Time, 2 min. 49⅘ sec.

10.—THE HANKOW CUP.—One mile and a quarter.

	lb.
Mr. M. M. Sokoloff's grey, Bonne Affaire (Mr. Sokoloff)	158—1
„ Day's bay, Republicland (Mr A. N. Dallas)	152—2
„ We Two's bay, Young Bill (Mr. Hill)	155—3

Also ran:—Fitzroy (Mr. Crokam), Little Minch (Mr. E. McBain), St. Hubert (Mr. Buck).

One length and a half; one length and a half.
Time, 2 min. 46⅘ sec.

11.—THE HONGKONG PLATE.—Veven furlongs.

	lb.
Mr. Henry Morriss's roan, Rayfield (Mr. Stewart)	157—1
Capt. Bahnson's grey, Lyksborg (Mr. Hill)	159—2
Mr. Harry White's Don Pedro (Mr. Patterson)	161—3

Also ran:—Alabama (Mr. Knoll), Home Run (Mr. E. McBain), Oliver Twist (Mr. Springfield.

Many lengths; many.
Time, 1 min. 52⅘ sec.

Derby Won by New Zealand: Shenkoland Successful: Old Bill to go to Lord Rosebery

There had been some rain overnight and a heavy shower early in the morning, but the course did not seem to be very much worse for the second day of the Spring Races, on Tuesday. The going possibly may have been a little heavier, but it was not so sticky. The weather was as cheerless as on Monday, but in spite of this there was a very big attendance, particularly in the afternoon. The racing was less interesting, "many lengths" being almost a standing decision.

The race for the Tientsin Plate carried with it another chapter in Old Bill's history, for once again he qualified for the Champions. Certainly there was nothing very wonderful for him to beat, but Forestland, Kashmir and McKenzie were not opposition to be despised and McKenzie made the old favourite go all out. However, Old Bill won and the people as usual yelled themselves hoarse, which the pony acknowledged in his customary manner by waltzing through the paddock. It will not be out of place to state what is in store for Old Bill. Through one of his owners having a house adjacent to The Durdans at Epsom, Lord Rosebery, one of the best friends of racing, has come to know all about Old Bill and has shown great interest in his doings, so that he has to be kept informed of all his successes. He has recognized that Old Bill is an outstanding specimen of the genuine China pony and so it has been arranged that, when the pony retires from racing, he shall be sent to Epsom and be pensioned off in Lord Rosebery's paddocks. Nor will the aristocratic thoroughbreds be able to patronize Old Bill, for he is well able to take care of himself.

The results in detail follow:—

SECOND DAY.

1.—THE CHU-KA-ZA CUP.—Three-quarters of a mile.

	lb.
Mr. Henry Morriss' roan, Rayfield (Mr. Stewart)	152—1
„ Omekrik's ches. Carbon (Mr. Charles)	155—2
„ Liddell's grey, Carlington (Mr. J. K. Brand)	152—3

Also ran:—Archer (Mr. Crokam), Aroha (Mr. Maitland), Comanche (Mr. Moses), Indiana (Mr. Knoll), Christmas Cracker (Mr. E. McBain), St. George (Mr. Patterson), The Knut (Mr. Moon), Wanderer (Mr. Springfield), Zoulon (Mr. Heard).

Three lengths; half a length.
Time, 1 min. 33⅘ sec.

2.—THE RACE CLUB CUP.—Two miles.

	lb.
Mr. Henry Morriss' ches. Letchfield (Mr. Heard)	155—1
Messrs. Potts and Hayim's brown, Harvest King (Mr. Hill)	155—2
Capt. R. E. Sassoon's ches. Castle Sycee (Mr. Sassoon)	155—3

Also ran:—The Copper Bird (Mr. Taylor).

Many lengths; three lengths.
Time, 4 min. 33⅘ sec.

3.—THE SHANGHAI DERBY.—One mile and a half.

	lb.
Mr. Day's grey, New Zealand (Mr. Dallas)	158—1
„ Marry White's cream, Don Alphonso (Mr. Patterson)	161—2
„ Day's ches. Theatreland (Mr. Hill)	161—3

Also ran:—Kingsfield (Mr. Heard), Mendoza (Mr. Crokam), Parkfield (Mr. Stewart), Ravenscroft (Mr. Brand), Silver Spear (Mr. Springfield), Zouave (Mr. Moller).

Three lengths; many lengths.
Time, 3 min. 17⅘ sec.

4.—THE MONGOLIAN CUP.—Three-quarters of a mile.

	lb.
Capt. Bahnson's grey. Lyksborg (Mr. Hill)	153—1
Miss Billy Coutts' bay, Skyros (Mr. Knoll)	157—2
Mr. Henry Morriss' bay, Harry of Hereford (Mr. Heard)	157—3

Also ran:—Ashinoff (Mr. Brodie), Don Fernandez (Mr. Patterson), Farmland (Mr. A. N. Dallas), Jack-o-Lantern (Mr. Maitland), Little Minch (Mr. McBain), Woodcroft (Mr. Brand).

A head; one and a half lengths.
Time, 1 min. 36⅘ sec.

5.—THE SICCAWEI CUP.—One mile and a quarter.

	lb.
Mr. Day's grey, Shenkoland (Mr. Dallas)	158—1
„ Campox's bay, Old Bill (Mr. Brand)	152—2
„ Henry Morriss' brown, Petersfield (Mr. Liddell)	164—3

Also ran:—Toplight (Mr. A. V. White).

Four lengths; many.
Time, 2 min. 47⅘ sec.

6.—THE GRAND STAND STAKES.—One mile and a quarter.

	lb.
Messrs. J. Beudin & M. Speelman's dun, Zouave (Mr. Heard)	155—1
Mr. Day's grey, Borderland (Mr. Dallas)	158—2
„ G. D. Coutts's grey, Plumpton (Mr. Burkill)	152—3

Also ran:—Barnaby Rudge (Mr. Maitland), Irrepressible (Mr. McBain), Light Hand (Mr. Brand), Majestic (Mr. Brodie), Prairie Flower (Mr. Charles), Silkeborg (Mr. Hill).

Many lengths; many.
Time, 2 min. 48⅘ sec.

7.—THE CHINESE CUP AND SHANGHAI STAKES.—One mile and a half.

	lb.
Mr. M.M. Sokoloff's grey, Bonne Affaire (Mr. Sokoloff)	158—1
„ Day's dun, Bonnie Scotland (Mr. Dallas)	161—2
„ Harry White's dun, Kings Cross late Sunlight (Mr. Patterson)	158—3

Also ran:—Young Bill (Mr. Hill).

Half a length; half a length.
Time, 3 min. 27⅘ sec.

8.—THE SPRING CUP.—One mile and a quarter.

	lb.
Mr. Day's bay, Republicland (Mr. Dallas)	157—1
„ Powhattan's bay, Oliver Twist (Mr. Maitland)	147—2
„ Harry White's grey, Don Pedro (Mr. Patterson)	161—3

Also ran:—St. Hubert (Mr. Buck).

Many lengths; four lengths.
Time, 2 min. 53⅘ sec.

9.—THE SCURRY STAKES.—Seven furlongs.

	lb.
Mr. Dem's grey, Cyrus (Mr. Heard)	151—1
„ We Two's grey, Young Mongol (Mr. Knoll)	158—2
Messrs. Winsome & Hasty's ches. The Bittern (Mr. Hill)	155—3

Also ran:—Dinna Tell (Mr. Pollock), Irish Lad (Mr. Charles), Karmala (Mr. Moses), March Past (Mr. Sassoon), Outrigger (Mr. Maitland), Prince Charming (Mr. Purdue), Redstone late Broomfield (Mr. Buck), Ryecroft (Mr. Brand), Tennessee (Mr. Crokam), Trumpeter (Mr. Sturrock).

Many lengths; many.
Time, 1 min. 54⅘ sec.

10.—THE TIENTSIN PLATE.—One mile and a quarter.

	lb.
Mr. Campox's bay, Old Bill (Mr. Brand)	152—1
„ Durgor's grey, Kashmir (Mr. Burkill)	155—2
„ Toeg's brown, McKenzie (Mr. Crokam)	155—3

Also ran:—Dalmeny late Del Monte (Mr. Patterson), Forestland (Mr. Dallas), Re-organisation (Mr. Moses), Roman Merlin (Mr. Hill), St. Blaise (Mr. Knoll), White Knight late Skyscraper (Mr. Moller).

Three lengths; a length and a half.
Time, 2 min. 50 sec.

11.—THE PEKING CUP.—One mile.

	lb.
Mr. Gilpin's ches.. Sir Galahad (Mr. Knoll)	148—1
„ Robson's roan, The Country Bird (Mr. Brand)	155—2
Messrs. Fay and Seth's bay, Christmas Bond (Mr. Heard)	161—3

Also ran:—Desert Gold (Mr. Maitland), Home Run (Mr. McBain), White Prince (Mr. A. V. White).

Many lengths; a length.
Time, 2 min. 15⅘ sec.

A Great Win for Columbia in the Champions from Zouave and New Zealand

The Settlement awoke to a most appalling day for Champions Day, for the rain was pelting down in torrents in the early morning and the downpour continued at intervals during the whole day. The weather did not keep people away from the race course, for all the stands and paddocks were packed as fully as on the brightest day. Nor did the running seem greatly to be affected. Of course, the tracks were slow and to escape the possibility of desperate struggles in the mud, the jockeys wisely continued the practice of going out to win by many lengths, but the majority of the ponies appeared to run far more confidently on a thoroughly wet course than they did when it was just greasy on top.

The big event of the day, the race for the Champion Sweepstakes, was most exciting and the win of Columbia was highly popular. It was the first Champions success of Mr. Toeg—joint owner with Mr. Geo. Dallas—for 20 years, and it was Norman Dallas's first win on a ride, though he was placed in both the 1922 races. Columbia, who is said to be the oldest pony in training, created a sensation when he won the Tientsin Champions actually in a walk. Then he was bought by Mr. Toeg and brought to Shanghai, but he went to pieces the first time he was raced and seemed in a hopeless condition. Some while later Mr. Dallas acquired a half share, the pony was nursed back to form, and this year has had a remarkably run. He was very heavily supported by racing men, for his recent races could not be ignored, despite the prowess of Ataman, Shenkoland, Rayfield and others.

Nine Classic Contenders.

The nine who went to the post all were splendid animals, and it could be argued confidently that every one had a good chance. There were doubts as to the staying powers of Ataman and Rayfield—or at least there was a lack of proof that they could go the distance—and both were finished after a mile, but it is almost certain they could have done far better on a dry course. Shenkoland looked very dangerous with the addition of Hill's skill and judgment, but the pony was new to him and they might have done better if they had known more of each other. Old Bill and Letchfield kept in the picture all the way, as such gallant fighters always will so long as they can race, but Don Alphonso was rather a disappointment and did not show up as had been expected. True, it was asking a great deal to suggest a griffin should tackle such a field, but Zouave did it, carrying 2 lb. overweight, and New Zealand also. The performance of these two must be counted as particularly good. The race was run with good judgment all round and the heartiest congratulations are due to the owners, trainer and jockey of Columbia for such a splendid success.

THIRD DAY.

1.—THE GREAT NORTHERN PLATE.—Seven furlongs.

	lb.
Mr. Liddell's grey, Carlington (Mr. Brand)	152—1
„ Durgor's grey, Kashmir (Mr. Burkill)	155—2
„ Harry White's P'bald. St. Pauls (Mr. Patterson)	158—3

Also ran:—Aotea Kazoo (Mr. Maitland), Dinna Forget (Mr. Geiler), Henryfield late Harry of Hereford (Mr. Heard), Roman Merlin (Mr. Hill), Settrington (Mr. Knoll), Sir Colin (Mr. Charles), Tommy Lad (Mr. Rea).

Short head: a length and a half.
Time, 1 min. 55⅘ sec.

2.—THE RUBICON PLATE.—One mile and a quarter.

	lb.
Mr. Henry Morriss' dun, Parkfield (Mr. Stewart)	155—1
„ Day's ches. Theatreland (Mr. Hill)	161—2
„ Powhattan's black, Barnaby Rudge (Mr. Maitland)	153—3

Three lengths; many.
Time, 2 min. 48⅘ sec.

3.—THE PARI-MUTUEL STAKES.—One mile and a half.

	lb.
Mr. Birdrake's grey, Seabird (Mr. Hill)	158—1
„ Harry White's dun, Kings Cross late Sunlight (Mr. Patterson)	158—2

Paul's P'bald, Fascination Dahlia late Thomas à Becket (Mr. Burkill) ..... 158—3

Also ran:—Castle Sycee (Mr. Sassoon), Harbin (Mr. Brand), Silver Spear (Mr. Heard).
A head; four lengths.
3 min. 27 sec.

—THE RACING STAKES.—One mile and a quarter.

lb.

Liddell's grey, Ravenscroft (Mr. Brand).. 155—1

Bahnson's grey, Lyksborg (Mr. Hill) .... 157—2

We Two's grey, Young Mongol* (Mr. Knoll).158—3

Two lengths; three lengths.
Time, 3 min. 12⅘ sec.

—THE YANGTSZE CUP.—One mile.

lb.

Mr. Henry Morriss's grey, Patsfield (Mr. Stewart) .....166—1

Messrs. J. Beudin & M. Speelman's Sp. Wh. Zoulou late Christmas Sale Mikasa (Mr. Heard) 153—2

Billy Coutts's bay, Skyros (Mr. Knoll) ..152—3

Also ran:—Dalmeny late Del Monte (Mr. Patterson), Indiana (Mr. Bauld), McKenzie (Mr. [illegible]), The Hawk (Mr. Hill).
[illegible] lengths; three lengths.
Time, 2 min. 31⅕ sec.

—THE FOOCHOW CUP.—One mile and a quarter.

lb.

Messrs. & Hayim's brown, Harvest King (Mr. Hill) .....156—1

Day's dun, Bonnie Scotland (Mr. Dallas) ..161—2

Messrs. Logan & Wilson's Sp. Wh. (Mr. Brand) 158—3

Also ran:—Ideal Dahlia (Mr. Springfield), Piracy (Mr. Crokam), Toplight (Mr. Charles).
A length; four lengths.
Time, 2 min. 50⅘ sec.

—THE JOCKEY CUP.—One mile and a quarter.

lb.

Mr. Henry Morriss's grey, Englefield (Mr. Edgar) .....158—1

Miss Billy Coutts's grey, First Chance (Mr. Rea) .....148—2

Mr. J. C. Bauld's dun, Comanche (Mr. Moses)149—3

Also ran:—Battletree late Aintree late Battlewing (Mr. Sassoon), Don Fernandez (Mr. Heinzerling), Gargany (Mr. Knight), Jack-o-Lantern (Mr. Hughes), Little Minch (Mr. Pote Hunt), Lucullus (Mr. Brodie), Prairie Flower (Mr. Baker), Sentiment (Mr. Ralph), St. Hubert (Mr. Buck), Trumpeter (Mr. Sturrock).

Five lengths; five lengths.
Time, 2 min. 56⅘ sec.

—THE AMOY CUP.—One mile.

lb.

Mr. Gilpin's ches. Sir Galahad (Mr. Knoll) .....162—1

„ G. D. Coutts's grey, Plumpton (Mr. Burkill) .....152—2

Capt. Bahnson's grey, Silkeborg (Mr. Hill) ....154—3

Also ran:—Boston Boy (Mr. Brand), Desert Gold (Mr. Maitland), Irrepressible (Mr. E. McBain), Majestic (Mr. Brodie), Mendoza (Mr. Crokam), White Bill (Mr. Charles).
Two lengths; four lengths.
Time, 2 min. 19⅘ sec.

—THE CHAMPION SWEEPSTAKES.—One mile and a quarter.

lb.

Messrs. Day & Toeg's bay, Columbia (Mr. A. N. Dallas) .....161—1

Messrs. Beudin & Speelman's dun, Zouave (Mr. Springfield) .....155—2

Mr. Day's grey, New Zealand (Mr. Burkill) .....158—3

Also ran:—Ataman (Mr. Sokoloff), Old Bill (Mr. Brand), Shenkoland (Mr. Hill), Letchfield (Mr. Heard), Don Alphonso (Mr. Patterson), Rayfield (Mr. Stewart).
No time was lost at the start. The ponies went quietly through the parade and quickly lined up, Rayfield on the rails, Zouave and Old Bill next and Columbia on the outside. Dr. Pratt let them go the first time in a good line. Rayfield jumped out immediately and was three lengths in front before the stands were passed, whilst Shenkoland was running last of a closely grouped field. At the mile post Old Bill and Ataman stood out, (still three lengths behind Rayfield), Shenkoland, New Zealand and Zouave being together in the rear. The same order was observed to the six-furlong post and very little change occurred up to Probst's, except for a slight reduction of Rayfield's lead, and it looked more as though the pony was coming back than the others gaining on him. At the half-mile Columbia and Old Bill were pressing the leader, and passing the Monument Columbia went into the van, a length ahead of Rayfield, with Old Bill on the latter's quarters and Shenkoland and Letchfield coming up behind Zouave. Columbia entered the straight well ahead and going so strongly that it was obvious from the turn that he could not be caught. He came in as easily as when he won his Tientsin Champions, many lengths in front of Zouave, and New Zealand was distanced for third. Shenkoland was fourth, Letchfield fifth, Old Bill sixth, Ataman seventh, Don Alphonso and Rayfield last. Time, 2 min. 46 4/5 sec.

10.—THE SWATOW CUP.—Nine furlongs.

lb.

Mr. Day's bay, Republicland (Mr. Dallas) .....159—1

„ Fiddes's ches, Right Royal (Mr. Heard) ..158—2

Capt. Bahnson's grey Lyksborg (Mr. Hill) .....152—3

Also ran:—Mirzapur (Mr. Crokam), Oliver Twist (Mr. Maitland).
Many lengths; three lengths.
Time, 2 min. 37⅘ sec.

11.—THE NEWCHWANG CUP.—Three-quarters of a mile.

lb.

Mr. M. O. Springfield is bay, Harry M. late Goonfield (Mr. Springfield) .....161—1

„ Dod's bay, Dinna Tell (Mr. Pollock) .....155—2

„ Day's grey, Borderland (Mr. Dallas) .....158—3

Also ran:—Alabama (Mr. Bauld), Christmas Bond (Mr. Heard), Don Pedro (Mr. Patterson), Irrepressible (Mr. McBain), Light Hand (Mr. Brand), March Past (Mr. Moses), Outrigger (Mr. Maitland), Prince Charming (Mr. Purdue), Redstone late Broomfield (Mr. Buck), Rollo (Mr. Knoll); The Bittern (Mr. Hill), White Prince (Mr. Charles).
Twe lengths; four lengths.
Time, 1 min. 40⅘ sec.

THEIR MASTER'S VOICE.

Mr. H. W. Stevenson expounds the mysteries of the top of the table game.

OLYMPIC GAMES

Rugby Football

Paris, May 4.

The Olympic Games Rugby football matches began to-day.

France beat Rumania by 61 points to 3.—Reuter.

HOME FOOTBALL

English and Scottish League Championship: Huddersfield's Narrow Victory

London, May 6.

Huddersfield Town wins the Championship in the First League by a minute fraction better goal-average over Cardiff City, though each have 57 points. The next in order are, Sunderland 53 points, and Bolton Wanderers and Sheffield United 50 points each. Chelsea and Middlesorough are at the bottom of the table and will be relegated to the Second Division, from which Leeds and Bury are promoted.

Glasgow Rangers win the Scottish League championship with 59 points, Airdrieonians being second with 50 points.—Reuter.

LAWN TENNIS AT QUEEN'S CLUB

London, May 3.

At Queen's Club to-day, in the challenge round of the Amateur Tennis Championship, Mr. E. M. Baerlein, the holder, beat the Hon. C. N. Bruce, 6/0, 2/6, 6/3, 6/2.—Reuter.

DAVIS CUP FIXTURES

London, May 2.

Mr. F. L. Riseley has been appointed non-playing Captain of the British Davis Cup team, which will play Belgium at Torquay on May 10.

Austria meets Switzerland in the first round of the Davis Cup competition on May 17.—Reuter.

CRICKET BEGUN

South Africans Draw with Leicestershire: The County Championship

London, May 3.

In a two-day cricket match at Glasgow, Scotland drew with Yorkshire.

The South African cricketers opened their tour in a match against Leicester to-day. The sodden wicket delayed the start until three o'clock, when, after an hour's play, the South Africans scored 53 runs for one wicket. Rain caused stumps to be drawn.—Reuter.

London May 5.

At the Oval Surrey beat Glamorgan by an innings and 24 runs. Peach made 92 for Surrey.

At the close of play to-day in the match between Leicestershire and the South Africans at Leicester, the position of the game was as follows:—

South Africa, 1st Innings, 153 (Catterall 44, Taylor 60 not out). Astill took 5 wickets for 70 and Geary 4 for 38.

Leicestershire, 1st Innings, 90. Blanckenberg took 5 wickets for 23 and Carter 3 for 8.

South Africa, 2nd Innings, 10 for 2 wickets.—Reuter.

London, May 6.

At Leicester the match between Leicestershire and the South Africans was drawn. The South Africans were all out in the second innings for 167, to which Hands contributed 60. Astill took four wickets for 39 and Skelding four for 43. Leicester at the close of play had scored 118 for nine wickets. It was a very exciting finish, Leicester just managing to play out time.

At Nottingham Notts drew with Sussex.

At Birmingham Warwickshire drew with Northamptonshire.

At Oxford, Middlesex beat Oxford University by 117 runs. Hendren made 65 and 79 not out.

At Manchester, Lancashire beat Derbyshire on the first innings. Lancashire made 116 and Derbyshire 81, Parkin taking eight Derby wickets for 20 runs.—Reuter.

London, May 7.

The match between Derbyshire and the South Africans at Derby did not take place to-day owing to rain.—Reuter.

DAVIS CUP TEAM

Another Resignation under Player-writer Rule of Lawn Tennis Assn.

Philadelphia, May 8.

Mr. Carl Fishcher, the inter-collegiate lawn tennis champion, who has been writing newspaper articles on tennis and other sports to defray his college expenses, has resigned from membership of the American Olympic and Davis Cup Teams owing to the player writer rule of the American Lawn Tennis Association, following Mr. W. T. Tilden's example.—Reuter's American Service.

HOME RACING

The Two Thousand Guineas

London, May 7.

The result of the Two Thousand Guineas (one mile) at Newmarket to-day was:—

H. H. the Aga Khan's Diophon 1
Lord Astor's Bright Knight 2
Mr. J. B. Joel's Green Fire.. 3

Twenty ran. Win by a head, a neck separating second and third.

Betting:—11 to 2 against Diopon; 100 to 9 Bright Knight; 100 to 8 Green Fire.—Reuter.

STOCK EXCHANGE LONDON-BRIGHTON WALK

London, May 3.

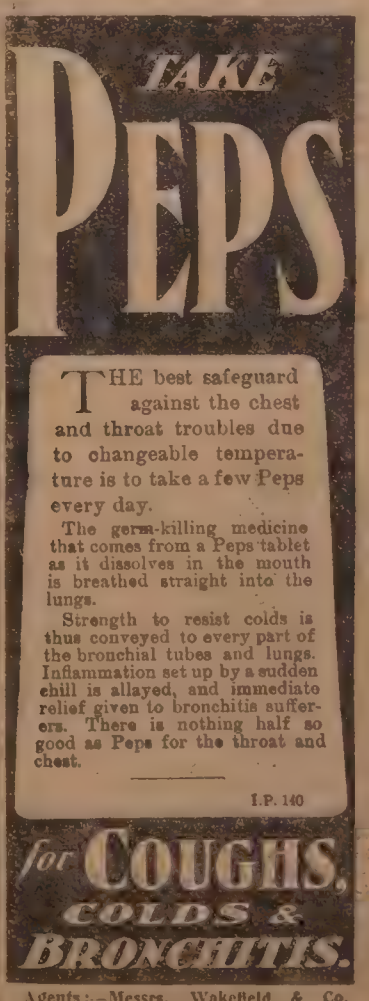
The Stock Exchange London to Brighton Walk was won by H. Crimwade, in nine hours, 25 minutes, 46 seconds. J. Chambers was second (9 hrs. 43 mins. 55 secs.) and E. St. George Taylor third (9 hrs. 47 mins. 3 sec.).—Reuter.

NEWMAN WINS BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIP

London, May 3.

Newman beat Reece in the final of the Professional Billiards Championship, played at Burroughes' Hall, the scores being 16,000 to 14,845.—Reuter.

A new racecourse is to be built at the extreme end of Jukong Road in the vicinity of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway Station, says a Chinese press report. Already some 300 *mow* have been purchased. Gen. Ho Feng-ling, the local Military Governor, who is evincing much interest in the scheme, has subscribed some $200,000 in the company and has promised more if required.



Agents:—Messrs. Wakefield & Co. (China), Ltd., S. Y. Sheng Building, Szechuen Road, Shanghai.

LAW REPORTS

THE ABSENT WITNESS AT MRS. ROWARTH'S TRIAL

Mother and Daughter on Trial at Supreme Court on Conspiracy Charge: Serious Allegations of Hiding Amah during "Danger Period"

The trial of Mrs. Judith Rowarth and Mrs. Margaret Davis, mother and daughter, on a charge of conspiracy was begun before the Honourable Judge Peter Grain and jury at H M Supreme Court on Thursday. The circumstances of the case are already familiar the proceedings out of which the present charge arises already having been the subject of lengthy criminal prosecution. It will be remembered that in May last a murderous attack was made upon a Sikh moneylender, Mrs. Rowarth was sent for trial in connexion with the crime, and was acquitted at her trial. Subsequently, the police discovered a witness whose absence at the trial was commented on by the prosecution, viz., an amah said to have been employed by the accused Mrs. Davis, and the appearance of this witness led to the prosecution of both women on charges of perjury and conspiracy. The amah gave an account of the attack upon the money-lender, Pakhar Singh, and alleged that arrangements were made by the accused to keep her out of the way during the trial, her rent being paid and food provided. This formed the subject of the present charge, viz., that on various dates between May 15 and June 25 last the accused, Judith Rowarth and Margaret Warwick Davis conspired together to defeat and obstruct the course of law and justice by preventing Wong Foo-mei from giving evidence at the preliminary inquiry and at the trial in the Supreme Court.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, assisted by Mr. E. T. Maitland, conducted the prosecution, and Mr. S. H. Lewis defended.

The accused pleaded not guilty.

Not a Re-trial for Attempted Murder

In opening the case for the prosecution, the Crown Advocate defined the nature of "conspiracy to defeat the due course of justice." It did not follow, said Counsel, that if the missing amah had been present at the trial the result would have been different, and therefore the jury was not re-trying the charge of attempted murder; it was no concern of the jury how material or immaterial the evidence would have been had it been available. What they were to try was whether the two women agreed together to prevent the girl's attendance at the police court and the Supreme Court. When the police were investigating the circumstances of the attack upon the Sikh money-lender and wanted to find the amah, they asked for her, but they were not assisted in their inquiries and they were not told all they might have been told.

The case for the prosecution was that although the amah was in Mrs. Davis's employ, Mrs. Rowarth took the more active part in preventing the girl from giving evidence, and the legal position was that where two people engaged in a common object, the acts of one could be used as evidence against the other.

Amah Concealed in Chinese Territory

What happened in this case was that the amah was concealed on Chinese territory, rent paid, food provided, and kept there during the danger period. When that was over, the rent simply was not paid, no more food was supplied, and the amah had to seek another place, ultimately coming into the hands of the police.

Counsel went on to say that the jury was not concerned in finding out who committed the murderous assault—(there was no doubt it was committed)—on Pakhar Singh, the question for them being, whether the two accused did not wish the amah's evidence to be available and so carried out their intention to keep her from the trial. Dealing with the details alleged by the prosecution, Mr. Wilkinson pointed out that it cost the accused more to keep the amah in idleness than to employ her. When the police concluded that the amah they wanted was Mrs. Davis's amah, and asked Mrs. Davis about her, they were not told the real facts and got no assistance, the accused merely saying that if she could find the girl she would telephone to the police and let them know. This she did not do. She must have known if her mother had any reason for keeping the amah out of the way, and must have known it was being done.

Difficulties of the Police

The case for the prosecution was that, whatever the motive, the two women agreed to keep the amah out of court. They might in various ways have assisted the police to find her, but they did not, whereas if they were innocent they must have desired to take every possible step to find her. They might have told the police where she first came from, for, said counsel, "amahs do not com down from heaven, even in Hongkew"—but they gave no such information.

Counsel concluded by saying that witnesses would be called to prove the identify of the amah' It had not occurred to anyone to call these witnesses in the lower court, since no one thought the amah's identity would be denied.

The Police Evidence

After Mr. T. W. R. Wilson, assistant Land Surveyor in the Public Works Department, had produced plans showing the place where the attack occurred, and other areas, Det. Sub.-Insp. Quayle repeated his story of the assault on Pakhar Singh, the arrest of the accused, and the defence made, viz., that Mrs. Rowarth was at her daughter's house all the evening, on May 4, leaving about 9 o'clock to visit a picture show and returning home at 11.30. When witness went to the house of the second accused (Mr. Davis) and asked for the amah, the reply was that the girl had left some time previously.

Injured Moneylender Again Called

The man who was murderously attacked, Pakhar Singh, retold in full his story, that on the evening of May 4 Mrs. Rowarth and the amah called at his house, the accused saying she knew where a Chinese lady who owed Pakhar money was living and would show him the house. Eventually agreeing to accompany her, he was taken to the neighbourhood of Ward Road Gaol, leaving the road and entering on a path leading across a corn field. He hesitated to go further, since darkness was falling and it was a lonely spot, but the accused assured him the house of the Chinese was near, and so he went forward, the amah leading and carrying a lantern and Mrs. Rowarth bringing up the rear. A few moments later, he was set upon by Chinese, one armed with an axe, and was left for dead in the field where, next morning, he was found by the police.

Asked by Mr. Lewis whether he had any financial trouble with Mrs. Rowarth, witness said he didn't know.

Mr. R. F. le Mesurier, Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court, gave formal evidence as to the trial of Mrs. Rowarth, whose defence was an *alibi*, and who was discharged.

All "Nonsense"

The amah, Wong Foo-mei, repeated the story which she has twice told in the Police Court, corroborating that of the Sikh with regard to the proposal made by Mrs. Rowarth and the subsequent assault. She said that she was instructed by Mrs. Rowarth to tell the Indian, if asked by him, that she knew where the place was to which he was being taken. After the assault she first saw Mrs. Rowarth and then Mrs. Davis, each in their own homes, and both said something about its being "nonsense" when she told them the Indian had been assaulted. About a fortnight later, witness, who was employed by Mrs. Davis, was told her services were no longer required, because (said Mr. Davis) an old amah had returned, and it was from this period that a room was provided for her, Mrs. Rowarth paying $3.50 per month rent and also supplying her with rice. She seldom went outside the house, Mrs. Rowarth having told her not to do so, and remained idle in the house until accusd stopped paying the rent and she had to leave.

In answer to Mr. Lewis, witness said that Mrs. Rowarth visited her at this house on many occasions, but Mr. Davis did not go there at all. On one occasion the old lady brought in a bag of rice which was more than enough to last withess for three months.

Crown Case Concluded

The Chinese landlady of the house gave evidence as to the amah staying there for some time and a foreigner paying the rent for her. A woman whom she could not identify called at night to see the girl.

A shoemaker who had a stall in the street where Mrs. Davis lived near Jukong Road, said he knew that the girl was employed there, but he did not see her at all during the fortnight prior to the detective coming to look for her.

A watchman employed in the same alleyway also gave evidence that the amah was employed at the house and left some little time before the detective appeared on the scene.

A small boy formerly in the service of Mrs. Davis gave similar evidence. This concluded the case for the prosecution, and the court adjourned until next morning.

ANOTHER PREOCCUPIED MOTORIST

Fined for Disobeying Signals and Failing to Have Licence

At H. M. Police Court on Tuesday, before Mr. Peter Grain, Frederick Coombs was summoned for failing to obey a police traffic signal at the junction of Avenue Road and Gordon Road on the afternoon of April 23, and for not having a driving licence on that date.

Mr. E. T. Maitland appeared for the police, whose evidence was that defendant drove his car on against the signal of the Chinese constable on traffic duty, and that a motor-cycle and side car had to be pulled up sharply to avoid a collision.

Mr. Coombs explained that he did not observe the signal, being preoccupied with the car and not realizing there was any danger. With regard to the licence, he further explained that the suppliers of the car had informed him they would furnish him with all necessary documents, including insurance policy, and he received the latter together with a document which he assumed was a licence, and for which he paid Tls. 10. It was only when the police communicated with him that he read this document and found it was a car licence and not a driving licence, which latter he then took out.

The Magistrate accepted Mr. Coombs' explanation, but said that the rules must be enforced and imposed a fine of $2 in each case.

TWO MORE MARTYRS

Harbak Singh's Bondsmen Prefer Prison Rather than Forfeit Sureties

Three Indian watchmen, Massa Singh, Nand Singh and Hari Singh appeared before Mr. G. W. King at H.M. Police Court on Wednesday to show cause why they should not be called upon to forfeit the security of $250 which they put up for the good behaviour of Harbak Singh. The recognizance was entered into on January 18, on which occasion Harbak Singh was fêted with rosewater and garlands by his compatriots and was then bound over to be of good behaviour for two years. Harbak was before the court again on April 22, charged with having broken his bond by publishing seditious matter and was sent to prison for two months and ordered to find further sureties, with the alternative of deportation. Hence the present appearance of the bondsmen.

Mr. V. Priestwood presented the case on behalf of the Crown Advocate, and called Mr. R. F. le Mesurier, Clerk of the Court, and Mr. E. G. Abbey, Marshal, to prove the facts stated above.

Massa Singh said they tried to get Harbak to defend himself when last before the Court, but he refused. His offence, however, was a religious matter, and he did not think any of the conditions of the bond had been broken.

The Magistrate—Was not there a breach of the condition of "good behaviour?"

Massa Singh—No. It was a religious matter.

The Magistrate—That line of defence is of no use to you. It had nothing to do with religion at all.

Massa Singh—He made no breach.

The Magistrate—I say he did. What you have got to show me is, whether you knew he was going to do it—yes or no?

Massa Singh—He was not acting against the Government. He only published news which he received from India.

The Magistrate—Did you know he was going to publish what he did?

Massa Singh—Yes, we knew he was going to send out a circular.

The Magistrate—Very well. Then you have no excuse at all. When you entered into the recognizance on January 18 it was clearly explained to you what would happen if it were broken.

Massa Singh and Nand Singh then said they would be glad if the Magistrate would send them to the same place as Harbak Singh. They were not afraid to go.

The Magistrate informed the three men that they must each pay $250. The alternative would be, that they would have to go to prison, and he would give them a little time to think over it.

Magistrate's Warning

Massa Singh and Nand Singh declared that they would rather go to prison than pay up, but Hari Singh expressed his willingness to pay.

The Magistrate—I must remind you that a recognizance is not an amusing thing. It is a solemn promise to carry out certain conditions. These conditions have been broken and the Government must take action. I warn you men that if you are looking for trouble in Shanghai it can easily be found, if you persist in this pinpricking and girding against the Government.

"NOT DRUNK, BUT INTOXICATED"

Russian's Plea: Distinctions between Military and Civil Codes.

The sequel to Russian Easter Day libations was heard at the Mixed Court on Monday when two men were charged with assault on a Japanese in North Szechuen Road.

Complainant stated that he was boarding a tram on North Szechuen Road, when accused in a haughty manner brushed into him and struck him with clenched fists, not once but twice. He fell and was taken to the Station from where he was later removed to hospital, stopping there for two days. A medical certificate showed that he had bruises on the thorax.

First defendant's story was interrupted by a Russian officer, who declared that accused said he pushed him with the foot not with the fist, whereupon the Assessor requested him to demonstrate. A few more questions and then counsel broke in saying that the sergeant was translating improperly, whereupon he reiterated the evidence saying—I was not drunk, I was intoxicated." (Laughter).

The Assessor—Is drunkenness an excuse for crime in Russia. Under English law it is an added offence? —Counsel—Yes.

Sgt. Repas—Under civil law, yes-but in military law, no. He is of the military.

After second defendant had told the Court that he did not have anything to do with the matter, nor that he saw complainant on the ground, counsel for the defence rose to address the Bench. Before presenting a letter from the Russian authorities to the Japanese Consul-General (in apology) he stated that the day in question was a Russian holiday, Easter, and that the boys who had been subsisting for a year on rice and potatoes, might be excused to some extent for being in such high spirits on this day and their conduct overlooked.

The first defendant, who had admitted striking a blow, was ordered to pay a fine of $15 or remain in gaol for seven days, while the charge against the second was dismissed.

A CHILEAN'S BAD LUCK

Bail Forfeited for Absence from Mixed Ct. Where He Cannot Now Be Charged

When Yip Ching-wo, the man charged with malicious prosecution and who is of Chinese parentage but claims Chilian citizenship, failed to surrender to his bail at the Mixed Court on Thursday, it was announced that Chilean subjects must now go before their own Consuls. The Court accordingly discontinued the action, but ordered accused to forfeit the bail he had put up—$1,000. The man had challenged the right of the Mixed Court to try his case, which had been before it for several months. Four weeks ago the Court ruled that it had jurisdiction over Chilean subjects and continued with the case. Bail in $1,000 had been put up to ensure defendant's appearance yesterday. During the remand the Consular Body decided that Chileans should be dealt with by their own representative.

At the hearing yesterday Dr. Sellett (defending) said that his client had not put in appearance and he wished to offer an explanation to the Bench.

Mr. Jacobs—I am not sure that the Court desires to hear an explanation at this time.

Mr. Kentwell (appearing for an interested party)—We have done our best to get him here.

Chief Insp. Wheeler (acting Registrar, prosecuting)—The Consul-General for Chile has directed that accused should not attend the trial and takes full responsibility for the absence. The officer handed up a letter from the Consul containing an official explanation.) I wish to remind the Court that accused is on cash bail of $1,000.

The Assessor (after reading the letter, to Mr. Sellett)—I suppose that your explanation is similar—No, we wish to explain as attorneys. We have this letter to present to the Court. It is directed to Mr. A. Arce, (Consul-General for Chile) and we therein declare, that although the Consular Body has directed that Chileans should appear before their own representative, it is the order of the Court that he must be here this morning and that we could do naught but advise our client to defend himself at this time.

The Assessor, after consultation with the Magistrate, said defendant, having failed to appear, the bail of $1,000 would be forfeited.

Four Chinese, who had pleaded guilty to robbing a tobacco facotory in Woosung Road, appeared at the Mixed Court on Thursday morning for sentence, having been remanded from the week before, when Sgt. Malone told the Court that they had made off with 43 boxes, 50 packets and 120 tins of cigarettes, as well as a quantity of miscellaneous goods belonging to individuals—shoes, clothing, camera and jewellery. One of them was five times previously convicted. He was sent to gaol for two years and re-expelled, two others went to prison for six months and the fourth will remain there for four months.

It is not often that a Chinese who has been tried and found guilty of a capital offence by the Mixed Court is subsequently returned to the Court's jurisdiction by the Chinese Court which finally decides whether judgment of death shall be passed upon the malefactor. This has just happened in the case of a convicted armed robber who made his appearance before the Mixed Court on Thursday, after having been handed over to the Settlement police. Under the Treaties unless a man so adjudged guilty is executed he must be returned to the Settlement. The prisoner was sent to gaol for three years, sentence to begin from the date of his arrest.

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

UNEQUAL RESULTS OF GENERAL ELECTIONS IN BRITAIN

Liberal Bill to Strengthen Position of Minorities by Proportional Representation: Widening Breach Between Liberals and Labour

London, May 2.

Evidence was afforded of the divergence of opinion among individual members of political parties on the subject of proportional representation during the second reading of the bill in the House of Commons to-day on the bill seeking to apply a modified system to Borough elections.

Mr. Rendall (Liberal), moving the second reading of the Bill, pointed out strong anomalies in the way of representation in connexion with the recent general election. He said that the bill provided for combining constituencies to return a minimum of three and a maximum of seven members. Parties in the constituencies would be represented proportionately to the total votes cast for their parties.

Dealing with the objection that the system would mean that the Government majority would be small, Mr. Rendall cited the present position of the parties as [illegible].

He claimed support for the sparsely populated areas the Bill proposed to continue the present system without compulsory proportional representation and with an alternative vote instead of proportional representation.

Government Opposed

Mr. Sam Roberts (Conservative) seconded the motion.

The Dutchess of Atholl (Conservative), moving the rejection of the bill, objected to this dual system as being thoroughly contradictory. The bill, she said, would not guarantee that the minority would not secure a majority, as had occurred when a Labour Government was returned in the Queensland election in 1922. She objected that proportional representation meant unwieldly areas and loss of personal touch.

Mr. [illegible] (Labour) [illegible] the rejection of the Bill.

Mr. Asquith, the Liberal leader, strongly supported the Bill.

The Home Secretary, Mr. Arthur Henderson, on behalf of the Government, left the Bill to a free vote of the House, but, even if the second reading were carried, he held out no hopes facilities for its further progress at present.

It is thought that the Government attitude would have been very different if the second principle of the Bill, namely, an alternative vote, had been the main principle.

The Bill was rejected by 238 votes to 144.

Liberals Very Bitter

The Government's action with regard to the proportional representation bill has re-kindled the Liberal resentment at the Government's treatment of the Liberal Party, which threatened to become acute until Mr. Snowden's budget had apparently healed the differences.

A recent meeting of the Liberal Party decided on an intensive campaign throughout the country, but significantly postponed decision regarding the extent and nature of the campaign until the second reading of the proportional representation bill, which is one of the most vital planks in their programme and one on which they had expected the Government to give its full support in view of the Liberals' wholehearted reception of the Budget.

Consequently the Liberals are very bitter over the Government's decision to leave the Bill to a free vote of the House, which, they contend, was responsible for its rejection.

The state of feeling was indicated during the debate when a Liberal called out "Turn them out!" to which Mr. Arthur Henderson, the Home Secretary, retorted: "If we are to be threatened like this and told that we will be turned out if we won't go the way of the Liberals on all occasions, then get on with the job and turn us out."—Reuter.

The Conservatives accepted the verdict of the last election and did not propose to put forward a general tariff, but when they returned to power they would apply means analogous to the Safeguarding of Industries Acts for industries suffering from unfair foreign competition. Mr. Baldwin believed that scores of thousands of Liberals and Labourites, although free traders, would support such measures.—Reuter.

The McKenna Duties

London, May 5.

Mr. Stanley Baldwin, the Opposition leader, has given notice of a motion in the House of Commons that it is inexpedient to remove the McKenna duties amidst the present distresses.—Reuter.

RESULTS OF GERMAN ELECTIONS

Socialists and National People's Party Well Ahead: Extreme Nationalists Disappointed: Communists' Unexpected Gains: National People's Party and Allied Experts' Report

Berlin, May 5.

The first election results announced late last evening do not indicate how the general voting went. Eighty-five per cent. of the electorate polled in some districts. Huge crowds paraded the streets. Thousands assembled at points where the returns were thrown on the screen.—Reuter.

Cologne, May 5.

The elections were devoid of excitement. The voting followed religious rather than political lines The only noticeable activity was displayed by the Social-Democrats and the People's Freedom Party, the latter's slogan being "Down with the Jews!"—Reuter.

Berlin, May 5.

The latest indications are that the moderates are holding their own against the reactionaries in the elections throughout the country and that the Reichstag will have a majority in favour of carrying out the experts' proposals.

The former Chancellor, Herr Hermann Mueller, the leader of the Socialists, has been elected.—Reuter.

Socialists Still in Power.

Later.

Sufficient results are available to indicate roughly the constitution of the new Reichstag. The Socialists have lost 50 to 60 seats, chiefly to the Communists, but they remain the strongest party, with about 110 deputies as compared with 172 before the elections. The German National People's party is the second largest, with some 90 seats, a gain of 20 to 25 seats. The Communists have 45 to 50 seats, an increase of 30 to 35 seats.

The relative position of the other parties is still uncertain, as numerous results are still to come in. The extreme Nationalists will probably secure about 20 seats, as compared with three in the last Reichstag.

The form of the new Government is not quite clear at present, but there is evidence that the German National People's party will be a deciding factor.

Notables Elected

May 5.

Up to six o'clock this morning, out of 35 electoral districts the results of the election in 22 were known. Hitherto 244 candidates have been returned, including:—

Social Democrats	58
Communists	33
Democrats	12
Centre Party	39
German National People's Party	42

Hitherto 13 candidates of the Bavarian People's Party have been returned and 10 candidates of the Peasants' Party in Bavaria, Wuertemberg and Hesse.

About 75 per cent. of the electorate throughout the Reich polled.

Those elected include Prince Bismarck, Count Westarp, General von Ludendorff, Herr Dernburg, Herr Hilfferding, Herr Marx, Dr. Wirth, Herr Stresemann and Admiral von Tirpitz.—Reuter.

Berlin, May 5.

The following are the provisional final results of the elections:—

Socialists	99
Communists	59
Democrats	25
Centre Party	61
Bavarian People's Party	15
German People's Party	44
German National People's Party	93
Extreme Nationals	28
Hanoverians	5
Other Parties	19

The results of the elections up to the present have already made it clear that the Extreme Nationalists have in no way done as well as was expected. They must be content to take a back seat in the new Reichstag. Even in the extreme Nationalist stronghold, Munich, a large number of votes went to the German National People's Party. It is significant that the Extreme Nationalists have not gained a single seat in the occupied territory.

On the other hand, the German National People's Party, of which the late Herr Helfferich was leader, and who are monarchists, reactionaries and opponents of the experts' plan, have done extremely well and will be the second strongest party in the Reichstag with about 90 seats as compared with 67 in the previous Reichstag.

The Communists have done even better than was expected. They obtained nearly 60 seats as compared with 15 in the previous Reichstag. It is worthy of note that they gained particularly at the expense of the Socialists in the occupied territory. They also scored heavily in parts of Berlin and in the big industrial towns in Saxony and Thuringia. Seemingly practically every former Independent Socialist has gone over to Communism.

The German People's Party led by Dr. Stresemann, has done badly and is likely to lose a score of seats to the German National People's Party.

The Catholic Centre Party under Herr Marx, and the Democrats both held their own and will have over 60 and about 40 seats respectively as before.

No Important Changes

No important changes are expected in the other groups. The position of the new Reichstag is very interesting, but complicated. It seems certain that the majority of the Deputies will favour acceptance of the expert reports, but a two-thirds majority is necessary for the change in the Constitution involved in acceptance of the experts' reports which is impossible without the support of the German National People's Party. If they remain irreconcilable opponents of the reports, which is doubtful, there will be no chance of the Reichstag adopting the reports and evil days will again fall on Germany.

London, May 5.

Responsible opinion in London considers that the results of the German elections will not materially affect the experts' report and expects the German National People's Party to support the necessary legislation in connexion with it.—Reuter.

Reversion to "Big Coalition."

Thus the Socialists remain the largest party. They will undoubtedly be called upon to form a Government, which, however, will only be possible if they obtain the support of the Democrats, Centrists and German People's Party. Since the foregoing favour carrying out the experts' report, it is practically certain that the new Government will be a reversion to the old "Big Coalition," which with about 234 supporters will be opposed by about 216 German Nationals, Communists, Extreme Nationalists and minor parties.—Reuter.

Result Still in Doubt: German National People's Party's Increased Influence

Berlin, May 6.

Further results of the elections make the situation very confusing. It is now in no way certain that the Socialists will be the largest party in the Reichstag. The German National People's Party already number 99 and it is probable that they may be joined by nine or ten Deputies of the so-called Landbund, the supporters of which are former members of the German National People's Party. If so, the German National People's Party will be the largest party and, should the present Government resign, President Ebert is bound to ask the leader to form a Government.—Reuter.

Paris, May 6.

French official circles are pessimistic with regard to the result of the German elections, believing that defeat of the middle parties and success of the two extremes would render a reparations settlement more difficult.—Reuter.

Berlin, May 6.

Herr Hergt, the leader of the German National Party, in an interview to-day stated that it was impossible to expect concessions from Germany to the extent demanded as long as the main political principles on which the existence of Germany depended were not made clear. "We shall never," he declared, "impose still heavier economic burdens on the German people until points of honour have been satisfactorily solved."—Reuter.

RUSSIA'S RELATIONS WITH GERMANY

Abrupt Rupture Due to Excess of Zeal on the Part of the Berlin Police.

Berlin, May 3.

The Soviet Ambassador has closed his offices and departed for Moscow following the action of the German police in raiding the headquarters of the Russian Commercial Delegation and arresting eight employees. The police have been searching for a man employed by the delegation, who previously escaped after arrest in Wurtemberg.

A strong force of police searched the building from roof to cellar on the pretext that a Communist, for whom a warrant had been issued, was hiding there. The Russian Embassy asserts that the search lasted four hours and says that the liberties of the leaders of the Delegation, who are members of the Diplomatic Corps, were interfered with.

The Ambassador, M. Khestinski, immediately called at the Foreign Office and made an energetic protest. Herr Stresemann assured him that the action of the police would be immediately stopped.

The Embassy regards the action as an unparalleled violation of extraterritoriality.

M. Krestinski, before leaving for Moscow, ordered the closing of the offices of the Commercial Delegation and the interruption of commercial activity for the time being.—Reuter.

The German Version.

The German version of the affair alleges that a German Communist prisoner induced his police escort to allow him to visit the Russian office, where he escaped with the connivance of the Russian employees. The German Government protested to the Russian Embassy against the conduct of the Russians, asserting that the police escort was held up for some time, contending that the offices of the Commercial Delegation does not enjoy diplomatic immunity and characterizing the conduct of the Russians as gross violation of German law.

A judicial inquiry has begun.—Reuter.

Varying Accounts of Raid on Russian Trade Mission: an Alleged Monarchist Plot

Berlin, May 5.

The German official account of the search of the headquarters of the Russian Trade Mission says that it was carried out with the utmost courtesy and moderation under the personal supervision of the Chief of the Political Police. There was no molestation of Russian clerks. Force was only used in the case of one very obstinate official. The cupboards in only one room were forced because the occupants refused to hand over the keys. The official inventory of the papers which were seized is under suspicion of not being genuine and they will be handed back after verification.—Reuter.

London, May 5.

An official Soviet source in London states that it became known in Berlin last week that a German secret monarchist organization intended to commit some outrage against the Soviet Embassy on the eve of the elections with the object of influencing their course. The

DUTY ON BRITISH EMPIRE TEA

Opposition's Amendment to Budget Rejected: Also on Sugar Duty

London, May 6.

In the House of Commons to-day at the report stage of the Budget resolutions a motion by Lieut.-Col. Page Croft (Conservative) for the reduction of the duty on Empire tea to 2d. a pound was rejected by 248 votes to 155.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Philip Snowden, opposing the motion, declared that what was described as preference on Empire tea was not preference at all. Indian and Ceylon teas did not compete with China tea.

The House of Commons confirmed the Budget resolutions affecting tea, cocoa, coffee and chicory without change.

Later.

The unsuccessful attempt of the Opposition during the report stage of the Budget resolutions in the House of Commons to reduce the duty on Empire tea was equally [illegible] later in connexion with cocoa and sugar.

[illegible] the Empire grown cocoa was rejected by 267 votes [illegible]

[illegible] doubled in connexion with an amendment it sought to stabilise preference for Empire grown sugar at 5/4 per cwt. for one year. Considerable was drawn between the preference of 5/4, 16d. a ton given by Japan to the West Indies sugar, the whole of which was [illegible] and the preference of 1/- given by Java to Empire sugar, the whole of which was [illegible] purchase of foreign sugar by the Dutch florins or American dollars, with an effect tending to depress sterling further.

Mr. Snowden said that Empire preference hitherto had only increased production by 10 per cent. in three years, while in the West Indies, for which a special plea was entered, production had actually decreased.

The amendment was rejected by 243 votes to 182 and the Budget resolution affecting sugar was confirmed without change.—Reuter.

STANLEY BALDWIN'S POLICY

Fear of Dominion Trade Slipping Away to Other Markets: Empire Defence Needs

London, May 2.

Outlining the Conservative policy at the Primrose League celebration at the Albert Hall, Mr. Stanley Baldwin referred to the preference proposals adopted by the Imperial Economic Conference. He said that if the Dominions thought that we were reluctant to make a very small sacrifice for the greater good of the future, they would inevitably be attracted into economic orbits other than our own.

Alluding to the Singapore base, the former Prime Minister said that the Conservatives did not object to go on, but preferred to make them to their own people.

They were ready to enter a conference to consider limitations of armaments, but would not allow any weakening at present of the defensive force of the Empire. They accepted the one-power Navy, equipped with cruisers to protect trade routes, and were for an Air Force competent to meet attack from whatever quarter.

...ed represented the carrying into effect of the plans previously prepared. Secret and uniformed police, with the alleged object of searching for a fugitive criminal, spent four hours in the building, breaking open safes and examining official correspondence. The statement adds that this act of violence will probably react on commercial relations between Germany and the Soviet.—Reuter.

Another Russian Note Presented

Berlin, May 5.

The Russian Ambassador, M. Krestinski, is leaving for Moscow to-night in consequence of the police raid of the offices of the Russian Trade Delegation, which will remain closed until the German Government has given satisfaction. Another Russian note with reference to the affair was presented at the Foreign Office to-day.

Later.

The German reply to M. Krestinski's note does not accept the reproach with respect to disregard for existing treaties or the illegality of the arrest of employees of the Soviet Trade Delegation.—Reuter.

ALLIES' DIFFICULTY WITH GERMANY

France Not Relaxing Hold on Ruhr Without Definite Guarantees

London, May 3.

During the visit to London of the Belgian Premier, M. Théunis, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Hymans, who left for Brussels to-day, according to the diplomatic correspondent of the "Observer," only general principles were discussed.

The difficulty is that the French Government have hitherto not shown willingness to give up the Ruhr as postulated in Gen. Dawes's scheme without a *quid pro quo* and the Belgian Government are committed to support the French demands.

The visit of M. Théunis had given rise to the hope that the French Government could be induced to evacuate the Ruhr within a few weeks of the beginning of the operation of the Dawes scheme, provided she had some security in regard to Germany carrying out the scheme, but the British Government find it hard, if not impossible, to accept the French Government's main proposals, namely, the retention of the railway *régie* in the Ruhr and a detailed British undertaking to support France in punitive measures against Germany in the event of future default.

A formal conference may be arranged after the French elections on May 11, but meanwhile the French desire to postpone any decision which might commit them to a definite reparations policy. This tendency is strengthened by the impression in Paris that the British Government's parliamentary position is insecure.—Reuter.

Work at a Standstill in the Ruhr

Berlin, May 7.

Work in practically all mines in the Ruhr is at a standstill owing to refusal to work over eight hours a day in accordance with the Government arbitration award. Eighty-five per cent. of the miners were accordingly locked out. Similar trouble has broken out in the Saxon and Upper Silesian coal regions. Thousands of metal workers and other industries are likely to be affected, as the Ruhr coal reserves are very small.—Reuter.

Duesseldorf, May 8.

The occupation authorities announce that the mines under their control are not affected by the Ruhr mining dispute.—Reuter.

500,000 Men Idle.

Cologne, May 8.

Half a million men are already idle owing to the mine strike in the Ruhr.—Reuter.

Washington, April 2.—Both Houses having adopted the conference report on the Soldiers' Bonus Bill, the measure now goes to the President.—Reuter's American Service.

MELBOURNE, May 6.—The members of the Australian Olympic team departed for England to-day.—Reuter.

PROGRESS OF WORLD AIR FLIGHTS

Lieut. D'Oisy in Calcutta: Major Martin's Whereabouts Still Unknown

Paris, May 3.

The airman, Lieutenant d'Oisy, reached Agra to-day, effecting 1,300 kilometres in less than seven hours. He hopes to leave to-morrow for Calcutta.—Reuter.

The weather was foggy and very hot during the flight from Karachi, and caused the fabric of the upper plane to start to tear.

In the course of his flight, Lieutenant d'Oisy passed over Purlu, where Squadron-Leader MacLaren is awaiting spares.—Reuter.

Haiphong, May 3.

The Secretary-General of the Government, the General Commanding and the Resident at Tonkin will be present on Lieut. d'Oisy's arrival at the aerodrome. On the following day Lieut. d'Oisy will be received on behalf of the Government by the Secretary-General.—Reuter.

Calcutta, May 5.

Lieutenant d'Oisy arrived here to-day.—Reuter.

Calcutta, May 5.

Lieut. D'Oisy arrived at Dum-Dum aerodrome at 1 o'clock. He covered approximately 750 miles from Agra in 6 hr. 30 min. He was enthusiastically welcomed by the French colony.

The airman is likely to remain in Calcutta for two or three days owing to the necessity for slight repairs to the wings of his machine.—Reuter.

Paris, May 5.

It is officially stated that Lieut. D'Oisy covered the distance from Agra to Calcutta in 6 hr. 36 min. He experienced a temperature of 108 degrees.

The Under Secretary for Air has conveyed the thanks of the Air Force to the British Air Ministry for the valuable help given to Lieut. D'Oisy during his whole flight across British India.—Reuter.

Calcutta, May 7.

Lieut. d'Oisy hopes to leave on May 9 for Akyab.—Reuter.

Major Martin Still Missing.

Washington, May 2.

Orders have been telegraphed to Lieutenant Smith at Dutch Harbour to proceed on the world-flight with three aeroplanes as soon as weather permits. Meanwhile the search for Major Martin continues.—Reuter's American Service.

False Pass, Alaska, May 3.

An over-land searching party report that Major Martin's plane passed over Chignik Lagoon in the direction of Portage Bay. It is believed that he was forced down. A search is being made along the Behring Sea shore between Dutch Harbour and Unangashik.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, May 4.

The three American world-fliers have arrived at Nazon on the Island of Attu from Dutch Harbour.

Major Martin is still missing and the search for him is continuing.—Reuter.

Cordova Alaska, May 4.

The American world-fliers have reached Atka, one of the Aleutian Islands.—Reuter.

False Pass, Alaska, May 5.

Major Martin is reported to have been seen 100 miles west of Chignik seven hours ofter his departure from Chignik on April 30.—Reuter.

The Portuguese at Karahai After a Difficult Stage

London, May 4.

It is reported from Lisbon that the Portuguese airmen, who are on their way to Macao, have landed on the Indian frontier.—Reuter.

Lisbon, May 5.

The Portugese airmen have altered their itinerary and now intend to call at Goa.—Reuter.

Karahai, May 5.

The Portuguese airmen who are flying to Macao arrived here to-day. Strong headwinds and dust storms along the coast of Baluchistan hindered their progress.—Reuter.

Allahabad, May 8.

The Portuguese aeroplane, which was proceeding to Macao, is reported to have crashed at Pipar in Jodhpur. The airmen are uninjured.—Reuter.

China Reception Arranged

Peking, May 4.

The Air Department, in a memorandum to the President, says that arrangements have been completed for the reception of the British flyers. It specifies the points at which landing may be made and provides such assistance as will be necessary. A Chihling mandate later will announce these arrangements which, it is understood, apply

Trans-American Airway.

New York May 5.

The Post Office has established a direct New York to San Francisco air mail, which will begin operations on July 1. The special airway will be illuminated at night by automatic acetylene beacons placed every three miles. Emergency landings will be established every 25 miles and fully-equipped landing-fields, illuminated by revolving searchlights, visible for 100 miles, will be established every 250 miles. The trip will be covered in three stages, occupying 30 hours as compared with 87 by train.—Reuter's American Service.

REVOLT IN AFGHANISTAN

Kohat Tribes Roused over Religious Question: Afghan Regiment Ambushed

Peshawar, May 3.

Opposition tribes in the Kohat region have been roused by certain reforms of the Amir of Afghanistan, which they considered to interfere with Mohammedan law. An outbreak of hostilities occurred at Khost, where the Mangalladram tribal forces ambushed an Afghan regiment and captured a number of rifles and ammunition. A general outbreak followed. It is reported that the rebels persuaded some of the smaller Afghan outposts to surrender, while Afghan regulars have been attacked at various points. Reinforcements have been despatched to the disturbed area.—Reuter.

THE PROBLEM OF WORLD MIGRATION

International Conference in Rome: American Laws and Europe

London, May 3.

The British Government has accepted an invitation from Signor Mussolini to take part in an international migration conference in Rome. Viscount Ullswater will head the British delegation.

The United States will be represented by a high official of the Department of Labour. Germany and Russia will also be represented.

It is believed that the conference will chiefly be concerned with the American immigration laws.

Britain accepted the invitation on the understanding that nothing would be done derogatory to the powers of the League of Nations, a representative of which has also been invited.—Reuter.

U. S. IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS

Acceptance of President's Proposal to Postpone Enforcement

Washington, May 6.

The exclusion of Japanese under the new Immigration Bill becomes effective on July 1 as a result of an agreement reached at the joint conference of the Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives. It is regarded as certain that the report of the conference will be adopted by both Houses. The quota basis of 2 per cent. of the 1890 census, embodied in the new Bill, continues until July 1, 1927, when the so-called national origin method will be employed. The total admittances, however, will be restricted to 150,000 annually from this method.

It is indicated at the White House that President Coolidge is dissatisfied with the agreement reached by the joint conferences, but whether the President will consider the exclusion provision sufficient justification for vetoing the Immigration Bill is not disclosed. It is said that he does not consider the two months before July 1 sufficient in which to negotiate an agreement or treaty with Japan regarding the exclusion of immigrants.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Washington, May 7.

President Coolidge has informed the Congressional leaders that he regards July 1 for enforcement of the Immigration Bill as far too soon to permit diplomatic arrangement with Japan. Steps are being taken to rally sympathizers with the President's view in opposing acceptance of the report of the joint conference of the Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The President said that he would favour March 1, 1926, as a better date for operation of the new Bill. He hoped that Congress would accord at least a few months' delay.

Later.

The Congressional committee has accepted President Coolidge's suggestion to report a provision making the Immigration Bill effective from March 1, 1925, instead of July 1 next, on the understanding that formal abrogation of the "Gentlemen's Agreement" is in the meantime negotiated. The committee rejected the proposal to postpone the operation of the Bill until March 1, 1926.—Reuter's American Service.

SOVIET PERSECUTION OF INDUSTRIALISTS

Two Sentenced to Death for "Economic Espionage:" Long Prisoner Terms for Others

Moscow, May 7.

Sensational proceedings are being taken in Leningrad against a number of judges, magistrates and members of the revolutionary tribunal on charges of blackmail and corruption. The accused persons number 42.—Reuter.

Moscow, May 8.

The trial has concluded of 16 industrialists charged with economic espionage, corruption and unfair practices. Two have been sentenced to death and a number of others to long terms of imprisonment.

All the accused are connected with the textile trust. The prosecutor described the proceedings as an effort to prevent private capital from conquering wholesale trade. Reuter.

RUSSIAN EMBASSY IN LONDON

Should It Be Handed over to Possession of Soviets?

London, May 8.

It is understood that the British Government have written to M. Sabline, the present occupant of the former Russian Embassy in London, who was acting as secretary on the old Tsarist staff, expressing the opinion that the property which belonged to the old Government should be regarded as belonging to the present Government. It is anticipated that the Soviets will take legal action to obtain possession if, as appears likely, he does not yield.—Reuter.

IRISH BOUNDARY QUESTION

Appointment of Commission

London, May 2.

It is learned on good authority that the report that an order for mobilization of special constabulary in County Armagh was being prepared is untrue.—Reuter.

London, May 5.

Mr. John McNeill is the free State Commissioner on the Boundary question.

In the House of Commons to-day Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Secretary of States for the Colonies, announced that, following the appointment of a Free State representative to the Irish Boundary Commission, His Majesty's Government had requested the Government of North Ireland to make a similar appointment. Steps were being taken to appoint a chairman.—Reuter.

Belfast, May 6.

The Premier, Sir James Craig, in the Ulster Parliament stated that it was impossible to accede to the request of the British Government to appoint a Boundary Commissioner.—Reuter.

MINERS AND COAL-OWNERS

A Threat of Strike in Case of Refusal of Proposals

London, May 5.

Mr. Cook, the Secretary of the Miners' Federation, speaking at Pontypool to-day, referred to the Court of Inquiry into the miner's wages which has just concluded. He said that unless the Court made some tangible recommendation the inquiry would have been a waste of time. He had arranged to meet the coal-owners on May 14. If the men's proposals were not satisfied there would be only two alternatives, a strike or an appeal to the Government, which had power to grant the just demands.—Reuter.

THE BRITISH BUILDING TRADE DISPUTE

Owners' Offer Rejected and a Strike Impending

London, May 7.

A national ballot of the building trade operatives has resulted in rejection of the employers' offer of an increase of a half-penny an hour. The men demanded two-pence.

Notice to withdraw labour has already been given to the employers. The [illegible] will meet [illegible] May [illegible] effect to the [illegible] operations [illegible] members.—Reuter.

BRITAIN'S LOANS TO ALLIES

Annual Interest Charges

London, May 6.

In the House of Commons to-day, replying to Sir Edward Grigg, Liberal Member for Oldham, the Chancellor of the Exchquer, Mr. Philip Snowden, calculated that the annual interest charges payable by the British tax-payers on loans made to the Allies during the war exceeded £100,000,000.—Reuter.

PROPORTION OF POWERS' NAVAL ARMAMENT

Capital Ship Ratio of 5-5-3

Washington, May 5.

A resolution has been introduced in Congress urging investigation of the present condition of naval establishments, particularly, whether the capital ship ratio of 5/5/3 has been maintained by the United States and whether it has been exceeded by any other signatory Power.—Reuter's American Service.

EAST AFRICAN COTTON

Inquiries as to Purchases by Japan Competing with British Trade

London, May 6.

In the House of Commons to-day Sir Walter De Frece, Conservative Member for Ashton-under-Lyne, alleged that most of the raw cotton from East Africa was now bought by Japan, and the British tax-payer was asked to provide large sums for the benefit of a trade directly competing with Britain.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. J. H. Thomas, replied that there were no direct shipments of cotton from East Africa to Japan. Some of the cotton consigned to India, which was rather more than half the total crop, certainly went to Japan. It was impossible in a country where by international convention trade was completely free, to limit the destination of cotton. It was undesirable to restrict the freedom of growers to sell cotton to the best advantage. If foreign users of this type of cotton bought from East Africa, there was more of the same type available for Lancashire from elsewhere.—Reuter.

LONDON, May 4.—Sir Edward Elgar has been appointed Master of the King's Music in succession to the late Sir Walter Parratt.—Reuter.

U. S. NATURALIZATION REGULATIONS

Natives of India Ineligible for Citizenship

London, May 5.

In the House of Commons to-day, replying to Mr. W. J. Baker, Labour Member for East Bristol, Mr. Robert Richards the Under-Secretary of State for India, said that the United States Government's refusal to naturalize Indians was due to the Supreme Court's ruling that Indians were ineligible for United States citizenship. His Majesty's Government had made representations to the United States with a view to alleviating the hardships resulting from this ruling. The Government of India and Lord Olivier, the Secretary of States for India, had been corresponding in that connexion and the Government of India had expressed appreciation of the Government's action.—Reuter.

INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE

International Meeting in Rome.

Rome, May 2.

The assembly of the International Institute of Agriculture opened to-day in the presence of the King and the Ministers of the Cabinet. Delegates attended from 70 States.

Signor Mussolini, in a speech of welcome, wished the Institute prosperity and hoped that it would have a beneficial effect on the interests of agriculture throughout the world.—Reuter.

THREATENED AIR STRIKE SETTLED

London, May 2.

The Federation of British Aircraft Workers state that a meeting of the men's committee and an official of the Imperial Airways, Limited, has resulted in a satisfactory settlement of the air strike. The men will resume work on Monday.—Reuter.

DUTCH NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIET FRUITLESS

The Hague, May 3.

The Dutch delegates who are conferring with the Soviet envoys in Berlin have returned to discuss with the Government various questions on which no agreement has been reached.—Reuter.

TROTZKY'S POWER IN SOVIET COUNCILS

Riga, May 2.

Well-informed circles in Moscow foreshadow imminent reorganization of the Soviet Government, whereby M. Trotzky will replace M .Dzerjinsky as the head of the Supreme Economic Council. The latter will take over the direction of the War Department.

It is reported from Moscow that the death sentence passed on Bishop Prokopius at Odessa on a charge of morally and materially supporting the adherents of Denikin in 1919 has been commuted to banishment.—Reuter.

U. S. SOLDIERS' PENSION BILL VETOED

Washington, May 3.

President Coolidge, vetoing the increased Soldiers' Pension Bill, says that he favours reduction of taxation, which cannot be secured unless those in authority cease to pass laws increasing the permanent cost of government.—Reuter's American Service.

WASHINGTON AGREEMENT AND SINGAPORE BASE

London, May 7.

In the House of Commons to-day, questioned as to whether any of the signatories of the Washington Agreement had responded to the Government's decision with regard to Singapore, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald replied in the negative. He pointed out that no immediate definite response was expected because Singapore was outside the Washington Agreement.—Reuter.

ANOTHER JAPANESE LOAN IN AMERICA EXPECTED.

New York, May 2.

The Washington correspondent of the "Journal of Commerce" states that Japan will probably seek to float another loan in the United States next year, probably of $150,000,000.—Reuter's American Service.

NEW MOTOR-SHIP SERVICE

London, May 3.

A 9,000 ton motor-ship, Silver Pine, was launched at Wallsend to-day. She will inaugurate a new service from New York, via Suez.—Reuter.

SWEDEN AND THE SOVIET

Stockholm, May 3.

The Swedo-Russian Commercial Treaty has been passed by both houses.—Reuter.

CUBA'S REQUEST FOR ARMS

Washington, May 2.

The Government have placed an embargo on the shipment of arms to Cuba at the request of the Cuban Government, owing to the conditions of violence existing there.—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, May 3.

The Cuban Government have appealed for permission to purchase arms and ammunition in the United States for use against revolutionaries. The opinion is expressed here that the request will be granted.—Reuter.

PEACE AGAIN IN HONDURAS

Washington, May 2.

The United States Commissioner reports that peace now obtains in Honduras, where a peace conference has resulted in the appointment of General Vicenti Tosta as Provisional President.—Reuter's American Service.

MR. SPARKS' SINGLE-HANDED WORLD CRUISE

Manila, May 5.

Mr. Ira Sparks, who made a voyage from Honolulu to Mindanao single-handed in a 23-ft. boat, set sail from Mindanao for Singapore on March 25, according to a constabulary report.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE EVICTIONS BILL

London, May 5.

In the House of Commons to-day the Evictions Bill, proposed by the Liberal Member, Mr. E. D. Simons, passed the third reading.

Mr. Simons' bill is practically identical with the Government Bill, except for Clause I, on which the Government were defeated in April.—Reuter.

ANGLO-AMERICAN LIQUOR TREATY

London, May 6.

The King has signed the Anglo-American Liquor Treaty, which will operate immediately ratifications are exchanged in Washington.—Reuter.

EPIDEMIC OF CHOLERA IN INDIA

Patna, May 6.

Cholera has become abnormally severe in Behar. There have been over 10,000 deaths in Champaran this year and there were nearly 1,000 last week. The epidemic is still spreading.—Reuter.

MORE EARTH TREMORS

Fuenza, May 7.

The seismographs here for two-hours to-day registered a violent earthquake. The area affected is believed to be north-Eastern Asia.—Reuter.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

DEBATE ON BRITISH NAVAL ESTIMATES

Further Arguments as to Need of at Least One Dockyard East of Suez

DESIRABILITY OF A POLICY OF DISARMAMENT

London, May 8.

The desirability of a policy of disarmament on the one hand and the provision of equipment for the dockyards on the other were the main points of the debate on the Naval Estimates in the House of Commons to-day. The Conserevatives persistently urged the necessity of improving the Singapore dockyard.

Mr. L. S. Amery, former First Lord of the Admiralty, said there was an overwhelming case for the modernizing of at least one dockyard east of the Suez Canal, and in such an event there was no doubt which should be chosen.

Mr. C. C. Ammon, Secretary to the Board of Admiralty, replying, said that the Government noted with the greatest friendliness and pleasure the American Senate's resolutions regarding a Limitation of Armaments Conference. The Government, he said, would do everything possible, as far as Great Britain was concerned, to show a reciprocal desire to enter into any such negotiations and discussions.—Reuter.

THE ROUND-WORLD AIR FLIGHTS

Lieut. D'Oisy's Progress

Calcutta, May 9.

Lieut. D'Oisy has left for Akyab. Lieut. d'Oisy left Calcutta at 5.50 this morning. A telegram from Akyab states that he had not arrived there at noon. It is possible that he is proceeding direct to Bangkok.—Reuter.

Fierce Storm in the Kuriles

Paramashiru, May 7.

A terrific hundred-mile storm in the region of the Kuriles lasted more than a day, and, except for the skilful seamanship and courage of those in command, must have destroyed both Japanese and American destoryers. The storms having extended beyond the time they should ordinarily have lasted, the outlook is bad for the American fliers, who are expecting to leave Atka for Atu at the earliest possible opportunity. The Canadian trawler Thiepval which is preparing the way for the British fliers has left for Hitokappu.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Lisbon-Macao Flight Abandoned

Simla, May 9.

The Portuguese airmen have abandoned their flight to Macao.—Reuter.

London, May 9.

A despatch from Lisbon states that the Portuguese authorities have telegraphed offering to send another machine to India to complete the flight of the Portuguese airmen to Macao.—Reuter.

The Crash in Jodphur

Lisbon, May 8.

The crash of the Portuguese biplane was due to damage caused by a cyclone. Lieut. Beires was not hurt. Captain Paia was slightly injured. The mechanic is suffering from bruises.—Reuter.

WORLD COURT AT THE HAGUE

Senator Lodge's Suggestion

Washington, May 8.

A resolution, which has been introduced by Senator Lodge in the Senate, provides for the establishment of a World Court at the Hague, of which America would be a member, composed of 16 Judges selected by an Electoral Commission.—Reuter's American Service.

REMOVAL OF THE McKENNA DUTIES

Mr. Baldwin's Motion Regarded as a Vote of Censure on the Government

SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF A GOVERNMENT DEFEAT

London, May 8.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. J. R. Clynes, the Lord Privy Seal, announcing that Mr. Stanley Baldwin's motion, that it was inexpedient to remove the McKenna duties amidst the present distresses, would be taken on May 13, said that, although the motion was not couched in ordinary terms, the Government regarded it as a vote of censure.

Later.

A Government defeat on the Budget is always a serious matter and in view of Mr. J. R. Clynes's announcement to-day the Government is bound to treat a defeat on Tuesday in the conventional way of adjourning the House and considering its position, but the chance of defeat is infinitesimal as Liberal support of the Government is certain, while the Labour Members who favour the McKenna duties are bound to rally to the Government's support after Mr. Clynes's statement.—Reuter.

HOLLAND AND THE SOVIET

Failure of Negotiations Due to Obstinate Attitude of Russia

The Hague, May 8.

A *communiqué*, issued to-day, lays the responsibility for the failure of the Russo-Dutch negotiations in Berlin upon the Russians, who, under the most-favoured nation clause, refused to grant to Holland the advantages accorded to other nations who have recognized her. The Dutch Government does not intend to go further, because it considers that a treaty as contemplated by Russia would be unsatisfactory from the point of view of commerce, navigation, debts and credits.—Reuter.

The Propaganda Menace.

The Hague, May 9.

It is learned that the Dutch Government's desire to come to an early arrangement with Soviet Russia is greatly tempered by the fear of Soviet propaganda in the Dutch East Indies. There is reason to believe that the negotiations will eventually be resumed.—Ruter.

THE BREACH OF RUSSO-GERMAN RELATIONS

Berlin, May 8.

M. Krestinsky, the Russian Ambassador, has departed for Moscow.

M. Stomonjakov, the head of the Russian Trade Delegation, will also depart for Moscow to-morrow.—Reuter.

Trade With Germany Unwanted

The Russian Trade Delegation, with the approval of trading circles, has informed Germany that, apart from any action by the Soviet Government, it will not participate in the Cologne Fair which opens on Sunday or the Leipzig Fur Auction. Furthermore it will export elsewhere eggs intended for Germany and refuse to complete wheat transactions.—Reuter.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN CONFERENCE

Results Not Yet Announced

London, May 8.

In the House of Commons to-day, asked when the Government would be able to announce the results of the Anglo-Russian Conference in London, Mr. J. R. Clynes regretted that he was unable to foretell the duration of the Conference, but the Prime Minister proposed to take an opportunity immediately to hurry it up.—Reuter.

EXCLUSION OF JAPANESE FROM AMERICA

Heated Debate in U. S. Senate: Immigration Not a Subject for Treaty Negotiation

Washington, May 8.

The Senate to-day heatedly debated the Immigration Bill. Both sides bitterly assailed the Conference Report postponing Japanese exclusion. Senators Robinson, Borah, Johnson, Lodge, Reed and others maintained that immigration was purely a domestic matter and ought not to be made a subject for Treaty negotiation. The Californian Senator Shortridge announced his intention of moving a point of order that the Committee had exceeded its authority in recommending the extension of the date of the measure and lowering the barrier against Asiatic immigration.—Reuter's American Service.

Cleveland, May 8.

A plenary session of the United States Chambers of Commerce to-day unanimously adopted a resolution opposing the exclusion of Japanese by Legislative enactment.—Reuter's American Service.

Tokio, May 9.

As regards the prospect of negotiations over the Exclusion Law public opinion here is rather pessimistic. The Tokio "*Asahi*" says that even if an opportunity offered itself for the reopening of negotiations, it would be premature to suppose that the effects of the Bill would be mitigated.—Eastern News Agency.

HOME CRICKET

Glamorganshire's Second Defeat: South Africans' Match Spoilt by Rain

London, May 8.

At Derby, in their match against Derbyshire, the South Africans scored six runs without the loss of a wicket, when heavy rain started to fall and play was abandoned for the day.

At Cardiff, Yorkshire beat Glamorgan by an innings and 177 runs, the scores being: Yorkshire 275; Glamorgan, first innings 48, second innings 50. Kilner took four wickets for 17 runs in Glamorgan's first innings and five for 25 in the second. Macaulay, in the first innings, took five wickets for 15 runs.—Reuter.

EMPIRE WIRELESS AND THE DONALD REPORT

London, May 8.

Reuter understands that the Cabinet has reached a decision with regard to Empire Wireless, but the time and method of announcing the decision will be left to the Cabinet's wireless committee. It is understood that the decision adopts the main lines of the Donald report.—Reuter.

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SHANGHAI—HONGKONG

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

AN ENGLISH TRAVELLER IN AMERICA

Missing Aeroplane Plans Said To Be In Japan: The President's Ideas on the Mellon Plan: Comment on Anglo-American Friendship: Textile Difficulties

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

San Francisco, Apr. 12.

Some little excitement, spectacularly played up to its political possibilities, has been caused by a statement made a day or two ago in the nation's capital that Japan now possesses every aeroplane secret evolved by American genius for the aerial defence of the United States in time of war. That the newspapers are up in arms is only natural. That the anti-Japanese propagandists are making capital out of the affair is equally to be expected. That the Japanese in this country claim that it is all political pull is a *sine qua non*. But there is little doubt that certain plans have gone missing, and great probability is suspected that they have found their way to the Land of the Rising Sun.

The statement is attributed to Mr. Thos. F. Lane, who was formerly State Senator for Missouri—the state enjoying the reputation of being peopled with citizens hard of conviction, who always "want to be shown"—and before he was ousted from office enjoyed the distinction of being legal advisor to the Air Service Claims Board. Mr. Lane corroborates the sensational charge, run to earth by a Department of Justice agent, "that the Japanese-owned Standard Aircraft Corporation turned over to Japan copies of every airplane secret held by the United States." Mr. Lane further claims that this was admitted by the president of the corporation, and goes on to broadcast to the country the obvious information that, if the Japanese now possess these drawings and models, they will be able to duplicate American Government planes, rendering futile anything that the Air Service people have up their sleeve. The plans are said to have been delivered to Messrs. Mitsui & Co. (alleged to be the Japanese owners of the Standard Corporation), and I now see that the Secretary of War, Mr. Weeks is likely to be dragged into the *mêlée*. He advances into the limelight because he is charged with having blocked institution of criminal suits to recover a sum of money considerably over two and a half million dollars paid the Aircraft Corporation in overpayments. It is also claimed that the Corporation, which was secretly manufacturing several American aeroplane models for the U. S. Government at the time of the armistice, not only turned over the plans but sent to Japan wooden patterns and other models of the machinery used in American aircraft factories. Should this be true, and no one can tell at the moment whether it is or not, it was, of course, an outrageous breach on the part of the Corporation, fully punishable by law, for it appears that their contract expressly forbade the exploitation of plans or specifications without the permission of the War Department.

Should this develop into wider political significance, you will doubtless be advised by the telegraphic agencies of what transpires.

President Coolidge and the Mellon Tax Plan.

At last the country has been given a definite expression of presidential opinion on the famous Mellon Tax Plan. It looks as if President Coolidge is "all for it." In nutshell form, the President's idea is that a reduction in the taxes on the basis that the ingenious Mr. Mellon proposes would usher in an unprecedented era of prosperity and business expansion. The matter was brought up a day or two ago in the Cabinet, President Coolidge calling attention to reports which had reached him of the slowing down of business in certain lines, and he naturally turned to that veritable wizard of the Department of Commerce (Mr. Hoover) for information. The latter, however, denied any slowing down of production, and declared the belief that at any time during the present year would there be any slackening. Your readers may remember that a week or two ago I reported the general belief in many parts of the country among men well able to gauge the trend of commercial affairs, that this year, despite its being presidential year when general dullness is expected, would probably be a record business year. Mr. Hoover's confirming opinion, therefore, is all the more interesting in view of all the reports that have been sent out. The situation in steel is always a barometer of trade in the United States, as in Great Britain, and I find a steady increase both in production and future orders is the rule of the day. Mr. Hoover also emphasized the important fact that the building industry reached its peak last year, yet so far in 1924 building permits have shown a large increase over 1923, and increased production is consequently noted in all the industries related to building.

Such slowing down as has been reported in certain lines, so the President said he was inclined to think, is "probably due to the failure of Congress up to date to solve the tax reduction programme," which is also unquestionably due to investors marking time.

The man whose activities take him near enough to the financial market to allow him to get an inside view is astounded to find the number among the investing public who refuse to put their funds into industry because of the existing high surtaxes. A preference is shown to lend their surpluses at as low as even three per cent., which of course accounts for the present large accumulation of "call" money. If the surtaxes were lowered, as in the Mellon plan, the consensus of opinion in the financial market is that money would rapidly flow back again to where it rightfully belongs—namely, in industry—and, as the President expresses it, the country "would feel the thrill of a great revival of productivity and general prosperity."

Conditions in the Textile Trade a Puzzle.

The barometer of China trade is piece goods, if any one commodity can be said to offer the general pulse, so that a word or two on the textile conditions in this country will no doubt be opportune.

Warnings have been coming out recently. In the New England district curtailment of manufacture is recorded, and several of the prominent mills are closing down. The Everett mills, the Lawrence duck plant, the Acadia works, the Davis Furber Company, the White Valley denim mills, the York Manufacturing Mills, and other more or less important mills have either been closed altogether or are working at half time, with little prospect of recovery for a fair length of time. The public is blamed. The public is not buying. Cloths are selling at the same price as they were last August, when cotton was six cents lower. The mills in the South are not in such a bad fix. They are curtailing production, but are more confident that they may be able to make money at present raw and finished price levels, but all the manufacturers are warning the retail trade and jobbers that their present hand-to-mouth buying must lead to higher prices, and that when public demand becomes urgent there will be difficulties of supply.

I do not know what effect this may have in the Far Eastern market, but I should presume that American cottons will be quoted by cable at prices that may be competitive with Manchester and the Japanese cotton centres.

But it certainly does appear that while cotton is in the doldrums, it is the only industry that is seriously affected.

Money everywhere is plentiful, as I have above indicated. The thought comes to me of the ease there would be for China to raise money in this country—if there were a stable government in China, if the Washington Government would back up its bankers and foreign financial operators, if China were internally at peace, if the military warriors and the political firebrands all over the country could accomplish what appears to be the impossible, bury their hatchets and get down to constructive centralization of authority and provincial activity, in industry and economic progress.

A Popular British Consul-General

The recent occasion of having conferred upon him the honour of the C.M.G. gives me an opportunity to refer to the popular Consul-General at San Francisco, a man whom a good many of your British readers may at some future time have occasion to visit when over here. Mr. Campbell is a type of British official who is doing much to cement the right and only sensible feeling of goodwill between the Americans and the British in this part of the world. At the luncheon given in his honour, reference was made to the English-speaking Union (to which I saw Captain Dollar also recently referred when he was in Shanghai), and the same feeling existed with that mixed band of Britons and Americans in San Francisco as would probably exist if the situation were duplicated in Shanghai. The Americans were a wee bit uncomfortable, and the British wondered whether the speakers actually believed and felt to be true what they were claiming in regard to growing friendly relations between the two peoples—as distinct from the two Governments. Much the same situation would be experienced if a prominent American were being entertained in the Shanghai Club, where British influence predominates. The British would hold their own opinion, and so would the Americans, and there may appear to be wide differences, but if they were absolutely truthful with each other they would probably find that much in their general viewpoint was common to both.

Both peoples know that a cordial dislike which appears natural among individuals in both nations, does exist, and is often mutual; this, however, comes from those members of both nations who have not broken down their own insular view of the other through lack of experience. One hears what the American calls the "accent" of the Englishman being "tipped the grin" at in the theatres, and the difference in the employment of the long and short "a" often gives rise to mirth among Americans. Similarly, little surface so-called incongruities give the Briton in this country and in others where he meets Americans—for the Americans, like the British, take their national foibles with them—occasion for a smirk. Moreover, motion pictures of a certain type do not tend to make either nationality feel comfortable when looking at them—if the picture is made in Los Angeles the Englishman squirms, if made in London the American has reason to get huffy, should he be foolish enough to take stock of simple surface things that do not matter. But that is, after all, the point. Our lives are so coloured with the things that are on the surface of life that we often in our hurry and competition disregard entirely the immovable basic facts of life. And this a need for a genuine, high regard of these nations for the other must surely be classed as among the basic facts of the nation life of both Great Britain and the United States. The men who think know that upon the lasting concord and growing co-operation of these two great peoples depends the peace of the world.

"Bobs" and "No-bobs."

And now for a lighter theme. I wonder whether all the schools out your way are advertising for lady teachers? If they are, and if no objection is made by the electing functionary I can recommend a fair-sized army who will be willing applicants—they are, however, all numbered among the "bobbed." Shorn of their tresses, they are also shorn of a means of existence. The edict has gone forth, in many parts of this country, that schoolmistresses, youthful or a little less youthful does not matter, who have been to the barber's to be clipped cannot continue their worthy profession of educating the young into the paths that they should tread. Several dismissals have taken place, and officials, mere men naturally, remain adamant. They want long hair, and the "no-bobs," irrespective of natural acumen, are carrying the day and winning the more highly-paid jobs.

A school-marm applies for a position; the Commissioner of Education takes one glance—if a "bob" out she goes. And, seeing that nine out of every ten women in this country (so it seems to me) are numbered not among the "unbobbed," there are a good many "bobs" whose funds are running low.

But it looks as if the "bob" is a newcomer who will be with us a long time. In the United States the barbers—yes, the barbers, indeed—are the perpetrators of this crime. It happened in this wise. Business was bad. Men were hardly coming up to scratch, and as a barber can take a "course" in about three weeks, the army of barbers grew, and this army had to be fed. Among the men there were obviously not enough haircuts and shaves to make the game a profitable one, so the barbers did what all business men in this country do—they held a convention. Barbers flocked from all parts of the country, and the number of men who went shaveless was legion. That is, until the barbers returned. But when they did return the men clients noticed a chilliness and change in demeanour, and a contemptuous sideglance as the tip changed hands. Mightly independent were the barbers. The truth only leaked out when flashy signs appeared in the windows of the barber-shops bearing the strange legend—"Ladies hair bobbed: Fifty cents," which nobody understood, but the barbers—and the ladies.

It appears that these wily haircutters had gone into secret conference at this convention, and discussed various ways and means of increasing business and turning in more honest dollars. They could think of nothing more that they could do for the men. At the present time they shaved them, they cut their hair often when it was not required, they bought them clean collars and shirts at a profit when they came off dirty trains, they stood them in a barrel and pressed theirs suits "while you wait," they "shined" their shoes, they massaged their faces. This was all they could think of. The thermometer was at a low ebb when a thinker caught just a shadow of an idea and turned the swift fire of his imagination upon it—why not "bob" the hair of the women? They called for statistics. So many millions of the female of the species, multiplied by the amount they would nominally charge, multiplied by the amount they would induce the dear creatures to pay. It ran into millions a year. Hastily, plans were drawn up for the assault. Reservations were made and the radiantly hopeful barber made a bee line back to his chair. And he is now raking in the millions. Young and old, school-marms and school girls, the old who look young and the young who look old, all are "bobbing" and marcelling, "bobbing" perhaps once a month and marcelling at least once a week. Well, reader, go into arithmetic.—Literally millions of dollars worth of business. No wonder the men cannot get service. Barbers no longer exist for men: they are giving up their time-honoured shops and opening "beauty parlours." The barber is a wealthy man from now on. Many of his grasping species, clever barbers, make much more money than some bankers, and have a much more interesting time. It is true that the "bobs" are not all successes. Some turn out like deckswabs, others hit the trail with ghastly shaven necks, just like the men, catching cold down their spines. Emulating the men, there is a tendency towards the Chrysanthemum cut—this term is my own copyright, as it expresses ideally the American haircut for men, just as it does for the little Chinese children, who have theirs tied up with little red strings: there is only a difference in the size of the chrysanthemum.

I was going to tell you a story about a "bob," but my space is gone, alas.

HONGKONG, May 6.—The Japanese Olympic Games team has arrived at Hongkong. It will meet Hongkong representatives at tennis, running and swimming.—Reuter Pacific Service.

CORNHILL IN THE REMAKING

A Notable New Pile in the City of London

Within living memory practically the whole of Cornhill, as indeed is the case in the City in general, has been transformed in appearance, says the "City Press" of March 29. The old school will remember the thoroughfares as one of shops and office buildings in practically equal numbers. To-day all but a few of the former may be looked for in vain, and practically every one of the latter has in like way disappeared. In the place of the old-world buildings have sprung up huge blocks in consonance with modern-day ideas of what constitutes the ideal in business architecture and arrangement. The last of the new buildings is the one erected in Cornhill at the corner of Finch Lane by the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ld. The elevation is of Portland stone over a grey granite base. The crest of the Society on two bronze plaques, artistically pricked out in gold, flanks the main entrance, and a copper finial of a ship crowns the ridge of the roof. The building is a steel-frame structure. The entrance hall is in marble, with a dome in gold mosaic. On the ground floor the principal apartment is the underwriters' room, which adjoins the main entrance, and is panelled in mahogany. The Manager's and Committee room, over the main entrance, is also panelled in mahogany. On the second floor is a luncheon room for the Committee and the heads of the staff. The floors above are available for letting. The tenants' entrance is at the east end of the site, and gives access to a marble lined hall, with a public lift connecting all the floors. In the basement a public safe deposit is in course of construction. The building, which is a notable addition to the architecture of the banking and insurance quarter of the City, has been erected by Bovis, Ld., according to the designs, accepted in competition, of Messrs. Gunton and Gunton, Finsbury House, Blomfield Street.

The Society was founded in Canton in 1835 by a group of British merchants under the guidance of the then famous firm of Dent and Co., and transferred to Hongkong in 1841 when that port was ceded to the British Crown. From that time onward, the office has been a consistently prosperous concern. Branches have been established not only in China, but in Australia, India, London, Japan, South Africa, the United States, and, in fact, every quarter of the globe. The Society acquired a controlling interest in the British (late China) Traders' Insurance Company, Ld., in 1906; in the China Fire Insurance Company, Ld., in 1916; and in the North China Insurance Company, Ld., in 1919. The growth within the last 50 years may be judged from the fact that the income grew from £121,088 in 1868 to £3,013,591 in 1921. The net assets now exceed £6,000,000, and altogether the claims paid have aggregated £20,000,00.

LIEUTENANT WOOD'S RESIGNATION

After a Fortune Made in Wall Str.

Washington, D. C., April 12.—Osborne Cutler Wood, son and aide of Governor-General Wood of the Philippines, has resigned from the army, in which he held a commission as second lieutenant, and the resignation has been accepted by President Coolidge.

No reason was made public at the war department, which stated to-day that the resignation was effective at once. Lieutenant Wood, several weeks ago, however, after he had made a fortune estimated at $800,000 by trading in Wall street, said he intended to resign and enter the diplomatic service. No application has been received as yet at the state department from him for such services.

Lieutenant Wood was granted leave of absence more than two months ago and left Manila for the United States by way of Europe. Although his present whereabouts has not been announced, he is understood to be in this country. He had been military aide to his father since the latter assumed office in the Philippines.

FROM CHINA TO CHICAGO

Wayside Jottings: The Revival of Japan: American's Preoccupations: The Lordly Pullman-Porter.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Chicago, April 4.

Comfort or speed are deciding factors rather than danger in crossing the Pacific. No really respectable liner of any sort has been lost in a long time. First-class ships cost so much that operating companies take all possible precautions to preserve their property—incidentally the lives of passengers are safe—safer in fact than on land if automobiles are about. At Nagasaki, coal was taken on as usual, a lone foreigner drifted alongside and remarked "it would drive a man to drink to live here more than a week." At Kobe we noticed harbour improvements in progress and heard debates as to its becoming the principal seaport of Japan. The ruin at Yokohama by earthquake and fire is not exaggerated, but recovery seems inevitable if Tokio is to remain the capital city. An hour's drive in a motor-car confirmed the impression that in Tokio itself, recuperation is rapid. Building is flimsy of course, but at least the people are getting under a roof again and appear to be at home. The manners of the Japanese so far as could be observed have improved somewhat since the disaster. At least, they are more sincerly earnest about allowing foreign visitors to spend money with them than formerly. Rigidity about passports had relaxed somewhat, but it it is still well to have proper visas.

The trip across was uneventful. Each passenger carried his own share of troubles, some securely locked, others scattered them around to any that would listen. The self-made man in the smoke room adored his maker as usual, the nervous lady of uncertain age and unattached was with us. Some well-behaved children were nearly ruined by other children whose parents practised the "mighty" sorry method (apologies to Montessori). The best anecdote (of ancient printage) was the following:— At a party where Mark Twain was present, conundrums were in order: The humorist asked "Why is Mark Twain like the Pacific Ocean?" Many guessed but none found the answer. Finally they asked him| His reply was "I do not know: I was only asking for information"

At Vancouver, we left the good ship that brought us across. A loyal British subject will of course go over the Canadian Pacific Railway the first time, after that he will be in the "misery of indecision" until he has tried all the other trans-continental lines. The writer having been over them all once, took the shortest in time, "Seventy hours to Chicago."

Seattle was like [illegible], but a blinding snow storm overtook us in the Rockies. Montana and Dakota seemed dry. Minnesota was still covered with snow. Ice cakes were floating on the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers as we crossed them.

It is a relief to get into a country where a dollar is a dollar and changes for ten dimes or one hundred cents even. No haggling over "big money" and "little money" in exchange. However, a dollar does not take you very far on a Pullman diner and anything less than a 25 cent. tip seems to be an insult to the lordly sleeping car porter for a shoe-shine.

American railroads are improving in the matter of safety. One advertises, "Thirty Million Passengers. No Deaths By Aceident."

The average inland U.S.A. newspaper has the briefest of all brief foreign news, but packed with local politics. baseball and mournfully comic cartoons. Republicans insist that President Coolidge will be re-electel. Democrats say, "NcAdoo, yes, he'll do."

To one passing through rapidly, the remark of Marco Polo as he went by Soochow some centuries ago, is apropos: They are so occupied with their own affairs, they have no thought for any other." Listening is a lost art in China, everybody there talks at once, it is not quite that bad in America—not yet.

We are in the suburbs of Chicago, made up lost time on the double-track section, for the train pulls in on time,

RACE IN NAVAL STRENGTH

Further Limitation Possible?: U. S. Move: Difficulties of a New Conference

In tacking an amendment to the Naval Appropriations Bill for 1924-25, requesting President Coolidge to promote an international conference for the further limitation of naval armaments, the American House of Representatives has repeated the step it took last year.

So far as one can gather, the wording of the amendment is identical with that attached to the previous Naval Bill. On this the late President Harding, after consulting with his Cabinet, decided to take no action, and it is very improbable that Mr. Coolidge, on his part, will do more than formally acknowledge the amendment.

More than once during the past 12 months it has been made clear that the perils of a precipitate move in this delicate matter are fully recognized at the White House.

Friction.

A great many people, by no means confined to the United States, seem to imagine that a new conference to extend the provisions of the Washington Treaty would be all plain sailing. This, however, is far from certain. Various circumstances favoured the success of the Washington parley. Of the five great Powers participating, all were weary of naval rivalry, and none, with the possible exception of the United States, was capable of bearing the financial strain of a renewed competition in super-Dreadnoughts.

Yet, even so, it took more than two months of continuous negotiation to arrive at a settlement, and only a partial one at that.

Battleship and aircraft-carrier tonnage was rationed. But no agreement could be reached for the limitation of other warship types, and attempts to do so created friction between the British and French delegates, which inevitably reacted on the relations between their Governments.

It is doubtful, to say the least, whether France would he working on her present large programme of submarine construction had the conference never taken place.

French Attitude.

A new disarmament treaty, to be effective at all, would have to embrace every type of ship, including submarines. Is it likely that France, for example, would agree to a quota of submarine tonnage which would be acceptable to this country? No one who followed last year's debates in the Paris Chamber on the ratification of the Washington Treaty can doubt the answer. M. Poincaré and other Ministers stated categorically that France intended to keep her hands entirely free in the matter of minor naval construction.

The adhesion of Japan to a compact restricting cruisers and submarines is equally problematical. The late Admiral Viscount Kato stated when at Washington that Japanese naval opinion looked upon these craft as defensive units. Moreover, it is common knowledge that Japan, since the Conference, has been out-building Great Britain and the United States together in light cruisers and undersea boats, and is now far in advance of her 3-5-5 Treaty ratio in both types.

Probably, therefore, opposition to the restriction of such vessels would be as determined, if not so outspoken, in Japan as across the Channel.

Finally, there is the question of bringing all the secondary naval Powers into line, and how thorny a problem this would be has lately been demonstrated by the abortive meeting at Rome, convened under the auspices of the League of Nations.

Not Agreed.

The opinion reached by those who have studied the matter from all angles is that naval disarmament, in the full sense of the term, is something which, desirable though it may be, is practically beyond attainment either now or in the near future; further, that a conference held at the present juncture would do infinitely more harm than good.

It is not as though even Great Britain and the United States were in agreement as to the broad principles of additional naval limitation. American Service writers invariably demand parity with Britain in cruiser tonnage, while British experts hold that the immense volume of seaborne trade upon which this country is dependent requires for its protection many more cruisers than the United States would be willing to concede.

If, therefore, President Coolidge were to summon a new naval conference in obedience to the request of Congress, the effect upon political relations could scarcely be beneficial, and might well prove deplorable. The pruning down of international armaments is a matter that calls for the most delicate and cautious treatment. One hasty move might ruin everything.

The fact that American statesmen, for all their desire to promote world disarmament, are maintaining so cautious an attitude, should give pause to the idealists who are impatient to see the ocean swept clear of all fighting ships.

H. C. B. in the "Daily News."

COLOUR QUESTION IN NEW YORK

Excitement Over a Play

Washington, March 3.—The newspapers and public officials of New York are being bombarded with letters protesting against the presentation of Eugene O'Neill's play "All God's Chillun got Wing," which will soon be given its first performance in that city. The play deals with the tragic love of a full-blooded negro and a white woman of culture and refinement and wife a man who has risen above his environment. The great scene in the drama is when the wife falls at her husband's feet impressed by his nobility of character, and kisses his hand.

The protests are based partly on the danger of arousing racial antagonism in New York, with its huge negro population, which, to say the least, is arrogant, always insisting upon its rights, and protesting against white discrimination, and partly on the feeling of intense disgust that mixture of races always arouses in America. Mr. O'Neill is one of the leading American dramatists, the author of "The Emperor Jones" and "Anna Christie," the latter seen recently in London. He says the racial factor is incidental, and the play is a character study of two human beings.

The authorities are powerless to prevent the new play's production, as there is no censorship of the stage. Legal action against the producer is only possible on the ground that the play is obscene or detrimental to public morals or a menace to public peace.

SECRET OF THE ATOM

Scientist Undaunted After Ten Years' Work

Will the energy of the atom ever be applied for the benefit of mankind?

The Duc de Broglie the distinguished physicist confessed to the "Daily News" recently that, although he has analysed the atom for close on 10 years, he was at loss to say whether the undoubtedly enormous energy it possessed could ever be applied to the problems that beset the world.

He works in a marble-walled laboratory in Paris—sometimes for days without food or sleep.

"I shall," he declared, "continue to study. I feel I must go on. Habits formed and, as it were established over a period of 10 years are hard to break.

"If ever the energy of the atom were liberated its effect might well revolutionize the future of the world; but it is too much to hope for—our task is to hope on and search."

THE NEW. SPAIN

No Likelihood of Any Counter-Revolution

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Madrid, April 2.

The Directorate in Spain is slowly elaborating a new constitution.

Instead of summoning a special representative assembly for that purpose, General Primo de Rivera has thought it wiser to take the matter in hand personally, with the help of his colleagues of the Directorate, and not to hand the sovereign power back to the people until he feels satisfied that the new machine is in good working order.

By the new Statute of Local Administration, which has just been published, the municipalities are to acquire a much larger degree of autonomy than was the case under the old regime, while care has been taken to avoid the old political corruption and the usurpation of power by professional politicians. The ballot is to be secret, which was not the case formerly, when votes were freely bought and sold.

All men will have the vote at 23 years of age, and women at the same age when heads of families.

Tariff Questions

Another important new institution is the Council of National Economy. This is composed of Government nominees and representatives of industry and agriculture, and will draw up tariffs and prepare commercial treaties with foreign Powers. It will, of course, be under Government control, but constitutes a great step forward, since every important branch of industry is to be heard before any changes can be made henceforth in the tariffs.

It is hoped that the Directorate may soon be able to simplify much of the complicated machinery that at present makes it very difficult in Spain to establish a business.

I know a man who has been trying ever since October to open a place of amusement of a particularly innocent sort, but the number of officials whose signature is necessary is so great, and the time each one takes to affix it to the necessary documents so long, that, in spite of spending most of his time in government and municipal departments for six months, he has not got his papers through yet.

Coup Canards

The likelihood of counter-revolutions, or anything like violence with bloodshed in Spain, for some time to come, at least, may be put down as negligible. The almost unanimous feeling of the country is that things are improving, and will go on improving, and a counter-revolution would have no partisans outside small political or military groups. In such circumstances it would certainly not be successful, unless for a moment only.

The recent news of serious reverses in Morocco, like that of rebellion in Catalonia a few weeks ago, had its origin doubtless in speculation on exchange, and was given prominence in certain foreign newspapers out of mere impatience for the sensational news which does not come.

THE PASS-WORD OF THE TOWER

Lord Mayor's Privilege

A question asked by the Lord Chief Justice at the Masons' banquet the other night, would have to be answered by a good many persons, one supposes, in the negative. He was speaking of the various duties of the Lord Major, and asked whether it is "generally known that every week he is given the pass-word of the City of London."

Though "every week" and the reference to the City are not strictly accurate, the interesting fact remains that every quarter the pass-word of the Tower of London for each day in the three months is sent to the Lord Mayor by the resident governor under the Sovereign's sign manual, that is to say, the King actually signs the list of words. ("Appd. Geo. R.I.") in his own hand.

Though the privilege is rarely if ever exercised the pass-word enables the Lord Mayor, at any time of the day or night even though the guard is set, to pass through the gates to see the Governor, or for any other public duty. When the Lord Mayor goes out of office he communicates the pass-words for the remainder of the quarter to his successor.

ELECTRIFYING IRELAND

German Scheme to Harness Shannon: Free State Favourably Disposed

The harnessing of the River Shannon for the supply of light, heat and power throughout the Free State has been provisionally undertaken by Messrs. Siemens, a Berlin engineering firm.

This ambitious scheme is disclosed in a White Paper issued by the Free States Government recently.

Dr. Wallen, director of Siemens, visited Ireland recently and investigated the water power resources. He laid before President Cosgrave and other Ministers plans for the supply of electrical power in sufficient quantities and at a low price to meet the present and prospective needs of the whole of the Free State.

Government's Attitude

The White Paper states that the Government is not at present in a position to judge of the merits of the Siemens proposals from the technical side, but is prepared to give the firm an opportunity of developing their plans.

It is pointed out by the Government that previous inquiries into possibilities of the Shannon for the purpose of hydro-electrical development led to much less optimistic conclusions than those reached by the Berlin firm, who are to produce a full report on the scheme on or before September 1, 1924.

A State Scheme?

The Government reserves the right itself to carry out the scheme, if approved, or to authorize the firm to do so.

As to the condition of Siemens that if the Government promotes the undertaking the German firm should have the contract for the supply of all material and for the construction of all works the government replies that it would reserve the right to test the quality and prices of the material with a view to ascertaining that the prices were not higher than those obtainable from a reputable firm in any part of the world.

Siemens accept the complete contents of the Government stipulations as the basis for proceeding with the scheme, and will proceed with their investigations, sending engineers to the Shannon as soon as it suits the convenience of the Government.

BOX THAT TALKS

Will It Enable the Dumb to Speak?

How to make a scientific instrument speak by means of an artificial tongue has been demonstrated by Sir Richard Paget before the Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Sir Richard, taking a small dummy voice box and blowing air through it by a rubber tube, so manipulated his fingers that he was able to make the box produce vowels and words. The magical box also called on Sir Oliver Lodge and Professor Vernon Boys by name.

A model was used containing an organ reed as a substitute for the vocal chords. Pairs of pot-shaped resonators gave the effect of the mouth cavity and spoke the vowels like a human being. Another instrument, recently invented by Dr. Eccles, was operated. In this the resonators were merely tuned electric circuits after the manner of a wireless set. The vowel sounds were produced by a "loud speaker," apparently by depressing a row of keys.

These experiments suggest the possibility of the dumb being able to speak by regulating the air in an artificial mouth box with their fingers.

OSAKA, May 7.—M. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China and his suite arrived at Osaka today. They leave for Tokio tonight.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MANCHESTER DIVIDED OVER THE EMPIRE EXHIBITION

Salford Its Own Pet Grievance: The Influence of a Trade in Cancer: Troubles with Municipal Housing: The Nightingale and Wireless Telephony

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Manchester, April 9.

Our City Fathers have been quarrelling again. The bone of contention on this occasion does not lack size, for it is nothing smaller than the Great British Empire Exhibition. It appears that Wembley has a concrete palace for which it has no particular use, so the promoters have christened it the "Civic Hall," and propose to let it out by the week, fortnight, or month, to any enterprising city or township that cares to hire it and boost its local manufactures, residential amenities, or civic enterprise. One group of our Aldermen and City Councillors are in favour of renting this white elephant for a fortnight and holding a "Great Civic Period." If we don't, they say, it will brand our lack of public spirit for many generations. The rest of the Council—slightly in the majority—are frankly derisive. What is a Civic Period, they ask, and who will spend time looking at photographs of the Manchester Sewage Works when there is the great Burma building to see next door? As no one could tell them what a Civic Period was and as its supporters were accused of desiring a glorified picnic on the cheap the proposal was defeated: We are to have a Manchester Bureau in the Exhibition for the whole period, but there is to be no big splash.

Salford Aggrieved.

While our City Fathers were knocking on the head this conspiracy to depress the Exhibition's patrons the neighbouring Council of Salford was passing a resolution to co-operate with us in a joint Civic Period. The only opposition came from a few jealous councillors who objected to it being called the "Manchester Civic Period." Salford, they indignantly asserted, was always being overshadowed by its better known neighbour. Why not a Salford Civic Week? The wrath of these patriots is now assuaged for Salford is to have a Civic Period of its own. It will then have another grievance against Manchester, for every intending purchaser of Salford's manufactures taking a train to the place of their origin will be compelled to alight at a Manchester station and run a short gauntlet of our business men.

The great contribution of Lancashire to Wembley is to be staged in the Palace of Industries. It will consist of a practical demonstration of the whole process of cotton spinning carried through on a complete plant of the most modern machines. Visitors will see the cotton opened out from the bales, cleaned, and spun; and experts will be in attendance to explain the process. The whole of the cotton exhibit will take up 51,000 square feet of floor space and cost over £250,000.

Cancer in Cotton Industry.

The problem of the cause of the disproportionate number of cancer cases among the mule spinners in the cotton industry has been brought to the fore by an interesting lawsuit which came before Judge Mossop a few days ago at the Ashton-under-Lyne County Court. It was in the nature of a test, for over a hundred individual cases will be affected by the result. Mr. Harry Whiteley, an operative cotton spinner at the Tudor Mill, Ashton, claimed compensation from his employers for a cancer in the scrotum, alleging that it was caused by the left side of his groin coming into contact with the faller bar of his machine.

Some years ago it was remarked that cancer of a certain kind was very prevalent among mule spinners. As the only known cause of cancer is chronic irritation, and as it was noted that 80 p.c. of the cases occurred on the victim's left side medical men investigated the working conditions in the mills. They found that the spinner's left side came into incessant contact with the faller bar, and that this bar was usually coated with a mineral oil which penetrated the worker's clothing and set up irritable conditions. Two well known Manchester doctors who have been investigating this incidence of cancer among mule spinners gave evidence at the Court. They said that of the large number of cases treated in the Manchester Royal Infirmary, more than 50 p.c. were mule spinners, and in their opinion the case at issue was directly attributable to the man's occupation. The hearing of the case has been adjourned until May or June. In the case of mule spinners there seems every likelihood of this form of the disease being scheduled as an occupational complaint and liable for compensation. The defence is concentrating on the undeniable factor that some people have a predisposition to cancer.

Other matters affecting conditions in the cotton mills have recently achieved considerable publicity through the efforts of the Legislative Council fo the United Factory Worker's Association. This Council alleges that the artificial humidity used in many weaving sheds is only "a scientific apology for the use of inferior materials," and demands its discontinuance in the interests of the health of the operatives. A campaign is also to be carried on against the existing system of fining in mills. It was said that the management of one mill fined its women operatives one shilling every time they were caught talking, and that in most mills where systems of fines are in operation the workers have to pay because of accidents to the material before it reaches their machines. Mr. A. Henderson, the Home Secretary, is now making a personal inspection of the mills of Lancashire to observe conditions at first hand. New factory legislation is expected as a result of his visit.

House Shortage.

Although Manchester claims to have built more houses, in proportion to its population, than any town or city in the kingdom the house shortage here seems as acute as ever. The people who cannot get houses are dissatisfied, and the people who have the new Council houses are even more dissatisfied. The latter contend that the rents are far too high. As the wages of many workers have fallen to 40/- and 50/- per week it is undoubtedly a hardship to have to pay 16/- to 20/- of it in rent. Some of these Council houses are warmed by an elaborate system of central heating and this has induced dry rot in most of the wooden floors all of which are now to be replaced at the cost of the general body of ratepayers. But the burning grievance of the homeless is a curious one. It appears that when the Housing Scheme was commenced the building contractors had considerable difficulty in getting operative builders. To attract them to Manchester, one firm—with the permission of the Housing Committee—offered them housing accommodation in the first houses to be built while they were building others. The builders came, but in most instances when they were comfortable installed in their new residences they abandoned the comparatively unprofitable business of house building and engaged themselves on more profitable contracts. Efforts to persuade them to vacate the houses of the citizens have failed, and they are now, by a decision of the Council, to be allowed to remain.

The Hulton Papers.

The block of Manchester daily and weekly newspapers formerly owned by Hultons, and sold by them last year to the Daily Mail Trust, have again changed hands. Sir William Berry, and Mr. Gomer Berry, are the new purchasers, for £5½ millions. The papers are the "Daily Dispatch," "Evening Chronicle," "Sporting Chronicle," "Sunday Chronicle" "Empire News," and "Athletic News." The Berry Brothers rank next to the Rothermere-Beaverbrook interests in the range of newspapers and periodicals they control. They have a controlling interest in the "Sunday Times," "Financial Times," "Daily Graphic," "Western Mail," and the Weldon and Cassell groups of periodicals. Manchester folk do not take very kindly to these changes. Lord Rothermere is not popular here. The Berrys are likely to be less popular, for both of the former proprietors were primarily news sellers, whose main interests were in the press. The new proprietors are primarily concerned with coal and textile interests. Their press is their organ of propaganda.

The Nightingale Broadcast.

Our local bird and poetry lovers have been looking forward to April, for the British Broadcasting Company have promised to let them listen to that rare visitant to the north—the nightingale. 2LO, the London station, is to take a microphone into a wood where the nightingale is singing, transmit the sound to London, and broadcast it from there to the north. It should not be a difficult task as the bird is not difficult to approach, and its vocal performances are comparatively lengthy. It should be a special pleasure to hear, in this drab sooty city that voice.

"The same that oft-times hath
Charm'd magic casements, opening on the foam
Of perilous seas, in faery lands forlorn."

If the scheme is successful it should open up a vast range of possibilities. The anti-prohibitionists in the States may yet provoke their parched fellow countrymen to revolt by broadcasting there the cheerful sound of care-free men calling for "another" in a British inn.

Local Patriotism.

A few days ago the first meeting was held of the new Manchester Regional Society. Its special function is to co-ordinate the local discoveries of individuals and societies over the whole of the Manchester area. Professor Weiss, who addressed the meeting referred to many curious discoveries within our area. He said that the hot water flowing from the mills into one of our local canals kept its temperature high, and in it could be found several animals and plants only found elsewhere in Southern Europe and Africa. He thought they must have come over with the cotton from Egypt. Rare moths, much coveted by museums and collectors had been found on Kersal Moor, which is within a mile or two of the town's centre. These statements have engendered great enthusiasm among local naturalists and collectors. We have heard that many industrious Manchester investigators are now feverishly engaged in trying to discover where the sun gets to during the summer months. Old Mancunians are reported to have seen it several times during their childhood but the assertion is usually received with caution.

ENCHANTMENTS OF THE MIDDLE AGE

London is beautiful, I know
Its sooty churches chalked with white,
The quiet squares where plane trees grow
And lamplit streets on rainy night.
Beauty of light and fog and dark,
And yet my heart within me turns
To lands in woodcut books I mark,
For missal lands my spirit yearns.
Where everything is flat and bright
With colors definite and clean,
Where roads turn dazzlingly white
Through forests square and neat and green.
The little cities, twisted, tall,
Stand up on hills more steep than high,
Each red machicolated wall
Seen clear against the clearer sky.
David Cecil in "Spectator."

LONDON, May 7.—Major Brackley, formerly a member of the Air Mission in Japan, has been appointed Air Superintendent of the new Imperial Airways Company.—Reuter.

IT is interesting in view of the agitation regarding continuance of the Gentleman's Agreement and the proposed Immigration Law, to learn how many Japanese entered the Pacific ports of America. Figures to hand for the month of March show that approximately 600 Japanese steerage passengers landed. Less than 500 first-class travellers of other nationalities disembarked during the same period.

OUR PARIS LETTER

Anxiety over the Franc Subsiding: Early Prospect of Improved Financial Position

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Paris, Mar. 21.

The panic over the franc has become less acute, the Government having at last resorted to the only kind of measures that could give immediate results.

Arrangements were made in London and New York for credits, so that the official brokers could step into the market and buy francs wholesale. As soon as this became known, the tide began to turn. Speculators who had sold francs which they did not possess had either to borrow them at high rates of interest or close their accounts. For five days in succession, the franc moved sharply upward, and the pound, which last week touched Frs. 120, is now in the neighbourhood of Frs. 84. This confirms the French contention that the depreciation of the franc, which became so marked during the early part of this month, was artificial.

As it was so easily stopped, one wonders why it should have been allowed to take place at all, as the rise in the prices of commodities, which it caused, inflicted great loss on the community. The recovery was brought about by a market operation and not by the French Parliament's rather tardy acceptance of the Government's fiscal proposals.

Only a Temporary Remedy.

Admittedly the operation was merely a temporary remedy. Money borrowed to meet an emergency must be repaid if credit is to be maintained, and the borrowing will not have been of much use unless, before the time comes for repayment, the borrower has been able to "turn round" and realize some of his assets. It is hoped that this can be done in virtue of the wide powers which have been granted to the Government for cutting down public expenditure. As the tax revenue is rising, there is every reason to suppose that in a few months the financial position will be considerably better, and that the burden of the enormous floating debt will be accordingly lightened, independently of what is really the main question—Germany's ability and willingness to pay reparations. The experts now sitting in Paris may succeed in drawing up a plan for payment by Germany, but at present there is not much belief that Germany will accept the plan and that she will carry out her part of the bargain. If she does, so much the better, but I do not think that either the French Government or the people is counting on it. All the indications from Germany point to resistance rather than acquiescence.

Practically all Devastated Areas Cultivated.

M. Reibel, Minister for the Liberated Regions, has just made a statement of the work of reconstruction carried out by France, at her own expense, in the war-ravaged districts of the north and east. There were 3,000,000 claims for compensation, of which 80,000 still remain for final assessment. The total amount of the claims is Frs. 140,000,000,000 and is is estimated that the actual payments will come to about Frs. 82,000,000,000, of which Frs. 54,000,000,000 has been paid out up to the present. France consequently has still to find another Frs. 28,000,000,000 as compensation ot her nationals, and she must either turn a deaf ear to them or go on borrowing, except in the unlikely event of Germany paying.

As proof of the care with which the claims are assessed, M. Reibel says that 1,170 persons have been prosecuted for attempted fraud, and that 310 have been convicted. Nearly all the devastated agricultural land has been brought under cultivation again, except about 110,000 acres rendered useless for crops and fit for nothing but conversion into forest. Out of 741,993 fram houses and buildings destroyed, 598,000 are now rebuilt, and out of 22,900 destroyed or damaged factories, 20,500 are again in working order.

The Late Baron Monti.

Mr. Jean Carrère, the Rome correspondent of the "Temps,", gives an interesting sketch of a personage who, though quite unknown to the public, had played for more than 30 years, up to his death the other day, a very important part in Italian political life—so important, in fact, that in the inner circle he was referred to is "the Italian Ambassador to the Holy See." This personage was Baron Carlo Monti, a descendant of a very old Brescia family, a good Catholic and an ardent patriot. In 1892 he held one of the higher posts at the Ministry of Justice and Cults. Signor Ciolitti, then in office for the first time, noticed Baron Monti and appointed him comptroller of the department which controls the funds set side for church purposes. It was an extremely difficult and delicate post, the holder of which was constantly called on to act as arbitrator between Church and State and to settle the innumerable claims that arose in connexion with the abolition of religious congregations. Baron Monti, who combined the virtues of a first-rate official with unfailing courtesy, settled all these questions with so much tact that in a few years he secured the confidence of the Italian Government and of the Vatican. As he was also known to be a sincere Catholic, his influence extended far beyond the limits of his official position. Whenever a difficulty arose between the temporal and spiritual powers in Rome, Baron Monti was the one and only channel of communication. Pope Leo XIII greatly appreciated his services. Pius X frequently consulted him and Benedict XV treated him as a friend. They were college students together, and when Cardinal della Chiesa became Pope and Baron Monti came to see him for the first time after his election, the new Pope would not let him kneel but kissed him on both cheeks.

Trusted Ambassador to the Pope.

It soon became known at the Vatican that Baron Monti could see the Pope whenever he liked, and this gave him a unique position. He was in reality, though not in name, Italian Ambassador to the Holy See. He had to contend with a good many difficulties during the war. At times the relations between the Quirinal and the Vatican became extremely strained, but, thanks to Baron Monti, nothing serious happened. Baron Monti possessed the tact, patience and length of view characteristic of the Vatican diplomacy, and as the Italian Government had confidence in him and gave him a free hand, he always managed to come to a settlement acceptable to both sides.

It will not be easy to replace him, and yet somebody must be found to maintain communication between the Italian Government and the Vatican. Soon after the resumption of relations between France and the Holy See, territorial concessions to the Holy See were discussed in Italy, and it was even asserted that the two powers had come to an understanding. Baron Monti had no illusions on this score. He knew that the Vatican, with all eternity before it, could not accept any vague and hasty settlement, and that no Italian Government, however well disposed, could hand over national territory. He considered that though the Roman problem was not insoluble, inasmuch as anything can be settled in course of time, it cannot be solved for the present. This is still true, despite Signor Mussolini's respect for the Papacy and his sincere admiration for the Church's power and influence.

ONE of the tests of the prosperity of the interior towns and villages lies in the amount of mineral oil consumed. The kerosene imported this year amounts to nearly 9 millions, against 3½ millions last spring. Another test is the sugar import, and this also has swollen.

A CORRESPONDENT in a Japan paper who writes to correct an impression that stevedoring in Japan is slow and costly says: "Stevedoring (using the term in its strict and proper sense) in the main ports of Japan can compare favourably with most ports in the world. Take Kobe for instance: one gang will discharge or load, on an average, 25 tons per hour, of a cost of 50 sen per ton. Readers with the knowledge can compare these figures with the other great ports of the world.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

THE DIVINE "POWER" OF JESUS CHRIST

Notes of a Sermon Preached by the Rev. C. E. Darwent in Union Church, Tientsin, on Sunday Evening, March 23.

St. Matthew XI: 12.. And from the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and men of violence take it by force."

Few words of our Lord, to use the words of the text, have suffered more violence than these, at the hands of well-meaning people. They have been made to teach everything except exactly what they do teach. Piety has wrestled hard with them. It has been rather shocked at their tone. It is astonishing how frequently Jesus Christ does shock well-meaning piety, not only in the Jews of His own day, but also in the Gentiles of ours. They have been made to refer in condemnation of the violent attacks on the Gospel and its adherents by the Roman Empire and its officials, and all their persecutions of the early church. It has not often occurred to Christian people, that although sometimes the Lord spoke in metaphorical language, the meaning of which needs to be "observingly distilled out," yet sometimes He spoke in plain straight language, with no trace of metaphor about it, and that this may well be one of the latter cases, as indeed it is.

Words that Have Been Weakened.

So then, let us try to look at these words for a few minutes on the supposition that Jesus meant what He said. We must pay a little attention to the words first, and try to be sure that we do not misinterpret them. The word translate "suffereth violence" means to be forced by strong action, to be broken into. Actively it seems to be to break in, to use energy in getting one's way. So that it means that the kingdom of heaven is entered by people, who really mean to get in, if the application of human energy and will can do anything in that direction. It is not to be entered by people, who are only languidly interested, and do not care much whether they get in or not. And the second clause has the same signification. To "take by force" is not as this phrase is often interpreted to mean, like the besieging of a fortress: it is rather like the seizing of the prey or valuable booty. A man is so delighted, overjoyed to get it, that he, as it were, *grabs* at it. How many to-day do that to the Salvation, that the Saviour died to give? Men philander over it, toy with it, criticize it, doubt it, improve it; anything but "go for" it, for that common expression is the best translation one can give. The word "violence" has come to have the meaning of overstrong action when milder measures would serve. And so these words of Jesus have been weakened. He *was* mild and gentle; but there was another side to Him altogether. His gentleness was the gentleness of strength and power, not the gentleness of weakness. Carlyle once protested against the idea of a pallid "soupkitchen Christ."

Fable of Our Lord's Weakness.

When we want anything very much, as Jesus Christ supposes men ought to want to be what He calls "saved." there is [illegible] They are ruthless as regards small, and often great difficulties in the way. They are not easily put off. The gentleness of our Lord has been abused. He has been represented as sentimentally weak. There is a story of a visit of a quiet English village of some 20 [illegible] You know how deadly quiet life in such a village is. One morning the such brought him an invitation to a "Quiet Day" at the episcopal palace. You know what is meant by "A quiet day," a day of silence except for almost inaudible prayers, with intervals for "silent prayer." The good man wrote to his bishop in these terms, "My Lord, what we want in our village is an earthquake." He was sick of quiet days. No wonder! A Primitive Methodist Camp-Meeting would have done him more good. Jesus Christ did not come into the world to conduct Quiet Days. He came to cause earthquakes, to set "a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household." That is, truth is truth, and if the following and obeying of it disrupts a man's domestic relations, it must be so. This happens in India every day, when men are converted. He calls for us to take His message and claims as matters of the utmost urgency. His Gospel of forgiveness and mercy is a treasure, that ought to urge a man to do a most violent thing, to "sell all that he hath," and buy it. I suspect, that we have all been led astray into exaggerating the quietness and gentleness of the Lord by His meekness at His arrest in the garden and in the judgment-hall. But that was deliberate in fulfilment of His purpose of giving His life for the sins of the world.

At other times in word and deed He was strong, and moved with admiration of strong, even violent action.

This is clear enough from the story. Consider the speculations of the people as to who He was. When He asked His disciples, who men said He was, they answered, John the Baptist or Elijah. When we remember the impression John made, how he called the Pharisees "vipers" and asked them, "Who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come;" also when we remember Elijah and the prophets of Baal, and reflect that the people took Him for one of these men, we see that the popular idea of our Lord as always mild and quiet, for "peace at any price," cannot possibly be true.

"Violent" Humanity.

Notice next, the emphatic praise Jesus always gave those who adopted violent methods to get at Him for His help and blessing. He was lost in admiration of those who "seized it," who would take no denial. There is the case of the poor man, who had to be let down through the roof, because there was such a crowd round the door. Any of us would think it unreasonably violent if anyone broke up our roof to get to hear us preach. But He couldn't resist such determination and He healed the man. There was the Syro-Phoenician woman. She answered Him back, and said even the dogs get the crumbs on the floor. That captured Him, as earnestness brought to the pitch of violence always does. The daughter was healed at once. There was Zacchaeus. Little men are handicapped. The violent is the unusual. Customs official as he was, he threw dignity to the winds and climbed a tree to see Him. Of course Jesus saw a man who cast social conventionalities aside like that, and the man was saved. "This day is salvation come to this house." The blind men too are a case. The people told them to stop their noise. But the Lord had no objection. He liked them because they were what He called "violent," dead in earnest. Now, it cannot be without meaning that the man, who takes a strong initiative is Christ's model man. In fact, the text is literally true, "From the days of John the Baptist, the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence." Jesus took up the work of John. The cases I have quoted show, that from the beginning of Christ's ministry, He was taken by the vigorous people, who shewed small respect for difficulties, social conventions, and conventional religious ways.

Then, have you ever noticed how, in His teaching as to prayer, He is in favour of "violence?" His two cases are of the Importunate Widow, and the Friend at midnight. Both are most extraordinary ones. The widow keeps at the judge till in sheer weariness he grants her prayer, and the man rings his friend up at midnight to borrow three loaves. And the teaching is clear, that God cannot resist determined prayer. A Salvation Army captain wrestling in prayer for the crowd round him on the sands at the seaside is much more Our Lord's ideal of prayer than our quiet pretentious whisperings to God, according to Jesus, lose people who stick to Him, till they wrest an answer. To ask quietly and doubtfully, expecting a refusal is to get a refusal. If that is not the meaning of it, what is the meaning of each of these parables?

The Language of Jesus

Then there is the language of Jesus Christ. As it has often been remarked, we read certain chapters of the Gospel by John about the Good Shepherd, and we do well to read them. We need shepherding, and the lost sheep need seeking, and tired lambs need leading or carrying home. That is true. But there are other chapters that show the complementary side to the nature of Jesus, and these we do not read. There is the eighth chapter of John. The people said that God was their Father. He said that can hardly be so, because, if God were your Father, you would love Him. And He went on to say the fact was that they were of their father, the devil, and they did the lusts of their father. That is plain speaking, nothing gentle about it. Christ had a tremendous respect for man's capacity to perceive the truth, if he is willing to perceive it, and wants to do so. No one was ever so complimentary to man's capacity to take in truth as the Lord. He credited everyone of us with the capacity to know the truth, if we want to. And He didn't believe they wanted, and He said, that not to want the truth is devilishness. Do we ever read that tremendous chapter, St. Matthew XXIII? You can hardly say anything worse of a man than that he is a "whted sepulchre;" then He calls them "hypocrites," "fools and blind," and winds up with calling them, "serpents" and "a generation of vipers." And these words are to describe the religious leaders of the nation! Yet such violent language was not inconsistent with tenderness and love, for He immediately breaks out into a passion of tears for the unhappy city that has rejected Him, how He would have gathered her children together "as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wing," but they would not.

We talk glibly about Christianity being independent of doctrine and so on, and being simply "living in the spirit of Jesus." But, are we sure we have got hold of the real spirit of Jesus? It is not the spirit of the young lady in one of Charles Dickens's books, who was so charitable and broad, that she "could smile with equal sweetness on brimstone and on treacle." Indeed it is not as if there were no difference between truth and deadly error.

Success of Violence.

The history of the Church teems with examples of the success of violence. Talk and remonstrance had failed to abolish gladiatorial shows in the Roman Empire, even after it had become Christian. Old custom dies hard. Then a monk one day leapt into the arena among the wild beasts. That put an end to it. The Reformation began when Martin Luther did a very violent thing, that made an immense sensation, his burning of the Pope's bull against him, a risky thing to do in those days. Violence like that is clean-cut. You know where he was, and you are. A deed like that scatters verbal fogs, throws principles into a clear light, does more to make men think than ages of talk. That is the effect of the crucifixion of Jesus. Reams of Sermons on the Mount would never have made Him the world's Saviour. The chances are that we should never have heard of Him, if He had left nothing but dusty volumes of Sermons. But He was crucified, a violent, terrible thing. The world has had to sit up and take notice of that. That the Son of God, that such a one as Jesus, so holy, so loving, was crucified, and had to be crucified, before man could be saved, leaves sin, and all excuses for sin, without excuse. There is nothing to be said for a thing that did that. Man, if he will think at all on his relation to God, knows that he cannot belittle sin in view of Calvary.

Now, for a few moments, let us see why it is, that Christianity favours what Jesus calls "violence," strong action. First, it is in its very nature "violent." That is to say, it is a breaking into the natural order of the world of a higher and supernatural order. Jesus Christ was not the outcome and evolved result of [illegible] existing "resident forces," as Huxley said. No. It is, however you explain it, a breaking in of divine power in Jesus Christ, and all breakings in to an established order are in the nature of violence. Christianity is a "new thing"; it is not just old methods furbished up and given a new name. Violent things are definite, and we date the actual time when this happened, when the angels sang in heaven in the ears of a few shepherds, and a child was born in Bethlehem.

Naturalism hates this idea, and tries to smother it, but it is plain on the most superficial reading of the New Testament, that this is what Christianity claims to be. We can't argue it all out now.

This being so, the Gospel implies the introduction into the world of tremendous forces. It is strong wine, not the weak aerated water we tend to represent it to be. No. It is the gathering of all even of His own forces by God, the Eternal, in a supreme effort to bring man to Himself. It has the energies of the Eternal Spirit of God wrestling with man, it has the ceaselessly exerted power of the Son of God, once alive in the flesh, dead and buried, and risen at the right hand of God, ever seeking entrance into human hearts, and there is all the cosmic clash of opposing divine and human wills. No wonder there is upset and trouble in the world, and will be as long as man rebels against God's Chosen.

And finally, Christianity claims to be final. No wonder Jesus Christ was in deadly earnest. As the late Dr. Gwatkin says, "it claims to be the final truth of God and man." The New Testament means nothing unless it means that. The final destiny of us all depends on our relation to Christ. The idea of Christianity is tremendous, and in a sense terrifying; that it is the final appeal of the God of heaven to man, to accept His love, to seek His pardon, to be reconciled to Him in Christ Jesus. Such being the case, no wonder the Saviour smiled on men, who broke down roofs to get at Him and be healed, and who shouted at the passing prophet of Nazareth, to the annoyance of quieter people, that He would give them their sight. He always approved of vigorous initiative which is always in its nature "violent."

LESSONS IN GOLF

XI.—The Playing Pace

By Harry Vardon—Six Times Open Champion

The manner in which the clubface strikes the ball is the subject of closest attention when practising the various strokes of golf, but there are a good many subordinate points that repay consideration.

Take, for instance, the question of the playing pace. I feel certain that the thousands of golfers handicap themselves by spending too long in addressing the ball and wondering whether they are going to hit it well or ill. We cannot all be like Mr. Bobbie Jones and George Duncan, whose way it is to ground the club once and then swing it, but if we spend an inordinate time in our preparations, the chances are that our concentration begins to weaken before we actually start the swing. And concentration of the mind, as the variest novice at the game knows instinctively, is one of the secrets of a successful shot on the links.

The Worst of Procrastination

Worst of all, this procrastination when the player has taken up his position to hit has a way of making him set his muscles more and more rigidly the longer he puts off the business of swinging the club. As his mind is working all the while, it must have some effect upon his physical constitution, and what it does naturallly—seeing that it is preparing his body to deliver a blow—is involuntarily and steadily to tighten all his muscles.

Of all the effects of slow play, this is the worst. I have in mind now the golfer who either waves the club-head many, many times to and fro in the address, or else places it behind the ball and stares steadily at the latter object till at length he seems to have transfixed it with his gaze. Either type of player is to be seen in profusion on any course.

Nearly always he has a stiff action. There comes a stage in his preparations where mental concentration begins to wane and muscular concentration becomes supreme, and that condition is fatal to good golf.

America's Speeding-up

Alexander Herd is the only first-class golfer I know who flourishes the club-head six or seven times at the ball before hitting. He is a law unto himself; the exception that proves the rule.

J. J. McDermott, the first really great American-born professional—it is excellent news that his health is so far recovered as to engender hopes of his return to the game—was at one time rather a slow player, but, at about that period, infinite preparation was something of a cult among prominent American golfers. Evidently they came to the conclusion that it served no useful purpose, for nowadays they are very far from being slow.

The duration of the address must necessarily vary in different people, with their different temperaments, but once the golfer has taken up his position and grounded his club carefully behind the ball, the sooner he takes it back for the swing—without feeling that he is hurrying—the better, I think, will be the results.

He may reasonably want to flourish the club-head two or three times at the ball in the process of taking aim, but, after that, the action is apt to become automatic and stiff because his concentration is losing the strength of its freshness.

Particularly does he need to remember that, although the body must be stable and well-balanced, there should be a condition of ease and relaxation in the joints and muscles all the while.

If he is accustomed to long and frequent waggling and protracted focussing of the eye on the ball before the shot, let him pursue his usual methed and stop just before he raises the club to consider whether he has made his body taut in these preliminaries.

Let him begin by deciding whether he has tightened his grip—which is a common result of such preparations and a bad one. My settled conviction is that at no stage should the grip be more tha reasonably firm; that it should never be actually tight. It has a way of tightening from the sheer mental suspense of a long-drawn-out address.

Teeing-Ground Options

Among general details on the art of golf methods, I have given first place and most consideration to this question of the preparation for the shot, because often it is the cause of all the trouble. There are, however, other points worth considering.

It is wise, for instance, to remember that you have the choice of a position on the teeing ground, at any rate, within the limits of that area. I suppose that most players simply select a place in the middle of the teeing ground on the principle that the centre of the course is always best. That, at any rate, seems to be the dominating idea when driving.

Often, however, there is a big bunker on one side or the other, perhaps 180 yards down the fairway. Now is the time for the player to consider whether he will not drive from one side or the other of the teeing ground in order to adopt his shot to the circumstances imposed by that bunker.

For instance, with the wind blowing from the left and the bunker situated on the right, he may resolve to drive from the right-hand side of the teeing ground so as to aim slightly into the wind's eye on the left and well clear of the bunker on the right.

After all, he is not compelled to start from the middle of the teeing ground. It is only habit that makes most people do so. He may find a more comfortable stance a little away from the centre, for, even on teeing grounds, stances sometimes vary.

To the average golfer, half the pleasure of the game is derived from satisfactory driving; so that it is worth while utilizing every resource to promote this dispensation. It is a good tip, for instance, to carry two drivers, one with a rather stiff shaft and the other fairly whippy.

The swing of the ordinary handicap player is apt to vary a little in pace from day to day, for he is not a golfing automation. When he is swinging rather more slowly, he will probly obtain greater satisfaction from the whippier shaft. If one fails him several times early in the round, he may find salvation by taking to the other.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE BANDIT OUTRAGE AT LINCHENG

When the Blue Express Was Held up and 35 Foreigners Were Taken Prisoner: A Story of Evasion and Delay: Penalties Demanded and What has Come of Them

On May 6, 1923, the Blue Express from Pukou to Tientsin was derailed by brigands at Lincheng on the southern border of Shantung and 35 foreigners, men, women and children, were carried off to the hills, where some of them remained in captivity till as late as June 12. They included several well known Shanghai residents, Mr. G. D. Musso, Mr. R. H. Rowlatt, Mr. J. B. Powell, Mr. Leon Friedman and others; two American army men Major Pinger and Major Allen; a young Brazilian couple Mr. and Mrs. Verea, of whom Mrs. Verea earned great honour by refusing to leave her husband for many days after all other ladies had been released and only at last, being persistently urged, consented to do so; and Miss Aldrich niece of an American millionaire.

One unhappy foreigner was killed, Mr. Joseph Rothman, a Rumanian by birth, naturalized British in South Africa, who had fought in the Boer War and was known as a merchant in Shanghai.

The nationalities represented among the captives were British, French, American, Brazilian, Italian and of course Chinese.

World-Wide Excitement.

The excitement produced by the outrage none will forget. A telegram from Washington reported that Mr. Davis, Acting Secretary for War, had stated, after consultation with the Secretary of State, Mr. Hughes, that "the War Department was ready to back up with armed forces any decision reached by the State Department or the council of foreign Ministers in Peking." The latter body informed the Chinese Government that it would be held personally responsible for the safety of the captives and the Chinese Government promised to punish all guilty officials in Shantung and ensure the prisoners' speedy release.

To this day it remains a mystery why, exactly, these promising beginnings came to naught. During the first few days after the outrage a number of prisoners were set free. But there remained always eight men in the bandits' hands, Mr. Freddy Elias, Mr. Leon Friedman, Mr. Emile Gensburger, Mr. A. D. Musso, Major Pinger, Mr. Powell, Mr. Rowlatt and Mr. Lee Solomon. Toward the end of May these captives were removed to an inaccessible peak named Paotzeku, extremely dangerous in the ascent, impossible to capture.

It says much for China's indifference to the bandit evil that on this lonely height, the foreigners found numbers of Chinese captives, including children, who had been there for many months and were in some cases melancholy mad. The filth and the general hardships of life on Paotzeku, combined with the uncertainty as to their fate, not improved by continued threats by the bandits to shoot them, made the existence of the prisoners most bitter and nerve-wracking, in spite of the letters and supplies of minor kinds which their friends in the outside world contrived to get through to them.

The Bandits' Demands.

The terms demanded by the bandits began as usual in the most extravagant strain—a vast ransom, pardon, enrolment in the army, the choice of their own magistrate in the district in which they were to serve. These eventually were reduced to pardon and enrolment in the army. A number of foreign advisers had flown to Tsaochuang—the nearest point to the bandits' headquarters—immediately after the outrage and it is by no means clear that they contributed to expedite matters. However, at the end it was the personal promise of Mr. Roy Anderson that the Government would keep its word which got the eight men of "the Old Guard" released. In the closing phases of negotiation mention must also be made of the fine work done by Mr. Wen Shih-tsen of Nanking. His services were truly invaluable.

Delay and Evasion.

Much however, was to happen before this dénoûment was reached, and the Diplomatic Body was much criticized for its apparently vacillating tactics. The Chinese Government too, seeing that no high official in Peking appeared likely to suffer any inconvenience, rapidly lost all interest in the affair and devoted itself once more to the enthralling pursuit of political intrigue. By May 16 we find it actually attempting to put the blame on the Diplomatic Body for the continued detention of the prisoners by alleging that they had tied the Government's hands by insisting that there must be no hostilities which would endanger the prisoners' lives. Whether the Diplomatic Body had done this is not clear. On May 20 they did request that the cordon of troops drawn about the brigands' stronghold should cease firing. But it is fair to remember that some days earlier they had warned the Government that for every day's delay in releasing the prisoners the penalties ultimately exacted would grow progressively heavier. The weak part of the foreign Powers' attitude would seem to be that they did not at this time make any particular Chinese official a scapegoat for the offence. A general indictment of the Government worried nobody. It might change any day, as in point of fact it did on June 6 when President Li Yuan-hung resigned, at the compulsion of the Tsao Jui (brother of Tsao Kun) clique and fled from Peking.

A Significant Interlude

Nothing could better illustrate the state of China's affairs and the complete indifference of her officials to internal disorder and external displeasure than that such an intrigue as that leading to the expulsion of Li Yuan-hung could have been pursued at such a moment, especially when we remember that the destined President. Tsao Kun, was, as High Commissioner of Chihli, Shantung and Honan, primarily responsible for the Lincheng outrage.

On June public feeling in Shanghai had reached such a pitch that the most largely attended meeting ever recorded was held in the Town Hall to express its horror at the outrage and at the continued detention of the captives with a view to strengthening the hands of the Diplomatic Body in whatever measures they might think fit to take with a view to redressing the wrong.

Early in June the Diplomatic Body sent a military commission to report on the general situation at Paotzeku and the Government's military dispositions. It must regretfully be added that nothing has since occurred to disprove the general impression that the said military commission was nothing more than what is vulgarly known as "eye-wash." By June 6 negotiations with the bandits had proceeded so far that enrolment of them in the army had actually begun and on June 12 the last eight captives were released.

The Note of August 10.

Then everybody waited to see what the Diplomatic Body would do. They waited until August 10 when a Note was presented to the Waichiaopu on behalf of the whole Diplomatic Body—it is worthy of note that the Powers made common cause in this matter though but five of them were affected—of which the following were the main demands:

(a) Compensation for loss of baggage and objects which were either stolen or lost at the time of the attack on the train and for individual medical attention rendered to the prisoners during the period of their detention;

(b) Compensation for the loss of life and of liberty and for sufferings and indignities undergone by all the foreign travellers while in the hands of the brigands; Mex. $20,000 for the foreign traveller who was killed on May 6 at the time of the attack on the train by the brigands; Mex. $500 Mex. per prisoner per day for the first three days of detention, May 6, 7 and 8; Mex. $100 per prisoner and per day during the week commencing May 9; Mex. $150 per prisoner and per day during the week commencing May 16; Mex. $200 per prisoner and per day during the week commencing May 23; Mex. $250 per prisoner and per day during the week commencing May 30; Mex. $300 per prisoner and per day during the week commencing June 5;

(c) Compensation to cover reimbursement of the amounts expended in supplying relief to the prisoners.

Responsibility of Officials.

The Note goes on to comment strongly on the prevalence of brigandage and the duty of officials to suppress it, and it adds:—

Brigandage having become a grave menace to the lives, property and rights of foreigners in China, the Diplomatic Body will keep itself accurately informed with regard to this state of unrest and for that purpose it has decided on the despatch, in case of need, of its own representatives into the provinces infested by the brigands in order to examine and report upon the local situation. When it appears to the Diplomatic Body that a Military Governor or officer commanding troops, or that a provincial or local official, has failed or is failing in his duty of providing protection for foreigners in conformity with the clauses of the Protocol of 1901 above mentioned, the Diplomatic Body will demand the immediate imposition on the offender of the penalties prescribed therein without prejudice to such additional punishments, fines, etc., as the circumstances may call for.

As regards the general insecurity of railways we read:—

The Diplomatic Body considers that reforms are necessary and that it is its duty to aid the Chinese Government to carry these out, by collaborating with them in the task.

The reforms which the Diplomatic Body has in view would consist in the reorganization of the forces of the Special Chinese police, who would be placed under the supervision of foreign officers and entrusted with the protection of the Chinese railways.

The Diplomatic Body reserves the right, after a more elaborate study of the question, of presenting as soon as possible to the Chinese Government the scheme which it will have adopted.

Officials to Be Punished.

The note then mentions certain officials, who must be punished, Tien Chung-yu, Military Governor of Shantung, Ho Feng-yu, Defence Commissioner in Southern Shantung, Chao Te-chao, who commanded the guard on the Blue Express when she was attacked.

The Note winds up with some admirably worded paragraphs on treaty rights, misgovernment and the Chinese officials' general neglect of their duties; and it concludes:—

If the Government of China continues to, authorize or to tolerate these abuses, if they do not set themselves resolutely to repress the brigandage which threatens the rights and interests of foreigners in China, the Diplomatic Body will be obliged to consider what further steps should be taken to protect the lives, the property, the rights and interests of foreigners in a country which, although it enjoys the rights and privileges accorded to members of the great family of nations, has shown itself incapable of fulfilling even the most fundamental of the duties which are inseparably connected with the rights and privileges of membership.

The Diplomatic Body desires the Chinese Government to understand its intention to obtain in reparation for the Lincheng incident the indemnities, guarantees and sanctions enumerated above.

Nirvana.

Not till September 24 did Dr. Wellington Koo trouble himself to reply—then with an answer of smooth evasion and hardly veiled insolence. To this the Diplomatic Body answered by reiterating its former Note. On October 18 Tien Chung-yu was allowed to resign and immediately promoted.

From that day to this nothing more has been heard of the Lincheng Note—its compensations, sanctions and railway reforms, nothing, that is, which supplies any hope that any of its terms will ever be realized.

RESIDENTS in the Central District will lately have noticed a monster police dog straining at the leash in his master's hand, while out for an evening airing. "Tobi," the dog's name, has quite a history. His mother is a pure-bred police dog, the property of a German ex-prisoner in Siberia, which was taken into the forests in the vicinity of Chita and tied to a tree, left alone and finally bred with a full-blooded Siberian wolf. The offspring naturally exhibit a varied group of characterics, and "Tobi" though but nine months old, has attained to nearly the size of his father, standing from the ground to the tips of the ears, more than 36 in. He is a one-man dog and no one but his master, Mr. P. Viles, may go near him with impunity. Even his best friend came into the room several days ago and had that portion of the trousers, usually burlesqued in the "movies," removed by "Tobi's" teeth. Mr. Viles, who is proceeding to Eugene (Ore.), *viâ* San Francisco, on the Pacific Mail str. President Cleveland on Saturday, proposes to enter his police-wolf in the large dog shows of America. The fact that since his arrival from Harbin a week ago, he has been offered no less than $500 for his pet, leads one to believe that "Tobi" may take away a few blue ribbons from other competitors in the exhibitions.

AN AMERICAN SKETCH OF SUN YAT-SEN

Intemperate Denunciation of the British

The following article by Thomas Steep in the "New York Tribune" was reprinted by the "Canton Gazette" whence we take it.

It is probable that the Cantonese laundrymen in this country, being unfamiliar with American history, never refer to Dr. Sun Yat-sen as the George Washington of China or the "father of his country." Yet to them he is the father of the Chinese Republic. He is the idol of the Cantonese, one of the few idols other than bronze China ever produced. He was the symbol, the voice, the leader, of southern China's hostility toward the Manchu emperors, China's conquerors from the north, and when the Manchus were overthrown he was the first President. The Cantonese abroad, laundrymen and others, contributed to his success by sharing their earnings, and they still support his government at Canton in the hope that it ultimately will embrace all China. No Chinese laundryman, far from his native land, would begrudge a week's profits to see Dr. Sun in person.

That was my reflection, when I went to visit Dr. Sun, who had been driven out of Canton by a local revolution and who had taken refuge in Shanghai's French settlement. We sped in a motor car through the city's noisy streets at dusk, when the lanterns in the Chinese quarter were beginning to blink and the Willow Pagoda and its crooked little bridge were fading into the ghostly Oriental darkness.

Dr. Sun's secretary escorted us. He spoke English perfectly—an accomplishment it was well not to compliment him upon, because, although he was Chinese, he did not, I was told, speak his native tongue. When later I found English books on Dr. Sun's library shelves I likewise refrained from commenting. It seems that reformers do not feel particularly flattered by mention of their long sojourns away from the country which they seek to reform.

A Physical Surprise

Dr. Sun, darkly tanned, slightly gray, medium in stature, obese in build, greeted us in his library, a rear room on the second floor overlooking a garden. My first impression was that he was not as he should have been. We expect men of action to be big, as if commensurate with their deeds, and we are surprised to find them like other men. It recalls the lines:

> How very weak the very wise,
> How very small the very great are!

Dr. Sun's slow movement and quiet manner seemed to belie his record of strange adventures and hairbreadth escapes. As I looked at him there flitted through my mind a rapid review of his remarkable career. He more than any other one man caused the downfall of the Manchus after their reign of two and a half centuries. He lived with a price on his head. He was kidnapped in London and imprisoned in the Chinese Legation. He escaped, let out of an upper story window by sympathizers. He disguised himself, while in his own country promoting the revolution, as coolie, ricsha runner, sailor and beggar, appearing sometimes on the Chinese streets in rags, but with his pockets filled with state secrets. He was exiled repeatedly, but he was recalled at last to become China's first President—the President of the first republic in Asia. Betrayed by Yuan Shih-kai, who wished to restore the monarchy, he re-established the republic at Canton. He is beloved by more of his countrymen than any other man.

Attack on Great Britain

As conversation began I observed that Dr. Sun did not say much. He was on his guard, obviously as one accustomed to expect assassination. He desired to see China united, a constitution enforced, an honest parliament assembled, representative government established, schools everywhere opened, sanitation applied, China uplifted to the rank of a progressive nation. Though he talked, he was reticent—until some one referred to the British. Then he bristled.

He regarded the British as China's worst enemies. He blamed the British for the revolt at Canton that had caused him to seek refuge on a gunboat in the Pearl River and subsequently to flee to Shanghai. His regret was that he had to travel to Shanghai on a British ship. He considered that the British regarded China merely as a trading ground and that they desired to keep it in disorder so that they might buy its produce cheaply. He did not see how America, a friend of China, could align itself with the British on Chinese questions. My reminder that America in aligning itself with Britain had induced all the powers to respect China's integrity did not much impress him.

Confucius's Strength

We drifted to Confucianism and Chinese culture, and there I found Dr. Sun not so Westernized as I expected. He had faith in China's philosophy, which, as near as I could discern, was a conviction that China calmly, unhurriedly, in spite of the pessimism of foreigners, would achieve its destiny and that, because of the slowness of its growth, it would endure after other nations had become extinct.

We talked about Wu Ting-fang and Li Hung-chang and their relative popularity in America; about chopsticks, silks and civilization; about the short lives of 'rickscha runners; about books, poverty and the standard of living.

As I said, Dr. Sun did not reveal much. Great men seldom do. Suppose one met Napoleon—What would he talk about? The weather, likely.

WOMEN AND HORSES

While I was saddling her she tried to bite me
A dozen times and now I'm hardly mounted
And feeling for the stirrup she wants to fight me.
Look there! with rapid sideway steps uncounted
She tried to brush me off against that wall
And now she shies and plunges, bucks and rears.
She feels her oats, my pony, that is all,
There's nothing, not even me, she hates or fears.
We missed that lorry by a half an inch—
She hopes to get her head across the stubble:
Bless you, you'd think she felt the girth-straps pinch:
That's not the trouble, though we shall have trouble.
But when we're on the turf I'll let her go.
And she'll be happy then and I shall too.
No wonder in her stable she found it slow
But if I'd left her there, I ask you who
Would have complained the more? She wants to run
And doesn't want it, since I want her to;
And playing up is what she thinks is fun
United on turf there's something better to do.
Come up, my darling, damn you! Steady now,
Or else we shan't get anywhere to-day:
We'll go with delicate steps around the plough
And then we're on the grass, and then away!

HENRY F. DERRICK

—in the "Outlook."

AN amazing story of a human being "with four eyes" has been swallowed by a Japanese newspaper. One of them, quoted by the "Advertiser" says: With a package containing Y.2,000 tied on her back a girl three years old with "four eyes, two being in the back of her head," was deserted in Inna-gun, Miei prefecture recently. The village had been celebrating a festival, and it is believed that the girl came from the country. During the festival a woman well dressed in a silk kimono appeared near the village shrine leading her little girl. She requested an elderly woman to watch the child while she retired to wash her hands. The elderly woman waited with the child for hours, but the mother did not return. Lifting off the little girl's hat, the guardian discovered two eyes in the back of the child's head and the bundle of money, left evidently to be used for the care of the chlid. The little girl was immediately turned over to the police.

CHINA: AN INTERPRETATION

By Ku Hung-ming in The "North China Standard."

A French gentleman who two years ago came on a visit to China said that, having read my books, he became so interested in them that he came to China specially to see me. Just before leaving Peking, he asked me if I could tell him in one word what the people of Europe could learn from the Chinese. I answered, "Yes: and that word was *soberness, la sobriété*." Now if there is anything which has confirmed me in my opinion that what the people of Europe can learn from the Chinese is soberness, it is a book on China which I have lately been reading, written by a French gentleman, Emile Pierrejean and translated into English by Miss Lawrence Binyon. This book gives a most sympathetic interpretation of China and her civilization. What is more, the book is most brilliantly written, brilliant not only in language and style, but in ideas. But then, because it is so brilliant, it has failed to give a true and correct interpretation. There is so much colour and brilliancy flashing through the whole book, that one sees no picture at all, but only colours. Instead of a sober interpretation of facts, the author gives us brilliant generalizations, some of which are approximately correct and some—to speak quite frankly—utter nonsense. In fine, for want of this quality of soberness, this most sympathetic and brilliant interpretation will not, I am afraid, help the people of Europe to a better understanding of China and her civilization.

China's Mystery

The book is divided into four parts. The first part is entitled, "China seen from without." The author says, "There is no better introduction to the mystery of a country than direct contact with the land and its inhabitants." This is quite true, generally: you take the trouble to see the things as they are. But now what picture does the author give of China—the land and its inhabitants as he saw them. To tell the truth, he gives no picture at all—he merely notes down the thoughts, ideas and feelings which the sight of the things he sees give rise in his mind. In other words, the author sees the things not with his eyes, but with his mind's eye.

Travelling from Haiphong to Hongkong, this is the picture which the author gives of his first contact with the Chinese. He says:

> Everything on my trip was an introduction to China, and above all to China's mystery. I underwent for the first time direct contact with the Chinese. It was not without disgust. On the deck, among the pens alive with two thousand pigs huddled a mass of flabby yellow human beings squatting over their unclean foods or petrified into attitudes of stupor by the sickening fumes of opium. The obscene display of those nerveless bodies, swarming like clusters of yellow caterpillars, sickened me. And yet I could not take my eyes off them. I was fascinated by the weird gestures of those delicate hands, by the shrill sing-song of those strange voices. I never tired of scrutizing those oily masks which grew wan beneath the sultry glare.
>
> In another place the author speaks of the mystery which appears in the impenetrable black enamel of the eyes of the Chinese and in their features impassive as a death-mask.

Humanity of the Chinese.

Thus to this French gentleman the Chinaman is an awful, mysterious being. But is there really anything mysterious about the Chinaman? Professor Lowes Dickinson coming from India to China says, "When I landed in China and first saw the Chinaman I was aware of a feeling as though an oppressive cloud had lifted. Iron was sublime. But it was terrible. China on the other hand, was human. At the first sight of these ugly, cheery, vigorous people I loved them. Their gaiety, as of children, their friendliness, their profound humanity, struck me from the first and remained with me to the last."

The right word to describe Chinese and their civilization is the word which Professor Dickinson here uses—human. Because the Chinese is human, there is no mystery about or in him. The mystery which the European, like the French gentleman here, fancies he sees in the Chinese is really not in the Chinese, but in the brain of the European—the European with the mentality of Mediæval Europe still in him. The reason I may here point out, why the Americans get on best with the Chinese, is because the Americans are a people who have entirely got rid of the mentality of Mediæval Europe. Indeed as Professor Dickinson says, "The Chinese is already what the democrats in France and America hope the Western man may become." In fact, in order to understand the Chinese and their civilization, the first thing one must keep in mind is that the Chinaman is a very human, human being in fact, he is a plain matter-of-fact modern man without any Mediæval mystery in him.

Havelaque's Brilliant "Nonsense"

But before I finish with this first part of the book, let me show from one passage the want of soberness in this book. Speaking of the Flower boats in Canton—which are the equivalent of the sing-song girl houses in Shanghai and other parts of China, the author says: "Under its Chinese disguise I recognized Immoral Lust—Lust which, there as everwhere, turns woman into a creature fashioned for the sole satisfaction of man's desire, etc., etc. Describing the inmates of these flower boats, he says: "Apparitions, incarnations of the cruel dreams of jaded voluptuaries, of love-ghouls—such were the strange hieratic puppets with blood red mouths. They sat there like goddesses enthroned, against the scarlet lace work of the partitions in the rosy light, veiled in purple and azure and emerald and gold under the scrolls of gold, the dragons of gold and the fantastic creatures that writhed in gold. Their splendours and the warm perfumed air seemed to quiver with desire around them: it was no illusion. The cables of the boat strained and shivered in the rushing current: the glittering jewels trembled in the glossy blackness of their hair, bright with white odorous flowers, as did the cut-glass lustres descending from the ceiling: all things responded to the throbbing of the wave which in the unfathomable night flowed on endlessly."

Western Club and Sing-song Girls

All this is certainly very brilliant—but then I must say, it is all brilliant nonsense. In the first place, the flower boats and sing-song girls houses in China are not houses of prostitution. The sing-song girl's house in China is the club of the Chinese. As the Englishman goes to his club to meet his friends for relaxation and recreation, so the Chinaman goes to the sing-song girl's house also to meet his friends for recreation and relaxation. The Englishman in his Club in order to make himself jolly with his friends orders a drink and it sometimes happens he gets drunk. But then one would not say that the Englishman goes to the Club to get drunk. In the same way, the Chinese in the sing-song girl's house in order to make himself jolly with his friends goes pretty young girls to sing and entertain them, and it sometimes happens he gets into intimate relations with one of these girls. But it is a mistake to say that the Chinese goes to the sing-sing girl's house to satisfy his lust, as it would be a mistake to say that the Englishman goes to his Club to get drunk.

The title of the second part of the book is—"Ancient China: its History, Religions, Institutions and Art."—Here also the author gives many of his brilliant generalizations. But then in order to generalize, one must first know and have a full grasp of the facts of the matter upon which one generalizes. But how much does the author know of the history and institutions of China. It is true, he seems to have read all the best European books on these subjects. But even all the best European books up to the present have furnished very superficial information on the history and institutions of China. There is at present not a single history of China written by a scholar who has access to the original sources. Of Chinese literature, the only European scholar who has done original work in that line—is my old friend, the veteran Sinologue, Dr. Herbert Giles. His "Gems of Chinese Literature" is the only translation of real Chinese literature, outside the Confucian books.

Thus for want of an adequate knowledge of the facts, the brilliant generalizations given in this book are, it seems to me, for the most part misleading and unreliable.

Are Chinese Patriotic?

In order to show how unreliable the brilliant generalizations in this book are, let me here give just one specimen. The author says:

> The most important characteristic of China is her lack of unity. China possesses no unity whatever, whether geographical, ethical, historical, political or social! It has never been a welded state or constituted a nation .....
>
> Between the various links which stretch from the family to the Empire, the only relation is one of direct dependence, and the band of certain common duty to the supreme chief. When he is strong he can direct these and insist on their fulfilment; as soon as the supreme power weakens, each community resumes its independence and ceases to collaborate for the good of all; the consciousness of interdependence and the will to co-operate, in short, patriotism and national feeling do not exist!

Now in order to prove that the above generalization is altogether untrue, I will just give one fact in the recent history of China. When the supreme power in China was very weak, an orphan child in the arms of his widow mother was on the throne of China. But when the Empress dowager appealed to the governing class, the literati to collaborate for the common good, these long-gowned literati with the great Marquis Tseng Kao-fan at the head, nobly responded to the call and with burning hearts and grief-choked voices crying, *"Imoriamur pro Rege, Regina!"* put down the rebellion and finally restored the country to comparative order and prosperity.

"Moreover," the author goes on to say, "nothing is more imperfect than the military and financial systems; in their passage from one civil servant to the next above, all equally badly paid, half independent, the majority of whom have had to purchase their posts and whose only ambition is to amass wealth, the taxes melt away; and the small sums that finally reach Peking are squandered by eunuchs and favourites!"

The Treaty Port Mind

When the author speaks like this, he is really speaking like the muddle-headed Treaty port gentleman in China. Every word of the above is ridiculous nonsense. These libellous statements are not true even when applied to the state of things during the last days of the Ta-ching dynasty when the mandarins were certainly very much demoralized,—but when this ridiculous generalization is applied to the whole history of China,—it is—to use a French word,—*bête!* For if the financial system is so idiotic and the public service so corrupt, how is it, I want to ask, that China, coming out of a formidable rebellion which devastated 15 out of the 16 provinces, in fact as terrible as the late war in Europe, was left unencumbered with one single cent of public debt?

Indeed, when I read passages like these in this brilliant book, I am almost inclined to think that this French author is really not a serious scholar, who writes to interpret China and her civilization, but only a literateur who writes for effect merely to give lively amusement, to the sensation-loving public.

In this second part of that book, the author gives an account of the Religion and Art of China. His brilliant generalizations on these two subjects are the best part of the book. These generalizations are not quite the truth,—but are approximately correct. Let me here give one specimen.

Speaking of the cult of the Family, the author says:

> This cult then is the base of all Chinese civilization. The day on which its foundations are shaken, the entire fabric of this civilization will totter, just as the civilization of antiquity in Europe crumbled away when its beliefs decayed. The downfall of this cult will drag down in its ruins all the institutions which it has created. And since, as we have seen, everything in China is bound up together, the smallest modification in her way of life, in her social structure, even in her habits, is a wound inflicted on its integrity. The Chinese feel this: and it is this feeling which explains their passionate conservatism. With them it takes the place of patriotism; it is its Chinese form, since what they defend when they repudiate all changes as inimical to their country is the very essence of China, the soul of her civilization. This conservatism with its various manifestations, is thus less blind than one might think, and more justifiable. For this civilization has proved itself. It has ensured to myriads of men their earthly and their spiritual food. It has been a school of virtue and of moral beauty, of kindness, gentleness and wisdom. It has given to China an amount of happiness and to her life a stability and a harmony which no other civilization has surpassed nor even equalled. A purely human religion, without metaphysics, without mysticism, without a church, without priests, without any God other than humanity, without a Heaven or a Hell, finding on this earth and within this life, its principle, its ends, its sanctions and its rewards,—unquestionably it is of all the solutions which man has given to the problems of existence, not indeed the highest, but the one more closely adapted to his condition, the one which by its soundness, proved by its immense duration, has procured the greatest sum of blessedness.

The account which the author gives of Confucius and his teaching is also very sober and to the point. Then the analysis which he gives of Lao-Tze and Taoism—the speculative, the idealistic side of Chinese civilization although not very deep, yet is very clear and near the truth. The comparison, however, which he makes between the most brilliant exponent of Taoism, the philosopher Chuang Tzu with the English poet Wordsworth, it seems to me, is not a very happy one. Wordsworth is a sober, constructive, conservative idealist whereas Chuang Tzu is a brilliant, high soaring iconoclastic idealist. The one European philosopher to be compared with Chuang Tzu is Carlyle, the fanatic destroyer of cant and humbug.

Taoist Idealism.

Emerson, speaking of Carlyle and his philosophy says, "In the decomposition and asphyxia that followed all this materialism, Carlyle was driven by his disgust at the pettiness and cant, into the preaching of Fate. In comparison with all this rottenness, any check, any cleansing, though by fire, seemed desirable and beautiful. The necessities of mental structure force all minds into a few categories, and where impatience of the tricks of men makes Nemesis amiable and builds altars to the negative Deity, the inevitable recoil is to heroism or the gallantry of the private heart which decks its immolations with glory, in the unequal combat of will against fate." What Emerson here says of Carlyle and his teaching, is applicable every word of it to the Chinese Chuang Tzu and his teaching.

What the author says of Buddhism, the Religion of Nature, as he calls it, is, it seems, not at all illuminating. Not Buddhism, but Tao-ism is the Religion of Nature. The Sung philosopher Chu Hsi says, Taoism teaches men to nourish their energy, the Life-force in man 道家養氣 While Buddhism teaches men to nourish their heart—their Soul 釋家養心 In fact, Buddhism, from what little I have studied of it,—is, it seems to me, the negative ending of the Taoist idealism—in fact, a Religion of despair. Taoism says—"Fight Fate," but Buddhism, "Don't fight, but resign yourself to Fate and find the solution of existence in Nirvana, Annihilation."

Last of all in the second part of the book, the author gives an account of art in China. As I know nothing of art, I will say nothing on this part of the book.

Foreigners in China

The third part of the book deals with the exterior relations of China—The author says, "The story is a long and lamentable one, fraught with shame for Europe, a monotonous tale of [illegible] aggression on our part [illegible] total mutual incomprenension on both sides." Here, I must in all fairness say, the author is too severe and not quite just to the nations of Europe. For it was not the foreign governments or even the individual foreigners in China who were responsible for the [illegible] which her foreign intercourse brought upon China. This [illegible] this savage aggression, was [illegible] what Professor Lowes Dickinson has called the organized anarchism of Europe. Indeed in [illegible] justice he said that the foreign governments even tried if not to prevent, at least to lessen as much as possible, the harm [illegible] organized anarchism of Europe was doing to China. What is more, in many instances, it was the arrogant attitude of the Chinese themselves which hindered the foreign governments in their effort to be just and fair to China. In fact, as I have already said elsewhere, our past war with the foreign nations before the Boxer outbreak were caused as much by the arrogance of our mandarins as by the aggressiveness of the foreign Powers.

Insufferable Mandarins

Take for instance, the opium war. For a long time opium had been imported into China without the least objection on the part of the Chinese. But by a sudden fit of moral priggishness, the Peking Government ordered the opium to be stopped at once, which of course, meant ruin to the British merchants. The British representive tried to effect a compromise, making all possible concessions. But the Imperial Commissioner Lin was inexorable and burnt the opium. There was no other alternative for the British Government but war. It was the same way with all our other wars to the time of the Boxer outbreak. But even in the Boxer war, the whole catastrophe was due,—as the Empress dowager in her decree said—to mistakes on both sides.

In fine, the only act of openly shameless brutal aggression on the part of foreign nations towards China was the seizure of Tsingtao by Germany. But even for this brutal act of aggression, a German friend of mine gave a good excuse. He said, using the words of a German proverb: when the Devil is hungry, he will even devour flies *wenn der Teufel hungrig ist, frisst er Fliegen.*"

Thus the hope for the solution of the Chinese problem lies in the fact that this organized anarchism of Europe has now been broken by the late war. But unfortunately China too has already been wrecked by this organized anarchism of Europe. If we had men now in China to put our house in order, China would not only easily save herself, but also even co-operate with Europe to bring peace and civilization into the world.

In the last part of the book, the author tries to give an account of the Revolution and his raids on the future of what he calls—The New China. But here basing his conclusion on imperfect knowledge and distorted facts, the author has completely failed to understand the meaning and the outcome of the Revolution and in fact sees and gives no hope for China.

Last of all summing up his conclusions, on the present state of civilization in China and in Europe, the author says, "To Asia, our present Western civilization appears materialistic, hideous, restless and inhuman. So be it. But it is alive: while the beauty of Asia's noblest civilization breathes of death." There is some truth in this; but it is not the whole truth. A drunken madman who goes about smashing the furniture in his house and knocking down every man he meets, may think he has more Life-force in him than the old man who has to sit still and cannot move, from having his feet numbed by sticking too long over his desk pouring over old learned books. It may be a matter of taste, but for myself, I think I would rather be the old man with the numbed feet than the drunken madman.

But last of all, to speak seriously, what is the intrinsic value of the Chinese civilization to Europe and the world? Or, as this brilliant French gentleman puts it, when this phantom from another age,—*i.e.*, China and her civilization, comes into our life, what will she bring us in her closed hands?" My answer is, she has in her hands the civilization which the people of Europe want. Professor Lowes Dickinson says, "The Chinese man

is already what the democrats in Europe hope the western man may be." In the same way, I say, the Chinese Civilization is already what the Liberals in Europe want the modern, western civilization to be.

Chinese Philistinism.

The present Chinese civilization now has one very grave defect which the modern Western civilization when it is fully developed, will not have—and this defect in the present Chinese civilization is that it is too moral. As a result, the average Chinese of the governing class now, like Marshal Wu Pei-fu, is a hopeless creature because he is too much of a moral prig, in fact,—a Philistine. Now it would take me too long to explain here how this moral priggishness, this Philistinism has come into the Chinese civilization and entirely vulgarised and spoilt not only its beauty, but also its usefulness. I will only say here that the teaching of Confucius, the spirit of the Chinese civilization was petrified by the Puritanism of the philosophers of the Sung dynasty and since then the real Chinese civilization has become stagnant, and incapable of expansion and progress. Now contact with the Western civilization will, I believe, enable us Chinese to get rid of this moral priggishness, this Philistinism, in our civilization. In fine, the contact between the two Eastern and Western civilizations will in the end be beneficial to both.

CHINA'S YOUTH AND HER FUTURE

How the Country's Hope Hangs on the Young Men and Girls Now in Colleges

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Professor Roxby of Liverpool said during his visit to China two years ago that there was no class of people in history which had laid on it such a task as this generation of young Chinese students is called upon to undertake. This was the considered judgment of a man with sufficient background of history and knowledge of China to make his opinion worthy of consideration. An unsympathetic observer, on the other hand, might give the snap judgment often heard in dinner table conversation.—"Students? I have no patience with them. A lot of unbalanced undisciplined youngsters who keep interfering with matters that do not concern them."

That question of what does concern them is mightily exercising the mind and minds of the present generation of students in China. They belong to the Literati, that small minority who alone among all China's masses have the key to knowledge. Improvements on such lines as hygiene, sanitation, child welfare, must be taken by word of mouth to those who cannot read, and unless the students concern themselves with teaching these things there is no possibility of improvement.

Real Problems Indeed.

Indeed, nearly all China's present-day problems are of immediate importance to the student. For instance, the planting of opium: his father may be forced by a tyrannical Tuchun to plant opium. Or the growth of militarism: the family servants may be seized on the streets and carried off for military service. Or the conflict of the old social order with the new: he may be forced by his family into marriage with an illiterate unknown girl. Or political confusion: the government may be bartering away the country for which he has as great a love as any young hothead of the West has for his. These problems are not theoretical to the student, and to live amongst such problems and take no interest and feel no responsibility would argue a degree of stupidity or selfishness which fortunately does not obtain among the majority of Chinese students, either men or women.

Two years ago the World Student Christian Federation met in Peking. That great assembly of young and ardent minds from all over the world made a strong impression upon the student consciousness in this country where the traditional respect accorded to students is calculated to favour a high degree of self-assurance. There has been since that time a closer unity among Christian students in China, a development of responsibility and initiative, and a consciousness of a closer international relationship through this World Federation.

Girls Keenly Interested.

The Young Women's Christian Association, with its 6,000 members banded together in near a hundred schools and colleges in China, is a lively factor in the life of the women students here. One of the most potent features of its programme is the conference which it holds in several sections of the country, at which students come together to consider their relation to the world in which they live. These conferences are sometimes for government school students, sometimes for mission school students, sometimes for both together. Last year there was even one that combined students, home women, and factory workers! In 1923 there were some 1,400 girls who met in 16 conferences, held in cities ranging from Chêngtu to Soochow, from Mukden to Canton. From June to September this year there will be six students' conferences. The topics discussed cover a variety of subjects: the place of religion in life, how Christianity can be worked out for the Chinese to-day; the need for Popular Education; the Women's Movement; what is Democracy; public hygiene; the value of recreation; the modern home—these are but a few of the subjects that provoked hot discussion. Foreign secretaries are little in evidence at these conferences; leadership is coming to be almost entirely Chinese. The students themselves carry a heavy share in the administrative work—they decide on the programme, make the rules for student government during conference days, raise the money for the delegates' expenses and sometimes raise extra money to help toward the expenses of a girl from a distant school. This year the students of the lower Yangtze section have invited a delegate from Japan, and Miss Yuki Kimura, student secretary of the Y.W.C.A. of Kioto, is coming in June to be a guest at the Kiangnan Conference in Hangchow.

There is a promising spirit of unselfishness and an excellent *esprit de corps* among them as they work at these conferences. Last year at the close of one particularly successful conference, one student was overheard to say, "If the Government could only learn co-operation like this, we wouldn't have so much trouble in China."

A better understanding of what Christianity is and a clearer comprehension of how it can be applied to China's problems to-day—these probably sum up the value of the student conference to those who attend. Most of them are from High Schools and at an age when at home we would expect them to be interested only in their immediate school life, but in China they have to be as old the demands made upon them. They must carry a load which is "greater than that which has been laid on any single class in history."

Coming Meeting in London.

The executive committee of the World Student Christian Federation will meet in August, of this year, at High Leigh, near London. Mr. T. Z. Koo, who is the first Oriental secretary to be appointed on the W. S. C. F. staff, will go to attend that meeting and there is a possibility that China may be represented also by a Y.W.C.A. secretary. There has been a proposal from that committee that in February 1925 a conference of students from all the countries bordering on the Pacific should be held at Honolulu. This would include China, Japan, Philippines, India, Russia, Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Canada, and the western countries of South America.

At the Assembly of U. S. students, now being held in New York in connexion with the National Convention of Y.W.C.A., Miss Ting Shu-ching, formerly national secretary of the Y.W.C.A. in China, represents Chinese students.

DR. W. W. Yen, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, has telegraphed to the provinces announcing that he has accepted his appointment as Chairman of the Red Cross Society of China. Admiral Tsai Ting-kan (chairman of the Tariff Revision Commission) and Mr. Yang Tcheng (former Commissioner of Foreign Affairs in Shanghai), the re-elected Vice-Chairman, have agreed to continue in office.

HERMIONE GOES TO THE RACES

BY ELIZABETH PEPYS.

O yes, my dear, of course I went to the Races. Would I let a little thing like Junior or the weather stop me? I'm often afraid Betty that, long as you've known me, you underestimate my stability of purpose. Junior's quite too young to appreciate Races, though his father may take him on Saturday perhaps, and I'm sure he wouldn't want me to stay home with him when my mind would be on the race course. We are letting him grow up following out all his own impulses you know, and although I *was* rather sorry to find that he had spent Monday afternoon pulling up the tulips, I suppose that only means he has an eye for colour.

But as I was saying my dear, when you interrupted me, of course I wouldn't stay home for the rain, especially when I'd had the cunningest little outfit made for bad weather that you'd ever hope to see. Certainly, I had some made for pleasant days, too, it doesn't do to put all your money on one horse, even if he is the universal favourite, now does it? But most of the girls only ordered costumes for fair weather, and nobody could blame them for staying home. But I was mad about my little patent leather cloche and my suit strapped with leather and my new strapped walking shoes of tan suede alligator and brown kid. I just *know* the alligator enjoyed the dampness.

Those Dear Jockeys.

Did you ever think, dear, of the noble self-sacrifice those dear jockeys display? I always try to put myself in the other man's place, and as I saw Mr. Hill riding out in that perfectly darling blue costume with the little touches of white in the collar and sleeves that are all the rage in all the nattiest frocks this year, I couldn't help thinking to myself that I should hate to have to go out and ruin a ducky little suit like that, with the rain and mud and everything. But men do rise above considerations of that sort wonderfully, don't they? I can't quite understand how they do it, but I admire them for it. I backed Roman Merlin just for that and everybody laughed at me when I lost, but I don't care, one has to make some sacrifices for principle.

And speaking of principle, I don't see why some of the combinations of colour are allowed in the jockeys' turnouts—why they fairly hurt your eyes, and none of them seem to have heard of the new soft shades. My artist soul feels these things very deeply, and I simply can't bear to back a horse if I don't sympathize with his rider's colours.

The Beauties of Art

Now you needn't look so superior, Betty. Yes, you were too, for I'll tell you that my feeling for colour won me $71.50, or $66.50 if you will insist on deducting what I paid for the ticket. I simply loved the turquoise blouse Mr. Knoll was wearing when he took Miss Coutts' pony Skyros around, and so I backed him to win. Why didn't I take First Chance instead? Well Skyros has a more romantic sound, don't you think? Anyway, in spite of Knoll's being thrown, he came in ahead, didn't he. It pays to have an artist's soul and to know what colours your ponies and your riders will vibrate to?

What does one mean by vibrating to colours? Why that's one of the important things about New Thought, or is it The Home of the Soul? Anyway, if you vibrate you do, and you're in tune with the Infinite; and if you don't then you are sure to be unlucky, and if you can't understand that, I don't know what I could do to make it plainer to you. Anyway, I certainly do vibrate to rose pink and any time I see an Abbeyfield or a Letchfield, or Engle or any other kind of field coming down the course I positively palpitate!

What's Expense to the Soul?

My husband says my zeal for colour symphonies is pretty expensive and that just because that Holland they miscall "bright" blue is becoming to Mr. Hill's complexion is no reason why I should expect him to win every time he wears it. Sometimes I wonder how it happened that so many of the Great Masters were men. They certainly don't seem to have a feeling for art these days, anyway. Of course I don't always vibrate in tune with the Pari-Mutuel, but there *are* better things in life, aren't there?

Now Rycecroft's rider looked so perfectly wonderful in his violet and white that the minute I saw Mr. Brand I pushed my way back and took a place on it, just in case "The Bittern" didn't win, you know. I was sure I was doing the right thing because everybody else was, too. I hate to buy a ticket when at an empty counter, don't you?

But wouldn't you think when you were picking out colours you could find something better than crimson and violet—specially if you were going to be loyal enough to wear it for your own tie? My husband says McKenzie doesn't mind the combination at all; but I say he wins in spite of it. Don't you suppose that lots of Dallas's success is because that Royal blue is so becoming to him?

Well, goodbye dear, don't you wish that there were women riders? I have some of the sweetest ideas for costumes.

IMPRESSIONS IN CHINA

Lacquered Chestnuts

BY GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY.

The ancient Chinese scholar rolls lacquered chestnuts in the palms of his hands to keep his fingers nimble perfectly to form the ideographs of his language. The world quarrels onward; battles rage: he wiggles his fingers and writes his characters. His spectacles are amber-coloured crystals through which no man may see things as they are. His world is the small compass of a room in which he sleeps and writes his characters. He knows Confucius, Mencius, Li Ta Po and Tu Fu. But the struggles of to-day, the changed position in the world of the Middle Kingdom, the rise of the proletariat, the import of smoke stacks, are beyond his roseate vision. His manners are perfect according to his rites; but they are the manners of yesterday, just as Pickwick would be a man of yesterday. Tuchuns and politicians employ him to write telegrams and mandates. He does not understand them, for they are not eight-legged essays.

Tsing Hua College.

Education and politics have retarded the progress of Tsing Hua college. They cannot be mixed, as one mixes gin and bitters. When politics enters, education flies out of the window, just as bad coppers drive out good coppers and send the money market to the bottom. Now they are reforming Tsing Hua. Two men are devoting themselves to make it a great institution of learning, to disassociate it from politics, to forget that it was born out of a political agitation. Y. S. Tsao, its president, and C. P. Chang, its dean, are seeking to establish there a great research university where those who teach in Chinese colleges may themselves be taught what is new in method and content and yet remain in China. Educational movements in China have suffered from its men rushing to and fro about the world seeking knowledge but losing contact with China. Here is to be a school where men may find knowledge and continue to know China. Perhaps here is a solution of the Boxer Indemnity problem. Spend it in China where the money may all be used beneficially, where none may go into attuning the Ningpo ear to mellifluous jazz.

A Patriot.

Once there was a returned student who came to China to serve his country. He tried one thing and another and meanwhile the number of mouths to be fed increased. As they increased, the task of being a patriot became more arduous. For patriotism is an unprofitable vocation. He headed a university, entered parliament as a senator, tried to make an old-fashioned political leader a great and progressive man, managed a bank. But all things either made feeding the mouths difficult or placed too great a strain on his patriotism. Then came the thunder of the legations and the chancelleries. China must untangle her finances. China must have a modern accounting system. There must be order in China's administration. So he sat him down in a building where once an Emperor was kept prisoner and there he worked on China's finances, while in his leisure he carned enough to feed the mouths. He stuck to his thankless job, to his unremunerative job, to his unsung, unfamed job. And therefore men say that the reconstructive period has begun in China. For young men are finding constructive things to do, and what is so much more essential, they are doing them quietly, soundly, fundamentally, while parliamentarians and ministers and tuchuns talk of sovereign rights.

God's Own Country.

Which country is not God's Own Country? Filippino, Armenian and Greek, Albanian, Rumanian and Turk, American, Briton and Jew, all believe that their's is God's own Country, that they are the Chosen People, that their ways, their habits, their manners, their literature, their poets and their music, is *uber alles*. Yet, what comes of all this superiority but more hatred, more wars, more empires lost into the oblivion of Ptolemies' Egypt or Hammurabi's Babylon, the sporting ground of the archæologist, the treasure-field of the historian? The Chinese used to believe that theirs was God's Own Country and that all who came were bearers of tribute to the Celestial Emperor. And when the steamboat and the machine, the electric light and the wireless came, they must have learned that material strength is but the physical proof of a spiritual vigor and an intellectual force which they did not possess. In their land coal lay in the ground under their feet; yet men have done the labour of iron beasts and women have plodded through life imitating parts of steam-driven tools, while in other lands, to the Chinese not God's Own Country, coal was freeing the individual from stupid, useless, physical labour, bringing leisure, education, health, longevity and order. Is not God's Own Country where these things come to be?

The Cow.

There is a tradition against killing the cow. The peasants regard her as the best friend of man in the world of beasts. As dogs in western lands, as horses to the sportsman, so are cows to the Chinese. Milk and butter have disappeared from the cuisine of the country, although in Mongolia and Tibet and perhaps among the nomad tribes whose bolder ancestors pushed forward beyond the steppes into the plains of Chihli and became Chinese, milk is a principal article of food. To the Chinese to drink milk would be to rob the calf of its life; to eat beef, to bring death to a friend. Slaughter-houses are despised, just as murderers of human beings are despised. And the slaughter-houses bring to the farmer another fear: for to them the robber may take the farmer's friend and companion, where he is killed and skinned, that no man may recognize or claim him, and sold in distant markets, a carcass. Many stories for children have been written about the virtues of the cow, but prettiest of all is the story of the "Cow-boy and the Spinning Maid," which every year on the Seventh Day of the Seventh Moon is repeated and its lessons learned.

A motoring accident which might very easily have been attended with the most serious results occurred in Bubbling Well Road opposite the Country Club shortly after midnight on Saturday. A car belonging to the Great Northern Garage, and in which a foreign gentleman was being driven into town, had just passed Love Lane when the driver observed a ricsha, without lights, being trailed along right in his path. Having but a yard or two in which to avoid the ricsha, the chauffeur swerved sharply to the right and then, being within a fraction of crashing into a telephone post, switched round again to the left, the result being that the car skidded violently and toppled over on to its side. The chauffeur, who had done his best to avoid running down the ricsha man, emerged from the car with a bad wound in the forehead, but the foreigner was unhurt. Assistance was quickly sought and the car, a partial wreck lying across the tram lines, was removed.

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THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

Captain Cecil Foster, master of the str. Trevessa, which was lost in the Indian Ocean, is writing the story of the survivors' journey of 1,700 miles in open boats.

∴

A Life of Lenin by Maxim Gorki has just been completed, and will shortly be published in Russia.

∴

Although Earl Buxton's forthcoming book entitled "General Botha" is not described as a biography, it will give an account of the earlier life of General Botha, leading up to the period with which he especially deals. The book will also deal with Botha's characteristics, his surroundings, and his policy, and forms a tribut eto the man as soldier, statesman, leader and counsellor. Lord Buxton's official position as Governor-Gneral of the Union and High Commissioner for South Africa, 1914 to 1918, a period that included the critical years of the war, enables him to write with special knowledge and authority on matters of vital interest to the Union, and the book, which Mr. Murray is to publish, will make a wide appeal to all who are interested in a great personality, and those who are concerned with the welfare of the Empire.

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The many thousands of bravely adventurous people who read "The Sheik," probably more than once, will be delighted to hear that Mrs. E. M. Hull is engaged upon a sequel to it, and that she intends to call this sequel "Sons of the Sheik."

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There is to be a series of "Bookman" anthologies in connexion with that well-known literary monthly, and the editor, Mr. St. John Adcock, has done the first one. It is "An Anthology of Living Poets," and it seeks to include samples of all that is best in present-day poetry, by living poets of every school in all parts of the British Commonwealth. Someone has said that Britain is again, as in the days of Queen Elizabeth, "a nest of singing birds," and certainly never were more poets writing than now, or with greater variety in theme and style.

∴

We know Mr. Frank Scudamore as one of the war correspondents who marched with Archibald Forbes and Bennett Burleigh, Melton Prior and "Charlie" Williams. He has written his "Remiscences," and they are to be published by Fisher Unwin with just that title. They will be found to epitomize the light and shade of the world wars of the last half-century, and they overflow with stories of people in the public eye during that period. Kings, diplomats, politicians, and illustrious soldiers and sailors have been among Mr. Scudamore's friends, and he has been a wide traveller.

∴

The discovery of a great store of hitherto unpublished letters written by that incomparable letter-witer, Jane Welsh Carlyle, is an event of first-rate literary importance. They make a collection numbering over 200, and, under the editorship of Mr. Leonard, Huxley, LL.D., are to be issued by Mr. Murray under the title "Jane Welsh Carlyle: Letters to her family 1839-1863." The letters are full of lively sketches of the great men and women of the Carlyle circle, including, to name but a few, Dickens and Thackeray, Tennyson, Mazzini and Cavaignac, Erasmus Darwin, Jeffrey, Charles Buller, Miss Jewsbury, the Sterlings and the Ashburtons.

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"THE Bolshevik Persecution of Christianity," by Capt. Francis McCullagh, author of that informing book on present-day Russia, "A Prisoner of the Reds," has just been published by John Murray, London. The volume will no doubt be eagerly read by all who wish to learn the truth about Bolshevism. Capt. McCullagh points out that the attitude of the Soviet Government towards the Orthodox Church has changed completely, but not for the better. He divides his book into three parts —Russia, Rome, and the Present Position of the Christian Churches in Russia. The more he studied the details of the great attack which the Soviet Government first launched against the Christian Churches in Russia five years ago, the more complex he says the subject seemed to grow and the more convinced he felt was the necessity to record in a less ephemeral and disconnected form than that of newspaper articles, the great story of Patriarch Tikhon's fall and Archbishop Cieplak's condemnation.

FIGURES

A King's Speech from the Scaffold

"GOSSIP OF THE 17TH AND 18TH CENTURIES." By John Beresford. Cobden-Sanderson. 8s. 6d.

Each of Mr. Beresford's essays has some historical personality for its subject, but Mr. Beresford never allows himself Mr. Strachey's entertaining licence in the imaginative reconstruction of character and incident. He delineates his people with a strict conscience for the limits of the "gossip" (diaries, letters and informal contemporary documents) from which they take shape and loan for recognition: his puppets are all laced tight to their factual backgrounds. So much the worse, one might think, for the convincingness of their make-believe, the realism of their recreated movements. Mr. Beresford, however, more than makes up for the backwardness of his fancy by his intelligence and tact in selection. In the pages of Firth and Gardiner the story of "January 30, 1649" loses its outlines perforce in a wilderness of amplification and professional conjecture about details. Mr. Beresford's forty-page narrative is a little masterpiece of compromise.

His method releases for us a most vivid and moving portrait of Charles I from the theological dust and heat of his last days. In the accounts of eye-witnesses that are quoted by Mr. Beresford, the figure of the King seems to move with a nobility that is almost histrionic:

> His Majesty being taken away by the Guards, as he past down the Stairs the Soldiers scoff'd at him, casting the Smoke of their Tobacco (a thing very distasteful to him) in his Face, and throwing their Pipes in his Way. And as he heard the Rabble of Soldiers crying out (in his passage), "Justice, Justice," he said, "Poor Soldiers, for a piece of Mony they would do so by their Commanders."

The incident is strongly reminiscent of a more famous one, even in the telling of it; and it is notable that Bishop Juxon, during his private ministrations to Charles, chose as his text that chapter in St. Matthew "which relateth to the Passion of our Blessed Saviour."

A Noble End.

On his way to the execution Juxon fell on his knees weeping, and the King "helped the Bishop up, for he was aged," proceeding himself to the scaffold "with a chearful look." Arrived there, he gazed "very earnestly on the Block," meditated a moment, and then began his last speech. He referred with deep humility to his acquiescence in the sentence on Strafford, refused to lay the burden of guilt for the Civil War on Parliament, maintaining that "ill Instruments between them and me have been the chief Cause of all this Bloodshed"; but reminded his hearers, with a considerable colloquial force of argument, that "a Subject and a Sovereign are clean different things." The final conversation between Charles and his chaplain is irresistibly quotable. In its tone and quality of emotion, in the attitude it expresses to metaphysical problems, it is as consummately seventeenth-century as Marvell's Dialogue between the Resolved Soul and Created Pleasure.

> The King; I have a good Cause, and a gracious God on my side.
>
> Dr. Juxon: There is but one Stage more: This Stage is turbulent and troublesome. It is a short one. But you may consider, it will soon carry you a very great way; it will carry you from Earth to Heaven, and there you shall find to your great joy the Prize; you haste to a Crown of Glory.
>
> The King: I go from a corruptible to an incorruptible Crown, where no disturbance can be.
>
> Dr. Juxon: You are exchanged from a temporal to an eternal Crown, a good Exchange.

The essay on Anne Hyde, daughter of Clarendon and Duchess of York, is the longest in the volume. Here Mr. Beresford's skill in quotation is more successful with the background than with the main character of his narrative. Anne Hyde, in spite of her eventful life, never comes before us in full personality: on the other hand, we are given an admirable picture of her environment—of London at a time when Oxford-street "ran between hedges," and gentlemen shot woodcock in the neighbourhood of Piccadilly. For the rest, there are informative and consistently readable sketches of Lady Mary Coke, a "country wife" of the reign of Queen Anne; of John Donne the Younger, whom a contemporary describes as "an atheistical buffoon, a banterer, and a person of overfree thoughts"; and, finally, of the poet Herbert, "one of those rare beings who, by the mere fact of their existence on earth, seem to show, men that they can put off their mortality."—"Daily News."

THE GOLDEN RULE

An American Manufacturer who Made it Pay

"THE GOLDEN RULE IN BUSINESS." By Arthur Nash, President of the A. Nash Co., Cincinnati. F. H. Revell Co., New York. 2nd Edition 1923. Pp 160. $1.25 net.

Within the past year or two there have been not infrequent newspaper references to an experiment in the manufacture of clothing by the author of this book. He has now consented to give some account of his life history, and of the steps of the process by which he has come to be nicknamed "Golden Rule Nash." He tells us that he was born 53 years ago in the state of Indiana, the eldest of nine children, and that he was educated in what he now regards as a rigid, stern, and uncompromising faith, from which, after having been promoted to be an "Elder," he revolted on account of what he considered to be its bigotry and intolerance. After this bitter experience he (not unnaturally) tried to reject every form of religion, becoming an avowed "infidel." Yet he was not altogether successful in this. A judicious marriage to a woman of robust faith totally changed his attitude to life. These details are of importance in explaining the gradual evolution of the Golden Rule idea. He began with a small sweat-shop as a clothing maker, where the workers, men and women, were paid starvation wages. A tall dignified old lady, close to 80 years of age, who pulled out bastings and sewed on buttons, and a little hunchback who ran a machine, were each paid $4.00 a week. "Sweat-shops are always made up of inefficient workers who can not get a job in a high grade shop."

Knocked Clean Out.

Mr. Nash's son, just back from the war, saw nothing out of the ordinary in this wage scale. All other shops gave the same, and if a change was made this shop would be "knocked clean out." An inventory at the end of a financial year showed a depreciation from $60,000 to $56,000. The owner called together the few stockholders who agreed to liquidate the company on the promise of having their loss made good. The owner hoped to get enough out of it to make a small payment on a farm for himself. He said to himself: "A farm is the only place where a man can be really a Christian. He certainly can't be one in the clothing business." He then summoned the workers together and explained that he wished to run this business on the principle of the Golden Rule. He had the names of the operatives read aloud. The first was the old lady that pulled threads and sewed on buttons. With a sudden inspiration he informed her that hereafter her wages were to be $12 a week, an increase of 30 per cent. The same to the hunchback. Thus he went through the entire list, increasing the pay of $18 pressers to $27, and the rest in proportion. This was done under conscientious pressure, with a reasoned expectation that the project might, and probably would, fail. While looking around for the farm to which he expected to retire, exercising only a very general oversight of his clothing business, Mr. Nash began to realize that as the soldiers from the war were being demobilized the sales were picking up. Investigation showed that the firm was doing almost three times as much as at the same time the previous year. No work had been done outside, and no new machines had been bought. Still further inquiry elicited the information that the crippled fingers of the old lady had "limbered up," and that she was doing twice as much as ever before. The skilled help that had been merely "loafing on the job," had got busy, and were showing how to get work done, so that the garments were coming through in a rapid and constant stream. Interviewing the bookkeeper and the "forelady" Mr. Nash inquired into the reasons for this improvement.

The Age of Miracles.

He was told that when the first notice of rise in wages had been given to the workers they were literally dumbfounded. Then a little Italian presser blurted out: "Well, I'll be damned! Whatever this Golden Rule thing is I don't know, but Mr. Nash told us that he wanted us to do the work just as we would want him to work if we were up in the office paying wages, and he were back here doing the work. Now I know that if I were the boss and should come in and talk to the workers as he did, and raise wages like he has I'd want every one to work like hell." "There," said the forelady, "that's about all there is to it. Our people just caught the drift of Tony's idea, and went ahead in the spirit of it. That's why we've trebled our output. If I talked a week, I couldn't tell you any more."

"The most hopeful feature of this remarkable experiment," (a special investigator afterwards wrote), is its constant process of development, of growth and expansion, both material and spiritual. Every change in economic policy or in social betterment has come at the suggestion of some worker in the factory, or as the result of thorough discussion between employer and employee."

In speaking before the annual convention of the International Association of Salesmen, Chief Justice Marshall, of the Ohio Supreme Court, said: "The Nash Company is not solving the tragic problem of capital and labour, it is doing away with it altogether. I can not help believing that if this simple application of the Golden Rule could be introduced into our country's business, how it would lessen the burden of taxation, as well as the cumbersome and expensive law-making machinery; and how appalling federal appropriation of 92 cents out of every dollar to pay for past wars and preparing for more wars to come, could be directed into constructive and peaceful channels."

Within recent months an unknown visitor asked to be shown about the factory, and he remarked: "I've never seen people work so fast before. They're piece-workers of course?" No, every one in this room is on a weekly wage. He eyed, me sharply. "You are talking to an experienced factory man, Mr. Nash. Don't try to make me believe that." Ask them, I suggested. He did.

On the third floor where all the clothing is cut, a job which requires the utmost care, he said: "What a contrast we have here. The men at the tables act as if they had oceans of time in which to finish their jobs. They are taking pains. Of course they are paid by the week, too?" No, they are the only piece-workers in the plant. "You mean to tell me that all those men upstairs working at top speed, are wage earners, and that these men are paid by the piece? I have never seen so happy a bunch of workers." After a moment's silence he said: "I want you to know that I would rather have done what you have done than to have all the money in the world." (This man turned out to be a great manufacturer and financier in a southern State.)

The summary of the amount of business done by this form for five years is as follows:

1918	$ 132,190
1919	525,678
1920	1,580,700
1921	2,077,559
1922	3,751,181

There is a tradition that the wonderful lover of all animate Nature, Saint Anthony, once preached to the fishes:

> "The sermon now ended, the fishes descended,
> The eels went on eeling, the pikes went on stealing;
> Much delighted were they, but preferred the old way."

GENUINE ANTIQUES

"THE HARLEIAN MISCELLANY." A Selection. Edited by Henry Savage. (Cecil Palmer. 12s. 6d.)

The first Earl of Oxford may have left an unheroic reputation in politics, but the antiquary, professional and amateur, will always bless him for the collection of tracts, pamphlets and manuscripts which a redeeming eccentricity caused him to bring together. The complete "Miscellany," as selected by Oldys and prefaced by Dr. Johnson, is, as Mr. Savage says, unlikely to be reprinted. It was all the happier thought, therefore, of the present editor to give us this selection of a selection, which will delight everyone blessed with the sense of atmosphere and a love of the past in its naiver intimacies.

The item which carries us furthest back in this volume is the original form of initiation in the Order of the Bath, which has not been fully performed since the coronation of Charles II. "And when the Esquire's governors shall hear the noise of the minstrels, they shall undress the said Esquire, and put him naked into the bath..... and the Esquire's governors shall take the Esquire out of the bath and help him to his bed, there to continue till his body be dry." A series of love-letters between Henry VIII. and Anne Boleyn were written variously in English and French. "Myne awne darling" or "Myne awne sweetheart" is the favourite exordium of "him that longeth to be yours, H.R." The Queen's last letter must have made the inconstant wince, with its allusion to "that party for whose sake I am now as I am, whose name I could some good while since have pointed unto: your Grace being not ignorant of my suspicion therein."

Another Tudor figures at her best in the intercepted letter of Richard Leigh, a Catholic priest, upon the failure of the Armada:—

> I do find, and know, that many good and wise men, which of long time have earnest devotion to the Pope's authority, begin now to stagger in their minds, and to conceive that this way of reformation intended by the Pope's Holiness is not allowable in *the sight* of God.

The foreign menace has so roused and united the community "that for all earnest proceeding for arming, and for contributions of money, and for all other warlike actions, there was no difference to be seen betwixt the Catholick and the Heretick." Of contemporary date is Anthony Monday's account of the beginning of Lent in Rome and the Pope's comminatory exertions:—

> There he curseth the Turke, and her majestie, our most gracious princesse and governesse; affirming her to be farre wurse than the Turke, or the cruellest tirant that is. He curseth likewise all Calvenians, Lutherians, Zwingians, and all that are not according to his disposition. When he hath cursed all he can, saying "Amen," he letteth the candle fall.

From a later century comes an unfriendly sketch of Muggleton, the founder of the Muggletonians. This worthy seems to have pursued a religious Rake's Progress—"first, degenerating from the orthodox tenets of the Church of England to Presbytery; from thence to Independency; thence to Anabaptism; thence to Quakerism; and lastly, to no religion at all." It is not quite clear at which of these stages he is described by a follower as having "put me into the easiest way to Heaven that ever was invented."

A pamphlet purporting to give some account of Alexander Selkirk's experiences indicates that the original Crusoe reacted so far to his environment as to be able to run down goats by superior speed—"for his way of living, and continual exercise of walking and running, cleared him of all gross humours, so that he ran with wonderful swiftness." There is no trace of Man Friday, but the tool-making faculty of Defoe's hero is evidently authentic. "He had no other needle but a nail; and when his knife was wore to the back, he made others, as well as he could, of some iron hoops that were left ashore, which he bent thin, and ground upon stones."—The "Observer."

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

THE MAN WHO WON

A Fable of the Champion Sweeps

By Elizabeth Pepys.

Once there was a man who won the Champions' Sweepstakes. It did not happen the first time he tried with ten dollars. No. Quite the reverse. In fact for a long time this man by the name of Smith had been supporting one of Shanghai's worthiest eleemosynary institutions by his contributions thereto each spring and autumn. But at last, after he had expended much of his salary in riotous ticket-buying he stumbled upon the lucky number.

In the first glad glow of his enthusiasm he shouted the glad tidings far and near, and since the number of his ticket was known to many of his friends who had adjoining numbers, they also spread the glad news around the town. The next time he draws so much as a pony he will never breathe a word to his dearest friend. But this was different.

Envious Friends.

His friends who felt, severally and collectively, that they might as well have had the money, didn't attempt to conceal their dissappointment. Indeed they almost hinted that there might have been some mistake in his title to just this precise slimpsy slip of paper. To help matters out he suggested a party that night. A big party, they added. It was a large party and at the end of it, or rather on the next day he awoke to a sad consciousness that in the brotherhood borne of champagne he had promised a considerable slice of his winnings to those less fortunate friends of his.

But this was only the beginning. In the morning's mail came a letter asking for an endowment for a hospital for stray cats. The next mail brought him a flock of invitations to various social affairs, which would have been flattering, had they been received a day earlier. When he reached his office he found his spiritual adviser waiting to congratulate him and to suggest many worthy avenues for his new found wealth. His clerks expected bonuses at once, his servants were openly resentful of the cumsha he bestowed upon them, his old friends thought he was too grand for them, and his new ones he could not stand. Soon he was obliged to flee Shanghai, but news of his good fortune followed him, and though little remains of his lucky strike, he will never be able to live down its responsibilities. Often he sighs as he recalls the good old days when he couldn't even win a place premium on the Pari-Mutual, he sighs sadly and moans, "Alas, would that I had been the man who lost!"

Moral: Don't be too downhearted. You, too, might have won.

"CHINESE LANTERNS"

Light Cast Upon China and Her Women

Grace Thompson Seton (Mrs. Ernest Thompson Seton) during her visit to China applied herself assiduously to making contacts with Chinese women and her friends among the foreigners were fully aware of her frankly expressed desire to meet Chinese women and see things Chinese rather than to mingle in the usual international gaieties. Her latest book, just issued by Dodd, Mead & Co. is a justification of her policy for it shows that by maintaining this purpose Mrs. Seton was able to assemble an unusual number of facts, make the personal acquantance of many outstanding characters and visit a surprising number of institutions in different parts of the country. Therefore, in spite of the short time actually spent in China, Mrs. Seton has given us a very interesting book, all the more readable because her reactions are admittedly those of a stranger to the country.

In her foreword the author writes: "In putting these lanterns before the public gaze, though of unworthy form and matter and inferior workmanship compared with all the richness showered about me in the flowery Kingdom, my aim has been to throw a little light on what is happening there, especially upon the dark places of the woman's quarters of New China, where the white light of publicity has not yet beaten; and if in doing so I can show some of the beauty of gracious hospitality, of the sympathetic and co-operative kindliness and courtesy extended to me, a woman, travelling alone, then the creation of another book to swell the lists of reviewers and booksellers will have been justified and another grain added to the bulk of human knowledge."

The vivid description of the wedding of the Boy Emperor is an especially interesting part of the book which includes studies in Peking, Shanghai, Canton, and Tai Shan as well as glimpses of the life of women in many smaller towns. There are over 80 excellent illustrations in the well brought out volume which is now for sale at the Chinese American Book Store, 25 Nanking Road.

SKIRTS WORN WITH THE POPULAR BLOUSE USUALLY HANG FROM A FOUNDATION WAIST.

THE FRENCH GIRL FACES MARRIAGE

Juliette is too much of a realist not to know that feminine stock has fallen, and she sees the reasons for the decline. A young girl of her age has three or four 'classes'—as they say in the military law—of possible husbands which were not decimated and worn out by the war, for the last class mobilized was eighteen years old in 1918; but above that fatal age,—which corresponds to an age of twenty-three in the year 1923,—one class after another of men only a few years older has been decimated or destroyed. Result: there are plenty of marriageable girls of ages corresponding with theirs, who are competing with the eighteen-year-old Juliette on advantageous terms—for our Juliettes know very well that the men who were in the war are not in a hurry to get married.

The line between the two epochs is sharp and clear. It is among the very young men, the young men scarcely older than themselves,—the ones who did not go to war and whose character was formed, like their own, during the progress of the war but at a distance from the front,—that the Juliettes of eighteen are destined to find their husbands—if they are ever to find any. It is a fact that extremely youthful marriages, and with a very slight difference between the ages of the couple, are more frequent to-day than they ever were.

The Important Dot.

So Juliette has to marry in her own generation, and Juliette knows her own generation very well. She knows them and she judges them. She knows that they are by no means feminized—that, unlike the generation before the war, they are about as much concerned with women as so many young Englishmen. She knows that they are quite aware of their own increased value—which gives them an advantage over young girls—and that, regarding money as a prime necessity, they are resolved to go without a wife rather than without money—resolved in consequence to chose only from young girls who have dots. Juliette knows too that if, after they have been talking about a marriageable young girl, somebody says to them. 'Only her dot is rather small,' it is very much like saying, 'Only she's a Negress, you know,' or else 'Only her mother is shut up in Sainte-Anne.' Juliette's pals (*copains*) are not chary of expressing their opinions. Juliette knows all this, but she does not hold it against them. She even believes that they are right.

She thinks they are right because she knows very well what she looks for in marriage herself. Feeling no very irresistible yearning to be married, she demands a good deal of comfort, plus a degree of liberty equal to that she enjoyed as a young girl. ('Don't you think I'm reasonable, uncle? I don't ask any more.') It is all very well for a young girl to be stone-broke (*puree*), but for a wife—no. Why? Because a young girl has always in the future the possibility of a big marriage, but a wife's prospects are settled, and it is poverty for good and all.

Starting out from this standpoint, Juliette—who is a clear-thinking and realistic young creature—says to herself: 'If I were a young man, I should have to be very well off for cash (*peze*) before I would marry Juliette Despeyroux.' Far from holding it against a bachelor who confides to her his resolution not to take the plunge (*marcher*) except for a good big dowry, she thinks he is perfectly right, and even applauds him. She would not, it must be admitted, reject the man who showed contrary sentiments, but she would think him a poor sort (*pauv' type*)!

The Not-Impossible He.

Circumstances being thus, a Juliette Despeyroux is naturally led to consider the fact that she will have to yield on certain requirements if she is to achieve in her marriage her irreducible demands—to wit, independence and fortune. On which points is a young girl to make concessions—on the good looks of her future husband, on his education and social class, or his age?

Juliette will not yield on such points as education and social standing. Better be an old maid forever than live with an ill-educated man. As for good looks, it may as well be understood that Juliette talks freely enough and not without admiration of men's appearance — which sometime shocks her mother. I have several times determined that these good looks do not at all rouse in her any desire to get married. 'Good-looking' men seem even to constitute a class apart, not to be considered in marriage.

Then there are the men who are 'all right' (bien)—a huge category. A man may be homely and still be 'all right,' if he has a good presence, or an air of force or decision, or a certain fineness of feature, or intelligence, or extreme care of his person, or easy manners, or if he dresses well.

Last of all, there are the 'hopeless' (*mal*) men, who have precisely the opposite characteristics. The upshot of it all is that a man's age does not render him ineligible in Juliette's eyes, unless it conflicts with the qualities that make him 'all right.' Suppose age keeps him from walking with an easy swing, or gives him a tired, worn-out air, or makes him obviously ridiculous.

In short Juliette will never compromise on the education of her future husband. Neither will she compromise on his outward appearance to the point of marrying a 'hopeless' man. But, in spite of this, her category of men who are 'all right' is wide open so far as both age and outward appearance are concerned.

One objection occurred to me: 'But suppose, Juliette, you should fall in love with a man who is "all right," and yet has no money.'

She replied: 'I never fall in love with anybody.'

'That is well enough for the past, but what about the future?'

After a second's reflexion she made this reply, which is not without depth: 'When that time comes, I shall not be myself any more, and so I don't know.'

Independence v. Marriage

When Juliette talks of herself, she always uses a tone of badinage. In her ordinary mood she is really persuaded that she will get married, that she will get married soon, and that she will make a suitable marriage. (She is quite right.) On days when she is in a bad humour she vows that nothing is worth so much as independence, and she devises plans for the future in which practical good sense is tempered by an amusing naivete. The indispensable elements of this independent life are a big atelier, with a bathroom; lowbuilt furniture, very comfy; traveling; having visits from her friends, but keeping whole weeks of complete solitude; hear good music; reading; sports.

'And the cash for all this, Juliette?'

'I have my dot. I will get enough extra for what I need by translating English books like (here there was the name of a friend) or going into hospital to nurse like (the name of another friend).'

'And what about love?'

Juliette sent me 'out for a walk' (she really has no respect for me). But she never does consent to talk seriously and sincerely on that subject anyhow. All you can get out of her is 'I should worry' (*Je m'en fiche*), which is either an admission of failure or else pure bluff. My own opinion is that she is very likely to think seriously of love, that she is rather afraid of it, that she would rather not think of it, because she sees in it a *limitation* of her independence and a definite defeat in the warfare of the sexes. — Marcel Prevost, in "Figaro."

THE SCARF-SWATHED HAT FOR TRAVELING AND THE FEATHER-FRINGED HELMET ARE VARIANTS OF THE CLOCHE

PROGRESS IN THE EAST

How the Wind Blows.

A straw shows which way the wind blows; and that the custom of separating the sexes by curtains in the public trams in Turkey has just been abolished is worth reflecting on. In Egypt, too, things are moving rapidly. The Egyptian Women's Union has succeeded in its efforts to raise the marriage age for girls, and in future marriages of boys under eighteen and of girls under sixteen years of age will be illegal. Quite recently also the Order of the Nile was conferred for the first time on a woman—Mlle. Nabauia Moussa, director of the "College for the Progress of the Egyptian Girl" and Inspector of Government girls' schools. But, of all the Eastern countries, it is India which continues to lead the way at an amazing rate. In that land of magic, as we all know, it is quite a simple matter to produce a full-grown tree at a moment's notice, or to lay at your feet an object that may be hundreds of miles away before you have hardly expressed a wish for it. And the growth of the women's movement, though in no way occult, has some of the same surprising features about it!

Indian Women at the Poll.

Could the author of Lalla Rookh have paid a visit to India a month or two ago he would surely have rubbed his eyes! The seclusion of the Indian woman so fired his imagination that he painted it in the most poetic imagery, and incidentally produced a picture of a country he had never seen, which, according to the authorities, was correct in every detail. And now—those lovely, shy, mysterious creatures voting! Veils discarded, purdah broken, going openly to the polling booths—the same polling booths for women and men! It may be remembered that the Government of India Act, though it gave the vote only to men, contained a permissive clause allowing the various Legislative Councils to enfranchize their women if they chose to do so. So far Madras Presidency, Bombay Presidency, and the United Provinces—representing altogether a population of over a hundred million people—are the only three Councils which have availed themselves of the right, but doubtless the others will soon come into line. It is only about three years since the Act was passed, and it is notable that the women have been given the vote on the same terms as men: there are no restrictions in regard to age or occupation. At present the Councils cannot give women the right to sit in Parliament.

The Nursing Profession.

And how did the women avail themselves of their privilege? It would not have been surprising if the "veiled woman of the East" had taken some little time to grow accustomed to rubbing shoulders with strange men in a public polling booth. On the contrary, however, they regarded the exercise of their right as a "patriotic duty," and in some places 75 per cent. of the women voted. The Women's Indian Association had naturally not neglected to encourage and stimulate the women's interest in the duties of citizenship, and on voting day were at the various polling stations acting as unofficial helpers. This is the first time the Indian women have voted for Parliament, though they have had the municipal vote for many years. India is indeed forging ahead in all sorts of ways. The nursing profession is now receiving a good deal of attention. A bill which will ensure good status and adequate pay for nurses is being introduced in Madras on the lines of an excellent Act which is already in force in Burma, and high-caste ladies are being trained as nurses at the Dufferin Hospital, Calcutta.

—"Glasgow Herald."

HOME HUMOURS

Not Guilty.

Mrs. Parker: "Have you taken a constitutional, granny?"

Granny (who has a confirmed habit of appropriating other people's property): "You mind your own business. I haven't taken anything belonging to you."

Shocking!

Jean: "Look, I've just smuggled this bottle of eau-de-cologne over from France."

George: "What a shocking sense of duty you seem to have!"

Sold.

Jones (pointing to architectual atrocity): "Look, dear; I bought this little cottage with the money my uncle left me."

His fiancee: "I see. Sold your birthright for a mess of cottage."

Quite Useless.

Jim: "I say, if I kissed you, would you give it away to your father?"

Phoebe: "Why, of course not. What do you think he wants with your kisses?"

Too Wise!

"I say, old chap, lend me your umbrella for a few minutes!"

"Not much! That's how I got it."

No Hope for Her.

Maiden Aunt: "No, I wouldn't marry the best man living, Mollie."

Niece: "Well, auntie, I expect he's married already."

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

Per A.O.L.S. Pre. McKinley..May 13
Per M.M.S. Amboise .. .. .. „ 15
Per N.Y.K.S. Yokohama Maru „ 16
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Russia „ 16
Per P. & O. S. Sicila .. .. „ 17
Per T.K.K.S. Tenyo Maru .. „ 18

OUTWARD

For Marseilles, London, etc.—
Per P. & O. S. Plassy .....May 13
Per B.F.S. Patroclus .. .. „ 14
Per H.A.L.S. Havelland .... „ 14
Per M.M.S. Paul Lecat .... „ 15
Per N.Y.K.S. Atsuta Maru.. „ 17

For Japan, Canada, U.S.A. & Europe:—
Per P.M.S. Pre. Cleveland ..May 10
Per R.M.S. Empress of Asia „ 11
Per N.Y.K.S. Shidzuoka Maru „ 18
Per A.O.L.S. Pre. Madison.. „ 19
Per P.M.S. President Pierce „ 24
Per T.K.K.S. Taiyo Maru .. „ 25
Per A.O.L.S. Pre. McKinley „ 31
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Russia „ 31

For Manila, Australia and New Zealand via Hongkong:—
Per P. & O. S. Plassy .....May 13
Per B.F.S. Patroclus ..... „ 14
Per A.O.L.S. Pre. McKinley.. „ 14

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per str. Suiwo, May 3. From River Ports. Mrs. Bowker and three children, Miss Lowe, Mrs. Cier, Mr. T. Patrick.

Per str. Fausang, May 3. From Swatow. Mr. and Mrs. W. Bewick, and two children, Mr. A. R. Burte, Miss Canda, Mrs. MacDonald, Mr. M. Kruse.

Per str. Tatung, May 3. From River Ports. Rev. and Mrs. W. Small and four children, Mrs. Crutcher and five children, Messrs. Gildhart, Kaleb.

Per str. Ngankin, May 4. From River Ports. Mr. H. P. Lewis.

Per str. Loongwo, May 4. From River Ports. Mrs. Wall, Mr. A. A. Hersehler, Mr. Robertson, Mr. P. S. Widdup, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. R. E. Orem, Mrs. Train and child, Mrs. A. H. Cummings, Mrs. S. V. Deal, Mr. and Mrs. Emerson, Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Benedict.

Per str. Kwanglee, May 5. From Hongkong. Mrs. Dallas.

Per str. Kiangteen, May 5. From River Ports. Mr. Zeit.

Per B.F.S. Patroclus, May 5. From Dairen. Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Warren, Miss E. D. Warren, Miss Bacon, Mr. W. C. Bond.

Per str. Woosung, May 5. From River Ports. Mrs. Duff, Mr. Moore, Mr. Y. Ross Young, Mr. Bordelogone.

Per str. Shuntieu, May 5. From Tientsin. Dr. and Mrs. Moore. From Chefoo. Mrs. L. E. Brown, Dr. Gauntlett. From Weihaiwei. Mr. and Mrs. Wheen, Mrs. J. Oswald and child.

Per str. Patriot, May 5. From Chinwangtao. Mrs. A. Haas.

Per str. Kanchow, May 6. From Tsingtao. Captain Pritchard, Captain Simpson, Mr. Dryden, Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Elridge.

Per str. Haean, May 6. From Foochow. Miss E. T. Hooper, Dr. Fleischer, Mr. T. A. Akmadieff.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, May 6. From Ningpo. Mrs. G. E. Metcalfe, Mrs. Dowling, Mrs. E. Cruz, Dr. E. Suggs.

Per str. Kingsing, May 6. From Tientsin. Mr. W. W. Tallirs, Mr. Mothersills.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 7. From Ningpo. Mr. Hanson, Mr. Bakerman, Mr. Crawford.

Per str. Tungchow, May 7. From Tientsin. Mrs. L. Coltman, Mr. D. C. Haste, Admiral Sir James Starten, Mrs. Sugden, Rev. R. C. Burnett, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Claridge, Mr. H. Anderson, Mr. Minuelett, Mr. Moody.

Per str. Luenho, May 7. From River Ports. Mrs. Storrs.

Per str. Soochow, May 8. From Tsingtao. Mr. Longfellow.

Per str. Kungwo, May 8. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Launing, Mr. and Mrs. F. Lowell, Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Deebs, Lt. and Mrs. Gibbs, Mrs. Simpson and child, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. J. H. W. Haustoun, Mrs. Abercombie, Mr. E. Arnold, Mr. Pollock, Miss E. G. Jones, Mr. Robjohn, Mr. W. P. Coltman, Mr. MacDonald.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Ningpo, May 2.—For Newchwang—Mr. Manwaring.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 2.—For Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Teesdale, Mr. and Mrs. H. Martin Little and child, Mr. Stol.

Per str. Luenyi, May 2.—For River Ports—Mr. T. E. Moss, Sir Skinner and Lady Turner, Miss Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Luff.

Per str. Fengtien, May 2.—For Tientsin—Mr. F. H. Pickwick, Mr. Adair, Mr. and Mrs. Mancini, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Glass, Miss C. G. Norman. For Chefoo—Mr. W. Champney. For Weihaiwei—Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, child and nurse.

Per str. Whangpu, May 3.—For River Ports—Lieut. Paponnet.

Per str. Chinkiang, May 3.—For River Ports—Mr. J. D. McArthur.

Per str. Soochow, May 3.—For Tsingtao—Mr. and Mrs. Rober, Mr. and Mrs. B. Anderton, Mr. W. P. Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Gilson, Mr. J. A. Thomas.

Per str. Linan, May 4.—For Amoy—Mr. J. M. Elliott. For Hongkong—Mr. W. J. Stokes.

Per str. Tatung, May 5.—For River Ports.—Mrs. H. F. Melchers, Mr. H. F. Melchers, Mr. H. Meyer.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 5.—For Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Imrie, Mrs. Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. D. Gustafson and three children, Mr. J. E. Shoemaker.

Per str. Kanchow, May 6.—For Swatow. Mrs. Wagner.

Per str. Kanchow, May 6.—For Swatow. Mr. Thomas. For Hongkong.—Mr. [illegible] Mrs. S. Mackenzie, Mr. Dreyer.

Per str. Hupeh, May, 7.—For Hongkong.—Mr. J. Young, Mr. Low.

Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Grant, May 7.—For Kobe.—Mr. R. F. Moss, Mr. and Mrs. A. Charlton, Mr. G. Noel, Mr. McIntyre, Mr. G. F. Tobler, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Cole, Mr. H. B. Hammond. Mr. Silage. For Yokohama.—Mr. H. C. Burnell, Mrs. A. Jennings, Master P. Jennings, Dr. J. B. Grant. For Seattle.—Mrs. A. Chapman, Miss R. J. Watson, Master B. Watson, Mrs. F. T. Watson, Dr. C. A. Powell, Miss M. F. Powell, Rev. A. J. Barter, Miss B. Barter, Miss K. R. Barter, Mrs. J. G. Shipley, Mrs. E. Whisenhunt, Miss M. L. Barter, Master W. Sanders, Mr. R. Knight, Mr. C. Denby, Mr. F. Brenner, Mr. F. H. Vises, Mr. A. F. Gifford, Mr. J. E. Gold, Mr. L. Husar. Mrs. H. B. Henley, Mrs. H. A. Cheiton, Mr. A. Glemby, Mrs. W. Wright, Mr. J. Krisel, Mr. S. Allen, Miss Tiduarch, Mr. E. W. Miller, Mr. W. Tauv, Master W. Tauv, Jr., Mrs. H. B. Emerson, Miss E. Watson, Mr. W. W. Watson, Dr. F. T. Watson, Miss M. Watson, Mrs. E. C. Powell, Miss D. E. Powell, Mrs. A. J. Barter. Miss E. R. Barter, Master L. R. D. Barter, Mr. E. Whisenhunt, Miss M. E. Barter, Mrs. W. Sadders, Mrs. F. R. Myers, Mrs. R. Knight, Mrs. A. Munger, Mr. J. Brenner, Mrs. L. J. Vines, Mrs. F. H. Vines, Mrs. A. F. Gifford, Mr. L. Kampf, Mr. J. A. Henley, Mrs. F. F. B. Coer, Mr. A. S. Gold, Mr. A. S. Celmby, Miss Wright. Mr. J. R. Farley, Miss Moody, Mrs. B. Henze, Mrs. E. W. Miller, Mrs. W. Tauv, Mr. P. H. McKey, Mr. Tewkesbury.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 7.—For Ningpo.—Mr. Handley Derry.

Per str. Shantung, May 7.—For Swatow.—Mrs. C. E. Meyer and child. For Hongkong.—Mr. Hoyer.

Per str. Woosung, May 7.—For Hankow.—Mr. Emerson, Mr. R. L. Sergeant, Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Grant, Mr. H. P. McCormick.

Per M.M.S. Chambord, May 8.—For Marseilles.—Messrs. B. Giraud, J. Veroudart, A. Tulasne, Mr. and Mrs. H. Estratat, Miss R. Estratat, Sisters Angele, Marguerite and Catherine, Mr. and Mrs. A. Castanier, Mrs. T. J. Dunne, Mr. and Mrs. Cabrac, Messrs. M. R. Sullivan, J. Francou, N. Ostroumoff, Mr. and Mrs. J. Reidle and child, Messrs. B. St. Gaudens, C. Ruas, M. Liber, Foricher, Forgeat, Leaute, Chevereau, Revel, Jewel, Perni, Bullard, Castain, Pommier, E. Collet, D. Godau, P. Caudan, Y. Quemper, L. Oliver, B. le Fee, A. Uzenat, L. Devaux, L. Fortune, J. Peytaie, M. Hannan, M. Bruderlein, J. Repert, L. Poulet, M. Choriol, F. Royer, Mr. and Mrs. d'Allessio, Misses A. and P. d'Allessio. For Port Said.—Mrs. R. Pfeifer. For Singapore.—Messrs. H. H. Jenkins, A. A. Adler, J. A. Carlson. For Saigon.—Mr. and Mrs. Lebourg and child, Mr. and Mrs. Brossard, Messrs. L. Bataille, J. Audient, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Dailey, Miss Martenengo. For Hongkong.—Messrs. M. J. Johnson, C. Baboud, S. J. Goldsack, Mrs. A. Aisup, Misses C. A. Ochksloff and S. Blaubreek.

Per str. Yingchow, May 9.—For Amoy.—Mrs. F. J. Siegfrids, Captain B. A. Thomson.

Per str. Wuchang, May 9.—For River Ports.—Mr. C. E. Fleury.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 9.—For Ningpo.—Mr. J. R. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Moule, Miss Davies, Mr. A. W. Moloney, Dr. Brown, Dr. Appleton, Mr. Gaunt, Miss Morris, Mrs. Handley Derry.

Per str. Tungchow, May 9.—For Tientsin.—Mr. R. Deloye, Mr. J. W. O. Davidson, Mrs. Davidson, Mr. H. de Roo, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bucan. For Chefoo.—Mr. W. H. Crafter. For Weihaiwei.—Mrs. V. O. Padwick, Miss Shaw, Mrs. A. E. Shaw.

Per str. Soochow, May 10.—For Hongkong.—Mr. H. G. Burns, Mr. O. Boulton. For Swatow.—Mr. S. Alberto, Miss Razomskaya.

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BIRTHS

DAVIS.—On Monday, May 5, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. James P. Davis, a son (Theodore).

ENSOR.—On April 3, 1924, at Bedford, the wife of E. N. Ensor, Chinese Customs, of a daughter.

RICE.—On May 1, 1924, at Tsingtao, the wife of C. R. Rice, a daughter.

TAYLOR.—On May 7, 1924, at Maternity, St. Marie's Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Taylor, a daughter (Betsy Doris).

WEMYSS.—On May 4, 1924, at St. Mary's Hospital, Shanghai, to Millicent (née O'Brien-Butler), wife of G. A. F. Wemyss, a daughter.

MARRIAGE

ROGERS—LAURITSEN.—On May 3, 1924, at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Harry Rogers, Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., Ltd., to Anna J. Lauritsen, daughter of the late L. P. Lauritsen, Solvang, Humlum, Denmark.

DEATHS

GRANT.—On May 2, 1924, at Sydney, Australia, following on an operation, Constance, third daughter of Mrs. E. Grant, of Edinburgh, and beloved sister of Mrs. J. S. S. Cooper, Shanghai.

HAYES.—On May 4, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, Francis Gray, beloved wife of L. Newton Hayes.

IBSEN-SORENSEN.—On April 28, 1924, on the s.s. "Derfflinger" in the Indian Ocean, Ivar Mogens Ibsen-Sörensen, 17 months old. Buried at sea. (By cable).

SHEPHERD.—On May 7, 1924, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, E. Bruce Shepherd.

SILAS.—On May 4, 1924, at Bombay (by cable), Mabel, beloved youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Silas. Deeply regretted.

IN MEMORIAM

JACKSON.—In affectionate remembrance of Rosalile Adelaide Jackson, who passed away on January 1, 1921, and of her husband, William Sanford Jackson, who died at Shanghai on May 7, 1921.

WILSON.—In memory of Lieut. Charles Wilson, Gordon Hds., (late Finance Dept., S.M.C.). Killed at dawn on May 7, 1917, in France.

In memory of

WILLIAM SANFORD JACKSON

who died on May 7, 1921.

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SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month		Barometer 9 A.M.	Att'ed Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
May	2	29.84	64.6	N E	2	57.9	57.7	60.5	57.4	O. C. D. R.
,,	3	29.88	63.8	E N E	2	58.5	57.7	61.7	55.2	O. C. D. R.
,,	4	29.83	63.7	E N E	1	61.4	60.5	66.8	57.0	O. D. R.
,,	5	29.89	63.5	N E	2	57.0	55.9	61.7	56.3	O. D. R.
,,	6	29.93	63.0	E N E	2	59.5	58.8	63.7	56.1	O.
,,	7	29.75	63.7	S S E	1	64.2	64.0	75.9	60.4	O. D. R.
,,	8	29.85	65.0	N W	1	60.4	64.6	71.1	64.0	O. M.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T [illegible]
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date		Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Rainfall Inches 1923
May	2	57.0	56.8	61.0	67.8	0.68	Trace
,,	3	55.8	54.8	60.0	67.0	0.11	Nil.
,,	4	58.0	52.0	63.8	69.0	0.22	Nil
,,	5	56.4	52.0	61.0	61.2	0.15	0.36
,,	6	58.4	57.0	62.4	74.2	0.10	0.10
,,	7	58.4	54.2	72.4	69.0	1.09	Nil.
,,	8	59.4	55.6	70.0	80.4	0.09	Nil.

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THE GALLIC VICAR OF BRAY

It is not considered that the defeat of M. Poincaré will make any difference to French policy in the Ruhr—Daily Press.

DR. W. W. YEN'S DEMAND FOR THE SURTAX

Further Explanation of Recent Finance Commission's Inquiry: Land Tax a Provincial Perquisite: More Information Promised About Provinces

Peking, May 7.

Seeing that the preliminary report of the Commission for the Readjustment of Finance recently submitted by Dr. W. W. Yen to the President has attracted widespread attention, and received extensive comments from the Press, Reuter's representative called on Dr. Yen with the object of securing some direct expressions of opinion from the head of the important Commission.

Dr. Yen was first asked why, in making out the estimated income of the Central Government, no account was taken of such items such as the Land Tax, which was estimated to yield about $90,000,000, per annum.

To this Dr. Yen replied that according to Article 25 of the new Constitution the Land Tax is expressly reserved to the provinces. Since the line of demarcation between the sources of revenue for the Central Government and the Provinces is now clearly made, the estimated future income of the Central Government cannot very well include the Land Tax.

Provincial Revenues

Touching then upon the question of why the recent report should confine itself to the investigation of the receipts and expenditures of the Central Government only, leaving the problem of provincial finance entirely out of consideration, Dr. Yen explained that the said report was only a preliminary one, not at all intended to be complete or final, and that, in one of his earlier interviews, he had remarked that one of the encouraging features of the work of the Commission was that some of the so-called independent provinces were already responding to the inquiries of the Commission in its efforts to collect statistical information concerning provincial government receipts and expenditure. Fifteen provinces and Administrative Areas have already supplied this Commission with the desired information which will be made public in a later report.

On the question of provincial remittance, Dr. Yen remarked that what is due under the new Constitution to the Central Government must, of course, be remitted to support it. It was astonishing that some people should feel that under present circumstances there appeared to be no reason why the provinces should remit money to Peking. While a strong Central Government might not be the panacea for all the evils now existing in China, yet it was certainly one of the most important stabilizing influences and a fundamental prerequisite to a united prosperous China, which it was to the interest of the foreigners as well as of the Chinese themselves to see established as soon as possible.

The Customs Surtax

Turning to the question of the Customs Tariff Conference, Dr. Yen said that if China's creditors and friends expected China to fulfil the obligations which the Central Government was called upon to undertake, they must see to it that no unnecessary embarrassment was imposed upon the Government and no obstructions placed in the path of her legitimate aspirations. The holding of a special Customs Conference and the granting of the two and a half per cent. surtax in accordance with the Washington Tariff Treaty, was simply the fulfilment of a promise which, in fairness and justice, to say nothing of friendship, should have been carried out long ago. The proceeds so realized would largely be pledged to the service of China's inadequately secured loan obligations. To say that such a grant would be tantamount to a political loan to the present Government was entirely erroneous.

Dr. Yen concluded the interview with the statement that the question of the abolition of likin and that of the budget were also engaging the attention of the Commission and that the work would be pushed forward as rapidly as circumstances permit.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINA TO HAVE A MINISTER IN CHILE

Peking, May 10.

The Government have decided to raise the status of their diplomatic representative in Chile from that of Chargé d'Affaires to that of Minister. Mr. Chang Chien, Jr., who was at the head of the Chinese Industrial Mission during its recent tour, has been appointed the first Minister to Chile.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

AMERICA AND BOXER INDEMNITY

China's Gratification for Proposed Remission of Further Payments: Previous Suspensions

RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE SENATE

Peking, May 9.

Chinese Government officials express gratification at the action of the American House of Representatives in passing the resolution in favour of relieving China of further payments of the American share of the Boxer Indemnity. It is pointed out, however, that the resolution has yet to go before the Senate. The resolution in question is identical with one brought forward on July, 20, 1921, which passed one House and then died owing to failure to pass the other. The original resolution provided: That the President be hereby authorized in his discretion to remit to the Chinese Government as an act of friendship any or all further payments of the annual instalments of the Chinese Indemnity due under the bond for $24,440,778.81 received from the Chinese Government pursuant to the Protocol of September 7, 1901, as modified by executive order on December 28, 1908, pursuant to the authority of the joint resolution of Congress approved on May 25, 1908, for indemnity against losses and expenses incurred by reason of the so-called Boxer disturbances in China during the year 1900, such remission to begin as from 1917 and to be at such times and in such manner as the President shall deem just. As stated before, this measure failed to pass both Houses and is reintroduced in the present Congress.

The year 1917 was quoted in this resolution as suspension of payments to the Allies began in that year. Thus when the resolution was introduced the five years suspension had not ended. The resolution, therefore, must have been altered in that respect by being brought up to date. Remission such as the resolution calls for would not affect arrangements made in 1908, regarding Tsinghua College for instance. The actual remission would represent about 50 per cent. of the total indebtedness to the United States.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

"Peking need not be so jubilant, after all, and the military leaders should be less happy at the prospect of having the American share of the Boxer indemnity remitted, for a telegram has just come from Dr. Alfred Sze, the Minister to Washington, stating that the money is being remitted on condition that is devoted to educational uses, states the "Eastern Times."—Ed.

Washington, May 12.

The Senate, without debate, today passed the resolution relieving China of further payments in respect of the Boxer Indemnity.—Reuter's American Service.

BRITAIN AND THE BOXER INDEMNITY

Allocation for Education Purposes

London, May 12.

In the House of Commons at question time to-day, Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said that the details in connexion with the allocation of the unpaid balance of the Boxer Indemnity for purposes of education had been settled. A bill would be introduced at an early date to that effect.—Reuter.

PEKING, May 11.—The Chinese Government has received an invitation to participate in the furthcoming Conference on Art to be held in San Francisco. Countries bordering on the Pacific are invited to take part.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINA'S DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

Peculiar Way in Which Posts Are Filled: Perquisites and Patronage for Whom?

Yo Chao-cheuh, a confidant of Marshal Wu Pei-fu, has just been appointed Minister to Mexico, and Chang Hsiao-jao (Chang Chien, Jr.), upon the recommendation of Marshal Chi Hsieh-yuan, has been approved by the Government as Minister-designate to Chile. Thus, both Loyang and Nanking have scored, and nothing could beat this happy and fair apportionment of posts. However, the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" has five doubtful points upon which it would dilate:—

(1) Are the duties of our Minister in Chile light and simple, or are they difficult and strenuous? Dr. Wellington Koo, at the last Cabinet meeting, explained that "Although Mr. Chang has not gained much experience, he will happily find the duties at our Legation in Chile light and simple, etc." If so, why should the post of a Chargé d'Affaires there be raised to the rank of a Minister? Should our Legation in Chile be used as a training depot for diplomats? Is the Sino-Chilean relationship such that its maintenance can safely be entrusted to an inexperienced diplomat for the purpose of experiment?

What about Mexico?

(2) Since a new Minister has been appointed for Mexico, how are we to deal with Mr. Wang Chi-tsen who has just resigned the chief secretaryship of the Cabinet? If Wang has done nothing wrong, he should be sent back to his post in Mexico; and if he has, he should be relieved of his substantive appointment as Minister to Mexico. In the latter case, he would rightly be deprived of both posts. For what earthly reason then is he still being retained by the Government as an "Expectant Minister" at a salary of $500 a month?

(3) No Minister has been stationed in Mexico for a long time. How is it that during the time of a revolution when Chinese emigrants in Mexico were in imminent danger of losing their lives and were hoping to secure some protection from their Government as eagerly as can well be imagined, our Government withheld its compassion? How is it that when Obregon has restored normal order and consolidated his own position in Mexico, a Minister was immediately appointed to that country?

Germany and Japan

(4) We, as people outside the diplomatic circles, may be ignorant of all the circumstances that demand the appointment of ministers to Chile and Mexico; yet we, as persons endowed with a little commonsense, think that Sino-German relations appear to be far more important than Sino-Chilian relations. Why is Mr. Wei Tsen-tsu tarrying in Peking, while he has neither resigned nor obtained leave of absence, without showing any desire to return to his post? Why is he even being offered the Presidentship of a certain university at home?

As a dozen or more outstanding questions are waiting to be settled between China and Japan, and as Chinese students and merchants in Japan need the protection of their Minister, why has Mr. Wang Yung-pao suddenly returned home? Report has it that Mr. Wang wants to persuade the Government to excuse him from performing the duty of controlling students in Japan, which duty, he submits, should be exercised by an independent official, and that Wang would resign if his request were not granted. Be that as it may, the Government should settle the matter by either granting him his request, or by accepting his resignation. These are questions certainly more important than any pertaining to Chile or Mexico.

London Neglected.

(5) The Waichiaopu, whose duty it is to control all officials in China's diplomatic service, should see to it that all vacancies be filled as soon as they occur. Now, we keep only a Chargé d'Affaires in London to look after our interests, in spite of an important change of government having taken place in Great Britain. When will our Minister for Great Britain return to the Court of St. James, nobody can say. If he cannot return to his post in England, either a successor should be appointed, or Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, our Chargé d'Affaires, be promoted full Minister at once. Our Foreign Minister should certainly not appear to pay special attention to matters in America to the neglect of those in Europe.

RENDITION OF MIXED COURT

Chinese Government's Reply to Diplomatic Body: An Urgent Matter

Peking, May 12.

Replying to the Note of the Diplomatic Body regarding the rendition of the Mixed Court at Shanghai, the Chinese Government agrees to three conditions: firstly, that satisfactory arrangement be made to meet the expenses of the Court; secondly, that the decisions of the Court be executed throughout the Republic; thirdly, giving assurance that the arrangements between the Diplomatic Body and the Chinese Government shall be duly executed by the local authorities.

As regards the other questions brought up in the Note of the Diplomatic Body, such as the improvement of the port of Shanghai, extension of the Settlement boundaries, etc., the Chinese reply says that, while these do not have a direct bearing on the subject of the Mixed Court, the Government is willing to prepare for negotiations, provided these questions beneficially affect both foreigners and Chinese. The Chinese Government considers the rendition of the Mixed Court an urgent matter.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING GOVERNMENT AND C. E. RAILWAY

Warning Notes from America and France Regarding Foreign Interests

Peking, May 12.

The American Legation sent a Note to the Waichiaopu on May 3 drawing the attention of the Chinese Government to Resolution 13 of the Washington Treaty, in which the Powers reserve the right to insist on China's responsibility for the performance or non-performance of obligations towards foreign stockholders, bondholders and creditors of the Chinese Eastern Railway, which, the Powers deem, result from the contracts under which the Railway was built. The Note pointed out that the United States stands for the preservation of the legitimate interests in the Chinese Eastern Railway of nationals of all countries, including Russians, and clearly emphasized that there was no intention to interfere in the Sino-Russian negotiations. China is warned against entering into any unilateral agreement which would invalidate foreign interests.

The French Legation sent a similar Note to the Waichiaopu on May 7.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PANCHAN LAMA'S VISIT TO PEKING

Peking, May 10.

It is semi-officially reported that the Panchan Lama is still staying at the Anhai Hsien and has not yet started for Lanchow, the provincial capital of Kansu. The Government has not yet received any definite information as to the date of the Panchan's departure for Lanchow, but, as the distance from the Anhai Hsien is about 800 li, it is estimated that it will take him at least two months to complete the journey from Anhai to Peking. Mr. Ta Shou, the head of the committee recently appointed to make arrangements for the reception of the Panchan Lama, has been in touch with the Department of Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs on the subject, and it is understood that the only outstanding problem now is the question of raising the necessary funds.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 12.

Chinese telegrams report that the Panchan Lama has arrived at Suchow, 500 li from Lanchowfu. Gen. Ma Chi, Military Commissioner of Ninghsia and Kokonor, has sent a strong detachment of troops to act as a bodyguard for the Lama during his travels in China.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MARCONI AGENT'S CLAIM

Judgment Against Plaintiff: Case for Commission Not Proved

Judgment was delivered in this case in which plaintiff claimed commission of 5 per cent. on business done by defendants under three contracts with the Chinse Government. Defendants denied that he was entitled to any commission on the loans which, in addition to supplying wireless apparatus, they advanced to the Chinese Government. Plaintiff, Mr. James Aratoon Malcolm, of 47, Victoria-street, Westminster, sued under an agreement dated July 19, 1915, which constituted himself and Mr. E. F. Birchal (now dead) sole agents for the defendant company in China.

Mr. W. Craig Henderson, K.C., and Mr. H. G. Purchase (instructed by Messrs. Faithfull, Owen, and Fraser) represented plaintiff. Mr. W. A. Jowitt, K.C., Mr. D. B. Somervell, and Mr. Dennys Isaacs (instructed by Messrs. Coward and Hawksley, Sons, and Chance) were for defendants.

Mr. Justice Action said the questions for decision were (1) the true construction of the agreement, and (2) its application to three contracts entered into by the defendants with the Chinese Government. In his lordship's view the true construction of the letters which formed the agreement was that defendants were to be liable to pay 5 per cent. commission on all orders obtained by defendants from the Chinese Government during the continuance of the joint agency of the plaintiff and Mr. Birchal, such commission to be payable when the defendants received payment from the Chinese Government. He thought the defendants were right in saying that this commission was limited to orders obtained, as distinguished from loans made by them to the Chinese Government in order to secure those orders. Consequently, plaintiff's claim for £30,000 as 5 per cent. commission on a loan of £600,000 under the first contract could not be sustained. There remained the question of the commission payable on the order obtained, the total purchase price of which, under the first contract, was £300,000. Commission at 5 per cent. had been paid on £220,000—an amount of £11,000—but plaintiff contended that he was entitled to £4,000 more as 5 per cent. on the balance of £80,000. Defendants replied (1) that a rebate was made on the price stated in the contract very largely reducing the net purchase price as between them and the Chinese Government; and (2) that in fact defendants had never been paid more than £220,000 for the goods supplied. It was generally agreed that business of this kind with the Chinese Government was impracticable unless the sellers were prepared to sacrifice considerable sums over and above what would otherwise have been the commercial selling price of their goods. In the present case no less than £80,000 went to Chinese officials on behalf of their Government, as a "rebate." How far the officials benefited personally was not known, and probably could not be known. He thought, however, that defendants were entitled to say that although, *prima facie*, their liability to pay commission would have extended to the whole of the £300,000 as the expressed contract the price of their goods, inasmuch as the "rebate" proportionately reduced the amount actually paid by the Chinese Government, the plaintiff's claim for 5 per cent. on £80,000 must fail. He thought the result might have been otherwise had the price remained at £300,000 as between the Chinese Government and the defendants.

Under the second contract there was an agreement to erect three wireless stations for £66,000 and an advance in cash of £134,000. From what he had said it followed that plaintiff's claim for commission on the £134,000 could not be sustained. As to the £66,000, it had never been disputed that commission at 5 per cent. was due to plaintiff, and would be paid him when the Chinese Government paid the defendants. The third contract concerned the formation of the Chinese National Company, and under it plaintiff claimed (1) perpetual commission on all business done between the National Company and the Chinese Government; (2) commission on £100,000 advanced to that Government; (3) damages for breach of contract, the alleged breach being the actual formation of the National Company. Plaintiff had abandoned his first claim; the second was disposed of by his lordship's construction of the original agreement; and the third failed, because the evidence did not support it. In the result, subject only to the admitted contingent liability in respect of the £66,000 under the second contract, his lordship gave judgment for the defendant company with costs.

CHINA'S NEGOTIATIONS WITH GERMANY

The Premier's Announcement of Forthcoming Interchange of Obligations.

Peking, May 11.

The House of Representatives summoned the Prime Minister, Mr. Sun Pao-chi, yesterday, asking for a statement regarding the Sino-German negotiations. The Premier informed the house that the results promised to be greatly to the advantage of China, therein differing from the arrangement to pay the French indemnity in gold francs, which Parliament voted in 1923, but the discussions had not reached a stage where they could be submitted to Parliament.

It is understood that the negotiatoins, which were carried on very secretly between German bankers and the Ministry of Finance, provide for the release of the reserve in London against German-drawn bonds and coupons of the Organization Loan amounting to approximately $15,000,000, which will be paid to China in cash by instalments. Germany will be responsible for the payment of outstanding German bonds and coupons of the Reorganization Loan and also the Tientsin-Pukow and Hukuang loans, which will be revaldated, the obligations on which have been piling up since August, 1917. Germany's *quid pro quo* consists of the rehabilitation of the Deutsche-Asiatische Bank.

There is reason to believe that the arrangement has been submitted to Berlin and that if approved there it will be formally taken up by the German Legation and the Waichiaopu.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

POSTHUMOUS HONOURS FOR LATE KIRIN TUCHUN

Peking, May 7.

An order issued last night in honour of the late General Sun Lieh-chun says: General Sun Lieh-chun, Tuchun of Kirin, served as a military officer for many years. As a Provincial Officer he performed meritorious services. The Government felt great regret at the news of his death, and it now orders the National History Bureau to record his official career. The sum of $3,000 is donated to the family of the late Tuchun to cover funeral expenses. Dr. Wang Ching-chun (C. C. Wang) President of the Chinese Eastern Railway, is ordered to make sacrifices before the body. The Ministry of War is instructed to consider and recommend what posthumous honours should be conferred upon General Sun.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE WARFARE IN SZECHUAN

Enrolment of Szechuanese in Northern Forces

Peking, May 11.

Gen. Liu Hsiang, Tupan of Rehabilitation in Szechuan, has sent a delegate to Peking to urge the promulgation of the appointments of Tuli and Civil Governor of Szechuan, which was passed some time ago by the Cabinet but never announced by mandate. Gen. Liu Hsiang recommends that measures should be taken to suppress the followers of Gen. Hsiong Keh-wu and Gen. Tan Mou-hsin. He says that the followers of Gen. Liu Changhsun, who were driven out of Chengtu and have since remained in the vicinity of the Provincial Capital, are willing to be enrolled with the Northern forces and he recommends that this should be done.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TRADEMARK LAW AGAIN

British Chamber and China Assn. Unitedly Opposed to Registration

The British Chamber of Commerce Journal, issued [illegible] says:

At a joint meeting of the General and Trademark Committees of the Shanghai Chamber and the Committee of the China Association, held on the 8th instant to discuss the trademark [illegible] it was unanimously decided to continue the policy of non-registration. This decision was taken after a long discussion of the latest information from Peking and was conveyed to members on the following morning, a cable to the same effect being despatched to the Manchester Chamber. The meeting was unanimously of the opinion that our position will ultimately be far stronger if we base it on treaty rights than if we seek to improve it by registering in accordance with a law which has been officially rejected because it conflicts with those rights. In the Diplomatic Body's last Note to the Chinese Government, it is clearly stated that whether marks are registered or not any complaints in regard to trademark rights will have to be dealt with strictly in accordance with the existing treaty procedure. The meeting considered that much the best policy is to rely on this.

Fees for registering marks at the new Bureau are very heavy, some of them four times as high as those chargeable in the United Kingdom or Hongkong, while the administration of the Bureau as at present constituted makes it more than doubtful whether registration will have any eventual value whatever. As shown in the last issue, the Bureau has accepted marks in contravention of its own regulations and without regard to their similarity to other marks. Moreover, as the Diplomatic Body have declared that they do not recognize the new Chinese law and that marks are to be protected whether registered or not, nothing is to be gained by going to all the trouble and expense of registering. If the fact of registration is not to be regarded as strengthening the position of marks that infringe British marks, it follows that the registration of British marks cannot strengthen their position as against marks that are non-British. For all these reasons members of this Association are advised not to register. Each trademark owner must, of course, decide for himself whether to take this advice or not. It is, however, advice which has been very carefully considered, and the hope may be expressed that, in the general interest, it will be followed, the general interest being the preservation of Treaty rights, which as was stated at the beginning of these paragraphs, will ultimately be very much stronger if we rely on them alone than if we act in accordance with a law which has been officially rejected because it conflicts with them.

GEN. Li Yuan-hung, the ex-President, in a statement made after his return to Tientsin from Japan, declared that he will never again enter into public life, and is determined to retire for good.

THE "*Shunpao*" states that, in view of opposition from the militarists, Mr. Yang Shu-han, Civil Governor of Kuangtung, has tendered his resignation to Dr. Sun Yat-sen, who is again considering the appointment of his right-hand man, Gen. Hu Han-ming, to the post. Should the Cantonese people object as they have done in the past, Dr. Sun will again appoint Gen. Hsu Shao-ching, a former holder of the post, *pro tem.*

PEKING, May 10.—At to-day's meeting of the Cabinet it was decided to appoint Mr. Yao Chow-yi, formerly First Secretary of the Chinese Legation in Paris, as Chinese Minister to Mexico. The Government has decided to raise the status of its diplomatic representative in Chile from that of Charge d'Affaires to Minister Plenipotentiary. Mr. Chang Chien, Jr., who headed the Chinese Industrial Mission which recently toured Europe, America and Japan, has been appointed as the First Chinese Minister to Chile.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LEADING ARTICLES

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THE BIRTHDAY OF BUDDHA

May 12.

SUNDAY was Buddha's birthday and according to decree of General Ho Feng-ling it was to be celebrated by a prohibition of killing animals for food on that day. This is but one of many indications that there is a revival of interest in the Buddhist faith. Even a casual observer may have noticed of late an increasing number of processions of pilgrims wearing a distinctive badge, a yellow sash or some similar decoration, wending their way to one of the more famous temples in the vicinity of Shanghai. Those excursionists who spent their Easter holidays in Hangchow were impressed with the vast crowds of devotees thronging the streets of Marco Polo's Kinsay, that Mecca of Chinese Buddhists. It is not only the common people who are showing renewed interest in the ancient but borrowed religion. Many prominent scholars in China, apparently weary of the ponderous platitudes of Confucianism with their parrot-like iteration, "the Master said," are turning to the teachings of Gautama and, evidently, finding there a satisfaction denied them in the cold materialism of the Classics.

There has recently come to Shanghai the third fascicule of the French *savant*, Henri Cordier's great work, the *Bibliotheca Sinica*, and each of the three unoccupied pages of the cover contains a full page advertisement of separate books on Buddhist philosophy to be issued shortly by distinguished French scholars. We have also on our table for review an English translation of a book on the "Mahayana Doctrines of Salvation" by a German doctor. Lastly, we note that even missionary writers show much more tenderness in discussing Buddhism than used to be the case. They, too, seem to have discovered something akin to their own belief in the speculations of the Indian Sage. This is not to be wondered at. The eternal unrest of humanity, the riddle of the sphinx, is the same in all ages and in all climes. Man is a restless, insatiable being. All other animals, having their appetites satisfied, are contented. In the heart of man alone deep cries unto deep and he reaches out towards the infinity that always eludes him. It is this unsatisfied craving that religion seeks to meet and, the need being the same, the proposed remedies necessarily bear a certain resemblance to each other.

To refrain from the slaughter of animals seems a fitting commemoration of the birthday of that teacher whose chief characteristic was gentleness. It would be only good for the least religious amongst us to refrain at certain times from animal food and even a smattering of Buddhist philosophy might make us better than we are. To the downright Briton a thing either is or it is not. He is a person of sharp angles and clear cut corners. Contrariwise, Buddha taught that a thing is and it is not. It is not and it is not is not. The Buddhist, therefore, is not a cantankerous positive individual who knows all there is to know about everything knowable and unknowable. It is true he has only hazy ideas about many things that are crystal clear to us, but is this really worse than having crystal clear ideas about many things that are necessarily hazy? Had the inquisitors of ancient days, who put a man on the rack or broke him on the wheel if he was not able to assent to a metaphysical definition of abstract truth, realized that the thing possibly "is not and is not is not," how much suffering would have been averted from humanity! The "cocksureness of the scientist" has become a term of reproach in our days because we are accustomed to have a new truth proclaimed with absolute certainty to-day and contradicted with more certainty next week. A little while ago it was *dulce et decorum* to die gloriously on the field of battle. Now it is realized that an exaggerated nationalism is one of the greatest dangers to civilization that can possibly be imagined. Our idea of a sabbath of rest is to go to church and listen to a closely reasoned discourse on a philosophical subject that we do not understand and return to a Sunday dinner that we cannot digest. The Buddhist sits in an attitude of incogitancy before his patron saint and muses of nothing. He has no nerves and no use for nerves. He does not strain after the truth because he is not sure there is any truth. He does not seek salvation because he is not sure that there is any "he" to save. It is all *Maya*—phantasmagoria. But when famine and pestilence come, though these too are *Maya*, the unbelieving Briton in the offing with his broom and bottle of disinfectant is a useful adjunct in the scheme of things.

DR. W. W. YEN AND THE SURTAX

May 12.

IT needs no great perspicuity to see that the criticisms to which Dr. W. W. Yen replies, in the interview with Reuter's correspondent printed to-day, are those of the "North-China Daily News," nor is it very unlikely that that interview took place at the invitation, not of Reuter, but of the interviewee. It is interesting to hear that "some of the so-called independent provinces are already responding to the inquiries of the Commission in its efforts to obtain statistical information concerning provincial government receipts and expenditure" and we look forward to reading the promised report. But between getting information of this kind and getting the provinces to disgorge there is a wide difference. As regards our comment that there appears no reason why the provinces should, under existing conditions, remit money to Peking, it is not at all astonishing, with due respect to Dr. Yen, that a good many people feel like this. Let us recall a little recent history. Eleven months ago General Li Yuan-hung was terrorized into resigning office and bolted from Peking. *Propter hoc* as well as *post hoc*—though rather longer "*post*" than had been expected—Marshal Tsao Kun succeeded in buying up the members of Parliament. Quite half China does not recognize his Government and anybody who gives it money to maintain itself in power is going to get himself into no small trouble with that half. Furthermore, what has been done once may be done again. To-morrow somebody else may oust President Tsao Kun, set up a new administration and cry that that is the only legal one and must be supported at all costs. We are all for strong centralized government; but it is paltering with terms to use the phrase in connexion with the succession of pitiful shams that we have seen in Peking in recent years.

Dr. Yen's remarks on these points are, however, secondary to his main purpose, which is to back up the intensive campaign which Peking is inaugurating to secure the two-and-a-half per cent. surtax. All the more strenuous will the effort be because this is the very last source of possibly available supply which Peking can see. The Consortium, very properly, will lend nothing. The bagmen have been frightened off by the experience of Nishihara, Marconi, Vickers, Abbott *et al.* So Peking sets itself to obtain what Dr. Yen calls "the fulfilment of a promise which, in fairness and justice, to say nothing of friendship, should have been carried out long ago." Observe the subtlety of the phrase. The Powers promised nothing at Washington that was not clearly accompanied by stipulations. The abolition of likin is an essential condition of the granting of the surtax, the levying of which, it is expressly stated, shall be "from such date, for such purposes and subject to such conditions as (the International Conference) may determine." We apologize for the reiteration of this off-repeated clause. But while Peking ingeniously seeks to spread the idea that the Powers made a blank promise and that they are behaving unfairly in not having fulfilled it, it is most important to remember that they surrounded their undertaking with careful conditions and would be behaving most unwisely if they allowed them to be burked. No good can come of giving either money or money's worth to Peking. To do so would be to excite antagonism all through the provinces, to burden trade for no end of any earthly use and to relieve China of the necessity of living on her own ample resources, which she must, but seek by every means to try not to do.

THE CUSTODY OF THE INSANE

May 13.

NERVOUS break-down, as it is called, is not uncommon among foreigners in the Far East. It occurs most often in Japan, next in North China, then in Central China. Cases of unmistakable insanity are fortunately rare. More numerous are the persons among us who are "peculiar." When we speak of them we touch the forehead significantly to indicate that in our judgment they are "queer," "have a screw loose," "are not all there," and so forth. How to get on with them satisfactorily is often a problem. A few may go from bad to worse and when they return home it may be deemed necessary for their good to send them to an institution. The consideration of this weird subject should induce us to take more than a passing interest in the report we published a few days ago of the law-suit, "Harnett *v.* Bond and Adam," in which the plaintiff, at one time insane, was awarded £25,000 for having been detained in a mental hospital after apparent recovery. An appeal has been taken and probably the case will be carried to the House of Lords. As some of the public comment has been rather sensational and may give false impressions concerning the care of persons of unsound mind in England, and may arouse groundless apprehensions among the nervous, we shall briefly consider two or three of the questions involved.

In the first place, whatever may have been the laxity of procedure in the past, it is extremely doubtful if wholly sane persons are ever certified to be insane nowadays and sent to an asylum. The present procedure is difficult, strict, and hedged about with safeguards. In ordinary cases the petition for a patient's confinement, accompanied by a full statement of all the particulars, must be made to a judicial authority by a relative or friend, who must promise to visit the patient at least once in every six months if the petition is granted. Two physicians, not related to each other or in partnership, must carefully and separately examine the patient and certify to his unsoundness of mind, and any false statement in the certificates is a punishable offence. The judge or magistrate can also examine the patient and usually does so. Of course there is little or no trouble concerning persons who are plainly wrecks. The difficulty lies with those who are very near the border line between sanity and insanity, or who pass to and fro across it. A patient belonging to this class, even when he is on the wrong side of the line, may seem quite sane to the inexperienced; and to the experienced, familiar with his history and therefore inclined to consider seriously speech and conduct which to others may seem of no importance, he may still seem insane even when he is on the right side of the line. Matters are made worse by the inability to frame a satisfactory definition of insanity. During the law-suit we are considering one physician was asked by the judge what made a man a lunatic, and he replied, "Laying undue emphasis on circumstances which in ordinary life would be [illegible] moment." Judged by this standard, how would foreigners with their irritable insistence on order, punctuality, accuracy, scrupulous cleanliness, and similar virtues, stand in the estimation of the Chinese, who care very little for these things and cannot understand the emphasis laid upon them? Would the Chinese not think we are all as mad as March hares? Physicians are compelled to use their independent professional judgment, and if their decision in particular cases leans towards the side of safety it is because of their greater knowledge of the mental and physical infirmities and instability of human nature. When an incorrect judgment is made, it is never intentional. In these days the possibility of committal to unnecessary confinement is extremely unlikely. The plaintiff in the case mentioned was admittedly insane when first placed in confinement.

The next point is even more difficult. A medical certificate is only valid as long as the patient remains in the same condition. If he so improves that it is safe for him to be at large and to return to his friends, he must be allowed to do so. To ascertain his condition during detention, official visitors see him at stated times and his friends also can visit him. The plaintiff, in the trial mentioned, after being detained a few weeks was allowed to leave on probation in the charge of his brother. Two days later he escaped from his brother and obtained an interview with Dr. Bond, one of the Commissioners in Lunacy. These Commissioners exercise supervision over all who have charge of lunatics, visit all asylums and are the guardians of all the insane, and therefore are officials of no small authority. [illegible] patient's past history, his escape from his brother, incoherent speech and such acts as flourishing a bag of money, Dr. Bond came to the conclusion he was still insane, and ordered that he should be forcibly taken back to the hospital. In this the Commissioner was held to have exceeded his powers and to have erred in not making a more thorough examination. The jury decided that the plaintiff was sane at this interview (1912) and during the nine years of his further detention, notwithstanding contrary opinions, and he was awarded £25,000 damages; £5,000 against Dr. Bond personally, and £20,000 against him and Dr. Adam jointly. The latter was the medical superintendent of the hospital and the jury decided that he had failed in his duty to the patient by not discerning when he became sane and taking the necessary measures to liberate him.

It is certain that changes will soon be made in the law so that it will be easier for patients who have regained their sanity to obtain their freedom. In some cases the liberation may be risky and friends who take charge of ex-patients should realize fully their responsibility. Despite the grievous wrong that seems to have been committed, the trial shows that institutions for the insane in England are under constant supervision; that the needless detention of those who are recovering, or have recovered, renders the physicians in charge liable to extremely heavy penalties; and that patients, apart from loss of liberty, are well treated, as the plaintiff made no other complaint than that of improper detention. What a contrast to the pitiable condition of the vast number of insane in China!

BOLSHEVIST AND BRITON

May 14.

IT cannot be thought that the speech by M. Rakowsky at the opening of the Anglo-Soviet conference which we print to-day does much to modify the evil effect of Bolshevist utterances in Russia since the conference began. Judging by the papers now to hand from London, the Soviet delegation was greeted with no enthusiasm on its arrival; its reception was polite but frigid; nor is there any reason to be surprised. Whatever Mr. MacDonald may say in his courteous manner about the Bolshevist Government finding, or believing that it found, certain measures necessary in the wrought-up state of feeling due to revolution—and we would not do Mr. MacDonald the injustice of supposing that he included the wholesale massacres of unoffending bourgeoisie in his tolerance—Britons do not like Bolshevism's ways and ruthless tyranny. Nor do they forget the Bolshevist treachery to Russia's allies during the war and the shameful peace of Brest-Litovsk, which set free all the German eastern front armies and led directly to the death of thousands of British, French and Belgians in the spring of 1918. Furthermore, the British appetite for receiving the Russian delegation would not be improved by the story, published concurrently with their arrival, of the eminent Roman Catholic dignitary, Archbishop Cieplak, one of the victims of the Soviet's blind anti-religious persecution. As "The Times" puts it, "he was liberated from the torturing round of the Lyubianka and Butyrki prisons, he was pitchforked emaciated and penniless over the frontier, and having with difficulty made his way to Riga, he groped painfully for a refuge, until at last he was recognized."

While it is evident that the *de jure* recognition of the Soviet was not at all generally well received in England, there is a marked disinclination to criticize Mr. Ramsay MacDonald therefor. Nothing indeed is

more remarkable than the growing accumulation that one finds on all sides for the purity of his ideals and loftiness of spirit. And certainly nothing could be better than his speech at the opening of the conference. He was perfectly courteous and at the same time absolutely plain-spoken. He told M. Rakowsky that while the *de jure* recognition was unqualified, if it were to be of any use to either party, something more was necessary and to that end mutual security was indispensable: all credit, which was in the hands of private people, not of Governments, depended on it. In respect of propaganda, he emphasized that Britain had no wish to interfere with Russia's internal affairs and expected the like consideration on Moscow's part: and he reminded M. Rakowsky that the British Government would want more than formal assurances to that effect. His plea for full mutual frankness and confidence is framed in a fine sentence:—

"The ends we profess to serve cannot be attained unless we can get thoroughly to understand each other and unless we can carry with us the bulk of the responsible opinion in the two countries represented by both of us. If we begin by trying to deceive each other we shall go on to deceive the peoples we represent, and end by deceiving ourselves."

If we fail, Mr. MacDonald continued, you will not be able to repeat the attempt with this or any other British Government. And reminding his Russian hearers of the fears and resentment which Bolshevist methods had inspired throughout the world, he warned them that they had now to build up again the confidence which they had shattered and that this was no easy task, calling for very special efforts on the Soviet's part.

M. Rakowsky's answer is vague and unsatisfactory. While Mr. MacDonald looks frankly and resolutely to the future M. Rakowsky wastes time in reminiscence, with much about the Versailles Treaty and the League of Nations, which have really nothing whatever to do with the subject in hand. Nor, so far as one can see, have the self-righteous claims respecting the reduction of Bolshevist armies and readiness to reduce them still farther. What the British public want to know, if they are to have dealings with Russia, is, not that the Soviet is cutting down its army but that it is prepared to recognize its debts, restore what it has stolen, respect the sanctity of contracts, permit free private trading and abstain from trying to breed anarchy in England. M. Rakowsky's assurance that the Delegation has plenipotentiary powers sounds well but does not satisfy all doubts. Anyone can "call spirits from the vasty deep" but "will they come when you do summon them?" It is all very well for M. Rakowsky to take what decisions he pleases on the spot, but will the spirits of Moscow come at his bidding to the ratification thereof? His reference to the national consciousness which war has awakened in the peoples of the Far East is ominous. Great Britain and the Soviet must, he says, as a starting-point adopt the principle of respecting the independence and sovereignty of Oriental States and then they will be free of all difficulties. And what if Great Britain, mindful of her responsibility for the maintenance of peace in India, declines to bind her hands by so insidious an open pledge? Then we suppose the activities of the Moscow Propaganda University in training agents to breed revolution in India will go on unchecked? But we are by no means sure that they will not in any case.

The day after the conference [illegible] "The Times" published a very interesting message from [illegible] regarding the "Komsomolsky Zor[illegible]" comment on the Conference" [illegible] made in March which it thinks is likely to continue. The correspondent continues:—

It is reported that several of the milder Communist "communists" regard the discussions as due chiefly to the economic situation, across private trading, which the Government finds it easy possible way and openly and officially re[illegible] these concessions throughout [illegible] hope to secure as possible without [illegible] which [illegible] Many [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

thing. Many of the insane, even the very dangerous, are allowed to be at large, a constant menace to the safety of the public. Some months ago the following incidents which occurred in Anking, Anhui, were reported in the "North-China Daily News."

"A year ago a lunatic living outside the east gate of the city ran amuk with a butcher's cleaver and killed and wounded 17 people before he was finally overpowered. Later, an apparently harmless fellow struck a foreign woman in the face without any provocaton as she was passing along the street. A policeman standing by took no notice of the matter as he considered it was not his 'pidgin' to look after the insane. Only recently another deranged man, enraged because a missionary refused to give him money with which to buy more wine, got a spade with which he hacked at the compound gate and then struck a child on the head. When the missionary came out to try and get the police to take the matter in hand the madman turned on him with the spade."

This is very serious, but it is to the pitiable condition of the insane who are in confinement that we wish particularly to direct attention. According to the old Chinese laws, relatives are bound to report cases of lunacy and exercise strict supervision over them under the penalty of eighty blows with a heavy bamboo if the lunatic kills himself, and one hundred blows if he kills anyone else and it is directed that lunatics must be manacled. Consequently, the insane, particularly those who are dangerous, are rigidly confined in the home or in a monastery and the disposition to treat them cruelly is enhanced by the fear and dislike arising from the belief that madness is a form of demoniacal possession. The treatment of the insane in monasteries is deplorable, even in Japan, a most progressive country. On investigation of some of the Japanese monasteries where lunatics were confined it was found by Japanese physicians that "the whole aspect is one of misery and desolation, and the circumstances are such as to preclude absolutely the recovery of the persons so confined.....A mentally defective person is considered by his family as lost to them, and as long as he lives he is a burden to all concerned. The treatment is probably not intentionally cruel but is rather that of neglect." In China the condition of the insane confined in homes and monasteries is no better and probably very much worse. Christian missions are doing a little for these unfortunates. In various hospitals one or two wards are set apart for the insane, but there is only one institution, the John G. Kerr Hospital in Canton, which is wholly devoted to the scientific care of the insane. Chinese may appreciate this good work, but they are not inclined to do it themselves or to contribute much towards its support.

This apathetic attitude of the Chinese towards human suffering or deprivation is discouraging to foreigners who by personal service or by monetary contributions are doing all they can to relieve or cure it. For instance, the hospitals in Shanghai, which are doing an enormous amount of good among the Chinese, receive very little support from the wealthy Chinese officials, ex-officials, and merchants, living in the Settlement. With their ways of thinking they probably feel that gratitude is rather due to them as they are giving the foreigners a great opportunity to lay up merit which will stand them in good stead in the world to come by letting them minister to the Chinese sick and unfortunate. It is a pity that wealthy Chinese do not try to lay up more merit on their own account. They can be kind at times to their unfortunates, and "Benevolence" stands at the head of their list of the Five Constant Virtues.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

The Rowarth Case

It can hardly be doubted that all those who have followed the trial of Mrs. Rowarth and Mrs. Davis will entirely agree with the jury's verdict. The accused, judging from the report, must have made a very bad impression in court. They met every question with such flat denials as could leave but the one impression, namely, that they were not speaking the truth. Their behaviour when confronted with the amah, first refusing to recognize, then admitting that they did know her, was highly suspicious. So too was the sudden departure for Hongkong, on the heels of the police having discovered the amah. The police, by the way, are much to be complimented on this discovery. To pick an unknown girl out of the thousands in Shanghai was no mean accomplishment, and is a further illustration of the really wonderful work that the police do in the maze of Shanghai's streets. The case of Mrs. Rowarth and Mrs. Davis is one of great rarity and a moment's reflexion shows that, when such a crime occurs, it deserves the severest punishment. That punishment has been meted out, and one imagines it will be a long time before anyone else has the temerity again to match themselves in a similar way against the machinery of British justice.

The Use of Money

One of the most important and essential means to the conduct of commerce and the progress of business is the use of other people's money, secured at rates of interest on which the amount borrowed, the period it is required for, the use to which it is to be put, the status (we almost said "nationality") of the borrower and lender, and many kindred conditions have an important bearing. It being axiomatic that those using other people's money have to pay for it, it appears inconsistent with the true precepts of finance and commerce that in Shanghai we have bodies and concerns which hold, without paying interest or offering to pay it, and presumably using it to the best advantage to themselves, money which is the actual and undisputed property of others. We refer to the custom whereby certain public utility concerns, such as the Municipal Electricity Department, the French Electricity and Water Company, the Gas Company, etc., demand and receive from customers a deposit before supply is made of any of the commodity for which the concerns are in the market. These deposits must amount, in the aggregate, to a large sum, on which, so far as we know, not a cent of interest is paid to the actual owners. One cannot help comparing this abstract procedure with the system obtaining at one of the biggest local stores, whose customers, on opening a credit account, are required to make a deposit of $200, on which interest at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum is allowed. Surely this is a contrast which really should constitute an analogy! If one concern can pay for the use of its customers' money, why not others? The average person or firm paying for water, or gas, or electricity, is not so rich that an annual rebate of even a small sum would be either despised or spurned. Possibly such a course is impracticable; but if so, could not the interest, or a portion of it, which customers are denied, be put to some useful purpose? There is no dearth of deserving charities in Shanghai.

The Flying Regulations

We cannot quite agree with our correspondent "Amused" in the view that he takes of the regulations drawn up by Peking for the arrival of British aviators in China. Farcical they certainly are if considered only in the light of Peking's notorious inability to get any of its orders obeyed outside its own walls. But the more glaring aspect of the regulations is, we think, that they are meant as a deliberate insult, a contemptible way of "gaining face" throughout China and the world by treating the aviators in a humiliating way. What the people of China will think of this manœuvre we do not know. To the outside world it way simply appear that Peking has been gratuitously ill-mannered. Contrast with this the courteous behaviour of Japan, who has done everything in her power to facilitate the world flights even to the extent of allowing supply stations and landing places to be arranged at naval posts where hitherto no foreigner has been admitted.

A Farrago of Nonsense

A few days ago we commented on a report sent by Reuter's Peking correspondent to the effect that Mr. Chow Teh-san, Director of the "Chefoo-Weihsien Railway," was to succeed Mr. Chu Ting-chi as Director of the Kiaochou-Tsinan line,—pointing out that there is not, never has been, and is in no prospect of being, a Chefoo-Weihsien line. An authoritative correspondent now informs us that there was not a shadow of truth in the whole paragraph. In the first place Mr. Chu Ting-chi never was the Director of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway, but was and still is Assistant Director, has not resigned his position, and has no intention of doing so. Secondly, the new Director of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Administration is Mr. Shao Heng-chün. Thirdly, the Mr. Chow Teh-san referred to is, our correspondent says, without question Mr. Chao Te-san, who was the first Director of the Kiaochou-Tsinan line after the rendition of the railway by Japan, but resigned in consequence of the destruction of a bridge more than a year ago. Mr. Chao is now Director-General of the Lung-hai Railway, a higher post than that of Director of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway. He is probably the best, certainly one of the best qualified Chinese railway engineers. Altogether it would hardly be possible to imagine more mistakes than those in the paragraph on which we first commented. No doubt this paragraph was simply taken from one of the Chinese papers in Peking, and, if so, the amazing rubbish it contains is a further illustration of the necessity of quoting the source of supply instead of sending it down under the authority of a great news agency.

China's Diplomats

The foreigner does not as a rule pay much attention to the Chinese Diplomatic Service abroad, except on the intermittent occasions when it bleats feebly for a little money, or when one of its representatives has been telling some more than usually embroidered fairy-tale for the obfuscation of foreign listeners as to the real state of affairs in China. The article, therefore, that we reproduce on the opposite page from the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" is worth reading. Those who noticed the paragraph about China raising her representative in Chile to the rank of Minister must have wondered why. But when we further learn that a man of no diplomatic experience is to have the post, it becomes stranger still. The truth is probably that Mr. Chang Chien Jr. wants the dignity of the post, that as he is a rich man it will cost China nothing and that, as Dr. Wellington Koo puts it, he will train on there for other posts. More serious is the statement that Germany and Japan are both neglected, that there is an "Expectant Minister" lounging about in Peking at $500 a month, and that China continues to be represented in London only by a Chargé d'Affaires. This sounds rather hard on Mr. Chu Chao-hsien, who has certainly discharged that part of a Minister's duties which consists in the telling of the aforesaid fairy-tales with great ability. But if we are not mistaken, the substantive Minister in London is Dr. Wellington Koo himself, and it has even been unkindly whispered that this is why the Legation remains in the hands of a Chargé, in order to provide a refuge among the mammon of unrighteousness, if and when the Waichiaopu becomes too uncomfortable.

Snakes is Snakes

What amounted almost to a demand that Mr. Sowerby should explain the apparent coincidence between the departure of popular sportsmen and the simultaneous arrival of snakes, frogs and tortoises, was made and he has answered it, but his answer lacks conviction. It matters not that Mr. Sowerby says that snakes and eels are erroneously referred to by those names and that they should be something else beyond pronunciation, and it is of little moment that the tortoises were turtles or terrapins, but it is of vast importance to insist that the snakes were snakes and not eels. They had diamond heads, patterned skins, yellow underbodies and forked tongues, and they undulated through the water and up the banks, instead of going through the water at a smart wriggle, as an eel does. Furthermore, they were up to four, five and nearly six feet in length, and in that dimension they would be conger eels, which, fortunately for the Chinese who went after them, they were not. Mr. Sowerby's explanation of the phenomenon is remarkably interesting and will add a hitherto unknown chapter to the knowledge of Chinese customs possessed by most foreigners. There is no end to the quaint fashions of the Chinese and it seems remarkable that a people with a nation-wide passion for cooping beautiful song-birds in atrociously small cages should on one day in the year give freedom to other living creatures. It would be better if they would liberate the poor birds. In this case the snakes (or eels) and turtles gained little by their release, for most of them met a distinctly cruel death at the hands of the sampan dwellers and longshore loafers. Thanks at least are due to Mr. Sowerby for guaranteeing that the Bund salamanders and the Bubbling Well Road alligator were things with a real existence.

Shanghai—the Wonder City

We print to-day the first of a series of articles that will appear on "Shanghai—the Wonder City of Asia," from the pen of an old resident just returned from leave. That those of us whose noses are perpetually at the grindstone lose the sense of perception of changes round about us, is undeniably true. It does us good, therefore, to read descriptions of this remarkable city by one who is in a position to note certain changes that have taken place within the last two or three years—who, however, was doubtless as blind to these things as the average business man before his trip home. Shanghai has changed very much indeed during the past few years. Some of the changes unquestionably are not for the better. One could grow pessimistic if he contrasts the present year of grace with 10 or 15 years ago. The days of true Oriental magnificence and romance in commercial life have departed. To-day we have the telegraph everywhere, the fractioned farthing, the surfeit of an ingloriously growing competition, and altogether Shanghai is a changed place both socially and commercially. We constantly hear the old resident say that the place is too big. Well, that may be. Others have different views. All things in life have to give way to the march of civilization and what is called progress. That is the reason why we would recommend that the article referred to be read, as it undoubtedly will be, by most of our readers.

Unrest in the Punjab

We reproduce to-day from the "Pioneer," on another page, an extremely interesting article on the unrest in the Punjab and the villainous campaign of mendacity with which it is fomented, the blank, unsupported denial of the Government's statements of the truth and repetition of the old falsehoods. And in this connexion, though Harbak Singh is in gaol, someone else in Shanghai is carrying on his work, for another of the lying and scurrilous leaflets about the supposed ill-treatment of the Sikhs reached us only two days ago. Meanwhile the important announcement that the Punjab Government have decided to appoint a committee to report on the possibility of undertaking further legislation regarding Sikh *gurdwaras* and on the best means of dealing with the *kirpan* question is greeted with great satisfaction in India. Commenting on this the "Pioneer" says that the decision

is the direct outcome of the speech made by Sir Malcolm Hailey in replying to the motion in the Legislative Assembly on the Sikh difficulty. Whatever opinion may be held of the cause of the serious situation which has arisen in the Punjab and of the responsibility for the development of the Akali movement into a political menace of the first magnitude, there will be general endorsement of the Punjab Government's decision. It once more shows that Sir Edward Maclagan is ready and anxious to find an acceptable solution to the problem, and he has been fortunate in enlisting the services of a president of undeniable distinction and impartiality. Apart from Sir William Birdwood's family traditions and from the fact that he served for nearly 20 years with the 11th Bengal Lancers, which was originally raised in the early days of Sikh comradeship with the British army as the first regiment of Sikh Irregular Cavalry, he was closely associated in Gallipoli with the most heroic chapter of Sikh bravery in the Great War. His knowledge of and sympathy with the Sikhs will, therefore, be of special value in the difficult task set before his committee.

These are thoughts to which all true Sikhs will respond. It is particularly grievous to all Britons that there should be any misunderstanding between themselves and the Sikhs of all Indian races and we are sure that in the long round the true feeling of the Punjab will be too much for the seditionists.

Thou Shalt Not Smoke

We cannot congratulate Dr. Polk on her letter appearing in to-day's correspondence columns insisting on the right of the non-smoker to prohibit the use of tobacco, providing a majority can be induced to enforce such restriction. The argument of "individual right" in the matter may be carried to wearisome length and always brought to the same conclusion (assuming extremists on each side), that a man has as much right to ruin his constitution by excessive use of tobacco as another has to loathe the obnoxious weed and endeavour to prohibit its use. But the matter is less one for extreme action than for courteous and considerate adjustment by reasonable people. However, the prohibitionist mind always seems to run to the "abuse" of this, that and the other, and for ever longing for some Grand Inquisition to save people from themselves. Some one (and may the duty be not ours) might venture to assure Dr. Polk that there are smokers who use tobacco with discretion and courtesy, particularly when at "a dining," and who would not for worlds pollute the immaculate atmosphere of their hostess's drawing-room if aware of the weed being taboo. One sympathizes, therefore, with the young Y. M. C. A. gentleman "with some ideals of life and fellowship," who so far traduced these virtues as to produce a cigar in Dr. Polk's presence and—horrors!—light it. Who knows but what this may have been the poor fellow's unenlightened method of demonstrating his ideals. Certainly, one cannot suppose that his action was designed to incur the suppressed indignation of his hostess and inspire a letter to the Editor exhibiting his bad form to the public gaze. The incident is a warning to hostesses who dislike tobacco. Let them, when next arranging a dinner party, exhibit at their doors a notice "Smoking Strictly Prohibited." The guest arriving with a cigar in his pocket would then have the pleasant alternative of throwing the beastly thing away or returning home.

"Deratization"

Just as shipowners dislike the practice so may all lovers of "the well of English pure and undefiled" devoutly hope that the above monstrosity, signalized to-day by Reuter as a new word, will not find its way into the dictionary. From the context we learn that it means the process of removing rats from a ship, otherwise one might have thought that it had some obscure reference to the Versailles Treaty and the fruitful efforts of Germany to evade its terms. Everybody knows that the richness of the English language consists largely in its readiness at all times to assimilate useful words. "Commandeer" came from the South African War; "camouflage" we all know whence; "movies" is really the best word yet found for the cinema. But there are limits: to "stand for" any course of procedure instead of to "stand" is ugly and unnecessary; and what excuse can possibly be offered for the hideous "nearby" as an adjective, especially as it can invariably be used in the correct form "near by" by a simple transfer of the word qualified. Some words which have an ugly sound, however, have great antiquity to justify them. For instance, "preparedness" frequently heard during the war: the writer came across it in "Eikon Basilike," the reflexions of King Charles I in prison in 1649. But we should certainly look in vain for any such authority for "deratization."

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

LIANG SHIH-YI'S ACCOUNT OF CHINA TO BRITISH READERS

A Federation of Provinces Forecast: Centralized Power Impossible Beyond Limits: Britain's Opportunity in the Far East

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

London, April 16.

Mr. Liang Shih-yi is in England and is giving out to the various papers which visit him interesting interviews. Perhaps I may append a typical one.

The English people should view Chinese politics or rather the Chinese situation as they view affairs in Canada. In Canada you have very much the form of Federal Government which is suited to China. Such an idea is a very old one in my country. Even in the Ching dynasty there was a division between the provinces and it was only in the last 10 years or so of the dynasty and also just after the death of Yuan Shih-kai that the Military Governors wanted concentration of power in the Central Government. It was due to this desire, in fact, that the Ching dynasty fell and that the present internal strife exists. Internal strife has, in fact, developed in proportion to this concentration of power and also to the concentration of revenue which has gone into the pockets of these Military Governors. The Federal system which would suit China would leave power to the Central Government only in respect of foregin affairs, means of communication and the national debt. Everything else should be decentralized.

The Coming Conference.

There is indeed a movement now on foot to form a League of Economic Organizations which will convene a conference to which representatives of the banks, commerce and finance will be invited. Out of this conference should be created a constitution. The English people in the Far East, whether Government officials or merchants, approve the policy of concentrating power in the Central Government because they feel it is better to have one man to deal with instead of a number, and with that idea in their heads they have so far given their backing to some of the Military leaders who wish to unify China by military power. But China is a big country with a big population and you must see it is an impossible task for a handful of men to develop such a big country. That is why I view the position of Canada or the British Empire as a whole as affording an example for China.

There are a number of military leaders—the majority indeed—who approve the conference I have mentioned. Much depends on the people and on the support of the Provincial Assemblies which are now being formed. Progress will be slow and it is impossible to expect immediate success. All we can do is to work and wait. Without question the country expects improvement both on economic and commercial lines. There are two classes of military leaders—one who want to get hold of the entire revenue of the country and for that reason have the whole population up against them, and another class whose idea is to oppose the centralization of Government. They will not molest the people of their own provinces, and they aim at adjusting these differences without recourse to fighting.

China's Feeling for Britain.

If you wish to know the state of feeling of the Chinese people towards Great Britain, I will say this. We consider that in commercial matters there is no country like yours. The connexion is of such long standing that all Chinese hope for [illegible] still closer commercial relations between the two peoples. They are therefore looking forward to a satisfactory settlement of the surtax question in accordance with the Washington Conference and the Mackay Treaty of 23 years ago. The likin issue centralized is impossible of solution, but if decentralized easy. The conference which is to be held at Shanghai to discuss the surtax question should be formed not only of representatives of the Central Government but also of representatives of the Provinces and representatives of the People. Thereby there will be effective. Assuming there were 20 Chinese members two may have one from the Central Government, two from the provinces, and 10 from the people. It would take too much time to enumerate all the reasons for this scheme but I will give one. The yield of likin is 87,000,000 Mexican dollars, and if all power were centralized in the Central Government then it would have all this vast sum and the provinces would be left with nothing. This would only create greater chaos and strife in the country.

Trade Methods Criticized.

As regards your commercial methods, I am bound to say that they are to-day not up to date, and if your traders do not get into touch with the young and progessive elements of the people and modify your system, in about 20 years time England will be ousted from the Chinese market by the Japanese and the Germans. Opinion in China feels that English capitalists in China are trying to monopolize trade even in respect to industries which the Chinese people themselves can well carry on. Still from the long period of transactions between the two peoples the Chinese have learned to respect and admire the morals in trade of the English people, and that in this respect they are better than many, indeed I may say "any" other nations.

There are still many openings for British trade especially in respect of manufactured goods, machinery, railway material and so forth. As a result of the Great War the English can, I imagine, scarcely find a market in Europe, but China is still non-industrialized, still in its infancy in the arts, sciences and manufactures and can therefore offer a good market to England. At the same time, China abounds in raw materials which can be exported to England and thus by an exchange of commodities reduce the cost of drafts and remittances. As regards railway development, I can speak with the experience of 20 years since all the lines were under me as Minister of Communications and I was responsible for contracts for about ten thousand miles of line. Owing to the War, some of these contracts have not been carried out, but even now in selected areas there is plenty of room for the investment of capital. In China indeed railway development is thoroughly remunerative. We, therefore, welcome foreign capital which will find an ample return."

It would appear that this visit is only one of pleasure and study, but not of business. Next week the party will visit Scotland, and soon afterwards leave for the Continent as they hope to inspect several countries.

HENDERSON'S Purchasing Agency, the enterprising firm which recently opened to purchase for outport residents whatever they may require at local shops at most reasonable rates, is now issuing a monthly bulletin for the further convenience of its clients. The bulletin is crammed with information as to prices of anything from new spring frocks to radio sets and should be a boon to those living in the interior.

MR. HSU YUAN, Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, is, it is understood, making inquiries regarding possibilities of repatriating the local Russian refugees to their homeland, as he has received intimation that some 300 refuges desire to return as soon as possible, but are unable to do so because of lack of funds and because they are unable to secure free tickets on the Chinese Government Railways.

HARBOUR NEEDS OF TSINGTAO

Businessmen Exercised as to Who Shall Control It for Greatest Efficiency in Working

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tsingtao, May 5.

The question of harbour facilities continues to be the subject of discussion amongst the business men of this port, but as things stand at present, it does not look as though there is going to be an early solution. Opinion is divided in favour of three measures, control by the Customs, control by the Kiao-Tsi Railway and control by the Administration. The majority of foreign business men are in favour of control by the Customs, the majority of Japanese business men is favouring the second measure, *i.e.*, control by the Railway, while the Chinese are almost without exception backing the third measure, control by the Administration.

When Governor Kao En-hung dissolved the coolie monopoly held by the Kiao-Ao Transportation Company, His Excellency did away with an organization of which the merchants may have never said a good word. Prior to the advent of the new *regime*, the coolie monopoly was the bone of contention between the foreign merchants and the Administration, it being argued by the former that shipments were improperly tied up on account of the methods arising out of the monopoly, thereby causing heavy financial losses to those directly interested in the trade of this territory, and by the latter that except for certain seasonal occasions and events the monopoly was not as responsible for the tie-up as claimed.

The Old Administration

As the local paper has pointed out, whereas it took Mr. Kao En-hung just five minutes to put the monopoly out of existence, the old Administration's policy was one of dillydally. Fictitious reasons were advanced by the men then in power and repeated protests elicited no satisfaction. It is probably no exaggeration to say that were it not for the advent of the new *regime*, it is more likely than not that former conditions would still prevail, despite the fact that the protests of the foreign merchants, just prior to the dispersal of the old officials helter-skelter out of action, had passed from the preliminary stage to the consular stage.

It All Depends

But, as stated in the opening paragraph of this communication, the whole question is not near a solution. Over a month has elapsed since the dissolution of the monopoly, but it would seem that nothing definite has been decided upon, as to what should replace it. The Administration, according to Mr. T. C. Kuo, the Director of General Affairs, favours one of the following two methods:—control by the Administration or an arrangement of two stevedoring companies being in charge of the loading and unloading of ships. According to Mr. Kuo—and he gives the impression of knowing his business—it would be unsatisfactory to let the field open to all comers due to the lack of sufficient equipment. He thinks that an arrangement whereby two stevedoring companies are allowed to handle harbour facilities, there would be a sufficient check on possible inefficiency arising out of a monopolistic system. Failing such an arrangement, Mr. Kuo thought the Administration should be given a chance to prove its worthiness.

To the foregoing two propositions, the foreign merchants are in opposition almost unanimously. They claim that control by the Administration would be tantamount to a monopoly whereas an arrangement whereby two stevedoring companies are given the privilege of loading and unloading ships in port would not be much better than a monopoly. Anything savouring of a monopoly is sure to meet with the solid opposition of the business community. "Once beaten, twice shy" would seem to be the stand maintained at the present time.

Control by Railway

Some of those who oppose the control of harbour facilities by the Railway admit that the project in itself has much to speak of favourably. This being its terminal port, and over 80 per cent. of the merchandize brought here being for export, the logical conclusion should be that the Railway is best fitted to handle the loading and unloading problem of the port. It is admitted that the volume of traffic which a line would carry cannot exceed the capacity of the terminal as has been proved by the American practice of railway control of terminal facilities. The amount of merchandise now exported from this port is very great, and in the years to come will increase on a huge scale, especially in the case of coal. It is predicted that by 1930, the annual quantity of coal exported from Tsingtao will exceed 1,250,000 tons. All this tends to point favourably towards the control of harbour facilities by the Railway, which could be made to guarantee a fixed sum annually to the Administration whereas the latter could have the final say in all questions arising between shippers and the Railway as to the efficient handling or otherwise of loading and unloading operations. But they point out that the drawback against this control is the debt of $40,000,000 hanging over the head of the Railway which will have to be met eventually and that failure to meet this debt will undoubtedly cause the Japanese to grab the line back. Consequently, should the Railway be placed in charge of the harbour administration, the Japanese could not be prevented to grab it also, thereby threatening the giving of preferential treatment to Japanese merchants at the expense of the rest.

On the other hand, the Japanese are almost solidly in opposition of the proposition to have the Customs placed in control of the harbour administration. Their fear seems to be that inasmuch as the Customs is largely controlled by the British, control by that body would not be altogether impartial.

In this connexion it is worth while noting that the "Tsingtao Leader," altogether Japanese owned, favours neither the one scheme nor the other. It has suggested two measures, *viz.*, that either the shipping companies each contribute a sum of money towards the establishment of one mutual transportation organization, or that the Administration be allowed to control the whole thing itself, with the assistance of an advisory committee appointed by foreign merchants, composed of one American, one Briton, one German and one Japanese. These two suggestions are meeting with the approval of a number of merchants, but, as already stated, the whole issue does not appear to be any nearer a solution than it was when the new *tupan* caused the Kiao-Ao Transportation Company's monopoly to be dissolved.

THE FIGHTING IN SZECHUAN

Northern Position Strengthened by Enlistment of Szechuanese

Peking, May 9.

Further light on the withdrawal of Gen. Wang Chen-ping's resignation is given by the report that the Military Council informed Gen. Wang that it could not permit the transfer of a portion of the 23rd Division to Paotingfu, as there were already too many troops there. The Division, therefore, is to remain at Machang.

The Government has telegraphed to Gen. Lu Chin-shan, Commandant of the 8th (Hupeh) Division in Szechuan, asking him to inquire into the relations of Generals Yang Sen and Liu Tsun-hou and furnish a report.

According to recent reports from Szechuan the position of the Northern forces there has been considerably strengthened by several neutral or hostile bodies of Szechuanese coming over to their side, and Liu and Yang are now co-operating satisfactorily.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FALL OF KUEILIN

Peking, May 13.

An official despatch from Changsha, quoting missionary and Chinese press reports, states that Gen. Shen Hung-ying captured Kueilin on April 25. Gen Shen's artillery shelled the city, the inhabitants of which were in danger of starvation when the city fell. The despatch does not mention the fate of Gen. Lu Yung-ting, who formerly controlled Kueilin.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Mr. W. Nation, of Messrs. Slowe & Co., Ld., has accepted an invitation to join the Court of the North China Insurance Co., Ld.

REPORTED DEATH OF DR. SUN YAT-SEN

Ill for Some Time with Brain Fever: Unconscious for two Days at Headquarters

Hongkong, May 18.

It is reliably reported that Dr. Sun Yat-sen has been unconscious for the past two days, suffering from brain-fever. It is now confirmed that he has died.

Later.

It has been known for some time that Dr. Sun Yat-sen has not been enjoying good health. The vernacular papers now state that he is suffering from brain-fever, possibly cerebro-spinal fever. It is reported that Dr. Sun is lying at headquarters and that he is being attended by foreign and Chinese doctors, while Dr. Sun Yat-sen's son, Mr. Sun Fo, is in constant attendance.

It is generally acknowledged in authoritative quarters in Hongkong that Dr. Sun Yat-sen is seriously ill, but his reported death cannot be verified at present. Naturally, Southerners would do their utmost to maintain secrecy as long as possible, as news of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's death will probably lead to chaos in Canton.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

No Official Corroboration.

After categorical announcement of his death, it appears that Dr. Sun Yat-sen is quite alive. On Tuesday a message was received through Reuter's Agency to the effect that Dr. Sun had been unconscious for two days, suffering from brain fever, and it was rumoured that he had died. On Wednesday morning Reuter's received telegaphic news from Hongkong that Dr. Sun had died at 4.30 a.m., while on the other hand the Eastern News Agency received a telegram from Canton to the effect that his condition was not so serious as rumoured and that he was to attend a military conference on Wednesday at the headquarters of the Kuangtung troops.

In reply to a message sent to our own correspondent at Shameen on Tuesday, at 6 p.m. on Wednesday we received a reply dated Shameen, May 14, 1.30 p.m., which read:—

"Doctor sick not dead."

Our correspondent at Shameen (the Foreign Settlement of Canton) is in close touch with the authorities there and his telegram is therefore most probably based on the latest information supplied by the headquarters of the Canton Government.

Kuomingtang Denial.

Shanghai, May 14.

Mr. T. V. Soong (Dr. Sun Yat-sen's brother-in-law), of the China International Corporation, Shanghai, writes to us under to-day's date as follows:—

"In view of the repeated rumours of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's death, I shall be pleased if you will publish the following:—

"The Kuomingtang here received a cable, sent last night (May 13) from Dr. Sun's Headquarters in Canton, in response to an inquiry after Dr. Sun's health, reporting that, owing to a cold contracted when he addressed a labourers' gathering at the Canton Christian College, Dr. Sun was confined to his room from 4th to 9th. He has now completely recovered, and has attended office since the 10th. There is thus absolutely no foundation to the rumour of his severe illness or demise."

It will be noted that the telegram which the letter states was received from Dr. Sun's Headquarters was dated May 13, while the report of the death from Hongkong says it occurred on Wednesday morning.

Reuter's correspondent at Hongkong, who telegraphed on Wednesday that Dr. Sun Yat-sen had died at 4.30 a.m., now adds in a message dated the 15th instant:—

"The death of Dr. Sun Yat-sen is being strongly denied by official circles in Canton; nevertheless the consensus of well-informed Chinese and foreign opinion in Hongkong inclines to belief in the truth of the report. It is impossible to obtain satisfactory confirmation because no visitors have been permitted in Dr. Sun's headquarters for some days and a very vigorous censorship has been maintained over the Canton press."

MOTORING IN KUANGSI

New Road Financed by French: Some Motor Accidents: Aeroplanes Coming

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Lungchow, Si., Apr. 26.

Work is continued on the Lungchow-Langson motor road. A loan (?) from the French Colonial Government of Tonking has made possible the completion of this work and the metaling of the road is rapidly nearing completion. Regrading of dangerous sections and widening in narrow places as well as better embankment as precaution against slides is also being done. Mr. Cadet, the French Consul of Lungchow and Nanning, has been instrumental in the carrying out of this work and through his untiring efforts the work is being rapidly pushed toward completion.

During the past three years the commerce between Lungchow and Tonking has increased materially due greatly to the efforts of the French Consul and the Commissioner of Chinese Customs, Mr. M. Cupelli.

Great advancement has been made in the Customs of Lungchow and its outstations since Mr. Cupelli has been Commissioner. A better control of the border posts of Shuiko, Pinger and Nankuan has been established and trade has been greatly benefited.

A motor service between Lungchow and Langson has been instituted by M. Delair of Langson. A service fo five cars and one trailer is in operation carrying passengers and freight between the two cities.

The cars being used are of Citroen make with a bus body capable of carrying six passengers. The latest addition to this service has been a Citroen Bus propelled by a tractor tread. This car with trailer attached is used for both passenger and freight service and is capable of attaining the speed of 25 kilometres per hour.

Two Serious Accidents

Two serious accidents have already occurred on the road, one of the cars turning over on its side and causing its occupants to receive bruises and scratches. The other, a previous accident, occurred when a new car in making a sharp turn did not keep to the road but plunged down a steep embankment into a ravine. It dropped a distance of about 30 feet, wrecking completely the hood and shroud of the car as well as the wheels and axles. In a miraculous way the six occupants of the car were unharmed, the heavy roof beams of the bus taking the jolt and thus saving the passengers. Another remarkable feature was the fact that the engine too escaped with little damage. After raising it to the road and making temporary repairs the car was taken to Langson where it is now going through a complete overhauling. Six or seven hundred dollars worth of repairs are necessary before it will be again in condition to make its regular run.

Visit of French Aviators

Preparations are being made and an aviation field prepared for visiting planes from Tonking which will make a friendly call to Lungchow shortly.

The electric plant which has been out of running order for over five months owing to breakage of machinery will soon be in condition again. The burning lights have made the hot nights almost unbearable, and so the repairing of the broken generator will be very welcome.

The hot weather has made an early appearance this year the heat registering 98 in the shade, and nearly 130 in the sun. The wet bulb too has been high running but a few points lower than the dry bulb in the shade.

Ice from Hanoi

Ice is now making a regular appearance in Lungchow, being brought from Hanoi, nearly 200 miles away. The small sum of 30 cents per kilo is charged.

The foreign community has been increased by the arrival of Mr. Urban Newman, who is taking up work in the Christian and Missionary Alliance.

TRACTOR-PROPELLED CITROEN USED ON LUNGCHOW ROUTE, SIMILAR TO THOSE USED IN THE EXPEDITION ACROSS THE SAHARA. THE PICTURE IS TAKEN OUTSIDE LUNGCHOW CUSTOMS HOUSE

EARTHQUAKE INSURANCE PROBLEMS

Japanese Companies Paying a Percentage on Claims for Loss by Fire

Tokio, May 5.

The long-deferred fire insurance problem, arising out of last September's catastrophe, is from to-day receiving its final settlement, the companies concerned having started paying out a certain percentage of the claims, after coming to an arrangement with the Government.

Claims up to Y.5,000 in value are to be paid to the extent of 10 per cent.; those above Y. 5,000 and below Y. 10,000, 3 per cent.; those above Y. 10,000 and below Y. 15,000, 2 per cent., and those above Y. 15,000, 5 per cent.

The foregoing percentages are standards merely, and will vary according to the financial condition of the insured.

Insurance companies' offices have to-day been crowded with claimants, in some cases so numerous that police had to be sent out to preserve order.

As far as possible the people insured for small sums have had preferential treatment.

Payments will continue for the next three days.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

BANKING AFFAIRS IN MANILA

Civil Action Against Ex-Directors of National Bank: Further Claims to Follow

Manila, May 12.

The following ex-Directors of the National Bank were sued civilly this morning to recover the losses incurred during the Harrison Administration: Mrarchibald Harrison, brother of the ex-Governor-General, Senator Fernandez, and Messrs. Delaney, Madrigal, Concepcion, Berry and Encarnacion. The suits have been long delayed, and it was only the strongest pressure by Governor-General Wood that resulted in action being taken. Six other complaints are expected to be laid shortly.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

A BEAUTY SPOT OF CHEKIANG

Birthplace of Famous Men and Centre of Learning: Harvest Prospects Good

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Yenchow, Chê., May 6.

I have just returned from a journey in the Shuenan county. A most glorious sight was the countryside for the pulsation of spring had brought forth the wild flowers to every possible phase of splendour. The air and sky belonged to mid-summer rather than that of early spring and the empurpled hills presented a pleasing sight.

For the most part, the oil plant has been gathered and the prospects of the wheat harvest bid fair to be one of the finest for many years. The exceptional mild spring has enabled the farmers to get the rice planting well in hand. The beans have produced in abundance and the tillers of the soil seem to have a happy intuition that all will go well with their crops this year.

Shuenan is a well wooded district and from its secluded valleys some men of historic renown have come forth. A short distance from the town is a small village which goes by the name of the "Lion's Mouth." It is a beautiful spot by the river side and on a lonely knoll, under a camphor tree, is a tablet marking the place where Fang Lah, the rebel leader of renown, during the Sung Dynasty, was buried. The "Lion's Mouth" village was his birthplace and here he returned to die after his exciting escapades in and around the province of Chêkiang. In after years his bones were removed to Hangchow and buried somewhere in the environs of the West Lake.

In scholarship the Shuenan county holds a unique position. In one period alone no fewer than three Senior Wranglers of the Empire brought honour to the countryside. One village boasts of an Emperor's wife while two other villages each sent a Prime Minister to guide the ship of state.

A Great Seat of Learning.

According to the popular legends of the common people Shuenan is famous for its—"Iron well: A small golden hill: A brass bridge: A live dragon mountain." To the north of the town, about two miles distant, is the famous "Stone chasm college." It is situated in a narrow defile and this seat of learning was founded many generations ago. The origin came about through the example of one man who inherited a love for learning. It was his custom to take his books to this quiet spot and sitting upon the rocks pursued his studies. One day he failed to return, and when search was made it was found that in some mysterious way the rock on which he sat cleft asunder and he was buried alive in the chasm. This incident greatly stirred the energies of the aspiring students of the county and the man's own son, after years of serious plodding, became a senior wrangler. The school was founded to keep green the memory of father and son. For many years the buildings have been in decay, leaving not a rack behind. Quite recently, through the enterprise of a local scholar, the whole place has been reconstructed, and has taken on a new lease of life with some 50 students in residence. A special course of study, including English, is being given, and the object of the school is to fit men of average education for the teaching profession—all in the space of two years.

The annual tree planting celebration passed off with high glee to the boys and girls of the various schools of the district. This year, one new feature was added, that of planting trees by the roadside in the city. If this scheme is maintained the town will become very picturesque in the course of a few years. By way of city improvement, several vegetable markets have been erected and special precautions against street litter are being taken.

During a spell of hot dry weather a fire was started on the mountain side. Owing to a high wind prevailing at the time the flames spread with remarkable rapidity and enveloped two firewood cutters whose escape was cut off and were burnt to death.

HUMILIATION DAY

Students Stopped by Police When Preparing Anti-Foreign Demonstration

Peking, May 7.

There was very little observance of National Humiliation Day (May 7, the anniversary of China's acceptance of the 21 Demands) in Peking. The Students' Union resolved to hold a meeting in front of Tianan Mên, and had many pamphlets prepared denouncing the imperialism of the Powers, with special reference to the gold franc case.

A report of these activities came to the knowledge of the police, however, and the Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police sent a message to the students warning them against making any demonstration, adding that they were free to give vent to their feelings inside their schools if they felt inclined.

Twelve aeroplanes flew over Peking this morning and some of them dropped pamphlets containing the words "Don't forget Humiliation Day." It is reported that General Feng Yu-hsiang's men at Nanyuan observed the occasion in a more solemn manner.

The meeting of the Senate was postponed on account of Humiliation Day.

Streets in the vicinity of Chienan Mên were strongly guarded by police this afternoon as a precautionary measure against possible student activities.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE TRANSIT OF MERCURY

A Telescope Presented by Queen Victoria to Li Hung-chang

TIENTSIN NEWS SERVICE.

Tientsin, May 8.

The transit of Mercury was witnessed this morning by several professors in the Peiyang University, who spent most of their spare time during the past few days putting into shape a six-inch objective telescope with which to make the observation. This instrument was presented by Queen Victoria to Viceroy Li Hung-chang more than 40 yars ago, but later came into possession of the Peiyang University.

With a magnification of 200 and toned with a sun filter of blue glass, the planet was plainly visible as a small black speck as it crossed the lower half of the sun. Although no exact times were taken the transit was observed to commence at about 5.30 and end at 1.30 approximate local time.

OPIUM IN KUANGSI

Long Lines of Carriers: Trade Now Open and Flourishing with Good Profits

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Lungchow, Si., Apr. 26.

Opium no longer is a novelty. Great opium bands make regular trips to Yunnan, where the drug is cheap; and return, with tons of it. The caravan often numbers from a few hundred men to 2,000. Each band is heavily armed and well loaded down with this merchandise. The opium is carried by pack-horse through Yunnan to Kuangsi border cities where it is met by the local caravans. Coolie carriers each with a load of 600 ounces then carry it through to its final destination. Tons of it finds its way through Lungchow or towns near by, to Nanning and cities in Kuangtung. Large profits are made, in that the price per ounce, here, and in cities farther inland, is about one dollar. The tax being paid and a receipt for the same being shown, the merchant is free from further molesting by the authorities. Opium is smoked openly on all river boats and the air reeks with its sweet sickly smell.

THE Ministry of Justice has ordered the officials of the various law-courts and the district procurators to take immediate steps to see that none of their subordinates accept bribes, reports the "Journal of Commerce." It reminds one of Aesop's fable about belling the cat.

NO CANNIBALSM IN HANKOW

Chinese Press Reports of the Killing of Babies to Make Pies Untrue: How the Rumours Originated

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, May 6.

Our Wuchang Correspondent sends a denial of the appalling story of cannibalistic practices in Hankow which appeared in the Shanghai Chinese press on May 2.

A horrible story has been circulating recently in Chinese circles in Hankow. It is too horrible to be true; but, being untrue, it throws a ghastly light upon the kind of rumour that can get about in the popular mind, and can even obtain credence in educated circles. The story is, that certain low class Chinese from Honan, resident in Hankow, have been kidnapping children and killing them and using their flesh to make meat pies which they sell.

So far as one can discover, the rumour had its origin as follows. A number of boys who were playing football in an open space in the native city kicked their ball over a fence, and on climbing over to get it, they discovered the body of a child lying there. The child was alive, and proved to be one which had been stolen from its parents two days before. A number of other cases of kidnapping children happened about the same time in the neighbourhood. Unfortunately, none of the others were found.

Kidnapping Wave.

The kidnapping of children—generally girls—is unfortunately not at all an uncommon thing in the poorer parts of Hankow. Even in the case of fairly old children, who might be expected to make some resistance or struggle, the thing can be easily done. It is said that the kidnapper gives the child a blow in a particular part of the head, which renders the victim, not insensible, but incapable of resistance, and able only to follow where the captor wills.

When a child is lost, it is the custom for the parent to go out in the street ringing a gong in order to make the fact known and call the neighbours to assist. It was owing to this custom that it became known that an extraordinary number of kidnappings were taking place, and public opinion began to be roused in the neighbourhood. A search was made among the mat huts near where the child had been discovered by the footballers, and in some of these huts, occupied by Honanese pie sellers, shoes and other articles of children's clothing were found. It is also said that bones and skulls were found; but this may perhaps be questioned.

Out of these discoveries arose the gruesome story related above. The feelings of the mob were deeply aroused, and one of the huts was set on fire. The excitement grew and began to take on the aspect of a riot, which would have resulted in the lynching of the suspected Honanese, had not the police arrived and arrested them. Seven were arrested and brought over to be placed in the Wuchang gaol. It remains to be seen what development, if any, will follow upon their trial, if it ever comes off.

Peripatetic Education

The developments of modern methods in education in Chinese schools rather take one's breath away. Apparently the travel-method is at present very popular. Some 50 or 60 boys and girls from the graduating class of the Nanchang Girls' Normal School paid a visit to Wuchang last week. They were entertained in one of the Wuchang girls' schools and paid a visit to the Wu Han Athletic Sports. After this, they are to visit Shanghai. Evidently, the modern students education is to be considered incomplete until he (or she) have made a tour of several provinces.

ACCORDING to the "*Shunpao*" an agreement has been entered into between the Canton Administration and a number of Japanese capitalists for the establishment of a new mint in the "City of Rams." This will begin working at an early date. The "Eastern Times" states in this connexion that the value of the copper coin in Canton is becoming lower and lower daily, and a "mandate" will soon be issued forbidding the import of such coin in future.

THEFTS IN WENCHOW MISSION

Exciting Capture at Methodist College After Many Depredations

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wenchow, Chê., May 5.

A series of thefts extending over a period of six months and aggregating [illegible] value of nearly $800 culminated with the capture [illegible] The thief had the advantage of knowing the College from the inside, having been a student for a few months until he was expelled nearly four years ago. He has since been expelled from two other educational institutions. The time chosen for most of his depredations was service time on Sunday afternoons when all the students were absent from the dormitories. Then entering the students' rooms he would take off his own outer garments and clothe himself in as many robes as he could conveniently carry, reassume his own outer robe and with as much money as he could lay his hand on quickly make good his escape.

His capture was rather dramatic. One of the teachers was making a search for missing articles and went into the assembly hall with [illegible] The thief evidently hearing him enter, stepped out of one of the windows on to the outer ledge and pulled the window after him. This was a very precarious position being only a few inches wide and at least 20 feet from the ground. Unfortunately [illegible] threw his figure into relief and he was seen from another part of the College. After that his apprehension was only the matter of a few minutes. With 30 students who had suffered considerable loss and nearly 200 more of their sympathizers on his trail there was not much hope of escape. The accompaniment of noise might have led the uninitiated to think that a [illegible] themselves immensely in their search for any accomplices, even going on to the roof with lanterns. The thief confessed all and the students finally consented to accept half the value of the stolen property from the father, a man in poor circumstances, and the thief was set free after three days in [illegible].

Wenchow Consulate Closed

Wenchow has just had a visit from H.B.M. Consul, Mr. Handley Derry, who has been the guest of Mr. C. W. S. Williams, Commissioner of Customs. The Consulate here is about to pass into the [illegible] We have had no resident Consul here since 1900, but there are still people [illegible] British Consulate, picturesquely [illegible] exciting year.

The Electricity Plant.

It is with feelings of thankfulness that thousands of people in [illegible] plant this week. The first plant was installed by Andersen, Meyer & Co. in 1912 and while the number [illegible] was very good indeed. The Chin- [illegible] however has for years been adding light after light until all have become so dim as to be of little value. The new plant—a 4,000 kilowatt—[illegible] The plant is of German make and the cost $30,000.

According to the "Journal of Commerce" the Commissioner of Education in Changsha [illegible] a series of attacks on ac- [illegible] which he issued [illegible] students in Hunan [illegible] parades in connexion with the so-called Day of National Shame. Evidently the Commissioner is a man of sense, and is a believer that, instead of brooding over old quarrels, it is time for China and Japan to enter into more friendly relations if peace in this part of the world is to be maintained.

FRANCO-JAPANESE ENTENTE

Governor of Indo-China on Need of Combination

Tokio, May 9.

M. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, and Mme. Merlin with their suite were received in audience by the Prince Regent to-day.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

May 10.

The French Indo-China represent- [illegible] Foreign Office. This morning's discussions covered general arrangements for future meetings.

Replying to the toast of his health at a banquet by the French Ambassador, M. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, stated that Japan and France would seek to co-operate toward their mutual interests in the Far East. The products of Indo-China and Japan, he said, made co-operation very desirable to both "Agricultural Indo-China and Industrial Japan."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

High Order for M. Merlin

May 10.

Mr. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, has been decorated with the First Class Order of the Rising Sun with Grand Cordon, and M. Kircher, the Director of Customs in Indo-China, with the Second Class of the Order of the Sacred Treasure. The other members of the Mission have received various decorations, the Chairmen of the Chambers of Commerce being decorated with the Fourth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Banquet to M. Merlin

Tokio, May 13.

Viscount Kiyoura, the Prime Minister, gave a banquet to-night in honour of M. Merlin and the other French visitors. Proposing the toast of their health, Viscount Kiyoura expressed the hope that France and Japan would enter into closer commercial relations and thus cement the bonds between the two countries.

M. Merlin's reply was couched in similar terms.

Tokio, May 14.

At a meeting of the Franco-Japanese conference to-day, the Japanese representatives presented their case for alteration of the tariffs to Indo-China. The French representatives will reply to it after consideration.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SHENSI GOVT. CONTRACTS CAPTURED BY GERMANS

Arsenal and Copper Mint only Part of Big Development Scheme

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sianfu, May 1.

Recently Sianfu has seen an unusually large number of foreign visitors, many of whom have been here on business at the Governor's invitation. Great industrial enterprises are contemplated. It is said that an arsenal and a copper mint have already been actually purchased, while a light railway between Sianfu and Tungkuan, a line of small steamers between Shanchou and Linkou, and a cotton mill for Weinan are being quoted for.

The contracts for both the arsenal and mint have been procured by German firms, and at present there is a German in Sianfu negotiating for other contracts, in connexion with the proposed schemes. It seems that other nationals have little chance of competing with German firms as they are unable to give such advantageous terms and such long credits.

Huge City Fire.

Two days ago this city saw a great conflagration, when the premises of a great many merchants were completely gutted. The fire was said to be due to a red cat seen [illegible] about the premises! A more credible reason might easily have been suggested, for at present everything is exceedingly dry owing to the long continued drought.

Farmers are naturally terribly anxious about their crops. Rain is urgently needed to save the wheat, and to make it possible to sow the cotton.

For quite a long time, a very serious disease has been making havoc amongst the cattle of this area and the loss to the farmers has been very considerable.

Flour at Famine Prices.

Flour has now reached an unprecedented price, being nearly twice as high as it was in the famine year, still soaring, and there is no reserve of grain. If, however, flour is scarce, opium is plentiful: the new crop is already in bloom and the provincial treasury will soon be groaning under the weight of an opium tax of $13 per mow.

Aeroplane over Capital.

A few weeks ago we had a visit of an aeroplane—the first one seen here since the days of the Whitewolf. It brought officers from Marshal Wu Pei-fu, who came as guests of the Governor. They were entertained royally, and seemed to be on the very best of terms with Shensi officials, despite the fact that this visit synchronized with the publication in coastal-papers of articles dealing with a probable invasion of Shensi by Wu Pei-fu. Apart from the fact that there has been heavy recruiting from Honan, we here know nothing of the alleged strife.

ORGANIZATION DAY OF U.S. 15TH REGT.

A History of Stirring Times in Far East of Which It May Well Be Proud

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, May 5.

The 15th U. S. Infantry began a [illegible] days' celebration this morning of its "Organization Day," May 4, 1861. The programme to-day included the presentation of Battle Streamers by Brigadier General Wm. D. Conner at a parade on the regimental drill ground at Woodrow Wilson and 13th Streets and an Officers Tea Dance at the Astor House Hotel. To-morrow there will be an inter-Company Field and Track meeting on the Recreation Ground from 8 to noon; Competitive mass athletics and battalion drill from 2 p.m. to 5 and special Company dinners afterwards.

Following talks to each company by their commanders, the entire regiment paraded and marched to the Woodrow Wilson Street drill ground, where the Battle Streamers were tied on the Company Colours by General Connor. Among these streamers were those for engagements fought at Chickamauga, Murphysborough, in the Indian Wars, in Cuba, in the Philippines, and in China during the Boxer troubles.

The streamers represent a fighting history of which the Regiment is justly proud. Organized as a Regular Unit of the Northern Forces on May 4, 1861, at the outbreak of the American Civil War, the Regiment participated in many of the decisive engagements of those four bloody years. From 1865 to 1898 it served at various posts in the Southern States, after which it was sent to Cuba in the Spanish-American War. In 1900 the 15th came to China to aid the allies in the Boxer uprising, and left China the same year for active service in the Philippines, when Aquinalde led an insurrection. In 1902 they returned to America, only to be sent out again in 1905 for further duty in the Islands. It returned again to the United States in 1907 and after four years at Fort Douglas, Utah, the Regiment was sent in 1911 to Tientsin, where it has remained ever since.

The parade this morning was notable for the attendance of four Generals and four Colonels including the Commanding Officer of the 15th. Perhaps the most famous of these was Major-General Omar Bundy, who is passing through on his way to Shanghai. The others were Major-General Yoshioka, Commanding the Japanese Troops here, Major-General Yang I-teh, Police Commissioner of Chihli, General Connor, Colonel Barnes, Chief of Staff to General Connor, Colonel Sautel, Commanding the French Colonial Infantry, and Colonel Greenhill, Officer Commanding British Troops in North China and the Loyal Regiment. North Lancs. They were accompanied by their Staff Officers.

Many civilian friends attended the parade, and Officers Tea Dance later in the day.

OPERATION ON MR. BESSEL

Result of Assault at Fengtai: Fortunately Successful

Peking, May 7.

On Mr. Bessel's return from the period of rest it was found that the swelling had reappeared and the condition was one of traumatic hernia. He was operated on for this condition by Dr. Taylor at the Peking Union Medical College Hospital and has made an excellent recovery. Without such a radical operation as was undertaken there would have been a very grave risk of the hernia becoming strangulated at any moment, which would involve serious risk to life. He will be able to resume light work in about a week and is likely to be fit for years of service.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Mr. Bessel was badly assaulted at Fengtai some weeks ago by Chinese soldiers on the railway. The man responsible for the outrage has not yet been brought to justice.—Ed.

MURDERED MISSIONARIES OF SZECHUAN

Boys' School Chapel to Be Built by their friends as a Lasting Memorial

From Our Own Correspondent.

Friends who have read of the murder of the Rev. Mr. R. A. Whiteside and the Rev. Mr. F. J. Watt last August, will be glad to learn that a memorial is to be erected at Mienchow (Mienyang) West China, in the shape of a Chapel for the Boys' Boarding Schools there.

Both these missionaries were working in Mienchow up to the time of their death. The Rev. F. J. Watt, B.Sc., London, as principal of the Middle School had the need of a School Chapel much at heart, a site having already been allotted for it. The Memorial will also include all the missionaries who have given their lives for the West-China Mission (C.M.S.) and also those who have retired after many years of service.

A Committe has been formed to forward this scheme, and all information can be obtained from:—

Rev. Sydney Jackson, (Chairman). 86, Greyhound Lane, Streatham, S. W. 16. or Mr. J. H. Mott, (Hon. Treasurer). 34, Westbere Road, West Hampstead, N. W. 2. by whom all subscriptions will be welcomed.

FIRST LAKE STEAMER ON THE TAIHU

New Passenger and Freight Service on the Great Lake: A Beautiful Trip

From Our Own Correspondent.

Soochow, May 12.

We have been hearing quite a good deal of the new lake steamer to be put on the run between Wusih and Huchow across the Taihu. This new lake ship has just been completed in Shanghai and yesterday she had been towed from Shanghai to nine miles south of Soochow, when she had to pass under a high seven arch bridge, the only bridge between Shanghai and the Taihu.

Yesterday morning just beyond this bridge the "Tai Wu" was mounting her rather high funnel, and also her wheel house on her upper deck. Both of these had to be removed in order that she might pass under this bridge. About 6 p.m. yesterday this work was practically complete, and it is hoped that she may sail for Wusih to-day under her own steam.

At a distance she appeared to be a little larger than the Vulcan, and her sister tugs in Shanghai. She has twin screws and a very light draft. She was carrying two life boats, and there appeared to be quite a large search light on her bridge.

It is said she will make a daily round trip from Wusih to Huchow, and back: and that the service will begin in about 10 days. The Huchow people will be in luck, for they may now reach Shanghai across the Great Lake, and then by rail from Wusih. This will also be a most delightful route to Mokanshan. There is no more beautiful scenery in the Far East, the Inland Sea not excepted, than the northern end of the Great Lake. The islands and the mountains are wonderfully beautiful. On this run one will get all the cool breezes of a sea trip, and also in rough weather one will get all the *effects* of the Yellow Sea and the English Channel.

The Great Lake has been on the map for centuries but this is the first time in her history that she has carried a real steam passenger and freight line. All success to this new venture, that will be watched with interest!

RIVAL GENERALS IN KUANGSI

Lu Yung-ting Candidate for Post of Tuli: Peking's Man against the South

From Our Own Correspondent.

Lungchow, Si., Apr. 26.

Numerous rumours are reaching Lungchow from Nanning and cities lower down the West River, of impending trouble. The main source of uneasiness seems to come from the Kueilin District where Marshal Lu Ying-ting is reported cut off by a body of troops operating on behalf of General Shên Hung-ying, the unsuccessful aspirant for the office of Tuli of Kuangtung.

Marshal Lu Ying-ting, former Inspector General of the two Kuangs, after assuming the office of Provincial Superintendant for Peace and Reconstruction, made a visit across Kuangsi, through the Liuchow, and Kueilin District to Southern Hunan where a conference was held with General Ma Chi. General Ma was reported ready to advance upon Kuangtung, down the Fu River *viâ* Wuchow. Plans for this campaign have evidently fallen through and General Ma has returned North.

Marshal Lu returned as far as Kueilin *en route* to Nanning, the capital of Kuangsi. Anxiety for the safety of Marshal Lu is felt in that on his trip only about 2,000 troops were taken along as an escort and the district through which the journey lies is the turbulent Liuchow country which has been infested the past three years by large hostile military bands and former soldiers turned robbers.

A former lieutenant of Marshal Lu, Lu Wan-ko, is reported in command of several thousand troops at present affiliated with Shên Hung-ying, and with this force is attempting to cut off the return [illegible] of Lu Ying-ting. Severe [illegible] is reported.

Marshal Lu has twice refused the offer made by Peking to the office of Tuli of Kuangsi, for which office Shên Hung-ying is now striving. To gain this end General Shên Hung-ying is said to have promised allegiance to Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

This past week Marshall Tan Haoming, former Tuchun of Kuangsi, left Lungchow for Nanning where he will re-establish his offices. General Tan has assumed the "Superintendency of Defence for Kuangsi Province," since the relinquishing of that office by Marshal Lu, nearly a year ago.

All the available troops in Lungchow and Kuaishen Districts have been sent down the West River to Nanning.

Various reports have reached Lungchow and have been current in Nanning regarding General Lin Tsen-ting, Military Governor of Kuangsi. Since Marshal Lu's return from his forced exile of 1921, what little power Gen. Lin had, has been taken away. Marshal Lu has been gradually gaining power in various portions of the province and has the confidence of the people, while General Lin is but a figurehead.

Mr. W. N. Ferguson, F.R.G.S., District Inspector of the Salt Gabelle, has just arrived in Peking from a tour of 3,000 miles along the Mongolian frontier. During this tour he encountered bandits only once—a band of ten who were locked in local police quarters. People were just beginning to sow their spring crops and the roads were in fairly good condition. The hunting is good, there being plenty of geese and duck and some antelope. Mr. Ferguson has spent over 28 years in China, and there are few men as familiar with the remote fastnesses of China and Tibet as he is. He is the author of "Adventure, Sport and Travel on the Tibetan Steppes" and other works.

TEMPER RUNS HIGH IN JAPAN

Opposition Fighting Elections on "Privileged Class" Cry But Sorely Divided

Tokio, May 9.

The election campaign, which is being very hot to-day before [illegible] to-morrow, culminated this morning in a free fight between Seiyukai and Kenseikai canvassers in the city of Fukushima, says the *"Kokumin."* The local police were unable to control the situation and appealed for the assistance of troops. The excitement continues tense.

May 10.

To-day's election fighting is mainly, if not solely, on the question as to whether the present "privileged class" Government enjoys the confidence of the country and whether the electorate endorses the "illegal dissolution of the Diet" in January last. It is true that even if the Diet had not then been dissolved it would have run its normal course and been dissolved in the spring in accordance with the Constitution, in which case the election would no doubt have become a mere struggle for party suppremacy, whereas now all are united in an effort to overthrow the Ministry, an agreement to that end having been reached by the leaders of the three major groups, the Seiyukai, the Kenseikai and the Kakushin Club, at the time of the formation of the Ministry.

A Purely Domestic Issue

Separate Party programmes, such as are familar in the West, are practically non-existent at this election. If they do exist, the differences are so slight as to be negligible and the popular cries of "universal suffrage," "Constitutional Government" and "Upper House reform" are the features of the appeal to the electorate. The issue is thus seen to be a purely domestic one, with foreign relations not being taken into consideration.

As the campaign has advanced, the apparently united front of the Opposition parties has with difficulty withstood the strain of long-established party differences and the advantage has more recently been conceded to the Government supporters, consisting of that section of the "deserters" from the Seiyukai, entitled the Seiyuhonto. At present the Seiyuhonto are claiming a majority of seat for themselves at to-day's poll.

On the other hand the Kenseikai are confident that they will benefit from the split in the Seiyukai party and materially increases their strength even to the extent of a majority over the others.

Competent observers, however, predict about an equal representation for the Seiyukai, the Kenseikai and the Seiyuhonto, with perhaps a slight advantage in favour of the last-named party, leaving the balance of power in the hands of an unusually large number of Independents, most of whom may be expected to side with the Government.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Fighting Round the Booths

May 10.

Brilliant sunshine favoured election day, when the candidates and canvassers were early astir. The booths opened at 6 o'clock this morning and closed at six this evening.

In Tokio the voting passed off quietly, but reports from the provinces indicate that the excitement has resulted in many places in clashes between the rivals, sometimes ending in bloodshed.

The greatest interest centres in Morioka, where Mr. Takasashi, the President of the Seiyukai, is facing a very hot struggle.

More than 800 canvassers have been arrested for alleged violation of the election law.

The counting will take place to-morrow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Further Instances of Violence

Tokio, May 11.

Mr. Takahashi, the leader of the Seiyukai party, has been elected for Morioka.

Later.

With the counting of the returns, except in the principal cities, postponed till Monday, the final results of the elections will not be known till Tuesday or even Wednesday.

The most interesting result hitherto announced is that at Morioka, where Mr. Takahashi's majority of 49 is larger than was anticipated.

Reports from the provinces regarding the incidents on polling-day multiply the instances of violence and clashes between canvassers, giving evidence of the keenness of the struggle for votes, while allegations of "Government interference" are prominently featured.

The opinion is generally expressed that the Government must be in a minority against the combination of the Opposition parties.

Later.

The returns until 4 o'clock this afternoon are as follows:—

Kenseikai	37
Seiyukai	21
Kakushin Club	8
Seiyuhonto	16
Business men	6
Independents	16

Among those defeated is Mr. Nakahashi, former Minister of Education and the leader of the Seiyuhonto.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Faction Fights Between Partisans of Rival Candidates

Tokio, May 12.

Though the election is over, the announcement of the poll at Morioka, Numadzu and elsewhere led to a recrudescence of disturbances. Partisans of the defeated candidates stormed their rivals' committee-rooms, doing considerable damage to property. Factional fights at Numadzu necessitated calling up police reinforcements from neighbouring towns before order was restored.

The results up to noon to-day were as follows:—

Kenseikai	63	seats.
Seiyukai	36	„
Seiyuhonto	41	„
Kakushin Club	16	„
Businessmen's Party	9	„
Independents	28	„

Later.

The results of the elections up to five this evening were as follows:—

	seats.
Kenseikai	103
Seiyukai	65
Seiyuhonto	62
Kakushin Club	21
Businessmen's Party	9
Independents	38

—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Osaka, May 12.

The popular election cry, "Down with privileged class Government," appears to have carried the day. The results up to seven to-night conclusively confirm the view expressed by businessmen here on May 9 that the result of the elections would probably be much like the British election in December, namely, that the Government party would fail to secure a majority and that the seats would be divided among the principal parties, none of which would hold a majority. The Government's supporters are far short of the majority, while the Opposition parties have already secured 242 out of 464 seats in the Lower House. The Kenseikai is leading and will probably return 150 members.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Opposition's Large Majority: Demand for Resignation of the Premier

Tokio, May 13.

With an overwhelming defeat of its partisans certain, the Cabinet met this morning to discuss its own fate. It is understood that the debate was intense. The Cabinet was divided into two nearly equal factions, the first, to which, it is understood, Viscount Kiyoura belongs, favouring resignation after the State celebration of the Prince Regent's wedding early in June, and the second, headed by Dr. Mizuno, the Home Minister, urging remaining at least until the Diet convenes and then possibly resorting to another dissolution.

The returns, with only nine seats missing, show that the Government party are barely one-third of the new House, the combined Opposition commanding 282 seats, not counting probably 20 Independents who are likely to join them. The Kenseikai strength is the outstanding feature, and that party is capable of demanding that its President, Viscount Kato, shall be the next Premier.

The latest count is as follows: Kenseikai 153, Seiyukai 101, Kakushin Club 28, Seiyuhonto 110, Businessmen's Party 12, Independents 57.

Official Returns

Later.

The official returns of the elections are as follows:—

Kenseikai	156	seats
Seiyukai	101	„
Kakushin Club	50	„
Seiyuhonto	120	„
Businessmen's Party	8	„
Independents	57	„

The foregoing are complete except for two seats at Hokkaido, where a storm on May 10 necessitated postponement of the election.

The opinion is generally expressed that Viscount Kato, the leader of the Kenseikai, will be asked to form the next Ministry, though it is recognized that agreement with the other groups is necessary in order to hold his own. A coalition party Cabinet which will boldly retrench and plan out a definite economic and financial policy is finding favour in business circles.

Later.

It has practically been decided that the Cabinet will not determine its attitude *vis-a-vis* its defeat in the elections till after the celebration of the wedding of the Prince Regent, believing that a political change is not desired by the nation during the festivities. The Mizuno faction in the Cabinet is of the opinion that it can win over sufficient independent and other votes to make the majority and insists that this be tried before the final step is taken. It is understood that the Premier and the other Cabinet Ministers have little confidence in Dr. Mizuno's plan and are determined to resign if, after the celebration, the Opposition is still the majority. Therefore, it appears very unlikely that the Cabinet will wait to face the special session of the Diet which is now called for June 25.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Joy in Osaka.

Osaka, May 13.

The people of Osaka are delighted over the defeat of the Government, and the newspapers are demanding the immediate resignation of Viscount Kiyoura. Businessmen here believe that Viscount Kato will be the next Premier because his party is the largest of the three main parties. The Kenseikai's financial policy of retrenchment is generally approved here, but it is feared that it will cause further depression in business.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ARMS FOR CHINA

Somebody Gun-running on Large Scale But Who For?

From Our Own Correspondent.

London, April 11.

Someone is evidently gun-running to China on a very large scale. In the House of Commons this week Mr. Ponsonby, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said in reply to Mr. J. H. Harris that he was aware that attempts were being made to ship from a European country large consignments of arms and ammunition for war purposes in the East, and that attempts had been made to persuade a British shipping company to transport these munitions. The attention of Lloyd's had been drawn to the China arms embargo.

I understand the Government trying to ship these arms to China is the Czecho-Slovakian Government, that the order is about £2,000,000 in value and that the material is partly—used French and partly also quite new being manufactured in one of the armanent works in that country. The only puzzle is to know who in China is buying this vast volume of war material.

I understand that Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires in this country, has been very busy at the Foreign Office trying to ascertain further guidance as to what is happening in this mysterious matter.

Peking, May 6.—Colonel Chang Yun-chi, who was in captivity with the Japanese officers of the Yihyang Maru in Szechuen, has reached Hankow on his way back to Loyang. Colonel Chang was released in March last on payment of $10,000. He was sent to Szechuen by Marshal Wu Pei-fu.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

GOLD COINS FROM YUNNAN

For $5 and $10: Coined by Tuchun Tang Chi-yao with His Impress

Some time ago it was reported that, for the first time, probably, in the history of China, gold coins had been issued, by Gen Tang Chi-yao, former Tuchun of Yunnan, whose post is now known as that of Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Director of Military Affairs of Yunnan and who is ruler virtually of a small kingdom in the far off south-western province.

Two of these coins, which are in different denominations and naturally vary in size, one of $5 and the other of $10, have now fallen into the hands of the "North China Daily News," the former for $8 and the latter for $15. The $5 coin is slightly smaller than half-a-sovereign and a fraction large than a ten-cent piece; the $10 is approximately the size of a sovereign. The shape of the coin and the impression are the same, with the exception of the amount of their value.

On one side is an impression of a bust of Gen. Tang taken evidently from one of his portraits. This shows Gen. Tang in uniform, and bald-headed. Above are seven characters *"Chun Wu Yuan Fu Chen Chun Chang Tang"* which mean High Viceroy and Director of Military Affairs, Tang. On the reverse are two flags in the centre (one a national emblem and the other a war banner). Above these is a five-cornered star and below two tassels. Outside a ring which encircles these are the characters *"Yung Wu Kung Wo Chi Nien Chin Pei* (Commemmoration gold coins for the upholding and the protection of democracy), while below are five others, separated from the other characters by two stars, denoting the value of the coin. These being the characters *"Tang Pei Yen . . . Yuan"* (To be used as $. . . silver currency).

Whether Gen. Tang has minted these coins with or without the approval of the Central Government we are unable to say, but it is possible that the Peking Government, (or even Dr. Sun Yat-sen, from whom Gen. Tang professes to take orders), knew nothing of the coins until they were issued because Tang is "independent" of the Peking Administration.

Illegal Minting

Whilst on the subject of minting without permission from the Central Government, it may be noted that not a little interest is being taken in the proposal made by a number of Chinese financiers to uphold national currency and to put a stop to illegal minting. It has been suggested that the Chambers of Commerce, the Chinese and Foreign Bankers' Associations, the Native Bankers' Guilds and merchant organizations throughout the country should desist from selling silver or copper bars to the different mints; that no coins manufactured by these mints be accepted or sold; that searching investigations should be made into the amount of currency in circulation; and that coins should be selected from time to time and sent to Shanghai for analysis so that the results may be broadcast here by the Chambers of Commerce and the Bankers' Association with the assistance of the newspapers.

The financiers recommend also that banks which do not act in accordance with these suggestions be boycotted.

PEKING'S ROADS TO BE IMPROVED

Peking, May 11.

At yesterday's meeting of the Cabinet Dr. Wellington Koo and Admiral Wu Yu-lin pointed out the deplorable condition of the roads in Peking, which has recently been the subject of unfavourable comment by both foreigners and Chinese, and suggested that part of the proceeds of the new house tax should be devoted to improvements of roads. This was agreed to by the other members of the Cabinet, and it was decided that the matter should immediately be brought to the attention of the proper authorities.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The purchase of 1,000 Browning pistols and 500,000 rounds of ammunition by Gen Ma Lien-cha, Tuli of Anhui, is reported in the Chinese press.

DOUBLE TRAGEDY IN WUSIH

Wife Shot Dead by Husband who then Shoots Himself in The Secret Garden

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wusih, Ku., May 13.

At the foot of Wei San lies an exquisite little garden, surrounded by high walls and entered through a most unpromising white plaster "foreign" gate, which is utterly misleading as to what lies within. Owing to this concealing gate and to the charm of the garden, the foreign residents of Wusih have nicknamed the place The Secret Garden, after Mrs. Burnett's delightful child story of that name.

This idyllic spot was the scene, on the day of China's Humiliatiion, of a sad double tragedy, when a young man took his wife and two children to the garden, and while they were crossing a small stone bridge over an artificial lake, he shot and killed, first his wife and then himself. It is said that he is being considered a martyr to patriotism and that the deed popularly viewed in that light, is being much extolled, and is only too, apt to have imitators when the next anniversary comes round. A more sordid rumour, however, has it that the deed was due to depression over overwhelming losses in unfortunate investments.

Bad Weather for Silk.

The season is particularly unfavourable for silk worms, and unless the weather speedily improves the year will be a very unsuccessful one. Mulberry leaves are very low in price. The wheat crop has also suffered from the rain and cold. The new East water gate is now open to the passage of boats and furnishes a useful short cut between the country and city.

Dame Anderson's Visit.

Dame Adelaide Anderson visited Wusih for two days last week and in the course of her visit inspected a number of cotton mills and silk filatures, and addressed a small meeting of interested Chinese and foreigners. Dame Adelaide impresses one strongly with her fine balance and common sense, and instinct for adapting her ideas to an unusual environment. She was accompanied by Miss Dingman, who also addresed the meeting.

SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE TEACHERS

A Summer Institute for Science Teachers at Tsing Hua College, Peking under the auspices of the National Association for the Advancement of Education will open on July 10, closing on August 8.

This Institute was established for college graduates who are now teaching science in colleges and middle schools. The number of members was fixed at 150 and already 127 of this number have enrolled. Three courses are offered —Biology. Chemistry and Physics. The following are in charge of the courses:—Biology—Dr. C. C. Chen, Shanghai College, Shanghai; Dr. C. F. Wu, Soochow University, Soochow; Mr. A. E. Severinghans, Premedical School, Peking Union Medical College, Peking; Mr. S. S. Chien, National Agricultural College, Peking. Chemistry—Dr. W. H. Adolph, Shantung Christian University, Tsinan; Mr. K. P. Young, Tsing Hua College, Peking; Dr. S. T. Loo, University of Amoy, Amoy; Dr. E. V. Jones, University of Nanking, Nanking. Physics—Dr. P. I. Wold, Visiting Professor, Nankai University, Tientsin; Mr. Y. C. Mei, Tsing Hua College, Peking; Mr. C. H. Corbett, Yenching University, Peking; Mr. Y. M. Wen, National Normal University, Peking.

INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE IN PEKING

Peking, May 11.

The Government has resolved that a central industrial conference shall be held in Peking this autumn. It will be attended by the provincial industrial commissioners, representatives of Chambers of Commerce and various commercial and public bodies. The date has not yet been arranged.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ATTRACTIVE SUMMER RESORT

Large Influx of Vistors Expected in Tsingtao: The Publicity Bureau

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tsingtao, May 6.

The new Administration is showing in various ways a businesslike attitude, the latest exhibition of energy, in contradistinction to the old let-things-slide policy, being the establishment of a publicity bureau, with foreign pressmen as honorary advisors. Mr. T. C. Kuo, the Director of General Affairs, and Mr. Thomas Tsung-te Gow, the Governor's private secretary, are the men responsible for the efforts, now begun, to boost Tsingtao as a summer resort. This year, the advertising campaign must necessarily be on a limited scale, due to the insufficiency of time available, but be that as it may, several thousands of pamphlets in English, appropriately illustrated, are being printed and will be broadcast within the next few days.

Tsingtao, during the coming summer, bids fair to be the gayest holiday resort in the Far East. With the disruption of tourist facilities in Japan, as a result of the earthquake disaster of last September, a large number of foreign residents in other treaty ports have applied for reservations in local hotels. Mr. Kuo and Mr. Gow are of the opinion that, in view of the forthcoming influx of visitors, life in Tsingtao during this summer will be a very gay one, and are consequently doing all in their power to safeguard the welfare of the foreigner.

During a meeting with foreign pressmen the other day, in reference to the Administration's campaign to boost Tsingtao, Mr. Kuo said:—

"Of the various treaty ports of China, Tsingtao offers a very happy combination of business opportunities and residential attraction. It morever has an excellent climate and all the requisite facilities to render it a highly satisfactory place as a summer resort.

"It is true that the foreign population is not now what it used to be, on account of post-war conditions, but, as time goes on, when commerce is in full swing, there is bound to be an increase in the number of European, American and Japanese residents.

"In the matter of climate—always an important factor to the Westerner—Tsingtao is unsurpassed by any port in the Orient. And the fact that it is connected with Hongkong, Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking, Hankow and Japan by frequent steamship and railway services, makes it accessible to people residing in these places."

Trade Facilities.

Reverting to the inauguration of the publicity bureau, Mr. Gow, the Governor's secretary, said that its purpose was also to furnish information to people interested in the trade of this territory. Any query as to the price of any given commodity, the quantity available at any one time, the possibilities of development, and so forth, will receive the bureau's attention.

"We realize the task before us is fairly great," said Mr. Gow, "but that makes it all the more interesting. No achievement that is at all worth while has ever been made without up-hill work."

Attractions for Holiday-Makers.

Hotel men and *pension* owners are busily engaged in effecting preparation so as to cope with the predicted influx of visitors. The Strand Hotel has undergone extensive renovations and alterations under the guidance of Mr. T. Herlihy, one of the most experienced hotel men in the Far East. The bathing boxes are being repainted and taken good care of, and the process of allotting them to local residents, after the number required for the guests of the hotel had been set aside, will be effected very shortly.

The Administration has signified its willingness to bear half the cost of putting the band-stand in proper shape, and has undertaken to have the beach and the promenade patrolled in an efficient manner, thereby guaranteeing the maximum of safety and the minimum of inconvenience to visitors. The riesha traffic will be regulated and rules for its efficient control are now being formulated.

ROADBUILDERS BUSY IN HONAN

First Motor-car Makes Its Appearance in Fukow: Popularity of Bicycles

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Fukow, Honan, Apr. 30

I have recently been on a journey to the southwest of the province, where travelling has been very unsafe for the past year or two. Last year barrow-men could hardly get through, and now every one is rejoicing that with the removal of "Old Foreigner," (Lao Yang-jen) the roads are once more open.

Part of the road is the old highway from the southwest of China to Peking which has been used for centuries. Orders have gone forth from Marshal Wu Pei-fu to construct a motor road. I saw wooden posts marking out the road, but all that seemed to have been done was the throwing up earth from the side on to the centre. The road runs over the foothills and will be difficult to construct properly, as the freshets from the hills would make havoc of it during the summer.

Great excitement was caused in this city by the advent of a motor, the first that had ever been seen. But with roads deep in dust and sand, the driver said he would not like to bring the car here again until rain had laid the dust. There is, however, talk of a service between Hsuchow on the railway and Taikang. This is said to be the work of the military, and it is promised that the highway will be ready for traffic in a month's time, but something ought to be done to the roads first. Taikang has a service to Kaifeng. Chowchiakow has cars running weekly to the railway at Yencheng, so the motor seems to have come to stay. It can be imagined what a boon is the motor-car, when a long two day's journey ten or 12 hours in a bumpy springless cart is reduced to a ride in a car to one of three or four hours. Here there quite a demand for the ordinary bicycle. It is amusing to be still accosted by the villagers with the cry "the foreign horse has come."

The Northern Drought.

In common with the rest of the province, this district has been suffering from drought, no snow and hardly any rain having fallen all the winter. The prospect of the wheat harvest was very poor, but a downpour last week saved the situation. For the first time since the revolution, the City God was taken out at the spring festival, and carried round in procession, the official and gentry going in person to burn incense. The official is one of the old school.

Heavy fines are being inflicted on those selling opium, or even smoking it. Fortunately last autumn no opium was planted in this district. I expect the farmers are congratulating the moves that they did not do so, as those who sowed the drug in the neighbouring district of Yenling have been heavily fined and had to uproot the crop as well.

I am sorry to have to report a recrudencence of kidnapping and holding to ransom wealthy farmers. One who has been living in the city for the last year returned to his home, only three or four miles away, and hardly crossed the threshold, when armed men seized him. His not resisting was the means of preserving his life, as another man the same day was shot dead while trying to defend himself. The poor people have no means of redress as they are not allowed to possess arms, and if they call for help, the robbers promptly fire their houses. The bandits are evidently former followers of the "Old Foreigner," who on his death, have scattered all over the province to carry on business on their own account.

GREAT significance is attached, states the "Eastern Times," to the fact that the family of Marshal Wang Cheng-ping, Governor of Chihli and Associate Governor-General of Chihli, Shantung and Honan, has left for Mukden. Although a leading member of the Chihli party who took a prominent part in the Chihli-Fengtien war two years ago, Marshal Wang is a native of Fengtien. It is rumoured that he is about to throw in his lot with Marshal Chang Tso-lin.

JAPAN AND SOVIET

Resumption of Negotiations

Peking, May 14.

Mr. Yoshizawa, Japanese Minister to Peking, called on M. Karakhan this afternoon and, after handing a memorandum to the latter, held a conference lasting three hours and a half. It is understood that M. Karakhan will call on Mr. Yoshizawa at the Japanese Legation to-morrow morning.

Later.

It is learnt on good authority that in the course of to-day's interview between Mr. Yoshizawa and M. Karakhan, the latter expressed his desire that the Russo-Japanese negotiations would make good progress, and that the outstanding feature of the interview was that both parties endeavoured to reach an agreement by making mutual concession.—Eastern News Agency.

Tokio, May 15.

This morning's papers predict the possible re-opening of formal Russo-Japanese negotiations in the near future. It is understood that the Foreign Office has given instructions to Mr. Yoshizawa, Japanese Minister in Peking, with regard to M. Karakhan's recent Note regarding the status and powers of the Russian and Japanese representatives.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking Hankering for Karakhan

Peking, May 15.

During a discussion in the Senate yesterday on the resolution urging M. Karakhan's recall, it was pointed out that the best way was to await an official statement on the Sino-Russian situation. The resolution, therefore, was referred to the Foreign Affairs Committee for further inquiry and report and the Premier and the Minister of Foreign Affairs have been requested to attend the next meeting of the Senate on May 21.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE CHINA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entries to Close on May 19: Encouragement for Competitions by Women Athletes

In accordance with Article V, Sec. 5, of the Constitution of the China Amateur Athletic Union, an official meeting of the Union will be called at the time of the third National Athletic Championships at Wuchang, Hupeh. The meeting will be held in the Assembly Room of Chung Hwa University, Wuchang, at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, May 23.

The programme of the Games follows:—

Thursday, May 22, 10 a.m.—Official opening. Parade of the athletes, welcome speeches, Boys Scout demonstration. 2.30 p.m.—Preliminaries in track and field, tennis, basketball, volleyball, football, Boy Scout individual championships.

Friday, May 23, 9.30 a.m.—Pentathlon, swimming preliminaries, tennis, basketball, baseball preliminaries. 2.30 p.m.—Track and field preliminaries concluded, Boy Scout swimming, Chinese boxing, Football semi-finals, volleyball finals, Decathlon, first five events.

Saturday, May 24, 9.30 a.m.—Swimming finals, basketball finals, baseball finals, gymnastic competition, Decathlon second five events and final. 2.30 p.m.—Track and field finals, football finals, tennis finals, Boy Scout Patrol Championships, prize distribution.

Entries officially close on May 15 with the Hon. Secretary, China Amateur Athletic Union, 20 Museum Road, Shanghai. Post entries will be received, however, as late as May 19, by post or telegram at Wuchang. After that no entries will be received, as heats, etc., will have been drawn.

The programme as outlined does not specially mention competitions for women. The committee wish, however, to have it understood that this does not mean that such are barred. They wish rather to announce that competitions for women will be conducted under special regulations if entries are received in volleyball, tennis and other events.

"HUMILIATION DAY" IN ICHANG

Large Procession of Scholars with Anti-Japanese Banners But No Boycott

Ichang, May 9.

The Chinese in this town are determined that they will not forget the "National Disgrace," and have apparently organized a society to make arrangements for an annual procession. Most of the scholars at the Government Schools marched in procession through the streets to-day, carrying banners proclaiming their determination never to forget. Each scholar carried a small paper flag, and more than one school had simply adopted the word "Disgrace" as an inscription. Other flags called for a boycott, and also for the return of Port Arthur and Talienwan. The procession marched to a public garden where speeches were made. Bills have been posted broadcast on the walls, calling for a renewal of the boycott. One of the bills says: "Don't buy Japanese goods. Don't travel on Japanese ships: Don't work for Japanese: Don't have any intercourse with Japanese: Don't have a five minutes' enthusiasm."

There was, however, no evidence of any boycott at the Japanese jetty this morning, for coolies were busily discharging a cargo of cotton from a Japanese steamer in the harbour, and bales of cotton yarn were being carried to the godowns of the N.K.K.

A large Japanese cruiser has arrived in port, in addition to the ship on guard.

Arms Smuggler Executed

A gruesome sight of a head exposed to public view was to be seen here the other day. The man had been executed for arms smuggling. He had previously been sentenced to two months' imprisonment on a similar charge, but after release had returned to his evil ways.

There was a heavy thunderstorm here on the night of May 6/7, which, fortunately, stopped the spreading of what might have been a very bad fire. A large bookseller's shop in the heart of the town was burned down, the loss being estimated at about $20,000 but the heavy rain prevented other houses from catching fire.

Junkmen's Appeal for Help

The Wanhsien Chamber of Commerce has taken a bold step. They declare that the Junkmen's Guild has rendered much public service and thereby has incurred some debt. In order to extinguish this debt, the Chamber desires to raise money and has arranged a meeting of Chinese merchants and foreign firms for this purpose. It is proposed that foreign firms should consent to pay a tax of one per cent. on the freight of all cargo carried from Wanhsien, which is to be paid to the Junkmen's Guild to clear the debts. This is regarded as another attempt to "squeeze" on the Upper Yangtze traffic, and it is expected that the foreign firms will resist it. It is said that one or two of the smaller ships have agreed to pay.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE OPIUM MONOPOLY IN KIANGSI

Endeavour to Oust Gen. Tsai

Peking, May 12.

The leading people in Kiangsi are getting together to consider ways and means of ousting Gen. Tsai Cheng-hsun, Tuli of the province, who has recently made himself somewhat unpopular over his opium monopoly. A week or so ago it was reported on good authority that the Chinese Government had decided to recall Gen. Tsai, appointing Gen. Chang Hsi-yuan (Tutung of Chahar) in his place, but nothing appears to have been done. The gentry of Kiangsi are now holding meetings to discuss what steps shall be taken to induce the Government to carry out its chaban against Gen. Tsai and to take drastic measures to remedy the trouble.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FIGHTING AT AMOY

Peking, May 13.

The *"Hsing Pao"* says that fighting occurred at Amoy between naval men and Gen. Chang Yi's troops.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

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SHANGHAI NEWS

OPENING OF THE UNION JACK CLUB

Admiral Leveson Expresses the Navy's Appreciation of Shanghai's Hospitality: Navy League and Race Club Enterprise

The Navy was duly established in s new home in Myburgh Road n Monday afternoon, when the ommander-in-chief of the China tation, Admiral Sir Arthur eveson, K.C.B., opened the per- anent Union Jack Club erect- d and equipped by the avy League and the Shanghai ace Club. For many years now he Race Club has made the enter- ainment of Jack ashore its special are, and it is only by reason of the ery handsome support given by he Club that the present enterprise as been made possible. The Union ack Club, some details of which ave already been given in these olumns, should please the sailors mmensely, for in size, appearance nd equipment it provides them ith comfortable and attractive uarters in which to rest and enjoy hemselves, and when everything is n proper shape and the decoration f the building has been completed hey will have a Club worthy of the ervice and a little better than nest. The accommodation includes spacious entertainment hall, dining oom, billiard room with two excel- nt tables, library, writing room, room for Petty Officers, and a owling alley, whilst a bar has also houghtfully been provided. There re several light and airy dormitor- es on the upper floors, with per- anent accommodation for 70 men nd emergency equipment for 00 more. As in the case f the old club, the bar nd kitchen arrangements will e adequate for all needs, enabling he men to get the best of food and efreshment at very moderate harges. The maintenance of the Club is assured, and the best hanks the men can give to its promoters will be by making the fullest possible use of it in prefer- nce to the many less attractive laces clamouring for their esteem- d patronage.

The Opening Ceremony.

With a silver key presented to im by Mr. J. T. W. Brooke (on be- alf of the architects, Messrs. avies & Brooke), Admiral Leve- on opened the main door of the lub promptly at 5.15, and was first o sign the guests' book in the en- rance hall. Visitors, of whom here were many and chiefly repre- entatives of the Navy League and he Race Club, and service men, hen gathered in the entertainment all, where speeches appropriate to he occasion were made.

Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., H.M. Consul-General, began by saying hat the portrait of the late Mr. W. S. Jackson had been given a prominent place in the hall, because it was with Mr. Jackson that the idea of a Union Jack Club for Shanghai originated. That was in 1918, when he was Chairman of the Stewards of the Race Club, and it was in that year that the first Club was opened in Thibet Road. Some 20 years ago, continued Mr. Barton, the Shanghai branch of the Navy League acquired, by subscription amongst its members in Shanghai, a piece of land in the western dis- rict with the idea of providing the men of H. M. Navy with a recrea- ion ground, It was found, how- ever, that the ground was too far away to be of use and so in 1920 it was decided to sell the property, which fortunately had appreciated very much in value since it was bought, and the proceeds of that sale were devoted to the provision of a site for a permanent home for the Club. The sum realized, about Tls. 60,000, was not sufficient to provide for the erection and equip- ment of a building such as they had now, and provision of the greater part of the necessary funds was due to the continued generosity of the Race Club, who decided to continue their support (applause). The Race Club provided some Tls. 80,- 000, on a mortgage on the building, and it was also providing a certain amount for upkeep, while the Navy League had established a guarantee fund which would prevent any pos- sibility of a sudden demise of the Club, should any unforseen emer- gency arise. Control of the Club would be in the hands of a Com- mittee, assisted by representatives of the Navy League and of the Race Club, and they had secured the services of an experienced Naval pensioner to act as resident manager.

Shanghai had owed much to His Majesty's Navy, Mr. Barton went on to say, from the opening of the port up to now, and it was hoped that that building would serve both as a reminder of that debt and an incentive to its continued recognition (applause).

On behalf of the Shanghai Branch of the Navy League and of the Shanghai Race Club, the Consul-General then asked Admiral Leveson to declare the Club open, and accept on behalf of His Majesty's Navy the accommodation and entertainment which the Club aimed to provide (applause).

The Navy Fond of Shanghai.

Admiral Leveson, responding, expressed his own keen pleasure and the thanks of all ranks and ratings for the excellence of the gift of the Union Jack Club and the extraordinarily kind manner in which it had been put forward. To the members of the Navy League and of the Shanghai Race Club he expressed the thanks of the whole British Navy, those present and those who were to come. The generosity of the Shanghai Race Club to the Navy was beyond words, said the Admiral. On every possible occasion the Club had done everything to welcome the sea Service; and not only in Shanghai, for their interest and hospitality had extended as far up the Yangtze as Chungking, where they had started a Union Jack Club (applause). "We know very well indeed," continued Admiral Leveson, "that the Race Club are a grand lot of sportsmen, and among them are two super-sportsmen, Mr. Toeg and Mr. Dallas. Having in a most sportsmanlike manner won the Champions with Columbia, they are going to present the Club with a bust of His Majesty the King, a replica of the one in the Shanghai Club. I congratulate them on their success in the Champions, and on behalf of the Club thank them for this gift.

"Before the war, the Navy was gathered in Home waters ready for events, and now we are pushing out again into the world, and one thing which has struck me very forcibly in coming East again is the kindness and hospitality shown to the Navy by British communities wherever the Navy goes (applause). This has especially been shown in Shanghai. The Navy loves coming here (laughter). Everybody looks forward to coming to Shanghai. The war brought civilians and the fighting services very much side by side. We could not have carried on the war without the civilians, and we cannot carry on the peace without them. They helped us during the war and their help now is clearly shown in this magnificent Club where the sailor ashore will find rest and be assured that everything will be done to make him welcome. I have now pleasure in declaring this Club open for the enjoyment of the sea Service (applause).

Mr. A. W. Burkill, speaking as Chairman on behalf of the Stewards and members of the Race Club, thanked Admiral Leveson for his expression of appreciation, and took the opportunity of thanking the non-British members of the Race Club for the loyal support they had always given to the Union Jack Club (applause). The Race Club membership was composed of many nationalities, and it had always been an intense pleasure to find there were no more loyal supporters taking an interest in the Union Jack Club than his non-British colleagues, and this had been of great assistance when they were running the Club. The Navy League would now carry on, but the Race Club would continue to take an interest in it and, as far as was humanly possibly to promise, the Race Club would see that the necessary financial assistance was forthcoming so that the Club could be conducted as in the past (applause). After paying a tribute to the work of the Secretary of the Race Club (Mr. A. W. Olsen), to whose excellent and energetic work the successful running of the Club has hitherto been due, Mr. Burkill assured Admiral Leveson that what the Club had been able to do for the Navy in Shanghai was in no way commensurate with the debt of gratitude which we owed to the Navy.

Mr. John Prentice also spoke briefly on behalf of the Navy League, impressing upon Admiral Leveson that he must bring his ships oftener to Shanghai so that the Club would be well used.

The company then inspected the Club and afterwards enjoyed its hospitality.

The Building Described.

The new building is six storeys high and presents quite an imposing appearance, marred only by the fact that the front of it has had to be set back from the third floor level upwards owing to the narrowness of Myburgh Road. The ground floor, in addition, of course, to the vestible and entrance hall, will contain a bowling alley. This is not completed as yet, however, for it is thought desirable to wait a few months for the floor to settle, so that the alley may be laid without any danger of uneveness showing itself later. The general clubroom is on the first floor and is some 60 ft. long by 30 wide, containing a bar and dining room 26 ft. by 35 ft. On the same floor are kitchen, pantries, and serving rooms. The Recreation room contains a small platform for concerts, etc., and a cinema chamber. On the second floor are two billiard rooms containing three tables, petty officers' room, writing room and library, also the manager's office, servants' rooms, store rooms and servants' kitchen. The third and fourth floors contain sleeping accommodation normally for 68 men, though in emergency a good many more can be accommodated. A few single and double rooms are provided on the third floor, but the rest is made up of dormitories to accommodate about ten men each. The fifth floor contains a residential flat for the manager, consisting of a living room, two bedrooms bathroom and pantry. There are two flat roofs, one on top of the residence and the other over the front portion at the fifth floor level. The whole building is of fire proof construction faced externally with red brick and Japanese granite plaster. Heating will be by means of hot water radiators. The floors of the principle rooms are of oak, while the hall and the large recreation room have wall panelling of Lauau, nine ft. high. The floor of the entrance hall, stairs landings and corridors are of terrazo.

THE ANXIOUS ARCHITECT

Mr. J. T. W. Brooke in frantic search for the key of the new Union Jack Club.

THE engagement is announced of Miss L. G. Ankoodinoff and Mr. H. J. Walter, assistant manager of Messrs. Rosenberg China Co., both residents of Shanghai.

THE GLENAMOY ASHORE IN A FOG

Passengers Brought to Shanghai: Salvage Tugs at Work

The Glen Line's fine motor vessel, the Glenamoy, is in trouble in the Chusan Archipelago, having gone ashore on Video Island, one of the southernmost of the group, during a fog on Sunday afternoon. She was *en route* to Shanghai from England at the time and carried a few passengers.

On Monday the stranded vessel was sighted by the China Navigation Co.'s str. Chêkiang, which stood by for a while, but, being unable to do anything else, took off the passengers and brought them to Shanghai on Tuesday. Immediately on receipt of the news of the accident, two of the Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co's. salvage tugs were sent to the aid of the stranded vessel and the last news received was that divers were at work ascertaining the extent of the damage and the possibilities of refloating the vessel.

It is not believed that the Glenamoy has been seriously damaged and there is said to be deep water under her stern.

Rescue Work Hindered.

Heavy seas are delaying rescue work where the Glenamoy went ashore a few days ago in the Chusan Archipelago.

The task of getting her off into deep water was not commenced till high water on Wednesday evening at 5 o'clock. In the meantime cargo was discharged and divers from the Tug & Lighter Co.'s tugs, which went out to the scene, made several attempts to go below and find out what damage has been done. They have been unsuccessful owing to the roughness of the weather, so that it is not known whether or not the vessel is seriously damaged. Those responsible are hopeful for the ultimate success of the venture, but heavy seas are sweeping in over the port side, where the harm has been done. Her stern is in deep water.

The vessel is ashore on Video Island, one of the southernmost of the group.

Steamer in Dangerous Position

It has been ascertained that considerable damage has been done to the vessel, but hopes are still entertained that the salvage operations will prove successful, though the attempts so far made by the Shanghai Tug & Lighter vessels to draw her off the rocks have failed. The No. 1 and 2 holds are flooded, and there is a danger that when the vessel is refloated pressure of water against the bulkhead may result in the flooding of No. 3 hold, next to the engines. Fortunately, the weather at the moment is fair, and lighters are at work removing cargo, lightening the ship preparatory to further efforts to refloat her.

ENCROACHMENT ON THE FORESHORE

Invasion by Turtles, Snakes and Frogs: Scramble for Turtles by Chinese

Thousands of snakes, bullfrogs and turtles made their appearance at low tide along the Bund on Sunday.

Wave after wave of squirming, greenish brown serpents varying in length from one to, in some cases, six feet attempted to struggle up the bunding. Those which succeeded in getting near the coping were killed by Chinese, who, in defiance of orders not to trespass on that part of the Bund reserved for foreigners, had assembled in crowds during the morning. When sent away by the police they doubled along the sloping bunding, assisting boatmen to kill the snakes which, at the turn of the tide, appeared in still greater numbers and made still more determined efforts to get ashore.

Chinese standing at the edge of the public jetties in the afternoon lowered ropes up each of which a snake immediately coiled and recivel its *coup de grace* with a bamboo stick.

There was a great scramble at low water for turtles, which were not killed. The Chinese carried them away by the armful, presumably with the intention of killing them for the table or else for "good joss."

An old resident among the onlookers recalled a similar invasion some years ago, but said he did not see such swarms as were landed by the tide yesterday.

"I remember they made their appearance on the Soochow Creek side of the Public Gardens," he went on. "Residents crowded into the garden and the killing of snakes went on for days. One evening I was sitting near the bunding, when a six-footer shot past my shoulder into the Huangpu. After that, I believe, no one ever saw a snake again in the gardens."

THE ANDRE LEBON ARMS SEIZURE

Five Further Arrests: Sampan containing four Pistols and 600 Rounds

Two Chinese members of the Water Police force were on duty in a sampan in the Huangpu off Lay Road on the 8th instant about ten minutes before eight o'clock when they observed three men in another sampan, under suspicious circumstances. They made towards them and as they did so the men threw something over the side. A small box of cartridges was found in the sampan, and the three men, —members of the crew of the M.M.S. André Lebon, on which 50 pictols and several thousand rounds of ammunition were seized last Saturday, were handed over to Superintendent Woodfield, who decided there was insufficient evidence against them, and returned them to their ship on condition they would be handed over to him again if any arms or amunition were found on dredging that portion of thee harbour where the men were seen to throw something over the side. Later that evening a quantity of pistols was found in the spot in question, and the men consequently were re-arrested and handed over to the French Police.

A fourth member of the crew of the André Lebon was arrested in somewhat similar circumstances in the early hours of Friday last, when two Chinese River policemen apprehended him in a sampan and found him to be in possession of four pistols and 600 rounds of ammunition. He also was handed over to the French Police.

Another member of the crew of the str. André Lebon was arrested by Customs Officer Santo on the B. & S. wharf on the 8th instant, and was found to be the possessor of a quantity of pistols and ammunition. He came before the French Courts last Friday morning and the case was remanded.

ART EXHIBITION OPENED

A Fine Display of Local Pictorial Talent in "N.-C. D. N." Building

The Art Exhibition conducted under the auspices of the China Society of Science and Arts which was opened on Tuesday morning was a surprise to most of the visitors both in the extent and quality of the work displayed. A large number, both exhibitors and the public, were present at 11 o'clock when the exhibition was formally opened by Mr. H. E. Gibson, of the exhibition committee, who took the place of Mr. Fessenden who was detained in court and so unable to be present.

Mr. Gibson referred to the unexpected pleasure of being able to open this exhibition of pictures which had been collected by the China Society of Science and Arts to whose officers much credit was due for their efficient work in arranging the details of the exhibition. Mr. Gibson said that this was the first art exhibition since the war, the last having been held in the French Concession to obtain funds for war charities. This marked the start of further art exhibitions for both amateurs and professionals.

The speaker went on to say that he was very much pleased that so many pictures were on view and that he trusted this would be followed by others and that they might always secure so good a place as these rooms lent by the "North-China Daily News." He then declared the exhibition open.

The Committee's Hard Work

Mr. Arthur de C. Sowerby, President of the Society, added that he wished particularly to thank the Committee who had worked so hard and so willingly to bring this Exhibition into being. The service involved, he went on, had been great, as they had been literally inundated with pictures, many more than they had any idea they should receive, over 60 exhibitors being represented with more than 500 pictures. The China Society of Science and Arts, established nearly a year now, had as one of its main objects the fostering and encourgement of the love of art and the production of art.

It was very interesting, the speaker went on, to see how Chinese artists were taking to European art methods. There might be differences of opinion as to whether they were wise to give up their own art forms, but the results as shown here certainly showed their capacity to handle subjects in the Western manner. In thanking the "North-China Daily News" for their courtesy in allowing the use of the rooms for this exhibition, Mr. Sowerby referred to the great difficulty in finding suitable places for such displays and the necessity for some permanent home for future exhibits. After this an opportunity was given for those present to inspect the pictures, meet many of the exhibiting artists, and sample the delicious fruit punch served by the ladies of the committee.

Two Schools of Art.

As may be imagined, it is quite impossible to give an adequate description of the large number of pictures hung. One of the interesting facts brought to the attention of visitors was that there are two schools of art in Shanghai, the Shanghai College of Fine Arts and the Shanghai Teachers' College of Arts, both of them teaching Chinese art according to Western methods. Two extremes were also noted in the work of the Chinese exhibitors, some displaying the painstaking *genre* of the old Dutch Masters, as in the interiors of Mr. W. L. Yen and others adopting the impressionistic manner as in the sketches of Mr. K. C. Kwan or Mr. Tsoo H. Lee. The latter's study of three Chinese heads, however, was quite different in style.

Entering the hallway, one's attention was focussed upon Mrs. Ronald Macleod's fine oil portrait of Mr. S. Barton, an appropriate reminder of all this artist has done to encourage art expression in Shanghai. The masterly portraits by Mrs. C. J. Ferguson of Dr. J. C. Ferguson and Miss Valerie Honnigsberg were not only excellent in brush work and handling of light values, but suggested the psychology of the sitters. Mr. A. Kets, a Flemish artist, had a group of protraits in bold colouring which attracted much attention.

The Sculpture

The sculpture of Mr. B. Y. Koci showed excellent modelling and an imaginative touch which was very effective. Mr. Chang Yu-Kon's "Labour" epitomized Chinese philosophy in a single head, and Professor Taverelli's study of heads was especially successful.

Mrs. Bertha Lum's Work

Entering the room devoted to water-colours, pastels and drawings the most outstanding exhibit was perhaps that of Mrs. Bertha Lum's prints, with some water colours by her children, Catharine and Peter. Mrs. Lum is an American artist who has studied and sketched for some time in Japan, an experience reflected in the imaginative charm and grace of her exquisitely coloured prints.

Another artist resident in Peking is Mrs. Denham whose collection, although numbering but five pictures, shows unusual versatility of technique. A sense of line and a feeling for colour underlie her work whether it is the arresting reproduction of the Ferry at Western Hills or the decorative treatment of the marble balustrade and Lotus at Pei Hai. From Tientsin Mrs. George Nathan, who is at present completing the mural decorations of the Kailan Mining Administration Building, has brought a few of her paintings, exceptionally lovely in composition and tone. The colouring in her Village Group is particularly happy and the character work in her portrait study shows the wide scope of her talent. The many friends of the Rev. C. E. Darwent will be interested to note that he is exhibiting two groups of Chinese studies.

Among local artists Mrs. E. M. Gull is exhibiting for the first time, although her interest and support of all art movements in China have long been felt. "Where Four Ways Meet" is a delightful picture of the waterways of China, and her other studies show varied technique and interests. Mrs. A. H. Swan has some appealing water-colours, showing sympathy and insight as well as excellent technique. Her "Mending Woman" is a bit of real China. Mrs. Roberts, whose work is so deservedly popular, is represented by a group of ten pictures, none of which have been shown before. Her "Canal" is a strong piece of work but her portrait studies show equal ability in that difficult field. Mr. Peyton-Griffin's water colours deserve special mention, particularly one of mountains at Weihaiwei.

In special fields Mr. Konopleff's arresting crayons show successful accomplishment of by no means simple studies, Mr. Sowerby has given artistic expression to his naturalist's knowledge and Mr. Peimin Peng notably in his charcoal sketches, shows a fine knowledge of anatomy.

Room for Selection

It must be added that, desirable as it is to encourage art production, especially in an initial exhibition, by a generous hospitality, there were some pictures hung which did not deserve wall space. The great majority of the work was of high quality and guided by this first experience the Judges of forthcoming exhibitions will be able to set higher standards for admission.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH CONFERENCE

First General Council in China

Shanghai, May 13.

An important assembly composed of all, or nearly all, the ecclesiastical dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church in China has been convened in Shanghai by his Excellency the Papal Delegate, Mgr. Costantine. This is the first General Council of the Roman Catholic Church in this country. Fifty-nine Bishops are present.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MR. H. J. BRETT, H. M. acting Commercial Counsellor of Legation, remains at Shanghai while Mr. H. H. Fox, C.M.G. is in England on leave. Mr. C. F. Garstin will act as Commercial Secretary of the Legation and will be stationed at Peking.

UNION CHURCH DINNER

Congregational Festivity: Dean Symons on the Spirit of Brotherhood

About 130 members of the Union Church congregation gathered in the gymnasium of the Navy Y.M.C.A. on the 8th instant for the spring social meeting, which, on this occasion, took the form of a congregational dinner. The arrangements for the dinner were in the hands of a committee of ladies, while the members of the newly-formed Young Women's Guild were responsible for the entertainment, providing, under the leadership of Miss Bill, assisted by Mr. Foreshaw, the Choir Secretary, several songs, and, later, leading in parlour games.

The Pastor of the Church, the Rev. A. N. Rowland, presided, and Mr. R. G. Dowie, chairman of the Church Committee, occupied the vicechair. The guests of the evening were the Very Rev. Dean Symons, of Holy Trinity Cathedral, and Mrs. Symons, and the Rev. C. M. Drury, Pastor of the Community Church, and Mrs. Drury.

Our Church.

The first toast of the evening was "Our Church," proposed by the Chairman, who remarked that the secret of a Church's strength and success was the willingness of its members to serve and to stimulate the spirit of helpfulness which would make the Church an asset to each member and to the community. In coupling with the toast the Church officers, and especially the Chairman, the Pastor paid a tribute to the enthusiasm with which Mr. Dowie had taken the lead in Church affairs, and predicted for the Church in the immediate future a period of renewed vigor and usefulness.

Mr. Dowie, in responding, emphasized the necessity of developing two qualities—unity and tenacity. The future of the Church, as of the world generally, was largely in the hands of the young, and in this connexion Mr. Dowie noted with pleasure the recent formation of the Young Women's Guild and Young Men's Guild in Union Church, and expressed the belief that these organizations will prove of great strength to the Church. They had evidence that evening of the enthusiasm shown by the young ladies, and he was sure this was but a prelude to greater service.

Our Neighbours.

The Rev. R. N. Sheppard proposed "Our Neighbours," paying tribute to the spirit of neighbourliness which characterized the community life of Shanghai, and which is particularly noticeable in the religious life of the city. The latest offspring of Union Church was the Community Church, to whom the members of Union Church wished "God-speed" in their scheme to erect a church building to extend the religious life of the community. They also thought of the Free Christian Church, among whose members the Union Church counted many warm friends and devoted workers. Referring to the Anglican Church, Mr. Sheppard spoke of the beautiful liturgy which reminded one of the services in the parish churches of the homeland, and to the breaking down in recent years of the barriers which for so long have divided the Anglicans from other branches of the Christian Church. In Shanghai those barriers had long been removed, and between Union Church and the leaders and members of the congregation at the Cathedral there had existed for many years a spirit of real brotherliness. This was due in no small measure to the personality of the Dean, whom they were glad once again to welcome in their midst. (Applause).

A Common Task.

Dean Symons, in response, remarked that while there was among the various Churches of the Community a diversity of administration—and no one would desire complete uniformity in the expression of religious ideas—there was happily a spirit of real brotherliness because they were all united in the one great bond of service for the one Master.

The Rev. C. M. Drury also responded. The Churches of the community were all engaged in one common task, and the success and welfare of one was the interest of them all. He thanked the members of the Union Church for the evidence of kindly thought and interest in the work of the Community Church, and assured those present that this interest was reciprocated.

The toast of "The Ladies" was proposed by Mr. Pugh, who referring to the work done by the ladies of the Church, complimented the gathering on the inauguration of the Young Women's Guild, whose members had given evidence that evening of interest in the Church, which promised well for the future.

Songs were contributed by Mrs. Beynon and Mrs. Umpleby.

MR. BRODIE A. CLARKE'S 80th BIRTHDAY

Mr. Brodie A. Clarke, one of the really Grand Old Men of the Settlement, last Friday celebrated the 80th anniversary of his birthday. Mr. C. M. Bain remembered the date and when the veteran called at the offices of Messrs. Maitland & Co., he found a party of friends waiting for him. Mr. Bain made a neat little speech, recalling that Mr. Brodie Clarke was the firm's oldest living friend and saying that it would be absolutely impossible for him to enumerate all the acts of kindness for which the firm was indebted to him. The same could be said by almost every one in the Settlement, for Mr. Brodie Clarke was a friend of all.

The company then drank to Mr. Clarke's continued good health and many repetitions of his birthday. In reply, Mr. Brodie Clarke said that he could not wish them better than that they all would attain to 80 years and more, and that when they were his age they would feel as fit as he could assure them he did.

It is pleasing to be able to state that the veteran is looking in the very best health.

EXPLOSION AT JESSFIELD

An explosion in the Jessfield district at 6.53 a.m. on the 8th instant, alarmed the inhabitants of the district, many fearing a repetition of the Riverside Power Plant disaster. Police investigations revealed that it had happened at the factory of the China Edison Co., when a watchman, in filling the hydrogen and oxgen tanks, turned the oxygen into the hydrogen tank and vice versâ, one of the tanks exploding. Most of the windows in the building were shattered, while fragments of the tank and glass were blown over the neighbourhood. One piece, weighing 1,500 lb. hurtled through the roof, travelled some 200 feet and dropped through the roof of the Kung Yih Cotton Mill. Luckily it touched none of the workers, but a piece of wood released by the missile fell on a female worker and injured her slightly. According to the police reports there were no fatalities.

BIG PRICES REALIZED FOR ZIH ESTATE

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s upper salesroom was crowded on Monday afternoon, when two lots of property belonging to the estate of the late Mr. Zih Chen-foo were offered for sale by public auction on instructions from Mr. S. A. Seth, administrator. The fact that the property was to be sold without any reserve price probably accounted for the large attendance.

For the first lot, land and four houses, Nos. 414-417 Ningpo Road, occupying an area of nearly two mow, bidding started at Tls. 70,000 and rose by thousands until at Tls. 90,000 it fell to the bid of Mr. Zih Dzu-sing.

The second lot was a plot of land at the corner of Burkill and Tatung Roads, together with the buildings thereon, and from an initial offer of Tls. 150,000, bidding rose by fives and tens of thousands until at Tls. 290,000 Mr. Yih Tuck-wei became the owner.

THE Very Rev. Dean Symons, and and Mrs. Symons, were "At Home" on Tuesday afternoon at the Deanery to all members of the congregation, in order to introduce the Rev. Mr. Trivett, the new Sub-Dean, and Mrs. Trivett. There was a very large attendance of friends.

THE PROPOSED FERRY SERVICE

Vessel to Begin Plying in June between Shanghai Pootung and Woosung Anchorage

In connexion with the remarks in our last issue regarding the proposed establishment of a ferry service on the river, we are informed that arrangements have definitely been made for the inauguration of the service by the middle of June.

Only one vessel will be placed in commission at the start, this being the motor vessel Bertha I, built in Vladivostok about four years ago. She is constructed of hardwood and is to have semi-Diesel engines installed before she takes up duty as a ferry boat. The principal services contemplated are the carriage of passengers from and to vessels anchored in mid-stream, at Pootung Wharves, and in the extreme limits of the harbour; the transportation, at night-time, of belated passengers and seamen to vessels lying at Woosung; and the towage of junks, cargo-boats, house-boats, etc. It is the intention eventually to have four vessels, all of a class as high as the Bertha I, engaged in the service.

A limited liability company, registered under the Hongkong ordinances, will, it is stated, be formed as soon as the Bertha I is in service. Meanwhile, shares in the one vessel (64 in all) are being offered at Tls. 93.75 a share, or a total of Tls. 6,000.

Captain W. C. Youngs, who formerly was in command of the well-known Vulcan, has the whole matter in hand at present, though it is stated that one of the biggest local British firms is favourably disposed towards the project, and possibly will have a large interest in the new Company when formed.

LOTTERY TICKETS AGAIN

Chapei Organizations' Protest: Vain Deluding Joys and Swindles Therewith

"They are like peacocks, the feathers of which are most beautiful in adornment, but the meat impossible to eat because of its coarseness." In these terms the Street Unions of Chapei emphasize their point in a petition addressed to the Civil Governor of Kiangsu, Mr. Han Kuo-chun, with reference to the issue and sale of lottery tickets "prize tickets," "lucky tickets" or "fortune tickets." as they are known to the Chinese public. A Chinese equivalent to Aesop's fable of a wolf in sheep's clothing.

In their petition, the Union state that the sale of lottery tickets has been as attractive as a magnet, but in reality it is worse than poison. The Civil Governor has already issued an order for their suppression, but while in some places they have been stopped in others they have continued on a smaller scale. Now, however, (say the writers) the lotteries have been resurrected from the dead, and are being carried on in full swing under such fine names as "savings bonds," "famine or flood bonds," and "charitable bonds," to the harm of the people. "Ignorant and poor people, seeing the lotteries and thinking they will have a chance to win the prizes, sell everything, even their homes and furniture, and buy tickets, hoping thereby to avoid the difficulties of life. What is the result? Every one loses, because they have been cheated and because there are no large prizes. If the practice is allowed to go on and no action taken to stop it, it will grow like a noxious plant and become a danger to the country." We cannot (the writers conclude) look on and refrain from bringing the matter to your notice and from speaking frankly, and we now ask you (the Civil Governor) to order the district officials to suppress the sale and the issue of the lottery tickets and to forbid their issue in future.

THE value of the silver dollar is increasing. On Sunday 192 copper cents or 12 ten-cent pieces could be obtained for a dollar. The Soochow Chamber of Commerce has telegraphed to the Civil Governor requesting him to order the mints to stop manufacturing and selling the coins until a later date, and to take rigourous action in suppressing their illegal importation from abroad.

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

Second Annual Meeting: Some 80 Missionaries Present Half of Whom Are Chinese

There are about 7,500 missionaries in China living in 713 centres. They belong to over 100 denominations and Christian organizations and work among about 8,000 Chinese congregations. The representatives of this varied group of workers in China are having their second annual meeting at the Young Allen Memorial Church, Quinsan Road. About 80 members are present over half of whom are Chinese.

Dr. David Z. T. Yui, General Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. and President of the N.C.C., is absent on furlough in the United States. In consequence Dr. Harold Balme, Vice-president of the N.C.C. and President of Tsinan University, president at the first meeting and made some introductory remarks. He stated that during the past year there has been most encouraging participation in the work of the Council. There are many, moreover, who are eagerly looking to see the Council justify its existence.

The Council has no authority whatever, it meets as an advisory body simply. Coming from all parts of China its members aim to register common opinion on problems of Christian work and to discover plans whereby they may work together to solve them.

Owing to the absence of many of the members on furlough, etc. quite a large proportion of those in attendance at the second annual meeting are substitutes of some one or other of the original members.

Among the visitors present are the following Dame Adelaide Anderson, Industrial Commissioner from England; Mrs. L. O. Lee, Secretary of the Woman's Board of the Interior American Board Mission; Rev. A. H. Mellen, Agency Secretary of the American Bible Society in Mexico; Mr. Miyazaki, Secretary of the Japan Christian Council; Dr. Witte, Director of the Protestant Evangelical Mission, Berlin; and Dr. D. Willard Lyon, Secretary of the International Committee of the Y.M.C.A.

The speeches of the afternoon which were by Mr. S. P. Chuan and Rev. Murdoch Mackenzie, were on the subject of "The Responsibility of the Council." The speakers dealt with the responsibility of the individual members and the responsibility of the Council to local congregations. Mr. Chuan said that as yet the Chinese Church lacked sufficient national consciousness to enable the Council to secure the full support that it needs. He also pointed out that the general tendency in China is to move something and go somewhere. Sufficient attention, however, is not given to the neeessity of thinking first and particularly that preliminary meditation of the relation of God to the effort put forward. He also feels that there is need for the Council to study how the ideals it puts forth may be fitted to the need of local congregations so that they may be actually worked. He spoke also of an individual Christian experience as a preliminary permanent Christian unity.

Value of "Retreats" for Leaders of the Church: The Time for Active Evangelism

The morning session of the second day of the conference of the National Christian Council was largely occupied with general business and the reports of the secretaries. Emphasis was laid on the great advantage to the secretariat in the return of the Rev. E. C. Lobenstine and much satisfaction was expressed at his promise to accept the position of one of the executive secretaries. The Council received the news of Mr. Lobenstine's consent to take this post with hearty applause. The position of Bishop Roots was referred to and much disappointment was expressed at his approaching retirement from the office of executive secretary.

Bishop Roots gave an address on "The Council's work in the light of one year's experience." The importance of the Council was emphasized as occupying itself with work that could not be accomplished by any Church and it was stated that but for this unique position there would be no place for this National Christian Council.

The matters before the Council for consideration then were enumerated as follows:—The Chinese Church in its relation to the missions and to the needs of China; retreats and evangelism; the country Church; the Christian home; the opium question; higher education; statistics and survey; religious education; a Christian Magazine and other literature. As to which of these questions was the most important at the moment and should be especially emphasized was left to the decision of the meeting.

The afternoon session was opened by a paper on "Retreats and the deepening of the spiritual life of the Church," by Rev. Y. M. Chia. Mr. Chia spoke of the value of "retreats," especially for the leaders of the Church. Experience showed that these retreats, which were not either business or ordinary prayer meetings, were great sources of power. They take their origin from the example of Christ Himself in His own periods of retirement for prayer.

Dr. Hodgkin presented the report of "The Retreats and Evangelistic Committee." He spoke of the importance of these, and of the request of this committee to free him in the coming year as much as possible for this work and to associate with the same effort Dr. C. Y. Cheng, on his return from America. Dr. Hodgkin pointed out that the time had come when the effect of the work carried on in these retreats should show itself in active evangelism.

A number of members spoke very strongly on the value of the retreats.

WEDDINGS

Cooper-White

St. Joseph's Church was beautifully decorated for the marriage of Miss Florence Maude White, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Augustus White, to Mr. Thomas Austin Cooper, son of Mrs. A. Cooper, Dulwich, London, the ceremony taking place on Monday afternoon, with the Rev. Father MacDonald officiating. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in an exquisite gown of fine silve lace over white ninon, trimmed with silver ribbon and completed by a bouquet of orange blossoms at the waist, with long strands falling to the hem. The long veil of tulle which formed the train was caught into a becoming cap with a narrow wreath of orange blossom and the bridal bouquet was of pale pink *la France* roses tied with silver ribbons. The bridesmaids, Miss Beatrice White, sister of the bride, and Miss Monica Cooper, sister of the groom, were picturesquely dressed in pale blue organdie over mauve bouffant style, trimmed with ribbons in pastel shades and narrow *ecru* lace. They wore large hats of pale blue lace straw and softly tinted flowers and carried bouquets of sweet peas tied with blue and mauve ribbon. Little Miss Joyce Bidwell, the flower girl, wore pale blue organdie, finished with a girdle of blue and lavender forget-me-nots, and a wreath of the same about her head, and carried a silver basket filled with flower petals. The bride's mother wore a handsome gown of grey georgette elaborately trimmed with steel beads and a black cloche trimmed with blue velvet and flowers.

The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. F. L. Clarke as best man and the ushers were Messrs. N. A. White, C. E. Ollerdessen, A. C. Ellis and J. B. Brown. A reception, attended by a large number of friends and relatives, was held at the home of the bride's parents, "Whitehaven," 21 Avenue du Roi Albert, which was artistically decorated with marguerites and palms. The day also marked the 30th wedding anniversary of the bride's parents, who shared the congratulations of the host of friends assembled to wish the young couple joy. The bride's health was proposed by Mr. J. Ambrose.

After the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Cooper left for their honeymoon, which will be spent at Hangchow. The bride wore a smart costume of white tricotine and a white straw cloche.

Piazza-Taroni

Another wedding was quietly celebrated at St. Joseph's Church on Monday afternoon when Mlle. Lina Taroni, daughter of Mr. G. Taroni of Como, Italy, was married to Chev. Dr. G. Piazza, of the Italian Consulate-General, who is, physician to the Duke di Spoleto. Rev. Father Grech de Cumbo, S.J., performed the ceremony, the witnesses being Chev. E. Denegri and Chev. C. Marmont. The bride wore a chic three-piece costume of brown crêpe marocain, made with a pleated skirt, a blouse of figured crêpe de chine and a short cape. With this she wore a small brown hat, with an effective touch of red, draped with a silk veil of the same shade of brown.

MARCO POLO

The Great Adventurer of Old China and His Romance: Lecture to A. W. C.

"The Great Venetian" was the subject of a lecture given by Mr. Verne Dyson at a meeting of the literary department of the American Woman's Club on Friday last. Mr. Dyson warned his audience at the outset that Marco Polo was first of all an adventurous adventurer, and that the idea of following his travels, or his story, was an impossibility on the whole.

The lecturer said that Marco Polo's visit to China followed on the return of his father and uncle from the Far East, where they had visited Kublai Khan and had been invited to return with Christian missionaries, whose religion had interested the Great Khan; Marco returned with them at the age of 17, and, by adapting himself to the customs and life of the Orient, wearing native clothing and learning no less than four of the principal dialects of China, he became a great favourite at Court.

But the life of the city did not seem to attract such an inborn explorer, so we find Marco travelling all through China, even exploring the islands of the south and the Philippines, whence he brought back to the capital marvellous tales of daring and adventure.

It is not, however, because of these stories that Marco Polo has lived in history; it is because of his detailed descriptions of the Court of China of that day, his accounts of the private life of the Khan's Court, his concubines, wives and the daily routine of that far-off day.

Though it is impossible to follow Marco with any accuracy on his wanderings, a few places with which we are familiar can still be identified—Hangchow is one of them; most, however, bear names that were probably a very rough transliteration of Mongol and Chinese place names, unrecognizable to-day. His great charm lies in his descriptions of the picturesque and unusual: the evil spirits of the Desert which lured travellers to their death, the huge serpent with claws like a lion and a mouth big enough to grasp a man—known to us as an alligator, and the folk tales and superstitions of tent and caravan.

In course of years Kublai Khan grew old and the Polos, not without unexpected difficulties, made once more for their native land on a voyage which lasted for two or three years. But Marco was no prophet in his own country. His tales of travel, of Eastern pomp and Oriental power were discredited and it was not till half-a-century after his death that his writings came into their own.

THE Earl of Cassilis, President of St. Andrew's Society, Glasgow, and Vice-President and Chief respectively of the branches in Edinburgh and London, was entertained by the local society at tiffin at the Shanghad Club on Tuesday. Mr. Colin H. Rutherford was in the chair, and after some interesting speeches, the customary greetings were exchanged between the St. Andrew's Society of Shanghai and those at Home. The Earl is the eldest son of the Marquess of Ailsa, who is Hon. President of the Edinburgh St. Andrew's Society.

AMONG the applications we receive for employment in this office the most frequent come from candidates who claim to be proofreaders. Horace Greeley's remarks in a letter to a similar applicant may prove interesting to them. "A first class proofreader could always find a place in our concern (the "New York Tribune") within a month. It only requires a universal knowledge of facts, names and spelling. My friend, if you are qualified for a proofreader you need never fear. But don't fancy the talent and knowledge required for a mere Secretary of State, President, or any such trust will be sufficient." How many editors could echo Greeley!

OBITUARY

Dr. Louis Pichon

Many old residents in the Far East will learn with very deep regret of the death of Dr. Louis Pichon, which occurred in Paris on Good Friday (April 18) at the age of 84 years, for during a residence of 21 years in Shanghai his untiring devotion to the sick and needy endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. Dr. Pichon arrived in Shanghai in 1871 and remained until 1892, when he retired from practice here. He returned to Shanghai in 1901 for a brief visit, and he was preparing for another visit when the Great War broke out. Until four years ago he had enjoyed perfect health and was as alert as ever, but then he met with an injury to his right leg and became practically an invalid.

He leaves a widow and a daughter, Mme. Baschet, who are both resident in Paris, and a son, M. Albert Pichon, Commissioner of Customs at Hangchow, to whom the deepest sympathy is extended in their bereavement. M. Albert Pichon is leaving for Home this week.

As a result of repeated protests from the Diplomatic Body, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has sent a representative to Nanking, Shanghai and Hangchow to investigate into the illegal taxation of cigars and cigarettes by the Kiangsu and Chêkiang authorities. This official has already arrived here to confer with the local officials.

THE CHINA

Architects and Builders Compendium

CHINA is one of the few countries in the world where no attempt has been made to collect and classify in book form the mass of local information that should be at the elbow of every architect, builder, civil engineer, and prospective or present house or land owner. The demand for such a work has been increasingly felt for a number of years, and the Compendium now published will meet that demand.

Shanghai, in common with many other Treaty Ports of China, is under divided control—International, French and Chinese. In the International Settlement there is a number of Consulates at which land may be registered at varying fees and under numerous regulations. The Compendium classifies these fees and regulations and also contains a mine of information relating to water, gas and electricity rates, costs of local material and labour, etc., that not only every architect must possess, but that is necessary to every prospective landlord and house owner.

The book is divided into four parts, as follows:—

Part I.—General Information connected with Land Property and Buildings:—

DIGEST OF MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENT
NOTES ON LAND REGISTRATION AND PURCHASE IN SHANGHAI.
INFORMATION AS TO TAXES AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FEES.
CHARGES OF WATERWORKS CO., TELEPHONE CO., AND ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPT.
CONSULAR FEES.
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL BUILDING RULES.
ARCHITECTS' AND SURVEYORS' CHARGES.
NOTES ON BUILDING CONTRACTS FORMS, LEASE FORMS, MORTGAGE FORMS.

Part II.—Technical Information for Architects, Builders and Civil Engineers:—

MEMORANDA AS TO STRENGTH, WEIGHT AND PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS.
PRICE LIST OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND LABOUR.
INFORMATION AS TO LOCAL CONDITIONS (i.e., SOIL, WATER, ETC.)
REQUIREMENTS AND USEFUL DATA FOR ESTIMATING COST OF BUILDINGS.
NOTES ON ARTESIAN WELLS, ETC.

Part III.—A Directory containing:—

LIST OF ARCHITECTS AND CONSULTING ENGINEERS IN SHANGHAI.
LIST OF ARCHITECTS AND CONSULTING ENGINEERS IN HANKOW
LIST OF BUILDING CONTRACTORS IN SHANGHAI.

Part IV.—Catalogue of Building Material, etc.

ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF ADVERTISERS.
ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF GOODS ADVERTISED.
ADVERTISEMENTS OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES CLASSIFIED IN SECTIONS.

In addition to the above, the Compendium also contains

Maps of Shanghai and Hankow.

The map of Shanghai is the latest map drawn up by the Municipal Council (reduced in size) and contains many new roads hitherto unmapped.

The subscription to the Compendium is TEN DOLLARS MEX. Future editions will be supplied at FIVE DOLLARS per copy provided that the previous edition is returned.

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CORRESPONDENCE

CHINA'S RULES FOR FOREIGN AVIATORS.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Of all the [illegible] which have emanated from the [illegible] Peking Government in recent years, [illegible] for Foreign [illegible] fly over China's [illegible] and [illegible] from [illegible] of it. It has the [illegible] story, embarrassing to [illegible] as it may be made extra sure of [illegible] effect of sentiment be found [illegible] Peking and American peoples into the belief that China is a well organized, well governed country and that Peking is still the centre of effective control throughout the land. That of course is part of the insidious campaign which has been on foot ever since the Washington Conference to lead the Treaty Powers into consenting to the readjustment of extraterritoriality, a fair specimen of the type of untruth being dealt with that purpose being its recent statement by a Chinese writer in an overseas magazine to the effect that every day in every way China grows better and better!

It is not worth while going through these flying regulations in detail, it will be enough to ask how the Peking clique proposes to enforce them in any part of the country outside the Peking walls? Nobody knows better than the framers of the regulations that they dare not attempt for a moment to prevent anybody from flying over or walking into any of the ships, dockyards or arsenals in any part of China and that nobody has the power to do so except the particular Tuchun, military governor or bandit who happens to be in control of any particular district for the time being. They already say "Yes" or "No" [illegible] Peking [illegible] as well as [illegible] Peking [illegible] in the [illegible] country.

There are two sides to every question and a law which, in [illegible] necessarily must have the undivided support of the people living in that country and as long as [illegible] remain [illegible] they [illegible] is being [illegible] a law [illegible] to [illegible] this law.

I am, etc.,

OBSERVER.

Shanghai, May 7, 1924.

PROHIBITION AND ITS RESULTS

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I have been reading the [illegible] between Mr. [illegible] concerning the Prohibition [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] Anglo-[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

MUNICIPAL GAZETTE NEWS

Volunteer Corps.

Chaplains.—The Rev. A. C. F. Trivett, M.A., B.D., to be Captain.

Shanghai Scottish.—Lieutenant R. Wood, M.C., D.C.M., M.M., is transferred to the Reserve of Officers.

Sergt. M. A. A. Mackintosh to be Second Lieutenant.

Change of Nomenclature.—Upon the unanimous request of the officers and men of the "British Infantry Reserves" and the strong recommendation of the Commandant, permission has been granted to alter the nomenclature of this unit to "The Reserve Co."

Fire Brigade Report for March.

The total number of calls received was 44, of which 42 were genuine fires, 36 occurring within the Settlement and 6 outside. The remaining 2 were false alarms.

Excluding the fire at the "Shanghai Times" building, for which the figures are not yet to hand, the damage on assessed property within the Settlement was estimated at Tls. 4,150 (Foreign Tls. 800: Chinese Tls. 3,350), whilst the property at risk was estimated at Tls. 1,676,000 (Foreign Tls. 1,383,000: Chinese Tls. 293,000).

No lives were lost at fires within the Settlement, but 4 persons (including 1 fireman) were injured.

Nine premises were damaged.

In dealing with these calls, Brigade machines travelled approximately 355 miles, 30,905 feet of hose were used, and the time occupied was approximately 663½ hours.

The fires of note attended by the Brigade are as follows:—

March 10th, 11.29 p.m. Ziang King Silk Filature off North Szechuen Road Extension. Outside—This filature, which is in a congested dwelling district in Chapei, to the west of North Szechuen Road Extension, was in flames when the Hongkew Division arrived and a number of the surrounding buildings were already alight. Chapei Brigade were in attendance, but the brunt of the work fell on the Hongkew Division The fire was practically confined to the silk filature; unfortunately there was a heavy loss of life which has already been reported on and which has been published in the Municipal Gazette dated March 20, 1924.

March 11, 11.28 p.m. U428 Peking Road.—At this fire Fireman No. 196 rescued a girl aged 12 from the upper floor. She was taken to Hospital suffering from slight burns and shock.

March 21, 10.23 a.m. s.s. Korea Maru—Woosung.—Assistance was rendered by a section of the Brigade at a fire in No. 3 hold, which was battened down and being steamed. Before the fire was extinguished, two Officers and several firemen were overcome by carbon monoxide.

March 27, 7.18 p.m. 'Shanghai Times' Building, 21 Museum Road. When the Central Division arrived the first and second floors were found to be well alight towards Soochow Road and it was at once seen that a very serious fire was in progress. The building was of the godown type and extensive and, apart from the contents, of the quick-burning type. In dealing with the fire the Brigade had no facilities at all, all the windows were barred and shuttered, and it took some time to open even one. An attempt was made by means of a staircase, situated about half-way along on the Museum Road side, to get above the portion on fire, but this staircase was of wood and the doors leading to the upper floors were unopenable owing to merchandise being stacked at the back. Conditions got so bad that a number of officers and men were overcome, having to be brought down. Concurrently lines of hose were got up the exterior wood staircase at the Lyceum Theatre end and here the doors were found to be doubly padlocked and valuable time was wasted in opening them. Conditions here were also severe, men having to work in smoke helmets to prevent the fire from gripping the Lyceum. Every attempt was made to hold the main fire, but owing to the collapse of a large portion of the second floor through overloading by heavy bales of paper, there only being a few small hydrants round the south, and conditions being as described, the centre portion of the building was quickly a sheet of flame. More powerful Brigade pumps were put to work on North Soochow Road, some distance away, from the large pattern hydrants and it was by such means that it was possible to save the British-American Tobacco Co. building, the Lyceum Theatre and the Eastern Garage, also with this better supply of water the fire was held from involving the whole of the ground floor and a portion of the south end, from which there was a considerable amount of salvage.

The building and contents were insured for Tls. 390,000.

This fire again illustrates the ridiculousness of barred windows and the so-called fire shutters, the latter being of little or no protection against exterior fire and also frustrating the efforts of the Department to get water on to a building. It was only when the shutters had been burnt through that the latter could be affected.

A quantity of the printing plant of the 'Shanghai Times' was salvaged, this being sheeted up by the Department during the progress of the fire.

Mention might be made also of the conversion of a godown into printing works, as there was not a single effective staircase for fire-extinguishing purposes in the whole building.

The Lyceum Theatre was again in serious danger, the flames, until beaten back, reaching to within two or three feet of the auditorium roof.

Difficulty was experienced in protecting the British-American Tobacco Co. building and the Eastern Garage, the exterior of the former becoming ignited in three or four places, the heat being naturally severe.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary. Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury S., Rhodesia.

The giving of advice to prospective settlers will be facilitated if applicants will advise the Board in detail of their circumstances and the amount of capital they would be prepared to invest in a suitable venture.

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Personality	5.63	Post Office	5.00
Reminiscences	6.25	Sacrifice	5.63
Sadhana	5.00	Songs of Kabir	5.00
Thought Relics	5.00	The Wreck	5.63
The Gardener	5.00	Lover's Gift and Crossing	5.00
The Home and the World	5.63	King of Dark Chamber	5.63

WORKS OF OTHER WRITERS

PHILOSOPHY

PHILOSOPHY OF ANCIENT INDIA, by Richard Carbe	$1.25
DRAHMADARSANAM OR INTUITION OF THE ABSOLUTE, by Sir Anada Acharya Being An Introduction To The Study of Hindu Philosophy.	2.35
THE PHILOSOPHY OF RABINDRANATH TAGORE, by S. Radhakrishnan	5.55

LITERATURE

THE BROKEN WING, by Sarojini Naidu	$3.15
INDIAN LOVE, by Laurence Hope	3.50
STARS OF THE DESERT, by Laurence Hope	3.50
THE GREEN GODDESS, by William Archer	2.75
THE EAST I KNOW, by Paul Claudel	3.00

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COMPANY MEETING

J. LLEWELLYN & CO., LD.

An Unsatisfactory Year: Sales of Mineral Water Reduced in Value by 25 Per Cent.

The annual general meeting of Messrs. J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd., was held at the offices of the Chamber of Commerce, 17 the Bund, on Monday the W. J. Monk presided, supported by Messrs. A. W. Burkill and Dr. L. L. Marsh.

The Chairman, proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, said:

I am afraid that after the rather optimistic tone which prevailed at our annual meeting a year ago you will to-day be feeling a distinct sense of disappointment at the result of the past year's working, and certainly there was nothing then to indicate that the nett result of the following 12 months' trading would show such a falling away as has proved to be the case. We had last year to decide on the disposal of $17,422.75 net profit and we said as the year progressed, it became obvious that we should not reach that level, it was very difficult to find when the accounts were completed [illegible] balance came on the wrong side to the extent of $2 705.74.

The accounts are presented to you in the usual form and the figures for many of the items are strictly approximate to those in the last statement that they call for no special comment. It is in regard to the figure appearing on the credit side of the profit and loss account such as "balance from general working account" that you will like to have some explanation, since this item is the nett figure resulting from various other accounts which do not appear in the report. It shows only the meagre sum of $7,28.19 as against $20,589.12 last year.

Cool Summer Responsible

Your directors have gone into the figures in detail and are satisfied that the chief factor in producing the reversal was the very poor summer we had last year from the point of view of the aerated water business. As you know, we rely for the great bulk of our business for a considerable proportion to the total profits, but the incidence of [illegible] generally decided to have been a cool summer, consequently [illegible] had a very marked effect on the sales, which [illegible] to [illegible] last year. Our general [illegible] practically the same figure—$43,[illegible], as against $25,[illegible], the slight excess being chiefly due to the rental of the western depôt, to which reference was made at our previous meeting. The effect of the cool summer is also being in a large measure [illegible] to the factory manager and his assistants. We found the [illegible] almost exactly the same value of stocks on hand as at the end of the previous year, but purchases during the year were reduced by about 30 per cent. in value, while the [illegible] volume of sales.

The nett result of this section of the business was a considerable reduction in the profit, for which the reduced volume of sales practically accounts, since as the overhead charges would have remained the same the extra business would have been to a very considerable extent additional profit.

Fair Year for Store Dept.

On the other side of our business, the store department, the volume of sales shows a slight increase over the previous year, $121,963 against $120,445, and stocks in hand showed the same value within a few hundred dollars—$81,303 against $81,750; purchases during the year were approximately the same also. Overhead charges were increased from $13,640.58 to $13,-353.55, due chiefly to increased rental and to increments of salaries under agreements.

The conversion of a profit on this side of the business into a loss of $1,697.71 can be attributed chiefly to the necessity we have been under of reducing the margin of profit on our sales. The cost of stocks increased considerably over the preceding year on account of the appreciably lower average rate of exchange prevailing in 1923 as compared with 1922, whilst on the other hand keen and increasing competition has made it impossible for us to obtain a commensurate advance in retail prices.

The figures shown in the balance sheet will need little comment. The aerated water plant and machinery was written down very heavily in the accounts for 1921 and again very substantially in the 1922 account, and your directors consider that the book value is now so conservative that no further depreciation is necessary this year. Furniture and fixtures of both departments are written down by 10 per cent. which is an ample allowance in view of previous depreciations. The motor vans now also stand at a very conservative book value. Sundry debtors are the normal outstandings at the end of the year and total just about the same as last year.

On the liabilities side of the account sundry creditors and bills payable are also normal year-end carry-overs, and are both similar in amount to the previous year. Our general reserve remains the same, $15,000, and also the reserve for bad and doubtful debts. Our overdraft with the bank is increased by $10,102.58, but we have $10,000 at the credit of staff reserve account which did not figure in last year's balance sheet.

Affected by Trade Depression

Your directors desire particularly to place on record that in their opinion the adverse result of the year's trading can in no way be attributed to any lack of effort and energy on the part of the company's staff. In Mr. Whyte we have a very conscientious and extremely hard-working general manager, who has received every assistance from the other members of the staff all of them have done their best under circumstances which were against the production of a better visible result. The general depression in the trade of this port still continues, as we all know from the experience of our own private businesses, but your directors feel that we have just as good a chance as any of our competitors to extract the maximum advantage from such conditions as may obtain during the current year, and assure you that your directors will continue to endeavour to the best of your interests.

The balance available for disposal being only $7,903.44, your directors recommend that the whole of this amount be carried forward to the new account, which I shall formally propose after first giving you the opportunity for any questions you may wish to ask or any comment you may care to make.

The resolution proposing the adoption of the report and accounts was seconded by Mr. A. W. Burkill and carried unanimously.

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. F. A. Ozorio, Mr. A. W. Burkill was re-elected a director of the company.

On the proposition of Mr. G. Grayrigge, seconded by Mr. A. A. Arratoon, Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews were re-elected auditors for the ensuing year at a remuneration of Tls. 300.

Bonus for the Staff.

Mr. Grayrigge—Of recent years it has been my privilege to propose a vote of appreciation of the work of the manager and his staff, followed by the tangible recognition of their services by a bonus. On last years working, the accounts unfortunately show a small Loss due to circumstances which the staff could not control. I know the value of their work and the keenness with which they attend to it. The Company's position is very sound and despite the small loss incurred I for one should not like the staff to entirely forego the customary bonus. With your permission, Sir, I have much pleasure in proposing a resolution that the staff be paid a bonus, the amount of which to be left to the discretion of the Directors.

Mr. E. Kale seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Kale also remarked that in giving the bonus they gave with it their real appreciation of the work put in by the staff during the year. Mr. Whyte, their manager, worked very hard for them, and he was well supported by the rest of the staff.

The Chairman said he would like to associate the directors with those expressions. They fully appreciated the way in which the staff had worked and were in entire agreement with the giving of a bonus this year as in the past.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CLUB AND SOCIETIES

SHANGHAI CRICKET CLUB

Successful Year Reported at Annual Meeting: Projected Improvements to Pavilion

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Cricket Club was held at the Club Pavilion on Tuesday evening. Captain E. I. M. Barrett presided, supported by Messrs. C. D. Field, R. Grimshaw, H. E. Muriel, A. W. Hayward and N. B. Ramsay.

Capt. Barrett, proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, remarked that this was a fitting occasion once more to place on record the Club's admiration for the magnificent innings played by Mr. T. E. Pearce, captain of the Hongkong team in the last interport match. He did not suppose a finer innings had ever been played in any interport. Referring to club affairs, Captain Barrett said that on the financial side the Club had made a profit of roughly $5,000, which was quite satisfactory.

Mr. C. D. Field seconded and the report was adopted.

Regarding the election of a president, Captain Barrett reminded members that Mr. Potter, the old president, was in England. Mr. Potter had never been an ostentatious president, but he always had the Club's interests at heart, and Captain Barrett thought they should not let the occasion pass without recording a very hearty vote of thanks to him. (applause). He was one of the finest all-round cricketers who ever came to Shanghai.

The proposition was carried with enthusiasm.

The Chairman then proposed the election of Mr. G. M. Billings. Mr. Billings, he said, had been a member of the Club for probably many more years than he cared to remember, and he had worked hard for them.

Mr. Muriel seconded and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Other officers elected were.

Vice President: Captain Barrett.

Committee: Messrs. G. F. Forshaw, R. Grimshaw, D. W. Leach, W. J. Monk, H. E. Muriel, N. B. Ramsay, E. W. Stagg and J. R. Weeks.

Captain Barrett said the outgoing committee wished to recommend certain improvements to the building. The windows of the Club had been condemned and they had been warned that the first typhoon would bring the lot down into the baseball ground. The Committee proposed putting in new windows with steel frames. This would cost roughly Tls. 1,000. They also recommended the inclusion of a kitchen, which would mean a 10 feet extension to the north side of the building, for which they had obtained permission from the Race Club if decided upon. This would allow them an eliptical bar to walk round and they would be able to stand on the far side of it and watch the baseball in complete comfort. (Laughter). The cost of the whole would be somewhere in the neighbourhood of Tls. 5,000, and this would include a kitchen and a store room. A kitchen was, in his opinion, highly desirable in order that members might get their teas, etc. under sanitary conditions: A store room, also, would be a great blessing, for at present they stored their gear under the pavilion, which was not too satisfactory. The work would take from six to eight weeks and would not really inconvenience members to any very great extent.

What it really came to was that they had to chose between this and a reduction in subscriptions. The latter would be absolutely out of the question if they went ahead with the improvements, but in any case he doubted whether it would be possible.

Mr. Muriel put the suggestion to the meeting in the form of a resolution, which was seconded and carried unanimously.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION MEETING

Melancholy Review of the Year: Lincheng and After: Lawlessness on the Yangtze: Extraordinary Account of Affairs in Fukien: The Question of Trademark Registration

The annual general meeting of the China Association was held at the Shanghai Club on Thursday evening, Sir Edward Pearce took the chair, and was supported by Messrs. A. S. Campbell, A. M. Cannan, A. C. Clear, A. L. Dickson, E. F. Mackay, C. J. Scott and A. Brooke Smith.

Proposing the adoption of the report and accounts the Chairman said:

Gentlemen,—Before proceeding with the business of the meeting I would like briefly to refer to the death of your late secretary, Mr. Langley-Smith. He was an exceedingly hard worker and had the interests of our Association keenly at heart. The sympathy of the Association to his parents was expressed in a letter kindly forwarded to them by Messrs. Hansons.

I have also to record the sad death of Mr. E. G. Hillier who for years has been a very active member of the Association and whose sound advice in British interests was always available to your Committee. He was a man of great ability and I am sure in recording our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Hillier and his family in their bereavement, I am only echoing the sentiments of all the members of the Association.

The report and accounts having been in your hands for a few weeks and having as I hope been carefully perused by you all, I propose with your permission to take them as read.

Following the usual procedure at these meetings I will deal briefly with some of the more important subjects which have engaged the attention of your Committee during the period covered by the report.

The Lincheng Outrage.

At the time of our last annual meeting the entire foreign population in China were dumbfounded by the outrage perpetrated by Shantung Bandits on the Express Train proceeding from Pukow to Tientsin at a small place called Lincheng. The matter was referred to by your Chairman at that meeting. The profound feeling of indignation created is borne out by the number of telegrams despatched by this Association in conjunction with the British Chamber of Commerce to the China Association in London and which are inserted in our annual report.

On August 10, the Diplomatic Body in Peking presented their official note of protest to the Chinese Government, since which date further exchange of notes has taken place, but I regret to say that so far the Chinese Government has ignored the demands of the Diplomatic Body.

The regrettable outstanding feature since the date of this outrage, May 6, 1923, has been the continuation of brigandage, capture and ill-treatment of foreigners, to say nothing of the recent personal attacks on foreigners within the precincts of the Legation Quarter in Peking. An appalling list of this outrages appears on Pages 16 and 17 of the report.

TAXATION.—It has to be conceded I think that the free passage of goods throughout any country with the payment of one import or one export duty is to the ultimate benefit of the trader in particular and the country concerned in general. Unfortunately in China we see nothing but divergent and irregular taxation throughout every province. I think we must acknowledge that irregular methods of taxation are one of the enemies of the distribution of merchandise.

Not only are these irregular impositions a hindrance to trade, impoverishing the country as they do, but it is doubtful whether as a result of the cost and squeeze incurred in their collection, the Provinces concerned really reap any material benefit; the Central Government as things are at present, certainly obtain no increment to their revenue from these likin sources. The coastal duties, a hindrance to interport trade, although managed by the Maritime Customs, are equivalent to a likin tax.

China needs to develop her trade. The policy of additional internal taxation, such as the surtax recently imposed by various Provincial authorities on cigarettes is hardly the way, in the words of Article II of the Washington Treaty, to prepare for the speedy abolition of likin and for the fulfilment of the other conditions laid down in Article VIII of the Mackay Treaty of 1902.

WEIHAIWEI.—I have nothing further to add to what is already stated in the annual report concerning the rendition of Weihaiwei. The question for the moment remains dormant.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN JAPAN.—From the correspondence under this head in our annual report you will have noticed that your Committee associated itself with the British Chamber of Commerce and other organizations for the purpose of raising funds and taking every possible means to relieve the appalling situation of those rendered homeless and penniless by the disastrous effect of the earthquake on September 1, which devastated Yokohama and a great portion of Tokio. I think it only right on this occasion to express our thanks to the British and American Women's Associations who did such excellent relief work for those British and other subjects who were so completely stranded by the suddenness of the disaster. Our sympathy goes out to the Japanese in their terrible loss of life and property caused by the earthquake, and its dreadful aftermath, fire!

The Trademark Deadlock.

TRADE MARKS.—So much has been said and written concerning the new Chinese Trade Mark Law, that I need not occupy much of your time in going over the whole subject, except to explain that while negotiations were proceeding between the Chinese Government and the Diplomatic Body we were advised not to register under the new law. The Chinese Government having refused to agree to the very reasonable modifications suggested by the Diplomatic Body foreign Governments were unable to recognize the law and notified the Chinese Government accordingly.

Insofar as Chinese are concerned therefore, the trade mark regulations as promulgated are now law. The law however is not recognized as such by Treaty Powers having extraterritorial rights and consequently cannot be applied by foreign courts. The official position is briefly that full protection under the Treaties will be claimed by the British Legation and for all our marks whether we as merchants register under the new China Trade Mark Law or not.

Most careful consideration has been given to this most important matter by your Committee who had also the advantage of the co-operation of the British Chamber of Commerce therein. The result has been that both Committees recommend that merchants should not register.

I would add to these remarks that the Dean of the Diplomatic Body in a letter dated April 5 addressed to his Excellency Monsieur Wellington Koo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, states the following:—

"As none of the suggestions or the conditions which I had the honour on behalf of the Diplomatic Body to convey to your Excellency in my above mentioned note of January 30 have been followed up or fulfilled, my colleagues desire me to inform your Excellency that they feel unable to advise their Governments to recognize the law or to advise their nationals to register their trade marks in the newly created Bureau.'

Lawlessness in the Gorges.

CONDITIONS ON THE UPPER YANGTSZE.—Opposing Chinese military factions have created a state of unchecked lawlessness on the Upper Yangtze, and British vessels have been subjected to frequent fire from Chinese troops on the river banks against which there has been no redress or apology.

The rival Chinese commanders have boarded our vessels in the anticipation of finding contraband, a suspicion which, so far as our vessels are concerned, has proved entirely unfounded. Several unfortunate incidents have been the outcome of these attacks, notably the death of Captain Brandt a British subject in command of the Chinese str. Tsesui. So far there has been no actual loss of life on British ships. The object of our steamers is to promote the development of legitimate trade in accordance with our rights and privileges under Treaty. The rich province of Szechuan has long been handicapped by inadequate means of

transport due to the difficulties of navigation through the Gorges. In recent years British steamship companies and also those of other nationals have made a determined effort to surmount these difficulties with the costly and special type of vessel now in operation. The existing position is a serious one which is greatly exercising the minds of those responsible for developing our shipping and trading interests in this important territory. It is earnestly hoped our authorities will maintain an adequate naval protection by establishing an effective patrol over the trading routes and the stationing of gunboats at points where these attacks and boardings are occurring.

One result of the development of steamer traffic has been that the junk men who have carried cargo in their boats for centuries resented the modern development of steamer traffic and they took action by intimidating Chinese pilots of steamers and by declaring that certain products during a given season should only be shipped by junks. This is generally during low and mid water levels when junks find it easier to traffic on the River. The growing pressure and necessity for improved methods is gradually lessening this resistance It will be, however, many years before junks cease altogether to carry Szechuan produce but the improved speed in transport must prove in the long run the fallacy of the antiquated junk traffic.

Excellent work is being carried out by the Customs Upper River Inspectorate by charting the river, establishing aids to navigation and controlling and advising as to the most suitable craft for this difficult section of the Yangtze. This work has been carried out by two British subjects, first, Captain Plant to whose memory a memorial will be unveiled this season at the Hsin Tan Rapid above Ichang, and now by Captain Pitcairn.

Peking's Penury.

FINANCE.—The financial position in Peking has if possible gone from bad to worse and the default of the Peking Government in payment of interest on certain loans has culminated in the London Stock Exchange refusing to allow an official quotation for 1896 and 1898 Gold Loans and the Hukuang Railway Loan.

During the past year China imported a considerable quantity of silver amounting to 77,000,000 ozs. This silver to a great extent was coined into dollars at the Nanking and Hangchow Mints. These dollars were largely absorbed in the interior by shipments to Yangtze and Northern ports, and the heavy shipments made caused a serious shortage of cash in Shanghai at the end of the year. There has been a good deal of talk regarding the fineness of the dollars coined in the Nanking Mint, but at a recent public analysis the dollars which were assayed were found to be up to standard. The Shanghai Mint has not yet commenced operations despite the loans that have been granted by the Chinese banks for that purpose and it is still impossible to say when that Mint will commence to function as further funds are still wanted. It is to be hoped that when this Mint does open it will be under satisfactory control and that there will be no question in future regarding the fineness of dollars coined.

The Customs revenue for the year amounted to Hk. Tls. 63,378,000, an increase of Hk. Tls. 4,744,000 over 1922. The increase is disappointing in view of the new tariff having been in force for practically the whole year. There would appear therefore to have been a falling off in overseas trade which is likely to continue so long as China remains in the present state of unrest.

The Unhappy South.

SOUTH-CHINA.—The position of affairs in South China would not seem to be any brighter than in any other part of China. Ever since the autumn of 1922 the province of Fukien as is the case of nearly all the Southern provinces has been in a state of unrest and disturbance. The contending so-called armies have harassed the people terribly and the local bandits, self styled "Peoples Army," "Self Governing Army," etc., etc., have treated them even worse. It is well known that hundreds of men have been impressed to act as transport coolies without either pay or even food. Piracy has prevailed. The likin and native customs stations have been seized and administered by whatever military body happened to be in the neighbourhood. Many additional taxes have been imposed and every trade has suffered heavily. Large cities, usually through the Chambers of Commerce, have had to pay contributions towards the support of the troops. Even Amoy on one occasion had to pay $80,000. In country districts the people are forced to cultivate opium. In fact the collection of the opium tax has caused more fighting than political issues.

It would appear as if every separate commander of troops or men-of-war acts with complete independence, and that he concerns himself largely with what personal benefit he will derive from the operations in which he is engaged. The result of this habit is that nominal allies will often act in a manner that would appear to indicate that they are not in harmony. On occasions one military commander has treated with a common enemy, unknown to an allied general, and even proposed an alliance! On another occasion a general assisted another general, then fought against him and finally assisted him to achieve victory. Again two separate allied forces were in disagreement as to which of them should obtain possession of a coveted town in order to enjoy the revenue to be raised from it. On another occasion the force which gained the place did so by a payment of money and ammunition, though it was known that the ammunition would be used against the troops of the allied general!

Such is briefly the state of affairs in the South.

Cliques *v.* Centralism.

Your Committee is of the opinion that the present state of affairs in China both politically and financially is chaotic.

The upheaval in 1911, when the Central authority of the Throne was discarded for vaguely understood Republican ideals, presented an opportunity for the self advancement of innumerable cliques. Some were headed by men of statesman-like ability and others by adventurers, all struggling for power and the plums of office. There are still statesmen and leaders in China of forceful character and ability, but for the time being most of their attention is given to consolidating their own positions whilst innumerable satellites attaching to them are fostering present disorder to provide opportunities for filling their own pockets. The power is now crystallizing round three or four well defined groups and it remains to be seen whether a workable compromise can be established amongst them.

It is hardly conceivable that the whole country can be subdued and brought under one Central Government for many years to come. There is so much jealousy, intrigue and disloyalty that civil warfare is bound to continue, and such could not be readily subdued without better means of communication than those existing at present.

The Peking Government is but a shadowy pretence maintained in office by the war lords to stave off the demands of Foreign Governments. Behind this screen, illegal taxation is levied with impunity and Treaty rights ignored. It must be admitted that such a state of affairs provides serious difficulties for the Diplomatic Body to deal with. The only possible policy under such circumstances is for foreign nations to act in the closest co-operation, as any dissession in their ranks is immediately noted and taken full advantage of by the Chinese authorities.

We must continue to urge upon our Home Government through every available channel, the necessity of maintaining all rights and privileges secured by Treaty. We would like to feel that this could be done harmoniously, reasonably and in a friendly spirit, but unfortunately all efforts in this direction are regarded as weakness by the Chinese official, and met by reactionary tactics. Such an attitude can only be successfully countered by united action on the part of all the Powers. We can rest assured that any action taken by them collectively would not be detrimental to China's interests, and would meet with the hearty, though unvoiced approval, of the vast majority of Chinese who are now silently suffering all the evils attendant upon Civil War and ill-disciplined militarism.

Home Public Ignorant.

Public opinion at home needs educating to the true state of things here, but in doing so we must avoid exaggeration. The man in the street knows little and cares less about Chinese affairs, whilst those who are interested and have had experience of the East, are difficult to convince of the present state of affairs, and that China is no longer the China of their day.

The consideration (I nearly said adulation) lavished on China at the Washington Conference has been productive of more harm than good. She wants the benefits without the obligations, although she has subscribed to the latter. To take an outstanding instance, the 2½ per cent. Surtax; this, as you are aware, was subject to the abolition of likin.

Peking would readily accede to this as it would assure funds to the Government through the Customs, but the Provincial authorities have other ideas, and in our own Province of Kiangsu have reorganized the whole Likin Collectorate and are attempting to apply the full scale of charges, so far with disastrous financial results to themselves and our local Government Railways. The official scale of charge has never been enforced, being recognized as unduly burdensome taxation, the actual charges were 30 per cent. lower. Part proceeds of likin collection used to be transmitted to Peking, but all is now retained by the provincial authorities. Is it likely under such circumstances that likin will, or can be abolished? Yet the Chinese Government continues to clamour for the 2½ per cent. surtax

Progress, anarchy, corruption and generous aspirations are fantastically mingled in the China of to-day.

PROPAGANDA.—Referring to the remarks on this subject in the 1922/3 annual report, your Committee considers it is very essential to counteract any statements that appear in the Press at home, which give a false impression of the actual conditions now prevailing in China.

A short while ago there appeared in the "XIXth Century" an article written by the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires in which he stated that "Every day and in every way China is getting better and better, actually and not merely by saying so." The publication of this statement in a review like the "XIXth Century," clearly indicates how ill-informed people are at home, and the importance of pursuing some policy of propaganda to counter such fairy tales.

Association's Affairs.

MEMBERSHIP.—It is to be regretted that our numbers have fallen away to 259 members. It is to be hoped that during the next 12 months we will see an increase in the membership. The Association if I may say so is doing excellent work, and the London Association has been very helpful in British interests. In these days it is particularly necessary that British treaty rights should be watched and that no privileges secured under such treaty rights should be allowed to lapse. It is in this connexion therefore that the Association should receive every support from British subjects throughout China.

ACCOUNTS.—These call for but little comment. We had at the beginning of our year a credit balance of Tls. 715.44 which is now reduced to Tls. 7.51. The reason for this falling away of our funds is not far to seek, our membership is not as large as last year, and our expenses in telegrams have been Tls. 1,182.26 reduced to Tls. 745.44 by refund of part cost of cables sent joint account with the British Chamber of Commerce. Several telegrams which mean expenditure were despatched in connexion with the Lincheng affair, the earthquake and more particularly the new Chinese Trade Mark registration law. All these subjects and others occupied the very careful consideration of your Committee during the 12 months and we have to thank the London Committee for the great interest taken in all matters that we have laid before them.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I should like to record our very hearty thanks for the cooperation we have received at the hands of the Committee of the British Chamber of Commerce. This is as it should be, both our interests are one in the furtherance of the welfare of the Great Empire to which we have the honour to belong.

Before moving the acceptance of the report and accounts I will be pleased to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

There were no questions, and the report and accounts were seconded by Mr. A. C. Clear and carried unanimously.

The Chairman said the secretary to the meeting had received a letter from a member enclosing a letter from the British Chamber of Commerce on the subject of trademarks. The member in question was unfortunately unable to attend but he had asked that the letter might be read. He called upon Mr. Clear to read it therefore.

British Chamber's Urgent Advice to Merchants

A member of the Chamber wrote to the Secretary of the British Chamber of Commerce asking his opinion of advice given in London to register marks "as otherwise there is grave risk of marks being registered by foreigners and their value therefore being lost."

The following is the reply received from the Secretary of the Chamber:—

Dear Sirs,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant. In reply I beg to inform you that at a joint meeting of the General and Trademark Committees of this Chamber and of the Committee of the China Association held on the 8th instant it was unanimously decided to continue the policy of non-registration.

This decision was taken after hearing what H. M. Consul-General, who had just returned from Peking, had to say on the subject, the main grounds for the decision being as follows.

1. In the Diplomatic Body's last Note to the Chinese Government it was clearly stated that whether marks are registered or not any complaints in regard to trademark rights will have to be dealt with strictly in accordance with existing treaty procedure.

2. That implies that the mere fact of registration will not be regarded by the Legation as conferring any right on a mark as against a British mark.

3. How, then, will the fact of registration confer any right on a British mark as against a non-British mark.

4. Our position will ultimately be far stronger if we base it on treaty rights than if we seek to improve it by registering in accordance with a law which has been officially rejected because it conflicts with those rights.

5. The fees for registration are very heavy, some of them four times as high as those chargeable in the United Kingdom or Hongkong. Is it worth while expending what, in many cases, would be large sums of money to obtain the exceedingly insubstantial return indicated above?

A Complete Misconception.

The statement that it is advisable to register "as otherwise there is grave risk of the marks being registered by foreigners" is based on a complete misconception (a) as to what is happening (b) as to the practical consequences of registration.

In regard to (a) the only foreigners with extraterritorial rights who have registered in any number are Japanese. No British and only one American firm have registered.

In regard to (b) as all the Legations have refused to recognize the law it follows that it cannot be applied in foreign, extra-territorial, Courts. It follows also that registration cannot be admitted as evidence of rightful ownership. It follows further that the only laws that will apply will be those of the defendant's Court. Thus a case brought by a British subject for infringement of his mark by an American, a Belgian, a Dane, a Frenchman, an Italian, or a Dutchman will be governed by the reciprocal treaty arrangements concluded between Great Britain and the countries concerned between 1903 and 1906 for the protection of one another's trademarks in China, one of the main arrangements being that the mark which seeks protection must be registered in the country from whose Court in China protection is sought. *The new Chinese Trademark Law will have nothing to do with the matter* and as far as the above-mentioned foreigners are concerned there is no more reason for registration to-day than there was before the new law came into existence.

The Japanese Position.

As regards the Japanese the position also remains what it was before the new law was promulgated, that position being.

1. That there is no reciprocal arrangement with Great Britian for the protection of trademarks.

2. That in order to get protection against Japanese infringements marks must be registered in Japan, where such registration would entitle the owner of the mark to stop the manufacture of goods bearing an infringing mark.

The only way in which the new law affects the position as far as Japanese are concerned is that whereas, prior to its promulgation, it was possible to take proceedings against a Chinese for selling Japanese goods bearing an infringing mark; now, as a result of the law, the Chinese Courts might, and probably would, refuse to admit that the mark was an infringement unless the mark claiming to be the rightful one had been registered.

But it is extremely doubtful whether registration would be any remedy against this. If your company, for instance, found that the Japanese had registered, or were about to register, a mark which infringed one of yours you could only protest to the registration bureau. Your protest, even if it were backed by the Legation, might not be upheld, for the Japanese Legation would, naturally, support the claim of its subject to register the mark in question. The upshot would almost certainly be that both marks would be registered. What guide would such registration be to the Chinese Court ultimately called upon to decide the question? What is the value of registration when identical marks can be registered? And this is actually happening at the present time, Chinese and Japanese marks closely resembling one another having been accepted by the registration Bureau.

Where Is the Gain?

The only other foreigners concerned are Germans, Russians and other foreigners who do not enjoy extraterritorial rights. They are on precisely the same footing as Chinese. The Diplomatic Body has said that whether registered or not our marks are not to be infringed by Chinese. If the Legation does not prove strong enough to prevent infringement by Chinese of British unregistered marks, what reason is there for supposing that they will prove strong enough to prevent the registration of Chinese marks which infringe British marks? And if they are not able to prevent the registration of Chinese marks which are infringements of British marks, what is to be gained by registering, by paying heavy fees for something which will have no evidential value whatever?

I trust that this letter will be of service to you.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) E. M. Gull,

Secretary.

The committee was elected as follows:—

Sir Edward Pearce, Maj. A. H. Hilton-Johnson, and Messrs. A. S. Campbell, A. M. Cannan, A. C. Clear, A. L. Dickson, E. Gordon Lowder, E. F. Mackay, C. J. Scott, A. Brooke Smith.

This concluded the business of the meeting, and on the proposition of Mr. C. M. Bain a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman and the members of the outgoing committee.

MR. H. E. Morriss has arrived safely at Moscow, states a telegram from that city dated the 12th instant. It will be remembered that Mr. Morriss left Harbin on May 2.

On the 6th instant, the Community Church held its fourth annual meeting in the Navy Y. M. C. A. About 160 people were present. The new officers for the coming year were elected. Dr. J. B. Fearn, Dr. J. C. McCracken and Mrs. R. M. Vanderburgh, members of the old board were re-elected. Mr. H. H. Cameron, Mrs. P. H. Dunbar, Mr. R. J. Corbett, Miss Mabel Jansen, and Mr. Egbert Hayes were also elected. Mr. W. W. Lockwood was toastmaster of the evening.

THE Association for the Protection of Chinese National Territories, the formation of which was an outcome of the North Szechuen Road incident, has requested the National Road Construction Association to carry out its proposal to make a survey of the Settlement in order that roads may be built round it to prevent "encroachment" on the part of the Municipal Council. The Association has also sent several delegates to see Mr. Hsu Yuan, the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, to request him to give his support in preventing such encroachment in future.

AMERICAN RED CROSS IN CHINA

Annual Meeting in Shanghai: Period of Reorganization Past: Detailed of Account of Russian Situation: Resume of Work in Earthquake Relief: Hopes for Future

The annual meeting of the American Red Cross China Central Committee was held on Saturday at the Union Club. The following is a portion of the report:—

The American Red Cross has been functioning in China for a period of years and has made a serious attempts during that time to carry out the original ideals of the American National Red Cross, in a foreign land—to give service both in time of war and peace.

On July 10, 1922, it was decided that a complete reorganization of the China Central Committee should be made on a basis that would insure more effective work and it was decided to enlarge the committee, and to operate under by-laws drawn up by the Committee and approved by National Headquarters. In this connexion it was suggested (1) that the Honorable Jacob Gould Schurman, American Minister to China, be elected Honorary Chairman and Judge C.S. Lobingier, Field Representative; (2) that in addition to the honorary chairman and the field representative, the committee consist of nine members to be elected at the annual meeting of the committee to be held hereafter during the last week of April, three of such members to retire each year subject to re-election; (3) that the by-laws provide for representation of active chapters in China and all local contributing American organizations; and (4) that Mrs. Lansing W. Hoyt, wife of the American Trade Commissioner; Mr. Paul Page Whitham, president and general manager of the Asia Development Company, Ld., Dr. J. B. Fearn, superintendent and secretary of the Shanghai General Hospital, and Major Arthur Bassett of the British-American Tobacco Company (China) Ld., be invited to serve on the committee.

Specific Problems of the Year

The year 1923 will remain a memorable one in the history of the American Red Cross. On September 1, 1923, one of the most severe earthquakes ever recorded in history wrecked Yokohama and Tokio, Japan, and reduced to ruins scores of other smaller Japanese cities. Vague rumours were spread during the first few days following the earthquake but soon more definite reports were available as to the actual damage done. Shanghai residents received an urgent appeal from the community in Kobe to assist in raising relief funds for thousands of destitute foreigners in Japan. A medical unit of four doctor and 11 nurses with supplies was immediately despatched to Kobe from Shanghai and was the first aid to arrive in the vicinity of the earthquake. The American Chamber of Commerce and American Association of China assumed the responsibility of financing this unit and transportation was donated by the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company.

The personnel of the unit was carefully chosen from well-trained persons who were among the first to volunteer their services and included: Doctors:—Morris Booth Miller, A. C. Selmon, J. W. Colbert, Thomas B. Dunn. Nurses:—Elsie K. Pape, Edith A. Shaw, Jessie Kay, Mary Opal Powell, A. Maude Anderson, Llewellyn Lissak, C. Maude Hewitt, Christine England, Frances Kelley, Edna Nelson and E. G. Leatherdale. Dr. W. W. Peter was requested to go as representative of the China Central Committee, American Red Cross, and also offered his services to the unit despatched by the Chinese Red Cross. Mr. Warwick M. Tompkins accompanied as Disbursing Officer.

The following figures compiled by the American Red Cross accountant serve to show the generous response made to the people in Japan:

CONTRIBUTIONS.

	$
Chungking	495.00
Tsinanfu	1,217.97
Foochow	1,200.00
Swatow	936.73
Peking	4,506.80
Amoy	1,205.05
Hangchow	2,255.00
Changsha	499.00
Yunnanfu	162.00
Szechuan	30.95
Nanking	65.00
Pochow	58.08
Miscellanous	105.00
	11,010.58
Received from American Association for cables, etc.	487.10
	11,497.68
Cables, pictures, etc.	474.10
	10,991.08
	11,465.18
	32.50

Total expenses of Unit to Japan Yen 4,373.03 paid by American Association of China.

Russian Refugee Relief in China.

While no definite figures can be obtained of the number of Russian refugees who have come into China and Manchuria, it was estimated during the late summer of 1923, that there were more than 40,000 or 50,000 refugees in Manchuria and about 7,000 in Shanghai, besides a large number in the other treaty ports of China. The arrival of the Russian refugees in large numbers dates back to December, 1922, when a fleet of Russian gunboats under command of Admiral Stark, arrived in Shanghai with 700 Russian refugees who remained in Shanghai when the Russian feet sailed to Manila, Philippine Islands. The problem of housing, clothing and feeding these refugees, naturally arose and became a community responsibility. The China Central Committee cabled Washington the details connected with the Russian refugees in China and were immediately requested to make a thorough investigation. On January 19, the Washington Headquarters appropriated G. $25,000 (G. $10,000 of which was from Russian sources), for Russian Refugee Relief work in Manchuria and China. Mr. Morgan W. Palmer was appointed director of Russian Refugee Relief work in Manchuria. During the first months of 1923 the China Central Committee started relief work in Shanghai. The American Red Cross during the entire year of 1923 continued to administer relief to destitute Russians in Shanghai, providing meals at the soup kitchens, and giving free medical attention and hospital space at the Shanghai General Hospital. Mr. Palmer, at the same time, was administering relief in Manchuria.

Dr. Greig's Visit.

Dr. James A. Greig, who was in charge of the American Red Cross in Russian Refugee Relief work in Kirin, Manchuria, arrived in Shanghai in January, 1924, and informed the Chairman of the China Central Committee, that he had been appointed by the League of Nations to investigate the Russian situation in China and to make a recommendation to the League as to the best solution of the problem. Dr. Greig visited all the treaty ports and consulted with everyone interested in giving relief and informed the Committee the consensus of opinion seemed to be that the only solution was repatriation, although considerable difficulty would be experienced in persuading the Russians to be repatriated. Dr. Greig estimated that of the Russians in China, two per cent. were willing to be returned home, while 98 per cent. desired to remain in China or go elsewhere. The Chairman of the China Central Committee informed Dr. Greig that although the American Red Cross had terminated its relief work among the Russians in China, the Committee would like to be kept informed of the progress of his work.

Morgan Palmer's Special Fund.

Mr. Morgan W. Palmer, while in charge of the American Red Cross in Manchuria, received from an anonymous donor M. $3,000.00 to be used to assist in providing transportation of worthy Russians of the labouring class to America. Mr. Palmer notified the China Central Committee that it was the idea of the person who made the contribution to hand the China Central Committee, M.$1,000.00 of the fund to be used in Shanghai, but only M.$500.00 was received for this purpose. Each emigrant should not be loaned more than $100.00, the remainder of his expenses to be obtained elsewhere. The person helped should secure his *visa* at the point from which the emigrant begins his journey, and none could be helped after the quota was full. The following figures show the number of Russian citizens who have been helped as well as the number who have refunded the money which they understood was a loan, therefore making it possible for other deserving Russians to go to America when the immigration regulations would permit.

MORGAN PALMER'S ACCOUNT.
Oct. 30, 1923

	$
Received from W.M.P.	500.00
Interest	6.00
	506.01
Payments	254.68
	251.33
Loss in exchange or cheque	27.00
Balance on hand	224.33

(1) Mr. Peter A. Troachevsky was advanced $100 toward his passage to America on October 16, 1923. On April 3, 1924, Mr. Troachevsky refunded M.$50.00 on his original loan.

(2) Mr. Konstantin Kosmovsky was advanced M.$100 in October, 1923, to go to America. No refund made to date.

(3) Mr. George Semenoff was advanced $50.00 in October, 1923, to go to America. Mr. Semenoff refunded the original amount of $50.00 on April 7, 1924.

Assistance at Lincheng.

While most of the relief work was carried on by the China Central Committee, American Red Cross, for foreigners captured by Chinese bandits in Shantung Province, China, on May 5, 1923, was contained in the annual report of last year, the work was concluded during the present fiscal year. In summarizing the relief work done during the full period, a brief history of the affair is given herewith. On May 5, 1923, a train carrying a large number of Chinese passengers and more than 40 foreigners from Shanghai to Peking was attacked by Chinese bandits at Lincheng station, who wrecked the train, looted the baggage and captured some Chinese and most of the foreigners, marching them back in the hills of Shantung Province. Immediately upon hearing of this, Mr. Carl Crow, of the China Central Committee, American Red Cross in Shanghai, went to Lincheng, the nearest spot to the captives and gave relief to those captured. Mr. Crow supplied them with medicines, food, clothing, and other things for their comfort.

Civilian Relief.

Civilian relief work in Shanghai consists of aiding destitute Americans, the greater number of which are former seamen who become stranded in Shanghai. The latter usually are recommended by the U. S. Consulate and are given aid without further investigation. However, during the past year numerous other cases of Americans in need of help have come to the attention of the Committee and the individual cases are thoroughly investigated by the Committee and assisted according to their respective needs. Some are returned to their homes, others provided with maintenance at the Wayport Rooms, that institution making a special rate of M. $2.00 a day for board and lodging, others given clothing, and in a few instances children have been placed in schools. The individual cases are ordinarily determined as deserving or not by some member of the China Central Committee. The civilian relief work is financed by the American Association of China and by several other organizations in Shanghai. A brief financial report is included herewith showing the amount and nature of the civilian relief work done by the China Central Committee, American Red Cross, Shanghai.

May, 1923—March, 1924.

CIVILIAN RELIEF DONATIONS.

American Association	4,030.71
Community Church	360.50
Miscellanous Donations	90.54
Refund of Loans	951.79
	$5,433.54

Number of persons given board and lodging at the Wayport Rooms, (Shanghai) Thirty (30).

Number of passages paid by China Central Committee to various ports, including France; Portland, Ore; Seattle, Washington; Peking and Tientsin, China. (22).

Number of persons helped with advanced funds. (12).

Junior Red Cross.

While there was no particular activity in Junior Red Cross work in China during the past year, 1923-1924, very successful enrolments were made during the Junior Red Cross drive, which fact in itself promises a better future for Junior work in the American schools in China.

Literature from National Headquarters, American Red Cross, has been received at frequent intervals throughout the year and accordingly transmitted to the various American schools with a request that the teaching staff exercise special efforts to stimulate interest among the Juniors. Some of the literature received was devoted to the enrolment, while some contained suggestions for service programmes to be carried out by the Juniors. It was estimated in August, 1923, there were more than 10 American Schools in China and nearly 850 American school children.

The 100 per cent. enrolment of Juniors in the Shanghai American School during the November, 1924, drive, and the following report of the work among the Juniors, submitted by Mr. Charles L. Boynton, principal, shows a keen interest in the Junior Red Cross work in that particular school:

Grammar Grades of the Shanghai American School.

Eigth grade:—41 enrolled in Junior Red Cross—100 per cent. enrolment. Each pupil has given a 10 to 15 minute talk on first aid, health rules, balanced diet, etc., prepared posters to illustrate the talk demonstrating bandaging and illustrating the first aid method. These talks were given in one of the other seven grades of the school.

Seventh grade:—32 enrolled in Junior Red Cross—100 per cent. enrolment. Each pupil has in preparation a booklet and descriptive letter to be used for correspondence with some school in America. A story of "Safety First" has been written by each pupil.

Sixth grade:—31 enrolled in Junior Red Cross—100 per cent enrolment.

Fifth grade:—20 enrolled in Junior Red Cross—100 per cent. enrolment. Each child has prepared a booklet of Chinese scenes with the idea of sending it to some child in America. Letters have been written to other American schools.

Fourth grade:—24 enrolled in Junior Red Cross—100 per cent. enrolment. Letters to other schools in America have been written.

Third grade:—22 enrolled in Junior Red Cross—100 per cent. enrolment. The children have assumed responsibility for keeping flowers in the room in good condition.

Second grade:—22 enrolled in Junior Red Cross—100 per cent. enrolment. The children have cared for a small garden and for flowers in the room.

First grade:—17 enrolled—not 100 per cent. enrolment. The children have cared for the flowers in the room and the idea of doing a good deed each day has been stressed.

High school grades:—No definite report was given for the High School but Mr. Boyton said there was a 100 per cent. enrolment and that included about 140 members.

Budget and Office Personnel

On December 20, 1922, the China Central Committee was instructed by Washington to revise its budget to cover 10 months from September 1, 1922 to June 20, 1923, in order to coincide with Washington's fiscal year. On March 23, 1923, a budget for 12 months from July 1, 1923, to June 30, 1924, in the amount of G.$6,250.00 or Mex. $10,000 was approved by the Committee and submitted to Washington. An approval of this budget was received on June 5, 1923. On February 18, 1924, we received a cable requesting us to draw up our budget for 1924-1925, which we mailed on March 8, 1924, to Washington. No report from Washington has been received up to date.

During the month of January, 1924, Miss Luella Delamarter, Secretary of the American Red Cross, China Central Committee, for the past year, departed on home leave to America. Miss Margaret C. Powell was appointed to succeed Miss Delamarter and assumed duties as Secretary on February 1, 1924. Miss Edith Vaughan, stenographer for the past 18 months in the office of the American Red Cross on February 1, 1924, resigned to accept another position. Miss Vaughan continued on half-day time until Miss Kathryn Roche was employed to fill the position. Mr. H. Schmuser is accountant for the China Central Committee.

Messrs. Haskins & Sells continue to audit the accounts of the Committee. On April 13, 1923, the China Central Committee accepted the offer of the Council on Health Education for office space on the top floor, separate room, 4 Quinsan Garden, at a monthly rental of M. $20.00, not including light and heat. In March, 1924, the Council on Health Education notified the American Red Cross they had taken office space in a new building, 21 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, and would vacate the present premises some time in June. The American Red Cross was offered space in the same building and the privilege of mission rates. It was voted by the Committee to accept this offer and move to the new room, which was rented at Tls. 235 a year.

CHINA Journal of Science & Arts, edited by Mr. A. de C. Sowerby and Dr. J. C. Ferguson, is a bi-monthly, profusely illustrated magazine. It contains authentic articles written by experts on the Arts, Literature and Science of China. The annual subscription is $10.00 Shanghai currency, or $6.00 gold for U.S.A. and Canada. Office:—Room 102, the Ben Building, Shanghai. Central 3247.

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TO AUSTRALIA.
Sailings from DENMARK, NORWAY, SWEDEN, HAMBURG and LISBON to FREMANTLE, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, SYDNEY and BRISBANE.
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TO SOUTH PACIFIC.
Sailings from COPENHAGEN, GOTHENBURG, CHRISTIANIA, HAMBURG and ANTWERP to ST. THOMAS (with transhipment to the GREATER and LESSER ANTILLES), CRISTOBAL (with transhipment to CENTRAL AMERICAN PORTS), GUAYAQUIL, CALLAO, MOLLENDO, IQUIQUE, ANTOFAGASTA, VALPARAISO, TALCHUANO and CORRAL (with transhipment to other SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS).
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COMMERCE AND FINANCE

MONEY AND EXCHANGE

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, May 16.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/2⅝=Tls. 6.21 at 71.80=$8.65	
Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 70½=Tls. 142.35 at 71.80=$198.26	
Mex. Dollars, market rate	72.0625
Native Interest	13
Copper Cash	269,000
Bar Silver	33 7/16
Bank rate of Discount	4 per cent.
Paris on London	Frs. 7510
New York on London	G.$4.36⅜

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/2⅛
Demand	3/2⅝
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	70
Demand	70⅛
PARIS—	
Demand	1203
INDIA—	
Demand	227½
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73½
JAPAN—	
Demand	57⅞
BATAVIA—	
Demand	193½
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	72⅜

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/3⅜
4 m/s. credits	3/4½
4 m/s. Docs.	3/4⅞
6 m/s. credits	3/4⅞
6 m/s. Docs.	3/5½
NEW YORK—	
Demand	71½
4 m/s. credits	73½
4 m/s. Docs.	74
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1270
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/2 15/16
New York T.T.	70⅜

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR MAY.

Hk. Tls. 5.60 at 3/2⅛	£1
„ 1 at 1148	Frs. 12.79
„ 1.29 at 69½	Gold $1
„ 1 at 58⅜	Yen 1.90
„ 1 at 228⅜	Rupees 2.54
„ 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
„ 1 at 15.575	It. Lire 17.35
Marks and Roubles	no quotation

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates for May 16:—

It. Lire 15.70	Tls. 1
Swiss Frs. 3.96	Tls. 1
It. Lire 8.95	Y. 1

Sino-Scandinavian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates, May 16, Nominal:—

Tl. I.: Norw. Kr.:	4,97
Tl. I.: Swed. Kr.:	2,61
Tl. I.: Dan. Kr.:	4,06

WEEK'S EXCHANGE NOTES

May 17.

At the close of business on May 15 the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 35,368,000 and $44,260,000 These figures include Tls. 6,960,000 and $25,470,000 in Chinese banks, in which there were 2751 bars.

Bar Silver.

Arrivals were:—
278 bars from London.
Shipments were:—
Nil.

Sycee.

Arrivals were:—
Tls. 50,000 from Chefoo.
Shipments were:—
Nil.

Dollars.

Arrivals were:—
$50,000 from Chefoo.
50,000 „ Huchow.
$100,000

Shipments were:—
$150,00 to Wuhu.
100,000 „ Kashing.
100,000 „ Shaohing.
50,000 „ Soochow.
$400,000

Silver.

The price came yesterday as 33⅛d. ready and 33⅜d. forward, showing a rise of ⅛d. on each delivery compared with last week. India, China and the Continent have all been reported as buyers, the latter for forward delivery. The market report yesterday was: "Steady. Not much doing."

Bars in stock, 4,458, including silver Yen 10 lakhs. Stocks of sycee and dollars amount to Tls. 353¼ lakhs and Tls. 442½ lakhs, against Tls. 350¼ lakhs and $445½ lakhs last week, and Tls. 228½ lakhs and $417½ lakhs on May 15, 1923.

Exchange.

Exchange closed off last week with the official quotation at T.T. 3/2½d. With a rise of ⅛d. in silver on Saturday, it was raised to 3/2⅜d., where it remained until Tuesday morning, when it dropped again to T.T. 3/2 ⅛d., the present level. Our market on the whole has been quiet and fairly steady, with not very much doing. The market is slightly firmer than it was on Thursday and at the moment there are sellers of T.T. at 3/2 1/16d. May, 3/3d. June/August, 3/3 1/16d. September to the end of the year, with buyers 1/16d. higher in each case. There are sellers of Gold $ T.T. at 70⅜ May, 71 June/August and 71⅛ forward. There are buyers of 4 m/s L/C at 3/3⅜d., and Gold $72⅜, or possibly a fraction under, but there are very few bills offering.

THE SILVER MARKET

Quotations Down to the Lowest Figure this Year: Supplies Not Very Large

Reporting from London on April 9, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The market has continued to be quiet and prices have been inclined to vacillate. A rather better undertone has been apparent. China sales have been less in evidence. Indeed, there has been some inclination to cover previous sales had prices eased. The Indian bazaars have both bought and sold, though purchases within the last few days have preponderated. America has shown lately more disposition to sell in this market.

The official returns of the U. S. Department of Commerce show the following annual movements of silver to and from the United States since 1912:—

	Imports.	Exports.
1912	$42,401,086	$ 71,961,755
1913	35,867,819	62,776,631
1914	25,959,187	51,603,060
1915	34,483,954	53,598,884
1916	32,263,289	70,595,037
1917	53,340,477	84,130,876
1918	71,375,699	252,846,464
1919	89,410,018	239,021,051
1920	88,060,041	113,616,224
1921	63,242,671	51,575,399
1922	76,806,653	62,807,286
1923	74,543,530	72,468,789

The silver quotations to-day for cash and two months delivery are ⅛d. below those fixed a week ago.

THE GOLD MARKET

Reporting from London on April 9, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on the 2nd inst. amounced to £126,284,360, as compared with £126,283,130 on the previous Wednesday.

Indian and Continental inquiry being on a small scale, it is probable that the bulk of the moderate amount of gold this week will be ent to the United States. Gold valued at $5,000,000 has arrived in New York from Holland.

The selection by Germany of sterling as the basis of the new Gold Discount Bank—so-called—presents one advantage at least over the adoption of gold itself as the basis, for Germany will benefit automatically by a successful return on the part of Great Britain to an effective gold standard. The policy of this country cannot bear fruit without great self-denial on the part of the British people, incurred through heavy taxation and incidental trade unemployment, and of these sacrifices Germany will thus obtain under the new scheme a not inconsiderable benefit. That is to say, the reserves of the new German Discount Bank will gain to the extent of about 12 per cent. in gold, whenever the efforts of this country have brought its exchange to a gold par with other countries.

It is announced in the French Press that 240 boxes of gold, worth 250,000,000 gold francs, were sent from Paris and shipped to England yesterday by the destroyer Turbulent. The consignment was made by the Bank of France.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

Bad Weather Causes Dull Markets all Round: Marked Depression in Cotton and Yarn

May 17.

A great deal of Shanghai's trade is very much dependent on the weather, some of it almost entirely, and, with a continuance through the past week of rain and low temperatures, there has been a corresponding slump in business, so things have been even more dull than in the preceding holiday week. In piece goods there has been the further difficulty of higher cotton prices to contend with, whilst the produce exporters, who just now should be very busy with egg products, if nothing else, have found the season very much delayed.

Piece Goods.

Manchester still is ahead of Shanghai and indent firms found the rise in cotton upset their business very badly. Some sorting-up business has been done, but very little in bulk. The opinion has been expressed that the heavy rains and the cold weather combined have so delayed the spring trade that a great deal of it has been lost altogether for this year, necessitating the carrying forward of far greater quantities than last year. In this connexion a tribute was paid to local piece goods dealers, who, it is said, are a different type to the cotton men who played such scurvy tricks at Tientsin. There is always the possibility, in carrying goods forward, of incurring a big loss, but it is said they are not the class who secure a period of grace until business is possible and then refuse to pay if they are unable to make the profits of the time.

Cotton, Yarn, etc.

China Cotton.—Business has been very depressed throughout the week and all reports are of a most pessimistic nature. The latest quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange are:—May, 47; June, 46.60; July, 46; August, 45.25; September, 41.50; October, 39.05. Spot quotations:—Tungchow, 48.50-49; Shanghai, 46; Shensi, 46.50-48; Hankow, 45-45.50.

Yarn.—This market has followed the course of cotton and, if possible, was even more depressed. The latest quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange are:—May, 179.40; June, 176.80; July, 174.70; August, 172.60; September, 169.50; October, 165.60.

American Cotton.—The market advanced as a consequence of unfavourable crop reports and, although a decline followed, the New York quotations on Thursday, when the market was steady, still were considerably higher than last week's, the figures being:—July, 29.35; October, 25.56; December, 24.90; January, 24.55; March 24.60; spot, 32.05. At Liverpool, on the same day, when the market also was steady, the quotations were:—Fully middling, July, 16.92; October, 14.73; spot, 18.16.

Egyptian Cotton.—Sakellarides, July, 43.70.

Indian Cotton.—The Bombay marked on Thursday was firm at the following quotations:—Fully good Bengal, May, 530; fine Oomra, May, 548; fully good Broach, April/May, 567; new crop, April/May, 513.

Sampin.—Yesterday's quotations were:—

	Opening	Closing
May	Y.318.00	Y.316.60
June	312.30	312.10
July	309.90	308.90
August	307.40	306.20
September	305.00	304.80
October	302.60	302.70
November	299.90	299.30

Produce.

There has been a slightly renewed interest in the produce markets generally. During the week there was a fairly strong inquiry for ground-nuts, but European buyers' ideas are considerably below local values. As to egg products, local values now are proving more attractive to American buyers. Normally, large quantities of egg products are contracted for by this time and it is expected that the late commencement this season will reduce the volume of business.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE

Decrease in Exports but Considerable Increase in Imports

Tokio, May 5.

April's foreign trade returns give the total exports for the month at Y. 148,296,000, while imports for the same period totalled Y. 248,919,000.

Compared with April, 1923, exports showed a falling off of Y. 1,580,000, while imports have increased by Y. 60,795,000.

The aggregate of exports for the first four months of this year is Y. 484,852,000, as compared with Y. 489,493,000, for the corresponding period last year.

Imports, on the other hand, from January to April inclusive this year total Y. 1,068,672,000, whereas last year they were Y. 692,771,000. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

TAIKOO DOCK CONTRACT

Steamer to Replace Heungshan

Hongkong, May 10.

The Taikoo Dockyard & Engineering Company have secured an order to construct a River-steamer costing about $900,000 to replace the Heungshan, which was recently beached and later abandoned in the Canton River.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPAN'S MULBERRY CROP SPOILT BY FROST

Tokio, May 14.

A severe late frost in the Fukushima and other Prefectures has seriously damaged the Mulberry plantations. The loss in the crop is estimated at 70 per cent.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPANESE TREASURY BONDS

Tokio, May 5.

Twenty million yen's worth of 5 per cent. Treasury bonds will be offered for subscription between May 26 and June 10. The issue price is Y. 91.00 and they will mature on June 1, 1931.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

COAL SALES

The general managers of the Fu Chung Corporation state that the sales of their coal (Honan Anthracite) for the month of April last amounted to 125,744 tons.

KAILAN MINES

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending May 3 amounted to 87,998 tons and the sales during the same period to 70,784 tons.

APRIL RUBBER OUTPUTS

	lb.
Alma	19,000
Anglo-Dutch (Java)	62,500
Anglo-Java	173,000
Batu Anam (Johore)	15,300
Bukit Toh Alang	23,000
Bute	Nil
Chemor United	16,900
Chempedak	13,200
Cheng	11,400
Consolidated	43,523
Dominion	19,369
Java Consolidated	72,900
Karan	6,050
Kota Bahroe	19,640
Kroewoek (Java)	56,000
Langkat	64,000
New Amherst	14,670
Padang	12,000
Repah	11,000
See Kee	8,200
Semambu	15,600
Senawang	17,200
Shanghai Kedah	23,007
Shanghai Pahang	11,400
Shanghai Seremban	7,400
Shanghai-Sumatra	39,079
Sungei Duri	10,769
Tanah Merah	25,000
Tebong	59,000
Ziangbe	63,300

GULA-KALUMPONG

Messrs. Ilbert & Co., the Local Secretaries of the Gula-Kalumpong Rubber Estates Ld., are in receipt of the following telegram from their Penang agents:

Output of dry Rubber for April 1924	83,000 lb.
Shipped	71,864 „
Cocoanuts	700,000 nuts
Rainfall	8¼ inches

FAR EASTERN INSURANCE CO., LD.

The report of the directors of this company for presentation to the eighth ordinary general meeting of shareholders to be held on May 27 states:—

Working account 1922 and former years.—This account shows a balance at credit of Tls. 169,844.59. The directors recommend that this amount be carried forward.

Working account 1923.—The net premia for the year, including fire reserve from 1922 account, amount to Tls. 1,559,240.35 and the net claims settled to Tls. 588,072.82, leaving a net balance, after adding interest and other credits and deducting expenses, of Tls. 731,344.25, which the directors recommend should be dealt with as follows:—

To pay a dvidend of 7 per cent. (Tls. 1.40 per share Tls	50,400.00
Balance to be carried forward Tls.	680,944.25
Tls.	731,344.25

YANGTSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LD.

The report of this company for presentation to the thirty-fourth ordinary general meeting of shareholders, also to be held on May 27 states:—

Working account 1922 and former years.—This account shows a balance at credit of $2,213,327.14. The directors recommend that this amount be carried forward.

Working account 1923.—The net premia for the year, including fire reserve from 1922 account, amount to $5,138,105.11 and the net claims settled to $1,919,655.26, leaving a net balance, after adding interest and other credits and deducting expenses, of $2,713,138.15. The directors recommend that a dividend of 22½ per cent. be paid out of this account and that the balance be carried forward. The account will then stand as follows:

Dividend of 22½ per cent. on 150,000 shares fully paid up as per balance sheet $	337,500.00
Balance to be carried forward	2,375,638.15
	$2,713,138.15

The dividend, $2.25, will be paid in taels at exchange 73.

THE CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LD.

The report of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., general agents, for presentation to the shareholders at the 43rd ordinary meeting of this company to be held on May 23, states:—

1922 account.—After paying an interim dividend of $18 per share on May 10, 1923, the amount standing to the credit of this account is $1,188,319.45. This it is resolved to deal with in the following manner:—

To pay a final dividend of $22 per share	$220,000.00
To add to sterling reserve fund £25,000	215,246.64
To add to reinsurance fund	250,000.00
To add to underwriting suspense account to close the year 1922	503,072.81
	$1,188,319.45

1923 account.—The amount standing at credit of this account is $2,120,923.63. Out of this the general agents and consulting committee have declared an interim dividend of $18 per share, absorbing $180,000. The balance of $1,940,923.63 will be carried forward.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LD.

The report of the directors of this company for presentation to the shareholders at the 55th ordinary meeting to be held at the company's offices on May 16, states:—

1922 account.—This account shows a net profit on working of $904,376.02, which sum it is proposed to apportion as follows:—

Dividend of $7.00 and bonus of $3.00 per share on 20,000 shares	$200,000.00
To carry forward to underwriting suspense account	704,376.02

1923 account.—The balance at credit of this account is $1,366,779.04

COMPANIES NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Shanghai Municipal Council Silver Loan Debentures.—The debentures of the issue will bear interest from the date of purchase at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, payable on June 30 and December 31 in each year.

The Debentures will be issued at Tls. 97½ per cent. and will be redeemed under the operation of a Sinking Fund on December 31, 1934, but may be redeemed by the Council as whole or in part on December 31, 1934, or on any subsequent date, subject to the Council giving six calendar months notice in the Municipal Gazette and the public press of Shanghai.

In the event of any partial redemption of the Loan the number of debentures to be redeemed will be decided by drawings.

The scrip will be issued in denominations of Tls. 5,000, Tls. 1,000, Tls. 500, Tls. 100 to suit the convenience of applicants.

Application forms can be obtained from the Treasurer and Comptroller, Finance Dept., Administration Building, Hankow Road, Shanghai.

The Lane Crawford & Co., Ltd.—The Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 9A Nanking Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, May 22, 1924, at 5.15 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 7 to 22, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Yangtze Insurance Association Ltd. The 34th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 26 The Bund, Shanghai, on Tuesday, May 27, 1924, at 4.30 p.m.

A dividend of $225 per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 17 to 27, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ltd.—The 8th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 26 The Bund, Shanghai, on Tuesday, May 27, 1924, at 3.30 p.m.

A dividend of Tls. 1.40 per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 17 to 27, 1924, both days inclusive.

The China Import & Export Lumber Co., Ltd.—The 22nd Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 6 Kiukiang Road, Shanghai, on Friday, May 30, 1924, at 3 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 23 to 30, 1924, both days inclusive.

Share Report for Week Ending May 16, 1924.

No. 24/19

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Codes in use A1 Code
A.B.C. 4th 5th and 6th Editions
R. Broomhall's Imperial Combination Code
Hartley's Complete Phrase Code.
Telephone Cent. 171 & 174.

Members of Shanghai Stock Exchange
Land, Estate & Insurance Agents
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building,
12 The Bund,
Post Office Box No. 711, Shanghai

The tone of the local share market has been weak during the past week and the business recorded calls for no special comments. "Rubbers" continue a very depressed market and the price for rubber has declined further to very approximately 35¼ cents per lb. in Singapore and 10½d. per lb. in London. "Cottons" continue flat with very few clerks moving. Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co. have risen to Tl. 90 buyer with sellers in the market at Tls. 91. New Engineering & Shipbuilding Works' stock show a marked improvement there being a little investment enquiry and business has been done in them to-day at Tls. 6.10.

London market quotations with the exception of rubber shares have improved slightly and the following are the latest prices quoted us by cable this week

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Gold Loan 1913, B.I.	£ 72. 0. 0	(Middle Price)
" " " " " "	" 70. 0. 0	" ex B.I.B.'s
" " 5% 10 Yrs. Treas. Bills (Sterling)	" 50. 10. 0	(sellers)
" " 5% Stg. Treas. Notes 1925/29 Fully	" 49. 10. 0	"
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"	3. 12. 6	(Middle Price)
" " " " "	3 May 15. Debentures	100. 0. 0 (Buyers)
Ulia Kalumpong Rubber Estates, Ltd. "B"	1. 8. 9	(Middle Price)
Shanghai Electric Cons. Co., "B"	2. 15. 3	(Buyers)
Imperial Tobacco of Great Britain (Ord)	3. 17. 9	(Middle Price)
General Electric (Ord)	1. 0. 9	(Sellers)
Singapore Electric Tramways	0. 4. 6	(Middle Price)
Chinese Govt. 5% Shai & Nanking Rly.	70. 0. 0	"
Oriental Con olidated Mining Co.	0. 11. 9	(Seller)

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/21/32.

Shanghai, May 16, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

MAY	10th		12th		13th		14th		15th		16th	
	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June
RUBBERS												
Gula Kalumpong R. E. Ltd. .. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Anglo-Java Est., Ltd .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1½	..
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
H. & S. Bank .. .. .. $	1185	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld. Tls.	..	..	79	..	..	..	79	..	..	..	..	..
Langkats (combined) .. .. "	..	..	..	..	24½	..	..	..	25½	..	..	..
Cuity Dairy Co., Ld. .. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	..	..
S'hai Elec. Cons. Co., "B" "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17½	..	..	..
Chinese 5% Reorg. Loan B.I. £	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72	..
S'hai Exploration & D. Co., Ld. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	..
COTTONS												
Ewo Cotton Mills (Ord) .. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..
DEBENTURES												
Anglo-French Land 6% Debs. Tls.	96½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
S. M. C. 5% 1921 Debs. "	..	..	109	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 7% 1922 "	..	..	104½	..	..	..	104½	..	..	..	..	..
" 6% 1916 "	..	..	97½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 6% 1907 "	..	..	..	..	..	..	97½	..	..	..	..	..
" 5½% 1914 "	..	..	..	..	..	..	89	..	..	..	..	..

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, MAY 16, 1924.

STOCK	Last business done.	Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc.	Financial year ended	Last Dividend etc.	Paid
BANKS.									
London	£ 13½								
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank	T ..	..	..	50,000	H $125	(a H $1,271,1[illegible]			
						(c H $[illegible]	Dec.	Final Ch[illegible]	[illegible]
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. London	£ 12 ..	..	..	600,000	£5	(a £[illegible]	Dec.	Final 6% [illegible]	[illegible]
						(c £1,500,000			9-1-24
INSURANCE.									
Union Ins. Society of Canton, Ltd. ..	H $ 210			500	200,000	(ac H$[illegible]			
						(b H$99,500	Dec.	Final 15% (mkg. 10% ex 1921 Work) & ...	
North China Insurance Co. Ltd ..	T 130			10,000	£5	(ac £[illegible]		Int. 2½% ex Bonus to Contributors, 5% ...	26-5-24
						(c T[illegible]	Dec.	Final 15% (mkg. 5% ex 1921 Work) & ...	
Yangtsze Insurance Association Ltd. ..	T 230	50		20,000	$10	(ac $1,921,996		Interim 5% ex 1922 Work) & ...	10-6-24
						(ac $2,408,636	Dec.	$2 (or T1.40 ex 1922 Work) & ... payable in	
						(c $1,054,242		Taels at Ex. Int. T1 ...	30-5-24
Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ltd. ..	T 22			10,000	T20	(ac T[illegible]			
						(ac T[illegible]	Dec.	T1.20 ex 1922 Work) & ...	30-5-24
						(c T[illegible]			
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.	H $ 720			10,000	£ H $100	(ac H $2,177,[illegible]	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $10 ex 1921 Work) & ...	
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	H $ 550			2,000	£ H $50	(c H $[illegible]		(2nd) Interim 10 $[illegible] ex 1922 Work) & ...	
						(ac H $[illegible]	Dec.	H $85 ex 1922 Work) & ...	11-6-24
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	H $ 195			20,000	£ H $20	(c H $[illegible]			27-5-24
						(ac H $[illegible]	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $4 ex 1921 Work) & ...	
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	F 600			14,000	$500	(c H $[illegible]			25-6-24
						(a T[illegible]	Dec.	None. Since 1918	
						(c $3,[illegible]			
SHIPPING.									
Indo-China S.N. Co., Ltd... (8% cum. pref.	H $ 38	39½		20) 120,000	£5	(a £2,167			
(def. ord.	H $ 140			20) 120,000	£5		Dec.	Prof. for at Exch.—1924 London Warrant-	
						(c £2,103,152		less I.T. nil, 1923 Def. Ord. nil	15-8-23
Shell T'sport & Trading (ord.	*H $			50,000,000	£1				
Co., Ltd. (7% cum. pref.	£			20) 200,000	£10	(a* £2,029,056	Dec.	Interim 2s., free of I.T. Common	5-4-24
				50,000,000	£1	(c £5,000,000			
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd (ord.	T 85	90		50,000	T25	(a T23,515	Dec.	Final Ord. T4.50 (mkg. 17.50)	5-4-24
(pref.	T 11	50		10,000	T50	(c T410,000		Final Pref. T1.25 (mkg. 1.50) 1924	11-12-23
									11-1-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.									
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ltd.	T 95			47) 55,700	T75	(a T102,535	Apr.	T7.50, 1922-23	
						(c T1,918,[illegible]			27-7-23
Hongkong & W'poo Dock Co., Ltd...	H $ 1.87	14		60,000	H $50	(a H $418,[illegible]	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkg. T2½, 1923)	
New Eng. and Shipbuilding (ord.	T 5½	5.90		42) 500,000	T5	(c H $4,081,698			21-3-24
Works, Ld. .. .. .. (8% pref.	T 4.95	6.10		65) 500,000	T5	(a T59,500		Ord. T0.25, 1923	
						(b T300,000	Dec.	Pref. T0.40 1923..	10-3-24
						(c T1,311,015			10-2-24
Shanghai & H'kow Wharf Co., Ltd....	T 1924			131) T0,000	T100	(a T14,0[illegible]			
						(b T2[illegible]			
						(c T14,[illegible]	Dec.	Final T10 (mkg. T13, 1923)	4-3-24
H'kong & K'loon W. & G. Co., Ltd.	H $ 165	165		50,000	H $50	(a H $[illegible]			
						(b H $[illegible]	Dec.	H $6 & Bonus H $7, 1924	
						(c H $[illegible]			26-5-24
MINING.									
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ltd.	£ 1/-			24) 500,000	G $10				
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ltd. (Reserve).	£ 21/32		£3-11-3	£3-13-9	1164) 2,000,000	£1			
Loo Ion	£						June	Q $0.50, 1920-21	
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.	H $ 5			200,000	£1	(a	June	Int. 2½ free of I.T. 1923-1924 (Common	26-7-23
						(c		No. 2)	
						(a £23,613	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	1-[illegible]
						(c £4,875			21-[illegible]
LANDS AND HOTELS.									
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. ..	T 120			2) 78,000	T50	(a T34,410			
						(b T275,000	Dec.	Final T3 & Bonus T2 (mkg. T3, 1923)	
H'kong Land Invest. & Agcy. Co., Ltd. ..	H $ 105	106½				(c T2,289,317			21-3-24
(New Reg.)				240,000	H $25	(a H $157,886	Dec.	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares	
						(b H $250,000		(mkg. H $5, 1923; H $2.50 on 40,000 new	
						(c H $6,000,000		shares)	28-1-24
Humphreys Est. & Finance Co., Ld: ..	H $ 24		22	150,000	H $10	(a H $158,289			
						(b H $30,000	Dec	H $0.80 and Bonus H $0.80, 1923	
Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld:	T 6			3,674	T20	(a H $121,438			11-2-24
						(a T2,916	Dec.	T1.20, 1923	
						(c T7,000			13-2-24
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld: ..	T 115½					(a T9,289			
				123) 18,000	T100	(b T20,000	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg. T8, 1923-24)	
						(a T375,000			3-4-24
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld: ..	H $ 19 old 17½					(a H $85,238			
	12) new 11½			33) 500,000	H $10		Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000	
						(c H $5,203,767		shares (mkg. H $2 old)	
Carlton, Ld.	T 50			14) 10,000	T50		Mar.	Floated April 1, 1922	21-2-24
Asia Realty Co., Inc....	G $ 100			(18) 10,000	G $100		Dec.	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware	
								1922, 7%	
Bavan Trust Co., Inc: .. .. (ord	G $ 10	12½		**100,000	G $10	(			4-1-24
(pref	G $ 10	10			G $10			Ord. Pref. 1st gr. 1923, 1½%	
									4-1-24
PLANTATIONS.									
Alma Estates, Ld.	T 5½		5.10	70,000	£1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23	
									19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld.	T 0.25			262) 500,000	T1		Oct.		
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld: ..	T 2	1½		12) 400,000	10s.	a T30,242	Dec.	T0.20, 1923	
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T 1½	4½		4) 500,000	10s.	(a T12,442			
						(c T272,167			1-4-24
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld:	T 21					T16,223	Dec.	Final T0.30 (mkg. T0.55, 1923..	
				27) 30,000	T10	(b T22,000			15-4-24
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld. ..	T 0.70		0.70			(c T69,960	Sept.	Final T2.00, (mkg. T2½) 1922-23	
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T 1.12½	0.75		400,000	T1	(a T22,777	Dec.		28-12-23
Bute Plantation (1912), Ld.	T 0.75			500,000	T1	(a T20,402	Dec.	T0.05, 1923	
Chomor United Rubber Co., Ld.	T 0.25			28) 500,000	T1	(a T3,595	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	11-4-24
				400,000	T0.90	(a T17,973	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	7-3-17
Chempedak Rub. & O'bler Est., Ld. ..	T 1½					(c T[illegible]			20-3-17
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ld.	T 1			39) 35,000	£1	a (Loss) T[illegible]	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)	
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914) Ld.	T 2.12½			675,000	T1	a T4,129	Oct.	2nd Interim T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17 ..	7-3-24
				25) 500,000	28.—T0.75	(a T16,988	June	T0.20, 1916-17	19-10-17
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T 1½					(c T[illegible]	Dec.		1-11-17
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T 8½			19) 850,000	T1	a T2,775	Dec.	Final T0.15 (mkg. T0.21, 1923)..	
				145) 750,000	(21:450,000			T0.10, 1923	9-4-24
Java-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee					5s. 200,000	(a			16-4-24
Est., Ltd.	£					(c T[illegible]			
Kali Gindik Coffee Estates, Ltd.	T 6.10	5½		5) 35,000	£1 at 27/32	T3,000	Dec.	Final T0.75 (mkg. T1.25, 19[illegible]	
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld. ..	T 9.40			70,000	T5			Incorporated 1923	
				86) 35,000	T10	(a T6,977		(T0.50, 1923	
Karan Rubber Estate Co., Ld:	T 4			26,000	T10	(a T4,023	Dec.	(Interim 1923, T0.50	
						(a T2,008			
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1923), Ltd.	T 0.60	0.40			T1	(a T[illegible]	Mar.	T0.60, 1922-23	
Kroewoek Java Plantations, Ltd. ..	T [illegible]	[illegible]		20) 200,000	21 at T8.00	(a T[illegible]	June		

RUBBER AUCTIONS.

The following telegraphic advices have been received:—

Singapore, May 14, 1924.

Spot or May	... ...	35½ cents
June	... ...	35⅝ ,,
July/Sept.	... ...	36⅛ ,,
Oct./Dec.	... ...	37¼ ,,

Market easy.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
(1905	6 to 20	5-4-24	T97	*d* 320,000	6	June-Dec.
1907	do.	14-5-24	T97½	500,000	6	do.
1908	do.	9-5-24	T93	650,000	6	do.
1909	do.	15-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
1910	do.	16-5-24	T97	313,800	6	do.
1911	10 to 30	9-5-24	T97½	350,000	6	do.
1912	do.	3-1-24	T99	346,000	6	do.
1913	do.	3-5-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
...	10 to 50	8-5-22	T78	500,000	5½	do.
Shai Municipal 1914	10 to 30	11-5-24	T89	900,000	5½	do.
Council 1915	do.	12-5-24	T89	800,000	5½	do.
1916	do.	9-5-24	T97½	1,400,000	6	do.
1918	10	18-10-23	T103	607,300	7	do.
1919	10	9-5-23	T102	1,795,300	7	do.
1920	10	1-5-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
...	10 to 30	29-3-24	£104	£750,000	6	do.
1921	do.	18-2-24	$110	$1,000,000	8	do.
1924	do.	12-3-24	T109	T5,000,000	8	do.
1922	do.	16-5-24	T104½	T8,000,000	7	do.
1923	do.	13-5-24	T97½	*a*T6,000,000	6	do.
1924	do.	1-5-24	T97½	T500,000	6%	do.
1911	do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6	May-Nov.
French Municipal 1914	do.	12-2-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
Council 1915	do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
1921	do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8	do.
1923	do.	17-12-23	T96	*a* T800,000	6	May-Nov.
Shai Waterworks Co., Ltd. 1921	10 to 30	9-5-24	T107	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
Shai Gas Co., Ltd. 1922	do.	6-6-22	T103	T500,000	8	do.
1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
1908	do.	2-4-23	T94	*e* 800,000	6	do.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
(1905	5 to 20	31-8-22	T96½	T250,000	6	June-Dec.
1909	do.	1-4-24	T98	750,000	6	do.
1911	do.	23-9-22	T92	250,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
,,	do.	23-3-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
Shanghai Land 1912	do.	2-4-24	T98	250,000	6	June-Dec.
Investment 1913	do.	3-4-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct.
Co., Ltd. ,,	do.	11-1-24	T93	250,000	6	May-Nov.
,,	do.	,,	,,	250,000	6	April-Oct.
1914	do.	22-3-23	T98	750,000	6	June-Dec.
1916	5 to 25	3-4-23	T88	*f* 950,000	5½	do.
1922	do.	12-2-23	T95	750,000	6	Mar.-Sep.
1922	do.	10-1-24	T98	500,000	6	May-Nov.
Shanghai Club 1907	20	1-2-24	T93	450,000	6	do
Country Club 1901	Perpetual			139,000	6	June-Dec.
Lane, Crawford (1914	5 to 20			130,000	6	May-Nov.
& Co., Ltd. 1915	do.			110,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
Anglo-French 1906	do.			250,000	6	June-Dec.
Land Invest. (1911	do.	7-6-23	T98	300,000	6	do.
Co., Ltd.						
Shai Mutual Tel. Co., Ltd. 1923	10 to 20	27-2-23	T93½	*h* 270,000	6	do.
Shai Race Club 1923	25	14-4-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
Cathy Dairy Co., Ltd. 1915	10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
Hall & Holtz Ld. 1914	5 to 20	14-10-22	T92	T250,000	7	Jan.-July
Asia Realty Co., Inc. 1922	5 to 20	..	..	T500,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—*b*—Tls.65,100; *c*—Tls 51,100; *d*—Tls.31,100; *e*—Tls.68,500; *f*—Tls.262,400; *g*—Tls.189,800; *h*—Tls.12,300; *i*—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1923: Jan.	1923: Feb.	1923: Mar.	1923: Apr.	Total output this finyr. to date.
			lb.	b.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	b.	lb.
Alma	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	246,643	8.87d.	63,000	23,000	18,800	17,000	19,600	144,000
Amherst (New)	,, 500,000	Oct.	72,412	80,692	90,751	*4.89d.	19,020	8,214	8,475	14,462	14,670	65,041
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	650,000	574,000	600,000	8.45d.	..	54,000	50,000	65,000	62,000	211,000
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,524,711	1,663,450	..	6.70d.	..	164,000	164,100	167,000	173,000	708,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 500,000	Sept.	369,447	58,042	360,000	†0.24.41	..	..	..	..	..	..
Batu Arang	,, 400,000	Dec.	258,510	217,822	185,793	9.01d.	..	12,500	11,500	15,000	15,300	54,300
Bukit Toh Alang	,, 500,000	Mar.	305,645	248,182	345,000	7.54d.	..	..	..	..	23,000	23,000
Bute	,, 500,000	Dec.	230,067	177,850	169,510	11.11d.	..	17,500	16,800	13,600	Nil	47,700
Chemor United	,, 360,000	Dec.	310,794	267,627	..	8.40d.	..	27,200	23,300	9,500	16,900	76,900
Cheenpedak	£55,000	Oct.	145,760	154,063	..	1.25.42d.	30,700	11,000	4,100	1,000	15,200	63,300
Chersé	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	144,778	..	11.09d.	102,011	10,500	5,500	11,500	11,100	71,511
Consolidated (1914)	,, 375,000	Dec.	669,599	645,778	761,500	7.47d.	..	53,600	56,779	41,447	43,522	195,738
Dutahilan	,, 450,000	Dec.	271,150	321,516	306,867	9.63d.	..	28,932	27,651	1,950	19,369	91,903
Gula-Kalampong	£300,000	Dec.	1,113,000	938,000	1,215,000	10.1/4d.	..	88,000	78,000	65,000	84,000	315,000
Java Consolidated	£85,000	Dec.	686,224	622,227	..	6.2nd.	..	65,500	60,000	72,000	72,000	274,400
Kapayang	,, 150,000	Dec.	189,239	146,710	..	12.60	..	10,592	8,515	7,036	9,008	35,151
Kuah	,, 250,000	Mar.	104,782	59,576	84,000	8d.	..	..	..	..	6,050	6,050
Kota Iahroe (1921)	,, 300,000	June	138,330	339,970	..	..	160,918	29,156	26,949	19,180	19,640	255,743
Kroewoek	£70,000	Dec.	419,000	583,881	540,000	0.7.24d.	..	59,000	55,000	59,000	56,000	229,000
Langkat	Gls. 2,000,000	Oct.	842,389	943,000	975,000	Gls.0.28	179,300	92,000	71,500	70,000	64,000	477,300
Padang	Tls. 500,000	April	209,711	220,232	..	10d.	120,500	10,700	11,100	8,600	12,000	171,900
Pengkalan (1921)	,, 150,000	Mar.	135,253	9,265	176,088	10.19	..	..	..	..	..	..
Permata	,, 250,000	Oct.	98,303	56,299	..	0/8d	17,588	5,080	6,022	9,887	..	37,595
Repah	,, 275,000	Dec.	65,884	215,057	..	..	..	17,000	8,700	15,000	11,000	53,600
Sumanga	,, 600,000	Sept.	361,816	230,812	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
See Kee (1918)	,, 100,000	June	179,065	112,000	115,183	11.37d.	120,500	9,500	11,000	10,500	8,000	158,709
Semambu	,, 300,000	Dec.	164,103	21,535	168,201	0/9.37d.	..	13,100	13,400	7,500	13,000	50,000
Senawang	,, 375,000	Jan.	272,500	275,100	..	*17.35d.	..	..	14,500	16,100	17,200	48,100
Shanghai Kedah	,, 400,000	Sept.	313,414	246,542	..	8.12d.	87,625	24,496	17,259	17,094	23,007	149,411
Shai-Klebang	,, 315,000	Dec.	426,108	100,034	..	11.35d.	..	8,700	8,000	..	..	16,700
Shai Mercy	£60,000	Dec.	373,111	288,816	408,961	..	..	29,789	21,134	17,251	7,883	68,493
Shai Perchie	,, 200,000	June	209,881	188,016	..	9/0d.	100,923	16,132	14,175	12,816	11,000	158,126
Shai Seremban	,, 325,000	Dec.	171,213	117,117	..	9.82d.	..	14,100	13,200	5,100	7,100	42,500
Shai Semantan	,, 650,000	Oct.	651,239	679,119	650,000	Gls.0.33	111,311	61,110	51,170	43,357	33,072	300,237
Sua Manggis	,, 250,000	Dec.	184,000	157,100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungei	£100,000	Mar.	165,757	22,902	..	17.20	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungei Duri	£40,000	June	308,074	206,508	2?,000	14.6d.	120,000	7,695	22,552	10,000	10,759	193,006
Tanjong (1917)	Tls. 200,000	Dec.	100,011	10?,???	99,000	*?.?0	..	..	6,???	5,???	..	20,??
Teluk Merah	,, 150,000	Mar.	49,000	264,03	..	7.82d.	..	..	..	..	..	5,000
Tebong	,, 750,000	Jan.	630,?48	723,560	711,???	0 7.06d.	..	..	61,000	66,000	?,???	..
Zinagbe	£150,000	Dec.	514,?66	523,000	650,000	7.?4d.	..	67,800	58,200	?,000	?,???	24,000

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expense. †Straits Cents.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1923: Jan.	1923: Feb.	1923: Mar.	1923: Apr.	Total output this finyr. to date.
			lb.	b.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	b.	lb.
Sungei Duri Rubber Estate, Ld. ..		T	6	5				40,000	£1 at T8.50			
Taiping Rubber Estates (1913), Ld. ..		T	0.50					200,000		T1		
Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ld. ..		T	0.47½	0.42½				750,000		T1		
Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld.		T	1	0.70				750,000		T1		
Zinagbe Rubber Co., Ld.		T	2½					300,000		10s.		

COTTONS, ETC.

Kwo Cotton Mills, Ld.	ord.	T	12					15)	1,000,000	T5		
,,	(8% cum. pref.	T	105	105				43)	10 000	T100		
Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ld. ..		T	8						80,000	T10		
Oriental C. S. & W. Co., Ld.	ord.	T	5					80)	500,000	T3		
	pref.	T						3)	5,000	T100		
Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ld. (Shanghai Boshoku K.K.)		T	61 old 30new	56½					80,000	T50		
									40,000	T50		

INDUSTRIAL.

British-American Tobacco Co., Ld.	ord.	£		45/6	25/6	25/6		66)	13,000,000	£1		
	(5% cum. pref.	£							4,500,000	£1		
China Im. & Ex. Lumber Co., Ld.		T	350						5,000	T100		
China Sugar Refining Co., Ld.		H $	230						20,000	H $100		
Gordon & Co., Ltd.		T	25					37)	6,000	T25		
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.		H $	34	23½ old 5½ new					400,000	H $7.50		
Maatschappij, &c., In Langkat		T	21	7½					250,000	Gls.10		
Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ld. ..		T	6 40	6	(cumb. T 5½)	(cumb. T 5½)	(cumb. T 5½)		250,000	T5		
Shai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.		T	11				11½		250,000	T5		
Major Brothers, Ld.		T	5					10)	6,000	T20		
John Richards & Co., Ld.		T	10					11)	25,000	T10		
Shanghai Gas Co., Ld.		T	41					?)	24,000	T50		
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.		T	150	150				?9)	50,000	£20		

STORES.

Hall & Holtz, Ld.		$	6					?16)	25,000	$20		
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.		$	30						1,200	$80		
S. Mottrie & Co., Ld.		$	50					17)	10,000	$50		
Weeks & Co., Ld.		£	11					?50)	30,000	$20		
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.		$	102	107				?)	2,500	$100		

MISCELLANEOUS.

Cathy Dairy Co., Ld.		T	11						10,000	T10		
Shai Electric Construction Co., Ld., "B"		T	15?	17					40,000	£1		
Shai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ld. ..		T	50						5,400	T50		
Shanghai Mercury, Ld.		T	25						3 000	T50		
Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld. ..		T	79					119.	40,000	T50		
Oriental Press (L'Imprimerie Française)		$	100						940	$100		

Kepah Rubber Co., Ltd.		T	0.80	0.60					75,000	£1		
Sumanggia Rubber Co., Ld.		T	0.50					36)	600,000	T1		
See Kee Rubber Estates (1918), Ld. ..		T	0.75	0.60					100,000	T1		
Semambu Rubber Ests., Ld.		T	0.82						300,000	T1		
Senawang Rubber Ests. (ord. Co. (1921), Ld.	12% cum. Pref.	T	0.82½					63)	300,000	T1		
Shanghai Kedah Plantations, Ld.		T	0.75	0.50				67)	100,000	T1		
Shai Klebang Rubber Estate, Ld. ..		T	0.50					34)	400,000	T1		
Shai Malay Rubber Estates, Ld. .. ord		T	3					173)	315,000	T1		
,, 8% cum. part. pref.		T	9					22)	30,000	T10		
Shai Pahang Rubber Estates, Ld. ..		T	0.75						200,000	T1		
Shai Seremban Rubber Estates, Ld. ..		T	0.60						325,000	T1		
Shai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ld.		T	105	97½	100			7)	30,000	T20		
Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ld.		T	2.65					30)	56,000	T5		
Sungala Rubber Estate, Ld.		T	0.80					?5)	100,000	T1		

Sungei Duri Rubber Estate, Ld.		T	6	5					40,000	£1 at T8.50		
Taiping Rubber Estates (1913), Ld. ..		T	0.50						200,000	T1		
Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ld.		T	0.47½	0.42½				32)	750,000	T1		
Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld.		T	1	0.70				?54)	750,000	T1		
Zinagbe Rubber Co., Ld.		T	2½					32)	300,000	10s.		

COTTONS, ETC.

Kwo Cotton Mills, Ld.	ord.	T	12					15)	1,000,000	T5		
,,	(8% cum. pref.	T	105	105				43)	10 000	T100		
Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ld. ..		T	8						80,000	T10		
Oriental C. S. & W. Co., Ld.	ord.	T	5					80)	500,000	T3		
	pref.	T						3)	5,000	T100		
Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ld. (Shanghai Boshoku K.K.)		T	61 old 30new	56½					80,000	T50		
									40,000	T50		

INDUSTRIAL.

British-American Tobacco Co., Ld.	ord.	£		45/6	25/6	25/6		66)	13,000,000	£1		
	(5% cum. pref.	£							4,500,000	£1		
China Im. & Ex. Lumber Co., Ld.		T	350						5,000	T100		
China Sugar Refining Co., Ld.		H $	230						20,000	H $100		
Gordon & Co., Ltd.		T	25					37)	6,000	T25		
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.		H $	34	23½ old 5½ new					400,000	H $7.50		
Maatschappij, &c., In Langkat		T	21	7½					250,000	Gls.10		
Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ld. ..		T	6 40	6	(cumb. T 5½)	(cumb. T 5½)	(cumb. T 5½)		250,000	T5		
Shai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.		T	11				11½		250,000	T5		
Major Brothers, Ld.		T	5					10)	6,000	T20		
John Richards & Co., Ld.		T	10					11)	25,000	T10		
Shanghai Gas Co., Ld.		T	41					?)	24,000	T50		
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.		T	150	150				?9)	50,000	£20		

STORES.

Hall & Holtz, Ld.		$	6					?16)	25,000	$20		
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.		$	30						1,200	$80		
S. Mottrie & Co., Ld.		$	50					17)	10,000	$50		
Weeks & Co., Ld.		£	11					?50)	30,000	$20		
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.		$	102	107				?)	2,500	$100		

MISCELLANEOUS.

Cathy Dairy Co., Ld.		T	11						10,000	T10		
Shai Electric Construction Co., Ld., "B"		T	15?	17					40,000	£1		
Shai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ld. ..		T	50						5,400	T50		
Shanghai Mercury, Ld.		T	25						3 000	T50		
Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld. ..		T	79					119.	40,000	T50		
Oriental Press (L'Imprimerie Française)		$	100						940	$100		

For all Dollar shares quoted on the Shanghai Stock Exchange the Exchange rate is fixed at 73.

REFERENCES.

a Capital increased [illegible] Meeting.
b Dividend [illegible]
c Debentures [illegible]
d Uncalled liability $6 per sh.
e [illegible]
f [illegible]
g [illegible]
h [illegible]
i [illegible]
k Working Account 1921
† Registered; or Bearer (idem. "B").
†* Issued Capital; 7% Cum. Pref. 24,461 shares; Ordinary, 16,270 shares.

: Debentures issued also.
‡ Subject to Estate Managers' Commissions
§ Subject to 5% & 2% D. and Comm. Tax.
** Contingent liability for Interest on 12% Cum. Pref. Shares of Tls 9,162

1—[illegible]
2—[illegible]
3—[illegible]
4—[illegible]
5—[illegible]
6—[illegible]
7—19,?91 ,,
8—10,000 ,,
9—16,470 sh. unissd;
10—300 ,,
11—1,?90 ,,
12—60,000 ,,
13—1,387 ,,
14—3,063 ,,
15—100,000 ,,
16—1,66? ,,
17—8,?42 ,,
18—5,?88 ,,
19—183,230 ,,
20—15,000 ,,
21—100,000 ,,
22—2,620 ,,
23—5,000 ,,
24—70,?10 ,,
25—120,000 ,,
26—60,000 sh. called
27—8,421 ,,
28—200,000 ,,
29—4,683 ,,
30—2,000 ,,
31—1,000 ,,
32—[illegible] ,,
33—[illegible] ,,
34—[illegible] ,,
35—[illegible] ,,
36—[illegible] ,,
37—1,443 ,,
38—7,695 ,,
42—290,000 ,,
43—1,000 ,,
47—500 sh. unissd.
[illegible] ,,

In order to ensure [illegible] Secretaries of Companies are requested to notify Messrs. J. P. Bissel & Co. of any alterations, errors or omissions.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

RACE CLUB'S SPRING MEETING

Patsfield, Newbigging up, Wins a Fine Grand National: Old Bill and Petersfield Placed

Saturday's races, to conclude the Shanghai Race Club's Spring Meeting, were preceded by a merry gathering in the coffee room of the club, where the Stewards entertained to tiffin a large company of owners, jockeys, visitors from the outports and a number of the leading Chinese sportsmen, prominent amongst the latter being Mr. Chu Pao-san, Mr. T. U. Yih, Mr. Chang Nieh-yun, Mr. Chun Bing-him, Mr. Y. S. Day, and Mr. S. K. Chen. Mr. S. Barton, C.M.G., H. M. Consul-General, was amongst the distinguished guests at the table of Mr. A. W. Burkill, Chairman of the Stewards.

After a course or two, the Chairman said that he noticed Dr. Edgar was suffering so terribly from nerves that he was unable to eat anything and therefore, to save him from a slow death from starvation, he would immediately present him with the Jockey Cup, so that he could deliver his great speech and eat some tiffin. The cup was presented amidst much applause and Dr. Edgar, after returning thanks, said that he wished specially to thank the Stewards for having included another novice jockeys' race in the card that day. Novice jockeys wanted the encouragement that went with more races for their special benefit and he hoped the practice would be continued.

Later, the Chairman said that, before calling upon "the ever-youthful Chu Pao-san" to present the Chinese Cup to Mr. Sokoloff, he would like to express the sincere thanks of the members of the Race Club for such a handsome gift. It was only another instance of the cementing of friendship between Chinese and foreigners. They might differ in business and in politics, but in sport always they were able to agree, and he trusted that in the future this friendship would be still more firmly cemented.

The cup was presented to Mr. Sokoloff, who made a brief reply, and then Mr. Chang Nieh-yun made one of his always delightful speeches, in which he judiciously mixed prohibition, Old Bill, Young Bill, Columbia, their owners, trainers and jockeys, Chun Bing-him, H. W. Stevenson, the Union Club and various other ingredients into a most palatable oratorical cocktail.

Taken in general, the racing was not particularly interesting, but there were several instances of very clever jockeyship and the Grand National was a glorious race.

Nine ponies were saddled for the Grand National. The company was somewhat too good for California and the clever little Jack Flint, whilst Joss House, of course, could not be considered, but the rest were all first-class 'chasers. They were released to a level start, but when they settled down Petersfield was sent out to three lengths, going at a smart pace. Behind him ran Social Union, while Jack Flint and Exchequer Bill were nine lengths behind the main body. Passing the stands the second time, Petersfield had a lead of a length from Patsfield (Old Bill and Social Union with Theatreland beginning to go up. By this time there was no danger of Joss House finishing less than a quarter of a mile behind the eventual winner and Exchequer Bill also appeared to have had enough of it. Social Union was beaten half-way down the back straight. At Probst's the remainder began to crack on the pace, Petersfield still held a length's lead from Patsfield and Theatreland was next, but the latter's style was not flattering and probably he was feeling the effects of his hard work on the flat. Rounding the bend, Petersfield went up in great style, gained the lead with a glorious jump over the last ditch and [illegible] Mumtaz Mahal (Old Bill) along in the [illegible] Theatreland finishing [illegible] Patsfield in front [illegible] Petersfield [illegible] beat! [illegible] by two lengths.

The results in detail follow:—

FOURTH DAY.

1.—THE SPRING GRIFFINS HANDICAP, "A" CLASS.—One mile and a quarter.

lb.

Mr. Liddell's grey, Ravenscroft (Mr. Brand) ..154—1
„ Gilpin's ches. Sir Galahad (Mr. Knoll) .....156—2
„ Dem's grey, Cyrus (Mr. Heard) .....158—3

Won by many lengths: the same. Time, 2 min. 54 sec.

2.—THE SPRING GRIFFINS HANDICAP, "B" CLASS.—One mile and a quarter.

lb.

Mr. Mur-Hol's grey, Boston Boy (Mr. E. McBain) 149—1
Messrs. E.A.B. & N.W.H.'s grey, Light Hand (Mr. J. K. Brand) —..—147—2
Capt. Bahnson's grey, Silkeborg (Mr. Knoll) ....156—3

Also ran:—Barnaby Rudge (Mr. Buck), Don Pedro (Mr. Patterson), Irish Lad (Mr. Bauld), Majestic (Mr. Brodie), Tennessee (Mr. Crokam).

Won by three lengths: four. Time, 2 min. 55⅘ sec.

3.—THE SPRING HANDICAP, "A" CLASS.—One mile and a quarter.

lb.

Mr. M. M. Sokoloff's grey, Bonne Affaire (Mr. Sokoloff) .....158—1
„ Day's bay, Republicland (Mr. Dallas) .....152—2
„ Harry White's dun, Kings Cross (Mr. Patterson) .....158—3

Also ran:—McKenzie (Mr. Crokam).

Won by six lengths: Many. Time, 2 min. 54⅗ sec.

4.—THE SPRING HANDICAP, "B" CLASS.—One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Liddell's grey, Carlington (Mr. Brand) ....154—1
Messrs. J. Beudin M. Speelman's Sp. Wh. Zoulou (Mr. Heard) .....152—2
Mr. Kimball's brown, Little Minch (Mr. Bauld) ..140—3

Also ran:—Carbon (Mr. Charles), Castle Sycee (Mr. Sassoon), Dalmeny (Mr. Patterson), Jack-o-Lantern (Mr. Dallas) Lyksborg (Mr. Hill), Piracy (Mr. Crokam), Sentiment (Mr. Rea).

Won by five lengths: a neck. Time, 2 min. 52⅘ sec.

5.—THE GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE.—Over Morriss' water jump, twice round and in.

lb.

Mr. Henry Morriss's grey Patsfield (Mr. Newbigging) .....154—1
„ Campox's bay, Old Bill (Mr. Maitland) ....152—2
„ Henry Morriss's brown, Petersfield (Mr. Liddell) .....164—3

Also ran:—California (Mr. Greig), Exchequer Bill (Mr. Burkill), Jack Flint (Mr. Brand), Joss House (Mr. Taylor), Social Union (Mr. Sassoon), Theatreland (Mr. Dalgarno).

Won by four lengths: two.

6.—THE POOTUNG CUP.—7 furlongs.

lb.

Mr. J. J. Paterson's Sp. Wh. Aotea Kazoo (Mr. Brodie) .....155—1
Messrs. Fay & Seth's ches. Gargany (Mr. Heinzerling) .....155—2
Mr. Allan's grey, Indiana (Mr. Hughes) .....152—3

Also ran:—Carbon (Mr. Taylor), Irrepressible (Mr. Edgar), Lot One (Mr. Baker), Oliver Twist (Mr. Buck), Roman Merlin (Mr. Knight), Sir Colin (Mr. Greig), Tommy Lad (Mr. Rea).

Won by three lengths: two. Time, 2 min.

7.—THE CONSOLATION CUP.—One mile and quarter.

lb.

Mr. Mackie's ches. The Knut (Mr. Moon) ....152—1
„ Logan & Watson's Sp. wh., St. Blaise (Mr. Brand) .....158—2
Mr. and Mrs. A. V. White's bay. White Knight (Mr. Charles) .....158—3

Also ran: Forestland (Mr. Dallas), Kashmir (Mr. Burkill).

Won by a short head: many [illegible]. Time, 2 min. [illegible] sec.

8.—THE MANCHU STAKES.—One mile and a quarter.

lbs.

Mr. Day's grey, Borderland (Mr. Dallas) .....158—1
„ G. D. Coutts's grey, Plumpton (Mr. Burkill) .....[illegible]—2
„ Powhattan's black, Barnaby Rudge (Mr. Maitland) .....158—3

Also ran:—Redstone (Mr. Buck), Trumpeter (Mr. Sturrock), White Bill (Mr. Charles), Young Mongol (Mr. Knoll).

Won by three lengths: many. Time, 2 min. 55⅘ sec.

9.—THE NIL DESPERANDUM CUP.—Half-a-mile.

lbs.

Mr. Liddell's grey, Woodcroft (Mr. E. McBain) .....155—1
„ Day's dun, Farmland (Mr. Dallas) .....155—2
„ Robson's roan, The Country Bird (Mr. Brand).160—3

Also ran:—Archer (Mr. Crokam), Aroha (Mr. Maitland), Comanche (Mr. Charles), Dinna Forget (Mr. Geiler), Outrigger (Mr. Brodie), Right Royal (Mr. Heard), Settrington (Mr. Knoll), St. Pauls (Mr. Patterson), The Hawk (Mr. Hill).

Won by four lengths: two. Time, 1 min. 02 sec.

10.—THE GRIFFINS NIL DESPERANDUM CUP.—Half-a-mile.

lb.

Mr. Liddell's bay, Ryecroft (Mr. Brand) .....152—1
Messrs. Winsome & Hasty's ches, The Bittern (Mr. Hill) .....155—2
„ Dod's bay, Dinna Tell (Mr. Pollock) .....155—3

Also ran:—Alabama (Mr. Knoll), Desert Gold (Mr. Maitland), Don Fernandez (Mr. Patterson), Irish Lad (Mr. Crokam), Irrepressible (Mr. Edgar), Karmala (Mr. Brodie), March Past (Mr. Sassoon), Prairie Flower (Mr. Heard), Prince Charming (Mr. Moon), Rollo (Mr. McBain), White Prince (Mr. Charles).

Won by five lengths: the same. Time, 1 min. 02⅘ sec.

11.—THE MAFOOS' RACE.—One mile and a quarter.

1—Battletree.
2—Christmas Bond.
3—Zoulou.

Also ran:—Little Minch, Home Run, Toplight, Reorganization, First Chance, Gargany, Tommy Lad.

Won by half a length: two lengths. Time, 2 min. 55⅘ sec.

BILLIARDS

Capt. Barrett and Stevenson Both in Fine Form: A Win for the Amateur

Probably the most interesting game of H. W. Stevenson's series was played at the Shanghai Club on Monday, when he conceded Capt. E. I. M. Barrett 600 points in 1,000 up and was beaten at 1,000-878. In the early part of the game Capt. Barrett did not seem to be playing up to his usual form and had it not been for the fact that Stevenson, with a wholesome respect for his opponent's prowess, played extra carefully, with a view to getting position and keeping it, and in consequence gained either big figures or nothing, Barrett probably would have been well beaten. Towards the end they both improved wonderfully, but even a 236 break was not sufficient to counteract 75 and 34 in quick succession by Barrett, who ran out with an unfinished 27.

The game stood at 631-36 before Stevenson gave a glimpse of his best play. Then he got the balls to the top of the table, scored 46 and at his next visit 72. There followed a number of small breaks, the highest being 32. Barrett put on 35 and 31 and then Stevenson came into play with a superb effort for 143. It was practically all top of the table play, but he introduced all manner of shots—nursery cannons, plain and run-through massés, deadly winning hazards, cushion and kiss cannons, in bewildering variety and at such a speed and with such perfect confidence that the audience could not help laughing even more than applauding. He made 64 in four minutes and the full break in 10 minutes. Three or four times he played in hand, but only twice did an object ball go as far as a middle pocket. He broke down at a screw cannon off the cushion.

By way of variety, Stevenson followed this with 55 by losing hazards and then, after having been in play for 1¼ hours, he made his best break of the evening—236. In this one saw the true Stevenson, for it was practically all nursery cannons and at one period he reached the limit of 25 successive direct cannons. The score then was 836-724.

Stevenson made another break of 109 in eight minutes, again mainly by nursery cannons, and was in such a position that he well might have run out—the score was 938-878—but by this time Barrett really was dominating the game. Just before this break he had played a superb 75, which he followed with a 34. At one time he was left with the three balls close together in a straight line at right angles to the cushion and called for the rest with the obvious intention of digging down for a jumping cannon. "He cannot surely do that, anyway," said Stevenson, adding a second later, "But he has! A very fine shot." With Barrett 28 off game, Stevenson gave him a most puzzling succession of safeties, but Barrett got possession in the end and ran out with an unfinished break of 27, Stevenson enthusiastically congratulating him.

CHINA OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

An Annual Tournament to be Held at Shanghai in October: A Trophy Presented

It has been decided to establish an Open Amateur Golf Championship of China, to be played for annually at Shanghai. The following clubs are asked to send in their entries before October 15, on which date the list for this year will be closed:—

Hungjao Golf Club, Royal Hongkong Golf Club, Amoy Golf Club, Mukden Golf Club, Tientsin Golf Club, Weihaiwei Golf Club, Port Edward Golf Club (Weihaiwei), Hankow Golf Club, Nanking Golf Club, Peking Golf Club, Tsingtao Golf Club, Foochow Golf Club, Manila Golf Club, Tokio Golf Club, Yokohama Golf Club, Kobe Golf Club, Hodogaya Golf Club.

Any member of any recognized club staying in Shanghai when the competition takes place will be eligible to enter. The actual date of the competition will be communicated in due course, but it is anticipated that either October 19 or 26 will be the date selected.

A trophy, which has been presented by a Shanghai resident, will be inscribed with the name of the winner but will remain in Shanghai and the winner will receive a cup to commemorate the event. Entrance fee $5.00; conditions, 72 holes, medal play.

LAWN TENNIS

Davis Cup Competition: Belgium Defeated by Britain

London, May 12.

At Torquay to-day, in the first round of the Davis Cup competition, Lieut.-Col. A.R.F. Kingscote (Britain) beat Mr. Watson (Belgium), 7-5, 6-2, 6-1; and M. Washer (Belgium) beat Mr. Gilbert (Britain), 6-3, 7-9, 2-6, 6-4, 8-6. The matches will be continued tomorrow and on Wednesday.—Reuter.

Torquay, May 13.

Mr. Godfree and Mr. Max Woosnam (Britain) beat M. Washer and M. Watson (Belgium), 6/4, 9/7, 6/4, in the doubles match of the first round of the Davis Cup Competition. Britain now leads by two wins to one.—Reuter.

Torquay, May 14.

Britain beat Belgium by three matches to two in the first round of the Davis Cup competition.

Mr. Gilbert (Britain) beat M. Watson (Belgium), 6/4, 6/3, 6/1, and M. Washer (Belgium) beat Lieut.-Colonel Kingscote (Britain), 6/2, 6/2, 6/3.—Reuter.

Tilden to Withdraw Resignation?

New York, May 14.

It is believed that the way has been paved for Mr. William T. Tilden's participation in the competition for the Davis Cup by the action of the President of the American Lawn Tennis Association, who has announced his willingness to call a meeting of the Executive to consider the withdrawal of Mr. Tilden's resignation, which Mr. Tilden now states will be forthcoming.—Reuter's American Service.

RACING AT HOME

The One Thousand Guineas

London, May 9.

The One Thousand Guineas was run at Newmarket to-day and resulted as follows:—

Plack 1
Mumtaz Mahal 2
Straitlace 3

Sixteen ran. Won by one and a half lengths. Half a length separated second and third.

Betting 3 to 1 Plack: 6 to 5 Mumtaz Mahal: 7 to 2 Straitlace.

Place Betting: 4 to 6 Straitlace, 7 to 4 Plack, and the others proportionate.—Reuter.

Spring Two Year Old Stakes

London, May 9.

The following is the result of the Spring Two Year Old Stakes, run at Newmarket:—

Mrs. H. E. Beddington's Rhyolite 1
Mr. Frank Curzon's Egyptian Idol 2
Lord Dynevor's Ardley 3

Nine ran. Won by three lengths; half a length between second and third.

Betting:—5 to 2 against Rhyolite; 100 to 8 Egyptian Idol; 7 to 2 Ardley.

The March Stakes

The following is the result of the March Stakes:—

Major Cayzer's Poisoned Arrow 1
Duke of Westminster's Hurry Off 2
Mr. Donald Fraser's North Bucks 3

Three ran: Won by two lengths; six lengths between second and third.

Betting:—13 to 8 on Poisoned Arrow; 9 to 4 against Hurry Off; 7 to 1 North Bucks. "North-China Daily News Special Sermic.

The Chester Cup

London, May 14.

The following is the result of the Chester Cup, run at Chester this afternoon:—

Rugeley 1
Sierra Leone 2
Miwani 3

There were 13 starters. Won by three lengths; six lengths between second and third.

Betting:—10 to 1 against Rugeley; 5 to 1 Sierra Leone; 100 to 7 Miwani.—"North-China Daily News" Special Service.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES

World's Record Walk by Capetown Competitor

Capetown, May 9.

The Olympic athlete McMaster, prior to sailing to-day to compete in the Olympic Games, carried out a trial walk of 10,000 metres in the world's record time of 45 minutes 4⅘ seconds. The previous best time was that of the Dane Rasmussen, 45 mins. 26-2/5 secs. The Italian Frigerios, the winner of the event in the last Olympic Games, did the distance in 48 mins 6⅘ secs.—Reuter.

U. S. Lawn Tennis Team.

New York, May 9.

The following have been selected for the United States Olympic lawn-tennis team:—

Messrs R. N. Williams, Vincent Richards, Francis Hunter and Watson Washburn. — Reuter's American Service.

America to Meet France in Final Round of Rugby Competition

Paris, May 11.

The United States beat Rumania by 37 points to 0 in the Olympic Rugby competition.

The Americans will meet France in the final on May 18. The odds are regarded as favouring France.

The Americans to-day played a hard, dashing game, but rough play was conspicuously absent. The centre three-quarter, Hyland, played a brilliant game. He scored four tries and was largely responsible for two more.—Reuter.

CRICKET IN ENGLAND

South Africans Draw with Derby and Surrey: County Championship Results

London, May 9.

The match between Derbyshire and the South Africans at Derby was drawn. The South Africans made 161 for 7 wickets and declared. Commaille scored 43 and Taylor 33. Bestwick took 3 wickets for 37. At the close of play Derbyshire had scored 78 runs for 5 wickets.—

At Lord's Middlesex beat Hampshire by 8 wickets. Hearne took 5 Hampshire wickets for 39 in the 1st innings and 5 for 66 in the 2nd.

At Cambridge Sussex beat Cambridge University by 7 wickets. Bowley made 99 in Sussex's 1st innings.

At Oxford Lancashire beat Oxford University by an innings and 99 runs. Lancashire made 303 for 8 wickets and declared (Makepeace 104). Oxford made 142, Parkin taking 4 wickets for 66, and 62 in the 2nd innings, Parkin taking 6 wickets for 30.

May 10.

The weather was overcast at the opening of the match between Surrey and the South Africans at the Oval. Eight thousand people were present. Surrey batted first. They had scored 1 50 runs for 7 wickets by 3.30, Fender being 52 not out, when rain came on and there was no further play for the day.—Reuter.

London, May 12.

The match between Surrey and the South Africans was continued at the Oval to-day, Surrey having on Saturday scored 150 runs for the loss of seven wickets.

The weather was overcast, and there were 40,000 people present. Surrey were all out for 223, to which Fender's contribution was 107—a dashing innings which occupied only 95 minutes and included a six and 12 fours. Pegler took six wickets for 63 runs.

At the close of the day's play the South Africans had scored 139 for the loss of five wickets, Taylor contributing 44.—Reuter.

London, May 13.

The match between Surrey and the South Africans was continued to-day at the Oval, before a small attendance. The weather was overcast, and the wicket soft. In their first innings Surrey had been dismissed for 223, to which the South Africans had responded with 139 for five wickets. To-day the South Africans increased their score to 223, thus making a tie on the first innings. A. D. Nourse scored 62, while Peach took four wickets for 44 runs. Going in a second time Surrey scored 136 for the loss of two wickets (Hobbs 79 not out) and then declared. The South Africans scored 82 for two wickets in their second venture, and the match ended in a draw.

The match at Leyton between Essex and Kent was drawn, Essex scoring three points for leading on the first innings and Kent one point. In Kent's second innings Woolley made 117 not out.

At Portsmouth, the match between Hampshire and Sussex was drawn, Sussex (leading on the first innings) getting three points and Hampshire one point. In the first innings of Sussex Bowley scored 85. Tate (Sussex) took five wickets for 38 runs and Gilligan (Sussex) five for 49.

Derby won on the first innings in their match at Leicester against Leicestershire. In Leicester's first innings Bestwick took eight wickets for 36 runs, while in Derby is first innings Geary captured seven wickets for 45.

There was no play at Birmingham, on account of rain, in the match between Warwickshire and Notts.

At Cambridge, Lancashire defeated Cambridge University by two wickets. The Lancashire bowler Parkin took three wickets for 27 runs in the first innings and four for 37 in the second, while R. T. Tyldesley (Lancashire) took six wickets for 42 runs in Cambridge's second innings.

Playing against Worcestershire at Worcester, Glamorganshire won on the first innings. Ryan (Glamorgan) took six wickets for 31 runs in Worcester's first innings.

At Gloucester, Yorkshire defeated Gloucestershire by eight wickets, the scores being: Gloucester, first innings 68 (Kilner taking four wickets for 21 and Macaulay five for 19), second innings 42 (Macaulay seven wickets for 21); Yorkshire, first innings 98, second innings 14 for two wickets.—Reuter.

South Africans v. Notts

London, May 14.

The match between Notts and the South Africans opened at Nottingham to-day. The weather was fine, and the wicket good. Six thousand spectators were present. The South Africans batted first and ran up a total of 186, to which Nourse contributed 52. The Notts bowler Barratt took five wickets for 59 runs. Nottingham then batted and at the close of the day's play had scored 93 for the loss of five wickets.—Reuter.

TENNIS AT QUEEN'S CLUB

Bathurst Cup Won by Americans

London, May 9.

At Queen's Club, competing for the Bathurst Tennis Cup, America, represented by Messrs Jay Gould and C. Cutting, beat England, represented by Mr. E. Baerlein and the Honourable C. Bruce, by three games to one.—Reuter.

CUP WINNERS FINED

Newcastle United's Strategy

London, May 12.

A meeting of the Football League at Manchester to-day fined the Cup winners, Newcastle United, £750 for playing weak teams before the Cup Final. Against Aston Villa on April 21 they played only two members of their regular team.—Reuter.

SPORTSMEN report that spring snipe, though they were rather late, are now coming down in fairly large numbers and some good bags have been obtained. The gunners also have noticed that this year there is an exceptionally large growth of mushrooms and collections of these have formed pleasing additions to the bags.

THERE has been very little news from Aberdeen of late, and the following recent arrival seems too good to keep: The customer of an Aberdeen grocer ordered four dozen eggs, which the grocer instructed his assistant to pack and despatch. The assistant, absent-mindedly, packed seven rows of seven eggs and had the order delivered, and it was not till some time after that the grocer, checking up, discovered to his horror that an egg too many had been sent. He rushed round to his customer, a cheery, good-natured individual, informed him of the calamity and requested return of the surplus egg. The customer laughed and said that as he was so heavy a buyer he wasn't going to bother about a little, solitary egg. Anyway, as the grocer was obviously tired after his hurried journey, would he have a drink. The grocer said he would, and on being asked what he would like, replied, without hesitation, "Egg and milk."

MR. Charles Watney, Home hon. secretary, China Tea Association, in a letter to the Home Press, says people sometimes think that the import of China tea is a relatively unimportant matter because the volume imported into Britain from China is comparatively small. It is only 10,938,344 lb., which shows a very considerable drop from the amount of importations just before the war, when they were practically 13,000,000 lb. The China Tea Association has always laid stress on the fact that this is no question of any proposal being made of serious import to Indian and China tea production. Board of Trade figures show how relatively unimportant it is, and the amount of duty collected is equally negligible. The entire importation duty from China, including Hongkong and Macao, only yields £364,899, and the amount obtainable from the differential duty is £61,000. No doubt the removal of the duty might help the China tea trade a little, the more so as the commodity is making headway, but no alleviation of the burden of the duty would ever make it a serious rival to the British Empire-grown article.

LAW REPORTS

MRS. ROWARTH AND MRS. DAVIS FOUND GUILTY

Suppression of Witness: The Other Charges Not Pursued: Sentences of Twelve and Six Months Respectively, Both with Hard Labour

At H. M. Supreme Court last Friday Mrs. Judith Rowarth and her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Davis, were found guilty of having conspired together to obstruct and defeat the course of justice by preventing a witness, Wong Foo-mei, from attending at the trial of Mrs. Rowarth on a charge of attempted murder, and were sentenced by his Honour Judge Grain respectively to 12 months and six months' imprisonment with hard labour. There was a large attendance of the public to hear the case for the defence, that for the prosecution having closed the previous afternoon.

The Crown Advocate (Mr. H. P. Wilkinson), assisted by Mr. E. T. Maitland, prosecuted, and Mr. S. H. Lewis defended.

Before proceeding to open the case for the defence, Mr. Lewis submitted that the prosecution had failed to produce sufficient evidence to show conspiracy in the case. The bulk of the evidence was extraneous, relating to an offence which occurred last year; and the only evidence which possibly could be taken as showing anything in the nature of conspiracy was the evidence of the amah, and her evidence did not show there was any conspiracy at all between Mrs. Rowarth and Mrs. Davis.

His Lordship—I am afraid I am against you there, Mr. Lewis. I think there is sufficient evidence to go to the jury.

Mr. Lewis then briefly opened the case for the defence, contending that the evidence which had been given in support of the charge of conspiracy was flimsy and impalpable. The whole story of the prosecution was without foundation.

Mrs. Rowarth in the Box.

Mrs. Rowarth then gave evidence, briefly repeating her story that on the day of the attack upon the Indian she went to the house of her daughter (the second accused), arriving there at between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and staying until about 9 oclock, when she went to the picture show with her husband. Witness went on to say that she knew nothing about the amah leaving her daughter's house, had nothing to do with her leaving, and did not know she was working there. She had no interest at all in her daughter's servants. As to the story of the amah, that witness had taken her food and money, this was not so. She had taken neither money nor rice, and knew nothing about it.

The Crown-Advocate (cross-examining)—When did you first hear of the assault on Pakhar Singh?—When I saw it in the newspaper.

You have heard it stated that the amah left your daughter's house a fortnight before you were arrested. Were you at your daughter's house at all during that fortnight?—I was there every day.

Did you discuss the Pakhar Singh case with your daughter?—No.

But it was rather a *cause célèbre* in Hongkew, and would be especially interesting to his debtors?—I never discussed it with her.

Recognizing the Amah.

Witness admitted that in the Police Court she said she had never before seen the young amah who gave evidence, but while the girl was giving evidence on the previous day she did recognize her.

Witness now recognized her because she had a better view of the girl in this Court than in the Police Court. She had seen the girl about the house once or twice and thought possibly she was a friend of the servants; but usually she noticed her playing about in the alleyway. She never "missed" the girl from her daughter's house at all. Later on, Mrs. Davis mentioned that inquiries were being made about this girl, but witness took no notice.

The Departure to Macao.

Your leaving Shanghai on March 3 was a pure accident?—My daughter was sick and wanted to go to Macao, and I said I would go with her.

The decision to leave was a rapid one?—She had waited for the money.

And took her husband's pay, without his knowing?—I do not know.

How did you come to leave Macao?—The Superintendent of Police told me I was wanted at Hongkong. He did not say what for, and I did not ask him. We had intended to come back on April 15.

Can you make any suggestion as to why the amah should have told the story she has?—I don't know.

Asked by Mr. Lewis why she did not assist in looking for the amah, witness said that when the police questioned her she told them she knew nothing about the girl.

Mr. G. W. King, Registrar of the Supreme Court, produced the record made by himself as Magistrate in the Police Court proceedings against W. H. Goulbourn. In answer to Mr. Lewis, witness said the amah gave evidence that Maggie's mother (Mrs. Rowarth), and "Dolly" went to see her at the Chinese house, but that Mrs. Davis never called.

Mrs. Davis's Statement.

The second accused, Margaret Warwick Davis, next gave evidence. She recalled that about the beginning of May last she gave a dinner to her eldest brother, on the occasion of his going away, and there were nine or 10 people present (whom witness named), including Mr. and Mrs. Rowarth. Mrs. Rowarth had been in the house all the afternoon and remained until dinner, at 8.30, after which a party of them went to the picture show. When Det. Sub-Insp. Quayle called on June 6 and informed her that her mother had been arrested, he asked if she had an amah, and witness told him that she had had an amah, Ah-mei, a Cantonese girl 14 or 16 years of age, who had left her. The Inspector did not ask where the amah was; he only asked if witness had got an amah.

Mr. Maitland—Where is that girl, Ah-mei?—I think she is in Court now, but I have never been able to see her properly. She always turns her face away from me. Will you ask her to come forward, so that I can see.

A Question of Names.

The young amah was then called forward, and was closely scrutinized by the witness, who, after a pause, said: Yes. That is Ah-mei.

In the Police Court you told the Magistrate you knew nothing about her?—Yes, but I did not know her by the name of Wong Foo-mei.

But you were looking at the girl when you said it?—She was not in court when I gave evidence.

Didn't I point her out to you?—I don't know. I didn't pay any attention. I was too sick.

Why did you send her away?—I did not send her. Her mother came and fetched her, saying she was big enough to get married.

You did not mention that to the police?—I don't know.

When did you first hear of the attack on Pakhar Singh?—I went to his house to pay some interest, and the Chinese servant told us that Pakhar was sick. That is all I know about it.

Questioned as to the many lending transactions with Pakhar Singh, and incidentally explaining why her husband did not act as guarantor, witness said the Indian had declared that he would have nothing to do with men, and would only do business with ladies.

A String of Denials

Did the amah come to you on the night of the assault and tell you the Indian had been attacked? counsel next asked.

"No, sir," witness replied.

You did not say you would speak to your mother about it next morning?—No sir.

Did you ever discuss the matter with your mother?—Never.

It was not sufficiently interesting?—No.

Questioned as to whether she was a visitor to the house in Chaoufoong Road, where the amah is alleged to have been kept "out of the way," witness denied it and, rising from her seat, declared with excitement: "I did not go. If I am not telling the truth may God curse me."

The amah has said that you yourself promised to rent the room for her?—I did not. She is a fibber.

How can you account for her living at her ease in this Chinese house and having her expenses paid by foreigners?—I cannot explain it.

Why do you think she should come here and tell the story she has told?—I do not know. I have no ill-feeling against the amah or the Indian.

Witness in a Faint.

Upon leaving the witness box, the witness collapsed in a faint, and the proceedings were adjourned until the afternoon.

With the court's permission, Mr. Maitland then put the following question to Mrs. Davis. Is it not a fact that when you left your house to go away on March 3, your husband did not even know you were going?

Witness—That is quite right.

W. H. Goulbourn, a son of Mrs. Rowarth, described again the party at Mrs. Davis's house on the night of the assault, and repeated that Mrs. Rowarth was there and remained there until going to the pictures in company with other members of the party.

In cross-examination, witness admitted that the amah who had given evidence was the amah who had been in the service of Mrs. Davis.

E. Pereira, J. L. Stewart, and F. Marques also gave evidence as to Mrs. Rowarth being at her daughter's house on the night of the party, leaving to go to the pictures after dinner.

This was the case for the defence.

Counsel for Defence.

Addressing the jury on behalf of the accused, Mr. Lewis said it took two to make a conspiracy, and unless the case against both the accused was proved, the charge must fall to the ground. Counsel then reviewed the evidence, in detail, and suggested that a mass of it was wholly irrelevant to the charge of conspiracy. Counsel characterized the evidence of the amah as the flimsiest story ever told, adding that it contained several contradictions on vital points.

Prosecution's Reply.

The Crown Advocate in his closing address, said the line of defence taken by Mr. Lewis was in accordance with the methods usually adopted by an advocate who had no case. Beyond question, there had been a murderous assault on the Indian, and the amah who, the prosecution said, assisted to lure him to the scene was in the service of Mrs. Davis. In the police court there had been some suggestion that the girl who had given evidence was not Mrs. Davis's amah, but this denial had now been abandoned. If the accused were innocent, why had they not made some attempt to assist the police in finding the amah, and why had they left Shanghai very hurriedly when the amah was found? Counsel suggested that they had made their last gamble in the case when, coming back to Shanghai without troubling about extradition proceedings; they declared in the police court that the missing witness who had been found was not the amah.

The Judge Sums up.

His Lordship, in summing up, told the jury that if they came to the conclusion that the accused did anything actively or indirectly to further the concealment of the amah in order that she should not give evidence, they were entitled to find them guilty.

Unless the amah had been telling an absolutely fabricated story somebody must have been paying her rent and providing her food, and in this she was corroborated, whilst there was also some corroboration that she disappeared from the house two weeks before the police called to make inquiries. Originally in the police court the accused denied that this was the amah, but now they admitted this was the girl. Thus in most of the details the amah's story was corroborated from beginning to end. If they could rely upon the girl's evidence, could there be any doubt that the accused con-

spared together to keep the amah out of the way during the trial of Mrs. Rowarth on a charge of attempted murder?

Guilty.

The jury then retired and, after being absent for 40 minutes, returned with a verdict of guilty.

The Crown Advocate intimated that, in view of this verdict, the Crown would not proceed with the two other charges against the accused.

Asked if he had anything to say in mitigation of sentence, or as to whether there should be any discrimination between the accused, Mr Lewis pointed out that both had been in custody since March 12. As to discrimination, the probability was that Mrs. Davis was the mirror party in the affair.

His Lordship, in passing sentence on Mrs. Rowarth, said: You have had a very fair trial in this case and have been ably defended by Mr. Lewis, who has placed before the jury everything he possibly could in your favour. The jury have found you guilty, and I entirely agree with their verdict. On the evidence before them, and accepting the story of the amah, there is no doubt you were guilty of this offence. It is a most serious offence, and one involving the greatest danger, to tamper with the administration of justice, and it is an offence which ought to be punished most severely, not only as a punishment to the person concerned, but to stop other people from interfering or tampering in any way with the administration of justice. But there is one point in the case which may cause me to be more lenient in the sentence I am about to pass, and it is that I do not want it to be thought in any way that I am taking into consideration the other charges which have been brought against you. You have been tried for attempted murder and you were acquitted by the jury, and therefore you are purged entirely of that offence. That is the only reason why I now pass a sentence which I think is somewhat lenient, viz., 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Lenience to Daughter.

Addressing Margaret Davis, his Lordship said: I do think that in some degree I can discriminate in the sentence I pass on yourself and your mother. You are not the person charged with the offence your mother was charged with, and the temptation must have been extremely great that you should assist in every way you possibly could to prevent your mother being convicted. I think therefore I am justified in taking into consideration the fact that the temptation was almost more than you could stand, because it was your mother you were attempting to save. I also cannot help thinking, on the evidence before the Court, that your mother was the leading spirit in this conspiracy and was the mainspring in carrying it out. I agree with the verdict of the jury that you were a party to it and no doubt knew what was going on, but on account of the temptation you have had, I do think I can mitigate the sentence I otherwise should pass on you. The sentence I do pass is six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Mrs. Rowath accepted the result in stolid fashion, but her daughter collapsed on hearing her own sentence pronounced.

FREEDOM FROM PENALTIES GRANTED

Hongkong Companies Ordinances Again

Application was made to his honour Judge Sir Skinner Turner at H. M. Supreme Court on Monday by the Stanley Trading Co., Ltd., for an order that the time for filing returns of allotments of the company's shares, in accordance with section 39 of the Companies Ordinance, Hongkong, 1911, be extended till the expiration of seven days from the date of the order with freedom from penalties.

In an affidavit by Mr. H. V. Hawley, secretary to the company, it was explained that the company was inaugurated in August of last year with a capital of $25,000 divided into 25 shares of $100 each. On September 3 and September 5 last year the company allotted 85 of its shares, and no return was made to the Registrar.

Mr. A. G. Money, appearing on behalf of the plaintiff company, explained that the omission was entirely due to inadvertence and ignorance of the law on the part of the plaintiff company.

The application was granted.

JUDGMENT FOR TLS. 98.457 AGAINST GARAGE

For Goods Sold to Central Garage by Local Firm: Further Claim of Tls. 29.186

Judgment for Tls. 98,457.12 was given against the Central Garage Co., of 9 Hongkong Road, in H. M. Supreme Court on Monday by his Honour Judge Sir Skinner Turner. Plaintiffs were Probst Hanbury & Co., Ltd., who claimed from the Central Garage: (1) Tls 96,278.83 for goods sold and money advanced to, or paid on behalf of the defendants by plaintiffs at defendants' request, and in accordance with the statements periodically rendered to defendants by plaintiff; (2) Tls. 2,149.70, being agreed interest on the first mentioned sum at 7 per cent. per annum, from January 1 to the date of the writ; (3) Tls. 29,186.06, being commission on goods supplied to the defendants, and for goods and machinery supplied. Mr. R. E. S. Gregson appeared for plaintiffs; defendants were not legally represented. Mr. H. G. Wright watched the case, on cabled instructions from England, on behalf of the owners of the land on which the Central Garage is situated. An affidavit was filed by Mr. F. Rayden, of the plaintiff company, stating that the defendants were justly and truly indebted to the plaintiffs for the sum of Tls. 98,457.12, and he believed that there was no defence to the action in so far as it referred to the first two paragraphs. In respect of certain of the items set forth in the third paragraph there was a dispute proper for the decision of the Court.

Mr. Gregson pointed out to his Lordship that in Home practise under Order 14, Rule 4, if it appeared that the defence set up by the defendant applied only to a part of the plaintiff's claim, or that any part of the claim was admitted, judgment should be given judgment for such part of the claim as was admitted, or to which there was no defence. In this case there was no defence to the first two items at least, and these were to all intents and purposes admitted by the defendants. The action was, in fact, of a "friendly" nature. He asked for judgment for the first two, and suggested leave be given to defend for the rest.

His Lordship pointed that he could have no idea of what the defendants wanted to do, and the only thing he could suggest would be that the order pleadings on the third paragraph of the clause, and give judgment for plaintiffs on the first two paragraphs, reserving the costs of the whole matter.

Mr. Gregson agreed, and judgment was given accordingly.

WRONG NUMBER PLATE

Garage Employee's Lapse: Fined by British Magistrate

T. C. Leach, of the Taylor Garage, was fined $5 by Mr. G. W. King at H. M. Police Court on Tuesday for driving a car with a wrong number plate. Defendant's explanation was that the car was a new one which had been sold, and he was driving it to get a licence for the new owner. He told his coolie, he said, to put one of the garage's trade licences on the car and he had evidently put the other on by mistake.

The original charge was one of driving without a licence, but was afterward amended as stated.

Mr. E. T. Maitland, prosecuting for the police, told the Court that Mr. F. C. Millington, a schoolmaster at the Ellis Kadoorie School, took his car plates to the Taylor Garage to be exchanged for new ones. The number on those plates was 1653.He was given the new ones and fixed them on to his car leaving the old ones at the garage. On April 19 he was driving his car in Nanking Road when he saw defendant's car ahead with his own number, 1653, attached.

Mr. Millington, in evidence, said he was brought to the Court on a subpœna. He explained that some time ago he had an accident with his car and took the number plate to the defendant's garage to be changed. The change was effected and on April 19 while driving in Nanking Road he saw a car ahead carrying his number, 1653. He drove on till he drew level with the other car and found defendant was the driver. On being informed that he had witness's number plate up Mr. Leach at once apologised, and later sent him a letter of apology which he quite willingly accepted.

Defendant told the Court that the plate was put on by accident by his mechanic at the garage in mistake for one of their trade licences. The first he knew of the mistake was when Mr. Millington told him.

The Magistrate pointed out to Mr. Maitland that if he wished to secure a conviction he would have to summon Leach under the article providing that no motorist shall attach a wrong number plate to his car.

The amendment was made and defendant was fined $5.

LESLIE HAYNES IN SHANGHAI

Accused of Obtaining Credit by Fraud while an Undischarged Bankrupt

Leslie Haynes, undischarged bankrupt and director of the firm of McDonald, Leslie & Co., Ld., London, appeared before Mr. G. W. King at H. M. Police Court on Tuesday to answer charges of (1) obtaining credit from the Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld. (Palace Hotel) without informing them that he was an undischarged bankrupt; and (2) on or between January 1 and April 30 of this year engaging in trade or business in Shanghai under a name other than that under which he was adjudicated bankrupt, without disclosing to persons with whom he had dealings who he was, or that he was an undischarged bankrupt.

Mr. E. T. Maitland prosecuted for the police.

The Magistrate called Mr. Maitland's attention to the fact that a third charge had been added, charging prisoner that he did, between January 1 and March 31 of this year, obtain from Mr. W. H. Hartman the sum of £500 by false pretences and with intent to defraud. His Worship wished to know more.

Mr. Maitland explained that prisoner was trading in England as a director of the firm of McDonald, Leslie & Co., Ld. He was the "Leslie" of the company, in spite of the fact that he had been adjudicated bankrupt under the name of Leslie Haynes and had not at that time been discharged. It was while with the firm that he engaged Mr. Hartman to come out to Hongkong for the company. He represented to him that it was in a flourishing condition, and took £500 from him. In reality the firm was not in a flourishing condition, as the victim discovered on his arrival, but meanwhile prisoner had received his money and had left England for Shanghai.

The Magistrate pointed out that if this were the case, then under the Orders in Council prisoner could not be tried in Shanghai for an alleged crime committed in England.

Mr. Maitland suggested that the fact of the victim's coming out to this part of the world constituted a continuation of the fraud, which justified the police in proceeding against the accused.

The Magistrate replied that this was not a continuation of the false pretences and fraud as prisoner was not gaining any money by it.

Mr. Maitland –But it is a continuation of the fraud in as much as he is getting rid of the victim and so giving himself the opportunity to get away with the money. He is sending his victim 10,000 miles away.

Victimized and Victimizer Here

His Worship disagreed, and Mr. Maitland suggested that it seemed rather unfair that both victimizer and victimized could be in Shanghai together, and yet the victimizer be allowed to go free because his crime was committed in England.

The Magistrate asked Mr Maitland to look at the position from the point of view of the other man. Why should he be charged out here for an offence he was alleged to have committed in England. Probably all his evidence for his own defence would be in England, so that he could only refute by his own tongue any allegations that might be preferred against him. The knife cut both ways.

Mr. Maitland—I take it, then, that you will not proceed with this charge, your Worship?

The Magistrate—No, we will proceed with the others.

Chief Det.-Inspector Reeves stated that he apprehened the prisoner at 1 Carter Road at 8.15 yesterday morning, on a warrant. He read the charges over to him, and Haynes replied that he did not know the bankruptcy applied in Shanghai. He said nothing else.

Hotel Manager's Evidence.

Mr. Henry Wilton Heppell, manager of the Palace Hotel, stated that defendant engaged a room on monthly terms at the Palace Hotel towards the end of March.

Prisoner—It was March 22.

Witness went on to say that he remained at the Hotel till Saturday last when witness locked the door of his room and refused to allow Haynes to re-enter it. Haynes paid his account for March, but since then he had only paid $100 on account of his wine bill after being pressed. He owed the Hotel $438.-72, and witness locked him out because he believed him unable to pay.

Asked whether he was able to find bail prisoner replied that he could not, but he wished to be let free so that he could obtain his papers from his office to answer the charges. He knew very few people in Shanghai.

The Magistrate—There is no danger of his running away I suppose?

Mr. Maitland—Well, we understand he has a passage booked.

Prisoner denied this. He stated that Thomas Cook & Son had had instructions from his father to provide him with a passage, but they had not done so. He had no intention of absconding and was willing to surrender his passport.

Haynes was admitted to bail on his own recognizances in $500.

The Case Dismissed

The Magistrate (Mr. G. W. King) refusing to take jurisdiction in Shanghai for offences based on an alleged bankruptcy in England, the charges against Leslie Haynes were dismissed in the British Police Court on Wednesday, and the prisoner discharged.

Mr. E. T. Maitland again appeared to prosecute for the police.

The charges originally preferred against Haynes were that he obtained credit from the Palace Hotel without informing the management he was an undischarged bankrupt, and also that he engaged in business in Shanghai under a name other than that under which he was made bankrupt, without disclosing to the persons with whom he had dealings that he was an undischarged bankrupt.—Yesterday a fourth charge was added, viz. that he did, on or about March 20, 1924, at Shanghai, being an undischarged bankrupt, obtain credit for upwards of £10, to wit $145, from Y. Sing Yee, without informing him that he was an undischarged bankrupt.

One Charge Withdrawn.

Mr. Maitland, before proceeding with the evidence, said he wished to withdraw the charge against Haynes of carrying on business under a name other than that under which he was declared bankrupt, without informing his clients. His reason for this was that Mr. Hartman was to have been the chief witness on the charge, to give evidence of certain transactions in regard to which the Magistrate had refused to take jurisdiction because they took place in England. Furthermore, the other witness on that particular charge could not be found.

The Magistrate recalled that he had intimated on the previous day there would be some difficulty as to the jurisdiction of the Court in all these cases. He would ask Mr. Maitland to show him that the Court did possess jurisdiction.

Mr. Maitland replied that jurisdiction was obviously granted by the Order in Council, Article 35/2, which provided that the jurisdiction of that Court should be exercised, subject to provisions in the Order in Council, in accordance with English Law. The offences with which the prisoner was charged were offences committed under the Bankruptcy Act of 1914, which Act applied in Shanghai as well as in England.

Relative Position of Courts.

The Magistrate.—Then can you show me that a man made bankrupt by the Supreme Court of China, who goes to England and obtains credit there under similar [illegible] those alleged in this case, [illegible] convicted by the English [illegible] that he would come within their jurisdiction?

Mr. Maitland expressed the opinion that he would. The Supreme Court was, after all, merely a branch of the Supreme Court of England. It was His Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court.

The Magistrate.—Really, Mr. Maitland! This is a branch of the Supreme Court of England?

Mr. Maitland.—Yes, so I would suggest. Here we have a Court for British subjects, tried under British Law. It is applying English law in English Courts to British subjects in China.

The Magistrate reminded him that the Supreme Court for China actually had crignal jurisdiction in China. Other territorial limits were as defined in the Order in Council. The Court had no jurisdiction in England, nor even in Hongkong. When Mr. Maitland said this Court was an annexe to the High Court in England he was entirely against him. "Would you" he asked "supposing you obtained judgment in a case in England be able to enforce it in this Court in China simply because it is a judgment in a Court in England?"

Mr. Maitland.—Yes, certainly, if I can prove my judgment.

The Magistrate.—The High Court of England and the Supreme Court of China are two absolutely different courts. There is no question of their being ancillary. In fact there is a particular clause in the Order in Council referring to Hongkong, and Hongkong judgments, which illustrates that the Hongkong Court is totally different to the Supreme Court in China. In the same way the High Court of England is totally different to the Supreme Court in China." The whole question, his Worship went on to say, turned on whether that Court did possess territorial jurisdiction in the case. The English Courts had no power to take jurisdiction in any case not committed within the body of the Realm. An offence committed on land abroad could only be tried on the authority of the Statute. The same applied in Shanghai.

Mr. Maitland reiterated his contention that British subjects in Shanghai are within British jurisdiction, and in this case the charges came under the Bankruptcy Act which applied here as much as it applied in England.

The Magistrate's Decision.

The Magistrate said his mind was quite made up on the point, and he did not intend to take jurisdiction in the case. Briefly summed up, his reasons were that the jurisdiction of H. M. Supreme Court in Shanghai was limited by the Order in Council of 1904, Art. 35, which mentioned the principles under which law should be administered in that Court. It could not alter the territorial jurisdiction of the Court. Bankruptcy was not recognized beyond the territorial limits of the country in which the decree was made, and that equally applied to Shanghai. Assuming they could prove that Haynes had been made bankrupt in England and that he was undischarged, on those facts the Court could not take jurisdiction. Equally the Magistrate was convinced that if a man were made bankrupt in China and went to England and there obtained credit for upward of £10, no English Court could convict him. The jurisdiction of all English Courts was territorial, and only where they had statutory offences could they try offences committed out of the Court's jurisdiction. The charges against Haynes were dismissed and he could go.

The Magistrate added that if Mr. Maitland wished to appeal he was able to do so.

"MADE MOTORING HISTORY"

Magistrate's Retort to C. P. Rakusen: Fined for Disobeying Nw Traffic Regulation

C. P. Rakusen was fined $5 by Mr. G. W. King at H. M. Police Court on Thursday for failing, as the licensee of the car, to give information to the police which might lead to the identification of the person driving car No. 4574, on April 19, the said person having committed an offence against the traffic regulations.

Mr. E. T. Maitland, prosecuting

for the police, stated that the driver of the car committed an offence against the regulations north of Seymour Road in Bubbling Well Road on the day in question. When Chief Inspector Kinniple sent him a registered letter asking who was in charge of the car, he failed to reply.

Chief Inspector Kinniple, of the Traffic Department, corroborated, and added that he sent a further letter on a later date which was also left unanswered.

Defendant, asked for his explanation, told the Bench that he was so busy on the day he received the letter that it slipped out of his mind. He added that Chief Inspector Kinniple seemed to take a very friendly interest in his car. He had locked up his chauffeur for three days on one occasion because the car was parked somewhere where it ought not to have been for ten of 20 minutes.

The Magistrate—I know nothing about that.

Defendant—No, that was on another occasion.

The Magistrate—Well, you know Mr. Rakusen you have made what we might call motoring history in Shanghai.

The Magistrate went on to say that this regulation was a new one, but very important and licensees of cars should give the police every assistance. It was for the safety of the public and licensees alike, for it helped them to find out if their boys or unauthorised persons took cars out joy-riding. Defendant would be fined $5.

WINTERGARDEN CAFE BRAWL

Alleged Assault by Manager on Former Dancing Girl and Friend

Charges of using unlawful force and violence, preferred by Pauline Shmakova and Manne Martinson, against L. E. Brown, manager of the Wintergarden Café, were heard by Mr. N. E. Lurton, U.S. Commissioner, in the Lower Court on Saturday morning.

Miss Shmakova stated that she had been in the Café on April 30, in company with Mr. Martinson, where she had formerly been employed as a dancing girl, but had left that service two days before the alleged violence had taken place. In reply to questions by Mr. Schuhl, who appeared for complainants, she said that they had had several drinks, she cherry brandy and her escort whiskey and water and although she did not remember how many dances had been played; she was certain that she had danced but once. On that occasion one of the girls in the place had kicked her and then when passing again, aimed another blow at her but struck her friend instead. After the dance finished Brown asked Martinson to take her away, to which he replied that he could not see why, for she was all right and not misbehaving (it was the other girl). He (Brown) then came to her and told her to get out, calling her by a bad name and then pushed her over, but she retained her balance by clutching a table. Brown then struck Martinson on the head, with what witness could not remember, after which a sailor who was with Brown joined in the mêlée.' "I then took hold of the sailor's arm, trying to persuade him to stop fighting, when Mr. Brown struck me on the head and kicked me, and took hold of my dress and made a large tear in the front. After that I do not remember much, because I was half-asleep (witness tried to make clear her meaning; "half-unconscious").

Percentages to Get

Mr. Schuhl—Why did you go to the Wintergarden Cafe?—I still had some tickets and wished to get the money for them. On the dance cheques, the girls get 25 cents each and the management takes 25 cents also. Those small counters are given us for drinks, redeemable at 10 cents each, that large one is for champagne, it nets me $1.

Mr. Schuhl then presented the cheques, the torn dress and crumpled slipper as exhibits.

Mr. H. R. Snyder, cross-examining, elicited from witness that she had taken $45.30 worth of receipts to the Café, but witness stated definitely that she had not spoken to Brown about them, though she had asked the boy where the manager was. She had spoken to but one girl, though several had addressed her while she sat at the table.

Mr. Snyder—Did you ask the girls to strike?—I do not understand.

After the phrase had been made clear to her, she stated that when the girls struck for wages two months ago and many had left, she was one of the few to remain loyal.

Where Complainant was Hit

Mrs. MacDonald, a former employee, stated in very broken English that she saw Brown strike both complainants. She continually insisted that she should have an interpreter, but Mr. Lurton said that he must first be satisfied that she could not make herself clear.

Mr. Schuhl—You saw Mr. Brown strike Shmakova? —Yes.

Mr. Schuhl—Did you see Mr. Brown hit Martinson—Yes.

Mr. Schuhl—Where—blank looks on witnesses face—I do not understand.

Mr. Schuhl—Where did Mr. Brown strike Martinson?—Why, in the Wintergarden Café (Smiles—an interpreter was then called).

Dr. Pourpelain presented certificates as to his examination of the injuries. Mrs. Shmakova had bruises on both thighs, arms and chest and Martinson disclosed abrasions on the forehead, chin, face and thorax, with a coloured and closed eye.

M. Cesdi, after stating that he had seen Brown call Martinson to the cash register, was very positive that he had struck him behind the ear with a bottle. Complainants had not been drinking much, nor were they under the influence of liquor or creating a disturbance. Continuing witnessed declared, "Brown then threw the woman down the back stairs after tearing her dress."

Mr. Snyder—You saw Martinson threaten Mr. Brown with clenched fists, shaking them in his face?—No, I did not.

Mr. Snyder—Nor hear him swear at Mr. Brown?—No. Mr. Snyder—You state that you saw Mr. Brown strike Martinson with a bottle, is that statement as true as the others you have made?—Yes.

U.S. Quartermaster's Story.

Mr. C. R. MacDonald, quartermaster in the U.S. Navy, with 14 years' service, saw Brown and a sailor come up from below and walk quickly round the entire hall and then motion to Martinson to come where they were standing. Brown struck him, but he did not see any bottle. After the sailor had joined in the mêlée, Mrs. Shmakova tried to stop the trouble, but Brown hit her on the head and dragged her to the back door. He could not tell what happened outside, not having gone over.

The case was adjourned.

Screams and Cusses

The hearing was resumed on Tuesday.

Mr. Martinson, examined by Mr. Schuhl, corroborated the evidence given by Mrs. Shmakova last week, stating that witness and she had entered the hall and had several drinks, when one of the women insulted Mrs. Shmakova. He was sure that Brown struck him and the man Sharp previously alluded to as a "bouncer" by Mr. Schuhl, also struck him. He saw Brown strike Mrs. Shmakova.

A witness from the Huron, cross-examined by Mr. Snyder, was asked:—Did you talk to Mr. Brown about the affair?—Yes, I spoke to him a week later. I told him that Martinson was evidently looking for trouble and got it.

Wanted to Scratch Her Face

Mrs. Schepomaga, a Russian dancing girl employed at the café, stated that while she was dancing with her partner, Martinson and Shmakova passed her and he called her vile names which she did not care to repeat. Her partner asked her why Martinson behaved in this manner. She then told Mr. Brown that she was afraid that this man was going to beat her, and later Martinson came to her table again, when Brown told him to let her alone. Mrs. Shmakova wanted to scratch her face.

Another of the girls, who said was she sitting near the cash register, saw Brown lead complainant outside, but did not see him strike her, nor did she know what happened outside. As she was sitting only five or six feet away she heard Martinson swear at Brown and saw him stick his fist in the latter's face, but she did not see Brown strike him.

Another Affair

Mr. Schuhl—If Brown struck Martinson you did not see it?—No.

Mr. Schuhl—You applied at this Court some time ago for a warrant and you swore to certain facts and then later admitted that they were not true—That is another matter, that was my affair.

Mr. Snyder—I object to this questioning.

Mr. Schuhl—I was merely showing that this witness's evidence is unreliable, I was testing her credibility, but I will dismiss her.

Brown's Evidence

Defendant was next called. He stated that he was the manager of the Winter Garden Café, an incorporated company. Prosecutrix came to the café, but he was not sure when. It was about 10.30 p.m. Mrs. Shmakova, who had worked for him for three months, was dismissed by Mrs. Brown on April 28 because she was a trouble-maker. His wife told him that, while she was away in Chefoo, he was not in any circumstances to engage the woman. On the evening before the trouble she and Martinson came in. Martison gave her money for the tickets.

A Trouble-maker

The next night Martinson and Shmakova came in again and within a short time there was trouble with the girls. Both of them were very excited. "I tried to smooth them down, Martinson all the while reiterating that I had to discharge Anna (the previous witness, Mrs. Shepomaga) and re-engage Mrs. Shmakova, but I told him that Mrs. Brown had dismissed her and that I could not hire her again."

Mr. Snyder—Did you ever ask the police to furnish you with protection?—Yes, on two occasions.

Police Would not Intervene.

Defendant, continuing, said that he went to the office thinking that the matter was settled, but when he came down again they were dancing once more and then there was more trouble. "Martinson told me that he would close the place, called me vile names and shook his fist under my nose. I told him that I had to keep order and he dared me to throw him out. He seemed to want to be thrown out. Shmakova was very excited and I told her she had to leave, as other patrons were leaving because of her conduct. She dared me to put her out, so I walked over to Martinson and told him to take her out. He wouldn't, so I took her down the back stairs. She bit my thumb during the journey. I did not strike her."

Threw a Bottle

Mr. Snyder—Did you see any fight?—I did not, but as I passed Martinson, he swung at me and I ducked, but continued on my way. I did not strike him. I led her all the way down and came up the front stairs and just as I stepped into the ballroom I saw Martinson throw a bottle at Sharp, which luckily did not strike him.

Heard Much Cursing.

Miss Ethel Bish, accountant at the Winter Garden Café for four months, said she worked in the office until 10 p.m., when she retired to her room. She was awakened by loud talk, came to the banisters and looked down, and heard much cursing. Martinson was cursing violently. She heard a loud scream and saw Mr. Brown leading Shmakova down the back stairs, holding her arm.

J. J. Sharp, a Huron bluejacket, said: "I saw Brown leading the woman downstairs. Martinson made a pass and a swing at Brown, who continued to lead her away. I tried to stop the fight and Martinson made a pass at me. I followed it up.

Wilbur Le Marte, U. S. S. Huron, said Brown got the woman by the wrists and was "towing her out." "She put one hand on the bulkhead, but he got her loose and I saw him lead her all the way down."

In reply to Mr. Schuhl witness was sure that he did not notice that her dress was torn, nor was her hair disordered.

J. W. Pleasant stated that he saw Shamakova go to many tables, talking loudly and motioning with her hands. To Mr. Schuhl's question, he replied that he did not hear any vile names mentioned.

Lester H. Thompson, U. S. Marine Corps, said did not see Martinson and Shmakova inside, but he saw them outside, when Martinson joined Shmakova at the front door. Martinson's face was bloody, but he could not see any injuries to Shmakova. Witness told him that he was the man who hit him, and asked him to go to the station. "His nose looked as though someone had smashed it for him. The lady told the Chief of Police that she had an injury on the leg and wanted him to look at it, but he said, 'I am not a doctor,' and refused."

The defendant was remanded until Saturday.

MOTION FOR NEW TRIAL FAILS

Judge Lobingier's Decision in Russo-Asiatic Bank Case Upheld: If Kolchak Had Won

Argument was heard by Judge M. D. Purdy at the U. S. Court on Tuesday in support of the motion for a new trial by Max Wulfsohn & Co., against whom judgment was recently given in favour of the Russo-Asiatic Bank for G. $160,000 in a dispute over exchange contracts. This was one of the last cases decided by Judge Lobingier. It will be remembered that defendants offered a trunkful of roubles amounting to R. 42,000,000 several months ago in submitting to judgment.

Mr. F. J. Schuhl appeared for the bank, and Mr. R. T. Evans for defendants.

Mr. Evans stated that, although the exchange contracts had been signed in October, November and December, 1919, and in January, 1920, the Soviet authorities had seized Irkutsk in January 1920, and it was impossible for business to be conducted at the local office of defendant. It was their submission that the roubles were to be paid in there and there was the sum of R. 2,000,000 that had never been paid. The bank kept an overdraft account for them in roubles, but no gold account, and when gold payments were paid in New York they applied the difference to the rouble account. The relation of the debt and credit account in roubles made it evident that had Koltchak been successful in his counter-revolution, the bank would have claimed more than R. 33,000,000 instead of G. $160,000.

The second point he raised was that plaintiffs were not a legally constituted banking corporation and that they could not bring any action, for when the Soviet nationalized the Banks of Russia in 1917 this organization became the Peoples' Bank No. 1, though a body of men styling themselves the Russo-Asiatic Bank had a head office in Paris, not constituted in accordance with Russian banking laws, nor according to the bank's by-lays themselves. He now had in his poossession the specific decrees.

Mr. Evans cited the case in America in which his clients acted as plaintiffs against the Soviet Government, where the decision of the lower Courts was reversed by the Appellate Courts, and it was held that the Soviet was a *de facto* Government and that their property could not be attached and maintained. If his honour's Court maintained such a position, he held, that here in China the Bank was abolished by the acts of a Government and suit could not be brought and successfully held by that group of men.

Judge Purdy was in doubt whether money was paid in the Orient or in New York, and Mr. Schuhl informed him that it had been paid in both China and America.

The Judge—I am not satisfied that if this action had been heard by me, I would have reached a different conclusion, and if this presents anything out of the ordinary, it would be better for the interests of both parties to have it settled at once by a speedy Appellate Court decision. The motion is denied.

Another of the Late Judge's Decisions Upheld

In the afternoon the Judge also heard arguments for a new trial in the case of the China American Trading Co., of Tientsin, *v.* Fearon Daniel & Co., in which action plaintiffs were awarded Tls. 16,000. Mr. R. T. Evans and Mr. S. Fessenden appeared for defendants and Mr. Schuhl for plaintiffs.

His Honour overruled the motion, stating that a jurist who takes the place of another is often confronted with intricate problems. He was certain that Judge Lobingier would have acted likewise.

OIL IN THE HUANGPU

And Port's Water Supply: Another U. S. Captain Charged with Allowing Leakage

Capt. Lustie, master of the str. President McKinley, was charged before Mr. Lurton at the U. S. Commissioner's Court on Wednesday "with polluting the Huangpu," by allowing oil from the vessel to leak into the river on March 16.

Mr. M. Reader Harris prosecuted for the Chinese Maritime Customs; Mr. H. D. Rodger appeared for the United States; and Major C. P. Holcomb for the U. S. Shipping Board.

Capt. Tanner, berthing officer, stated that he was moving down stream, and when about two cables length (1.200 ft.) away from the wharf he noticed a stream of oil issuing from the ship, amidships, probably 18 inches above the waterline. It seemed to be four or five inches in diameter, though he could not definitely tell at that distance. The ship was in port 36 hours and he had not noticed any oil on the water before she left. His launch was in oily water for 20 minutes.

In answer to the Commissioner, witness said the oil seemed to be flowing from a regular discharge pipe.

Capt. Longworth, Assistant Harbour Master, stated that he was informed of the incident and went down to the river. He saw that in Section 10 the whole stream was covered.

Replying to Major Holcomb witness said the oil moved up and down with the tide, getting on the piers jetties, shipsides and intake pipes of the Waterworks plant. Oil could get into the pipes, even though they were below the surface, first by being washed against them and later working into them.

Charles Hess, River Police, said he saw oil at 10 a.m. The McKinley was the only oil-burning vessel to enter or leave port that morning.

Mr. Rodgers elicited from witness that he noticed burnt oil for more than two miles in patches 15ft. by 70ft.

Menace to Shanghai's Water

Mr. H. E. Hillman, Harbour Master produced a letter from the Waterworks, which mentioned the danger from oil on the river. The letter stated that no oil went into their settling tanks on this occasion, but great danger did exist, for should large quantities get into the works, it might be months before enough clean water could be got to supply Shanghai. Shanghai would be in imminent danger of a water famine.

Replying to Mr. Rodger, witness stated that entrances, working and clearances of vessels might be prohibited, but that they preferred to work with shippers.

Mr. Holcomb asserted that the U. S. Shipping Board desired to co-operate with the authorities in all ports, particularly in such a vital matter as this.

Defendant told the Court that it was impossible for oil to appear on the port side, for there were no discharge pipes on that side amidships. He volunteered to have the ship inspected.

Charge Dismissed.

After the lunch adjournment, the Court inspected the vessel. When the hearing was resumed the Chief Engineer gave evidence that he was on deck and saw the oil through which they were steaming. He had had a defective tank, but it had been cleaned out with live steam.

Capt. W. I. Eisler, American Lloyds Surveyor, corroborated this.

Mr. Lurton, in dismissing the charge, declared that sufficient doubt existed to prevent defendant being found guilty.

MR. Whitamore, British Assessor, at the Mixed Court, on Thursday of last week gave a decision in connexion with motor-car traffic on a point not touched upon in the regulations. Complainant, represented by Mr. N. F. Allman, of Fleming & Allman, charged accused, a chauffeur in the employ of the S.M.C., with having bowled him over, while he was driving his car past a stationary tram on the right side, instead of the left at Kungping and Seward Roads, on April 29. Complainant had spent two weeks in hospital. In imposing a fine of $10 and hospital costs on the chauffeur, the Bench stated that passing a tram on the off-side would be held by that Court as contributory negligence, should any accidents occur by such acts.

TANGLED LITIGATION OVER FUR DEAL

More Revelations Concerning Sipailoff: Parties now Disputing the Accounting

The case of the Fur & Wool Trad[illegible] Anderson, Meyer & Co., a dispute [illegible] moved for a new trial on the grounds of the alleged perjury of [illegible], advanced a further stage on Thursday. Judge Lobingier originally found for plaintiffs, ordering an account[illegible] the attention of Judge Purdy at the U. S. Court throughout yesterday.

The successful party alleged that defendants had more than 120,000 skins of various animals, which they valued $189,360, when their agent Matvei Noskoff was killed in Urga at the order of Sipailoff in April, 1921, but for which skins they paid 28 cents each.

Mr. R. T. Evans appeared for plaintiffs; Mr. W. Chalaire and Mr. C. S. Franklin for defendants.

Mr. R. T. Evans, in the course, of a speech lasting several hours, said his clients differed with the accounting rendered by defendants' auditor, particularly with reference to the division of profits accruing from the sale in New York. According to the stipulation drawn up in Tientsin, he was of the opinion that this document provided for the formation of a trust on the part of defendant, in which capacity they could only act. It appeared, as was found in the transcript of the evidence, that Messrs. Fox, of New York, sold the furs and billed the consignment for one-half of the profits, but he also claimed that this firm acted with defendants, who allowed that percentage. He denied this.

Continuing Mr. Evans, declared that this constituted a joint adventure and that had all the facts been known to him at the time of trial, they might have been made joint defendants. That point [illegible] statutes provided that one party of the whole—a Mr. Gold acted for both defendant and the New York firm.

Sipailoff Accused of Killing Dane.

[illegible] city of the vicinity was in the path of the armies and when Baron Ungern, a Russo-German, closed in on the city and finally took it, great [illegible] various times to both Koltchak and Simionov, though historians fail to disclose that either of them acknowledged him. With him and on the most of his ventures, was one Sipailoff, who is at present in Harbin, awaiting trial on charges of [illegible] of a Danish citizen. It was his misdeeds that brought about this suit, for when he murdered Noskoff, the black spot on the Mon[illegible] he took the loot from the widow and sold it to defendants for M.$40,000, for which they received in New York G.$90,000.

Upon resumption after tiffin, Mr. Chalaire directed his argument to [illegible] and declared that it was purely [illegible] which his clients acted as agent and [illegible] just proportion of the profits.

Supporting this arguments, Mr. C. S. Franklin concluded the argument and cited law.

Final speeches will be heard this [illegible] which Mr. Evans will given 10 days in which to prepare a brief.

"EVENING NEWS" PLEADS FOR LENIENCY

In [illegible] Action by China Press to Recover Alleged Printing Costs

At the Mixed Court on Monday, Mr. Jacobs and Magistrate Li heard a motion for judgment by default [illegible] against the "Evening News," edited by Mr. C. H. Lee, for $14,607.23, alleged to be due for printing and publishing the latter newspaper for [illegible] 1922 to September, 1923

Mr. H. R. Snyder appeared for plaintiffs; Mr. J. W. Schoenfeld for defendants.

Mr. Snyder moving the Court for judgment by default, said it had been nine months since the action had been filed and there had been no formal pleadings to date, although on November 12, 1923, the defence had asked for a bill of particulars, which was sent them.

Mr. Schoenfeld, opposing the motion, said the original petition had been filed by Mr. Alexander Fishman and received by Messrs. Musso & Fischer, who put in for the bill of particulars, but they, at a subsequent date, withdrew from the case, as they represented the Commercial Bank of China, mortgages for $10,000 and interest.

Defendants' Plant Barely Worth Tls. 3,000

"Paragraph five of the petition claims $1,400," said Mr. Schoenfeld, "but does not say in what way this sum was incurred—there is no itemized statement. Since the filing there have been conferences between all parties concerned, including the mortgagee, who holds liens to three times the value of the "Evening News." Mr. Fischer told me that he had never received the bill of particulars and we had every reason to believe that the action would never go to trial, for the mortgagee holds a prior interest. Printing presses and machinery, etc., are barely worth Tls. 3,000. The paper is now in the hands of two Americans, who are trying to set it on its feet and liquidate the debts.

"I would like, therefore, to move for setting a date, so that we can look through the bill of particulars, and request that the motion for judgment by default be dismissed. I might state incidentally, that it is not the policy of courts in Shanghai to give judgment by default if both parties are willing to proceed."

Mr. Snyder—There is no reason for not proceeding now. If the "Evening News" has assets worth 10 cents, we have a right to go ahead with this; there is still no answer in my hands and I am ready to proceed. The rules of the Court are that if no answer is filed within 20 days, judgment by default may be given and the defendants have had the bill of particulars for six months and now they plead for leniency. I submit that there is no reason for not proceeding and judgment should be given.

Mr. Jacobs—Do you admit that negotiations were made toward a settlement?—Yes, up till three months ago, there have been none since.

Mr. Jacobs (after consultation with the Magistrate)—The Court feels it its duty to go ahead with the case. The answer is in; cannot we proceed?

Mr. Snyder—At this time I am not ready.

"Misled by Negotiations"

Mr. Schoenfeld—Defendants were misled by the negotiations and it is not entirely their fault. (To Mr. Snyder). You don't want to try [illegible] afraid to proceed on the merits.

[illegible] reason for this action?"—asked [illegible] afraid to take this on its merits, you have been putting off for nine months?

Mr. Jacobs—The Court will deny the motion for judgment by default [illegible] r. You yourself have stated [illegible] negotiations have b[illegible]

[illegible] Will the Court set [illegible]?

Mr. Jacobs—There are 55 cases in which Americans are interested [illegible] pending before the American Assessor and I'll not set a date at this time.

NORTH SZECHUEN ROAD TROUBLE AGAIN

A Chinese Schoolmaster Charged at Mixed Court with Being One of the Ringleaders and Inciting Loafers to Riot: A Question of Jurisdiction

Fue Ming-chu, a Chapei schoolmaster, was charged at the Mixed Court on Wednesday afternoon before Messrs. Whitamore and Li, on a complaint filed by Mr. W. Brandt of Messrs. Brandt & Rogers, to the effect that he and two others not in custody "did by violence and threats prevent the servants and workmen of the complainant from carrying out certain demolition and building work at Yoo [illegible] Szechuen Road, contrary to Article 358 of the Chinese Code."

It will be recalled that on May 1, a squad of foreign police, Chinese, Japanese and Sikh constables, were sent to North Szechuen Road in response to a riot call, when agitators were thought to have obstructed work and when a large crowd of Chinese gathered round the buildings.

Evidence as to the jurisdiction of the Mixed Court was heard in the presence of a large body of Chinese, some of whom appeared most interested, while the majority looked on apathetically or dozed through the proceedings. Several, however, reminded one of a figurative impression of a Chinese Bolshevist, of the theoretical type, while another large, fat citizen continued to stroke his lips or scratch his nose with long slender fingers, not at all in keeping with the remainder of his anatomy. Armed foreign constables stood guard at each door, while several higher officials of the department stepped in occasionally.

Messrs. Fischer and Fleming appeared for defendant while Mr. M. B. Brown represented complainant.

Question of Jurisdiction.

Dr. Fischer moving for a dismissal of the charge, on the ground that the Mixed Court had no jurisdiction, stated that by treaty it was axiomatic that Chinese must commit crime within the Settlement before they came under the decrees of that Court, further that the property belonged to Chinese and not to a British citizen (Messrs. Brandt & Rogers) who only served as agents.

Mr. Whitamore, interrupting: They are the registered owners.

Mr. Fleming joined in the motion, adding that defendant was not legally arrested, but that he had been enticed from his home, dragged into the alleyway and kidnapped into the Settlement where he was arrested.

In rebuttal Mr. Brown declared that Mr. Brandt owned one fourth of the property and held a 25-year lease on the remainder; he might be looked upon as the real and proper owner. It was not admitted at all that accused had been taken from Chapei and if it were true he had the proper remedy; it was sufficient for this case to know that he was arrested in the Settlement on a properly executed warrant. The police had complete control of the Municipal roads where the offence was committed. To the third objection that Mr. Brandt was not qualified to make a complaint counsel argued that this was a highly technical point, and under Court procedure it was not customary for justice to be obfuscated.

Mr. Whitamore said that if an action were to be brought against the property, it would have to be charged to Mr. Brandt and further that by common law any citizen could make a complaint in respect of a criminal action, which this surely was.

Wong Kau-san, the contractor, stated in reply to Mr. Brown, that he saw defendant on three occasions threaten workmen, twice in Jukong Road and once in North Szechuen Road and that he was beating a gong, blowing a whistle and carrying a white flag.

To the Assessor's question where he saw him in North Szechuen Road witness replied that it was at the entrance of the Yoo Loh Yee alleyway, and to a further query still maintained the same reply.

The Assessor—Was he in the alleyway or was he in the road? did he have one foot or both feet on the road?—Witness answered to successive queries—at the entrance, nearly upon the footpath, I saw him come out of the alleyway; yes, I saw him outside the alleyway, I am quite sure. He stopped the men from building the bamboo fence.

Mr. Fleming—You have evidently schooled yourself to say he was at the entrance of the alleyway. Did he come out?—Yes he came out and beat the gong. He directed the workmen to stop work, and asked the people to fight, to beat [illegible].

Mr. Fleming—Where was this?—On the kerb.

Mr. Fleming—Haven't you worked up a story to get the action into the jurisdiction of the Mixed Court?—No.

Witness later declared that they went with the schoolmaster to the Chinese Police Station and that he would not accompany them to the Settlement Station. He told the agitators that he had a foreign building permit and an authorization from the Chapei officials. Two people were hurt, and he sent them to hospital.

Afraid of the Mob.

Zen Ting-dah, foreman, stated that accused was at the works as many as six times. He saw him himself and at different times he carried the flag, the gong or the whistle. Accused paraded round the alleyway, went behind the houses and came on to North Szechuen Road.

"At the time of the erection of the fence he shouted for the people to come out, to stop the workmen from building the fence, to beat them and to throw tiles from the roofs at them. This was at the entrance of the alleyway. Sometimes he used the handle of the flag to beat us."

To Mr. Fleming's question why he did not call the police witness replied that he was afraid of the many people, that they would beat him. He was outside on the road at the time of the riot on May 1.

Accused declared that the evidence of the two witnesses was untrue, except that he had gone to the Chinese Police Station. He never went on to the road nor did he carry flags or beat gongs. He absolutely never interfered with the workers, although he did explain to the foreman that as the case was still pending in the Chinese Court it might be better if they did not continue with the work.

The Alleged Kidnapping.

Referring to the kidnapping allegation he stated that he was dragged by six men including workmen, one of them a clerk, from his house into the alleyway, where after stopping for a moment they drew him into North Szechuen Road.

Mr. Brown—You took no part in obstructing the building operations, nor are you a leader of the Tenants' Association, nor one of their representatives—I did not obstruct the men, but I represent my school in the Association.

Mr. Brown—You went to the Chinese Station with the two other accused on behalf of the tenants?—Yes. I went on two occasions.

Witness then denied having any part in stirring up the men or blowing whistles or beating a gong, for he had neither. He was positive that he did not tell tenants to throw tiles at the men from the roofs. He further denied this act even though Mr. Brown warned him that two witnesses would give evidence that he had done so. He had been at the Police Station all day.

Two other witnesses, one of them employed at the Dollar Garage, told of seeing accused dragged from the alleyway and subsequently arrested.

The case was remanded to a future date, during which time the Bench will come to a decision as to the jurisdiction.

A petition has been lodged by the wife of Dr. F. C. Tong, the Cantonese who was sentenced to a term of imprisonment some time ago in connexion with the suicide of a young Chinese woman, for the remission of the sentence. It will be remembered that following his conviction and subsequent appeal to the Soochow Court, Tong was accused of being a Bolshevik agitator and committed to the Military Prison, Lunghua.

MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE

Nine Months for Chinese Joy-riding Car-washer: Woman's Instant Death

For driving an Essex motor-car (6230) from a garage at 326 North Chekiang Road and running down a Chinese woman who was instantly killed, a Chinese named Tser Ah-san was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment at the Mixed Court on Monday on a charge of manslaughter.

It was stated that after running over the woman, whose ribs were crushed and who died from haemorrhage of the lungs, prisoner next crashed into a building on the opposite side of the road.

A chauffeur stated that he brought the machine into the garage to be washed. He turned off the engine, which could not be started again without pressing the self-starter. The car was not in gear—the gear was in neutral.

Sub.-Insp. Webb told the Court that he had examined the car shortly after the woman was run down. He had found the gear control very stiff, as was the self-starter. This was over on the left-hand side of the car far beyond the shift, which was in the centre, the car being a right hand drive. It was not probable that the machine could be accidentally started in any way, though just the proper position of one's body cramped on the floor of the tonneau—a most awkward position—could bring this about.

The Court adjourned to the yard and the Assessor took the wheel, tried the self-starter and the gears, explaining the mechanism to the Magistrate.

When the Assessor and Magistrate resumed their seat the defendant declared that he was washing the car and got inside. As he pressed his thigh against something the car went off with a crash. The engine was not running before he got inside.

THE Ministry of Foreign Affairs has notified the Commissioners of Foreign Affairs here and elsewhere to stop issuing passports to Chinese labourers who desire to go to Russia, as there is no work for them there.

A rather novel but most despicable form of obtaining money under false pretences, under the guise of charity, came before Messrs. Martin and Kuan at the Mixed Court last Friday morning and was most severely dealt with. Accused's method was to obtain business cards of influential Chinese citizens and then draft letters to others, purporting to come from those whose cards he held—letters which stated that the writer was known of the other, that he had lost all his property in the September catastrophe in Japan and that his wives and children were in immediate need of funds to keep them from starvation. With the biography of the accused and a well-worded appeal for a small gift, the letter was frequently successful in its purpose and defendant lived a comfortable life by this means. For the next 18 months, however, the Municipality will furnish him with food and lodging, after which he will be escorted to the boundary and told never to return.

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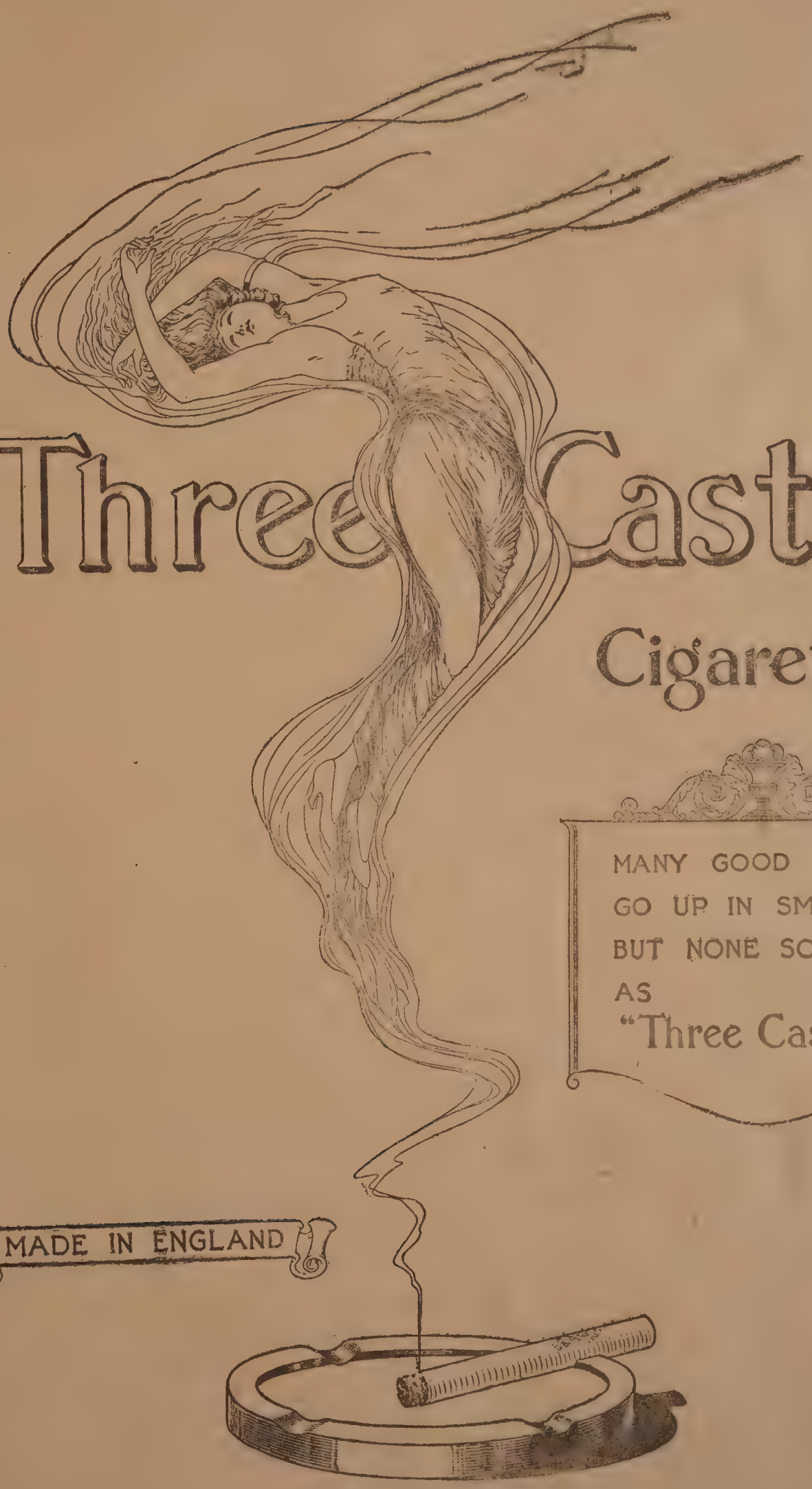

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT DEFEATED IN GENERAL ELECTIONS

Sweeping Successes of Left Parties Throughout the Country, but Paris Loyal to M. Poincare: M. Herriot the Probable Premier of the Radical Party

Paris, May 11.

The general elections to-day coincided with the Joan of Arc fête-day. They were carried out in fine weather. There was heavy polling. The earliest returns are in favour of the Government.

May 12.

Provisional estimates on the elections indicate that the parties of the left are gaining some ground, principally in the South, which is a recognized Radical stronghold, but there is no marked change in the state of the parties.

Voting is considerably heavier than at the last election.

M. Maginot, Minister of War, M. Marin, Minister of the Liberated Regions, and the ex-Premier, M. Briand, have all been elected.

Later.

The first results of the elections show the following have been elected:—

Conservatives	7
Republicans	6
Left Republicans	8
Radicals	3
Radical Socialists	29
Republican Socialists	9
Socialists	26
Communists	3

Later.

The elections took place very calmly throughout France.—Reuter.

Paris, May 12.

Out of 584 seats, 309 results have hitherto been declared. Those elected include 12 Conservatives, 63 Republicans, 41 Left Republicans, 21 Radicals, 82 Radical Socialists, 20 Republican Socialists, 58 Unified Socialists and eight Communists.

The notabilities returned include the ex-Ministers, MM. Thomson, Colrat and Reibel; the former Minister, M. Malvy, who was banished from France; the Communist, M. Marty, who served a long term of imprisonment for participation in the Black Sea mutiny; M. Franklin Bouillon, the author of the Angora Agreement and M. Herriot, the Radical Socialist Mayor of Lyons. Those defeated include the former Minister, M. de Lasteyrie; Prince Murat, and M. Tardieu, a bitter opponent of M. Poincare.

The "*Matin*" points out that, although the Leftists are apparently winning in a rather large number of departments, the *bloc national* remains steady in several departments.

Later.

A rough division of the parties shows that 133 Rightists have hitherto been elected, namely, Conservatives, Moderate Left Republicans, and Dissident Radicals, while 108 Leftists have been elected, namely, Radical Socialists, Republican Socialists, United Socialists and Communists. The Rightists had 26 gains and 130 losses, showing a net loss of 104, whereas the Leftists won 97 and lost 15, a net gain of 79.

M. Peret, President of the Chamber of Deputies, has been re-elected.

Prominent Persons Defeated.

Noon.

While it would be premature to say that France will soon have a Radical Government, the results of the elections up to the present mark an undoubted reverse for the Poincarists. The success of the Left Parties probably surpasses their expectations. The Left holds a clear majority on the 449 results hitherto declared.

The question of the hour is how far the last 100 returns will modify this.

Prominent personages defeated include the Royalist, M. Leon Daudet; the Catholic leader, General de Castelnau, the brilliant Clemenceau, M. Mandel, and the former Minister, M. Maginot.

[illegible] the Minister of the Colonies, M. Brandon, the ex-Premier and M. Caillaux, the Conservative leader, are among the candidates returned, while M. Sadi Lecointe, the aviator; M. Worth, the head of the dress-making firm; M. Philippe Barres and his son, M. Maurice Barres, are among those defeated.

The money market's sense of an impending change is evidenced by the remarkable fall of the franc from 73 to 78 for £1 and from 16.75 to over 18 for $1.

Paris Loyal to Premier.

3 p.m.

The results still arriving indicate that, while Paris is loyal to M. Poincaré, the Left has swept the country. The question on all lips is when M. Poincaré will resign. The Governmental organ, the "*Intransigeant*," admits that the majority in the next Chamber will be Radical Socialist and Socialist. It says that M. Poincaré is not likely to resign until the Chamber meets, when his resignation will be automatic. M. Briand or M. Herriot will probably be invited to form a Cabinet.

The Left press also demands the resignation of President Millerand, owing to his close identification with M. Poincaré's policy and the fact that he has been represented as taking a more direct part in politics than is customary for the President. According to the best information, however, a Presidential crisis is not likely.

The Left newspapers are jubilant. "*Le Soir*" declares, "The *bloc national* is dead; it is the duty of Poincaré and Millerand to go."

Later.

The results of 527 constituencies out of the 584 give the Right parties 243 seats, including Moderate Republicans 117 and Left Republicans 82. The Left parties have 280, including Radicals and Radical Socialists 124, Socialists 91 and Communists 26.

There will be second ballots in four constituencies.

The Right losses total 157 and the Left gains 104, namely, Radicals and Radical Socialists 46, Socialists 44 and Communists 14. The Communists gained nine seats in the Fourth Seine Constituency, which embraces the industrial area around Paris.

Those elected include M. Klotz, M. Painlevé, M. Georges Leygues and M. Bokanowski, the Minister of Marine.

Colonies' Returns Awaited.

Later.

At five o'clock this evening the returns were complete except for the Colonies and one in the Nord department, while there will be four second ballots.

The result is as follows:—

Left 296, namely Radicals and Radical Socialists	127
Republican Socialists	39
Socialists	101
Communists	29
Right 274, namely Conservatives	11
Moderate Republicans	137
Left Republicans	92
Independent Radicals	34

A Narrow Majority

Later.

All the Ministers who sought re-election have been returned.

With 574 results available, the united Left retain a majority of 22 over all the other groups.

The newspapers emphasize the vulnerability of any Government based on such a narrow majority without a common constructive policy and whose only point of cohesion is opposition to the *bloc national*. A wide field of speculation is opened by the suggestion [illegible] in order to safeguard [illegible] chance of survival, the new Government must first secure the support of the Left Centre groups and form a [illegible] Republican concentration, though such a combination [illegible] Left considers a direct [illegible] Premiership.

The Colonies [illegible] to elect [illegible] assembly [illegible] from the elections, notably, whether M. Poincaré shall resign immediately [illegible] shall appeal to assembly of Parliament. If the latter course is adopted, M. Poincaré will keep his engagement at The Chequers on May 19.

Later.

M. Herriot, who is mentioned as a likely successor to M. Poincaré, is a distinguished educationist. He is a pioneer of local government and is known as "the king of mayors" on account of his success during many years' mayoralty of Lyons.

M. Herriot was Minister of Transport during the war. He shares with M. Loucheur the reputation of being one of the first economic authorities in France, and he organized the Lyons Fair. He has been identified with attempts to restore Franco-Russian commercial relations and went with a mission to Moscow in that connexion two years ago.

M. Herriot is credited with pro-English leanings.

It is semi-officially stated that the experts' plan will probably remain the base of the French reparations policy and that, even if M. Poincaré ceases to direct public affairs, his successor is unlikely to abandon altogether the policy of the present Premier.

May 13.

M. Poincaré told President Millerand to-day that he himself and the Cabinet would resign on June 1.—Reuter.

Berlin, May 12.

The press here is elated at M. Poincaré's discomfiture, though there is a difference of opinion with regard to its effects on the Ruhr policy.—Reuter.

Radical Ex-Premier on Germany's Obligations

Paris, May 13.

The Radical Socialist ex-Premier, M. Painlevé, in an interview in which he explained the attitude of the Left bloc, laid stress on the fact that France's desire for peace was based on the principle of reparation, and that bad faith on the part of Germany would have for her very disastrous consequences. "Europe," he said, "could only enjoy a peaceful future if the goodwill and conciliation of France met with goodwill and honest and continued execution of obligations on the part of Germany."

Latest Results at the Polls

Paris, May 14.

The official list of the election results gives the state of the parties as follows:—

Conservatives	20
Republicans	117
Left Republicans	52
Democratic Left	75
Radicals and Radical Socialists	139
Republican Socialists	35
Socialists	102
Communists	29

Results still awaited are: Colonies 10; second ballots 4; the Department of the Nord one. On the basis of these figures the right and Centre parties muster 264 seats, against 305 of the Left, including Communists, or 276 without Communists.

The new Chamber will thus be divided in almost equal masses of the Right and Left. Much depends on the direction of gravitation of the Deputies on the Borderland between the two main bodies. The balance of parties seems to justify the prophecy of small majorities and frequent crises in the Chamber.—Reuter.

Increased Majority for Left Party as the Result of Colonial Returns

Paris, May 14.

Official checking has revealed a miscount in one Seine constituency, with the result that a Communist has been returned instead of a Poincarist.

Seven out of the 10 Colonial returns have now been received. They comprise three Radical Socialists, two Republican Socialists one Left Republican and one non-Party, thus slightly increasing the Left majority.—Reuter.

LONDON, May 14.—Mr. Frank Gray, M.P. (Liberal) has been unseated as the result of the hearing of a petition against his election for the City of Oxford on the ground that his election expenses exceeded the amount allowed.—Reuter.

MR. MACDONALD AND M. POINCARE

French Premier's Acceptance of Invitation to Stay a Night at Chequers

Paris, May 9.

It is stated at the Quai D'Orsay that, failing an unforeseen hitch, an early meeting between Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and M. Poincaré is certain and will probably be held towards the end of the month. It is emphasized that very careful preparations is necessary in order that the meeting may attain the maximum of usefulness.

Later.

M. Poincaré has accepted an invitation from Mr. Ramsay MacDonald to pay an informal visit to the Chequers on May 20 and to stay the night.—Reuter.

London, May 10.

It appears that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's invitation to M. Poincaré was despatched only on Friday afternoon. Acceptance was received in the same evening to meet at Mr. MacDonald's convenience. The date of the meeting has been altered to May 19. The reparations experts' reports will be discussed. According to the "*Matin*," M. Poincaré will be attended by an interpreter only.—Reuter.

London, May 12.

The opinion is expressed in London that the meeting between Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and M. Poincaré at The Chequers will inevitably be abandoned as a result of the French elections.

A meeting between Mr. MacDonald and the new French Premier is regarded as certain, but this will necessarily be delayed to give M. Poincaré's successor time to look round.

M. Poincare's Visit to Chequers Off

Later.

It is understood that M. Poincaré has decided not to go to the Chequers, in view of the result of the elections.—Reuter.

THE INQUIRY INTO MINERS' WAGES

Court Agreed that Profits are Unable to Meet Men's Requirements

London, May 9.

The report of the court of inquiry into the question of the coalminers' wages says that the profits of the industry are inadequate to meet the increases demanded, but the miners' claims for re-organization of the industry involve a political question with which the court is incompeten to deal. It suggests resumption of negotiations with a view to modification of the 1921 wages agreement.

The report says that it is really undisputed that the agreement of 1921 has failed to provide adequate wages. In many of the poorer districts the real issue is far more fundamental. The miners assert that they are entitled to secure full living wages for all engaged in the industry, primarily out of the total profits. If these are inadequate, it rests with the mine-owners, by altering the organization of the mines and the disposal of produce, to increase the amount and, if it is still insufficient to pay the wage, the character of the coal mining industry, which is the foundation of all other industries in the country, requires that other more fundamental measures should be adopted. The court is not concerned with the merits of this contention, it being a political question.

The court is unable to express an opinion with regard to the economic possibility and effect of increasing the price of coal or reducing costs sufficiently to enable the present claim to be met, but from the figures before the court it appears that, under present conditions, the profits of the industry, particularly in some districts, are unable to meet the miners' claim fully. The owners showed an aggregate profit on the whole of the coalfieds from October, 1921, to December, 1923, of £37,318,000. It is estimated that, had the miners' present claim operated during this period, £102,500,000 additional wages would have been paid. In any case the Sankey wages of two shillings a shift would alone cost annually as much as the whole profits of 1925.

The report suggests resumption of negotiations with a view to modification of the terms of the agreement of 1921, which appears to offer immediate and practicable means of effecting a new wages agreement.

The court expresses the opinion that a minimum wage should have precedence over distribution of profits, but it cannot specify conditions with regard to the basis on which that minimum wage should be fixed.—Reuter.

MR. BALDWIN'S VOTE OF CENSURE

Debate on Removal of McKenna Duties: Motion Rejected by Large Majority

London, May 13.

Mr. Stanley Baldwin's motion of censure of the Government, declaring it inexpedient to remove the McKenna duties amidst the present distresses, was rejected by the House of Commons to-day by 317 votes to 252.

Later.

The House of Commons was crowded to-day for the debate on Mr. Stanley Baldwin's vote of censure.

The former Premier, moving that it was inexpedient to remove the McKenna duties amidst the present distresses, said that British motor-cars known on the Australian market were superseded by American cars during the war and it was still doubtful whether we could recover the market. This decision would make it still more difficult. Furthermore, Canada benefited by the preference given her under the McKenna duties and the production of Canadian motor-cars had increased largely, aided by American capital invested in Canada to get the benefit of the preference. He feared that the Government had dealt a blow to Canadian trade, which, coupled with the Government's action in regard to Imperial preference, would make the Dominions less responsive to any idea of reciprocity. He suggested an impartial inquiry into the question of the McKenna duties.

No Need for Protection

Mr. Philip Snowden, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, declared that the motor trade had ample notice of the change of conditions. He aroused much opposition by attacking an agitation alleged to have been carried on by employers among workers, and asked what good the duties had done to the motor trade, seeing that 75 per cent. of British manufacturers were in the hands of banks. Exports in 1922 had been lower than in 1913, while during the same period imports had doubled. The effect of the duties had ceased to be protective because British manufacturers specialized in a British type to the exclusion of American competition. The British motor-car trade, Mr. Snowden declared, would find that it did not want protection when it got rid of watered capital and put its affairs on a sound financial basis. There could be no compromise over the withdrawal of the duties.

Vigorous opposition to abolition of the duties was voiced by Mr. A. A. Purcell, Labour Member for Coventry, on behalf of his constituents and also by Major-Gen. J. E. B. Seely, Liberal Member for the Isle of Wight.

The motion of censure was rejected by 317 votes to 252. Nine Liberals supported the motion. No Labour Member voted against the Government, though Mr. Purcell abstained.—Reuter.

FOREIGN POLICY OF LABOUR GOVT.

Premier's Statement at the Albert Hall: Effort to Bring Peace and Union

London, May 13.

Defining the Government's foreign policy at a Labour Women's Demonstration at the Albert Hall today, the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, declared that he was a convinced and unbending Nationalist. He respected national traditions and characteristics. It would be a very bad day for the world if the diversities of humanity, created by so many experiences of race, creed and clime, became cooperated into one feature. But neither was it his ideal to make Nationalism so hard that it became a pest to anyone trying to make peace. Nationalism [illegible]

aggression but self-respect. Therefore the Labour Government's foreign policy was to bring about great peace and union. He appealed to the small European nations, no less than the Great Powers, to come in and enable the advancement of a policy of disarmament.

Referring to the Dawes report, Mr. MacDonald admitted that there were some things in it of which he was a little bit suspicious, but he believed that the adoption of the report as a whole would give Europe a new chance of finding its feet. He urged all the Powers concerned to take up the same attitude and trust to the sense of justice of the world to see right done in the end.—Reuter.

A HOME RULE MEASURE FOR SCOTLAND

Scottish Labour Scheme for Separate Parliament: Uproar in House

London, May 9.

Pandemonium reigned for a time in the House of Commons this afternoon in consequence of the Speaker allowing the Bill providing for the establishment of a single chamber Parliament of 148 members for Scotland to be talked out.

The second reading was moved by a Scottish Labour Member and in the course of the debate Mr. William Adamson, the Secretary for Scotland, on behalf of the Government approved the general principle of the measure and hoped that it would pass its second reading with an overwhelming majority. He declared that the Government was prepared to appoint a committee to examine the whole devolution question and to report to the House. The Liberals also supported the Bill.

The Speaker's action in declining to accept closure of the motion in order to enable a division to be taken evoked an uproar from the Labour Members who angrily contested the fairness of the decision. The Speaker was finally obliged to adjourn the House.—Reuter.

BRITAIN'S HOUSING POLICY

A Government Subsidy and Rentals Based on Pre-War Rates

London, May 15.

An important item in the Government's housing policy is contained in a Ministry of Health circular to the local authorities, announcing that an agreement was reached at the recent housing conference, providing for a subsidy of £13. 10s. annually for each house for a period of 40 years, the Government providing two-thirds and the local authorities the remaining third. It is also stipulated that the rentals shall equal those before the war.—Reuter.

THE UNSEATING OF Mr. FRANK GRAY, M.P.

An Honourable Acquittal: Election Agent Found Guilty of Fraud

London, May 14.

In regard to the unseating of Mr. Frank Gray, M.P., (Liberal), on the ground that his election expenses exceeded the amount allowed, the judges found that Mr. Gray's election agent, Mr. Johnstone, was guilty of fraud and perjury. Mr. Gray had done much that was foolish and reprehensible, but not corrupt or dishonest and should be honourably acquitted.

Mr. Johnstone and others were granted certificates of indemnity under the Corrupt Practices Act.—Reuter.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S HEALTH

London, May 11.

It is officially announced that Queen Alexandra's health continues satisfactory, but, in order to avoid unnecessary fatigue, it has been decided that it would be better that she should not take personal part in the public celebrations of Alexandra Day on June 25, nor has a date been fixed for her return to London.—Reuter.

BRITISH AIRSHIP SERVICE

Burney Scheme Rejected but Government Willing to Encourage Enterprise

London, May 14.

In the House of Commons to-day the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, announced that the Government had rejected the Airship Guarantee Company's scheme of Imperial airships, commonly known as the Burney Scheme, because it would create a virtual monopoly and contain features objectionable on financial and technical grounds. The Government, nevertheless, were of opinion that it was essential to carry out as soon as possible a constructive programme of airship development. It was proposed to authorize the Air Ministry to initiate forthwith a comprehensive programme of lighter than air research and experiment, including full-scale experiments with an existing airship, and to undertake the construction of a new airship with a capacity of 5,000,000 cubic feet and also the construction of terminal intermediate bases overseas to enable these two ships safely to operate between England and India. At the same time the Air Ministry would give the Airship Guarantee Company the first offer of a contract to construct a second airship for commercial purposes.

The contract would include a clause permitting the constructors to re-purchase the ship from the Air Ministry at a reduced figure on the completion of satisfactory trials provided that it should be operated in connexion with an approved British commercial airship service and that it should be available for use by the State.

The existing airship stations at Cardington and Pulham would remain State property instead of passing into private hands, while the ownership of the new base would also be vested in the State.

Expenditure of £1,200,000

A three years' programme only would be authorized in the first instance and it was estimated that the net expenditure for the three years would not exceed £1,200,000. A supplementary estimate in this connexion would shortly be submitted to the House.

In reply to a question, the Premier refused to state where the overseas base for airships would be situated, as it was not in the public interest.—Reuter.

"DERATIZATION" THE NEW WORD

Shipowners' Objection to Having to Smoke out Rats at £50 Apiece

London, May 14.

A new word, "deratization," was mentioned at the resumption of the International Shipping Conference to-day and was explained as the fumigation of ships every six months with the object of killing rats. The discussion showed that deratization was unpopular among shipowners, often working out at £50 per rat. It was asserted that it had cost one ship £467 to kill one rat. A committee was appointed to consider the whole question of sanitation.

The Conference passed a resolution urging the abolition of policies or acts of flag discrimination, which impeded the free flow of international commerce.

A discussion of port facilities, which chiefly concerned delays in British ports, ended in the adoption of a resolution urging maritime nations to do their utmost to secure that seaports should keep pace with the modern requirements of trade.—Reuter.

GERMAN COMMUNISTS IN COLLISION WITH POLICE

Berlin, May 12.

Ten Communists were killed and a number wounded in the course of a collision with the Police at Boellberg, near Halle. One policeman was fatally wounded.—Reuter.

TRADE FACILITIES BILL

London, May 13.

In the House of Lords to-day the Trade Facilities Bill passed the third reading.—Reuter.

ROUND THE WORLD FLIGHTS

Lieut. D'Oisy at Hanoi After Hot and Difficult Stages: U. S. Airmen's Progress

Rangoon, May 9.

Lieutenant D'Oisy arrived here at one in the afternoon. Owing to engine trouble caused by heat, he did not proceed to Bangkok, for which place he hopes to depart to-morrow.—Reuter.

Paris, May 9.

Lieutenant D'Oisy has arrived at Bangkok.—Reuter.

Paris, May 9.

Lieutenant D'Oisy reports that he covered the 840 miles between Calcutta and Rangoon in six and a half hours. He landed owing to the bursting of a tyre and the rapid evaporation of water in the radiator. The flight was very difficult, as he had to cross mountains and encountered dense clouds.—Reuter.

Bangkok, May 11.

Lieut. d'Oisy left Bangkok to-day for Saigon.—Reuter.

Paris, May 12.

Lieut. d'Oisy arrived at Saigon to-day.

The 500-mile flight from Bangkok took six hours. A strong head wind prevailed. Several storms forced Lieutenant d'Oisy to ascend to an altitude of 3,000 metres.—Reuter.

Arrival at Hanoi

Hanoi, May 12.

Lieut. d'Oisy landed at the aerodrome here this afternoon at 2.39 after a short stage from Saigon. Large and enthusiastic crowds gave him an ovation and a military band played him in. He was received by the Secretary-General and the General Officer Commanding. Toasts were drunk in a specially arranged reception-room in the principal hangar, which was decorated with festoons of foliage and flowers. He will be received at 11 to-morrow morning by the Governor-General. The date of his departure is not yet fixed.

Hongkong, May 12.

It is at present arranged that Lieut. d'Oisy will proceed to Canton without touching at Hongkong.

Canton, May 13.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen has ordered the Canton Aviation Corps to make preparations for the reception of Lieutenant d'Oisy on his arrival.

Feted in Hanoi.

Hanoi, May 14.

Lieut. d'Oisy was received by the Government this morning at 11 o'clock, the Secretary-General receiving him in the absence of the Governor-General who is now on a mission to Japan.

The Secretary-General, who was surrounded by all the civil and military notables, praised the endurance and courage of the airman, who had added a new glory to the fame of Frenchmen. He handed Lieut. d'Oisy an *objet d'art* as a token of the admiration of Indo-China and called upon those present to drink to his health.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Paris, May 14.

Lieutneant d'Oisy encountered several storms during his 17-hour flight to Hanoi. His machine and engine were entirely satisfactory.—Reuter.

The American Flyers.

Washington, May 10.

The three American world-flyers left Atka Island for Attu Island, 530 miles distant, at 10 yesterday morning.

Later.

The American world-flyers have arrived at Attu Island. They are now faced with the longest flight of their programme, 878 miles to Paramashiru.—Reuter's American Service.

Major Martin's Safe Arrival at Port Moller: Crash on a Mountain in Fog

Cordova, Alaska, May 11.

Major Martin and his mechanic have arrived safely at Port Moller, Alaska.

Major Martin sends a wireless message that his aeroplane was totally wrecked. It crashed on a mountain in a fog on April 30. They arrived at a trappers' cabin on May 7, exhausted. They found food in the cabin, where they rested for three days. Major Martin adds: "Our existence is due to concentrated food and our nerve."—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, May 12.

If has been decided that Major Martin, the ill-fated leader of the American world-flight, will not follow the rest of the squadron to Japan, but that he will return to Washington with his mechanic, Sergeant Harvey. They have been temporarily assigned for duty with the Army Air Service Headquarters, although their names will remain on the list of the world-flyers in recognition of the hardships they have endured.

The present intention is that, if the other flyers reach Europe, Major Martin and Sergeant Harvey will cross the Atlantic and rejoin them there, thus reinstating Major Martin in his post of honour.—Reuter's American Service.

MacLaren at Nasirabad.

Bombay, May 13.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren arrived to-day at Nasirabad.—Reuter.

Allahabad, May 14.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren arrived here at noon to-day, covering the 500 miles from Nasirabad in six hours. The engine is running well. Squadron-Leader MacLaren will leave for Calcutta to-morrow.—Reuter.

Maclaren Held up Again

Allahabad, May 15.

Squadron-Leader Maclaren is unable to start again to-day owing to water in his petrol. He hopes to leave for Calcutta to-morrow.—Reuter.

Mails Across Atlantic

New York, May 9.

Mr. Wilbur, the Secretary of the Navy, in a speech at a dinner of the National Security League, forecast the transport of mails across the Atlantic in under two days' flying time soon. He said that the Navy intended to use an airship, which will be received from Germany in a few months, for an experimental trans-Atlantic mail Service.

The Secretary of the Navy appealed for "reasonable preparedness" for war. He ridiculed statements that the American fleet had seriously deteriorated.—Reuter's American Service.

Landing Stages Unsatisfactory in the Kuriles

Tokio, May 15.

Colonel Broome, who has arrived here from Hakodate, where the Canadian trawler Thiepval arrived on Tuesday from Hitokappu Bay, in an interview, declared that he was pessimistic regarding the success of the world flights in the neighbourhood of the Kuriles unless the present selected landing-places were changed. Bettobu; Kashiwabara and Hitokappu Bays were all unsatisfactory because they were exposed and dangerous.

Colonel Broome, who has thoroughly explored these regions, proposes suggesting to the Japanese authorities other spots which he has selected, and also the insertion of Port Kushiro as an intermediate landing-place between Minato and Hitokappu Bay.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Lisbon, May 10.

The new aeroplane, which is being despatched to the stranded Portuguese airmen, is fitted with a radiator specially designed for long distance flights in the tropics.—

AMERICA AND NAVAL DISARMAMENT

Comparison of Strength of Ships of Naval Powers: Strategic Naval Bases

Washington, May 11.

Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, in a report to the Chairman of the House of Representatives Naval Affairs Committee, agrees with the suggestion, made during the controversy proceeding here, that a fair comparison of the fighting strength of the British, American and Japanese Navies is represented by the figures 5: 4: 3, instead of 5: 5: 3 as provided in the Washington Naval Treaty. These figures did not take into account strategically located naval bases, nor the relative strength of the various merchant marines.

Mr. Roosevelt refers approvingly to the Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Wilbur's recommendations in his last annual report for the complete modernization of American battleships at a cost of $30,000,000, and also to the fact that Congress has been asked to authorize the modernization of six coal-running battleships and the construction of eight 10,000-ton light cruisers. He says that the Navy is in good shape, except for these deficiencies.—Reuter's American Service.

Japanese Press Views as to Further Conference.

Tokio, May 5.

Reports of the views expressed in America and Great Britain on the question of calling a conference for the further limitation of naval armaments find an echo in the Japanese press, which, however, urges that each nation taking part in such a conference must insist on retaining that standard of naval and air equipment constituting the minimum strength essential for self-defence and protection.

The *"Kokumin"* holds that the Washington Conference failed to find favour in France, because the plan proposed for the restriction of auxiliary vessels disregarded France's ideas as to her essential defence needs. Any similar conference, says the paper, is bound to fail, if that principle is slighted.

The *"Asahi"* attributes to the naval authorities the statement that a second conference to complete the work begun at Washington is both welcome and necessary, though they are reported as rather sceptical about tangible results in the present complications on the continent of Europe. The journal claims to have learnt that preliminary investigations into the scope of such a conference and the basis of Japan's participation are already in hand.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY IN LONDON

Soviet's Request for Return of Building, Furniture and Archives

London, May 12.

In the House of Commons at question time to-day, Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said that the Government had received a request from the Soviet Chargé d'Affaires to hand over the building, furniture and archives formerly belonging to the Imperial and the Provisional Governments. The British Government had explained that they had no power to compel the present holders to hand over and that, failing an amicable arrangement, the Soviet Government must avail themselves of ordinary legal procedure.—Reuter.

OIL RING'S DEAL WITH SOVIET

Attempt to Acquire Monopoly over Russian Oil-fields: Two Agreements

Paris, May 9.

Additional details of the agreements of the Royal Dutch, Shell and Standard Old Companies for the acquisition of oil concessions in Russia show that the first agreement, relating to the division of the markets of the world, also included naphtha and by-products of naphtha already purchased or which the Royal Dutch had arranged to purchase in the course of the year from the Soviet Government, either directly by the Anglo-Dutch organization or by the two organizations.

With regard to the second agreement, relating to the concession of oil enterprises in Russia, the Standard Oil acted on behalf of Nobel Brothers as Nobel Brothers controlled 35 to 40 per cent. of the production of Baku before the revolution. It is believed that division of concessions and exportation was made on that basis.

It is reported that one condition of future concessions is that the concessionaires shall pay the Soviets £25,000,000, and also undertake to indemnify the former proprietors or come to an arrangement with them. The success of the arrangement is considered doubtful as many of the Communist leaders in Moscow are opposed to it.—Reuter.

THE KING OF RUMANIA IN ENGLAND

A Cordial Welcome by the King and Queen and Cabinet Ministers

London, May 12.

Following their visits to France, Switzerland and Belgium, the King and Queen of Rumania this morning were escorted across the Channel by four British destroyers and five aeroplanes and landed at Dover, where they were met by the Prince of Wales. They then proceeded by train to London, where they were cordially welcomed by the King and Queen, the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, and other Ministers and distinguished personages.

The Royal visitors then drove with their British Majesties through cheering crowds in streets decorated with flags to Buckingham Palace. The visit will last four days.

A State Banquet

Later.

Buckingham Palace was resplendent to-day on the occasion of the State Banquet in honour of their Majesties King Ferdinand and Queen Marie of Rumania. There were 150 guests, including Royalties, diplomats, leading national representatives, and the cream of Society.

There was an imposing scene as the Royalties and Ambassadors went in procession on their way to the Banqueting Room amid the playing of Natjonal Anthems. Warm speeches were exchanged between King George and King Ferdinand.

The visitors devoted the afternoon topaying homage at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey and at the Cenotaph. —Reuter.

A Hearty Welcome in the City.

London, May 13.

The King and Queen of Rumania had a great reception in the City to-day, when they drove to the Guildhall and received an address of welcome from the City in a gold casket in the presence of the Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of York, Prince Henry, Prince and Princess Arthur of Connaught and other members of the Royal family. The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Miss MacDonald, and all the principal Secretaries of State, Mr. Winston Churchill, Sir Joseph Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Baldwin and Mr. and Mrs. Asquith were present.

The Lord Mayor, in his speech, recalled that this was the first occasion [illegible] paid a ceremonial visit to England since their accession in 1914. He referred to the increase of British commercial interests in Rumania.

The King of Rumania, replying to the Lord Mayor's toast, rejoiced to hear that the city of London appreciated the efforts of Rumania to recover herself. He was convinced that Britain would continue to support her endeavours by strengthening and developing British trade with Rumania, whose potentialities in oil and other products offered a wide field of activity to British capital and trade.—Reuter.

A Private Visit to Wembley

London, May 14.

Their Majesties and the King and Queen of Rumania to-day paid a private visit to the Wembley Exhibition. They received an ovation from thousands of visitors. The weather was glorious.

Their Majesties first visited the Indian pavilion, then the Burma, Ceylon and Hongkong pavilions, and inspected the Chinese restaurant. They displayed great interest in the silk spinning.

The Royal visitors accepted gifts: The Queen of Rumania a black and white shawl, Queen Mary a jade pendant, King George a silver model of a Siamese car.—Reuter.

Departure for Bukharest

May 15.

The King of Rumania left for Bukharest this morning from Victoria Station, where King George, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, Prince Henry and the Duke of Connaught bade him farewell. The Queen of Rumania will remain in England for a fortnight.—Reuter.

COMMUNISM IN AMERICA

Spread of Propaganda by Russian Organizations

Riga, May 12.

A telegram from Moscow says that a meeting of the executive committee of the Communist Youths' Internationale on May 5 discussed Communism in America. It was stated that nine new organizations had recently been started at St. Louis for communising young miners and factory workers. It was also reported that two new Communist organizations had started in Africa, where propaganda was being carried on among the natives.—Reuter.

THE IRISH BOUNDARY QUESTION

Ulster Premier in Favour of Settlement by Mutual Agreement

London, May 11.

Sir James Craig, the North Ireland Premier, in an interview on the Irish boundary question, declared that the only course open was to drop the whole idea of a Commission, which aims at an arbitrary settlement that would only lead straight to serious troubles, and aim instead at a settlement by mutual agreement between the two Governments concerned on the principle of give and take, which would leave no grievance or bitterness behind and would command the assent of the peoples and of the two Parliaments. It was no use pretending that any other settlement would assure peace and concord. A settlement could not be reached by "outsiders" who were ignorant of the facts.—Reuter.

London, May 12.

In the House of Commons at question time to-day, Mr. J. H Thomas, the Colonial Secretary, said that the Government of North Ireland had refused to appoint a Boundary Commissioner. The whole subject was receiving the immediate consideration of the Government.—Reuter.

FRENCH REVENUE

Budget Estimates Exceeded by Large Amounts: Internal Prosperity

Paris, May 10.

The yield from indirect taxes and fiscal monopolies in April amounted to Frs. 1,871,000,000, thus exceeding the budget estimates by Frs. 291,000,000 and the yield for the same month last year by Frs. 420,000,000.

The yield in the first four months of the year exceeded the budget estimates by Frs. 1,200,000 and the yield in the same period of 1923 by Frs. 1,356,000,000.

These results are attributed in a large measure to the [illegible] economic prosperity in France.—Reuter.

SOVIET BREACH WITH GERMANY

Anti-German Processions in Moscow

Moscow, May 12.

There have been anti-German processions here, with music and banners with inscriptions epithetizing Herr Stresemann, the German Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the German police, as an outcome of the recent events in Berlin. The German Embassy is being guarded by mounted police.

May 13.

Protests against the incident in Berlin took place throughout the country today. Demonstrations at Tiflis took up a threatening attitude [illegible] the German Consulate, which was protected by a number of police.—Reuter.

Litvinoff's Demand

Moscow, May 14.

Herr Ranzau, the German Ambassador, and M. Litvinoff, [illegible] of Soviet affairs, exchanged [illegible] The Soviet demanded the customary apologies, recognition of the extraterritoriality of a foreign mission, punishment of those responsible for the searching of the Trade Delegation's offices, and payment of an indemnity.

The Russo-German railway conference, for which the German delegates have arrived, has been postdispute between the two Governments.—Reuter.

U.S. AND EXCLUSION OF JAPANESE

Strong Opposition to any Change in Immigration Bill as Drafted

Washington, May 10.

The House of Representatives has declined to accept President Coolidge's suggestion to postpone Japanese exclusion until March 1, 1925.

The House has also disapproved the request that the President should negotiate with Japan for the abrogation of the "Gentlemen's Agreement" between now and that date.

Later.

The Congressional Conference has decided that Japanese exclusion shall become effective from July 1, 1924.—Reuter American Service.

Washington, May 14.

President Coolidge summoned the leaders of the House of Representatives to the White House to-day and again presented the view of the Administration that Japanese exclusion should be postponed pending the conclusion of diplomatic negotiations. The Secretary of State, Mr. Hughes, voiced the anxiety of the Administration in this connexion.

It appears that strong opposition has been expressed to any change in the Immigration Bill as reported by the Conference Committee.

It is generally expected that the measure will be passed by both Houses in its present form and handed to President Coolidge for signature at the end of the week.—Reuter's American Service.

INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING CONFERENCE

Reciprocal Arrangements for Exemption from Taxation of Shipping Profits

London, May 13.

The 14 nations represented at the International Shipping Conference in London, including Great Britain, France, Australia, Canada, Japan and Germany, have passed a resolution affirming the desirability of maritime Governments holding a diplomatic conference on the subject of the safety of life at sea. In the meantime no national regulations should be made except in strict accordance with the reports and resolutions of the Conference. The resolution also invites the delegates to take steps to hasten the conclusion of a series of reciprocal arrangements for the mutual exemption of shipping profits from taxation.—Reuter.

AMERICAN OIL SCANDAL

Charges Against Senator Wheeler not Upheld

Washington, May 14.

The Committee of five Senators, appointed to investigate the charges against Senator Wheeler of accepting and retaining a fee to influence the granting of oil land permits, has decided, by four votes to one, that the charges against Senator Wheeler are not supported by facts. —Reuter's American Service.

Washington, May 15.

The Senate Oil Committee has tentatively closed the so-called Teapot Dome hearing. The Chairman, Senator Walsh, stated that no more hearings would be held unless the courts compelled the oil magnate, Mr. Harry Sinclair, to answer the questions of the Committee.—Reuter's American Service.

EARTHQUAKE IN ERZERUM

Constantinople, May 14.

A violent earthquake occurred to-day in the region of Erzerum. Several villages were destroyed. There are about 50 victims. The [illegible] —Reuter.

AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

Clear Field for Mr. MacAdoo in Kentucky: Withdrawal of Senator Underwood

Lexington, Kentucky, May 14.

Senator Underwood has withdrawn his candidature for Democratic nomination in the residential election "in the interest of party success."

According to Mr. MacAdoo's managers, this means that the whole Kentucky delegation will support Mr. MacAdoo at the coming Democratic National Convention.—Reuter's American Service.

THE ANGLO-SOVIET PARLEY IN LONDON

Lenin's Successor in Hopeful Mood: Trotzky's Rude Speeches Unimportant

Moscow, May 10.

M. Rukoff, M. Lenin's successor, in an interview emphasized that the Soviet Government were doing their utmost to bring the Anglo-Soviet Conference in London to a fruitful issue.

He declared that relations between Britain and Russia in no way depended upon the differences between M. Zinovieff and Trotsky and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, which merely reflected the quarrel between the Second and Third Internationals—Reuter.

AN ILL-OMENED TRAIN

Dedicated to Lenin and Wrecked by Unknown Anti-Bolsheviks

Riga, May 9.

A telegram from Moscow states that political foul play is alleged in connexion with the derailment of a new train, dedicated to Lenin, whose portrait adorned the locomotive, in the neighbourhood of Odessa on its maiden run to Moscow. Many were killed and injured, while the train was smashed to smithereens. The rails had apparently been tampered with.

May 10.

According to a telegram from Moscow, it is officially admitted that yesterday's railway disaster was deliberately engineered. It is believed that it was aimed at the lives of several Soviet officials on board the train. Their names and fate are, however, not stated. The total number of casualties is not given.—Reuter.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS HEALTH COMMITTEE

Singapore Seat of Office for Considering Far Eastern Epidemics

Paris, May 12.

The second session of the Health Committee of the League of Nations ended to-day.

The Committee, in accordance with replies received from interested Governments, have decided to propose to the Council of the League of Nations that Singapore should be made the seat of the office dealing with information concerning epidemics in the Far East.

The Committee also drew up a programme providing for a wide inquiry into the prevalence and treatment of malaria in different countries. A commission will visit Yugo-Slavia, Greece, Bulgaria, Rumania, Italy, the Ukraine and Russia in this connexion.—Reuter.

LARGE MOTION-PICTURE COMBINE

New York, Apr. 18.

One of the largest mergers in the history of the motion-picture industry was consummated yesterday by Mr. Marcus Loew, who heads the consolidated interests which will be operated under the name of the Metro-Goldwyn Corporation. The corporations included in the merger are Metro Pictures, Goldwyn Pictures and the Louis B Mayer Company. Their combined authorized capital stock is approximately $65,000,000. Distribution of Cosmopolitan Productions is included in the merger.—Reuter's American Service.

PROTECTION OF INDIA'S STEEL INDUSTRY

Bill to Give Government Unfettered Power in Matter of Tariff

Simla, May 13.

The Steel Industry protection Bill was published to-day in the Gazette. The preamble says that the Bill has been undertaken in pursuance of the policy of discriminating protection to provide for the fostering of the development of the steel industry by increasing the import duties or by granting bonuses on certain import articles.

As recommended by the Tariff Board, the Bill gives the Government of India unfettered power to vary its protective duties with a view to maintaining the effectiveness of protection against any fluctuation. It is expected that the Bill will be unanimously supported by the Legislative Assembly, which will meet on May 27.—Reuter.

AMERICAN SHIPPING AND RAILWAY RATES

Preference on Railway Cut Off

Washington, May 9.

In response to complaints from merchants and others, the United States Shipping Board has withdrawn the certification that adequate American tonnage in operation warrants preferential rail and ocean rates, thus automatically rescinding the order granting preferential railway rates to goods destined to be carried on American ships.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICAN LABOUR

No Dealings with Bolshevism

Montreal, May 10.

Mr. Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labour, in an interview, said that the idea that organized labour in America would link up with the Third International was a hallucination of lunatics.

He added that the labour movement in the United States and Canada yielded less in flamboyant declarations and accomplished more real social and economic ressults than in any part of the world.—Reuter's American Service.

MAIL STEAMER RAMMED

Quebec's Passengers for Europe Landed in New York

Quebec, May 10.

A Norwegian cargo vessel last night rammed the outward bound mail steamer Orca in a dense fog 50 miles eastward of Father Point. Both vessels were damaged. The Orca is proceeding to New York, where the passengers for Europe will be landed.—Reuter's American Service.

RIOT IN MESOPOTAMIA

Quarrel Between Townspeople and Local Guards

London, May 9.

The Colonial Office reports that a hundred townspeople and six members of the Levy Force were killed at Kirkuk in Mesopotamia last Sunday as a result of a conflict. The outbreak was due to a number of the Levy forces seizing arms and breaking loose, in spite of the efforts of the officers, on learning that three shopkeepers had assaulted three of their comrades during an altercation. Order has been restored.—Reuter.

INTERNATIONAL COURTS

Senator Lodge's Scheme and the President's Preference

Washington, May 9.

President Coolidge has made it known that he has not been directly consulted about the provisions of Senator Lodge's World Court proposal, which he presented to the Senate yesterday.

The President still regards the permanent Court of International Justice as the best agency for the settlement of international disputes. and he abides by the position taken by him in his message to Congress last December.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICA'S LIQUOR LAWS

Heavy Sentence on Member of Congress

Covington, Kentucky, May 13.

John Wesley, a member of Congress, and several others have been sentenced to two year's imprisonment in connexion with a charge of removing and selling 1,400 cases of whisky from a distillery in 1921. Langley was specially charged with using his political influence to obtain permits for the transportation of whisky from the Federal Prohibition Director.—Reuter's American Service.

FALL OF THE FRANC

Explained by Paris Press as a German Manœuvre

London, May 9.

The fall of the franc, which has dropped from 67 to 73 during the last three days, is attributed in London to apprehension with regard to the political situation in France and the effect of the elections in Germany, but the Paris papers again allege German manœuvres.—Reuter.

A CURE FOR PNEUMONIA

American Doctor's New Serum

Boston, May 9.

It is announced that Dr. Lloyd Felton of Harvard University has discovered an anti-pneumonia serum which, it is claimed, will reduce the number of deaths from pneumonia by 25 to 50 per cent.—Reuter's American Service.

BRITISH TRADE RETURNS

Big Decrease in Imports

London, May 12.

The Board of Trade Returns show a total of imports for April of £86,165,000, a decrease of £17,563,000 compared with the month of March. British exports for April showed a total of £62,866,000, an increase of £1,764,000 compared with March.—Reuter.

SERIOUS FIRE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Damage Estimated at $300,000

Vancouver, May 12.

Three hundred thousand dollars' damage was done and 200 Japanese were rendered homeless as a result of a fire which destroyed the eastern part of the town of Steveston, 12 miles to the south of Vancouver. Two canning factories, a number of residences, office buildings and several boats were also destroyed.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICAN FREIGHT RATES.

Washington, May 10.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission has annulled the section of the Merchant Marine Law relating to preferential railway rates for goods destined to be carried on American ships. The order will be set aside until the Shipping Board again certifies that there is a sufficiency of American vessels and the Commission acts on such certification.—Reuter's American Service.

U. S. COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Washington, May 13.

The Senate has ordered an inquiry into the cotton textile industry by the Tariff Commission. Senator Walsh, in moving for the inquiry, stated that the present depression in the industry was not due to the importation of cotton goods.—Reuter's American Service.

MALARIA IN RUSSIA

Riga, May 13.

Malaria is spreading rapidly in Russia. The newspaper *"Pravda"* reports that 75 per cent. of the population of the Geokchiskas district in the Caucasus are stricken down. The number of cases at Kieff doubled in April.

Plague has broken out in Turkestan.—Reuter.

LARGE TAX REDUCTIONS IN AMERICA.

Washington, May 10.

The Senate to-day passed the Tax Reduction Bill, providing for a drop of 25 per cent. in the income tax and downward revision of practically all Federal taxes.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICAN SHIP ON FIRE

Boston, May 9.

The coastal passenger steamer Ontario has sent out a wireless message stating that she is on fire off Block Island. The fire is under control. The Ontario is proceeding here under her own steam. The steamer Oretan is standing by in case of need.—Reuter's American Service.

BULGARIA'S SUPPRESSION OF COMMUNISM

Sofia, May 11.

The Cabinet has decided to dismiss all civil servants avowing Communist sympathies. The order also suspends all newspapers having Communist tendencies. The Government contemplates cancelling mandates in respect of Communists returned in the Departmental Elections.—Reuter.

NEW GLIDER RECORD

Berlin, May 12.

A telegram from Koenigsberg says that in the course of a competition for German aerial gliders near Memel, the flyer, Herr Schulz, remained in the air for 8 hr. 42 min. and 8 sec., which is claimed to be a world record.—Reuter.

DOMINIONS AND SINGAPORE NAVAL BASE

Sydney, May 12.

Mr. E. K. Bowden, the Commonwealth Minister of Defence, in the course of a speech, said that the abandonment of the Singapore Base scheme was of the most serious import to Australia, New Zealand and India.—Reuter.

EXECUTION OF WHITE ARMY EX-OFFICERS

Moscow, May 12.

Four ex-officers of the White Army have been executed at Ekaterinoslav and one ex-officer at Ekaterinburg.—Reuter.

SWEDEN AND THE SOVIET.

Stockholm, May 10.

The Swedo-Russian Commercial Treaty is now effective, ratifications having been exchanged yesterday.—Reuter.

U. S. OMNIBUS PENSIONS

Washington, May 13.

The Senate has sustained President Coolidge's veto of the Omnibus Pensions Bill, the necessary majority to over-ride his action being lacking.

Later.

Senator Bursum has re-introduced his Pensions Bill, amended in several particulars.—Reuter's American Service.

RUSSIAN AEROPLANES FOR PERSIA

Moscow, May 14.

It is stated that two aeroplanes constructed in Russian factories on behalf of the Persian Government have arrived at Teheran from Enzeli, a distance of 250 miles, the flight taking 1 hour 45 minutes.—Reuter.

PRESERVE FOR WILD OXEN IN CAUCASIA

Moscow, May 13.

Two-hundred thousand acres in Western Caucasia, where aurochs are now almost extinct, but still survive, have been declared as a National Preserve.—Reuter.

NEW LEADER OF TAMMANY

New York, May 15.

Mr. James A. Foley has been elected leader of Tammany Hall in succession to the late Mr. Charles F. Murphy, his father-in-law.—Reuter's American Service.

SOVIET'S LOST CHANCE IN GERMANY

Riga, May 14.

In a speech at Moscow to-day M. Trotzky said: "We were caught napping last autumn when, by underestimating the strength of the German Communists, we let our opportunity for a revolution there slip from us."—Reuter.

NEW CANADIAN SHIPPING SERVICE TO JAPAN

Montreal, May 13.

The Canadian Government merchant Marine will inaugurate on June 12 a new monthly service from Montreal to Japan and China, calling at Victoria and Vancouver, and thence to Yokohama and Shanghai.—Reuter.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

THE ANGLO-SOVIET CONFERENCE

Claims of British Subjects in Russia Discussed: a Divergence of Opinion

London, May 15.

The *communiqué* regarding to-day's plenary meeting of the Anglo-Soviet Conference states that the British have excluded from the scope of the Conference peace treaties to which other countries are co-signatories unless the latter are consulted.

Questions were discussed concerning claims by British subjects in Russia since the Revolution and inter-Governmental claims, on which divergence of opinion resulted.

The Conference adjourned to afford the Soviet delegates an opportunity of studying the British proposals and will meet again on May (? 22).—Reuter.

Moscow, May 15.

Russian imports during April were valued at 31,000,000 gold roubles and exports at 12,000,000.

M. Kameneff, at a Communist Party conference, anticipated a favourable issue of the Anglo-Soviet Conference. In such a case, if credits were given, part of Russia's orders might be placed in England. He stated that private capital in South Russia governed 83 per cent. of the retail trade and 50 per cent. of the wholesale. This percentage was too large. The State should be masters in the home markets.—Reuter.

Satisfactory Progress

London, May 16.

Official circles here profess satisfaction with the progress of the Anglo-Soviet negotiations and the hopefulness of a successful outcome, notwithstanding a certain acerbity which, Diplomatic correspondents state, has been apparent several times.

Yesterday's Conference *Communiqué* reveals a divergence of opinion on the subject of inter-Governmental claims which the British representatives requested should be postponed on account of the technical difficulties of assessment. The Soviet representatives, however, objected on the ground that a postponement would mean shelving the only claims which they had advanced, whereas Great Britain was only shelving part of her claims. The British representatives also formally proposed that compensation be paid to dispossessed British proprietors in Russia, and the Soviet representatives promised to consider the proposal, after pointing out the difficulties of evolving genral formulæ which were complicated by the difference between the British and Soviet social systems.—Reuter.

BUILDING TRADE WAGES

Employers' New Terms: An Immediate Increase and Stabilization Later

London, May 15.

The building trade operatives' executives have decided to submit a ballot embodying the new terms by the employers with a recommendation for their acceptance. The offer of the employers is an immediate increase of a halfpenny per hour until the statutory revision next January, when the employers are willing to stabilize wages at 20 pence per hour for Grade "A" towns, with subsequent reductions of a halfpenny per hour for every leap of 11 points in the Cost of Living Index figure.—Reuter.

THE INQUIRY INTO MINERS' WAGES

Recommendations of Court of Inquiry Agreed upon Provisionally

London, May 15.

The conference of representatives of coal-owners and miners, in accordance with the recommendation of the recent Court of Inquiry, resulted in an agreement to-day on the subject of wages on terms which will be submitted to a conference of the men's delegates on May 29.

Later.

The main provisions of the proposed coal agreement allow for standard profits to consist of 15 per cent. of the standard wages instead of 17 per cent. as at present. The minimum rate of wages would be increased to 33½ per cent. and the division of surplus profits would be 88 per cent. to wages and 12 per cent. to profits. No able-bodied adult's wages would fall below 40 per cent. of the lowest-paid class day wage of the workmen in the particular district.—Reuter.

ROUND THE WORLD AIR FLIGHTS

MacLaren's Arrival in Calcutta: Americans Detained at Attu

Allahabad, May 16.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren left here at daybreak to-day for Calcutta. He was unable to start yesterday owing to sand and water, which had accumulated during storms, choking the jets of his engine.

Calcutta, May 16.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren arrived at Calcutta to-day.—Reuter.

Later.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren proposes to halt until Wednesday in Calcutta, where the Vulture will be overhauled and a new low-compression engine fitted.—Reuter.

Tokio, May 16.

Reuter's correspondent at Paramushiru in a message, dated May 14, says that hopes are entertained that the American flyers will jump off from Attu on Thursday as the weather is ideal. The destroyer Ford, which returned on May 12, has wirelessed daily to the flyers urging immediate departure. The answer from Attu is to the effect that the weather is still unfavourable.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Lisbon-Macao Air Flight.

Lisbon, May 15.

A despatch from Karachi states that the Portuguese airmen hope to resume their flight to Macao on May 22 in an aeroplane which the R.A.F. have placed at their disposal.—Reuter.

EMIGRATION CONFERENCE IN ITALY

Delegates in Attendance from 59 States

Rome, May 15.

At the opening of the International Emigration Conference to-day, in the presence of the King, Cabinet Ministers and members of the Diplomatic Corps, the Premier, Signor Mussolini, welcomed the delegates of the 59 States who are attending the Conference. He stressed the necessity of collaboration for the safeguarding of their interests and in order that laws for the protection of emigrants should be inspired by principles of humanity and justice.—Reuter.

M. POINCARE AND MR. MacDONALD

French Premier's Cordial Letter as to Allied Agreement

Paris, May 16.

The Premier, M. Poincaré, has written a long private letter in cordial terms to Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, the British Prime Minister, expressing his regret that he will be unable to proceed to the Chequers as arranged. He expressed the opinion that an Allied Agreement can be perfectly realized on the basis of the Experts' Plan.—Reuter.

AMERICA'S EXCLUSION OF JAPANESE

Bill Now Before the Senate

Washington, May 15.

Overriding President Coolidge's opposition, the House of Representatives to-day overwhelmingly adopted the conference committee's report making Japanese exclusion effective as from July 1.

The measure now goes to the Senate.—Reuter's American Service.

STUDY OF SOUND WAVES

Experiment in France by Explosion of Melinite

Paris, May 15.

Ten tons of melinite were exploded at Lacourtine at 7.30 this evening, and provided a "big bang" for which listening posts on the ground and in the air had been established in most countries in Europe with the object of studying the behaviour of sound waves. The experiment, which was made under official international auspices, is a continuation of the test made at Oldebroek in Holland in 1922. Similar explosions have been arranged for Friday and Saturday.—Reuter.

Squadron-Leader maclaren flew from allahabad in six hours.—Reute .

OBITUARY

Baron de Constant

Paris, May 15.

The death is announced of Baron d'Estournelles de Constant at the age of 71.

Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, who was at the French Embassy in London for eight years, was a member of the French Parliament, a member of the two Hague Conferences, and also a member of the Hague Court.—Reuter.

TAMMANY HALL LEADER

New York, May 16.

Mr. James A. Foley has declined the leadership of Tammany Hall on grounds of health.—Reuter's American Service.

IRON ORE FOR GERMANY

St. Johns, Newfoundland, May 15.

It is announced that the British Empire Corporation has contracted to supply 1,250,000 tons of iron ore to German buyers within six months. Twenty large steamers will be required for its conveyance.—Reuter's American Service.

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS

In the outports can rely on fresh supply of Films, Plates and Papers and all Photo Sundries by sending to

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Sold in tins by all Chemists and Stores throughout the country

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

THE PILGRIM'S WAY

On Foot Through England

Manchester, April 16.

Patrons living and working in other [illegible] Wembley. With all its wonders, [illegible] monopolise all their time. The greatest of exhibitions pall if they [illegible] renew a flagging zest for either machinery or "Mountain" Railways it is advisable to spend an occasional recuperative week in more normal surroundings. There may be a few returning exiles for whom Home is just England, inasmuch as they lack relatives or friends in the Homeland. They are homeless at Home. How, we have been asked, could these brief sojourners in the motherland best spend those periods when they want a rest from Wembley?

Hotel life, we are told, is much the same in every great civilized city. An evening with Norma Talmadge in Leicester Square can be little different to an evening with Norma Talmadge in a cinema at Calcutta or Shanghai. [illegible] cannot be realized in cinemas, hotels, seaside resorts, or the great business and amusement centres. And despite the clever railway posters to the contrary it cannot be enjoyed from the windows of our railway trains.

The Herd v. Freedom.

There are, of course, the char-à-banc tours. These supply a long felt want, but in most instances it is the want of people in whom the herd instinct is excessively developed. They are an uncongenial method of getting about to men accustomd to standing alone, or to those in whom the sense of freedom and pleasing oneself is well developed. Everything on them is timed to a minute. Personal predilections for any particular spot can only be indulged by abandoning the tour. And the "sights" they visit are in most cases spoilt by ruthless commercial exploitation. Most of these sights boast turnstiles, tickets of admission, and a small army of touts and petty traders. The sights of Great Britain immortalized by her singers and poets are best left unseen by those imaginative people who only know them in the immortality conferred by songs and poems. If the visitor will see them it is best to pick a day for the purpose on which char-à-banc visits are least likely. Even then the disappointed romantic will probably find the storied "ruin" covered with scaffolding, on which a small army of industrious workmen will be busily employed forcing cement into the old stones to "preserve" them for the benefit of the tourists of the future. England can never be seen or felt on a char-à-banc tour. Packed in their swift unwieldy vehicle the tourists run sviftly along the main roads. The flowered hedgerows are thicky coated with dust. The hills, meadows, and villages are seen for a moment and then passed. The only personal contacts are with the, often uncongenial, company on the tour.

Motor and Caravan.

How then, it may be asked, is the home-loving exile to establish [illegible] with a motherland so difficult of approach. We have heard of several men who have attempted to solve the problem by hiring or buying a motor-car and travelling [illegible] just where they [illegible] It has not been an altogether satisfactory solution of the difficulty and it has been a very expensive one. Possession of a car in England, [illegible] a definite social status. The possessor has to pay accordingly. And if with a car it is possible to motor fast on long [illegible] it is still impossible to stray from the road and explore the hundreds of [illegible] that lead to the most ideal [illegible] unless you are a real Englishman.

A couple of [illegible] drawn caravan [illegible] written up as being the ideal [illegible] Its period of popularity was brief and few adventurers tried it twice. Although hotel expenses are saved by those who take their accommodation with them the trouble and worry attached to caravanning ill compensate for the economy. And everyone who essays it acquires a new understanding of the squalor and dirtiness of the compulsory caravan dweller. Shortly afterwards the old canals of the country were discovered by enthusiasts to be more beautiful than its famed lanes. "Bohemians" hired old barges and waxed lyrical over the buttercup strewn meadows on either side of these waterways. The bargee was described as one of nature's unspoilt gentlemen. Imitators found that the eulogists were more concerned with pretty book-making than with truth. The meadows were there, but so were the long noisome tunnels, and for every water lily there were a score of dead cats and dogs.

Shanks's Pony.

The two choices left for the man or woman who wishes to see unspoilt England are cycling and walking. The motor with its dust and speed has spoilt most of the enjoyment of the former. It has also the chief disadvantage of the motor-car. It ties the user to the roads. So there is nothing left but to walk. There is, we may also say, nothing more delightful than to walk, if the walker knows the rules of the game. No country in the world is like England and Wales in one respect. It is criss-crossed in every direction, over hills, meadows, moors, and fields; through farmyards, parks, and sometimes through orchards, with foot-paths over which there are ancient rights of way.

The sophisticated rambler buys at a second hand book-seller one inch to the mile ordinance survey maps of the country over which it is his intention to walk. The thin dotted lines which indicate foot-paths are picked out, and a route planned eliminating all avoidable tramping on the highroads. All footpaths marked on the map are not public. If the dotted line finishes at a farm or house it can usually be assumed that it is private. If it carries on, and eventually runs into a road or another path it may safely be assumed to be public. A rucksack with an extra shirt, collar and pair of socks is all the luggage necessary.

Our Ancient Traditions.

To walk through England on foot is ideally in keeping with our ancient traditions. In the States it may be only the hoboes who trudge it. But in a country where, only last week, three men were tried at the Old Bailey for infringing an Act passed in the regin of Richard 11, the ancient way of getting about involves no loss of face. There is still a Pilgrim's Way in England,—the modern title for a road made by the Romans. And walking has a literature all its own. Borrow immortalized the gipsy-haunted by ways of Britain. Belloc is a eulogist of more modern times.

No rights and privileges in Great Britain are more jealously guarded than that of the "right of way." The Squire may be, and often is, a little god in his village; but let him attempt to curtail in any way the ancient rights of way and his subjects are up in arms at once. The disputed path may not be used once in a year. It may pass through his most jealously guarded plantation or across the prettiest prospect in his park. He may offer the most admirable alternative advantages. In 99 cases out of 100 it is all of no avail. The path is as much the property of the community as the park may be that of the Squire. Britons were always commendably chary of bartering away their birthrights.

A week or two ago the Marquis of Granby closed and built obstructions across a path leading to Haddon Hall, one of the most beautiful mediæval mansions in Derbyshire. The surrounding farmers and villagers, re-inforced by a large part of respectable citizens from the neighbouring township of Bakewell, immediately marched to the spot and with crow bars and pickaxes demolished all the obstructions. They then ceremoniously walked from one end of the path to the other. Such drastic measures in a country where law and order are so respected show how innate the sense of the rights of the wayfarer are. Such incidents are continually happening, but the result is usually the same. In many cases the path is so little used that the only indication of its existence is the slight slope there is in the angle of the grass.

The Ideal Walk.

There remains for the present day pilgrim, the choice of direction and place. The Highlands of Scotland have to be ruled out. The man with the gun is supreme there and rights of way are few and far between. Northumberland and Westmoreland are fine for those who like lake, mountain, and moorland. So is the West Riding of Yorkshire. Derbyshire has delightful dales but they are a trifle over-run with the tourists from the nearby industrial centres. North Wales is also tourist-ridden, and in the summer the passes are almost impassable from the numbers of motor char-à-bancs. The southern countries are delightful for rambling, especially those in the West. But of all parts of England there is none so unspoilt, so essentially English, so out of the way, and so quiety beautiful as Gloucestershire. There are no super "sights" in the county, so it is blessed with a minimum of char-à-bancs. Ruins there are in plenty. The number of churches and abbeys gave rise to the old saying, "as true as God's in Gloucester." Foot-paths there are by the hundred. Every thatched cottage is rose embowered. The ancient sleepy towns dream in the summer sunshine as if time stood still. The much advertised Chester seems garish and "got up" beside the quiet unpretentions antiquity of Tewkesbury and Cirencester. The grey abbey and cathedral towers seem to have grown in the fat black soil. A time before they existed seems almost as incredible as the fact that they will ever cease to be. The inns have a charm unlike the inns anywhere else in England. Prohibition would lose its charm for an executive member of the United Kingdom Alliance if he lived for a week in a good Gloucestershire inn and possessed any historic sense. We commend Gloucestershire to the homeward bound traveller when he is surfeited with the concrete and bright lights of Wembley. Back again in strange lands it will not be the least pleasant memory of his 1924 visit. But let him do it all on foot.

EARLIEST MAN

The Discovery in California

Considerable interest has been aroused among archæologists by the report from California that the skull of a man who lived half a million years ago had been discovered in glacial sands beneath the Pleistocene clay strata. One of the foremost protagonists in the famous discussion that raged over the Piltdown skull remarked to a "Morning Post" representative that it was really not possible to fix the age of the skull to the limits assigned of 250,000 or 500,000 years, and added that many of the skulls previously found in California had proved to be of no real scientific interest.

"It will be noted," he said, "that the report does not bear the name of any recognized man or recognized society, and in such circumstances one is bound to sceptical. Only last year, for instance, a skull was found in Patagonia which excited much interest as a result of the first reports. This, on investigation, proved to be a piece of stone, and the supposedly ancient wall near which it was discovered, when critically examined, was found to be an outcrop of basalt which had been so altered by the weather as to give the appearance of human architecture."

Sir Arthur Keith, the Curator of the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, remarked that the statement from Los Angeles had a possibility of being true, but, he added, "of all discoveries of this sort, some 20 in number, that have been made during the last 50 years, not one has proved to be what it was believed to be by the original discoverer. In every case the remains found have been of the Red Indian type, but, despite this, there is a possibility that America will provide remains of ancient man. The deposits of the Ice Age in North America yield unimpeachable evidence of the existence of man who made implements. It is perfectly clear that man dates back to a very ancient period, and that there were human beings in existence long before the Pleistocene Age, and that they were very widely scattered. America at the time was quite accessible, as there were land connexions with it, and that is why there is reason to expect the discovery of ancient human types in that country. Before expressing any definite opinion, however, one must wait for fuller data as regards the discovery announced from Los Angeles."

GERMANY'S REPARATIONS PAYMENTS

A Total of 8,411,339,000 Gold Marks in Cash and Kind: The Manner of Distribution: 470,913,000 Paid Last Year

The customary half-yearly statement recently issued by the Reparations Commission, showing the total amount of payments made by Germany on Reparations account since the Armistice, is chiefly interesting because it furnishes bulk figures that, by comparing them with those issued a year ago, enable one to arrive at the amount that has been received by France and Belgium since the German Government, after the occupation of the Ruhr, refused to continue Reparations payments to those countries. The statement shows that down to December 31 last Germany had made total payments amounting to 8,411,339,000 gold marks in cash (1,903,544,000 gold marks), shipping, cables, State property, and payments in kind, etc. Of this total, however, 2,719,093,000 gold marks remain undistributed or in suspense, and out of the balance of 5,692,246,000 gold marks that has been distributed among the Allies, 2,613,-611,000 gold marks has been utilized for the repayment of the cost of the armies of occupation and the control commissioner (without taking into account the 1,071,805,000 gold marks which is the estimated cost of the United States army of occupation), in repaying the advances made to Germany for purchase of coal after the Armistice and other charges distinct from Reparations.

Out of the amount which has actually been distributed among the Allies, France has received 1,804,192,000 gold marks (143,995,-000 gold marks in cash, 1,358,155,-000 gold marks in kind, and 302,042,000 gold marks in ceded property). Out of this total, however, the amount actually applicable to Reparation payments down to the end of 1923 was only 189,777,000 gold marks, the balance (including the repayment of 1,373,496,000 gold marks in respect of the cost of the army of occupation) having been disposed of in other directions.

How the Allies Have Shared.

The amounts distributed to the various Allied Powers during 1923, if the figures given a year ago be subtracted from those now issued, will be seen to be as follows:—

	Gold Marks.
France	13,389,000
Belgium	12,760,000
Great Britain	168,358,000
Italy	155,138,000
Serbia	111,815,000
Roumania	28,770,000
Czecho-Slovakia	1,963,000
Greece	9,551,000
Poland	415,000
Portugal	10,440,000
Japan	390,000
	507,989,000

The amount actually paid by Germany during the year was 470,913,000 gold marks (of which 462,480,000 gold marks was in kind and the rest in cash). The difference between this total and the total distributed was due to the fact that 37,076,000 gold marks was taken from the accounts previously in suspense. As the cost of the French army of occupation in the Rhineland (exclusive of the Ruhr) in 1923 amounted to 112,495,-000 gold marks, it follows that France during 1923 received from Germany 99,106,000 gold marks less than her expenditure on her army of occupation. The same figures also show that, whereas in the amount received by France down to the end of 1922 there was a balance of 291,031,000 gold marks available for passing to her reparation account, this had been reduced at the end of 1923 to 189,777,000 gold marks. In other words, France had in hand, out of her total receipts from Germany, on December 31, 1923, 101,254,000 gold marks less in actual reparation payments than she held at the end of 1922.

It must not be overlooked that the Franco-Belgian receipts from the Ruhr during the past 12 months have not yet been handed over to the Reparations Commission. The bulk, if not the whole, of these, however, down to the end of 1923 were absorbed by the expense involved in the operations there, although it is stated here that the occupation now shows a steadily increasing balance on the credit side. The 13,389,000 gold marks received by France in reparation payments during 1923 represents payments made from January 1 to 11, when the occupation of the Ruhr began, and from November 23, when passive resistance ceased and the Dusseldorf agreements were signed, down to the end of the year.

FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON

Prof. Goddard's Scheme for this Summer.

Th American papers just now are devoting much space to the coming attempt of Professor R. H. Goddard to fire a rocket with such initial velocity and directness of aim that it will reach the moon, a distance of rather less than a quarter of million miles.

The Professor, who is a director of the Physics Department at Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts, has been working at the project for several years, and has the financial back of the famous Smithsonian Institution of Washington. Under the auspices of that organization experiments have been carried out with rockets so devised that after they are fired they are carried to great altitudes by successive discharges of explosives in small combustion chambers, and when the rocket has attained its maximum height a second rocket is discharged at a velocity sufficient to carry it beyond the resisting medium of the earth's atmosphere.

The rocket is made of steel and is shaped like a cigar, with a narrow tapered head. It contains inside "a small internal combustion engine, ignited by smokeless nitro-cellulose, and once free of terrestrial gravitation continuous discharges of the internal apparatus by means of an ingenious reloading mechanism will do the rest."

Provided the rocket obeys the theoretical calculations of its designer, it is expected to hit the moon 36 hours after it begins its flight, and to ensure that it will reach its billet it will be necessary to calculate—not a difficult problem, as the motion of the moon in its orbit is known with refined accuracy—exactly where the moon will be at any time, and range on that part of the heavens.

So that the arrival of the projectile on the moon can be seen it will contain a quantity of Victor flash powder, which will be ignited by the impact, and calculations show that the brilliant light this gives off will need less than 3 lb. to enable the flash to be visible in a 12 in. telescope. The attempt is to be made in the early summer, most probably when the moon is in the crescent phase, so that the flash which will signal the contact of the rocket with our satellite may occur on the dark unilluminated region, and thus increase the prospect of its visibility.

That the project is not so visionary as it seems is evident from the co-operation of the Smithsonian Institution. It has been discussed and approved by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and, speaking of Professor Goddard's pioneer experiments, the late Sir James Dewar expressed the opinion that the pointed to the possibility of ultimately attaining the necessary high velocity to overcome the earth's gravitation.

NOTIFICATION has been received from London that Mr. A. G. P. Dewing of the Municipal Finance Department, son of the local Police Superintendent, Mr. C. Dewing, has been elected an Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries.

INDIAN GOVERNMENT'S TROUBLE IN THE PUNJAB

The Agitation Among the Akalis Reinforced by a Flood of Mendacious Propaganda and Assisted by Indians in High Places

Whatever may be the solution of the Sikh problem in the Punjab, and however unhappy the Punjab authorities may have been in handling the Akali agitation, says the "Pioneer" of India that agitation, under the direction of the Shromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, now declared belatedly an unlawful assembly yet still managing to function in some way or another, has grown into a grave political menace. The outstanding fact in the situation has been the persistence of the propagandists enrolled in support of the Akalis and the difficulty experienced by the Government in coping with the constant stream of mendacity and misrepresentation poured out by the Parbandhak Committee and their offshoots, like the "Akali Sahayak Bureau." The events occurring at Jaito on February 21 were plainly and promptly described by the official reports issued as soon as the necessary information could be collected. The first of those reports published from Delhi on the next day was proved by the later and official inquiry by a Sikh Magistrate to have been extraordinarily and substantially accurate. Yet, on February 29, a 24-page pamphlet issued from Amritsar by the Parbandhak Committee described the "Jaito affair" in the most inflammatory language and made the most disgraceful allegations against the Nabha authorities. The crowd of Akalis in this pamphlet was represented as displaying "calm restraint, cool courage" against "official fury," the casualties inflicted were alleged to be far in excess of the official figures, and the explanation of the discrepancy is given by the infamous suggestion that the authorities secretly disposed of the dead bodies of their

Uncontrolled Mendacity.

The Government took such action as was open to them to prevent the circulation of this pamphlet, but it may be assumed that the mischief had been done and once more persistent and uncontrolled mendacity had asserted itself, greatly helped "victims."

by the championship of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, who, speaking in the Legislative Assembly, appeared to take for granted the accuracy of what to a man of his intelligence should have been a blatant and obvious fabrication. The methods adopted by the pamphleteer were those of denying point blank the Government's statements without any attempt at detailed disproof, and of making against the Administrator and his officers the wildest accusations unsupported by evidence or probability.

This pamphlet is only one of numerous and constant efforts made by the Akali propagandists to vilify the Government. For the last two or three years this process has been at work, and it is not surprising that it has been so successful in poisoning the minds of a large section of the Sikh community that the Government are faced with a most difficult task in their endeavour to expose the purely revolutionary character which the movement has now assumed. What the outcome will be it is not our intention to discuss at the moment. The Parbandhak Committee are determined to continue sending to Jaito and Bhai Phern as many jathas as they can collect, hoping eventually by filling the Punjab and Nabha gaols to paralyse the Government and so to win a further victory. The recent affair at Nankana Sahib and the events at Jaito on February 21 sufficiently show that at any time this campaign may lead to serious bloodshed; and it may also be assumed that the Governor-designate of the Punjab, when he takes over charge, will devote his earliest attention to the Sikh problem. He is of all men the least likely to permit his term of office to be permanently troubled by the contumacy of a section of the Sikhs who are intolerant alike of the rights of other members of their own community and of the freedom of the greater communities in the Province.

Government Hampered.

The considerations which immediately arise from the apparent success of the Akali propagandists are not merely provincial in their application. Propaganda can be met best of all by counter-propaganda, and when the truth is on the side of the counter-propagandists the result should be certain. The difficulty is that the Government of the Punjab and all other Governments, including the Central Government, have been hampered by the new Constitution in carrying out effective publicity. The ingrained sympathy of many of the elected members of the Legislatures with the Congress exponents of Revolution has come to the aid of the anti-Government propagandists, who, while carrying on a relentless campaign against the Government and expending many lakhs of rupees collected by devious methods, have had the satisfaction of being able to deprive the Government of the power of using the very weapons which they themselves unstintedly and unscrupulously employ. It would be interesting to estimate, were it possible, how much money and how many lives would have been saved had the Government possessed sufficient funds and foresight in 1918 to counter the mischievous anti-Rowlatt Act agitation in the Punjab or in 1921 to prevent the inflammatory speeches of the makers of "Khilafat Kings" in Malabar. As matters stand now the Government, well-meaning and patient, attempts to sweep away a veritable flood of mendacity with a Mrs. Partington's broom. An example just to hand will clinch the point. The Punjab Government on April 8 issued a *communiqué* categorically denying a statement, made by the Parbandhak Committee in the middle of February, to the effect that the Administrator of Nabha had reduced the financial resources of the dowager-Maharani since the withdrawal of the Maharaja from the State. The facts now affirmed are that, on the contrary, the lady's allowances have been increased. That such a falsehood should circulate for nearly two months without contradiction, especially when contradiction ought to have been forthcoming in 24 hours, is eloquent of the need for an intelligent and well-equipped publicity organization.

Committee under Gen. Birdwood to Inquire into Sikh Gurdwara Problem.

In the same journal we read the following:—

Lahore, Apr. 11.

The following Press *communiqué* is issued:—

In March, 1921, the Punjab Government introduced a Bill to deal with the management of the Sikh Gurdwaras and shrines in the Province, but the Bill encountered considerable opposition, and was ultimately dropped. During the following year several further attempts were made by the Government to frame a measure, but none of them obtained the requisite support. Ultimately, a Bill was passed in November, 1922, but it was not approved by the Sikh members of the Council and has not actually been put into force.

The Government understands that a considerable number of Sikhs would be glad to see an Act passed with the same object, either in amendment of, or in substitution for, the Act of November, 1922. It has for some time past let it be known that it was ready to consider any proposals made to this end, provided that they were reasonable, and would be likely to receive substantial support from the interests concerned. No such draft measure has, however, up to date been put forward for the consideration of the Government.

The Government thinks that in deference to the wishes of so many of the Sikh community a further effort should now be made to ascertain the lines on which a measure for dealing with the gurdwaras might be framed, and, in order to assist the community in the matter, His Excellency the Governor-in-Council has decided to appoint a committee to ascertain the wishes of those considered most competent to advise, and to report as to the principles on which a measure might now be framed for dealing with the administration and management of Sikh gurdwaras and shrines. The Committee will at the same time be asked to report as to the best means of dealing with the question of kirpans. The Committee will be presided over by General Sir William Birdwood, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief in the Northern Command. The names of the other members will be announced shortly. Mr. H. Calvert, I.C.S., M.L.A., will act as Secretary of the Committee.

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

Why People Vote "Red": Horrors of Glasgow Slums: Cancer Spot of Empire

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Edinburgh, Mar. 26.

Mr. Ramsay Macdonald has been dined by his "brither Scots" in the House of Commons, the function being entirely non-political. The Scottish members representing constituencies in England and Scotland number just under 90, and about two-thirds of them sat down under the chairmanship of Mr. Ian Macpherson to discuss a menu which was so characteristically Scottish in its composition as to be almost a caricature of any meal ever set before a Scottish company. The non-party character of the gathering may be inferred from the fact that its organizers were Sir Wm. Lane-Mitchell, Mr. J. M. Hogge, and Mr. David Kirdwood.

Glasgow: the Cancer of Empire

The 19,000 "ticketed" dwellings of Glasgow and its model lodging-houses for women again come under the lash of Mr. William Bolitho in the "Outlook," and perhaps the strongest sentence in all his powerful articles is the confession that he finds no one to blame for the deplorable state of affairs. Often when I hear people condemning Clydeside for sending a gang of "Reds" to Parliament (I am constantly condemning them myself), I am forced to interject the remark, "You would not wonder at Glasgow sending such men to the House of Commons if you had ever gone through the slums of that city."

Mr. Bolitho made his visit to these slums at night accompanied by an inspector, and he writes, 'Door after door as he knocked was opened by a shirted man, suddenly and softly, as if impelled forward by the overpowering slum smell behind him. It is this smell which is the most oppressive symbol of such lives—choking, nauseating, the smell of corrupt sweat and unnamed filthiness of body.

Regarding the women's common lodging-houses, Mr. Bolitho is reminded of "that deep den inadequately described by Patrick Macgill in 'The Rat Pit.'" "There are," he avers, "dozens of 'rat pits' in Glasgow, where these lone, forlorn women, who have no claims to a home of their own, may come for 9d. a night—beggar-women, rag-pickers, charwomen, the abandoned, the depraved."

Then comes the astounding fact that Mr. Bolitho finds no one to blame for the distressing state of affairs. "As the cancer of Glasgow housing in its effects is," he sums up, "widespread, and threatens the whole political system of Britain, so in its causes it is profound and difficult to trace. In a sense no one is to blame. The roots of the sore burrow and twine deep among the very ones of our economic life. There are rich men in Glasgow; new rich and war rich. They have the usual unamiable, uncultured, quite stupid and dull life of their like all over Europe, but they have little to do with the overcrowding of Glasgow. There are no great and grasping slum proprietors to be checked and punished by the public conscience. The 40,000 one-roomed homes of the city are owned by a great number of small landlords, many of them little better off than their tenants."

As Others See Us.

They have still plenty of queer notions about this country, many of those Continental friends of mine. Even the war had not completely succeeded in shattering the notions that had been stored in their minds by years and years of tradition. They are gradually getting clearer on some points regarding "England," but the process of enlightenment is slow, very slow. I don't think they believe any longer, as their fathers firmly believed, that you could spot an Englishman in a crowd by his teeth, just as you would recognize a donkey amongst a lot of ponies by his ears. For a long time the Americans were thought to be Englishmen; but now most Continentals can tell the difference at once—an American has better-filled pockets than an Englishman, and wears goggles. Scotland, or Ecosse, I have always noticed, has some sort of romantic associations in the Continental minds. Nevertheless, they think Scotland is a part of England, just as Normandy is a part of France, and the Ruhr a part of Germany. And as a Norman or Breton is a Frenchman, a Scotsman is an Englishman.

Those romantic associations with Scotland remind me of a Continental I lately met. He was a romantically disposed man, and a bit of a poet. I told him something about the "wild men" in the British Parliament, and said that they all came from Scotland. He exclaimed "Ah!"—and added: "The sons of the mountain clans." And I'm sure that when he pensively gazed into space he saw a group of warriors in gorgeous national garments, brandishing some sort of tomahawks in the midst of "phlegmatic" English M.P.'s, and ejaculating the wild and glorious battle cries of their forefathers. For when he was eight or nine he had read of those forefathers in a book by a charming writer for the young called Valters ott.

The Mighty Fallen.

I met young Laidlaw in the street the other day, and we exchanged nods.

Any stranger who chanced to witness the encounter gave it, I am sure, no second thought. It was not, in his eyes, the most commonplace kind of incident—a chance meeting of two of the bowler-hatted, one very young, the other not so young.

But I had been more or less familiar with young Laidlaw in very different circumstances, and our encounter set me thinking. A few months ago, when I saw him last, he was a very great personage, indeed; and though I have referred to my familiarity with him, I should like to make it quite clear that such familiarity was very strongly infused with respect.

For then, he was one of the most important members of his community. He had a position, in the eye of a considerable public, akin to that of a popular matador. His friendship was an honour, even for men like myself, old enough to be his father. His approval and encouragement counted more with his peers than any mere scholastic success. He was one of the stars of a *corps d'élite*, members of which were distinguished from the envious and respectful by a special head-dress.

In short, a few months ago Laidlaw was captain of his school 1st Fifteen, and now he is in a city office.

No fallen potentate had ever to make the best of a change so disconcerting—or, at least, so it seems to one who remembers the awe with which he used to regard the Rugger Captain in his time, and who knows only too well the insignificance of "the boy" in an office.

I suppose young Laidlaw's duties will include posting the letters at the end of the day, possibly after copying them. He may very likely index the letter-book, when he has been instructed how—for that is the sort of thing schools do not teach. And yet, so short a time ago, the youngster was at the top of a ladder. He had won the position to which belongs the greatest respect paid to any position in a school. Even the masters had to treat him with a hint of deference. I know nothing about his brains, but he has a lot of personality, has grown accustomed to carrying responsibility, making decisions, and representing his ancient school in a larger world—and he is a first-rate three-quarter. And now, suddenly, he finds himself struggling awkwardly on the bottom rung of another ladder, learning how to index a letter book.

The Fighting Marquess.

It was only last year that the Marquess of Douglas and Clydesdale came to light as a boxer, and his active association with the "noble art" has been all for the good of the sport. When he took part in the Scottish Championships last year the Marquess showed little cleverness, but he demonstrated that he possessed plenty of pluck, and his bouts were no milk and water affairs. Though beaten, he was not discouraged, and during the past year he has spent a lot of time improving his attack and defence. He gained his reward in Glasgow when he won the title of Middle-weight Amateur Boxing Champion of Scotland.

His Presbyterian Ancestors.

I do not know whether advocates of Sunday golf may use Mr. J. E. Lawler's experience as a proof that the Fates support the Sabbath round, but there is something almost supernatural about that player's performance at Wembley. For two successive Sundays Mr. Lawler has gone out with a 13 handicap, and has on each occasion holed out at the second hole (155 yards) in one stroke. I am reminded by this of a Sunday golf episode in my own experience. I was playing with a friend on Muirfield one Sunday some years ago. He was playing very badly, and I ventured to suggest to him that such was the case. "Badly! I should think so; but what is a man to do when every time he swings a club ten generations of Presbyterian ancestors keep shouting inside him, 'You've no right to be doing this. You've no right to be doing this?'"

Ancient and the Modern.

Tradition and innovation clashed to a remarkable degree in an experience I had a short time ago. I had reached Tibbie Shiels's ancient hostelry after a walk in drenching rain round St. Mary's Loch, and Tibbie's hospitable successor made me at home beside a roaring fire in the old kitchen, which has hardly changed since Scott and Hogg used to foregather in it. My hostess commented on this fact with pardonable pride, and showed me the relics which are always produced to visitors. She informed me that I was sitting in what had always been Sir Walter's favourite seat. Then, in almost the same breath and with hardly as much as a "by the way," she invited my opinion as to whether in that lonely wind-swept place they would be able to reach the Glasgow wireless station on a crystal set!

Another Dig at Aberdeen.

The listening-in joke that wins a prize in a London weekly's wireless postcard competition at the week-end is an Aberdeen wheeze again. An Edinburgh man tells the joke—and by the way, lifts the two-guineas prize. Here is the joke:—"On the day Aberdeen Station opened a man in Edinburgh tried to pick up its call, but for a long time was unsuccessful. He thought for a moment; then rustled a £1 note at the headphones! Aberdeen came through immediately. He never has difficulty now, for Aberdeen is still calling."

TRAGEDY OF A FAMOUS SONG

"With the death of Mrs. Harriet Danks in a Brooklyn boarding house the beautiful prophecy in 'Silver Threads among the Gold' remained unfulfilled for the woman who inspired it," says the "Telegraph's" New York correspondent.

"Mr. Hart Pease Danks, a young musician and singer, composed to his wife in 1874 one of the tenderest love songs of the ages, but when prosperity came to the young couple as a result, domestic unhappiness came with it.

"Danks and his wife parted, and twenty-one years ago he was found dead in a Philadelphia boarding-house kneeling beside his bed. On an old copy of his famous song he had written: 'It is hard to grow old alone.'

"Last week Mrs. Danks, who was 82 years old, died alone in similar circumstances after years of unhappiness that so strangely followed the writing of the song. For years there has been litigation over the distribution of the royalties, and the two surviving children are even now estranged."

SPECIAL ARTICLES

THE CONDITIONS OF IMMORTALITY

Sermon Preached by the Rev. A. N. Rowland in Union Church, Shanghai, on April 30, 1924

"If thou wouldst enter into life keep the commandments."
Matt. 19.17.

On any other lips than those of Christ these words would be regarded as not quite orthodox by those who count themselves the keepers of orthodoxy. Let us then begin with the converse statement that those who fail to keep the commandments are on the road to death. It was in April 12 years ago that the Titanic, that palace on the sea, went down among the icebergs of the Atlantic with 1,500 souls. The tragic loss of so many people, summoned from the enjoyment of grandeur and luxury to negotiate with Death, caused an outcry against the want of justice or of power upon the eternal throne. But what charge can lie against Him whose will is expressed in law when in defiance of the laws of navigation such a course was taken at such a pace? Or take the question of health in this Settlement of Shanghai, how many break down or pass out who should be in the prime of life. The slope that leads to death seems steeper here than in the West; yet the veterans out here all assure us that life can be maintained in strength, if only the simple laws of health are observed.

Tagore on England

And so it is with other types of life, to enter and enjoy it depends upon the keeping of the relevant laws. Take social life for instance, in its various secular forms. In some parts of the earth commercial life flourishes, in the south of Scotland but not the south of Ireland, in the north but not the south of Italy, in the east but not the west of Spain. Why this difference? In the former places the commandments that bear on business are observed—the laws of industry, thrift and honesty, but where these are neglected there are no signs of prosperous commercial life.

Or take human affairs at a higher pointd. There is a standard of public life which is reached and maintained only by a general observance of duty, loyalty and discipline. Dr. Rabindranath Tagore, who gives no blind devotion to Western ideals, has recently declared that he found in England something higher still—a chivalrous life, which is due to the influence of high example and literature, and depends on the fulfilment of laws that are written in the heart rather than the statute book, such as recognition of the day of rest, consideration for the poor, and the honour paid to liberty.

The Touchstone of Social Life

By such obediences a standard of social life is arrived at which provides an education for the growing generation, and it is not surprising that the Bible always lays stress on obedience as the touchstone of the divine society. In the critical years when the Kingdom of Israel was being formed the prophet Samuel uttered the memorable words "to obey is better than sacrifice," and he broke a dynasty because young Saul with all his good qualities failed to meet that searching test. It is one of the standing themes of the Old Testament that the secret of national security and prosperity was the observance of the national laws, and the reason for the disruption of the Kingdom was always traced to the failure to obey. Social life in any satisfying sense of the word can only be entered by keeping the commandments that belong to it.

(2) What is true of social life in general is equally true of *Church* life. It may exist on other terms as an institution, but so far as it is a life exercising its Christian functions, breathing the Spirit of God, digesting His word and doing His will by the co-operation of all its parts it enters upon it through obedience to those laws of Christ which belong to its constitution. "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Jesus Christ." "Be renewed in the spirit of your mind." "Subject yourselves to one another in the fear of Christ." "Receive ye one another even as Christ also received you to the glory of God." "Freely ye have received, freely give."

It is when the members of a Church keep the commands of the Lord that His life in them and theirs in Him become real. It is not enough to repeat the ten commandments Sunday by Sunday, nor even to keep them, for after all they only provide for the minimum of social life. There is a new series of commandments in the New Testament, all of them requiring the power of divine love. By fulfilling these laws of its membership a Church shows the signs of its proper life in growth and fruit and fragrance. But if a Church ignores the laws of hospitality, insists on class-distinctions, raises money on un-Christian principles, deserts the opportunities for prayer, it has not life enough to lift a single soul. There is a very subtle study of the average man in Mr. Sinclair Lewis' "Babbitt," of whom he writes "The kernel of his religion was that it was respectable and beneficial to one's business to be seen going to service, that the Church kept the Worst Elements from being still worse." No man can enter into Church life on that level, because he doesn't even attempt the commandments of Christ, because he gives no obedience to the laws of love, forgiveness, humility and service, by which things Christians live.

Long-Winded Existence

(3) By these steps we come to consider a fourth type of life, besides that of the body, the society and the church, namely, Immortality or life in God. We are not to suppose that immortality means a long-winded existence, Methuselah without end. For it is not Death that is the enemy of Life but worldliness. Immortality then is that qualification of life that is given by the secret of Christ and the strength of the Spirit, that enables it to triumph over time and to abide in love. The Old Testment says little about the life beyond in comparison, let us say, with the sacred books of Egypt, but its few prophetic words always focus fellowship with God: "In my flesh I shall see God," "I shall be satisfied when I awake with Thy likeness," "Thou will show me the path of life." This is the climax of human opportunity, and how is it entered, this highest realm of life? Again, by keeping the commandments.

But something of the puzzlement of the young lawyer that questioned Christ settles on us, and we ask "Which commandment?" They seem innumerable, but we may remember that Jesus reduced them all to two in his teaching, and finally turned the two into one by his cross and resurrection. For there is a way to love both God and our fellows which are the highest commandments of all.

By One Man's Disobedience

Faith in Christ is to love both God and man in him. Our response to Christ works itself out first in love to God, who is thus seen with new eye.

"Truly," said John, "our fellowship is with the Father," and that as we have seen is immortality. But it is only complete when we have learned to love our brother also. One of the finest characters in Dostoyevsky's writings gave this answer to one who said he could not love his fellows, "Treat them," he said, "as if they were invalids, or even as if they were children." That is what faith in Christ enables us to do, and thus helps us to keep the commandments by which we enter that immortal life which is fellowship with God.

And if anyone is troubled by the thought that those who never heard of Christ or have never properly understood him are thereby shut out from immortality, is not this the answer? It is acceptable to God and leads to fellowship with Him if a man has tried to keep those two supreme commandments which Christ came to unify and help us to fulfil, for the name of Christ is no magic formula but the inspiration of our obedience to the law of perfect love.

Finally, let us return for a moment to the illustration with which we began. The story of the Titanic tells of the loss of many passengers through one man's disobedience to the laws of navigation, and it is typical of the fruits of a few ever since the transgression in Eden.

May we not conclude that the converse holds equally good, that any man's obedience heals and blesses many others, and shall we not believe that one man's perfect obedience can inspire and reinforce the obedience that we desire to render, and so enable us to enter into life?

HOW MANY KHALIFS?

After Abolition by Turkish Nationalists Claimants in Many Quarters

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

The Middle Ages of Islam have come again and there are rival Khalifs in the field. Abdul, the Ottoman Khalif, lately expelled from Constantinople by the westernizing Turks, has fled to Switzerland and from that pleasant, safe retreat announces that his sanctity as spiritual head of Islam remains unimpaired. He has lost his temporal power, he has been expelled from the seat of his authority, he has not even a lodgment among the faithful, but in his own opinion he is still the spiritual successor of the Prophet. He asks for an assembly of the Ulema, the divines and jurists of Islam, to confirm him in his office.

It is a forlorn hope. Hussein, King of the Hedjaz, is already proclaimed Khalif by the Moslems of Arabia. He is prince of Mecca and ruler of Medina. These are, above all others, the sacred cities of Islam. Mecca is the birthplace of Mohammed, Medina the city wherein he took refuge when driven from Mecca and whence he marched back to triumph in his native place. Hussein is a member, and chief of the tribe of the Koreysh, to which Mohammed belonged. He is father of Feisul, King of Iraq, and of the Emir Ali, chief of the Arab Kingdom of Transjordania. He too will summon a congress of Ulema, and the Ulema of Arabia will beyond all doubt declare him the true and only Khalif.

Yet a Third.

A third claimant is about to arise in Egypt. The great Moslem University of El Azhar in Cairo contains some of the most learned and subtle of Moslem divines. For many years they have been waiting for the fall of the Ottoman Khalifate. In the reign of the Sultan Abdul Hamid ("Abdul the Damned") it was believed that the jurists of Al Azhar only awaited the death of that Old Man of the Mountains to bring the Khalifate back to Egypt or Arabia. They too declare that they will have their congress, which means that it is their intention to declare King Fuad of Egypt to be the lawful Khalif.

There may be a fourth and even a fifth claimant There have, in times past, been princes in Morocco who declared themselves Khalifs of all the Moslems, and it is significant that the Paris newspapers declare that the proclamation of Hussein was a British trick designed to secure the election of a Khalif who would be under British influence. If the French think it worth while to have a pretender to the Khalifate under their own guidance and control, they can easily secure the proclamation of the Sultan of Morocco, though he would never be accepted outside the north-western part of Africa.

Afghanistan's Claims.

The Amir of Afghanistan is the fifth and last of the probable claimants to the title of the Khalif. If he comes forward, it will be at the instigation of his mother—a devout and fanatical Moslem who, just before the last Afghan attack on India, wrote a letter summoning the world of Islam to a united endeavour against the infidel. The Afghan Amir looks northward to the Moslem tribes of Central Asia and to the many millions of the faith in India. He is a powerful prince already, he stands much nearer to the imaginations of the tribesmen of the Indian and Afghan borderlands than the distant Hussein and the shadowy Fuad, and in his own mind and that of his advisers he may be a better Protector of the Faith, and therefore make a stronger appeal to the faithful than the Moslem Princes of the near and middle East who are always subject to European pressure. After all, in the Amir's view, Hussein, with his sons, is something of a puppet and Fuad of Egypt was but lately a slave and is not yet quite free, while he, the Amir, made war a few years back on England and by his own hand recovered his full independence. So he may reason and think himself better entitled than any man to succeed the Prophet.

Hussein the Favourite.

But there is little doubt that if there could be a genuine world-congress of the doctors and divines of Islam, the vote would go in favour of Hussein. Four hundred years ago the Turkish Sultan Selim overran Egypt and seized the Khalifate from the supine hands of the then holder at Cairo. For 300 years the Khalif had dwelt at Cairo and had been entirely powerless. The Mameluke princes ruled Egypt; the Khalifs were spiritual chiefs only, like Roman pontiffs shorn of the temporal power. Selim made a "deal" with the poor Khalif, who indeed was helpless in his hands, and took over form him not only the title but the "sacred relics" of Islam—the Prophet's mantle, some hairs from his beard and the sword of Omar, the great Khalif who was a close successor of Mohammed. Then Selim took to himself the titles of King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Monarch of the Two Seas, (the Mediterranean and the Red Sea), Protector of the Two Lands (the holy lands of Hedjaz and Syria), Successor of the Apostle of God, Prince of the Faithful and Emperor.

The Moslem jurists who declared that Selim was the true Khalif gave five reasons for their legal "opinion." They said that he had made good his power by the sword and none could take it from him; that he had been declared duly elected by a congress of Turkish and Egyptian Ulema; that the Khalif in Cairo had made over the title to him; that he was the guardian of the sacred cities of Islam; and that he held the relics.

A Great Prince.

If we apply these tests to the existing claimants to the Khalifate, whom do they favour? There is nothing to be said for the Afghan Amir, except that he is a great prince in his own territory. There is nothing to be said for the Turkish Abdul except that he was duly chosen Khalif in his time and that in the history of Islam there have been Khalifs without the power of Kings. There is nothing at all to be said for the Sultan of Morocco, who is not even an independent prince. Fuad of Egypt will be independent soon and Cairo is a great seat of Moslem learning and tradition. But none of these has a really strong claim compared with that of Prince Hussein of Mecca.

When the Ottoman jurists gave their voice in favour of Sultan Selim the Arabian Ulma rejected their five reasons. They insisted that the one indispensable qualification of a Khalif was that he should belong to the sacred tribe of the Prophet, the Koreysh. Hussein alone is thus qualified. He is also the ruler and guardian of Mecca and Medina. The Turkish Sultans always sent a subsidy to the Sheriff of Mecca in order to assert their position as the protector of himself and the sacred cities. Now there is no Turkish Sultan and Hussein alone enjoys the prestige of belonging to the Prophet's tribe and ruling in the Prophet's cities. He is an independent prince and he may yet extend his power in Arabia. None of the claimants possesses the sacred relics, for the Turks retain them in Constantinople, none has a nomination from an earlier Khalif, and none is ruler. But Hussein is unquestionably and alone equipped with the two qualifications which have always counted most in the eyes of all good Moslems.

The French say that the elevation of Hussein would be a British intrigue. They think of him as being under British protection and guidance.

For ourselves, our Government would probably have no objection to a strong Arabian Kingdom ruled by a Khalif at Mecca or at Bagdad, except that it would certainly not make easier the fulfilment of a Zionist Palestine.

OWING to a serious drought in north China, the ex-Emperor, Hsuan Tung, has invited a number of Lama priests to attend the Imperial Palace to offer prayers to the heavens for rains.

HOLLYWOOD AND SHANGHAI

A Study in Respectabilities and Rosy Reputations

In the smaller towns of America, the residents speak in hushed tones of the wickedness of Hollywood, home of the motion picture people. But in the quiet, ultra-respectable homes of Hollywood you may hear of the surpassing wickedness of Shanghai, the port of missing men.

The searcher after wickedness probably will be disappointed as much in the one city as in the other. If such a thing is possible, Hollywood is even more respectable than Shanghai. After all, the night cafes of Shanghai do employ young women to dance with the male guests. In Hollywood, this custom would shock the motion picture people so greatly that they would not be able to "register" properly for weeks. And in Shanghai respectable young women walk along the street or ride in their ricshas or motor cars openly smoking cigarettes. But in Hollywood—dull bourgeois Hollywood—the respectable young women never smoke cigarettes except behind closed doors.

Sombre Society.

Hollywood is a city almost as cosmopolitan as Shanghai. Persons of every nationality foregather there to engage in the serious industry of manufacturing motion pictures. One might suppose that such people would lend an air of gaiety, of *joie de vivre*. But such is not the case. Hollywood is clothed in sombre soberness. The residents feel that life is real, life is earnest, that each of them has a mission to fulfill. Even the highest salaried picture stars—earning from $500 to $5,000 gold a week—are not tempted into the ways of licentiousness. They put their money into California real estate. Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks own hundreds of acres and many office buildings and hotels. Dozens of actors and actresses build apartment houses to contain the thousands of middle-aged, respectable people who come from all parts of the United States and other countries of the world to live in peaceful Hollywood.

In their cozy homes, set far back in tropical gardens, the motion picture people live their simple life. They have private gymnasiums and swimming pools, which enable them to keep physically fit. Two or three nights a week they entertain a few friends at dinner. Occasionally they attend the theatre—usually a motion picture theatre. When important pictures are given, "world premiers," they turn out in large numbers. The respectable cabarets are all closed by midnight in Hollywood, according to the municipal law. Usually the patrons have gone home before the closing hour.

Not Even Hidden Vice.

Sometimes it is difficult for the newcomer in Hollywood to imagine that a place can be so respectable. He speaks knowingly of the "hidden vice." But after he has lived there a few months, he reluctantly admits that Hollywood has not even hidden vice. Of course there is an occasional lapse from virtue on the part of some resident, as in all other respectable communities. Then the newspapers all over the world trumpet Hollywood's shame. The residents in the little towns devour the scandalous details, turn to each other knowingly, and say, "Ah, what a wicked city is Hollywood." But most of the people in Hollywood do not even read the details of their own scandals. They feel that would not be quite respectable.

Sometimes the people in Hollywood feel that they would like to desert their sober surroundings for a time—and travel to a place which is really wicked—like Shanghai. But how disappointed they would be! They would find Shanghai for the most part quite as respectable as their native city.

DR. James V. Latimer has been decorated with 4th Class Chiao Ho, in recognition of his services while general secretary of the Hangchow Union Committee, a director of the Community Centre at that city, and a member of the Famine Relief Committee Executive. He has now removed to Shanghai, residing at 19 Kelmscott Gardens, Avenue du Roi Albert.

SHANGHAI—THE WONDER CITY OF ALL ASIA

Random Jottings of a Wanderer Returned: Marked Changes—Our Sermons in Stones: The City's Cosmopolitanism—Its "Wickedness" and Large-Heartedness: Shanghai—the City of Anomalies

WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS" BY "SCRUTATOR."

A man has to leave Shanghai and not come back for at least a couple of years before he can know definitely whether he loves or hates this great Wonder City of Asia. This applies equally to the old hand as to the "first agreement" man.

Most of us in China develop the critical faculty, and forget that it is easier to be critical than to be correct. The average Shanghailander is engrossed in his Shanghai—it is his one idea. While he has an undistinguishable desire to sing her praises (for to him to live within her boundaries is a consummation devoutly to be wished), he claims as inherent right to use and he does use a certain prerogative to "knock" Shanghai, entirely unaware that in so doing he is assisting to develop a civic subconsciousness of pessimism. "Yet he would fight to the death, perhaps, were he to meet around the world unkindly criticism of his favourite city by those in whom, by virtue of scant residence in the Muddy Flat, the aforesaid prerogative to criticize is not rightfully reside.

Well, I have been away for a very long time, measured more by the changes that have come upon the face of the dear old city than by actual time: in all it has been 27 months, but quite long enough to have forced upon me certain well-definied physical and physiological changes that have evolved since I sailed gratefully down the river for Home. I have lived in this country, too, for more years than I am going to tell you, and to Shanghai I have given the best of my working days. I am glad, therefore, to comply with the wishes of the Editor of the "North-China Daily News" to set down in these columns some random remarks on the more outstandingly important changes that strike me on my return—as he said, to set them down before Shanghai draws one unto herself again and one loses the power of perception. I claim the right of free speech, because most of me has gone into Shanghai and I am thus part of her. I claim, moreover, to know her fairly well, and as a devotee to the *wanderlust* whenever practical opportunity offers can compare her with many others of the great cities of the earth.

At once I proclaim her unique—Shanghai, by her essential nature truly cosmopolitan in thought and outlook, the most progressive and the most pro-foreign city of China before which have paled all the ancient glories of Soochow and Hangchow; Shanghai, the most criticized and most maligned, superbly indifferent, light-hearted and large-hearted, never doing things by halves, a city of numberless anomalies, dashingly alluring, sporty and full of "snap," with a record consistent for courage, toiling, enduring, believing and never turning back Shanghai-*omnia-juncta in uno*.

The Newcomer's Distorted Viewpoint.

It was in the smoke-room of the steamer which brought me to these parts a few days ago that I had confirmed in my mind the effect of the "knocking" to which Shanghai is subjected on the highways of the seas. There were six fellows talking about us—all of them out for the first time. I drifted into the room with a Tientsin man, who, overhearing the conversation, whispered "Here, Shanghai, now's your chance—educate them," But instead I listened.

And what a story.

Trade was bad, had been bad, must remain bad (which, alas, is true); the weather was atrocious (which is not true, when we compare Shanghai with many other places); food was no good and the water was foul; houses were draughty and leaky and deadly to live in; hotels were poor; there were thunderstorms, typhoons, sandstorms, heat waves—whew, hot under the collar, I had to butt in.

Now, the truth is that Shanghai is an extremely decent place, the envy of many other cities, with a very decent climate, relatively speaking. A kindly providence has here directed the steps of kindly souls from all nations of the earth to make up our glorious miscegenation, so that one of our chief attractions is the fact that in Shanghai's settlement you find fellow creatures from far across the seven seas. It is true that the dust of countless millions of China's departed sons and peculiar gardening methods of the native husbandmen have tended to make raw vegetables a somewhat precarious dietary—but we can sing the praises of that felicitous genius who first contrived to place human foods in a tin can. Our water supply is steady, far better than that of more than one city in India and incomparably better than much that is consumed in Southern European countries. Our weather—rarely above a hundred in August and never unbearably cold in January—is preeminently superior to that of New York or Bombay and several other great world cities . . . .And so on.

One could thus put up a very strong case for Shanghai, which, in its inherent make-up, is unquestionably a more attractive city to live in than many places of its size in allegedly more desirable locations on this planet. The difference is that we have not yet learned the art of "boosting." Shanghailanders are philosophers, however. What they lose on the swings, they recover on the roundabouts. The city, moreover, is growing so large and so rapidly that it is not necessary to be socially so landlocked as to fall into line with "olo custom" quite as much as was formerly; and, taken by and large, the drawbacks one feels here are merely incidental and entirely outweighed (in the opinion of the older hands, based on long experience) by many important advantages characteristic of life in Asia.

The Lovely Muddy Huangpu.

Immediately one rounded the bend at Woosung he saw unmistakeable tokens that the industrialization of China is at hand. On both banks of the muddy river were new buildings, wharves and godowns. The harbour seemed to have expanded and shipping seemed to have gone further and further down to points which a few years ago were reckoned quite outside the limits. Huge ocean liners—the President boats, the Canadian Pacific, the P. & O. and others—now all berth alongside, and one could see the flags of all the nations of the world that count today. Native craft seemed also to have multiplied in number as they feverishly made tedious haste with their burthen of merchandise from the factories of the greater peoples of the earth. And how they missed just by a shave as they dodged the nose of the vessel, the "old man" the while fuming with rage and blasting his whistle in wrath.

. . .But why describe? Shanghai readers know the river, more fascinating than all the rivers of the world, excepting possibly the Hoogli—if they do not they should. And overseas readers must really come, like I have, to see for themselves. The fascination is for him who has long not heard the chant of the Chinese river music. As I watched it all I was held spellbound and did more furious thinking upon the future of this vast people than I would do in 12 months of regular residence here. I realized in an instant that, despite internal unrest and political dissension—even perhaps because of it, one may argue, if one takes long views—the tremendous commercial possibilities inherent to Shanghai's geographical position are being realized day by day, and destine her for a higher position in history.

And Now the Bund—the Proud Majestic Bund.

And then the Bund came into full view.

If you have not been down the river for two years or more, my lethargic reader, then go. I'll wager there are thousands of ratepayers who have not, and it is to these I am speaking, for I want you to get something of the thrill that I felt. Take a launch, a sampan, anything so that you will get a glimpse of the Bund from about the middle of the river, say, opposite the Old Dock. You will be proud of your city's growth: the scene is an inspiration and a panacea for anyone who has civic paralysis. First that dome. A passenger elbowed me just as I had my field glasses focussed on that dome.

"What's that round roof up there?"

"That, sir, is the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, a friendly factor in China—the pillar of finance and the bearer of many burdens."

"Then, what's that tall building slightly below—that new building?"

Truth to tell I didn't know, and the fellow walked away. Mentally I rapidly scanned the Bund as I knew it—the Club, the cable offices, past the Bank, the now departing Custom House, then Kiukiang Road, and then the old North China building, which had disappeared. In a flash—"Hi, you," I cried, "that's the new North China Daily News building." And I watched its great height, with the highest lift service on the Bund, its flat roof (of which I may later say more) almost on a level with the top of the Wayfoong's great round dome. Then as one's eye leisurely took in the Bund: the new Ewo building, opposite to which is the handsome Glen line structure, the new Yokohama Specie Bank, nearing completion and a great ornament, the new Chartered Bank and others—all old, and yet all new and young and full of vigour, standing for that indomitable British enterprise which, more than any other factor in this city, has made Shanghai what it is to-day.

Ashore, changes met one everywhere—the streets were still "up," but they were improved. Street traffic showed distinct improvement, and the new signalling arrangements are as good as I have seen anywhere in America even, which claims to be the master of the world's traffic. The hotels had changed, and changed for the better. The cafes and other places of amusement I have not yet been to, and you will know all about these yourselves, and will know that Shanghai is rich in this sort of thing. In this article I can merely speak of the things that I could not help missing, but later hope to get the atmosphere and write something that may make the average Shanghailander realize that he is a cosmic part of a city that is destined to lead the whole of Asia. Foreigners are living in a place here where their influence is wider in their own circle than it could possibly be anywhere in the world. Successful men here would be successful anywhere, they would be "big" men anywhere. But Shanghai, as the chief entrepot of China, dictating to-day what China does to-morrow, offers to the constructionist a remarkable field for correct endeavour. All men who think what life means, that life is meant for achievement, not only for taking in from others but also for giving out—no matter in what walk of life one may be—have a sphere in which they may turn on the fire of their imagination and accomplish something for themselves and for the world in a manner that would possibly be difficult to them in their "own home town." This is written for the benefit of the six griffins who were discussing Shanghai in the smoke-room, as detailed above.

So is the following paragraph, for the edification also of those who have either forgotten it or never knew it.

A Short Historical Note.

Shanghai as it is known to-day as China's premier treaty port was only opened in 1842. When one is in California, the natives there will tell you, and with rightful pride, that all the prosperity that you see dates from the famous year 1849. And over there they have worked wonders. Well, what Shanghai has done, taking all the many and continuous adverse circumstances into consideration, has been equally remarkable, and the influence of Shanghai upon the lives of hundreds of millions is greater than San Francisco's (I speak of San Francisco as the greatest city on the other side of the Pacific) on the lives of scores of millions. And there is no comparison as to the future. Shanghai was occupied by the British forces on their way to Nanking in 1842, and foreign commerce actually began at the end of the following year. The first area to be occupied for foreign residence was selected by the British authorities, and was bounded on the south by that dirty ditch the Yangkingpang (now the Avenue Edward VII; on the north by the Soochow Creek, which we still have with us, congested to the N-th degree; and on the west by Defence Creek, dug at a mile from the Huangpu, which formed the eastern limit, and foreshore, of the Settlement. In 1849 the French delimited their area and had it extended in 1853, and again a few years ago, so that it now forms a long narrow strip, with little river frontage but ample land space off river between the International Settlement and the Chinese city. (The newcomer should know that this narrow strip of land has increased many times over in monetary value, as it is the playground of the real estate man. But he'll get to know that later on.)

American interests at that time gradually occupied a district north of the Soochow Creek, and this came to be called (without any foundation in legality) the "American Settlement," and was incorporated with the original settlement in 1863. By subsequent extensions the International Settlement has reached its present area and has always had the persistent habit of overflowing its set limits.

But the real Shanghai to-day consists of four areas (a) the Foreign Settlement, (b) the French Concession, (c) the Chinese city, and (d) Pootung. If the Editor's patience survives I hope to give my impressions of this place in subsequent articles, and if you have not learned anything from this one my excuse must be that the fault lies with my friends—when one comes back home they will not let one placidly settle down.

But one word more. Shanghai is not only commercial—she has a soul. At dust on the first evening I landed I walked up the Bund on the way to the Club, and bowed my head in reverence below the War Memorial to those who nobly taught us that.

THE BUND SNAKES IDENTIFIED

Mr. Sowerby Declares They Were Eels: Explanation Found in Old Custom

BY ARTHUR DE C. SOWERBY.

In the "North-China Daily News" of May 12 appears an account of the remarkable appearance of large numbers of snakes and tortoises in the Huangpu along The Bund. Accounts in other papers add frogs to the list of struggling reptiles that the Chinese river-men were catching in dip-nets or "batting" over the head. The author of the note suggests that I should explain whether it is customary for snakes and tortoises to appear in rivers on occasions such as the sailing of popular jockeys for Home. While fully alive to the fact that climatic and other conditions in Shanghai and the Far East generally tend towards the setting up of hallucinations in the minds of people who do not take considerable care of themselves, or who fail to temper their need for constant liquid replenishment and stimulation with a love of *aqua pura*, one is inclined to agree with the above-mentioned note that the Shanghai Bund, notwithstanding its proximity to clubs, hotels and bars, is not always peopled by "Snarks," "Jubjub Birds," "Bandersnatches," "Slithy Toves," "Jabberwocks" and other fearsome creatures of an over-heated imagination.

Eels, not Snakes

The salamanders that came up the drains were a fact, as also was the alligator on Bubbling Well Road. In the present case, the only mistake made by the observers of the strange phenomenon is that they have mistaken eels for snakes, in which, considering the particular kind of eel involved, they are not greatly to be blamed. The eels were there, as also were the turtles (not tortoises) and the frogs.

When I first heard of the phenomenon; and saw what was going on, I jumped to the conclusion that it was a migration of eels from the sea to their homes in ponds and creeks in the interior, such as happens annually in Europe, when the young eels, or elvers (the latter name being derived from two words, "eel" and "fair," and referring to the enormous swarms of young eels that appear on such occasions) having been carried back to the shore from their birthplace in the depths of the ocean, swarm up the estuaries of rivers for days, often in solid masses, wriggling along in the water close to the banks. The frogs, I thought, might have been there to eat the eels, and the same with the turtles, or terrapins. The only weak spot in the conclusion was that it was the wrong kind of eel that was migrating (?). This led to further inquiries, and the explanation obtained is quite simple so simple that one feels a bit of a duffer for not having thought of it before.

Quaint Chinese Custom

The explanation of the phenomenon is to be found in the Chinese calendar. Last Sunday was the 8th day of the 4th moon, and on that particular day, all over China, the wealthy and those who wish to acquire merit buy large numbers of fish, or other living creatures, which they liberate! And it so happens that the cheapest and most abundant of fish, the most lively and hardest to kill, and therefore the greatest favourite, is the peculiar finless eel known to science as *Monopterus javanensis*, and it was this eel that was seen in such numbers along the waterfront on Sunday and Monday and mistaken for a snake. Frogs and terrapins also are greatly favoured by the Chinese for thus acquiring merit, because they, too, are cheap, and are not particularly useful as food.

Two years ago I saw this same thing happening at Ku Shan Monastery, near Foochow, on the occasion of the "burning of the heads" of the novitiates. Large crowds of people gathered for this ceremony, and they brought with them buckets full of these eels and frogs, and turned them loose in the great pond of the Monastery.

I am still awaiting the occurrence of a migration of common eels, which must take place here as in Europe, but which it has never been my good fortune to witness.

Later.

When is a Snake not a Snake?

The remarkable phenomenon of snakes, turtles, frogs—and eels—seems to be more interesting than at first suspected. Apparently there were snakes there as well as eels. Far be it from me to deny the "North-China Daily News" representative the right to see snakes when and where and in any quantities he likes. That is his privilege as a resident of long standing in the Far East. But in that case I might suggest that the departure of a well known sportsman did have something to do with the phenomenon.

Joking aside, there is no reason why there should not have been snakes in the Huangpu at that particular hour and place. Probably there were, as the Chinese also liberate snakes in order to acquire merit, though it is hardly a meritorious act, judged by Western ideas. The "North-China Daily News" representative probably saw both eels and snakes, and, clearly recognizing the latter, came to the conclusion that all the wriggling, twisting, squirming creatures were the same. No snake swims with an undulating motion, but with a side to side wriggling, exactly like that of an eel swimming. The only difference is that a snake usually keeps his head slightly above water. When he goes under the water his motions are those of an eel, only more exaggerated and laboured and less rapid.

The particular eel in question is extraordinarily snake-like, and they also reach a large size, though hardly six feet in length. They are of a rich yellow-brown, orange-brown, or olivebrown colour, and are usually covered with vermiculated black markings which enhance their snake-like appearance. They have no fins, the body being cylindrical, and only the tail slightly compressed laterally. Even to their heads do they resemble snakes, and their gill-slights are so well hidden as to be difficult to find. But they have not got forked tongues, and in this I must give place to the "North-China Daily News" representative. If he really saw forked tongues flickering in and out of the mouths of the creatures he saw, the latter must have been snakes. Personally I missed them, only seeing eels: but taking into consideration all the factors of the case, I am inclined to the opinion that some at least of the snakes were of a somewhat spirituous nature!

THE MEETING OF BRITISH AND SOVIET DELEGATES IN LONDON

Mr. MacDonald's Emphasis on Need of Absolute Frankness, Mutual Confidence and Abstention from Propaganda if Conference Is to Serve any Useful End

The following is practically in full the text of the speeches delivered by the Prime Minister and the Russian leader Rakovsky at the opening meeting of the Anglo-Soviet Conference on April 14:—

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said:—

My first duty is to express to you the satisfaction with which his Majesty's Government welcome your arrival in London for the purpose of cooperating with us in the attempt to place the relations of Russia and Great Britain upon a footing of permanence and stability. I have, as you know, advocated the recognition of your Government during the past few years, and it is therefore a source of personal gratification to me to receive you here to-day. His Majesty's Government have no intention of interfering with your internal affairs, but when a country enters into international relations, and more particularly when these relations involve the mutual confidences which trade demands and upon which it depends, there must be accommodation, and both parties must strive to make it.

This Conference is complementary to the formal act of *de jure* recognition recorded in Mr. Hodgson's Note of February 2. Our recognition was an unqualified recognition. We have no wish to recede from that position or to avoid any of its consequences. What we said we meant whole-heartedly, and we shall stand by our words. Indeed, the observations contained in the latter part of the Note of February 2, so far from qualifying the effect of the statement by which they are prefaced, were intended to show that we should not be content with a mere paper recognition, but that we wished to make it a real and practical thing, influencing for good the relations of the two communities which we in this room represent.

If *de jure* recognition is to mean anything at all beyond my seeing M. Rakovsky here informal conference. it must be followed by efforts on both sides to deal in a practical manner with the actual facts of the situation, facts which could not be altered by a stroke of the pen, nor by despatches thrown at each other in hostile tones at a long range, facts which require careful study, a dispassionate exchange of views, reasonable proposals to be reasonably considered and settled by both parties. It is for this settlement that we are assembled, and I venture to suggest straight away the lines upon which, in my view, we can most profitably proceed.

Our first duty will be the liquidation of the past; our second to reach agreement after giving and receiving clear statements upon what, in our several views, are the rights and obligations actually existing as between the two countries; or third to provide, as far as possible, for peaceful and profitable relations in the future. Under the first head the British Delegation will wish, as you have already been informed, to include consideration of inter-Governmental obligations, the claims of British holders of Russian bonds and of British subjects who have had their properties taken away from them or who have otherwise suffered losses owing to events and policy in Russia; the claims of British subjects who have suffered personal injury in Russia, and so on. Detailed proposals in regard to these will be placed before you presently.

Mutual Claims.

I do not wish to anticipate those statements. My present purpose is merely to describe certain classes of subjects in general terms. On your side you have, I understand, a variety of claims of a somewhat similar kind to put forward, and we shall, of course, reciprocate the attention which our own requests will receive at your hands.

Under the second head I class a discussion of the treaties concluded by your predecessors with his Majesty's Government. Since no steps have been taken on either side to determine those, they must be considered as being still binding, or less, parties in view of international law. Some, on examination, will probably be found to be inapplicable to present circumstances; others may be spent; others may conflict in the letter or the spirit with obligations assumed towards other Powers by either party since 1917. Again, I do not wish to anticipate the detailed examination of these matters, but merely to indicate that there are a number of points on which it is very desirable that each party should understand clearly what view of the existing facts the other party holds. We are here to put this mass of living and of dead treaties into orderly shape, to prune out what needs pruning, and put in the way of enforcement those that we agree to keep in existence. This order must be restored by the orderly method of discussion and agreement.

Under the third head comes the substitution of a commercial treaty for the trade agreement and the discussion of articles additional to the usual articles of a commercial treaty, and designed to remove the hindrances which the differences between the constitution and the administration of the Soviet Union and our own Government might otherwise present to the development of economic relations. Here I had better say at the very outset, because if there be any hesitation on this point our negotiations will be in vain, a feeling of mutual security is essential. I am sure there will be no doubt upon this in the minds of either party to this Conference. Unless people know that contractual agreements will be honoured to the last letter they will risk nothing. Upon that all credit, however it is given and whoever gives it, must depend.

Propaganda.

Finally, we shall desire to have a very frank discussion on what has been alluded to in previous correspondence between the two Governments as "propaganda," or "hostile activities," not in order to enter afresh upon incidents which have been the subject of past representations—activities which may well be excused when Governments are in a state of declared or latent hostility—so much as to see whether difficulties of this kind cannot be effectively prevented from recurring under our new relations. We do not question the right of the Union to set up any form of internal government which may seem good to it; but we do maintain that the first essential to friendly and profitable relations between the Union and ourselves is that the Union should reciprocate our attitude in this matter and should desist from countenancing, directly or indirectly, anything that smacks of an attempt to carry on among the people of this country, either at home or abroad, a propaganda which, when internally inspired, may be legitimate, but when controlled, and even financed, from abroad is not legitimate.

It is my duty to make it plain that the people of this country will require more on this head than formal undertakings, and, as you know, I myself have too intimate a knowledge of international movements to be deceived by false distinctions. This will have to be discussed firmly, but I hope in the most amicable spirit, and I also hope settled in the same spirit.

I know the difficulties that lie ahead of us, and I venture to utter a few concluding sentences regarding these difficulties with complete but always friendly frankness, and I hope the Russian delegation will feel entitled and willing to express any observations they may make with equal freedom. That is the only way of understanding each other. It is the way I shall invariably adopt in all my international dealings. No reasonable man can ever be offened at it, and every wise one will see in it a far more friendly approach than in the suave but insincere attitudes of the alternative method.

The ends we profess to serve cannot be attained unless we can get thoroughly to understand each other, and unless we can carry with us the bulk of the responsible opinion—by which I mean the opinion which is able to make its views felt in the two countries represented by each of us. We shall not acquire this understanding, and we shall neither deserve nor receive this measure of support, if we refuse squarely to face our difficulties. If we begin by trying to deceive each other, we shall go on to deceive the peoples we represent and end by deceiving ourselves. In this event we should leave the relations between the two Governments worse than we found them, and our failure will be a warning to other countries, which, though they are not represented here, will subject our proceedings to a very close scrutiny.

Consequence of Failure.

If I state emphatically that this Conference requires the best that we can bring to it, it is because I speak not only as the head of the party in this country which has shown itself most consistently and most whole-heartedly in favour of *de jure* recognition, but as the head of a Government which is genuinely prepared to show to Russia all the consideration which it properly can, and as the representative of the country which, given the restoration of confidence in Russia's future, is specially able to assist in her economic reconstruction so far as she desires. Our interests are mutual, but if we cannot reach an understanding here and now, frankly, I do not think you will be able to repeat the attempt with this or any other British Government, and I do not see where else you can turn with better prospects.

The past relations between Britain and Russia were not always happy ones. A faraway memony of that is still in the minds of many of our people. I do not wish to revive it. In the course of your revolution you resorted to methods which roused the utmost fears and resentment elsewhere. You thought that these methods were necessary for your main purpose, but, as objectively minded men, you know that you have now to begin to build up again, and that a renewed contact with the outside world—outside, not only as regards national frontiers, but as regards ideas—is necessary. I beg of you, therefore, during the discussions that are before us, to keep one or two things firmly fixed in your minds, and I assure you that, whilst recounting them, I am keenly aware of the corresponding obligations they put upon us.

Different Methods.

Your method of government is not the same as ours. The fundamental points of distinction have been well brought out since you left Moscow, I believe, in a diatribe directed against myself by Zinovieff. I welcome in its proper place the emphasizing of that distinction, because it is true, and because it is of great assistance to me and the Government. But you and I are here on a definite business mission, and we shall be doing a bad day's work if those in Russia who blackguard me, or those in England who do the same to you, influence either of us so that we lose sight of the great opportunities which this Conference gives to enable both our countries to enter into peaceful and helpful political and economic arrangements without interfering with each other's internal affairs.

That is the first thing we both should remember. The second is this. We must base our agreements on something more than smart business bargains. We must have the will to agree. Where injury has been done, we must go to the utmost possible to redress it, so that we can begin with a clean slate. Credit here is not in the banks of Governments, but in the deposits of private indivíduals, and unless we satisfy the mass of our people that we are fair and honest, no agreements can be honoured, and we cannot help each other.

Fulfilment of Promises.

I state emphatically that what contracts we make we shall carry out; what promises we see fit to make we shall keep. But our people and interests must be justly dealt with. Ours is really not a hard people. They are most accommodating when they find a sincere desire on the part of others to be accommodating, and I can promise you that in that spirit our deliberations, will be watched and their results scrutinized.

I trust that you share my optimism regarding the results of our deliberations, for though I see the risks of failure, the consequences of a breakdown are too serious for either of us to be indifferent to them. The world watches our proceedings, and in accordance with our success will it decide not only what its relations to Russia are to be, but also how it is to regard negotiations like these as a means of removing such difficulties and disagreements as now divide us.

You will not expect me to give way upon anything which would be regarded by my countrymen as the paying of an improper price for agreement, and I shall not do it; nor do I expect that of you. But within these limits I am sure we can come to terms. I regard it as an obligation upon his Majesty's Government to leave no expedient untried in their efforts to establish peace upon a basis of justice, security, and confidence, not only where it is easy, but where it is difficult; not only if the attempt can safely and conveniently be made, but even if it involves us in risk and exposes us to criticism. That is why the Government granted you *de jure* recognition, and why I now have proposed this Conference.

You want political countenance and financial assistance from us I understand. We want neighbourliness and recognition of international obligations. We have taken the first step—and it was a pretty big one. Let us together take the second step and justify the hopes of the many millions who look upon this meeting with so much expectation.

M. RAKOVSKY'S REPLY

The following is a translation of the essential parts of M. Rakovsky's speech in reply to the Prime Minister:—

Allow me to express, in the name of the Delegation of the Soviet Union, the sincere gratitude which we feel for the words of welcome, which you, Mr. Prime Minister, have just addressed to our Delegation on the occasion of the opening of this Conference. At the same time I desire to express our gratitude for the friendly welcome which has been extended to us from the moment of our arrival on British territory I take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate the expressions of solidarity which have been made by the Congress of the Soviets of the Union to the British people in answer to the act of recognition of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics by the British Government.

I am aware of the considerable share which you personally, Mr. Prime Minister, as well as the party which you represent, have taken in this important step in the relations between the two countries, and you will permit me on behalf of the whole Delegation to express our sincere thanks.

The highest governing body of the nations constituting our Union has emphatically declared in its resolution that close co-operation with Great Britain is one of the foremost aims of the Soviet Government

We join whole-heartedly in the hopes expressed by the Prime Minister on this opening of the proceedings of the present Anglo-Soviet Conference.

Taking into consideration the enormous political importance of the present conversations and the great interest with which they are followed by the working masses of the Union, our Government have sent to London a Delegation, which is not only furnished with very wide powers, but has also the full political authority to take on the spot all necessary decisions. The Delegation includes members of the Central Executive Committee and members of its Presidium, representatives of the chief Commissariats, the head of the State Bank, representatives of the various Republics, as well as representatives of all the most important branches of industry and the trade unions, in the person of the President of the All-Russian Central Council of Trade Unions, and the presidents or members of the various central committees of the trade unions.

On behalf of the whole Delegation, which follows in this the instructions of its Government, I declare that we are imbued with the most sincere desire to use all efforts in order to bring this Conference to a successful conclusion.

Russian Readiness.

In the Note which, as representative of the Soviet Union, I had the honour to present to the British Government in reply to their Note on *de jure* recognition, my Government expressed its readiness to solve amicably all questions of an economic and political nature outstanding between the two countries and to re-examine all treaties which have been concluded in the past between Russia and Great Britain and which have not lost their force.

The object of the Conference will be to find ways and means to solve these questions. To-day, at the opening of the Conference, I consider it my duty to indicate to you the general principles by which the Soviet Delegation will be guided in dealing with the problems before us. In spite of the complexity of these intricate problems, we consider that no insurmountable obstacle is standing in the way of a complete understanding between Great Britain and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Proceeding to the economic part of our programme, we consider the most important problem and the one to which all the other economic problems should be subordinated to be that of a close collaboration between our two countries in the field of commerce, industry, and finance. The fundamental conditions for this collaboration are in existence: the economic structure of Great Britain and that of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics are mutually complementary. On the one hand, a country possessing the most important industry, finance, and shipping in the world; on the other, a State with a population of 130 millions in possession of enormous potential riches, which requires for its development large quantities of industrial products and credits.

The war, with all its consequences, has made all the more imperative the economic co-operation of the two countries. It has diminished British trade and produced enormous and chronic unemployment involving for the State annually tremendous expenditure of money. We for our part have been ruined by the war to a still greater extent. It is only a minute portion of our territory which has not been the theatre of war or civil war. The remainder of the enormous territory of our Union has been crossed by armies several times and in every direction.

By our common efforts we shall be able, fostering trade relations between our countries and reducing unemployment in England, to find ways which will make it possible for us to restore the more quickly our ruined agriculture and industry.

Debts and Claims.

On our side we are ready to do all we can in order to adjust the economic differences which up to the present have been considered an obstacle to economic and financial co-operation between Great Britain and the Soviet Union. This range of questions includes the question of pre-war debts and private claims. Although with the continuous development of commercial relations between the two countries this question has lost the exceptional importance which was attached to it at Genoa, and at The Hague, we are ready to submit it to detailed discussion, for we believe that if account is taken of the mutual interests of the two countries there is nothing that stands in the way of its solution.

The British Government may also count on our full and sincere good will as regards the political questions which face us. In our opinion, the difficulties which stand in our path can be removed by our common efforts. We have renounced the policy of conquest of the former Tsarist Government; we have annulled the old Tsarist provisions for the partition of Oriental States into spheres of influence. The Soviet Government has no intention of reverting to that policy. It is absolutely excluded by the Socialist constitution of our State, which is based on the absolute equality of nations and the recognition of their right of self-determination.

Other reasons, too, make the return to the old policy an impossibility.

The war has awakened national consciousness in the peoples of the East, and any attempt on our part to obstruct that legitimate consciousness would be not only a crime against our own interests, but also a piece of folly, seeing that in the long run such a policy must inevitably fail. In consequence, in so far as the British and Soviet Governments adopt as a starting point the priciple of respecting the independence and sovereignty of the Oriental States, we shall be free from difficulty in settling all the questions pertaining to the interests of Great Britain and the Soviet Union in the East.

Scope of Conference.

Although the present conversations have for their object questions

between Great Britain and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, we believe that the scope of this Conference reaches far beyond the limits of our two countries. The programme sketched out in the Notes of the two Governments, which embraces the question of the revision of treaties signed by Great Britain and the former Government of Russia, thereby covers the fundamental problems of the political life of the whole world.

The working masses of the Union have acclaimed the act of recognition of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics by the British Government, above all, because they saw in it not merely a diplomatic formality, but the expression of the desire of the British nation to work in common with us for the consolidation of universal peace. In this, in our view, consists the enormous historic import of the conversations which are now commencing. Every country, as you have observed yourself, Mr. Prime Minister, is interested in the success of these conversations. The endeavours of the two greatest States in the world to find not only a way to the solution of the questions outstanding and the differences existing between them, but also the means of solving the problems affecting the strengthening of the peace of the world, may become the starting point for a radical change in international relations.

The urgency of the problem of establishing a durable peace is becoming more and more obvious to all nations. Nevertheless, the Government of the Union observes with profound regret that, in spite of the numerous peace treaties signed after the world war, social and national conflicts have never appeared in so acute a form as at the present time. The means employed by Governments to extricate themselves from a situation which is intolerable for the masses of the people in fact result in an aggravation of the antagonisms in question. The assurances commonly given during and after the world war, that it was the last war and that a limit would be set to the development of militarism, have proved illusory. Military estimates continue to swallow the major portion of national revenues; the attention of all Governments continues to be concentrated above all on preparations for war. Never was the human mind so intent on the search for new means of destruction. All experts agree that, in consequence of the present development of military chemistry, military aviation, and naval construction, and the perfecting of artillery, a war, if it should arise, would be more destructive than any recorded in history.

Disarmament.

We consider, therefore, that the question of disarmament should present itself to Governments with perfect clearness and in an absolutely imperative manner. Disarmament must be carried to the furthest possible limits. Although during the last three years our Army has been reduced 12 times, and from 6,000,000, the strength at the beginning of 1921, we have reduced it to 500,000, spread over the immense territory of 20,000,000 square kilometres. The Government of the Soviet Union declares its readiness, provided the other States consent to do likewise, to make further decisive steps towards disarmament. Our Government is ready also to contribute in every way to the universal decrease of naval armaments, subject, however, to certain political guarantees which have already been formulated by our representative at the recent Conference at Rome. At the present moment I confine myself to a statement of the general views of our Government on this question.

We are aware of the great interest shown by the British Government and public opinion in this country in the League of Nations. The Soviet Government do not feel in the same way as is done in England towards the League of Nations as it now exists, but they would be prepared to associate themselves with a plan of international organization which should exclude measures of coercion and reprisal. These can only result in serving the selfish interests of certain of the more powerful States. At the present time the only international organization possible, in our view, would be that into which all the Governments would enter of their own free will and on a footing of perfect equality. We find that, in observing these conditions, the principle of international co-operation should not only not be suppressed, but, on the contrary, that it should be extended. It should, in particular, be extended to Labour legislation.

We consider that the Governments which desire to create the conditions of a stable peace should by common effort eliminate the causes which lead to conflicts among nations.

Treaty of Versailles.

The Soviet Government has repeatedly declared that, according to its profound conviction, the first condition of a stable peace is the revision of the Treaty of Versailles and the other treaties connected with it. These treaties are not only opposed to the elementary interests of all nations, but their application in practice has only led to an accentuation of the struggle among all the nations, and to the ruin of the economic life of the world. Having diminished commerce and destroyed the bases of credit and exchange, they have only served to bring forth economic disorganization and unemployment.

A reorganization of Europe can only be stable if it is based on the will of peoples, and if it takes into account their aspirations for national independence. The Soviet Government, therefore, is prepared to support by common effort and to pursue—perhaps not at one stroke, but by continued diplomatic effort—the policy of revising frontiers on ethnographic principles, applying a plebiscite in all cases in which it should be necessary, as, for example, we suggested at the Vienna Conference in the case of Bessarabia.

It is obvious that we do not believe that the complete abolition of wars is possible unless the social causes which engender them are first abolished. The Soviet Government, guided by the Communist Party, considers that the elimination of war is only possible on condition of a Socialist organization of economic life. We are, however, ready to collaborate in any serious attempt by any Government to diminish the danger of war.

We consider that the difference between the social structures of our two countries need not be an obstacle to their political and economic collaboration. The contrary view, which finds an echo in a certain portion of public opinion in England, is absolutely refuted by the progressive deveopment of Anglo-Soviet commercial relations.

Propaganda.

I consider it my duty, and, above all, after your speech, Mr. Prime Minister, to confirm to-day in my speech that the Soviet Government fully shares the view of the British Government that mutual non-intervention in internal affairs is one of the indispensable conditions for the creation of confidence between the two States. The principle of non-intervention is for us a guarantee against attempts which might be made in another form to make us give up the basis of our Socialist organization—the nationalization of land, the nationalization of large-scale industry, the monopoly of foreign trade—and also to make us renounce our Socialist legislation.

The peoples constituting the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics are determined to hold fast to the conquests of the Revolution—conquests which constitute the *raison d'etre* of the existence of the Soviet Government, and for which the toiling masses of the entire Union have fought against the coalition between the internal enemy and foreign Governments. With that frankness which must characterize our relations, I must remind you, Mr. Prime Minister, that former British Governments also took part in that foreign intervention in Russia. You yourself and your party, Mr. Prime Minister, stuggled against that intervention, and it need not occasion surprise that the sentiments provoked amongst our working people by that intervention still subsist to a certain degree But we have met here for the purpose of dissipating these sentiments, of creating new relations of confidence, and, by liquidating the past, to banish this residue of distrust, replacing it by the most friendly relations.

Before entering on the labours of our Conference, the Soviet Delegation has thought it desirable to raise in the first instance, with a view to their immediate solution, all political and economic questions which present an equal interest for both countries, and which, by their very nature, need no preliminary detailed investigation. In this way our Conference might in the shortest time yield results which, by strengthening mutual confidence, would facilitate the solution of the more difficult problems.

We are profoundly convinced that the Government of the British people, which has created by unremitting toil the greatest industry in the world, will discover the way to a *raprochement*, to cooperation, and to a stable peace with the toiling masses of the Union, who, liberated by the Revolution from the yoke of the old *régime*, are showing an ardent desire for economic progress and cultural development.

HONGKONG: A FEW IMPRESSIONS

Beauty and Tawdriness: Congestion and Lofty Hills: Sports and Pastimes: Intellect Not Prominent but Respectability Unimpeachable: A Virtuous Contrast with Giddy Shanghai

One who hails from Shanghai, and who has periodically visited places of historical interest and scenic magnificence within easy reach of the metropolis as Hangchow, Soochow, the Tai Hu Lake [illegible] traversed by the Mutuh Creek leading up to that haven of tranquillity, Kwangfuh, the natural beauty [illegible] of Hongkong and [illegible] so highly extol[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

Sir Harry Poland's "Seventy-two Years at the Bar" is nearly ready for publication by Messrs. Macmillan. Sir Harry was Counsel to the Treasury and to the Home Office at the Central Criminal Court from 1865 to 1889, and is able to discuss from personal experience many of the outstanding criminal cases of the last century.

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A new novel, by Lord Dunsany, "The King of Elfland's Daughter," is in Messrs. Putnam's Spring List.

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The old title of "The Scots Magazine" has been revived for a "monthly miscellany of Scottish life and letters written by Scots and for Scots," published in Glasgow.

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Publication of the Macmillan edition of Henry James's novels and stories, in 35 monthly volumes has just been completed, and it is in every way the most perfect edition of Henry James that has been done. Its text is based on what is known as the "New York" edition, and the critical prefaces which were written by James for that edition are retained. However, he omitted from that edition many stories, either because they did not satisfy his later taste, or because he could not find room for them. But in this new English edition every bit of fiction that he ever published in book form is given.

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For the first time since the war, the Authors' Club recently held, at the Hotel Cecil, a ladies' dinner. The report of the proceedings moves one to hope that this will henceforward be an annual event. It was a night of brilliant speaking on two of the most fascinating of literary topics: the cultural influences interchanged between this country and France, and the achievement of women in literature. The former topic was introduced by the presence at the banquet of the French Ambassador, the Comte de Saint-Aulaire, who, speaking modestly as "one who regards the temple from without," treated the company to a witty, cultured, and keenly critical discourse on the nature of French intellect and temperament as demonstrated in French literature. It was an extremely subtle piece of literary criticism.

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It was Miss Sheila Kaye-Smith who, at the same banquet, spoke most delightfully of the achievement of women in literature. Miss Kaye-Smith is not a warlike feminist; she holds the balance of justice between the sexes very nicely. But she insisted that the women writers of to-day are making as good a show as the men. Her case was that the legend about women writing only from the heart is unjust to the sex, and though she did not mention names, she was certainly entitled to claim that as many women as men write from the head, and that as many men as women write from the heart. If names can be mentioned here, those of May Sinclair, Rose Macaulay, Sheila Kaye-Smith, Edith Wharton, and Dorothy Richardson certainly do not suggest that women are afraid to use brains of a very superior order.

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The publication of the Letters of Charles Greville and Henry Reeve, the celebrated diarists, again directs attention to the wonderful Greville Memoirs, published in the seventies and eighties of last century. [illegible] dulled the edge of his efforts.

THE NEW BOOK OF BUILDING

By John Henry Lofting, F.R.I.

"The China Architects' & Builders' Compendium." By Messrs. J. T. W. Brooke, A.R.I.B.A., and R. W. Davis. Cloth, fully large quarto. North China Daily News & Herald Ld., Shanghai. Mex. $10.

The need of a comprehensive book of reference for building purposes has long been felt in China, and all architects and surveyors, civil engineers and builders are under a debt of gratitude to Messrs. J. T. W. Brooke, A.R.I.B.A., and R. W. Davis, the editors of "The China Architects and Builders Compendium," the first issue of which is just published by the "North-China Daily News." For they have here provided such a book, which for completeness of information and clarity of setting out and indexing will bear comparison with the best publications of a similar purpose either in England or in the United States of America.

The book is beautifully printed on excellent paper and bound in dark green cloth with the title in gilt gothic letters and (it is gratifying to note) none of the disfiguring advertisements which so often spoil the appearance of such books.

The compilation of this first issue of the Compendium must have entailed a vast amount of patient research, apart from the labour of setting out the information obtained in the connected and comprehensive manner which is the first thing that strikes the reader. The work is divided into four parts, Part I being General Information as to Land, Property and Building; Part II Technical Information and Memoranda for Architects and Engineers; Part III Directory of Architects, Builders and Contractors and Part VI Catalogue of Building Materials, etc. The first part is subdivided into sections giving complete information as to land values and registration, rates, taxes and fees, water, electricity and gas supplies, telephone service, building rules, professional charges and fire insurance. And this not only for Shanghai but also for Hankow, given separately. All the rules and regulations, charges, etc., under these heads, which we have hitherto had to seek at their separate sources, are here collected and set forth in a form excellently adapted to quick and easy reference.

A special feature of this Compendium is that it is designed to be of service and not only to architects, engineers and builders, but to all of the general public who have any concern in property or building. And in this connexion it may be advanced that the title, which is copied from that of the similar British publication, is not quite the happiest possible, in that it gives no indication of the usefulness of the book outside the offices of professional and business men of building avocations. A title which does not suggest so restricted a service would seem to be called for, such as "The China Book of Land and Building," or some such. The matter is probably of no great importance, however. Titles rarely are. And the work will, no doubt, become so well known as to be as ubiquitous as the Hong List. For there is information in it which no firm or individual who has ever had any connexion with land or building should be without, and much of it cannot be obtained from any other source. For instance, the ignorance of the general public of professional charges and practice is often the cause of embarrassment between [illegible] of fees he will charge should [illegible] project be abandoned at specific [illegible] of the architects' work, services which are not covered by the [illegible] etc. The Conditions of Engagement and Scale of Charges issued down by the Royal Institute of British Architects and generally followed by architects practising in China are set forth in this Compendium in detail. A perusal of these will remove much of the misunderstanding prevalent in the lay mind as to the services a building client is entitled to receive from his architect. The conditions with regard to supervision are perhaps as generally misunderstood as any, and it may be well to quote them here:—

(a) That the general supervision which the architect will give to the work is such periodical inspection by him or his deputy as may be necessary to ensure that the work is being carried out in accordance with his design, but constant superintendence of the works does not form part of the duties undertaken by him and is not included for in the Scale of Charges.

(b) That in all cases in which constant superintendence is required a Clerk of Works shall be employed for this purpose. He shall be under the architects' direction and control, but the architect shall not be held responsible for any fraud or negligence on the part of the Clerk of Works.

From (a) it will be seen that the almost daily visits to their works, which most of the foreign architects practising in China are in the habit of making, are in excess of the duties they have undertaken and for which they are being paid. And with regard to condition (b) the special advisability for important works in China of the employment of a Clerk of Works surely does not need to be stressed.

Further, under this heading is given detailed information of Structural Engineers' practice and status and of Building Contracts and Guarantee, and Quantity Surveying, new to China but so necessary to the best interests of building owners, is touched upon.

Part II of the Compendium is subdivided into heads giving information as to local weights and measures, prices of materials, labour, etc., data for estimating costs of building, sewerage of Shanghai, ancient lights, liability for damage to adjoining properties, artesian wells, etc. It is technical information of value to the architect, engineer and builder.

Part III is the list of architects and builders and contractors in Shanghai and Hankow.

Part IV is an exhaustive catalogue of building materials and equipments subdivided into 15 sections and indexed in a manner which makes the looking up of any matter required a simple and quick process.

The Compendium will be issued annually and all the information kept up to date and revised to meet changing conditions, The first issue is such an achievement that we must register the hope that Mr. Brooke and Mr. Davis will long continue to edit it, and that when the time comes for them to give it up their successors may worthily continue the work they have so finely initiated.

CHINESE WHITEWASH

"Village and Town Life in China." By Y. K. Leong and L. K. Tao. (George Allen & Unwin.) 6s.

It is disappointing to find that a book of this kind, which is to be regarded, one gathers from Professor Hobhouse's preface, as an interpretation of China to Europe, concentrates so closely on description of social institutions.

The preponderant importance of the family in the Chinese scheme of things, the intricacies of ancestor worship, the machinery of local government, and so forth, are quite interesting, but they have been thoroughly reported in previous writings. A report is not an interpretation, and one expects something better when two gifted young Chinese, who have taken B.Sc. degrees in Britain, sit down to explain their fellow-countrymen to us. Indeed, the reader who has wandered about in China speedily finds his interest concentrating on the psychology of the authors. Occasionally the Asiatic is frank to a fellow—but never to a European. Always he dissimulates.

Nobody, one hazards, asked Mr. Tao, in his brief chapter on Town Life, to take on such irrelevant issues as concubinage, infanticide and wife-beating. But why, having raked them in, bring and hang and draw, only to admit grudgingly that they do exist (though in the latter case, probably less commonly than in Britain)? Why say that "it *may* be true of the poorer classes that the girl is never educated" when you know perfectly well that it *is* true? Why make so misleading a statement as: "The ordinary child lives from his infancy in the atmosphere of education itself?" Why tell British readers that "most complicated is the culinary art in China," when it is simplicity itself by comparison with the cookery of any country in Europe? So automatically does the Asiatic "whitewash" his fellow-country people that it seems hopeless to expect a frank cards-on-the-table sort of book from an indigenous social interpreter east of Roumania.

Hardly anything is told us in this book of the reactions of village or town Chinese to the world at large. How eagerly we should welcome another book in which the authors would report, with conscientious accuracy, a large number of conversations with, and among, Chinese of all social grades on the subject of the white man and his scheme of things. Incidentally it might well be a "world best seller."—"Saturday Westminster."

ENGLISH HISTORY THROUGH GERMAN EYES

"England." By Wilhelm Dibelius. (Stuttgart: Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt.

"England im Zeitalter der Burgerlichen Reform." By Bernhard Guttmann. (Stuttgart: Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt.)

"England von 1815 bis 1920." By J. Benvenisti. Munich: Wieland-Verlag.)

"London und New York." By Alfred Kerr. (Berlin: S. Fischer.)

"England. Nach dem Kriege." By Werner Picht. (Munich: Kösel und Rustet.

It is a far cry from these five volumes to the cruditics of German war-time books about this country. Allowance must be made, of course—on all sides—for propagandist motives and patriotic indignation, but the fact remains that there were then few German writers who were able to express anything like the truth about the English character, or even interpret the facts of English history with a detached mind.

Professor Dibelius himself, in the first of the books named above, acknowledges it, and the chief motive of his book is to remove some of that ignorance which, he asserts, helped Germany to lose the war, or at least helped her to bring it about. For were not Germany's destinies in 1914 presided over by a statesman who never realized, until too late, that England would side with France, and did not German officers refuse to admit possibility of English conscription, until it stared them in the face? And so, in two large volumes, painstaking and admirably documented, he sets out to show his countrymen the true picture of England's modern political development the English party-system, Press, Church, economic life, social classes. A veritable encyclopædia of the subject, leading to the conclusion that the English will-to-supremacy is an age-long instinct and must be reckoned with, even in relation to England's future relations with Germany.

"English policy will work to create a Germany which is capable of life, but which is economically dependent on England, which politically will always remain a true vassal of England and, if necessary, can be used as a passive subject of compensation for English diplomacy."

This is not much better than the glib generalizations about "encirclement" we used to hear from German publicists, but at least the facts that precede it are carefully sifted and fairly presented.

As a piece of historical literature Herr Guttmann's book is much to be preferred to that of Professor Diberlius. The writer was London correspondent of the "*Frankfurter Zeitung*" before the war, and during his residence here evidently studied our modern history in the original sources with considerable care and understanding. The result is a history, scholarly, yet written with never-flagging vividness, of English domestic politics from the close of the Napoleonic Wars to 1880.

It is [illegible] of Herr Guttmann's [illegible] that no political development [illegible] be discussed, no Ministry's achievements summed-up without [illegible] reader see the most [illegible] connected with it. And [illegible] gives us excellent portraits of Wellington, of George IV., of Peel, of Lord Liverpool, of Cobbett, Daniel O'Connell, above all, of Canning. As text to his book he might have set the sentence of his preface:—

"There must be special powers in the English national character for it to be able to maintain its equilibrium amid the most violent convulsions, and so preserve the existence of the State. For experience shows that every constitution which cannot change itself voluntarily and with energy—lacking the capacity for reform—is destined sooner or later to come to a violent end."

It is in this sense that Herr Guttmann has interpreted this country's history in the era of political reform, and Englishmen may well be grateful to him for his work, not only in enlightening Germany regarding an epoch of English history too much neglected by German historians, but even in contributing to their own knowledge. An English translation of this work would fill a gap in our historical literature, hitherto lacking in a one-volume account of the period of equal conciseness, soundness of knowledge and easiness of style.

Take out the purely social [illegible] ters of Herr Guttmann's work, [illegible] pand them and bring the story down to the present day, and you have Herr Benvenisti's volume. It is a careful, well-arranged [illegible] of English social and industrial development from 1815 onwards, devoting particular attention to the period from 1906 to 1914. The chapters on Ireland are not impartial, but the account of the [illegible] of the Trade Unions, the Co-operative Movement, Chartism, Mr. Lloyd George's social legislation, and the Land Reform agitation are excellent.

Alfred Kerr is really a dramatic critic, and his impressions of New York and London are—well, dramatic impressions. After an enjoyable stay in America, whom he defends hotly against those who say she has no culture, he comes to this country and praises us with as much sincerity if less fervour. For the most part he is superficial in his observatons, but his [illegible] about the decline of port-drinking, the increased vogue of savouries after dinner, the beauties of the Mile End Road, and similar topics, is certainly soothing.

Dr. Picht is a prominent worker in the Settlement movement, and came to this country last year in order to attend a Settlement conference. His book, with its friendly tone, but depressing conclusions regarding the decay of English religion, is an interesting example of the reaction of a well-informed German Anglophil to our post-war society.

A. W. G. Randall, in the "Saturday Westminster."

LONDON'S DARKEST HOUR

The most remarkable part of Commander Rawlinson's book, "The Defence of London 1915-1918" (Melrose, 7s. 6d.), is the account of the last Zeppelin raid on London on the night of October 19, 1917, when the metropolis was completely at the mercy of seven or nine airships, and so narrowly escaped a very great disaster. Those in charge of the defence of the city that night were aware that this fleet had been built to fly at altitudes which could not be reached by aeroplanes, and that the undersides of the airships had been coated with a certain black paint which rendered them invisible from the glare of a searchlight, even when full in its beam. It was obviously the intention of the enemy to assemble at Watford and to float down wind over London at a high altitude with engines stopped.

The entire Zeppelin fleet, unknowingly, was over the heart of London. The single bomb dropped in Picadilly Circus, which damaged the premises of Messrs. Swan and Edgar, was discharged with the object of inducing the searchlights to uncover, but an order had been issued that they should remain masked and this undoubtedly saved London —

> . . . mercifully the darkness and silence below still remained impenetrable and unbroken. The succeeding minutes were charged with such an anguish of anxiety, and the horror of the awful tragedy which appeared likely to be enacted at any moment was so great, as to cause me an absolute spasm of nervous agony.

A north-easterly wind increasing to a gale sent the fleet away to its doom. With regard to the future defence of our cities against air attack the author says that efficiency can only be attained by unity of control.

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

SHANGHAI'S "LITTLE THEATRE"

Amateur Chinese Actors in Exotic Drama

BY ELIZABETH PEPYS.

"Lady Windermere's Fan"—written by Oscar Wilde, translated by an enthusiastic young Western-trained student, Mr. Huang, into Chinese, with adaptations such as setting the play in Shanghai, played in Mandarin by Chinese actors, dressed in Chinese costumes, except for the two "returned students" surprisingly introduced into the drama, produced by Mr. Hoh in the large hall of the Vocational Hall of the Kiangsu Educational Association at West Gate last Saturday! Are we dreaming or drunk?

No, ambitious young Chinese students, men and girls, those who have been trained abroad or who are familiar with Western customs, have formed themseves into a dramatic association on the lines of the Little Theatre Movement the world over. Oscar Wilde's play is no more startling than any other transplanted play of Western society life would be. Indeed, the mechanism of Wilde's drama, already belonging to a past period of occidental stagecraft, with its long monologues and familiar complications of plot, is better fitted to this purpose than the modern eliptical play would be. Indeed, we suspected, though our ignorance of Chinese lays us open to contradiction, that the monologues were extended rather than clipped in the Oriental version.

Western Manners and Eastern Clothes

To see Lord and Lady Windermere in ceremonial Chinese costumes in a typical Chinese home, drinking tea in a truly Chinese way is something of a shock. Later in the play to see the Chinese mother instructing her daughter how to discourage the attentions of impecunious, although fascinating, suitors is another strain on credulity. One is consumed with tremendous curiosity to know just how much the play has been modified. The foreigner has the uncanny sensation of seeing the conflict between Eastern and Western civilizations working itself out on the stage. It is also somewhat disquieting to see the Chinese conception of Western culture.

Aside from psychological considerations, however, the play was capitally performed, and the actors seem to be possessed of enthusiasm and intelligence which should carry them far. The movement is another indication of the alert interest shown by talented young Chinese in every form of Western art, another manifestation being the paintings in western style on view to-day in the art exhibition of the China Society of Science and Arts.

THE CUSTOMS-CLOCK

Appalling Waste of Energy

Considerable power is going to waste in Shanghai these days all due to the Customs Clock, and as this clock is not, it is another case of the intangible force called brain producing horse power, B.t.u. or what not. People who for years have looked to the Customs Clock as a special dispensation by which they could set their watches, cannot get used to its absence and scarcely a pedestrian, ricsha rider or tram patron passes without a sidelong glance at the spot where Shanghai's "Big Ben" used to clang out the hours to say nothing of the quarters. The brokers would have preferred eights or twelfths, but clocks are not built like brokers.

But how much power is lost and what could we do with it?

Mathematically Speaking.

Take the head as being 1/16 of the weight of the body and for convenience the body weight at 160 ("Wish it were," says my averdupoisie friend:). The weight moved is 10 lbs, and the distance may be taken as 2 inches upward and 3 inches to the side. The resultant of these two distances is the square root of 13 or 3.606 inches equal to three-tenths of a foot 3.005 ft. lbs. per person.

Now 60,000 people more or less pass the clock tower by the Bund, and Szechuen Road, daily counting four passings per day for the 15,000 odd (some of them extra odd) people who pass that absent clock on their way to and from work. This gives 180,400 footpounds as the daily waste of energy on the part of the passer-by or counting 33,000 ft. lbs. as equal to a horsepower, some 5.6 h.p. is represented. It has been calculated that the rapid worker uses 3,904 ft. lbs. each minute so that this energy represents the work of one man for 46.18 minutes and as it takes about 20 minutes to go by sampan to Pootung, this energy means 2.3 trips across the Huangpu. It would be tough to draw the three-tenths of a trip and get stuck near the naval buoy, but then who wants to go to Pootung anyway?—P. B.

THE AGE OF LUXURY

In Furnishing

"Our tastes in furniture are growing more and more luxurious," said a woman the other day after making a tour of the shops in order to select furniture for the home of a newly married daughter. The gorgeous displays which are the triumph of the window-dresser's art to-day set many of us thinking the same thing.

The sumptuously appointed apartments which are laid out in the windows of the biggest stores show to what lengths of comfort and extravagance we have attained. Possessed of the necessary capital, there is no limit to what we may purchase, and even if we do not own the ready money with which to gratify our desires, at least a new standard of ease is created.

A Backward Glance

Comfort has become a necessity. The desire for it grows with each succeeding generation. A backward glance is sufficient to prove this. The really easy chair, with its excellent springs and endless padding, into which we sink with relief after the fatigue of the day, is the product of our own luxury-loving age. It has only comparatively recently ousted the straight-backed horsehair variety which, in turn, replaced a still less comfortable type. Scarcely 400 years ago our ancestors sat down to dinner on benches and stools, while a chair with wooden seat and arms was the nearest approach to an easy chair. The sofa was the invention of a later age. Compare this with the standard of comfort to-day, and it is then possible to realize in some measure the advance which has been made. The divan smothered with soft cushions, the well-upholstered arm-chairs, floor cushions, and footstools. . . . What would our ancestors have thought of these?

Our Easy Chair

The easy chair has become the most important item of furniture in the home of to-day, and, even in the drawing-room, has superseded the once all-important occasional chair. Nor is it reserved merely for those times when we may legitimately claim a well-earned rest. Modern etiquette does not require us to relinquish the arm-chair except to take our meals. Here we may read, write, or sew in ease. The reading lamp lightens the darkness of the fireside, and now we may take our afternoon tea in the depths of an easy chair without danger of overbalancing cup and saucer, for modern ingenuity has contrived a neat little stand to relieve us of all anxiety. The smoker need no longer even stretch forth his hand to search for an elusive ash-tray, for a special little contrivance may now be fixed to his chair to accommodate the offending ash. These details show the trend of modern furnishing. Greater attention is being paid to creature comforts. What does it mean? Is it the outcome of the more strenuous life we lead in this age of hurry and bustle, or is it, as the pessimists would have us believe, a sign of decadence in a great race which is giving itself up to luxury and ease?

Dorothy Wendover, in "Glasgow Herald."

ON MANGOES

"Life and its best fruit."

BY ELIZABETH PEPYS.

This story of the Garden of Eden would be more convincing to many of us had that wariest of Serpents offered Mother Eve a mango. What woman or man either, could be expected to withstand its subtle charm?

Not that we all fell for the mango immediately. It was not a case of gastronomic love at first taste. That strangely alluring

THE PICTURESQUE IN HATS

flavour; at first repellant at last victorious! We blush to remember that in our crass unappreciative days we dubbed it turpentine-ish.

The joys of the mango are enhanced by the difficulties one has to undergo to secure this incomparable fruit. True, it may rest before you, on your very plate; but O the slips twixt plate and lips. Should any dinner party have progressed but quietly it is certainly to burst into vehemence with the advent of the fruit, which includes mangoes enough to go round the table.

Nine Best Ways to Eat a Mango

To make the denouement perfect there should be at least one guest who has not before eaten a mango. What torrents of advice descend upon his head! His companions almost fight over him in their anxiety that he shall eat it in the proper style. It is impossible for him to evade the trial by saying that he has a congenital antipathy for mangoes or that he promised his mother on her dying bed that he would never touch the fatal fruit. It is forced upon him, along with as many different different recipes for

CIRCULAR AND PLEATED SKIRTS ARE POPULAR.

getting the greatest possible amount of mango with the least possible amount of mess. It is conceded that the problem is difficult.

My favoured technique includes a bathing suit and a sizable lake, but as these are seldom available at dinner parties I take my stand with those who peel, or more truly, skin, the mango and then proceed as close to the pit as manners permit. The agonies endured by not being able in good society to fling oneself bodily upon the mango, tooth and claw, as it were, so to speak are excruciating. If all diners suffer in like manner, it should be easy to organize a "Back to Nature" club, with a mango rampant for its insignia.

Fair, Fleeting Vision.

Just as one thinks one has the steadiest of holds upon this elusive fruit it skids from one's plate, sliding across the hostess' beautiful damask tablecloth and into the leading lady's lap! What a moment! These are the incidents which test the soul. Or again, how many forcible expletives have been smothered as a man sees his cherished prize slither from his plate along his trousers, and thence to the floor. There are never any more to console him after such a mishap, either.

I daresay the hostess says "I'll have mangoes of course, and people are so foolish over them that I'll have to have enough to go round, but I hope there'll be enough left for tiffin to-morrow—and anyway I shall save mine for breakfast to-morrow morning, when I can eat it as I please." But naturally everybody takes one, including the hostess herself. All one's resolutions to be cautious, to be firm, to shun the dangerous though luscious morsel and content oneself with the innocuous banana, the safe and sane pomelo are quite forgotten when the irresistable mango comes our way. With all its messiness we love it best.

HOME HUMOURS

As Good as New

Brown: "What did poor old Charlie leave his son?"

Black: "Oh, he left him the capacity for hard work which he himself had inherited from his father. It was quite as good as new. Charlie himself had never used it."

Living on Air

Hobbs: "He makes £2,000 a year as an aviator."

Dobbs: "Fancy. And yet people say you can't live on air."

Stinging

A novelist was arguing with a military man.

"I believe, sir," said the soldier, "in fighting an enemy with his own weapons. That's my opinion, sir."

"Then, tell me," said the novelist, "how long does it take you to sting a wasp?"

Economy

He had bored the fair young thing to tears.

"It costs a great deal more than one would think to become a broadminded, intelligent man of the world," he remarked.

The young thing saw her opportunity, and took it.

"I know it does," she said, "and I don't blame you for saving your money."

Ungallant

Bassett: "Have you ever noticed how ungallant time is?"

Tassett: "No. Why?"

Bassett: "It always tells on a woman."

Chipped

Dick: "Did Steve break his engagement, then?"

Tom: "No, old man, the engagement broke him."

Practice Makes Perfect

Nina: "Elsie says she would rather be dark than fair."

Mina: "Well, she ought to know; she's tried both."

Why?

Bertie: "I didn't get to bed till four o'clock."

Archie: "What for?"

Bertie: "Four a.m., you idiot!"

Coming To

A preacher, wishing to show to his congregation into what depth a prodigal son can sink, gave the following illustration:—

"A lad left home with good intentions, but evidently got into bad company. He eventually had to pawn his overcoat in order to raise money to keep himself. Presently his coat and waistcoat had to go too the same way. Again he needed money, and he was forced to pawn his trousers, and likewise his shirt and vest. Then he came to himself."

His Contribution.

"That cut was caused by her ring," your worship. She struck me in the face with her clenched fist," complained the young husband.

"Where did she get the ring?" questioned the magistrate.

"I gave it to her. It was our engagement ring."

"The prisoner is discharged. That is clearly a case of contributory negligence," returned the magistrate.

Truly Genteel!

"Why, Jane, this is the fourth time I've had to tell you about the finger-bowls. Didn't the last lady you worked for have them on the table?"

"No, madam; her friends always washed their hands before they came."

Taken for Granted.

Algernon: "Last night I dreamt I was married to the most beautiful girl in the world."

Ermyntrude: "Oh, Algie! Were we happy?"

Freezing!

"Yes," said the loquacious young man in the train, "I travel in underwear."

"Dear, dear," said the old gentleman opposite drily, "how very cold that must be in winter!"

Quite Right!

Teacher: "Jimmy, can you tell me what animal attaches itself most to man?"

Jimmy: "The bulldog!"

The Mere Male.

Master: "Jane, you really must get rid of the cobwebs when you're cleaning. I've just taken a huge one off our bedpost, and put it in the fire."

Jane: "Oh, sir, that was madam's new dance frock!"

Apt.

Teacher: "Who can give me a definition of the word appetite?"

Tommy: "When you're eating you're 'appy, and when you've finished you're tight."

FOR YOUTHFUL DANCE FROCKS THE BOUFFANT IS FAVOURED.

THE GARDENER

The gardener does not love to talk,
He makes and keeps the gravel walk,
And when he puts his tools away,
He locks the door and takes the key.
Away behind the currant row
Where no one else but cook may go,
Far in the plots, I see him dig,
Old and serious, brown and big.
He digs the flowers, green, red, and blue,
Nor wishes to be spoken to.
He digs the flowers and cuts the hay,
And never seems to want to play.
Silly gardener! summer goes,
And winter comes with pinching toes,
When in the garden bare and brown
You must lay your barrow down.
Well now, and while the summer stays,
To profit by these garden days
O how much wiser you would be
To play at Indian wars with me!

R. L. Stevenson.

THE MOCKING BIRD

Hear! hear! hear!
Listen! the word
Of the mocking-bird!
Hear! hear! hear!
I will make all clear;
I will let you know
Where the footfalls go
That through the thicket and over
Allure, allure.
How the bird-voice cleaves
Through the weft of leaves
With a leap and a thrill
Like the flash of a weaver's shuttle,
swift and sudden and sure!

And lo, he is gone—even while I turn
The wisdom of his runes to learn.
He knows the mystery of the wood,
The secret of the solitude;
But he will not tell, he will not tell,
For all he promises so well.

RICHARD HOVEY.

MAIL NOTICES

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PASSENGERS.

INWARD.

Per str. P. & O. S. Khiva, May 8. From [illegible]son, etc. Mr. Armitage, Mr. J. S. [illegible] C. [illegible] Mr. W. J. Mooney, Mr. [illegible] Montgomery, Mrs. May and [illegible] Mr. R. Pearson. [illegible] Mr. le Rougetel A. [illegible] J. W. Van Dyk, Mr. [illegible] J. White, Mr. and Mrs. [illegible]

Per str. Hangchow, May 10, from Hongkong.—Mrs. Jamieson, Mr. Hawker, Mr. Kent, Mr. Cruickshanks, Mr. Blaxell.

Per R.M.S. Empress of Asia, May 10. From Hongkong.—Mrs. C. G. Anderson and children, Miss N. Aligava, Mr. V. S. Brandt, Mr. D. Earencee, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Bethel, Misses Bethel (2), Mrs. R. Brown, Mr. A. Bloxer, Mr. and Mrs. B. Bethell, Miss E. F. Butler, Mr. W. Cole, Mrs. F. G. Carpenter, The Rt. Hon The Earl of Cassillis, The Countess of Cassillis, Dr. T. M. Clark, Mr. C. H. Dodds, Mr. F. Ellis, Mrs. P. Proharitter, Miss M. Faung, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Finney, Major Gen. Sir and Mrs. J. Fowler, Miss M. Fowler, Miss [illegible] Gustavson, and three [illegible] G. A. Gorgas, Miss A. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Kirk, Miss B. R. Kirk, Mr. K. T. Koan, Miss M. Kihm, Mr. and Mrs. J. Keer, Miss S. P. Linthicum, Mr. P. L. Lee, Gen. and Mrs. Wm. Mitchell, Mr. Minford, Mr. A. Malcolm, Mr. P. Mataiez, Dr. B. H. Mullon, Miss A. Mushtawatoffa, Miss E. Manderback, Mr. D. Macfie, Mr. E. Nottebehm, Miss Nye, Mr. J. Ott, Miss L. Pashamina, Rev. M. Pita, Mr. R. M. Patton, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Pyman, Mr. W. Randerson, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Shenstone, [illegible] S. M. Schechter, Miss Sissons, Lt. [illegible] Searle, Mr. S. W. Strauss, Mr. J. N. Sipser, Miss S. B. Stewart, Mr. J. B. Suffolk, Mrs. G. T. Tang, Mr. C. Thwaites, Mr. D. Templeton, Major C. Trench, Miss A. Waddington, Mr. H. Wickes, Mrs. P. E. Young, Miss L. Andrieff, Mr. A. J. Aitken, Mrs. E. M. [illegible] Buntzen, Miss M. Buntzen, Mrs. S. E. [illegible] F. Calloway, Mrs. F. E. Corn[illegible] E. A. Cudey, Mrs. E. Cogill, [illegible]ss E. Doyle, Mrs. R. O. Davis, Capt. A. Englehart, Mrs F. M. Easley and two [illegible] master and Mrs. J. M. [illegible] Rev. Father L. N. Foru, Miss M. Grete, Mrs. M. Gilman, Mrs. A. C. Gillem, Miss A. Gillen, Lt. and Mrs. F. E. McGraw, Mrs. M. Morgan, Mrs. L. B. Nicholson, Mrs. M. L. Nesteroff, Capt. and Mrs. I. D. Offer, Master Offer, Miss A. Panoff, Mr. and Mrs. T. [illegible] Mrs. J. Prida, Mr. L. Prida, Mrs. S. N. Petroff, Mrs. C. Rizzeto, Mrs. P. R. Rushin, Mrs. N. Sylvester, Miss [illegible] B. Sheldon, Rev. Father G. [illegible] Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Strother, [illegible] [illegible]er H. Valtorta, Mr. A. Woodruff, Mrs. E. L. Whitaker, Miss M. Zaslin.

Per str. Lucnyi May 11. From Riv[illegible] [illegible] Mrs. J. [illegible] Mr. and Mrs. K. Mc[illegible] M. A. [illegible] Sir Mortimer [illegible] Mr. Turner, Mr. J. M. [illegible] Mr. Pendlow, Mrs. A. H. [illegible] Mr. E. A. Benoise, Rev. F. J. [illegible] Rev. J. M. Mc[illegible]

Per str. Fengtien, May 11. From Tientsin.—Mr. [illegible] Mrs. Graham and [illegible] Mrs. Lumley, Miss [illegible] Miss Bailey, Miss [illegible] Caine, Miss [illegible] From Chefoo.—Mr. J. J. Swanson, Dr. [illegible] Rev. [illegible] From Vladivostok.—Mr. Pottinger, Mrs. J. [illegible]

Per str. Tsechwo, May 11. From Hongkong.—Mrs. E. S. Little, Mrs. [illegible] Mr. [illegible] Mr. K. R. [illegible] Mr. Little, Mr. and Mrs. Pollard, Mr. T. F. Earle, Mr. E. B. [illegible] Mr. C. R. [illegible] Mr. W. Dowsett, Master Little, Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Hinkelford.

Per str. Kiangyung, May 12. From River Ports.—Mrs. Watt and two children, Mrs. Whiteside, Messrs. Frake, Mory, Mr. and Mrs. Barcham and two children, Rev. F. E. Lund, Rev. L. L. Felegent.

Per str. Sunning, May 12. From Hongkong and Swatow.—Messrs. J. D. Danby, J. M. Kaye, Rev. C. Gibson.

Per str. Chekiang, May 13. From Hongkong.—Mr. and Mrs. Payne and four children, Mr. Hodgson.

Per str. Fausang, May 13. From Tientsin.—Mrs. B. H. Foskes. From Chefoo.—Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Anderson.

Per str. A.D.O.S. President McKinley, May 13. From Seattle, etc.—Mr. H. J. Bakker, Mr. A. W. Elveen, Mr. W. Heinemain, Mr. J. W. Kennedy, Mrs. M. Moody, Mrs. F. Newhard, Mr. F. P. Root, Mr. N. Sachs, Mr. C. W. Spence, Miss T. Van Wagenon, Mr. A. Baker, Mr. C. D. Culbertson, Mr. C. I. Graham, Mr. J. T. Hodkens, Mr. F. P. Lachlan, Mr. M. P. Mears, Mr. F. Newhard, Mr. R. B. Oliver, Mr. C. Randall, Mrs. N. Sachs, Miss P. Tidmarsh and Mr. J. Wilson.

Per str. Hsinchi, May 14. From Foochow.—Rev. Father C. Ferandez, Rev. Father F. Aguirre, Rev. Father M. Prot, Rev. Father A. Royssac, Rev. Father A. de La Tglisie, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. West, Miss West, Master West, Mr. Valantine, Mr. Wells.

Per str. Shuntien, May 14. From Tientsin.—Miss C. Harding, Mr. and Mrs. Land. From Chefoo.—Mr. and Mrs. Buswell.

Per R.V.S.S. Sishan, May 14. From Vladivostok.—Mr. L. M. Vinogradoff, Mrs. S. I. Kolnakova, Mrs. E. P. Shutkevich, Miss N. Shutkevich, Miss K. Shutkevich, Miss V. Shutkevich, Miss S. Shutkevich, Master B. Shutkevich, Mrs. M. G. Nefedovitch, Mrs. E. Matveeva.

Per str. Loongwo, May 15. From River Ports.—Dr. and Mrs. Toch, Miss Toch, Mr. Koorevy, Mr. G. F. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

The North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT AND CONSULAR GAZETTE

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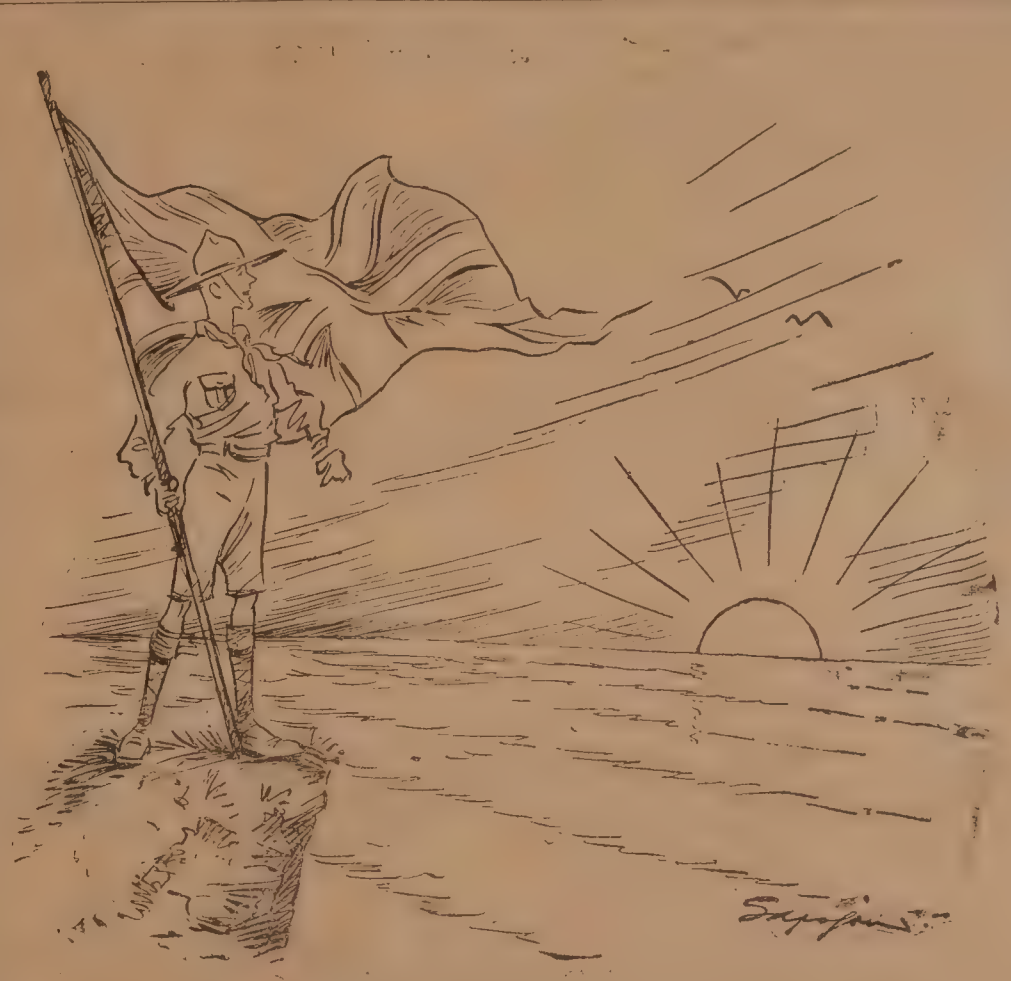

DAWN AND THE EMPIRE CALLS

WU PEI-FU'S MOVE ON KUOMINGTANG

Preparations for New Campaign this Summer Starting from Fukien

FROM RODNEY GILBERT.

Peking, May 16.

It is an open secret here that a new campaign against the Kuomintang in Kuangtung, under Wu Pei-fu's auspices, will be in full swing before summer. The appointment of General Chou Yin-jen to the Tuchunship of Fukien is a step in preparation. This releases Sun Ch'uan-fang, now commander in chief on the Fukien-Kuangtung border, from his administrative post and puts him in line for the post of Inspector-General of the Liang-kuang—after he has driven out the various Kuomintang armies and their mercenary allies. There have been numerous wild stories in circulation here about the successes of the Anfu General, Chang Chih-pin, in Fukien, but these are discounted here by the Chihli folk and inquirers are assured that Sun Ch'uan-fang will shortly be co-operating with Chen Chiung-ming's forces in Eastern Kuangtung, while Shen Hung-yin will again be moved into the province from the West.

The Doubt about Dr. Sun's Death.

Such prognostications are being made with fresh assurance since the report of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's death has reached here. The Government will probably bestow posthumous honours upon the great revolutionary, if he is really dead, but in the meanwhile no attempt is being made in any circle here to pretend that definite assurances of Dr. Sun's demise will not be the signal for much rejoicing among the militarists and politicians. It is taken for granted that no surviving leader in the Kuomintang could possibly hold Dr. Sun's heterogeneous political following together and that no military man will now be able to assert real authority over the mercenaries of the Yunnanese, Hunanese and other armies. There are many more advocates of Wu Pei-fu's scheme of reunification by force here to-day than there were a week ago.

PEKING DAY BY DAY

Sun Chuan-fang for Fukien-Kuangtung Border: Rebate on Octroi Note Payments

Peking, May 13.

Unofficially it is reported that the Cabinet meeting decided to accept Marshal Wu Pei-fu's recommendation for the appointment of Gen. Sun Chuan-fang as Defence Commissioner for the Kuangtung-Fukien border and Gen. Chow Yin-jen as Tuli of Fukien.

The meeting of the Cabinet this morning resolved to accept the resignation of Mr. Chiang Tien-to, Vice-President of the National Conservancy Bureau and Vice-Chairman of the Yangtze Commission. It was decided that Mr. Chang Yao-kuei should succeed Mr. Chiang. The Cabinet meeting also decided to appoint Messrs. Chen En-ho and Chu He-hsiang Counsellors of the Foreign Office, and Mr. Wang Ting-chang Chief of a department of the Waichiaopu.

It was reported by the Vice-Minister of Finance that a petition had been received from the Peking Chinese Chamber of Commerce requesting that the order of the Octroi department regarding non-acceptance of circulating notes should not be enforced. After some discussion on this subject the Cabinet resolved that in future the notes in question should be accepted for payment of ten per cent. of Octroi payments, instead of 20 per cent.

Sino-Japanese Rlwy. Conference.

Peking, May 16.

The Ministry of Communications has appointed Mr. Hy. Hu, the Through Traffic Director, and M. J. Lockart, the Manager of the Railway Clearing House, to represent the Chinese Railways at the Sino-Japanese Railway Conference which will open at Seoul on June 2.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE SUPREME COURT OF CHINA

Meeting of the Senate to be Held to Appoint Chief Justice

Peking, May 16.

According to parliamentary circles, Mr. Sun Pao-chi will attend the meeting of the Senate on the 21st instant in connexion with submission to Parliament of the "nomination" of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. It appears that the Constitution provides for the submission to Parliament of appointments of Chief Justices as well as Premiers. The present Chief Justice was appointed prior to promulgation of the Constitution, however, and the Senate will be asked to give a ruling on this case.

Although this is not only a comparatively unimportant question, but one that cannot arise again while the present constitution lasts, Parliament is taking it seriously, and seems disposed to make it a test of the Government's readiness to yield on a constitutional issue.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE CUSTOMS TARIFF

Peking, May 21.

A meeting of the Diplomatic Body was held to-day at the Dutch Legation, at which, in the first place, views were exchanged regarding the Customs tariff question, but owing to differences of opinion, the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body suggested that the debate on this question be postponed. With regard to China's proposal for the formation of a joint commission, it was agreed that a Note be addressed to the Chinese Government, rejecting the proposal in question on the ground that, inasmuch as the amount of the indemnity in connexion with the Lincheng outrage had been fixed on the basis of the actual state of affairs, it was unnecessary to make any further investigations into the matter.—Eastern News Agency.

ATTEMPT ON DR. KOO'S LIFE

Bomb in Box Left at Minister's House: Servants Injured

LARGE REWARD OFFERED FOR CULPRIT'S ARREST

Peking, May 16.

A dastardly attempt to assassinate Dr. Wellington Koo, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, has occurred.

A messenger left a box at Dr. Koo's residence yesterday evening, refusing to disclose the sender's name, but stating that the box contained articles for Dr. Koo's personal use. The messenger's demeanour aroused no suspicion, but merely curiosity. On receiving a receipt the messenger hastily decamped. The box was not opened until three this afternoon. While it was being opened a bomb exploded inside dangerously injuring three servants. On giving instructions to open the box Dr. Wellington Koo remained in another room, no one entertaining the slightest suspicion of danger. No clue has yet been discovered.—Reuter's Pacific Service

Peking, May 17.

Dr. Wellington Koo's servants are progressing more favourably than was expected. One servant has had both hands amputated, another is semi-conscious and is suffering from severe shock while the third servant has nearly recovered.

The box containing the bomb bore badly written characters, obviously disguised, indicating that it was sent by the Geological Survey Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and that it came originally from Chengchow, Honan, where recently curios were discovered.

Wild speculation is giving rise to sensational rumours in connexion with the outrage for which there appears to be no foundation. The outstanding feature of the incident seems to be absence of motive. Opinion generally inclines to the belief that it was the work of a crank carried away by the recent political propaganda against Dr. Koo. The detectives are confident of arresting the messengers whose name is now known.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 17.

The culprit, who has connexion with the bomb outrage at the residence of Dr. Wellington Koo, is still at large. A reward of $23,000 is offered.

Peking, May 18.

President Tsao sent a special messenger yesterday to express sympathy with Dr. Koo over the bomb outrage, and the heads of all the Foreign Legations in Peking either sent letters of sympathy or paid calls on the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The Chiefs of the Metropolitan Police and Peking Gendarmerie attended the meeting of the Cabinet yesterday to express their views regarding detection of those responsible for the attempt on Dr. Koo's life. It was subsequently announced that the Government would give a reward of $20,000, and the Police and Gendarmerie authorities a further $3,000. for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the principal person connected with the affair.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LINCHENG CLAIMS

Peking, May 22.

At a meeting of the Diplomatic Corps, yesterday, it was resolved to send to the Chinese Government all available details with regard to personal claims in connexion with the Lincheng outrage.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PRESIDENT TSAO AND CHANG TSO-LIN

Chihli Party

[illegible] News Service.

Tientsin May 17.

President Tsao Kun, owing to the split in his own, the Chihli, party, feels that peaceful relations should be restored with Chang Tso-lin and the Fengtien party, says the "Far Eastern Times," and has accordingly requested Generals Wang Chan-yuan, Chang Hsi-luan, Li Chi-chun [illegible] Marshal Chang the following terms:

1. Chihli [illegible] of the Boxer Indemnity and [illegible] by the Central Government [illegible] to Mukden, shall be collected by Fengtien Province.

2. A Fengtien Army Staff office may be established at Peking but it shall not be called Headquarters of the Fengtien Troops.

3.—Normal conditions shall be restored on the Peking-Mukden Railway, but the Director of the Railway Administration, the station masters, inspectors and gendarmes shall be appointed by Fengtien.

4. Fengtien, Kirin and Heilungkiang shall [illegible] and forward their [illegible] to the Central Government.

5. The section of the Peking-Mukden line within the Great Wall shall be protected by Chihli troops and the Fengtien troops shall assume responsibility for the protection of the section outside the Wall.

6.—All military, administrative, judicial and other officials of the Three Eastern Provinces shall be appointed by the Central Government, through Fengtien's recommendation.

7. Fengtien, Kirin and Heilungkiang may retain their statutory remittances to the Central Government for the payment of three divisions and Mixed brigades to be maintained by the Three Eastern Provinces and, if there be any deficit, it shall be made up by the Central Government.

8.—The salt revenues of the Three Eastern Provinces shall be handed over to the Sailt Commissioners [illegible] and forwarded for [illegible] the arrears on Reorganisation loans.

9. The Central Government shall address the authorities of the Three Eastern Provinces in official despatches as "tulis" (Military Governors) and "sheng-changs" (Civil Governors).

10.—The Central Government shall sanction any recommendations by the Fengtien, Kirin and Heilungkiang authorities concerning the awarding of orders of merit, decorations or other official ranks.

11.—With the exception of judicial and customs officials who are to be directly appointed by the Central Government, other officials may be freely appointed by the Fengtien authorities.

12.—Chihli troops shall be stationed within the Great Wall and Fengtien troops without, for defensive purposes, but Shanhaikuan shall be jointly guarded by gendarmes and [illegible] despatched by both sides. No troops of either side shall be allowed to enter Shanhaikuan.

13.—The five districts east of Chaoyang in Jehol shall be handed over to the control of the Fengtien [illegible].

14.—The losses sustained in the Chihli-Fengtien war shall be borne by the Central Government, no indemnity to be paid by either side to the other.

15.—The Fengtien and Chihli troops defending the borders shall keep within their respective posts and any who wish to pick a quarrel shall be dealt with according to military law.

16.—Fengtien and Chihli shall each work for permanent peace between the two parties and neither side shall [illegible] to encourage hostilities.

17. [illegible] shall be appointed [illegible] to be Ministers of the Cabinet.

18. [illegible] shall be appointed [illegible].

19. The Fengtien army [illegible] shall be [illegible] to Fengtien.

20. No [illegible] shall be [illegible] by the Fengtien [illegible] shall be [illegible] by the [illegible].

U. S. BOXER INDEMNITY

Chinese Senate Not Giving Thanks

[illegible] Peking Correspondent [illegible] Gazette.

Peking, May 15.

The question of sending a telegram to the House of Representatives in Washington expressing thanks for the action of that House regarding remission of the American portion of the Boxer [illegible] pointed out that such action would be premature. He contended that the Chinese Parliament would not be justified in sending such a message until it had received official information from the [illegible] Congress, and that the words [illegible] and the amount [illegible] passed by the American Senate, [illegible] probably [illegible] had been approved by the President.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

BRITAIN AND BOXER INDEMNITY

Bill to be Introduced for Remission of Further Payments

London, May 16.

In the House of Commons to-day Dr. W. A. Chapple, Liberal Member for Dumfries, called attention to the fact that the United States Senate had passed a bill relieving China of further payment of the Boxer Indemnity and donating the proceeds for purposes of education in China. Dr. Chapple asked whether the Premier would now proceed with a similar bill which [illegible] had already [illegible] to introduce.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, regretted that, in view of exceptional pressure of business, it was at present impossible to fix a definite date for the introduction of the bill, but the Government were anxious to arrange its passage at the earliest possible opportunity. —Reuter.

HOUSE TAX IN PEKING

New Impositions to Find Money for the Police

May 14.

Eighty per cent. of a month's salary has been paid to the Metropolitan Police and the Peking Gendarmerie.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 18.

Following the decision reached by the Cabinet recently, Mr. Cheng Keh, Minister of the Interior, sent a petition to the President asking permission for the Ministry to institute the proposed House Tax. Mr. Cheng pointed out that lately there has been no regular fund to draw upon for payment of the Peking Police and Gendarmerie, and that failure to pay the salaries of the men of these two forces has led to serious discontent in their ranks. As these forces are responsible for maintaining peace and order in Peking, the question is one that merits serious attention. A portion of the tax in question would be devoted to paying the police and gendarmerie.

A Chihling mandate gazetted today authorizes the institution of this tax tentatively. It refers to it as a Police Tax, instead of a House Tax as it was first called. It is reported that the Peking Gendarmerie has applied to the Government for permission to institute a shop tax in the four principal suburbs of Peking, the proceeds of the tax to be applied in payment of the salaries of the gendarmerie. This proposal is not connected with the city Police Tax, mentioned above.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

In connexion with the Police tax, a meeting of residents of Peking was held yesterday at the Hsuan Hotel at which Mr. Wan Chun, Member of the House of Representatives, presided. Many influential citizens were present, [illegible] it was resolved [illegible] to know [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] and [illegible] the matter [illegible] should be made a [illegible] Government to pass a [illegible] resolution to the effect that the tax is an unnecessary burden upon the people. Mr. Wan promised to do his best in this respect and expressed the view that the matter should be submitted to Parliament before it is passed.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHANG HSUN'S MONARCHY MOVE

[illegible] Who Promised Support Where [illegible]

A Curious Scandal

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, May 16.

[illegible] been persistently circulated here for some days about the disposition of the archives of Chang Hsun's monarchy movement, which if unfounded calls for a strong repudiation.

It will be remembered that when Chang Hsun saw that the failure of his restoration movement was certain, he threatened to give out for publication the letters and telegrams of all those who had encouraged him in his movement and had promised him help. The writer remembers seeing this bale of documents the day before Chang was driven into the Legation Quarter by the forces under Tuan Chi-jui, on which occasion Chang Hsun asserted that they contained promises of support from every official and soldier of influence in this country except Tuan Chi-jui and Liang Chi-chao, who had both frankly refused to join him.

The letters were not given to the press at the time but were kept by a Mr. Wan Sheng-shih, chief adviser and secretary to Chang Hsun, who took them with him when he escorted Mrs. Chang and the children into the Quarter during the fighting. Mr. Wan stayed for a short time in the French Hospital where he retained possession of all the documents. He was then moved to the French Legation where the papers were lost. The Chinese have always asserted that the whole set of papers have been in the French Legation files ever since and that copies and translations were long since sent to Paris. The story that is now going the rounds is that the originals were recently sent to Paris. They are said to contain evidence of complicity in the Chang Hsun movement against many prominent Chinese and also a number of letters from prominent Japanese of the same character. General Tanaka is mentioned as one.

The Chinese assume that the evidence contained in these papers is to be held over the heads of both Chinese and Japanese officials in impending negotiations, and are duly indignant about it.

That Wen Sheng-shih lost his papers in the French Legation in 1917 appears to be fact; the rest of the story seems preposterous and the writer is only recounting it because the sole means of checking up on such yarns and of correcting them is through publication.

CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND GERMAN BONDS

Peking, May 13.

It is reported that a slight alteration of the proposed Sino-German agreement is suggested whereby the Germans would present the drawn bonds and coupons for payment and turn over the proceeds to the Chinese instead of the latter receiving the reserve fund direct, as the former plan might lead to some opposition on the part of other bondholders. The liabilities on the German bonds are said to be about $9,000,000. Arrangements would be made regarding the balance of some $6,000,000.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 17.

A movement is on foot to bring about a union between the supporters in Parliament of Mr. Sun Hung-yi and the 42nd Club, whose main plank is said to be opposition to the Minister of Finance.

The resolution passed by the House of Representatives regarding German bonds has been forwarded to the Government with the request that the House be kept informed regarding the negotiations.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING'S GREAT UNPAID

Where to Get Official Salaries: Something for the Police

Peking, May 15.

The Cabinet meeting this morning was attended by all the Ministers with the exception of Mr. Wang Ko-ming, the Ministry of Finance being represented by Mr. Su Hsi-ti, Vice-Minister. Mr. Su made a report regarding the recent payment of a portion of the official salaries due.

It is announced in the official report of the meeting that the Ministry of Justice suggested that a second civil department should be added to the Supreme Court, the expenses of which would be attached to those of the Supreme Court for budget purposes. This proposal was approved by the Cabinet.

SOVIET AND C.-E. RAILWAY

Moscow, May 18.

Writing in the "*Isvestia*," M. Vilianski says that the Manchurian knot can only be cut by China rejecting the last American Note and immediately regulating the question of the Chinese Eastern Railway with the Soviet.—Reuter.

Note.—The American Note in question was presented to the Waichiaopu on May 3. It drew the attention of the Chinese Government to Article 13 of the Washington Treaty, in which the Powers reserve the right to insist on China's responsibility for the performance or non-performance of her obligations towards the foreign stockholders, bondholders and creditors of the Chinese Eastern Railway. The note warns China against entering into any unilateral agreement which would invalidate foreign interests.—Reuter.

RENDITION OF THE MIXED COURT

2½ Per Cent. Panacea for "Non-Administration of Chinese Law" and Other Evils

An interview with the former Minister of Justice, Mr. Tung Kang, on the subject of the Mixed Court's reversion to Chinese control, appeared on Mondy in the "*Sinwanpao.*"

Mr. Tung Kang is reported to have said that the Court must be returned to China in accordance with the decision of the Washington Conference. Further, that in view of the strength of popular opinion, no Government dare offer an extension of the International Settlement in exchange for the Mixed Court. As to the latter, Mr. Kang is said to have suggested that the following "inconveniences" would be remedied by a change of control:—

(1)—In other countries defendants are allowed to speak for themselves or by their legal representatives, but in the Mixed Court only hired lawyers are allowed to argue. Further, charges for legal assistance are so high that poor persons never can afford to employ a lawyer.

(2)—New laws should be promulgated by means of lectures so that the common people can be informed. At present the Mixed Court gives decisions based on the laws of foreign countries as well as Chinese law, and decisions are therefore difficult for the Chinese to understand.

Mr. Ting Kang is said to have revived a proposal which he first made when Minister of Justice, *viz.*, that six Supreme Courts be established. At Shanghai, Tientsin, Canton, and three other places, their cost to be defrayed by the additional 2½ per cent. Customs duty, 5 per cent. of which would amount to $3,000,000. This proposal was passed at a Cabinet meeting, and the Washington Conference was notified, but nothing has yet been done.

Peking, May 21.

With regard to the question of the rendition of the Mixed Court in Shanghai in exchange for the extension of the Settlement, General Ho Feng-lin, Defence Commissioner of Shanghai and Sungkiang, has suggested to the Waichiaopu that the Chinese Government has no need to comply with the Diplomatic Body's demand for the extension of the Settlement, for the rendition of the Mixed Court in Shanghai is in accordance with the Washington Treaty. The Waichiaopu has replied to General Ho Feng-lin, approving the latter's opinion and adding the explanation [illegible] have been made to the Diplomatic Body to the effect that the rendition of the Mixed Court has nothing to do with the question of extending the Settlement [illegible] Shanghai.—Eastern News Agency

THE BEGINNINGS OF A MIXED COURT

Seventeenth Century Englishman's Treatise in Its Bearing on Shanghai To-day

From Rodney Gil[illegible]

Peking, [illegible]

In the year 1688 John [illegible] Esq., collected the ma[illegible] notes of Nathaniel Baco[illegible] and made them into a bool[illegible] with the following title: An Historical and Political Discourse [illegible] the Laws and Government of England. The First Part, is from the first times to the reign of Edward III. The original edition is not available, but in 1739 the [illegible] tion of this scholarly work [illegible] reprinted "for Daniel Browne, at the Black Swan without Temple Bar; and Andrew Miller, at Buckland's head, over-against St. Clement's-Church in the Strand."

The bulk of this book would interest very few people in China in this day and age, but there is one brief chapter in it which is worth reprinting at this particular juncture when the Chinese are having so much to say about the mixed court. In his discussion of franchises recognized by the Saxons, Nathaniel Bacon quotes what is undoubtedly the most ancient precedent for such an institution as the Mixed Court. Chapter 28 of his huge work is as follows:

"Of the second Franchise, called the Marches. Franchises of the place, were such as were limited within precincts of place, and annexed thereto; and of this sort first were those of the borders, of which those are the most ancient which bordered the Britons, now called the Marches of Wales, in which was a peculiar Government, so far as concerned administration of justice; for otherwise the subjects each of them submitted themselves to the service of their own prince. This was therefore, a third, different and mixt Government, agreed upon *jointly* between the Britons and the Saxons", who after a long and burdensome war (wherein both peoples were well wearied) by degrees became friends, entered Traffick, and into the straitest societies by Marriage. Thus finding the sweetness of peace, they provide against future occasions of strife that might arise in commerce by the justling of two Laws together: and agree in one law, and upon a certain number of Judges elected by common consent, who were to see to the execution of these laws as joint Assessors. From these, as I conceive, arose those which are now called Lord Marchers, and were at the first 12 in number, viz. six Saxons and six Britons. It seemeth this form of Government was first instituted by Etheldred, and by way of prescription or custom, continueth till this day: and as it was the birth of truce, so for the future became both Mother and Nurse of peace between those two peoples, like the twilight between the day and night, until both were brought under one head and by divine providence settled in a lasting way."

* "This agreement between the Britons and Saxons was very much promoted by King Ina."

Those Shanghailanders who fail to see anything interesting in Nathaniel Bacon's involved account of the beginnings of a Mixed Court should at least be amused to note that this musty old barrister of Gray's Inn deliberately capitalizes everything having to do with the Law, Government, Franchises and the like, and puts "divine providence" in lower case.

LEADING ARTICLES

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THE BREAKING POINT

May 19.

A play with the title "See the Conquering Hero Comes" is now running in one of the London theatres and is attracting much attention on account of the unconventional way in which the subject is treated. The "hero" is a normal British youth, healthy, care-free and possessed of quite the average amount of courage and bonhomie. He is sent to the war and becomes a typical soldier. Brave to the point of rashness but cool and clear-headed, he is a credit to his regiment. But the war breaks him and the last scene shows him captured by the Germans and crawling before his captors begging abjectly for his life. This scene has aroused severe criticism. "It is not possible," say the objectors, "that a man of this calibre could descend to such a depth of humiliation." Manhood seems to be degraded in this presentation of its weakness and puisillaninity. Spectators differ according to their idiosyncrasies in appraising the value of the play and the credibility of the hero's collapse and several correspondents have endeavoured to throw light on the problem by recounting experiences of their own. One *writer tells* how, as a young officer, he was sent to France and, at a base hospital, on the way up to the line, was introduced to a certain major who had performed prodigies of valour before he was incapacitated by a severe wound. Lying on his back the veteran looked thoughtfully at the eager young men who crowded round his cot to hear the advice that his experience might suggest. "Take care of yourselves, boys," he said. "Remember that every man has his *breaking-point.*" They were drafted into the Ypres salient of evil memory and were told of a certain non-commissioned officer who had had to take command in a desperate skirmish a few days previously when all the officers were placed *hors de combat.* This man had behaved with a Berserker disregard of his life that won for him the astonished admiration of his comrades. The usual morning *strafe* was proceeding, as they filed into the trenches, and the new recruits, in their ignorance, regarded it as a joke. What was their surprise to see the hero of yesterday sitting on the fire-step with his head in his hands and the tears running down his face. When the officer on duty passed down the trench the broken man said to him, sobbing, "They've got my number, sir; I'm all in": he had reached the breaking-point. He was sent to the rear and, as the narrator was aware, never fought in the front line again.

It is not only in war that there is a breaking-point. The family physician in China could parallel the tale of the broken soldier with many an incident drawn from his own experience. The harassed housewife, under the weather, and plagued by the perversity of incompetent servants is often nearer her breaking-point than her friends suspect. The business man with the care of a large concern resting on his shoulders, carrying responsibility for the capital entrusted to him; perplexed by the uncertainties of exchange and haunted by rumours of a falling market and absconding Chinese buyers is also many times driven near to the perilous edge beyond which lies the breaking-point. These things account for many a breakdown of health and for not a few of the moral lapses that now and then thrust themselves on public attention. It is to be noted that in all these cases it is not so much the intensity of the strain as its persistence that saps the moral fibre. If the tooth would cease aching, if the ship would stop rolling, if the wicked would cease from troubling and let the weary be at rest, the collapse would be avoided; but there is no respite. "To-morrow and to-morrow creeps in this petty pace from day to day" till endurance gives place to despair and the end comes.

In seeking a cure for this weariness the first requisite is to realize that the real trouble is the smallest part of our affliction. It is the foreboding of what may happen that hangs like a black cloud over the mental horizon. The soldier, already referred to, faced real danger with heroic courage, but broke down in the comparative safety of the trenches. He was overcome with apprehension, not by terror. Had he been able to get away from his trouble, for however brief a period, he would have seen it in its real perspective. The cure for pessimism is recreation—the re-creation of mental balance. There was true philosophy in the story of the melancholy king who was told to sleep for one night in the shirt of a happy man and, perhaps, even truer philosophy in the sequel that the happy man when found had no shirt to lend to his majesty. Carlyle said, "No man who has ever wholly laughed can be altogether, irreclaimably, bad." Laugh and grow fat! but how shall we laugh while the clouds hang over us? Well, it is better to be on the turf than under it. Let us get out into God's fresh air. Away to the fields and the flowers, the hills and the sea and we shall see that nature laughs at our puny troubles. If we can once laugh with her, we have escaped the breaking-point.

STORM-CLOUDS IN THE NORTH

May 20,

FROM a Northern source which appears likely to be well informed comes the news to-day that President Tsao Kun, in order to offset divisions in the Chihli party, has offered terms of peace to Marshal Chang Tso-lin. What the divisions may be will be dealt with presently. They are certainly of a serious kind if we may judge by the extremely flattering proposals made to Marshal Chang. They involve, it is true, some nominal admission of the superiority of Peking as the seat of government. But the power which Fengtien has asserted for itself, that it fully retains. The Chinese Eastern Railway is "to return to normal conditions," but all appointments along it are to be made from Mukden. Official posts in the Three Provinces are to be filled by Peking, but only with men recommended by Marshal Chang. The salt revenues are to be paid to the Salt Commissioners, but may be retained by Fengtien if urgently needed. In respect of military districts there is a clear definition of spheres of influence between the Chihli and Fengtien troops under which the latter certainly lose nothing.

Now to return to the divisions in the Chihli party. The outstanding feature to-day in northern indeed in all China, is the swelling political stature of Marshal Wu Pei-fu. In Szechuan, with the overthrow and temporary disappearance of Hsiong Keh-wu and his troops, Marshal Wu's ascendancy appears complete. Eastwards his influence extends through Shantung to support itself on the navy at Tsingtao. To the south, his own man Hsiao Yao-nan is Tuchun of Hupeh while another adherent Chao Heng-ti, who successfully withstood Tan Yen-kai's invasion from Canton last summer, appears to hold Hunan firmly. Six weeks ago we were told from Peking that Marshal Wu was massing troops on the Shensi border, in order to overawe the Tuchun of that province in case he objected to being replaced by one favourable to the Marshal. More recently we have been told by our Sining correspondent that Marshal Wu's influence is also making itself felt in the matter of appointments in Kansu. Of these last two reports we have as yet heard no more, but there does not appear any improbability in them. To-day a message from Mr. Rodney Gilbert says that arrangements are being made for a further attack on the Kuomintang of Kuangtung from Fukien. In Kuangsi General Lu Yung-ting, who is gradually extending his power in the province, is also a friend of Marshal Wu's. Not since the days of President Yuan Shih-kai has there been any system of alliances and spheres of influence so extensive as that which Marshal Wu has gradually contrived. It looks unwieldy. But from a military point of view, all that is necessary to Marshal Wu is that the districts east and south, west and northwest should be kept quiet. He himself is the spearpoint of any operations, holding the great advantage over his foes that he leads his own troops in person.

On March 11 last Mr. Rodney Gilbert wrote from Peking of the growing hostility towards Marshal Wu visible in the Chihli party, "particularly among the palace directorate which is being discomfited by Loyang's inroads upon Shantung"; and he continued:—

> Their most effective but most desperate policy now would be to make peace with Chang Tso-lin and bring him into the fold as an ally against Marshal Wu, and this many Chinese think they will do.
>
> A Japanese news agency to-day reports that the Fengtien attitude has changed radically and that Chang Tso-lin is now more than ready for an understanding.
>
> Private reports from Mukden, coming through both foreigners and Chinese, indicate that Chang's detestation of Wu Pei-fu only ripens with age and that he cannot possibly consider an alliance of any sort with the man who made his magnificence ridiculous in Peking.
>
> The common assumption, therefore, is that, seeing Loyang coming into the ascendancy in so many quarters, he is ready to accept as his allies against Loyang those elements in the Peking Government and in the Chihli party at large which are hostile to Wu, believing that to split the Chihli party effectually and make half of it his ally would do more to secure his position than to enter into a binding agreement with any of the party's enemies.
>
> . . . It is fairly safe to assume that an important understanding is imminent. It will be an understanding between Chang Tso-lin and the Tientsin and Paoting cliques to control Tsao Kun and to interrupt Wu Pei-fu's triumphal processions into the east, west and south.

The interest of this prognostication in view of the report we publish to-day cannot be exaggerated. Two other items of great interest may be recalled in this connexion. At the end of March our Tsangchow (Chihli) correspondent, whose letters are particularly worth following, described how the annual flood of Shantung coolies, returning from the New Year holiday in their respective homes to their work in Manchuria, had been stopped at the border and given the alternative of returning to their villages or enlisting in Wu Pei-fu's army. And about the same time, Marshal Chang Tso-lin's secretary, writing to the "North-China Daily News" to contradict a report that he was meditating a monarchical restoration, after protesting that Chang Tso-lin desired nothing more than to stop at home and mind his own business, added that

> If as a last resort we are compelled to pass to the south of Shanhaikuan to kick out an illegal government, we will do so.

It is of importance to note in the quotation from Mr. Rodney Gilbert's letter that President Tsao Kun is also to be controlled together with Wu Pei-fu. But there is nothing inconsistent in this with to-day's report of the overtures to Marshal Chang, in which the President's name could easily be used as a blind. Are we on the way towards another *coup d'état,* with yet another Government in Peking claiming to be the only true, original and legal?

THE CRUISE OF THE HWAH JAH

May 21.

WE publish to-day an unsigned, undated communication purporting to come from the cadets of the str. Hwah Jah, taking strong exception to the article which appeared in our issue of the 8th instant. Apart from the opening paragraph, in which it is stated that the letter which formed the basis of our article is a "tissue of falsehoods" and that our comments thereon are misleading, the communication is neither general nor specific in its scope, but rather a collection of vague irrelevancies having little or no direct connexion with the statements we published, and omitting altogether any reference to some of their own shortcomings on which we laid stress.

With due respect to the cadets, and with an unqualified appreciation of the fact that there is a real desire among some Chinese that the cadets shall form a valuable nucleus of a rehabilitated Chinese Mercantile Marine, we find it a little difficult to take the cadets seriously, or to treat their attacks on the conduct, honesty and efficiency of the foreign officers with a gravity they undoubtedly would deserve if they came from those with authority, knowledge and experience. What we published was confirmed by three of the four foreign officers of the ship (the fourth was not in Shanghai at the time).

The cadets, in their communication, say: "To get us to execute any work of the crew in which the officers themselves do not feel inclined to participate, or to take an interest in the training of ourselves for its performances, is an infernal mistake." Exactly! The mistake, if mistake there be, is on the part of the cadets in, by their own admission, declining to do work similar to that done by the members of the crew. It is an axiom as old as ships that the best way to learn any task at sea is to do it. All of the officers had done it in their apprenticeship period, one of them at least in the old sailing ship days, "when sailors were sailors and men were men." Another priceless tag is: "We have been treated as 'chattles.'" The feeling that he was being treated as a chattel must have been held, at some time or other, by every cadet or apprentice that ever sailed the seas or aspired to be a commander.

There is a statement which, if it came from well-informed quarters, would be considered as grave, placing the responsibility for the apparent unseaworthy condition of the vessel, after she left Shanghai, on the officers. From our knowledge of the facts of the case, the statement is absurd. There also are statements on subjects which no cadet with four months' sea experience could possibly consider himself qualified to write on with authority—the loss of an anchor, and the surveying of damaged cargo. The cadets' charges on these points are so absurd as to be unworthy of comment. Another charge is to the effect that the officers converted ship's "scraps" to their own benefit. We have gone into this matter somewhat fully, and find that the "scraps" referred to were some old firebars which were sold at Karatsu by the second engineer. It is an accepted custom in many shipping companies that the disposal of old firebars is a perquisite of the second engineer. The second engineer received $16 for the firebars; the cadets witnessed the transaction and waxed exceeding worth; they even went to far as to communicate with Shanghai by cable. When a representative of the Far Eastern Shipping Syndicate went on board the ship at Tsingtao the second engineer handed over the money to him, and it was returned. A further serious charge is that the officers earned unwarranted money by overloading the ship. We have the word of the master that on no occasion was the vessel even down to her marks, so that charge can be dismissed as pure spite.

Altogether, the cadets, if the letter really came from them, appear to have made their case worse instead of better. They have made a tacit admission that they were not, and presumably are not, amenable to discipline and are disinclined to do manual labour, on the grounds that the officers did not do it. Such logic is unanswerable.

It would be interesting to see the Hwah Jah cadets transferred, *en masse,* to a training vessel in the British or American Mercantile Marine. Subsequent events would prove both startling and enlightening, especially for the cadets.

THE CONQUEST OF THE AIR

May 21.

IN the name of all the foreign, but especially the British community we offer the heartiest welcome and most sincere congratulations to Captain d'Oisy and Sergeant Vesin on their arrival in Shanghai, and would add our earnest hopes that the unhappy accident which occurred on their landing may not unduly delay them. Though he is not the first to have flown hither from Europe, that honour belonging to an Italian, Lieut. Ferrarin, Captain d'Oisy's time record far surpasses anything yet achieved. That he has been blessed with good luck he himself would be the first to admit. But to say that is in no way to detract from the merit of his performance. For the strain of so long a flight and the utter uncertainty as to conditions ahead must have taxed the aviator's endurance to the utmost. It is a very wonderful performance and France may well be proud of Captain d'Oisy.

It is a commonplace to say that future generations will look back on the machines in which our airmen go aloft to-day with the same wonder as we look back on the barque in which

Columbus set out for Eldorado or even on the Nemesis of ninety years ago, the first paddle steamer that [illegible]. And for this reason the greater must be our admiration for the brave men who are flying to-day under every conceivable condition in order to perfect the world's knowledge of aircraft. Think, for a moment, of walking through a snowstorm, in some temperate clime, where neither is the cold very intense nor the wind excessive: and then try to imagine what must have been the experience of the American aviators battling across the Arctic circle for 936 hours, from the American to the Asiatic side of the Pacific, forced down, as we read, by strong winds and heavy snow and arriving in a wild gale of snow and rain, their faces lacerated by the weather. Or think of Maclaren, driving through a sandstorm from Agra to Calcutta, his engine choked and in ceaseless peril. Yet if such feats of courage and endurance were not performed, the passengers who now so unconcernedly fly from one country to another "on their lawful occasions" would never have known what it was to rise above the ground.

Apart from the normal conditions of experiment and contention with Nature which is the inevitable preliminary to the mastering of every new science, the abnormal conditions of war taught the world more about aviation than any other experience could have done. It was but two or three years before the war that Bleriot performed his epoch-making flight across the English Channel and now there are those who believe that neither the Channel nor any other width of sea nor the ships that sail upon it will henceforward be any defence against invasion and that wars of the future will wholly be fought out in the air. Whence arises the vital question, may it not be that war, in revealing the possibilities of aerial navigation, will have made itself impossible? In the late war, for the first time, the world learnt what was meant by throwing the whole nation into the battle-line, and the horrors of destruction of those days were as nothing compared with what they may be imagined to be when the struggle is fought out with aeroplanes and airships. H. G. Wells has shown us in "The War in the Air" how there can be no finality to such a combat; and although it is a truism that the invention of every fresh engine of destruction is immediately followed by the discovery of its antidote, the openness of all coasts and hinterlands to a surprise attack by the air suggests that the only effective defence against annihilation will be a true League of Nations, a Hague Convention that men obey because they dare not disobey.

LOOKING BACKWARDS

May 22.

Apropos of "Scrutator's" articles that have been appearing in this paper on "Shanghai—the Wonder City of Asia," we fancy that Britons may have been impressed with the writer's reference to Captain Balfour's probable frame of mind were he able to look upon Shanghai to-day. In those days, back in 1848, he and other British officials with him probably did not dream that Shanghai would ever develop into the huge city that it is to-day. They had little evidence around them of what was even likely. The site of Shanghai was a morass. It was, indeed, the Muddy Flat. Mails arrived at that time in opium clippers and probably other sailing vessels; residents congratulated themselves if they received replies to despatches from Hongkong in the unusually short time of six weeks. For several years after that time, until the Elgin treaty allowed steamers with opium on board to bring it into port, the mails for mercantile firms were taken charge of by the captains of the receiving-ships at Woosung, to whom they were addressed, and who sent them by pony express to Shanghai. Mails and minor riots were the excitements of the port. We read that perhaps 20 ponies were sent off with letter bags for the firms in Shanghai, who employed their captains to receive their mails. The boys who rode them, true to tradition, dilly-dallied magnificently for the delectation of the natives until they neared the rickety bridge at Soochow Creek, but immediately they got across it they came tearing along at headlong speed, yelling and shouting along the Bund, and throwing off their mail bags in great style at the doors of the houses to which they were addressed.

Times have changed, have they not? Knowing conditions as they were then, present residents in Shanghai should perhaps be a little more lenient in their condemnation of the Chinese Post Office of the present day. Competition in those far-away days ran high, we notice. The news that the flags were up on the receiving ships at Woosung furnished the strongest excitement in the ordinary life of the first sixteen or seventeen years of foreign residence in Shanghai. An interesting sidelight on this competition is provided in the fact that at that time, and almost until the introduction of telegraphs, most of the bigger firms sent away their own steamers from Hongkong which anticipated the arrival of the mail in Shanghai. These steamers anchored in Yangtze Bay, and a messenger with the owner's mail and Hongkong letters was despatched overland, the firm thus having from one to two days in which to operate before the community received its despatches by the regular P. & O. steamers. Those days, however, were the days of true romance in trade. Residents certainly had little else to think about, and riding did not come into general routine for some years afterwards. Then there were no cafés, no hotels, and each man had to be a good fellow to get along in the Settlement. Few white women had come out. As late as 1852 few of the merchants were married, several firms officially discouraging marriage for their assistants while in China. The chronicler of that day tells us, however, and tells us quite enthusiastically, about the first ball that was held, at which thirty gentlemen and nine ladies were present, open rebellion being obviated by the men agreeing to take a half or even a third of a waltz with the fair partners. As one wonders what Captain Balfour would think of the present Settlement as a whole, one dares not contemplate the feelings of the ordinary members of the community of those days, could they behold the glories of a St. Andrew's ball or any one of the several brilliant functions for which Shanghai is now famous, not to mention the café and hotel life of the place.

In reading its history, therefore, one should be more content with his lot in the modern scheme of things in Shanghai to-day. The pioneers of what our correspondent has styled the "Wonder City of Asia"—and a title not inapt—were brave and men of backbone. They showed us the unmistakeable truth that the imagination rules the world. They had the imagination to settle Shanghai for the world, their reason confirmed their imagination, and in their actions they thus conferred benefits upon every nation of the western world equally, as upon the Chinese themselves. Shanghai is the commercial pivot of this country, and must develop into the greatest city in Asia. Upon their devotion to an ideal those early settlers builded well, and each successive generation must assuredly be impressed by the work done. Long since they have "gone west," but their work lives after them. Similarly, the imagination of the present generation should be quickened as they contemplate the possibilities of this port for which we claim the title of Model Settlement. One of our possibilities is the proposed Shanghai exhibition, to discuss which a meeting of business men is to take place on the 29th instant. Such a conception has the germ of an extremely successful enterprise calculated not only to augment economic factors here but to put before the world at large an intelligible understanding of China's potentialities in world economics. Were the early pioneers with us, we suspect they would throw their weight behind the undertaking.

THE HEALTH OF SHANGHAI

May 23.

While it may not be quite accurate to say that Shanghai is a rejuvenating health resort all the year round, it may be freely admitted that on the whole its foreign residents enjoy very good health. Travellers from other parts of the world, especially those coming straight from India, often comment on the robustness of our men, the lithesome grace of the women, and the bonniness of the children. This is the more remarkable when all the circumstances are considered. For the number of foreigners is relatively small, about twenty-seven thousand including Japanese, and they are surrounded and mingle with a dense Chinese population of over 800,000 (not counting those in the native city), who know very little of the laws of public sanitation and personal hygiene and care less. Credit for the low death-rate among the British and Americans, and for the steadily falling death-rate among the whole population, must be given to our highly efficient Municipal Health Department, which so successfully overcomes many and very great difficulties of public sanitation arising from Chinese manners and customs and their peculiar notions concerning the causation of disease.

Among the resident foreign community, diseases of the chest such as pulmonary tuberculosis, pneumonia and bronchitis are the cause of more deaths (62.7 per cent.) than diseases of the alimentary tract (37.3 per cent.). Compared with non-Chinese nationalities the mortality among the Japanese is the heaviest. Of the 360 resident foreigners who died during the year, 191 were Japanese, the most fatal diseases among them being pulmonary tuberculosis, pneumonia, beri-beri (a disease caused by deficient diet) and typhoid fever. Altogether there were twenty foreigners who died from typhoid fever, and eighteen of them were Japanese. This is strange for so progressive a people. Among the British (including British Indians) there were eighty-eight deaths, thirty were due to tuberculosis, pneumonia, influenza and bronchitis. Cancer caused thirteen deaths; four of the patients were British, three were Japanese and four were Russians. Nine foreigners died of smallpox, which is lamentable, as proper vaccination prevents it. Eight deaths were from alcoholism, which is also very deplorable. Turning to the Chinese the death-rate is said to be 10.3 per thousand. As explained in the report this is incorrect as many of the Chinese when mortally ill return to their ancestral homes to die, and so the deaths are not registered in Shanghai. Altogether the deaths of Chinese number 8,436. The principal diseases with number of deaths were tuberculosis, 822; typhoid fever, 264; cholera, 91; scarlet fever, 71; dysentery, 69; measles, 56; smallpox 51; diphtheria, 29; beriberi, 14. How many Chinese suffered from these diseases during the year but recovered is not known. At the present time notification is voluntary. The Commissioner of Public Health states that the need is becoming more and more urgent for comprehensive legislation dealing with public health, and this will include the prevention of overcrowding; the compulsory registration of medical practitioners; the compulsory notification of communicable diseases, and registration of deaths; and the compulsory isolation of cases of communicable disease where means of isolation in the home are inadequate, or when such isolation is undesirable. Against smallpox very good work is being done. The total number of vaccinations performed during the past three years is over 121,000. This is sufficient to show the value of preventive medicine. Our knowledge of the causes of diseases and the means of preventing them is now so far advanced that if everyone would intelligently co-operate, it has been said that within fifty years all infectious diseases would be abolished.

In closing we quote a few words from the Commissioner's preface to the Health Report for 1923, just issued:—

"The achievements of preventive medicine in overcoming disease, raising the standard of public health and saving human life steadily increased year by year. . . The aim and end of a Public Health Department are the fostering and maintenance of health and the prevention of disease, especially communicable disease. Its authority, scope and influence have enlarged greatly within recent years. So dominant is the idea of public health in the mind of the public to-day that the welfare of the people, from the cradle, and even before the cradle, to the grave, has become one of the chief concerns of the State. There are few cities in the world so peculiarly situated as Shanghai, or so perilously exposed to visitations of epidemic diseases, such as smallpox, cholera, typhus and plague. . . By favour of fortune, and by ceaseless vigilance, these diseases have never become epidemic in the International Settlement and the standard of the public health remains high. The past year was unusually healthy."

With the education of the Chinese in matters of public health, and loyal co-operation on the part of all residents with the Public Health Department, we can be confident that Shanghai will continue to be, as it always has been, a Model Settlement.

EMPIRE DAY

May 24.

It is a traditional complaint against Englishmen that they do not read history. Whether this is equally true of Scots, Irish and Welsh, we do not know. By what one can gather they are at least well stored in respect of local history. But we doubt very much whether they are much better informed than the Englishman about the story of the Empire which they equally helped him to found. How many people could give an approximately accurate account of the steps by which Canada, India, South Africa, Australia, not to mention the almost countless Crown colonies and dependencies, came within the imperial circle of nations that pay allegiance to King George? It is this deficiency which the celebration of Empire Day was founded just twenty years ago to remedy. It is out of reason to expect the ordinary man to read history with the avidity of college professors, among whom, also, one seems to remember that there is an eternal controversy as to what history really means and how it ought to be studied. But at least he may be encouraged to pause for one day in the year to remember that he is a "citizen of no mean city" and to think for a while on what the Empire stands for, the privileges that are his as a member of it and the responsibilities

An attempt was made a few years ago to substitute "British Commonwealth" for "British Empire." One still comes across the phrase here and there; but it has failed to "catch on," and one may be glad of the fact. Rightly used and understood, the words "empire" and "kingdom" have a force of appeal to the imagination which commonwealth can never command. Why the latter word was ever suggested one does not know, except, perhaps, to satisfy the scruples of those curiously constituted people who see in every patriotic emotion an obscure cause of offence to some other nation and, in particular, objected to Empire Day as tending to inculcate noxious ideas of jingoism and the militariist spirit in the young. Whatever else the British Empire stands for, it is not chauvinist. It threw itself into the war against a Prussian tyranny, just as a century ago it fought against the Napoleonic, with all the energy and determination of which it was capable: but once war was over, it began to break up ships and disband armies as fast as it could. In fact, when we try to analyse what the Empire exactly means to each and all of us, it is very difficult to find a satisfactory answer. It is certainly no source of wealth to the people of Great Britain, except to individuals as in the ordinary way of business: on the contrary, it obliges them to spend more upon military and naval defence than they otherwise would. Nor do they make use of it to get the supplies of life more cheaply: twice has a general election been fought on the question of imperial protection and both times has it been rejected. That it is a source of strength to all of us was proved by the Great War; and yet so little had we realized the possibilities of empire, that it was undoubtedly quite a surprise to the stay-at-home Briton to see how his fellows from all parts of the world came pouring across the seas at the call of the common peril. And this great inrush of fighting men was the best answer that could be desired for the Little Englander and any who from abroad might look with suspicious eyes on the British Empire's expansion. For it is perfectly certain that these men would not have left their homes and families in the Dominions and colonies, had they not felt that the Empire stood for a system of government and for ethical ideas that were worth defending even to the death. Nor was this conviction restricted to white men. Of all the wretched mistakes that in recent years have been made in India, none was more deluded than the belief, on the outbreak of war, that she must be bribed into good behaviour by concessions to the nationalist minority or she would mutiny. So far as the vast mass of Indians understood the issues in the war, they understood that their welfare was bound up in the victory of Britain, of the principles for which she fought and to the benefit of which their own daily surroundings bore so much eloquent witness.

And yet as we look back on the development of the Empire, the strangest thing of all is to see how comparatively recent has been the growth of these very principles, which now are the

commonplace of all thought. Not only in science and industry but in social ideas, the advancement recorded during the nineteenth century is greater than that of all the previous years of the Christian era. The first shock of Labour's demands is already subsiding: we feel that it is not unreasonable that the men who work with their hands should ask for their share in the joys and decencies of life, for some security of employment, for something better in old age than the workhouse. Yet less than a hundred years ago children of four and five years old worked for eighteen hours out of the twenty-four in factories and coalmines and their fathers and mothers were veritable serfs of the employers who, when reform was urged, protested that the country would be ruined by any other system. We know what the British bluejacket is to-day—a highly skilled mechanician who, in the main, so long as he can "painting the town red," much prefers to spend his periods of shore leave with his wife and family like any other respected citizen. But in Nelson's day, the ships were manned with the scourings of gaols and slums and for several years after Victoria had come to the throne wholesale floggings in the Navy were an every-day affair. And less than eighty years ago men were hanged for stealing a few silver spoons. We have learned that none of these barbarities is necessary, as they were once thought to be, for the safeguarding of industry, of discipline or of law, and it is surely a faint heart that can be dismayed by the prospect of further discoveries in the realm of humanity and justice. To the superficial view, the future is always dark, the golden age for ever that which is past, England eternally going to the dogs. But the facts of history most eloquently and vehemently contradict us. We are impatient and despondent at the apparent slowness of things to right themselves after the war: but it was fifteen full years after Waterloo before normality was recovered. The British Empire was founded on the indomitable optimism of its pioneers, and as we look back upon its growth, there is no feeling more appropriate to Empire Day than that of sure and splendid hopefulness.

GEN. Chang Tsai-yang, Civil Governor of Chekiang, has telegraphed to Peking reporting that as numerous robbers are operating in the eastern section of Chekiang and interfering with the traffic, no permits should be issued to foreigners who desire to visit Yuyao, Ziangshan, and Fenghua. Gen. Chang states that he thinks it will take his men at least half a year to suppress the brigands. A recent letter from a traveller in this part of Chekiang fully confirms the last statement. Officials, we understand, have been plainly told by consular officers that it is their duty to furnish escorts for foreigners.

ONE reason why Hongkong appears to have been so sure of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's demise was due to the fact that on the 14th all British men-o'-war in port were flying the Ensign at half mast, out of respect for a bluejacket who had died in H. M. S. Carlisle. The deceased, Able Seaman Webster, fell overboard from the armed launch Wing Lee (says the "Hongkong Daily Press") whilst that vessel was on patrol duty near Samshui. Webster was one of a party of eight men, forming the gun crew of the launch. One night two weeks ago he was on duty between 8 p.m. and 11.30 p.m. when he suddenly disappeared over the side. P.O. Miller, hearing the cry of distress, bravely dived into the water and swam towards the spot where Webster had fallen. Another British seaman and a Chinese pilot got out a skiff and followed. When Miller was about five [illegible] disappear. Later the body was picked up by [illegible] and brought back to Hongkong.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Sleeping Partners

It is interesting to read in the London "Daily Express" that ten countries who are members of the League of Nations have contributed no money towards its support, and so far have been "sleeping partners" who cannot be awakened to their duties by frequent appeals. This paper's Geneva correspondent says:—

> China has not paid any dues for two years. Argentine and Peru for three years, Liberia for one year, and among other defaulters are Honduras, Paraguay, Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Costa Rica. Several of these South American States have not paid a penny since the foundation of the League although they send delegates to the annual assemblies each year.
>
> Critics of the League want it to start a debt collecting crusade, in order that all members should pay their proportionate share of expenses and not depend upon the British to pay the Pon's share.

Nobody will be very much surprised that poor old China has not paid up. Any money she may have to spare for foreign service ought really to go to her famished diplomatic corps. The defaulting of South American states, some of which at least have plenty of money, is more interesting. According to Whitaker's Almanac for 1924, there were in May, 1923, 52 members of the League and the expenditure for the year 1922 was estimated at £822,730. The original estimate for annual expenditure was, we think, a round million sterling. What all this enormous outlay goes on, it would be very interesting to know—still more so, what it achieves. Evidently there are States which think it achieves very little, not enough, at any rate, to be worth paying for. They are possibly not the only ones to hold this dreadful heresy.

China's Girl Athletes

The development of China may be very slow—so slow, indeed, that many of us find a difficulty in noting any real progress—but at least there are present all the elements of modern progress. Not the least striking thing in the past few years has been the rise of woman to something very near to an equality with man in every walk of life, and maybe in some ways she has risen even superior to him. As recognition of this fact, when a barrister in the British Court recently suggested that a man might be able to prove that he had some claim to property held independently by his wife, the Judge replied, "I very much doubt whether in these days of female emancipation that would hold good in Great Britain and probably still less in America." Not content with taking their places side by side with men in business, politics, the law, medicine and other spheres, the women of the West now are indulging in athletics as whole-heartedly as ever men did and in any illustrated paper one finds pictures of them engaging in all sports, even cross-country running, garbed in the orthodox male costume. In China as yet we have not seen so much of the rise of woman, but the emancipation is taking place and at least we know that the modern Chinese young woman is copying everything that is done by the women of the West, even though we do not hear so much of her doings. The officials of the China National Championships have recognized this fact; they have made no special arrangements for women's competitions, but they have announced their readiness to do so provided sufficient entries are received. Europeans and Americans have passed beyond the stage when, referring to something or other done by modern women, they would ask, "What would our grandmothers have said?"" In China, however, we could still get some amusement if we could see a dowager of to-day watching her grand-daughter competing in athletic exercises with men. Yet athletics are only a small part of the movement: they amount only to an assurance that the young woman engaging in them is advanced enough probably to do more good work for her country than ever her grandmother did.

Two Views of Barbarism

There is much in Mr. P. C. Ho's letter on the Lincheng affair and kindred topics which arouses sympathy and much in which we do not think that he holds a right view, even allowing for the natural bias of Chinese nationality. As regards the murder of Chinese in Japan (who were mistaken for Koreans), it was most difficult after the earthquake to obtain accurate news of what had happened—in contrast with the Lincheng affair, of which the news was instant and clear-cut. When the facts were obtained, we think, Mr. Ho cannot have read all we have published from Tokio, or he would hardly complain of lack of indignation. Here again, however, certain distinctions should be drawn. The farcical sentences passed on the Japanese vigilantes were inexcusable and the whole attitude of the Japanese authorities in respect of these murders appears to have been indifferent and blameworthy. On the other hand, the general scare raised against the Koreans belonged to an utterly abnormal state of feeling, due to the appalling catastrophe which had just occurred, and those who shared in it generally must accordingly be treated with some lenience. The circumstances surrounding Lincheng were entirely different. Brigandage had been steadily on the increase for many months; in the previous summer several foreigners in Honan and Anhui had been victimized by it; and its prevalence was worst in districts nominally covered by some of the best troops in China. We agree that "no country in the world can afford subjects of other nationalities from the molestation of its outlaws"—if by "afford" Mr. Ho means "guarantee." But any civilized state can and does punish the outlaws afterwards and make reparation to the injured. China has done neither. As regards the warlords being responsible and not the unofficial masses of China, if Mr. Ho will do us the honour of looking back on our files of a year ago, he will find that this view was repeatedly urged by us, and the strongest emphasis laid on the necessity of making the officials pay and not the innocent people of the country.

Anti-British Agitators

There appears to be a noisy party of anti-British agitators at work in Shanghai just now. The other day the Chinese papers printed a story that the British Minister in Peking had threatened the Waichiaopu that he would shut up the Legation and withdraw recognition if satisfaction in respect of the outrage on Mr. Bessel were not forthcoming. The truth of the report is most doubtful, the purpose of printing it not at all. On Saturday the "*Sinwanpao*" published the following:—

> The Citizens' Association for the discussion of Sino-British affairs has decided to send another telegram to the British Government demanding the recall of H. M. Minister, Sir Ronald Macleay, and to request the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to demand the cancellation of all treaties unfair to China and the withdrawal of the British troops in Tibet.

There are no British troops of any kind in Tibet, as the "*Sinwanpao*" probably knows and could certainly have ascertained quite easily. As for the "Citizens' Association" etc, we make bold to say that it is precisely the same sort of thing as hundreds of other so-called organizations that we have heard of—no organization at all really, but a handful of well meaning but misguided youths, under a high-flown name, the dupes of a few professional agitators of the class of those who tried to black-mail the owners of the Yih Lo Lee property in North Szechuen Road Extension of Tls. 50,000. Of course publicity is the very thing that trouble-makers of this kind are most anxious to get and it is to be regretted that a respectable paper like the "*Sinwanpao*," which knows more about them than any foreigner does, should give it them.

Chinese Hebrews

The "Jewish World" of April 3 contains a remarkably interesting note on a collection of more than 20,000 rare Hebrew books and MSS., which Professor Adolph S. Oko, librarian of the Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati, is taking across the Atlantic, as the result of five years' research in Europe.

> Among the treasures (we read) are some Jewish Chinese manuscripts which are of the greatest possible interest. Dr. Oko obtained them through Messrs. Maggs Bros., of Conduit Street, from the London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews. It appears that some 25 years ago the Society sent a mission into China for the purpose of converting a body of Jews whose forefathers had settled there as early as between the years of 205 B.C.E. and 220 C.E. The missionaries were not successful in obtaining any converts, but they brought back some sixty Hebrew manuscripts. Some of them open like a book, others unfold like a scroll, others move along a string like cards of a card index, and others, again, close up like an accordion or fan. They form almost an unique collection, and the Hebrew Union College is to be congratulated on obtaining them.

It would be interesting to know where this ancient Jewish colony is situated. If we remember rightly we have heard of it in Honan; but we should be glad if some reader could give fuller information.

"Yellow Jaundice."

This note is not a medical treatise; it has nothing to do with jaundice (so well-known among country folk at Home as "yellow" jaundice) and the title might, with equal appropriateness, have been (crimson red," or "rich brokey," or any other term in which the adjective is obviously superfluous and unnecessary. The special example which we have in mind is "Avenue Road," the name of one of the principal thoroughfares of Shanghai's International Settlement. Why "Avenue" Road? According to our own conception, backed by an extraordinary, an avenue is a "wide straight roadway or street," while a road is defined as "an open way or public passage." The name is an absurdity, abounding in [illegible]ancy and tautology and totally devoid of sense or real meaning. The reason for the name, if just reason there ever was, is no doubt veiled by the obscurity of many years and forgotten records. Admitting [illegible] road in question has [illegible] "Avenue Road" [illegible] decades (and probably longer as such by many), is that any reason why some name embodying just a little sense and meaning should not be applied to it instead? There is no lack of prominent citizens of Shanghai, past and present, to whom or whose memory a graceful and deserved tribute might be paid by the naming of a thoroughfare. The list of possibilities is a long one and any other name chosen would be better than the present ridiculous title which, although it may have its counterpart in one or two small, sleepy towns at Home, is unworthy of an enlightened city, with enlightened inhabitants.

The Shanghai Exhibition

Probably most of the people in such an essentially mercantile community as that of Shanghai already have come to the conclusion that the suggested World Exhibition in or near the Settlement is much more than a dream and that the various articles recently appearing in the "North-China Daily News" are but the initial steps towards the consummation of more or less definite plans. Hongkong at least believes this and is somewhat frightened that Shanghai is going to step in and take away some of the laurels the southern Colony has been expecting to gain, for Hongkong had fully made up its mind to have an Exhibition. Mr. Bena is very determined that our Exhibition shall become a fact and more than one Exhibition has been built up by the energy of one man, though in this case there are several people whose determination is no less than that of Mr. Bena. There are two points upon which some emphasis should be laid. Something in the way of figures had to be given in order to have a basis upon which to work, but Mr. Bena only gave comparative figures as shown by the balance sheets of other Exhibitions and it should not be thought that any one of these sums necessarily can be regarded as the cost of a Shanghai Exhibition. It might be more or less, and obviously no estimate, however rough, can be given until more definite plans are made. There would, for instance, be wide differences in the cost of land at Woosung, Pootung, Kiangwan and Hungjao and also in the making of suitable approaches thereto. Then there can be no talk of believing in or hoping for the consent and co-operation of the Chinese. It must be their Exhibition even more than the foreigner's and their consent and co-operation are essential, for without them there cannot be an Exhibition. If Mr. Bena had not grounds for hoping for such co-operation, he would not have put his plan forward: it remains to secure a guarantee to that effect and this must be the first step. The meeting at the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce on May 29 should settle this point.

Mokanshan

The Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo Railway kindly send us a new booklet they have produced this year on Mokanshan: how to get, there, where to stay and how much is to be paid for it all. As regards the latter one notes sorrowfully that even in Mokanshan rates of living have risen beyond what they were in the good old days. But it is still infinitely cheaper than other summer resorts and of its charms there can be no doubt. A good many improvements have been introduced this year. Return tickets, for instance, which used to be dated for a particular day, are [illegible] to be "available until the end of the season," which really extends right up to October. Sedan chair tickets are made available for two days and there is a swimming bath at the hotel, free for all guests. The best innovation, however, is the sleeping cars to be put on every Friday night train. One will leave Jessfield (say) at 7.30 p.m., the sleeping car will be shifted from Kenshangmên to Konzenchiao and one may sleep till the launch starts at 6.30 a.m. The only improvement we would urge in this excellent plan is that the launch might start at 5 a.m. Then one would get over the creek journey, which is always the hottest part, before the sun was really high. Also one would be up the mountain before noon instead of 1 p.m. We hope the railway will make this small alteration to perfect a very welcome innovation.

Alive but Invisible

Though the essential details of the interview between Reuter's special correspondent in Canton and Mr. Eugene Chen had already been telegraphed, the whole story as now received by mail is far too entertaining not to give in full. One knows not which the more to admire, the indefatigable pertinacity of the pressman or the secretary's supple evasions. We do not quite see why everybody connected with Dr. Sun's headquarters should have got so terribly on the high horse and they have certainly done themselves no good thereby. Less than the usual courtesy, for which Chinese are justly famous, was shown to Mr. McDonald, whose mission to Canton was not only quite natural but might well have been received as an act of consideration. Popular report is seldom reliable; least of all in China in political affairs; the report of Dr. Sun's demise was of interest to the whole world; and as one party was strenuously denying his death another was with equal force maintaining it; Reuter's therefore, sent a representative to Canton in order that the word of a great and unimpeachable news agency might settle the matter. If the financial effects of the rumour are as serious as Mr. Chen says, there was the greater reason why Dr. Sun should allow himself to be seen and we cannot conceive what offence to his dignity could have been caused. There is, as Reuter's correspondent pointed out, no parallel with what King George would have done in similar circumstances, because they could never arise. But assuming that they could, we are perfectly sure that his Majesty would have allowed himself to be seen by say, a representative of Havas, Stefani or the Associated Press. Let us say plainly that we do not for a moment doubt Mr. Engene Chen's assurance that Dr. Sun is alive and kicking (as the vulgar tongue hath it). But we cannot help thinking that to a great many minds Mr. Chen's vigorous reluctance to allow Dr. Sun to be seen means only that there is no Dr. Sun to see.

[illegible] "*Sinwanpao*" that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is about to give permission for the re-establishment of Austrian Consulates in China. It is noted that for legal and official purposes, Austrians will be regarded as subj[illegible] treaty country. An [illegible] has of course been [illegible] Austrian interests here for [illegible] past.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

REUTER CORRESPONDENT ARRESTED IN CANTON

Audacious Chinese Journalist Who Dares to Endeavour to Get an Interview with Dr. Sun: The Militarists' Special Detestation

Hongkong, May 16.

A Reuter special correspondent was despatched to Canton last night with instructions to interview Dr. Sun Yat-sen, if he were still alive. He cables this morning that he visited the Headquarters and saw Mr. Eugene Chen, who made a statement that Dr. Sun Yat-sen did not feel called upon to prove to anybody that he was not dead in view of the categorical statements to the contrary issued by Mr. Chen. The latter was emphatic in his declaration that Dr. Sun was perfectly well after "an indisposition, not an illness." Reuter's correspondent was therefore refused the opportunity to see Dr. Sun.

The opinion in Hongkong is still that Dr. Sun is dead or that he has suffered a very severe nervous breakdown, which prohibits him from seeing anybody except immediate relations.

Mr. Eugene Chen sent a telegram to Reuter last night from Canton stating:—

"The report of the death of Dr. Sun Yat-sen is entirely unfounded. He was indisposed a fortnight ago owing to the strenuous Labour Day on May 1, when he addressed several meetings. He is now completely recovered. His medical adviser, Dr. Rummel, having ceased attendance over a week ago—Eugene Chen."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Shameen, May 16.

Reuter's Chinese correspondent at Canton has been arrested.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Note.—The arrest follows the unsuccessful efforts of Reuter's Hongkong correspondent to secure a view of Sun Tan-sen, which, it is significant to note, was refused him. —Reuter.

Mr. Hin Wong (Wong Hin-chew) is Reuter's correspondent in Canton as well as correspondent to the "China Weekly Review" and a number of other journals in Canton and elsewhere. He was formerly a contributor for some time to the "North-China Daily News" on affairs in Canton.

About 35 years of age, Mr. Wong is married and has three or four children. After receiving his preliminary education in Honolulu (some are under the impression that Mr. Wong was born there and that he is an American citizen, but this we are unable to confirm), he went to America and studied arts and journalism in the University of Missouri, under Dean Walter Williams. One of his class-mates for about four years was Mr. J. B. Powell, editor of the "China Weekly Review."

Upon returning to China, seven years ago he made Canton his headquarters and, while acting as correspondent for "Millard's Review" (now the "China Weekly Review") and the Associated Press of America, started the "Canton Times." About two years ago, he became Reuter's correspondent. In 1921, he attended the Press Conference of the World (held under the auspices of the Pan-Pacific Union) in Honolulu, Hawaii, and delivered several able addresses, later being elected to several of the subcommittees. Immediately after the Press Conference, Mr. Wong was asked by the South China Press Association to act as their representative and correspondent at the Washington Disarmament Conference, the work of which he very creditably and ably handled.

As editor of the "Canton Times," Mr. Wong was fearless and very frank. He was friendly in his criticism, but, as a result of his duties, he aroused the animosity of the militia, who ordered the suppression of his paper.

About 18 months ago, Mr. Wong was imprisoned by Dr. Sun Yat-sen's clique because he sided with the merchants and wrote several articles protesting very strongly against the illegal taxation, which were considered by the militarists to be detrimental to their interest, but, as a result of numerous protests which came in from every side, the Canton authorities were compelled reluctantly to release him. His home and his office were ransacked at the time for any evidence which might have been used against him. After his release, Mr. Wong immediately set to work to establish another daily newspaper (in English) in Canton and we believe that he had just succeeded in his efforts at the time of his second arrest.

Boy Scout Commissioner

Apart from his journalistic work, Mr. Hin Wong was Commissioner of Boy Scouts in Canton, he being the first to organize a troop in the "City of Rams." He was also greatly interested in educational work, was a member of the Canton Municipality (of which Dr. Sun Yat-sen's son, Mr. Sun Fo, is Mayor), and a hard worker of the committee of the Canton Returned Students' Association.

Mr. J. B. Powell received a telegram on Saturday morning announcing the arrest of Mr. Wong and asking that efforts should be made to bring about his release. This message evidently came from one of his friends, and Mr. Powell at once telegraphed to the American Consul-General in Canton urging him to assist in securing Mr. Wong's release on the ground that Mr. Wong is an employee of an American corporation. Mr. Powell believes that, even if no pressure can be brought to bear by the Consul-General, a protest will at least be lodged with the authorities, and that, while the authorities will not dare to injure Mr. Wong, they may hold him in prison. The outcome of the case will therefore will be watched with interest.

Canton, May 17.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen, who is declining visits from outsiders, to-day granted an interview to a representative of the Eastern News Agency, through the good offices of Mr. Cheng Hung-nien.

While Dr. Sun seems to be somewhat tired, he is in excellent spirits as usual, and the manner in which he expressed his views concerning the political situation suggested that he was the very reverse of ill.

The various rumours of Dr. Sun's death made the populace for a time very uneasy; but as it is clear that the rumours were absolutely groundless, the people of Canton felt easy again.—Eastern News Agency.

Hongkong, May 19.

Mr. Hin Wong, Reuter's correspondent at Canton and Editor of the Canton "Evening Star," who was arrested on May 16, is charged with alleged spreading of false rumours with regard to the death of Dr. Sun Yat-sen. It is reported that he has been banished from Kuangtung for 10 years.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Note.—The report of the death of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, received by Reuter in Shanghai, did not come Mr. Hin Wong but from Reuter's correspondent in Hongkong.—Reuter.

According to trustworthy author- Mr. Hin Wong, Reuter's and the "Weekly Review" correspondent in Canton, has in addition to being banished from Kuangtung for 10 years, been sentenced to a term of imprisonment.

Another report states that Mr. Wong was released, but soon afterwards returned to Shakee, a district in Canton, was arrested, and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

According to trustworthy authority, last night Mr. Hin is in serious danger of his life. The American Consul-General is interceding for him, as he is understood to have been born in Honolulu.

Shanghai, May 21.

Reuter's Agency has received a telegram from Mr. Eugene Chen, stating that he has communicated to the Chief of Police Reuter's denial that Mr. Hin Wong was responsible for the report of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's death. He says that Mr. Hin Wong is in no personal danger.

Reuter's correspondent at Hongkong is informed by the American Consul that his colleague at Canton is using his good offices on behalf of Mr. Hin Wong, who may be banished or imprisoned.—Reuter.

Peking's Precautionary Measures

Peking, May 19.

A mandate, issued last night, appoints General Lan Hu Tuh of Military Rehabilitation Affairs in Kuangtung, Gen. Teh Chu Civil Governor of Kuangtung, General Shen Hung-ying Tupan of the Kuangtung-Kuangsi Border, and Gov. Hung Chow-lin Military Commissioner for Chaochow and Meikiang.

It is explained semi-officially that, while the Government have received denials of the reports of the death of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, they have also received information casting doubt upon the denials made by Canton, together with hints that the Canton leaders intended to appoint Gen. Li Lieh-chun Commander-in-Chief of the Yunnan-Kuangtung forces at Canton and Gen. Hu Han-ming, Civil Governor of Kuangtung.

The mandated appointments are, therefore, looked upon as a precautionary measure on the part of Peking.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

KOWLOON'S RECORD FINE

American Engineer Fined $210,000 for Trafficking in Opium

A record fine was inflicted by the Kowloon Magistracy last week, Harold Anderson (55), an American engineer of the str. Las Vegas, being fined $210,000 by Mr. E. W. Hamilton.

Defendant pleaded guilty to the charge of having 1,750 taels of non-Government prepared opium in his possession on board the vessel which was lying alongside No. 1 wharf of the Kowloon Godown Co. The opium was worth no less than $21,000 (one-tenth the fine).

It was alleged that an Indian watchman saw two Chinese drawing up something from over the side of the ship by means of ropes. A European was watching the proceedings close by. Two boxes were brought up. The watchman then went over to the Chinese and asked who owned the boxes. The European (defendant) said "B'long my." The Indian told him that the boxes had to be searched. Defendant then replied "You no see b'long whiskery," and refused to let him search. The watchmen said that he would get a Chinese Sergeant, to which defendant replied that if he did not get a Police Sergeant he would give him some money. The Indian told defendant that he did not want any money, but only wanted to search the boxes. During the conversation the two Chinese went away. Defendant then produced two keys, and one of the boxes was opened. The Chief Officer was called and the boxes were taken to the Water Police Station and when opened the opium was found contained in 350 five-tael tins. A European detective went back to the ship with the watchman, who pointed out defendant, the latter then being arrested.

Asked if he had anything to say defendant stated that he was "hard up" and had a family to keep. He did not buy the opium but was carrying it on a commission of $3,000.

The fine of $210,000 or one year's hard labour was imposed.

EXTENSION OF KIUKIANG AS AN OPEN PORT

Peking, May 20.

A Chihling Mandate announces the opening of Kiukiang as a commercial port. The mandate explains that this action was taken at the suggestion of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the Interior, Finance, Justice, Commerce and Communications and the Shuiwuchu.

In reply to inquiries, official circles explain that hitherto certain parts of Kiukiang were not included in the open port and the mandate merely represents extension of the port.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CANTON'S COMEDY OF ERRORS

Rumour of Dr. Sun's Decease And How Two Hongkong Papers Furiously Rage Together

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hongkong, May 17.

Is Dr. Sun dead or alive? One time President of China, Father of the Republic as he has been so called he is once more in the limelight. Dr. Sun's name, his reported demise and the inevitable denials have been the subject of front page news in big black headlines, in both the English and vernacular organs during the past week. Dr. Sun's state of health is shrouded in mystery. The Canton President's supporters declare the reports false and a piece of political flapdoodle. On the other hand anti-Sun adherents are equally vehement in the assurances that Sun is no more. And out of it all has arisen a ludicrous journalistic situation.

The two English evening papers here are at loggerheads over Sun Yat-sen. The "Hongkong Telegraph" started the ball rolling on Tuesday with a report that Dr. Sun was ill, giving vague rumours of his death from cerebro-spinal fever, carefully stating that the announcements in the vernacular paper, from which they had evidently taken their story, were very conflicting. Following this, the opposition paper, the "China Mail," on Wednesday came out with the startling headline "Sun Yat-sen Dead" declaring without qualification that "possibly China's most prominent man" passed away at Canton that morning at 4.30 o'clock.

The next evening, the "Telegraph" in equally big bold type made a feature of the story under the headline "Dr. Sun Not Dead." They proceed then to reproduce a cable from their special correspondent which states in effect that Dr. Sun had recovered from his indisposition and had been attending to his official duties for the past two days, adding that this was the emphatic assurance given to the correspondent by Dr. Hans Rummel, the German physician who had been attending personally on Dr. Sun. The correspondent goes on to say that Canton Government officials strongly ridiculed the various rumours regarding Dr. Sun's death, attributing them to "enemy sources." Supporting this statement in the same issue, is a telegram from Mr. Eugene Chen, denying the death of his chief.

Rival Headliners

Here is where the humour of the situation starts. One English paper states the Canton leader is dead and forthwith gives half a page of his virtues, his life and "romantic career" and the other diametrically opposes and declares Dr. Sun lives. But the comedy of errors does not end.

The public had two papers that same evening to digest; two stories to criticize and believe or disbelieve. The one stating in forcible and unmistakable terms that Dr. Sun was not dead: the other supporting its previous day's announcement by explaining that despite conflicting stories, it sees no reason to alter its opinion that the much-discussed doctor is dead.

On Friday (yesterday), the "China Mail" begin to weaken a little and ask the question "Is Sun Yat-sen Dead?" but retaining their big headlines and publishing the result of their "special representative's" investigations. The representative wires that he has been told by Mr. Eugene Chen that Dr. Sun is perfectly well after his "indisposition, which was not an illness." Further, the newspaper man is told by Mr. Chen that Dr. Sun does not feel called upon to prove to anybody that he is not dead. The corpse of Dr. Sun, neither the living person is seen by the representative of the Hongkong paper.

The rival organ publishes at the same time an extract from the Canton "Evening Star" a new publication which states, "Dr. Sun Yat-sen, indisposed for a time last week, is now able to receive a few friends on business" and relegates this to the size of an ordinary news paragraph.

Mr. Eugene Chen's Indignation

To-day, the "China Mail" representative's full story of his visit to Canton is given under even more sensational headlines than before. Two pressmen representing what is termed "a famous new agency" state that they were refused an interview with Dr. Sun and that their attempt was described by Mr. Eugene Chen as an "impertinence" that Dr. Sun should be asked to display himself to prove that he was alive, simply because he [illegible] had maliciously circulated reports that he was dead." Mr. Chen continue the representatives, upbraided the Hongkong papers, English and vernacular for publishing false reports based upon a single report in a Chen Chiung-ming paper. When the newspaper men insisted that Dr. Sun should be interviewed, Mr. Chen is reported as replying that when Tsao Kun was reported dead some time ago the communique issued by the Peking Ministry of Foreign Affairs was accepted without question and nobody came along with demands to interview Tsao Kun to prove that he was alive. Mr. Chen asked if a similar demand would have been made if the same position had arisen regarding King George. Was Dr. Sun to grant interviews to every Tom, Dick and Harry who came to Canton? Concluding the interview, Mr. Chen said Dr. Sun had never been ill, nor had he been confined to bed and at the most had only been indisposed, a word which he used advisedly.

And here, for the present, the matter rests. Though I see no reason to doubt the emphatic assurance of Mr. Eugene Chen, there *is* a little mystery concerning Dr. Sun's obscurity be he alive or dead. It has produced a comedy of errors and a diversion which with its peculiar circumstance had eclipsed all news in Hongkong for a week.

PRIEST WHO INFORMED ON AN OFFICIAL

Both Fined for Assisting Bandits: Money Used for City Improvements

From Our Own Correspondent.

Suchien, N. Ku., May 15.

In my last letter I spoke of the "rain processions" which went on for nearly two weeks, both in town and country. There never have been such processions here. Some 50,000 took part; many of the people were burning incense as they went. For about 20 days no meat was bought on the street, and for one day not even vegetables were allowed to be sold. Incense was on hand at every shop in the big street. Children, too, had their little processions: when their prayers did not have the desired effect, the people began to get rowdy, and the Magistrate had to stop these processions. Rain then came! So everybody is busy, the maize and beans have been put in, and in many places the wheat looks more promising, though on some high ground it is feared there will be no wheat harvest. In spite of this rain, grain and grass for burning have all gone up in price.

Some time ago I wrote of a priest accused of assisting bandits who was sent to Nanking and who subsequently in Nanking accused his accuser, an official high in office. Both have been tried and heavily fined! However, the camp official and magistrate are using their fines for the town's benefit. We have Chinese here opening eight artesian wells. They propose to instal four in the city and four outside. They say the first is to cost $8,000, and the others $200 each. For the first they have already drilled down 200 ft., but as yet have not got to water.

This open winter, with little frost, has caused a great deal of sickness. Scarlet fever, relapsing, smallpox and chicken pox, are all amongst us, as well as influenza. The first thoroughly foreign house, built by a Chinese, is nearly finished in our big street. It is four storeys high, and built entirely by native workmen.

LUNGHAI RAILWAY EXTENSION

Peking, May 16

The Ministry of Communications has informed the Cabinet that the section of the line between Shanchow and Kuanyintang, of the Lunghai Railway, has been completed.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

DR. SUN ALIVE BUT INVISIBLE

[illegible]'s Fruitless Attempt to Gain an Interview and Disprove his Reasons. Once and for All: Persisten Pressman and Adroit Secretary

The following is a full account of an interview between Mr. A. M. McDonald, Reuter's special correspondent, sent to Canton to learn the truth about Dr. Sun Yat-sen, and Mr. Eugene Chen, the Sun Yat-sen's secretary. Mr. McDonald was accompanied by a well-known Chinese journalist, Mr. Wu Tse-kwang.

Canton, May 16.

Our interviews were first sought with the Mayor of Canton (Mr. Sun Fo) and the Police Commissioner (Mr. Wu Tsai-cheng). But as we were unable to pay our respects to either, it was soon found out, we then called upon Mr. Eugene Chen, private secretary to Dr. Sun Yat-sen, whom we found in his office at the Aeronautical Board.

Mr. Eugene Chen began by upbraiding the Hongkong papers, English and vernacular, for publishing false reports, based upon a single report in a Chen Chiung-ming paper. We pointed out clearly that we wished him to understand we were there not as from any Hongkong papers specially, but as special representatives from Reuter's Agency under personal instructions from Mr. Cox, the Hongkong representative. We continued that opinion in Hongkong, despite Mr. Cox's message to the "Hongkong Telegraph," held very strongly that Dr. Sun was dead. Responsible people took the same view and, faced with this attitude, Mr. Cox, who had been inundated with inquiries from abroad, felt that he had to obtain the most definite information possible. Obviously, we said, the simplest and most effective way to answer that attitude was for Dr. Sun Yat-sen himself to grant an interview, however brief, to the accredited representatives of a well-known news agency like Reuter's.

Mr. Eugene Chen insisted that the idea that Dr. Sun was dead could not be held in very responsible circles. To this we replied that Mr. Cox appeared to underestimate the strength of feeling in Hongkong and so late as seven o'clock last night Mr. Cox himself was still anxious about the actual facts, hence our wish for an interview with Dr. Sun. Mr. Chen then said that he had also sent, at about four o'clock yesterday afternoon, a cable to Mr. Cox officially denying that Dr. Sun was dead. This cable he had asked Mr. Cox to circulate locally and abroad. We replied that as Mr. Cox had not mentioned any cable to us before we left, we had no option but to follow out his last instructions. Mr. Chen agreed that even though this cable had been sent as a Government message it might have been delayed as the cable service was still erratic.

Why No Interview?

Assured that Dr. Sun was back at his post in normal health, we said the man in the street would fail to understand why an interview could not be granted, especially as Dr. Sun Yat-sen had allowed himself to be interviewed by pressmen in times of crisis before. Mr. Chen replied that he thought it an impertinence that Dr. Sun Yat-sen should be asked to display himself to show that he was alive, simply because the cannibals had maliciously circulated reports that he was dead. In reply we pointed out many things which the ordinary individual would consider human in Dr. Sun Yat-sen's previous broadcasting utterances, and Mr. Chen himself insisted that the reports would cause serious harm. Mr. Chen said that he would resent it very strongly were he in Dr. Sun's position. Mr. Chen asked if a similar demand would have been made if the same position had arisen regarding King George. Was Dr. Sun Yat-sen to grant interviews to Cherry Tom, Dick and Harry who came to Canton? Our answer was that the parallel was not sound because King George's death would not have the same political and financial consequences that Dr. Sun Yat-sen's death would in view of the peculiar circumstances prevailing in Canton to-day.

But after all, we reminded Mr. Chen, these were only incidentals. They did not alter the fact that we had been instructed by Mr. Cox to secure an interview with Dr. Sun if possible so as to put the question beyond all doubt. Mr. Chen replied that the damage had been done anyway and he certainly thought that Dr. Sun would not grant the interview. The decision, added Mr. Chen, did not rest with himself. He had to consult others but he would strongly advise Dr. Sun not to see anybody. He hoped that no further denial was necessary. Had he not, as a responsible official of the government, already stated that the reports were untrue, and was it likely that he would issue, under his own name, any statement that must later be proved untrue? After all they were not children nor were they madmen. Were Dr. Sun Yat-sen really dead, the fact was bound to become known sooner or later since they could not hide it for ever.

The So-called Denial.

We pointed out that the official denial consisted of a single personal statement from Mr. Chen to the "Hongkong Telegraph" whereas in the past it had been the custom for official *communiqués* to be issued in the name of the Generalissimo's office as in the case of the attack on Waichow last year when the statements were sent to all the papers. Although the question of Dr. Sun's supposed death had been raised publicly as long ago as last Tuesday Mr. Chen had not issued until Thursday afternoon, the usual official statement for all the papers as in the past. Indeed a rigid censorship appeared to have been imposed in Canton. Mr. Chen said that Mr. Cox was a personal friend of his and that he would write to him. Mr. Chen added that he had met the editors of all the Hongkong papers and they knew that they had only to ask him and he would give them any information they wanted. However, if an official *communiqué* was all that was required one could be issued by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and sent to all papers.

We replied that while we would be only too glad to give the fullest publicity to any such statement the question would remain why Dr. Sun could not grant the interview.

Libel Actions Threatened.

Mr. Chen repeated that the damage had already been done and the only action they proposed to take now was to start libel proceedings against some papers, both English and Chinese and to prosecute the Hongkong Chinese paper which had distributed free circulars announcing Dr. Sun's death. After remarking that these were slow and unwieldy processes, we observed that it would be difficult to reconcile this inevitable delay with Mr. Chen's anxiety to have the reports corrected when the interview we desired offered such a quick and effective alternative. Mr. Chen then queried whether we knew Dr. Sun personally and one of us replied that he would know Dr. Sun Yat-sen at once.

After reflecting for a moment Mr. Chen reiterated that he very much resented the suppression of an interview and would strongly advise Dr. Sun not to grant it. During [illegible] we pointed out that many things [illegible] individual would consider human in Dr. Sun Yat-sen's previous broadcasts

OFFICIAL FIGHTING IN KUANGTUNG TEMPORARILY HELD UP

Meanwhile Citizens Volunteer Corps in Action to Stop Unauthorized Taxation: Canton Merchants Threat to Shameen

From Our Own Correspondent.

Canton, May 13.

During the last few weeks there has been but little progress made in the East River campaign, owing to the disinclination of the troops to fight without pay. Waichow is still in the hands of Chen Chiung-ming's supporters, and in spite of continuous reports that it is about to be attacked, nothing has been done so far. It is thought that the attack may be diverted to Hoifung and Lukfung, the district in which is the home of Chen. Gen. Yang Hsi-min, the Yunnanese C.-in-C., has been to Canton recently for conferences, but nothing definite would appear to have been decided.

On the West and North Rivers all would appear to be quiet for the time being, although there is a certain amount of activity going on in Wuchow. Gen. Hsu Tsung-chih, who is to take command of all the Cantonese forces in the West, has not yet left Canton to take up his post but is being urged to do so, and it is expected that he will go to Kongmoon in the course of the next few days.

Volunteers in Action

There are still a large number of troops in the City of Canton itself in spite of the strict orders to move which have been issued, although a certain number have moved out. There was a small incident near the Provincial Assembly Building the other day when the Kuangtung Provincial Guards, who are under the command of Gen. Wu Te-ching, the Police Commissioner, in the vicinity were attacked and disarmed by the Merchants' Volunteers for starting an unauthorized protection tax-collecting station. The commander of the guards concerned was immediately dismissed from his post by the authorities as soon as they heard of the matter, as the station had been organized without permission, and is also against the policy of the Government.

The strike of the junk merchants which started a few days ago, as a result of the Government's announcement that they intended to levy a 20 per cent. tax on all junk traffic for protection from pirates, has not yet been entirely settled. As the result of the merchants' protests the Government cancelled the tax but the merchants require guarantees that no such tax will be imposed in future, before resuming business. This has not yet been given and although the merchants were invited to a conference by the Kuangtung Rehabilitation Bureau, they refused to go saying they were making arrangements for their own protection and did not require Government protection. The result of the strike is that the traffic to the interior is interefered with.

Shameen No Thoroughfare

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce have protested to the Shameen Municipal Council against the Council's action in stopping Chinese using Shameen as a thoroughfare, and they have threatened that a boycott of foreign firms will be declared unless there is something done to reverse the decision.

There are now three schools on strike in Canton, owing to the students demands for the removal of certain of their teachers not being complied with, the Kung Yee Medical School, Holy Trinity School, (a British concern) and The Sacred Heart College (a French concern). In the case of Holy Trinity, the trouble arose through the school authorities refusing to allow the use of the school premises by the students for political purposes. It should be mentioned that only a portion of the students are striking, the remainder attending classes as usual.

Dr. Sun's Health

Dr. Sun Yat-sen has been suffering from overwork and was ill for some days, but he is now reported to be quite recovered and working again.

The Canton-Kowloon Railway is not yet through to Hongkong yet, owing to a temporary difficulty. Last week an attack was made and Shen Chun recaptured by the troops of Chen Chiung-ming, but they were soon driven off again, and this has delayed the re-opening of the Railway for a short time.

A NATIONAL UNIVERSITY FOR KUANGTUNG

Plea to Foreign Powers from Educational Bodies for Grant of Boxer Indemnity Money and Customs Surplus

We have received the following copy of a letter which the Provincial Educational Association of Kuangtung have recently sent to the ambassadors, ministers, consuls and foreign ministers of the different Powers accredited to prominent men and publicists abroad.

We feel sure, the writer says, that we can depend upon you for your support in our endeavour to establish a seat for higher learning and culture, and we shall be most obliged if you will, through your valuable paper, give this letter due publicity so as to create an atmosphere favourable to its reception in Europe and America.

Canton, May 5, 1924.

Sir,—We, people in the South, have long felt the need of a university for those who wish to go for higher learning and culture. Our cherished hope seems now fulfilled by the appearance of the National Kuangtung University. This new institution, which is only three months old, is founded through the amalgamation of three old colleges in Canton—the Higher Normal College, the Law College, and the Agriculture College. These Colleges have, during the last two decades, been the seats of higher and professional education for young men and women of Kuangtung and, indeed, of all South-western provinces of China and have produced many prominent men in Letters, Law, Science and Education. The new University, in addition to the old departments of study—the Departments of Law, Economics, Political Science, Literature, Philosophy and Agriculture—is creating new Departments of Engineering, Pure Science, etc. It has an aggregate number of over 2,000 students and over 500 teachers.

A Large Part to Play

But, in order to make the new University a success, there should be no half way and dilly-shod measures. The University has a large place in the South and has a noble part to play in the development of the country. In commerce, industry and politics, the South has figured large in the history of China. It is of vital importance that there should be a proper and eminent centre of learning and culture in order to meet the demands of the time. For this purpose, an adequate provision of funds is necessary. It is, therefore, proposed, that a portion of the Boxer Indemnity Funds and the Surplus Customs Revenues which are part of the contribution of the South should be appropriated for the expenditure of this new University.

The foreign Powers concerned have constantly declared that the Boxer Indemnity Funds should be spent for the advancement of education in China. Indeed, tentative arrangements have been made by one Power at least to allocate the funds to various universities in China while several other powers have generally expressed their intention to devote the money for higher education of China. The National Kuangtung University is entitled to claim for a share of such funds. The Province of Kuangtung, moreover, merits a special consideration from the foreign nations when it is remembered that it is the first province of China to open its ports for international trade and intercourse. Almost a century has elapsed since the western nations came to reside and trade in Canton. Subsequent years have served to develop and extend the international relationship and the future bids fair for a closer co-operation and deeper mutual understanding, for which the newly founded University will undoubtedly be a great contributing factor.

The Customs Revenue

With regard to the surplus Customs Revenue, it may be at once declared that we have no desire to enter into the controversial part of the question. Taking the sentiment of all concerned, it is safe to assume that no serious objections need be expected from any quarter to the appropriation of the surplus funds in question for the use of this University. The only point that arises in this connexion is probably the lurking fear that the money once obtained may be deviated for other purposes. But there need be no cause for such an apprehension as adequate guarantees and effective safeguards can be easily arranged to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. The employment of these funds for the cause of higher education will, in any case, go far to lessen the horrors of war and hasten the dawn of peace and unity in China and restore the normal course of trade and communication between this and other countries.

It is hardly necessary to add that the public bodies and organizations in the South are heartily in favour of the application of these funds mentioned to the maintenance of the University whose usefulness will not only be confined to the South but will be extended to all parts of China as well as to foreign lands.

With these considerations it is earnestly hoped that the foreign Powers will give a favourable consideration to the claims of the Kuangtung University and render necessary assistance and facility at the earliest possible date.

We have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servants,

Provincial Education Association of Kuangtung.
United Chambers of Commerce of Kuangtung.
Central Organization of all Charitable Association of Kuangtung.
Central Union of the Students Association of Kuangtung.
General Labour Union.
Central Association of the Labour Unions in Kuangtung.
Japan Returned Students Association.
Students Committee for the Kuangtung University Endowment Fund.

BOLSHEVIKS IN NORTH CHINA

Propaganda in Inner Mongolia: Nationalization of Women

Apparently the Bolsheviks in north China are carrying on their activities very vigorously and, as usual, stick at nothing to attain their ends, for Marshal Wang Huai-ching, High Military Inspecting Commissioner of the Three Special Areas (Jehol, Charhar and Suiyuan), has sent a strong telegram to President Tsao Kun, asking for permission to use every possible means in his power to cope with what he describes as a "most dangerous menace."

Marshal Wang, in his telegram, says that "the hearts of the people are growing worse every day, because the people are very ignorant and allow themselves to be cheated by Bolshevik propaganda agents. This is not at all surprising because what the Bolsheviks promise is beyond all description."

The Bolsheviks, says Marshal Wang, are again advocating their old programme (though they strongly deny it) for the nationalization of women. The people, he says, accept this idea, fully believing that by carrying it out they are acting with the rest of the world toward progress, humanity and peace. The Bolsheviks aim at causing labour troubles and strikes, he says, and if they succeed, there will surely be disaster in the country.

"The Bolshevist aim," states Marshal Wang, "is to enslave all those who are patriots and cause destruction to those who accept the old idea, famous amongst the civilized Chinese, of filial piety. They want to place the son on equal rank with the father and the women on equal standing with the men, as well as to have co-education in the schools. Their activity is getting worse and worse and is extremely hard to cope with, hence I ask that you will give me full powers to suppress the menace and to use every possible means to stop the spread of Bolshevism."

GOVERNMENT BANK IN TSINGTAO

Opening Ceremony: Police Precautions Against ex-Soldier Bandits

Tsingtao, May 14.

The Tsingtao City Bank, official depository of the Kiaochou Territorial Administration, was opened on Monday. Several scores of guests gathered in the three-storey building on Paoting Road for the opening ceremony, the principal feature of which was a speech by the Governor, Mr. Kao-En-hung, who is also President of the Bank.

The bank has a capital of $3,000,000, half of which had been subscribed by the general public. It plans to issue its own notes and copper currency, but these are not ready yet. It is expected that the notes will be printed in Peking, while the coppers are minted here.

Other speakers were Mr. Horionuchi, the Japanese Consul-General; Mr. Walter A. Adams, the American Consul; and Dr. Sun, the principal of the Tsingtao Academy. All united in expressing their best wishes for the success of the bank. Following the opening ceremony, Governor Kao gave a tiffin, the guests including Consular officials, the staff of the Administration and leading businessmen.

In his speech, the Governor said that a medium, such as the bank provided, was of paramount importance and that its function of negotiating and arranging all financial matters on behalf of the authorities concerned was one of the desirability of which there could be no question. An official bank lent encouragement to trade development and, being run on purely national lines, was not so much for the purpose of localized profit, but for the purpose of developing the resources of the district.

City Well Policed.

The city of late has taken on the appearance of an armed camp with the 2,500 or more police officers, augmented by Admiral Wen Shu-teh's regiment of marines and several military detachments, which are encamped in the outskirts. There can be no question, however, that the city is better patrolled than ever before, although less display of military force would find favour with the majority.

The marines parade daily with rifles and bayonets fixed and march along the Bund and other thoroughfares along the waterfront. There can be no doubt that this manœuvre is not without reason, the general opinion being that the purpose is to overawe any former bandit elements, who may be lurking in the city. Several ex-brigands have been apprehended and banished and the police are on the look-out for others.

The presence of the ex-bandits, who, incidentally, have been causing no trouble worth mentioning, is accounted for by the discharge from the army of the Fangtse soldiery. These soldiers are the same bandits who swarmed into the city simultaneously with the return of the Kiaochou Territory to Chinese rule in December, 1922. At that time further trouble was avoided by taking them into the army, the bandits being assigned for duty at Fangtse. Recently they were told to parade and were disarmed and paid off. They were ordered to return to their homes with all possible speed. Naturally, many of them lived in the neighbourhood of Tsingtao and so came in this direction. As a consequence extra precautions have been taken by the police, and the naval and military authorities. Hitherto beyond a few cases of petty thievery there has been no incident of an untoward nature.

The murder of Mr. Kawakami, the cashier of the Japanese Middle School, and the robbery of $4,200 in cash from his person, is attributed to Japanese desperadoes. The police and the Japanese Consular authorities are still looking for the murderer. The murder took place in broad daylight and in sight of at least two persons. These have been unable to give a good description of the assailants.

The American Asiatic Squadron is expected to arrive here on May 28 and will remain in Kiaochou Bay for ten days, going from here direct to Chefoo, which is its summer headquarters. The American Colony is planning entertainments in honour of the officers and men.

The Kiao-Tsi Railway.

Mr. T. L. Ku, former chief accountant of the Kiaochou-Tsinan Railway, who was removed from office last week on charges of alleged incompetence arising from the credit extended to a Sino-Japanese concern, whose outstanding balance had grown to large proportions, has left for Shanghai, the police surveillance over him having been terminated. Mr. Ku had gained considerable popularity here for the firm stand he took when certain militarist elements were making demands for money on the Kiao-Tsi line. He successfully blocked these attempts to drain the treasury.

The Managing Director of the Railway, Mr. Shao Hung-chun, found that Mr. Ku had permitted the debit balance against the firm in question to reach the amount of $330,000 and there were rumours that he had accepted a bribe to induce him not to press them for payment. He was suspended and placed under virtual arrest, being detained under guard in his own house.

Subsequently he was exonerated, but Mr. Shao removed him from his post and appointed a successor. Mr. Ku was held culpable in not reporting the matter to the Managing Director. He declared that he had taken it upon himself to make collection.

The refusal of the company to pay the bill hinges on the question of a rebate. The firm insists upon this reduction, which it was granted during Japanese control of the railway.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

GROWTH OF LOTTERIES IN KIANGSU

Provincial Assembly Members Calling for Strict Repression

Several members of the Provincial Assembly of Kiangsu have called upon the Civil Governor, Han Kuo-chun, for information regarding the issue and sale of lottery tickets. They say that, in spite of an order for their suppression, the number of tickets has increased daily, and that practically all the advertising space in the Chinese press is taken up by lotteries, which are being carried on under new names. Kiangsu, they say, is the base of all the operations of lottery runners, and the majority of tickets are sold here. Through these, the Kiangsu people waste much money which should be used for better purposes. The people are continually cheated, and if no remedy is applied, "we people will continue to suffer indefinitely. Why then do you not investigate the question of these tickets which change only in name and face? Why do not the magistrates of the different districts and the police of the province take steps to suppress these tickets? Why is it that lottery tickets before were suppressed and why are these, which are only changed a little, not suppressed! We cannot understand it. We Kiangsu people hate this evil and demand that all lotteries be suppressed for ever in the future as in the past. We demand a reply from you within five days."

H. & S. BANK IN PEKING

First Secretary of British Legation Appointed to Succeed Mr. Hillier

Peking, May 17.

Mr. G. E. Hubbard, First Secretary of the British Legation in Peking, who is at present on furlough in England, has been appointed manager of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank at Peking, in succession to the late Mr. E. G. Hillier.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

RAIN AT LAST IN N. KIANGSU

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingkiangpu, Ku., May 15.

Splended rains, over a period of ten days, since followed by bright sunshine, give the best prospects of good crops we have had here for years.

Yesterday a man from the country north of here told me there were fewer bandits in that district just at this time than for several years. May this be true to-morrow!

STUDENTS MILDLY DISGRACING THEMSELVES

The Day of Humiliation: An Annual Holiday for Public Parade: Great Preparations: But Rather Tame Results

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, Hup., May 10.

The day upon which the students of China annually disgrace themselves is safely past. It appears that there are really two days, viz. May 7 and May 9, the former being the anniversary of the day upon which the iniquitous Twenty-one Demands were presented by Japan, and the latter the day upon which they were signed by the Chinese statesmen in Peking. As to which of the two days brought the more of disgrace and humiliation, seems to be a subject not quite clear in the students' own minds. The one fact about which they are quite certain is, that they must have a holiday annually, on which they can go out of school to disgrace and humiliate themselves in public.

In spite of the elaborate preparations which had been made, the two days seem to have passed off quite tamely. Oh Wednesday at 2 p.m., a big meeting was held in a theatre at the end of the Maloo close to the British Concession in Hankow. This meeting was addressed by several speakers, some of whom were delegates from other provinces. The usual talk was made, that China has suffered untold injustices at the hands of Japan, and that it behoves the students of China to rouse national opinion on the subject. Afterwards a procession was formed in 26 sections. After parading along several of the principal streets of Hankow, they crossed the Han, and paraded the principal streets of Hanyang. Then they crossed the Yangtze, and paraded the principal streets of Wuchang. There was no disorder at any point. Police and soldiers guarded various points of the route, and were stationed at the river jetties and on the ferry-boats. On Friday, special forces of police and military were out again, students were forbidden to cross the river in bodies, and there was no procession at all.

Kidnappers Executed.

On Wednesday, three kidnappers were executed in Hankow, and their heads were fixed up on poles at three different points of the maloo. There was a popular rumour that these were three of the Honanese who had been arrested a week before on the charge of kidnapping children and putting them into meat-pies. But the rumour was incorrect, as it was quite a new case. The three men had kidnapped a girl from a wealthy merchant's home; but the police had succeeded in tracing her and in arresting the criminals. There is no doubt they deserved the penalty which they suffered.

The putting up of heads in public places may seem a gruesome method of dealing with crime; but under present conditions, it really seems the best way to deter others from this wretched crime of kidnapping which is so common.

New Pleasure Resorts.

A wealthy citizen of Hankow has just opened a large piece of ground as a park, opposite the Chinese race-course. It is called the "Park of Ten Thousand Pines," and is laid out with pavilions and pools, and roads upon which people may enjoy a run in a motor. Needless to say this is not a purely philanthropic venture, but is expected to be quite a little source of income to the enterprising originator.

Wuchang has also been favoured lately by the opening of three public gardens. Three open spaces, two within the city and one outside it, have thus been converted to the public use by the order of Governor Hsiao. These parks are much appreciated by the people, especially on big holidays like Ch'ing Ming when the spring flowers are beginning to come out. It is pleasant to see this introduction of a western idea in China, and also to notice that it is being encouraged by one of a class of officials who are not always given credit for taking any thought for the welfare of the people.

U. S. FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES

Gradual Concentration of Garrisons: Five Forts to be Abandoned

Manila, May 10.

Military authorities in the Philippines department have recently discussed tentatively plans for the gradual concentration of the United States forces in the Philippines at Fort McKinley and Corregidor Island. At present the United States troops are garrisoning at seven widely separated points in the islands and the plans under discussion include the abandonment of five of these forts including Fort Santiago, Manila, Camp Nichols, Manila, Camp Stotsenberg, 60 miles north of Manila, Pettit Barracks, Zamboanga, and Camp John Hay at Baguio.

Camp John Hay, which is 5,000 feet above the sea, under the proposed plan would cease to be garrisoned by troops, but would be retained as a convalescent hospital. Fort Santiago, situated within the old walled city, is now department headquarters and in the event of its abandonment by the United States would probably be turned over to the Philippine Constabulary as headquarters. Brigadier-General Rafael Crame, Chief of the Constabulary, has long desired to obtain Fort Santiago as headquarters for his forces and would welcome the change.

The Fort McKinley reservation is composed of more than 2,000 acres, about five miles from Manila, on an elevation perhaps 100 feet above the sea. On Corregidor Island are the fortifications which guard the entrance to Manila Bay.

Camp Eldridge, 40 miles from Manila, has recently been abandoned as a garrison for troops and now only a keeper remains there, where for many years a battalion of troops was maintained.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

OPIUM STAMP TAXES IN SUIYUAN

Suppression Brought About by Action of Anti-Opium Association

Peking, May 16.

The International Anti-Opium Association a short time ago published in the press and brought to the notice of the Waichiaopu the system opium taxes in Suiyuan. Copies of the opium tax stamps in three colours are in the possession of the Association.

The following reply has been received by the Association from the Waichiaopu, dated May 14:—

"In response to your letter of April 23, which states that Suiyuan enforces opium stamp taxes, this Ministry has instructed the Inspector-General of Chahar, Jehol and Suiyuan districts to suppress such taxes, and Gen. Wang has replied that he has ordered the Suiyuan Tutung strictly to suppress the taxes in question. Furthermore, Gen. Wang has sent agents to investigate the matter."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

BRIGAND OUTRAGE IN FUKIEN

Foreign Employee of Shanghai Firm Killed: Another Held in Captivity

Foochow, May 22.

Mr. Jay Dinsmore, of the China Import & Export Lumber Co., and Mr. MacKay, with three Chinese, were attacked by brigands above Shahsien. Mr. Dinsmore was wounded and escaped to Shahsien, where he died on May 20. Mr. MacKay and the Chinese were captured.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

STRIKING STUDENTS OF PEIYANG

How the Die-hards were Tricked Into Raising Siege of Ministry of Education

TIENTSIN NEWS SERVICE.

Tientsin, May 15.

According to despatches from Peking a few days ago the remaining striking students, of Peiyang University, about 170, who had practically encamped in the Ministry of Education building in Peking until their demands for the resignation of President Feng were met, were induced to return to Tientsin on the promise that if they resumed classes Dr. Feng would later resign. It was stated that this alleged "compromise" was the outcome of Dr. C. T. Wang's intervention.

The truth behind this message was known to a few before it was made public. However, before divulging this truth it is necessary to consider the recent happenings in connexion with the Peiyang students strike. On April 8, 186 students were dismissed for not returning to classes, the dismissal being the penalty, published by the University authorities, for students who still remained on strike, without official leave, up the afternoon of that date. On that day 62 had returned to the campus and 102 had obtained official leave. These accounted for the 350 students enrolled before the strike a few weeks previously.

What Really Happened

While 65 had returned, actually only 18 were attending classes for a few days after April 8, but since then the attendance has steadily increased. There are now 130 attending classes. All of those returning had to sign a pledge stating they would abide by the rules of the University that no student "organizations" would be started.

About 170, however, held out for their demands and have almost lived on the premises of the Ministry of Education in Peking. The officials racked their wits to find a means of getting rid of them and recently a successful method was found. With a certain amount of dignity a conference was held at which Dr. C. T. Wang, a graduate of Peiyang, put forward the suggestion that the students should return forthwith to save the "face" of Dr. Feng, who would afterwards resign for other reasons. This proposal, backed as it was by official approval and in accordance with Chinese custom, met with instant adoption. The students and Ministry were tired of the fight and the students were elated at an obvious though deferred victory. However, it is also in accordance with Chinese custom that when a situation defies all reasonable means of solution it becomes advisable to use others. A refractory child is induced to be quiet with a promise of candy, a hesitant investor is induced to part with his money with appeals of fabulous riches, neither of which promises is made seriously. It is, in the native language, known as the process of "hung."

"Hunged" out of Peking

Applied to the students it worked out according to form. They returned to Tientsin in a body yesterday, with the expectation of being taken back on the rolls *en masse* and free of any stipulations whatsoever. To be certain of their expected open-armed welcome they sent one student to the University this morning as an advance guard. Upon arrival he was told what he and all the rest had to do before admission. He was told they must sign the pledge to refrain from organizing. The student immediately returned and reported to his comrades who are scattered among several hotels in the French and Japanese Concessions. What they intend to do remains to be seen. Dr. Feng, who took no part in this deception, does not intend to resign and will not be permitted to resign by the Civil Governor, even if he wished. The chief thing, in the minds of the Chihli authorities and the Ministry of Education is that the students have been "hunged" out of Peking, and the police have been given strict instructions to see that they do not return to Peking for some time, certainly not to within the precincts of the Ministry of Education.

JAPANESE POLITICS

Coalition of Three Main Opposition Parties

Tokio, May 18.

The leaders of the Constitutional parties—the Kenseikai, the Seiyukai, and the Kakushin Club—held a joint—meeting to-day at the Sanrokutei, Shiba, and passed a resolution to the effect that inasmuch as the constitutional parties had secured the majority of M. P.'s as a result of the last general election, the Kiyoura Cabinet should resign in a body without the least delay. They also made arrangements that the three parties should do away with all intrigues likely to cause a rupture among the parties, maintain their co-ordination, strengthen their union more firmly, and face the political situation with a united front. It was further decided that a joint meeting of M. P.'s belonging to the three Constitutional parties should be held on the 30th instant, and that negotiations among the three parties be held every Tuesday. —Eastern News Agency.

PAWN SHOP FIRE IN TIENTSIN

$70,000 Worth of Damage

TIENTSIN NEWS SERVICE.

Tientsin, May 17.

Seventy thousand dollars damage caused by a fire breaking out at 11 o'clock last night in the Yuen Shun Pawnshop, Asahi Road, opposite Laou Kiu-chwang's silk store, Japanese Concession. The building is of modern type three storeys, and, with the contents, was insured for $100,000 with foreign companies.

The only explanation of the outbreak is that electric wires fused somewhere on the top floor, which was quickly ablaze. The entire contents of this floor were destroyed by fire, while materials on the two lower floors suffered badly by water damage. The Brigades, including the French Municipal Volunteers, gained control of the fire after an hour's battle, but not before the entire roof had collapsed into the top storey.

MANILA IN DANGER FROM EARTHQUAKE

Same Geological Formation as in Yokohama: Building Precautions to Take

Manila, May 7.

That Manila may at almost any time be visited by an earthquake such as destroyed Yokohama last September, is the warning given by Father Roque Ruano, Professor of Physics and Engineering in the University of Santo Tomas, who has just returned from a visit of several months in Japan where he studied the effect of earthquakes in that country.

"The Philippines lie in the same seismic zone as does the earthquake region of Japan, and conditions in Manila are analogous in many respects to those found in Yokohama," said Father Ruano. "The same sub-soil that is found in Yokohama is found here and building construction is practically identical.

"Pile foundations used in Manila almost exclusively should be discarded for the spread foundation type which was found more resistant to heavy earthquake shocks than the older type. Water pipes, sewers and gas mains are too near the surface of the ground for protection in case of a severe earthquake. Breaks might be avoided if the mains were placed deep enough in the ground to avoid surface oscillation."

He recommends that a committee of geologists and scientists be appointed to study the earthquake regions of the Philippines and make a report in order to impress upon the people the necessity of preparing as far as possible for a severe quake which may occur at any time. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

GEN. Hu Hang-ming (former tutuh of Kuangtung, who is Dr. Sun Yat-sen's right-hand man) left on Wednesday night for Canton to assume the post of chief secretary to the general headquarters of the Canton Government.

VISIT TO A CHEKIANG PRISON

Praiseworthy Management of Prisoners: Money They Can Earn: Hygiene and Good Usage

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Shaohsing, Chê., May 16.

A recent visitor was very desirous of seeing the district prison. After securing permission from the magistrate the visit was made yesterday afternoon. The warden, a Kuangsi man who has had charge of the prison for ten years, showed every courtesy. The buildings are old and the grant for maintenance altogether inadequate. Notwithstanding these handicaps there was a degree of cleanliness about the place that gave promise of better things whenever an adequate building can be secured. The warden, however, was not optimistic about securing such a building at an early date as Hangchow is the only district in Chêkiang which has a modern building. In Ningpo a modern building is being erected near the North Gate. According to government rating Shaohsing will be the fifth district to secure a new building. In the meantime such devices as can be used on an old building are invoked to give light and air. Ventilator shafts have been placed in all the cells and also small openings along the floor to allow for the circulation of air. The upper half of the doors are of open work thereby admitting sunlight and air.

One of the interesting things case ever coming into court. which we saw was a lecture hall in which were seated some 30 odd men listening to a lecture by a Buddhist. The warden explained that since there were so many Buddhists in Shaohsing he had decided to have these Buddhist lectures with a view to improving the moral life of the prisoners.

My friend, who is a professor of sociology and much interested in prison reform, was impressed by the plan whereby prisoners are paid wages for work done in prison. Shaohsing being a great centre for the manufacture of spirit-money has made it possible for the warden to open a shop for the beaters. The product is marketed in the city and from one to two fifths of a man's earnings are saved for him. A part of these wages is given to him for important needs while in prison or to be sent to his family and the remainder saved for him as a nest egg when he goes out. After a man leaves the prison the authorities keep track of him through the police until they are satisfied that he has established himself economically.

Sentences are shortened for good behaviour. A five-year term may be reduced to four by good conduct. Only the more serious offenders are shackled on the legs and none of the prisoners are bound at the wrists.

It is significant that in a district with a population of 1,119,000 there should be only 190 odd prisoners in the district prison. One explanation must be found in the inherent good nature of the Chinese and a further explanation may be in the fact that so many matters are settled locally by the parties immediately concerned without the case ever coming into court.

TZELIUTSING NOTES

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tzeliutsing, Sze., Apr. 30.

We are now enjoying a period of quiet, as only a small percentage of the previous military force are here. It is still difficult to secure carriers for either chairs or merchandise and as there has been little rain the previous market prices have not returned to normal. The country about seems quiet from brigands and good rains in neighbouring counties have made the people more hopeful.

Last week we were favoured by a visit from the British Consul, Mr. Combe, of Chêngtu. He is much interested in the great salt industry. While on leave he intends to visit Tatsienlu, 15 days west of here, on the Big Road toward Batang.

THE Peking Tramway service will begin operations on July 1, reports the "Eastern Times."

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT'S DEFEAT

For First Time the Opposition Wins Clear Victory in General Election: Democracy's Warning to Bureaucracy: Power of the Elder Statesmen Still to Overcome

By Alfred E. Pieres

Tokio, May 14.

For the first time in the history of [illegible] illustrious Emperor Meiji, the Government [illegible] ended, which has resulted in the Opposition [illegible] ity of 100 over the Government [illegible] the fifteenth general election that this country has had. General elections in Japan, up to the present, have simply been a troublesome and cumbersome means for returning a Government majority to the House of Representatives. Accepted practices in the conduct of elections have always provided ample insurance and assurance that the Government party will not suffer disaster. All this has now changed, and the accepted old order is giving way to a new one.

The success achieved by the Opposition is a tangible expression of the lack of confidence felt by the nation in regard to the ability of Viscount Kiyoura and his official family to conduct the affairs of the country, a distrust that brought forth bitter censure from press, platform and pulpit, for even priestly sermons often turned on the less ethereal subject of the Cabinet in power. Viewed broadly, the election results show that constitutionalism in Japan has taken a distinct step forward, and even the astutest follower of, and sympathizer with, Japan's fight for a larger measure of popular control in the affairs of the nation was not prepared to admit that the electorate had progressed to the point where the conduct of the politics of the country has come to a new parting of the ways.

Bureaucracy v. Democracy.

The issues in the election battle were clear-cut. In fact, there was one main issue—whether bureaucracy, albeit in a paternal form, or democracy, in the sense of party [illegible] thority, should prevail. The forces were evenly matched. In fact, the Government had the advantages of possessing the bigger election chest and the tremendous moral power that comes from being trusted by the Throne. Nevertheless, the Government went down to ignominious defeat.

There are no signs that the Government is prepared to hand over control to the victorious Opposition. Viscount Kiyoura is for resigning, declaring that he undertook to form a Cabinet only until after the Prince Regent's wedding had been celebrated. Other members of the Cabinet, however, Dr. Rentaro Midzuno, the Home Minister, in particular, are insisting on carrying on as though the elections had not gone against the Government. The indications now point to the Government party focussing all its attention on the Independents with the object of coaxing them over to the official fold and thereby attaining a strength at least equal to the most numerical of the Opposition parties, namely the Kenseikai. A high official of the Home Department to whom [illegible] while the election results were coming in, registering defeat after defeat for the Government, in reply to a question, laconically remarked: "The [illegible] think that Prime Ministerial bees are buzzing around their heads."

The Elder Statesmen.

One thing is certain. In the event of the Kiyoura Government not resigning, or the Opposition not being permitted to form a party cabinet, the next session of the Diet will assemble in a very strained atmosphere and a vote of non-confidence will form the main business of the Opposition which, with its large majority, could roughly unseat the Government. When indications of a vote of non-confidence became apparent during the last session of the Diet, Viscount Kiyoura dissolved it and went to the country. Will the Premier do likewise again? Can he? There are only two courses open to Premier Kiyoura—dissolution again and another general election, or resignation.

In discussing Japanese politics, however, one has always to take into consideration the powerful influence of the Genro, or the Elder Statesmen, the hidden power behind the Throne. Like the President of the French Republic, these elder statesmen—there are only two alive now, Prince Matsukata and Prince Saionji—are virtual dictators during the period intervening between the fall of a Cabinet and the formation of a new Ministry. In fact, the Genro enjoy powers even greater than those of the French President for, while the latter consults the leaders of the legislative chambers before an appointment is made, the Genro need not do anything of the sort and are responsible only to themselves for whatever action they may take. For formality's sake, the Emperor is supposed to appoint the new Premier. In practice and reality, the Genro do so.

Possible Next Premier.

If Viscount Kiyoura and his official family decide to throw up the sponge and step out of office, there are Opposition leaders, with experience in the conduct of State affairs, who are ready to step in. Viscount Kato, leader of the Kenseikai, the largest Opposition party now—in fact, the largest single party in the new Diet—is already being spoken about as the next Premier. He is a capable man, for universal manhood suffrage and in a re-orientation of Japan's foreign policy, especially with regard to Russia and China and other Asiatic nations. There is one drawback to Viscount Kato as Premier, this being that, when Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Okuma Cabinet in 1915, he vigorously advocated the use of the big stick towards China and was the author of the notorious Twenty-One Demands, the very mention of which rocks China with passion. Just at the present time, when there is much talk of capitalizing China's goodwill, "especially in view of the American immigration legislation" as one vernacular paper puts it, Viscount Kato is not being particularly lionized. But it is possible the Viscount Kato has changed considerably during the past decade.

Mr. Takahashi, who dramatically flung away his peerage and stepped down to the ranks of the commoners to fight against the "satanic attempt" of Viscount Kiyoura to "throttle constitutionalism," was once Prime Minister succeeding the murdered Mr. Hara. His tenure of office was notable for nothing being done. As a matter of fact, astute leaders of the Seiyukai (then the largest party in the Lower House) simply used unsuspecting Mr. Takahashi to further their own ambitions. Mr. Takahashi, so far as indications show, is not anxious to appear in an official cast again.

Mr. Yukio Ozaki, at one time Minister of Justice and easily the foremost Liberal in Japan, will very likely be included in the next Cabinet if this is formed by the Kenseikai or by a coalition of the Opposition parties. If his services are enlisted, then the Cabinet will possess one of the most brilliant and most refined intellects in the Empire and a man whose sincerity of purpose and integrity cannot be doubted. Mr. Ozaki is also a warm supporter of anything that tends to the reduction of armaments. Hjs views on disarmament include not merely the scrapping of engines of destruction, but also the creating of an atmosphere of understanding where suspicion lurks. This, he calls "mental disarmament," and insists that it is necessary as the scrapping of warships or the reduction of armies, if the battle-flag must be kept furled. These are the main figures in the Opposition camp today and are likely Cabinet timber.

RAILWAY COLLISION NEAR TOKIO

Tokio, May 19.

Late yesterday night two cars on the Tokio-Yokohama electric railway collided. A motor-man was killed and 50 passengers were injured. Some were seriously hurt and had to be taken to hospital.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPANESE PEERESS SHOPKEEPER

Viscountess Inouye Who Sells Perfumes as Relief from Boredom of Society

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, May 11.

Unhappy in her life as a leader of society, bored with being one of the moving spirits in Tokio's smart set, Viscountess Inouyé, daughter of one of the leading statesmen of the early Meiji era, now runs a modest little perfumery store in a narrow street in Shitaya, one of the least pretentious of the many districts into which the huge and straggling capital of the Japanese Empire is divided.

There is nothing that particularly distinguishes this shop from scores of others in Tokio, and thousands on thousands pass it every day, not in the least aware that a titled woman, daughter of one of Japan's oldest aristocrats, is ready to step forth, a prim apron partially hiding her beautiful kimono, and attend to the wants of anyone who enters within the sliding doors that mark the entrance.

Viscountess Inouyé had a very unhappy married life. Her parents had no male issue and consequently there was no masculine heir to carry on the traditions of the Inouyé house. In accordance with Japanese customs, a *yoshi* (adopted son) was taken into the family and to him was given the family title, all the honour and authority that goes with it and the hand of the daughter of the house. Domestic infelicity led Viscountess Inouyé to throw herself into the whirl of social pleasures, but these soon palled and she decided to take to business instead.

Tired of Idleness

As was to be expected, her suggestion to run a store caused her relatives and friends to hold up their hands high up in holy horror. A member of the peerage to become sullied with sordid commercialism. All manner of argument was marshaled to dissuade her. She was told that it was not at all necessary that she should have to earn her livelihood, while such a step as she proposed taking, others insisted, would reflect on the prestige not only of her own noble house, but also on that of other titled families.

Viscountess Inouyé was obdurate, however, and declared that she would work out her own destiny and lead her own life. The result was this modest perfumery store in Shitaya.

"The desire to do something instead of leading an idle life," she told your correspondent, "came to me when I realized how empty was my existence, how I was living to no purpose. I had many trials and tribulation and believed that the best way to be happy would be to work and be independent."

Viscountess Inouyé is a woman of handsome lineaments and fully looks the daughter of a family claiming to have blue blood in its veins. She is of medium height and has well-chiselled features. Her looks belie her age and her talk is a interesting and attractive as is her face.

"This store of mine is not the result of a fad, one of those notions to do something unusual and be talked about," she continued as she offered me a cup of tea and motioned to me to be seated. "My old life was unhappy and I wanted something to take my mind off it and to enable me to forget it."

Peeress and Geisha

Viscountess Inouyé looks after her little shop single-handed. No maid or sales-girl assists her, although there are several in Tokio who would just jump at the idea of working with and for her, without any remuneration whatsoever. A glance round showed me that the potions and lotion that womankind the world over deems to be absolutely necessary were mostly imported from France. "Yes," she replied in answer to a question, "French powders, perfumes and cosmetics are what the Japanese young women demand now. They are nothing if not Parisian in their powder-and-perfume tastes." I looked to see whether there was not a tinge of sarcasm, but the lips did not twitch a bit. "Anything from Paris," continued the Viscountess, "is accepted without the slightest demur."

Needless to add, there is a constant stream of people visiting the store every day. The Viscountess' friends alone would make quite a tidy number of customers. Then there are those who are attracted because a titled lady serves them and the number of these increases every day.

"The place is becoming busier as day succeeds day and is also thus too small," she remarked. Just then a treble "Good Afternoon" was heard, the voice of a customer in the main room. Excusing herself she hurried to attend to her latest customer. I took a look at the latter. It was a geisha.

DEMAND FOR MOTORS IN NORTH CHINA

Orders Pouring in from Every Quarter for Freight Cars and Passenger Buses

Tientsin News Service.

Tientsin, May 16.

Big activities all over the Northern provinces are reported in motor-transportation and many of the Tientsin, Peking and Shanghai dealers are deluged with inquiries and orders for passenger and freight cars. Early summer usually sees a certain amount of activity but nothing like the present has ever been known. Sales records this season will undoubtedly break all previous records many times over.

The Chefoo-Weihsien Transportation Company has placed orders in Tientsin for 10 Dodge Brothers "screen" bodied convertible passenger and freight cars, and two White trucks. Two months ago they purchased six one-ton Ford trucks with 10 passenger bodies, all of which have been delivered. The same company has placed a substantial order, it is reported, in Shanghai, for Buick cars, with 10-passenger bodies.

The Chinese have at last awakened to the possibilities of motor-transport for inquiries are coming in from the most remote places. Merchants in small towns several miles away from railway lines write saying they have heard of the advantages of quick transport and wish to buy "50-passenger" buses! Nearly all the dozen or more companies already in existence are increasing their services and branching out with bus lines to other towns in their neighbourhood.

It has been proved many times over that light 10-passenger trucks, of one or one and a half tons, are the best for use on dirt roads in the northern provinces. The soft roads will not stand up under anything heavier and it is with the greatest difficulty that newcomers into the field of transportation are convinced that they cannot successfully use "50-passenger" cars.

Motoring in the Gobi.

A great deal of activity is also reported from lines using the Gobi desert, especially in connexion with freight. It seems that the constantly cut passenger rates have reduced profit in that business to a minimum, and most of the lines are turning their attention to freight. They are converting their cars and buying new ones for freight service only.

The principal reason given for the remarkable activity, besides the native awakening to the benefits of motor-transport, is the general belief that there will not be a Chihli-Fengtien war this year. The Chinese have come to the conclusion that the dissension in the Chihli party prevents it taking any hostile stand *vis-á-vis* of Chang Tso-lin, while, at the same time, they consider Chang is too busy with his own affairs, consolidating his position in Manchuria and watching the outcome of Russian movements in the north, to pay any attention to Peking affairs.

It is reported from Hangchow that a village woman in Supengchiao some time ago gave birth to a child with a body like a snake, and its father, it is said, will send it up to Peking for exhibition.

An unusual accident occurred to the China Navigation Company's str. Foochow at Newchwang some 10 days ago. The vessel was leaving the port, and the task of casting off her mooring chain was in progress. When letting go the chain it fell aslant of the rudder and damaged the rudder post making her unnavigable, with the result that she had to be towed back to Shanghai where she will undergo repairs.

OUTLAWS IN HANG-CHOW

Tobacco Merchant Held up for Tls. 20,000: Well-to-do People Terrified

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hangchow, May 12.

The *tufei* have been doing very bold things in the city lately. They threatened a big tobacco merchant, who went indoors to get the Tls. 20,000 demanded and made his escape by the back door, but we are told they caught the same train and accompanied him to his home near Ningpo. They have been putting the fear of death in not a few respectable monied people within the last month. Surely the time has come for somebody to help China to put her house in order.

There was little observance taken of the National Humiliation Day here. No demonstration by students, although some of them gave vent to their feelings in their own school, and, in the schools which did not give a holiday, some of the students and two or three of the teachers took the law into their own hands and absented themselves. We thought that a penitent stool would have been more appropriate than a holiday.

The C.M.S. Conference finished its deliberations on Thursday. It took a big step in the movement towards devolution in agreeing to hand over its primary schools and evangelistic work to the Chinese Church. The Secretary of the Mission, Mr. T. Gaunt, generously volunteered to go for a time to Shaohsing to open the middle school in memory of Mr. King, who was killed at Mokanshan two years ago in the typhoon. The Shanghai Cathedral does much to support this school.

For the last 10 days the weather has been bad, and that is putting it mildly. The Easter visitors were blessed with glorious weather, but those who ran away from the races were not so favoured.

AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN TOKIO

Resignation of Mr. Cyrus Woods for Family Reasons

Washington, May 19.

Mr. Cyrus E. Woods has asked to be relieved of the duties of American Ambassador to Japan.

It is not known whether Mr. Woods's resignation is connected with his recent speech in Tokio disapproving the American Immigration Bill.

Later.

Friends of Mr. Woods attribute his resignation to the ill-health of his mother-in-law, who was injured during the earthquake.—Reuter's American Service.

Tokio, May 19.

The American Ambassador, Mr. Cyrus E. Woods, confirms the reports from Washington of his resignation, which he tendered for family reasons, his mother-in-law's illness rendering his early return to the United States imperative. He said that the termination of the immigration crisis permitted him to yield to family reasons.

Mr. Woods expressed his confidence that in the long run the relations detween the United States and Japan would continue friendly. He said that he admired the dignity and restraint which the Japanese Government and people had shown in the crisis.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Washington, May 20.

President Coolidge has accepted the resignation of Mr. Cyrus E. Woods, United States Ambassador in Tokio, which was tendered by Mr. Woods for family reasons.—Reuter's American Service.

Tokio, May 21.

All sections of the press and public to-day unite in eulogizing Mr. Cyrus E. Woods, the American Ambassador, and regretting his resignation.

The "*Jiji*" typically remarks:—"Few American Ambassadors ever won greater respect and affection from the Japanese. Even the feelings engendered by the Immigration legislation do not alter the fact that Japan is most grateful to Mr. Woods for his presentation of Japan's cause in it's true light."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPAN MUCH WORRIED OVER THE STATE OF HER TRADE

Imports Vastly Exceeding Exports

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tokio, May 10.

Financial and commercial Japan is more worried to-day about the country's economic condition than about the immigration question or as regards the result of the general elections.

An official statement estimates that the foreign trade during the month of April has resulted in an excess of imports over exports to the value of Yen 106,000,000 bringing the total value of the adverse balance of trade since January this year to Yen 583,820,000, unprecedent in the commercial history of these islands. Not only is this adverse balance immensely in excess of the adverse trade balance that the country has faced during corresponding periods of other bad business years, but additional statistics go to show that the export trade will be far from flourishing for some time to come. The importation of raw cotton, an item that figures largely in Japan's export manufacturing activities, has been much less active during these past months than during the early half of last year, and this leads merchants to entertain a fear that the immediate future of the country's export trade is far from reassuring, for, after raw silk, cotton manufactures, especially to China and India, form the next most important item in Japan's export trade.

Towards the end of April, however, there was a remarkable decrease in the value of imports and the lull, which was expected to follow the re-imposition of customs duties at the end of March, has now definitely set in.

It is usually during the second half of the year that the export trade of Japan shows the best results. The first six months of the year are generally adverse to this country, but the latter half generally makes up for the excess of imports over exports in the previous six-month period. The present excess of imports over exports, however, is so great—a total value of nearly Yen 600,000,000 in four months—that it is exercising a very depressing influence over industrial princes, financial captains and merchant magnates, especially as this adverse balance of trade for four months is three times as large as that of the worst year Japan's trade has yet experienced. Little hopes are entertained that the export business for the remainder of 1924 will pick up to an extent sufficient to counter-balance the unpropitious effects already sustained.

Earthquake Mentality

On all sides the necessity for economy is being urged on the people. The most recent of those to call attention to this need has been Mr. Ichinomiya, vice-president of the Yokohama Specie Bank, who stressed the fact that, unless the people realize that the abandonment of non-essentials is indispensable for the rehabilitation of Japan's financial status and put their convictions into practice, whatever steps the authorities may take will not fail to bring about the desired results.

Some of the largest stores in the country are stocked full of imported goods, especially those well-known department stores, the Mitsukoshi and the Shirokiya, which are two of the landmarks of Tokio's shopping district. From morn till night customers pour in through their large folding doors in steady streams. The disparity between the Japanese unit of currency and the American dollar or the pound sterling has not yet become so wide that the average person can no longer afford to buy foreign goods.

The Yokohama customs house presents a sight of pile upon pile of merchandise from foreign lands—articles that cannot be manufactured here and which are far from indispensable to the daily life of the citizens. To the average Japanese the fall of the yen carries no meaning as yet. The fear of earthquakes still beclouds the mental outlook of the people and the general feeling seems to be to make the best of life before the next fatal blow falls.

All classes in the country are prepared for a further fall in the value of the yen. It can safely be said, however, that the Japanese unit of currency will not go even remotely anywhere near the regions traversed by the Russian rouble or the German mark, for the Bank of Japan—a State financial institution—holds enough gold to cover the note circulation on the market immediately and entirely. The drop in the value of the yen is not due to the loss of credit in the stability of Japan's currency system or to any anxieties regarding her financial stability, but rather to the loss of proportion between exports and imports, due to the huge amount of goods indented from abroad for reconstruction purposes. When imports and exports adjust themselves to a more proportionate ratio, the yen can be depended on to pick up.

In the Grip of Luxury

Reconstruction needs have now been met, but the excess of imports over exports continues, largely because of the luxurious habits to which the Japanese became wedded since the European war when money was easily and rapidly made, when wages became inflated and prices soared proportionately, and when the nation abandoned its former modes of living, modes of Spartan simplicity, as became buoyed on the crest of the war-boom wave.

Despite the heroic examples of unostentatious, simple living that the Empress, the Prince Regent and the Crown Prince are setting before the people every day, and despite the fact that every unnecessary indulgence plunges the country into yet deeper financial entanglements—the latter an argument that would have appealed to the patriotic sense of the Japanese only a short while ago—the people in general have not been able to shake off the insidious clutch that luxuries have on them.

What is the reason for this "dancing on the crater of the volcano" as the Governor of the Bank of Japan characterized this trait in the people? In the stricken regions it is due, I believe, to the fact that the people are yet mentally in the grip of earthquakes and the dire consequences of seismic upheavals, for the horrors of last year are fresh in the memory of everyone who went through them. The people desire to make the most of what years of life might yet be spared to them. This is also responsible for the wave of flippancy, levity and frivolity to be seen all around. The women have grown to be even more reckless than the men. The recklessness is so brazen and shameless in some instances that it puzzles and baffles the old-time resident. This is the case in the stricken regions especially and explains to a large extent, why the appeals to abstain from luxuries, especially those imported, fall on deaf ears. In the regions that were spared the charnel-house horrors of last year the self-indulgence evident can only be explained by the fact that the canker of luxurious living, born of the recent war, has spread too far and only some drastic operation can root it out.

SERIOUS FIRE IN JAPAN

Tokio, May 16.

The principal streets of the town of Hachinohe in Aomori Prefecture were gutted by a fire, which lasted three and a half hours early this morning. A thousand houses, including many of the principal buildings, were burned down. The casualties are not known.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The fire, which may be attributed to a neglected "Firebox," destroyed nearly half the town, including all public buildings. The number of casualties and other details cannot be ascertained at present.

PHILIPPINES' WIRELESS EQUIPMENT

Manila, May 6.

The Philippine Government now has a total of 28 wireless stations in the archipelago, reaching from Basco, Batanes Islands on the north to Jolo on the south. In a number of instances the Government has abandoned cable lines connecting various islands on account of the expense of maintenance and has substituted wireless stations.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Rescue work is being hastened.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ROBBERS BROUGHT TO THE BLOCK

Praiseworthy Police Work at Huaiking (Ho.): Famine Averted by Recent Rains

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Huaiking, Honan, May 8.

Following the looting of Menghsien city last autumn there were many local cases of daring robbery and banditry. It seemed at the time that most of the bad characters were going to escape the hands of the law. During the past three months, however, some clever secret service work has brought to trial and to the block some culprits that have been a menace to the district for several years. Many more are still at large but their hiding places are known.

Three villians were beheaded a few days ago outside the north gate.

When the much-prayed-for rain followed the next day one man was heard to say, "Lao Tien Yeh (the Old God of the Heavens), by giving rain to the parched land, was just showing his appreciation of the act of justice on the part of the official for beheading the three bandit leaders."

It is a very welcome sound to hear the eves running again after eight months drought. In some places the Chinese are remarking about the timely spring rains that have recently fallen. This is not altogether true because much of the wheat has been dried up for want of moisture, and it is only on the irrigated fields that the wheat yield will now be increased. The wheat fields that should have given a harvest are now being sown with cotton and maize since the rain has fallen.

The Chingmeng extension of the Taoching railway is now showing signs of coming into being. The work of grading the road was to have been a famine measure of four years ago. Since that time there has been wild speculation in land. Much delay has been caused by landholders wanting a high price per mow for the Railway line itself. It is reported on good authority that one wealthy Chinese in company with his friends purchased in advance about ten *li* of the railway line when the buying was good; afterwards prices advanced considerably and he was standing a fair chance of easily made money. However, now the original holders, finding out that he was an advance buyer and not an official buyer, are after his blood as well as more money. At present he in hiding and the case is up before the local magistrate.

PANCHAN LAMA'S VISIT TO PEKING

Peking, May 13.

Gen. Lu Hung-tao, Tuli of Kansu, in reporting the arrival of the Panchan Lama at Suchow, says that the Lama is staying at the Tahfusu Temple. The Lama informed the Suchow Taoyin that he could not leave there for Peking immediately, as he had no Chinese interpreter. Gen. Lu adds that he sent a message to the Lama saying that he would furnish the necessary interpreters at once, in accordance with the Government's instructions, and requesting that there be no delay in the Panchan Lama's journey on to Peking.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 16.

Premier Sun Pao-chi has suggested and the President has approved the appointment of two additional commissioners to welcome the Panchan Lama, namely, the Minchuer Hutuktu and Mr. Tung Shih-en. The Minchuer Hutuktu, who arrived in Peking some time ago to attend the Mongolian conference, has his headquarters in Kokonor. He speaks the Tibetan language fluently. Mr. Tung is supposed to be an expert on frontier affairs.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 18.

The Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs Department has received no further word from the Panchan Lama who, with his entourage of 72 people, is supposed to be still at Suchow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MAJOR J. L. Isler, the Swiss Consul-General, left for Peking on Sunday on an official visit. He will remain there for about a month.

FRANCO-JAPANESE ENTENTE

Premature Reports as to Commercial Agreement

Tokio May 19.

The French and Japanese representatives have reached an informal agreement to grant to Japan most favoured nation treatment concerning the Customs of Indo-China in principle though reserving the right to fix protective duties on articles which might possibly compete with Indo-China or French industries.

The agreement will be submitted to Paris where a new commercial treaty is now being discussed, but it is understood that the agreement concerning Indo-China will be a separate document.

M. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, will leave here tomorrow. On his homeward journey he will visit Kioto, Nara and elsewhere.

According to a Foreign Office representative, no political questions or understandings were discussed during the visit of M. Merlin.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, May 20.

M. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, and his party left for Kioto this morning. They were seen off by Baron Matsui, the Foreign Minister, officials of the Foreign Office and Municipal authorities.

Later.

Before leaving Tokio M. Merlin donated Y. 5,000 for the relief of the poor in Tokio and Y. 2,000 for the relief of the poor in Yokohama.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Paris, May 20.

Telegrams which were published in the press announcing the conclusion of a preliminary Franco-Japanese commercial convention are described as incorrect in a semi-official statement, which adds that the French Government had simply instructed M. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, to consider in concert with the Japanese Government means of improving relations between Indo-China and Japan. M. Merlin had not made his report yet. The statement says that no agreement could be made until the negotiators of both countries had met in Paris.

The French Government had informed Tokio of their willingness to negotiate a proper commercial convention to replace the existing temporary agreement, but they await the result of M. Merlin's conversations before negotiation in Paris.—Reuter.

MR. F. W. CAREY LEAVES NINGPO

Royal Send-Off of a Popular Commissioner of Customs

Mr. F. W. Carey, Commissioner-designate of Customs at Swatow, was given a most enthusiastic send-off on his leaving Ningpo to take up his new appointment. Mr. Carey's outstandingly brilliant work in connexion with famine relief work made his departure a real blow to Ningpo and the big famine-affected districts of this part of the province of Chêkiang.

The large numbers of Chinese officials and notables who assembled on Monday afternoon to bid Mr. Carey farewell were a sufficient criterion of the value of his public work here during the last three and a half years.

At Chinhai the C.M.S. Kiangteen was met by a deputation of the local merchants, and a guard of honour was drawn up upon the wharf. Mrs. and Mrs. Carey were entertained at tea by the Magistrate and merchants of Chinhai.

The Kiangteen moved out later honoured by dipping flags from the Customs masts, and Square Island Light-station fired a parting salute to the best-loved Commissioner who has ever occupied the old port of Ningpo.

NAVAL RETRENCHMENT IN JAPAN

Tokio, May 21.

Following on the dismissal yesterday of 1,700 employees by the Naval Arsenals, the Military Arsenal to-day announces the discharge of 2,000 employees, in accordance with the policy of retrenchment.—Repter's Pacific Service.

GREAT DROUGHT IN CHIHLI

90 Days Without Rain: Dust Thick and Choking and Sickness Rife

TIENTSIN NEWS SERVICE.

Tientsin, May 15.

When will the rains come? This question is asked by hundreds of persons in North China, farmers, merchants and everyone interested in the climate whether from business or personal reasons. This spring is considered by many old residents to have been the windiest, dryest and dustiest on record. For close on 90 days this region has been visited by almost incessant wind and dust storms. Only one of the storms emanated from the Gobi desert, but the direction of the wind was a little too much to the west to get the full benefit of its red, choking dust. For a few days this week it seemed as though the wind had blown itself out, but yesterday it came up strongly again from the north, raking up clouds of local dust. It was too windy to play tennis, for control of the ball was impossible. Again this morning a somewhat milder blow started, but died away late in the afternoon.

The dust permeates anything not hermetically sealed, and even then we have some doubts. Even the mercury in our thermometer looks dusty. With the dust has spread several slight epidemics of measles and scarlet fever, for hardly a family has escaped mild cases of one of these two ailments. There were more than 40 cases of measles in April among the foreign children. If there had been rain more than 50 per cent. of the dust would have been laid or washed away into the creeks and rivers. As it is there has been no rain this year, apart from an hour's drizzle that was too slight to register. There was snow in February, quite a heavy fall, and some good falls before that all through the winter. These have saved the spring crops, for without them they must have perished in the ensuing three months' drought.

The lack of rain is hurting the water supply in Peitaiho Beach wells, some of which are nearly dry. One well, typical of many others, has been gradually reduced from 15 ft. of water to 12 in., a low spot it never reached before.

The Chinese have issued orders to native butchers to refrain from killing pigs for three days and the third day expires to-morrow. This is deemed to be an unfailing method of rain-making. It is believed that the angels see the joke and laugh till the tears run down their cheeks. Hence the rain.

However, whether they stop killing pigs, or killing time or killing long-winded stories on the weather like this one, the fact remains this region is badly in need of rain.

MOBBING OF TWO BRITISH SUBJECTS IN ILOILO

Manila, May 22.

Major Burton Read, aide-de-camp to Governor-General Wood and special investigator of the alleged maltreatment of two British subjects, Mr. A. T. Kay and Mr. E. L. Brown, at Iloilo by a Filipino mob recently, recommends the suspension of Mr. Arcosa, Chief of Police at Iloilo, and the forfeiture of his pay.

Major Read says that the Police Chief used unnecessary violence in arresting the Britons, and also humiliated them by conducting them, after arrest, through the auditorium of the Iloilo Carnival grounds in sight of a large crowd of Filipinos and others. Major Read finds that the Britons might have avoided the row by the exercise of a greater measure of tact at the beginning of the altercation.

Governor-General Wood is expected to approve of the recommendation to suspend Mr. Arcosa.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

GEN. Lu Yung-hsiang, Tupan of Chekiang, has, in reponse to a request from the Chinese Silk Guild, signified his willingness to place troops on the railway and water-routes in Chekiang for the purpose of protecting silk and cocoon carriers during the present season. Chekiang is evidently not the law-abiding province of six months ago.

GEN. YANG SEN ON "CLEAN SPORT"

Huge Athletic Meeting Organized by General Ends in Chaos

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Chêngtu, Sze., Apr. 30.

Last week Gen. Yang Sen was responsible for a big athletic field meeting participated in by over 30 schools. Ten thousand students were present while nearly 50,000 interested spectators looked on for two days. The meeting was held on the large parade ground at the southwest corner of the city. The city wall running along two sides of the field afforded an excellent grandstand for the sightseers who were not slow to take advantage [illegible]. They crowded every inch of space on the wall itself and the grassy slopes leading up to it. It made a very pretty sight altogether. All the schools carried large banners. The grandstands and bandstands were plentifully decorated, a quarter-mile circular track ran round the field for the track events, the lanes were carefully marked out, special places were prepared for the field events, and the great centre was reserved for the mass games, Chinese-boxing and Boy Scout manœuvres. Gen. Yang Sen was present both days with his military staff and ample military forces to keep order and assist in the programme. The meeting was in charge of Mr. Lu, the genial Physical Director of the Teacher's College. He had an able staff with him and called half a dozen foreign teachers to assist him and act as judges. He had things splendidly organized and his committee men worked strenuously and most loyally with him—yet the meeting was doomed to failure.

A feature that seems most objectionable in Chinese athletic meetings is the host of men that are appointed by the schools to act as Red Cross men and take care of the athletics as they finish. When only a few schools compete the problem does not loom large, but when over 30 schools compete and each school appoints about 10 men each to catch their winners then the scene at the finish is pandemonium. The judges have no chance to make their decisions. The cheering students press in with their favourite and each cries "my man is first," my man is second" and any poor Chinese judge that dares have an opinion of his own is very roughly handled by the students.

The foreign judges attempted to bring order out of chaos and soldiers were stationed at the finish with instructions not to use force—just to keep the Red Cross men at least 10 feet off the finish. Then the foreign judges came in for abuse at the mouths of the students. Several races were stopped while the rules were made clear, but it was evident the students did not want rules, they wanted their men to win whether by fair or foul means.

Physical Director Mobbed.

At about 3 o'clock on the second day the situation became unbearable, especially when Mr. Lu, the fair-minded director was almost [illegible] by the students. He decided to call the meeting off, and so terminated. Prizes were given for what races had been run. The West China Union University athletes easily won first place.

One of the features of the meeting was the splendid exhibition of the Boy Scouts. Some 10 troops are now organized in the city, and they did some pretty massed work under the supervision of Mr. Shie, a young director that came from the east with Gen. Yang Sen. Both he and Mr. Lu, the Physical Director, received much of their training with the Nanking Y. M. C. A. Physical Department. To them must be given credit for what [illegible] attended the meeting. They were unfailing in their efforts to make things go. At the conclusion of the two days' "sport," Gen. Yang Sen called all the athletes round him and addressed them on "clean sport."

ACCORDING to the "Eastern Times" Marshal Hsiao Yao-nan, Governor-General of Hunan and Hupeh, has ordered from a British firm, a large quantity of copper sheet, with which to make coins. Meanwhile, the Changsha authorities have cancelled their order prohibiting the export of copper coins.

YUNNAN TUCHUN'S MEMORIAL

Piece of Much Appreciated Public Work to Celebrate His Regaining the Province

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Yunnanfu, May 3.

There have been great festivities in Yunnanfu at the unveiling of the obelisk commemorating the return of Tang Chi-yao—who it will be remembered was driven out by Gen. Kao when the latter returned from Szechuan in 1921—but who after 12 months in Hongkong fought his way back in the spring of 1922 and regained his old position as governor of the province.

The commemoration took the form of a complete alteration in the South Gate. For many years this has been a most dangerous place For all the chief business portion of the city centres round this spot, and the congestion of traffic through the gate has been a real source of danger even when such minor excitement as a big funeral, attracted a crowd.

A few years ago, another city gate was opened in the south wall, near the southeast corner, but this did not appreciably relieve the situation. The city fathers, with the Governor Tang Chi-yao at their head, decided to alter the main south gate.

Part of the wall each side of the gate was demolished and the outer part of the gate removed.

The result was a big open space with three openings into the city on its north side. *viz*:—the remains of the old city gate with its superimposed tower and two entrances—one on each side. The open space has been levelled and planned to be circular with a garden in the centre, a wide road all round, and shops on its outer side. The garden has been enclosed by a light railing and turf, flowering shrubs and fir trees planted. In each of the four quadrants is a fountain which gives a very pleasing effect. In the centre is a copper obelisk standing on a square base of solid masonry. This bears the inscription commemorating Tang Chi-yao's return.

The remains of the old gate, very like the Chien Mên in Peking, have been restored and redecorated and stone steps provide an entrance and exit on each side. The first floor provides a large reception hall while above is a museum with works of art, both local and general.

An Aeroplane in the Picture

On May 1, there was the official opening. At noon Tang Chi-yao, now civil governor, attended by his staff arrived, and after being received by the Mayor proceeded to the platform over the gate for the unveiling of the obelisk. A salute was fired and the drapery, made [illegible]. The national emblems were [illegible]. Chairs were placed for the Governor and for the Governor, while one of the new aeroplanes circling overhead, gave an exhibition of nose-diving, etc.

All the officials then paid their respect in the large reception room and refreshments were served. The Governor proceeded to inspect the museum, etc., and later descended from above the gate and proceeded to the garden and to get a near view of the obelisk. He then passed through the arch of the old gate on foot and entered his chair to return to his Yamen. In the evening the gardens were festooned with coloured electric lights and a big firework display brought the day to a close.

THE OPENING OF THE NEW MEMORIAL GATEWAY BY TUCHUN TANG CHI-YAO.

UPPER YANGTZE NAVIGATION

Idosyncracies of the River: Extraordinary Tides and Stoppage of Shipping

Ichang, May 16.

The Yangtze at Chungking has been very late in rising this year, and the summer time steamers have had a strange experience. Most of them left here four weeks ago, and got safely up to Chungking, but the river, instead of continuing to rise, fell so low and remained so low that they have not been able to come down again. One, the Alice Dollar, did manage to come down, and went up again. A week ago she tried to come down once more, but she had the misfortune to strike a rock at Mutung and had a hole pierced in her hull. She arrived to-day, only slightly damaged.

The River Inspector, it is understood, has now made a new regulation, by which ships of a certain length only are to be permitted to leave either end at certain depths of water. The smallest may sail on one foot of water, but the largest, like the Wanhsien, must have 12 feet and rising, before she can water here, but Chungking was reported as being six feet and failing yesterday.

The Traffic in Opium.

A resident of this district has recently made a trip to Shinan, and he reports that opium is growing very plentifully. Shinan and each town in that prefecture is full of it, while it could be seen in the Changyang, Patung and even Ichang districts of this prefecture. It is stated that the Taoyin has arranged for the sum of $1,800,000 per annum to be paid as a tax for the growing of opium throughout the Shinan prefecture. Then in Tangyang district, which Reuter's correspondent visited recently, while no poppy was to be seen on the main roads, bureaus have been established for the collection of the tax. These are, as usual, called Bureaus for the Prohibition of Opium. For instance, there is one at the village of Swanglienshih, 90 *li* from here, and all opium passing through there has to pay a tax of 30 cents per ounce, and when this has been paid the opium is free to be transported as far north as Hsiangyang in this province.

Another interesting fact is that the town of Wufung, which does not grow any poppy at the present time, has been told that the poppy may be cultivated on an annual payment of $50,000. It was evidently intended at first to establish a separate office to collect the tax for growing poppy, but now, since the visit of the Taoyin to these places, it has apparently been arranged that the collection should fall to the magistrate of each district.

Of course smoking is now so common that when guests come to a house they are offered a whiff of opium, just as readily as a cup of tea, and the paraphernalia for the use of the drug can be openly bought in any shop or stand dealing in these wares in this town.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

A PEKING OUTRAGE

Peking, May 22.

Two Heilungkiang men on Monday visited the Peking residence of the Heilungkiang Senator, Mr. Tien Mei-teng, who was absent. The visitors called again yesterday. Again finding Mr. Tien absent, the men forced an entry and tied up and shot a man. The man, who [illegible] Tien's young daughter, hearing the shot, came in and was shot dead. Mrs. Tien, appearing on the scene, was fired on, the bullet grazing her forehead.

Attracted by the noise, the police rushed in, on which the murderers turned their revolvers upon themselves. One died instantly, while the other was dangerously wounded. Mrs. Tien and the would-be suicide are in hospital.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPANESE AND SOVIET

Discussions in Peking Prior to Opening of Formal Negotiations

Peking, May 16.

The fact that Mr. Yoshizawa, the Japanese Minister in Peking, and M. Karakhan have recently been exchanging visits points to resumption of official Russo-Japanese negotiations. While it is premature to predict resumption of formal relations, the present conversations are apparently regarded as sufficiently important to cause postponement of Mr. Yoshizawa's projected visit to the Central Provinces.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, May 19.

It is stated on good authority that the Russo-Japanese conversations in Peking are now regarded as formal, both negotiators having been vested with powers to draw up a treaty, subject to their agreeing on many intricate issues, such as recognition.

The divergencies of opinion on various questions outstanding at the previous conferences are still wide, but the general opinion is that the prospect of reaching an [illegible] ment is more favourable.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 19.

The Japanese Minister had a meeting with Mr. Karakhan yesterday and they will continue their discussions this afternoon. While the discussions are not described as official there is reason to believe that Mr. Yoshizawa's authority for negotiating has been strengthened recently, and that the conversations now proceeding in Peking concern the settlement of questions which have been put forward as conditional to the opening of formal negotiations. It is asserted that while no actual progress can be reported, the discussions on Saturday last helped to clear the air.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ON account of the [illegible] plight of the Central Go[illegible] and the non-payment of th[illegible] of the officials, no fewer tha[illegible] former Cabinet Ministers, Dr. Lo Wen-kan, Mr. Tung Kang and Mr. Chiang Yung have registered their names as legal practitioners in the Peking and Tientsin courts for both foreigners and natives. Dr. Lo is well-known amongst the foreign community on account of the Austrian loan scandals which caused the downfall of the Wang Chung-hui Cabinet last year and he has now been appointed by Kao En-hung, Director-General of Kiaochou, as the legal adviser of the Tsingtao Administration. At the same time, some high government officials have resigned their posts and become medical practitioners in the metropolis.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary, Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury, S., Rhodesia.

The giving of advice to prospective settlers will be facilitated if applicants will advise the Board in detail of their circumstances and the amount of capital they would be prepared to invest in a suitable venture

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SHANGHAI NEWS

CAPTAIN D'OISY IN SHANGHAI

Nine Hours Flight from Canton to Kiangwan: Accident on Landing: Aviators Unhurt but Machine Badly Damaged: Celebration at French Club

The plucky French aviator, Capt. d'Oisy arrived in Shanghai on Tuesday on his world trip, but his first reception was not of the order that his admiring and enthusiastic countrymen had arranged. They were ready to deluge him with flowers and to deafen him with cheering, but instead he landed almost in silence, broken in a moment by groans and the screams of several women and a few minutes later he was surrounded by a ring of weeping French men and women and he passed from the field by groups of more sorrowful ones. The gallant aviator's landing resulted in an accident, which was too much for the Spectators, roused as they were to a high state of excitement by several hours waiting.

A cable message arrived early in the morning stating that Capt. d'Oisy left Canton at 7 a.m. on his flight to Shanghai and though he would almost have had to beat all the world's speed records to reach here by noon, even before that hour many hundreds of people had assembled on the stands at the Kiangwan race course. Every minute more arrived and there were quite 3,000 there by 2 p.m., which was considered to be the most likely hour of his arrival. The great majority were French people, prominent amongst them being the Consul-General and Mme. Wilden, Capt. Juge of the cruiser Colmar and several other naval and military officers.

Excellent Chinese Arrangements.

Mr. S. K. Chen and several other members of the staff of the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs were early on the scene and Mr. Tang Shao-yi was another interested Chinese. Major-General Wang had a strong corps of soldiers and police on the ground and he and his officers are to be congratulated on the perfect order they maintained throughout the day, dealing reasonably but firmly even with foreigners who attempted to break through on to reserved parts of the ground. To the right of the public stand a matshed hangar had been erected for the accommodation of Lieut. d'Oisy's machine and by the side of it a stand for the Chinese military band which was to welcome him.

It was a long wait and when a message came through that the aviator had passed over Foochow at 11 a.m. and still he was not in sight by 3.30 p.m., many felt confident that he had made a forced landing, and they went home disappointed. Chinese on the roof of the stand swept the sky with binoculars and every now and again one would bring the waiting people to their feet with an excited cry that he had sighted the flyer. By 4 p.m. people were very tired of waiting in the hot sun, but they stood their ground, prepared to wait for official information.

An Unlucky Landing.

After all the false alarms, Capt. d'Oisy was missed until he was quite close to the course. He was flying from the direction of Shanghai, not particularly high, but steadily and at a fair speed, when suddenly a great shout went up and he was seen well on the way to the course. He flew directly over the public stand, circled the course and then went off towards the railway station and was lost sight of behind the trees. In a few minutes he was sighted on the way back, flying much lower and at a reduced speed. He shot over the old owners' stand, flew in an arc past the Golf Club, dropping lower and lower and, after touching ground twice, landed on the thirteenth green. However, he over-ran the green, bumped on the rough ground and made a leap towards the ditch crossing across the ground there. To the dismay of the spectators, the machine was seen to pitch forward, turn half over and then apparently break in two.

Men dashed across the ground from all directions to render aid and the astuteness of aviators was demonstrated by the fact that, although Capt. d'Oisy landed at a point directly opposite to that where arrangements had been made for him to land, the first men to reach him were three or four old aviators, who could tell where an experienced flyer would land and accordingly had taken post near by. The aviator was seen to be unhurt and laughed at the first men up, but then he glanced over his machine and his handsome face instantly became clouded when he noted the extent of the damage.

A young Frenchwoman was amongst the first to reach the aviator and as he climbed out of his seat she pressed a bunch of flowers on him, kissed him on both cheeks and then fell back fainting. Then followed the Consul-General in a great state of grief and loudly proclaiming that the fault was on anyone rather than the aviator. Capt. Juge spoke a few words of congratulation and more flowers were presented, but no one was in the mood to make a speech and the unfortunate aviator was too tired after nine hours in the air and too dismayed at his bad luck to say very much. He and his mechanic were escorted from the ground and driven off in motor cars, a few people managing then to raise a cheer.

THE DISASTER TO CAPT. D'OISY'S AEROPLANE.

The Damage Done.

A definite statement as to the extent of the damage cannot be given until Capt. d'Oisy himself has inspected his machine, but the opinions of others are worth noting. One flying man, who was the first to get into it after the accident, said that the principal damage was the breaking of the main fuselage bars, so that the machine practically is in two pieces. The fractures in the various connexions between the two parts, he said, were all clean and the damage easily could be repaired, but it was different with the fuselage bars and he doubted whether it would be possible either to repair or replace them here.

Later in the evening another aviator who had made a more careful examination gave it as his opinion that the machine was a complete wreck and never could be put right. Besides the damage to the fuselage bars, he said the propellor was broken and probably also the shaft, the fuselage was badly damaged and there were many minor breakages. The aluminium bars could not be replaced here and he doubted whether the machine could be put right even if it were in the best repair shop. This gentleman explained that it was impossible to tie an aviator down to a landing at a definite spot and from a definite direction and that it was patent to flying men that, with the wind as it was Capt. d'Oisy would not attempt a run from opposite the far corner of the public stand to a landing on the eighteenth green. The direction lines on the ground would not help him, for he would follow the smoke from the signal fire. He made his landing in the right way, but probably did not see the ditch, or else had not sufficient room in which to come down and avoid it.

One of the feature film making records in Shanghai was yesterday performed by the B. A. T. Co.'s Motion Picture Department, when they photographed the landing of Capt. d'Oisy, and the subsequent smash-up of his machine. The completed, developed and titled film was shown at the Carlton Theatre in the Town Topics at 9.15 o'clock alongwith a humourous parody on the aviator and his machine. The same film will be repeated to-night.

At the Cercle Sportif.

There were scenes of wild enthusiasm at the Cercle Sportif Français at 7 o'clock in the evening a presentation was made to the airman and his mechanic.

Capt. D'Oisy's arrival in a car, accompanied by M. Wilden, at the corner of Route Vallon and the entrance to the club was the signal for an outburst of cheering. Looking none the worse after their trying experiences, Capt. D'Oisy and Sgt. Vesin entered the building amidst the deafening applause of some 500 members of the club and other residents, who thronged the staircase and ball-room.

When the last bar of the "Marseillaise" had been played by the Cercle Sportif band, M. Wilden on behalf of the French colony congratulated Capt. D'Oisy and Sgt Vesin on their splendid achievement. Speaking with considerable emotion, the French Consul-General said their arrival was *un air de France*. The French colony opened their hearts to both aviators and wished to express to them their great appreciation of their marvellous effort. They sympathized deeply with Capt. D'Oisy over the accident to his machine.

M. Wilden then handed to Capt. D'Oisy a handsome white jade vase, purchased out of a fund of $7,000 contributed by French residents, and seven boxes of valuable silks and satins. To Sgt. Vesin the Consul-General presented a rare bronze Buddha, and three boxes of silk.

Capt. D'Oisy smilingly responded in a short speech of thanks on behalf of himself and his mechanic.

Mr. Douglas Fleming, in an informal speech, said that he felt he could voice the opinion of all British people in Shanghai—an opinion that would be shared by Britons all over the world—and say that they all felt the greatest admiration for Capt. D'Oisy's courage, resource and skill. They had been delighted at the accounts of his success, no less than their French friends had been, and they were with them in expressing their condolences at the most unfortunate accident that had marred his effort after he had achieved so much.

Following a fresh outburst of cheering, the aviator shortly afterwards left for the French Consulate-General, where he was entertained at a banquet last night.

CAPT. D'OISY TO CONTINUE FLIGHT

Paris Anxious for Him to Complete Programme

Interviewed by a "North-China Daily News" reporter on Wednesday, the gallant officer was in the best of spirits and very hopeful. On the day of his arrival he was disappointed and depressed, hopeless of proceeding and strongly inclined to retrace his steps back to France. On Wednesday the volatile spirit of his race exercised its sway. He shut himself in the office provided for him at the French Consulate, sent off sheaves of cables to Paris, Tokio, Peking and every place on the globe he could think of which could possibly render him any assistance, and generally did all he could in preparation for the continuation of the flight. A machine is practically assured him by the authorities, and his superiors in Paris have cabled him an urgent message strongly advising that he proceed on his way if humanly possible. If it *is* humanly possible Captain d'Oisy can be counted upon to accomplish the task.

The aviator, asked what he thought were his prospects of getting to Tokio, replied with a characteristic shrug of the shoulders.

"If all goes well with me, I shall get there, may be on June 4.

"And what if the new machine smashes?" he was asked.

"If I smash with the new machine then I will get another. If that smashes then I will get a third somehow, but if the third smashes then I will go back to France."

Asked whether the 'plane it was proposed to lend him was as good as the one in which he arrived, Captain d'Oisy smiled and shook his head.

"The machines are the same make," he replied. "Both are Breguets, but the new one is nothing like so powerful as the old. It will not hold the same amount of power or give the same amount of speed. Had I my old machine I could have gone to Peking straight without a stop. Now I must stop twice to fill my tanks, and I do not know the country."

The Accident Explained

"Your accident at Kiangwan?" queried our representative. "To what do you attribute it? To bad luck, engine trouble, or a bad landing position?"

"The landing place was not good" came the reply. "Kiangwan is not long enough for an engine of the dimensions carried by my machine. It was too powerful and the run was too short. Also I had bad luck with the wind and with my engine. I had trouble with the engine just as I was looking for a spot to land, but before I could choose one the engine behaved so badly I just had to land where I could. It was all *tres difficile*, very bad luck."

Asked whether it was true there was rain water in the engine, the aviator shook his head. "It might have been so," he said, "it might well have been so, but it is very difficult to say. Both I and the mechanic, we were luckly to escape with our lives."

Photo. by Star Photo Co.

THE TWO PARTS OF THE BROKEN MACHINE SEPARATED.

Questioned as to his experiences on the journey up from Canton Captain d'Oisy replied:

"It was very tiring. The country was difficult. I did not know it at all and could find no landing place. For ten hours I had to keep awake and alert. It was very tiring, and we were glad to see Shanghai."

As a point of curiosity our representative asked him what he ate and drank during the flight.

Yes, he had a Banana

"I ate as little as possible in the air" he replied. "It is not well to do otherwise. Eat as little as possible and drink as little as possible. All I had during the ten hours I was in the air from Canton was one banana. It was enough; when I am in the air I do not want to eat."

Questioned with regard to weather conditions, he replied that the weather he encountered was very mixed, but at no time were he and his companion in any great danger of crashing."

Captain d'Oisy expressed himself as rather anxious concerning that part of the journey between here and the Korean broder.

"The machine I hope to get will be small" (he repeated) "and on the whole way I know of no good landing places, yet twice I must land. It will be very difficult and I shall not feel happy till I get into Japanese territory. There the landing places are many and good and well laid out. Before then, anything may happen."

In the course of further conversation, quite accidentally the origin of the story that Captain d'Oisy left Paris with no preparation was explained. Our representative happened to ask the aviator what he thought were his chances of succeeding in getting round the world, and once again the reply was characteristic.

A Test of Luck.

"When I left Paris" he said "I expected to get no further than Chateau Hiery, but the luck was with me, everything went beautifully and I thought the opportunity too good to miss. I came right on to Shanghai, and all the way I had the luck with me—till Shanghai. Here I crash. I will go on again until I crash again. It is all luck. If all goes well I proceed, if not . . ." The sentence concluded with a smile and a shrug of a powerful pair of shoulders.

This then was the explanation of the story that the aviator left Paris without preparation. In one sense the story was true. The flight was purely experimental, but when all went so well he decided to proceed. The luck held all the way to Shanghai, and then came disaster—the first accident in eight years for the victim.

"This is my first accident in eight years. During the War I was shot down by enemy planes four times. Since then everything has gone right with me—never an accident till Shanghai. Here I strike my bad luck—I dare not be too hopeful in view of that, but I will try."

After further conversation our reporter picked up his hat and was about to go.

"Stay one moment" called Capt. d'Oisy. "I would like to tell you of my experience in British India, and to make known generally the very fine treatment I received from the British people there, and in particular from my brother airmen. They were all wonderfully hospitable, in Karachi, Agra, Calcutta and Basra. Always I found that same spirit of camaraderie which characterised the relations of the French and British aviators during the war."

Our reporter raised his hat, shook hands with one of the cheeriest and most obliging men he has ever had to interview, and departed.

Capt. d'Oisy is a fine figure of a man. Standing well over six feet in height he is remarkable for a powerful pair of shoulders, and a red, healthy beaming face. His eyes twinkle as he talks, and his conversation reveals a strong sense of humour. He is certainly a man his countrymen can be proud of.

Captain d'Oisy was only married some twelve months ago, and is the proud father of a baby girl. His wife watches his progress with the greatest anxiety and keeps in constant touch with him.

STORY OF THE FLIGHT

The famous French ace, Capt. Pelletier d'Oisy and his mechanic, Sgt. Vevin, left Paris on April 25 in a spectacular non-stop flight to the farthest eastern European capital. He reached Bukharest, a distance of 1,250 miles, under most unfavourable weather conditions, on the same day in the splendid time of 11 hours.

According to the telegraphic news it was then that he decided to continue the journey to Tokio. This fact coupled with the statement that the intrepid Army airman had begun his journey "totally without preparation," at once lent a glamour to the venture which found its expression in the opthet "spectacular" appearing in the first Reuter's telegram. At that time Major Martin, with the American fliers, and the English round-the-world flier, Squadron-Leader Maclaren, were making but indifferent progress, though the cables had previously given long

accounts of preparations that had been made to ensure their success. Further interest was centred on the Frenchman when it was announced a few days later that he would attempt to compete with the British and Americans in encircling the world. He proved, however, not to have been so unprepared, the French Aeronautical Department announcing a few days later that Capt. d'Oisy's flight was the result of lengthy and advanced preparations.

Across British India.

Leaving Bukharest within a few hours of his arrival, Capt. d'Oisy on April 25 shaped a course for Aleppo. 940 miles distant which he covered in less than eight hours, traversing the Taurus Mountains at an altitude of over 10,000 feet. He arrived at Basra on the evening of the 26th, leaving on the 27th for Karachi. Descending at Bushire on April 28 to deliver an official letter to the French Air Mission, he left the same day for Bunder Abbas, at which city, as far as can be estimated from the cables, he landed on the evening of April 28.

On May 1 Shanghai was again startled by a Reuter message in the Press announcing the arrival of Capt. d'Oisy at Karachi on the afternoon of April 30, thereby creating a record for a flight from Europe to India, his time being 38½ actual flying hours.

Following an overhaul of the machine, a Bréguet XIX sesquiplane, the pilot and Sgt. Vesin left Karachi on May 3 or 4 on the next lap across India. He stopped at Agra, approximately half way to Calcutta, accomplishing the remaining 750 miles to that port in 6hr. 36min., landing at the Dum-Dum Aerodrome, Calcutta at 1 o'clock on the afternoon of May 5.

After being held up for four days to enable slight repairs to be made to the wings of his machine, he left Calcutta at 5.50 on the morning of May 9, arriving at Rangoon at 1 p.m., covering the 840 miles between Calcutta and Rangoon in six and a half hours. It had been his intention to proceed direct to Saigon, but he was obliged to land at the Burmese capital owing to the rapid evaporation of the water in his radiator and a burst tyre. This part of the journey proved especially trying, as he had to cross mountains shrouded in dense clouds. He reached Bangkok on May 10, departing on the 11th for Saigon. A strong head-wind prevailed on the 500-mile flight from Bangkok to Saigon, several storms necessitating Capt. d'Oisy's ascent to 3,000 mètres. He reached Saigon on May 12, making

PARIS TO SHANGHAI BY AIR

Sapajou's Study of Captain d'Oisy

the Aerodrome at Hanoi at 2.30 on the same afternoon. Although he encountered several storms both machine and engine were in satisfactory working order.

Capt. d'Oisy's Achievement.

By his non-stop flight to Bukharest and reaching India in 38½ hours actual flying time, Capt. d'Oisy must be placed in the front rank of airmen who have flown between Europe and the East.

The hero of this flight is one of France's senior and most daring pilots. Before the war he had already earned fame in a flight over France in his escadrille H. F. 19. After the opening of hostilities he soon came to be classed with the most heroic of Allied airmen. On December 9, 1914, he put to flight a German aeroplane that was circling over Crévecœur. On April 2, 1915, in company with Sous-Lieutenant Chambe he made short work of an Albatross, forcing it over the French lines, where it was brought down. During the same month three enemy aeroplanes appeared over the French trenches. Although alone d'Oisy succeeded in barring their passage, and by his audacity and skill at manœuvring drove them off. At Bezonveaux he accounted for a German 'plane and some days after, with the assistance of the ace Navarra, who was wounded in the course of the engagement, triumphed over a Fokker in the neighbourhood of Sanogueux. For his services at the front throughout the war, Capt. d'Oisy was decorated with the Médaille Militaire and the Légion d'Honneur.

Scarcely less notable have been his performances since the Armistice. In 1920 he made excellent times in flights from Paris to Vienna, Paris to Constantinople, Constantinople to Sofia and Bukharest to Constantinople. Flying from Paris to Bukharest in 1921, he accomplished the journey in 19 hours—eight hours longer than on the first lap of his present world-flight.

Photo. by Star Photo Co.

FOREPART OF CAPT. D'OISY'S MACHINE AFTER BEING TAKEN FROM THE DITCH.

PROMOTION FOR LIEUT. D'OISY

Paris, May 16.

The Minister of War has recommended Lieut. Pelletier D'Oisy for promotion to the rank of Captain and has also recommended that Sergeant Besin shall be appointed a Knight of the Legion of Honour. —Reuter.

A HEROIC MISSION

Mrs. Whiteside on Good Qualities of Chinese: Day in a Szechuan Missionary's Life

A large gathering attended the meeting of the Shanghai Ladies' Auxiliary Association of the Church Missionary Society at the residence of Mrs. J. A. Bailey at 89 Range Road last Friday. The Very Reverend Dean Symons gave a brief history of the West China Mission, "always a heroic mission, from its pioneer days 30 years ago down to the present time when two very sad murders again bore witness to the fact that the blood of the martyrs was the seed of the Church."

Mrs. R. A. Whiteside, whose husband was killed with the Rev. F. J. Watt while on an evangelistic trip last year, spoke of the progress of the Christian faith in Szechuan, urging her hearers not to think of the Chinese as a nation of brigands, avowing that her loyalty to the people as a whole had been deepened and strengthened by their understanding sympathy in her loss, a sympathy which demonstrated to her as never before their innate "delicacy of feeling and kindliness of thought."

The Romance of the Field

In a brief review of her 18 years of service in Szechuan, Mrs. Whiteside referred to the comparatively peaceful days of the Manchu *régime*, when they travelled on their missionary journeys under the protection of an escort garbed in ragged red coats and armed only with umbrellas, an escort, however, which stood for law and enforced respect. Life was hardly placid, however, in spite of the matter-of-fact way in which the speaker referred to the Boxer riots, when some of their buildings were burned and native converts killed. On another occasion, she said, both she and her husband were on the proscribed list of one of the secret societies, and an unsuccessful attempt was made on her husband's life, when with their children they were once held up by brigands on the Upper Yangtze.

Szechuanese Characteristics

Another firm friend of the Szechuanese was the Rev. F. Boreham, of Mienchow, who said that the Chinese there were diifferent from those of any other province, first because floods or famine have denuded the original population at different times so that colonists from other parts of China have rushed into the "garden province," and given it a cosmopolitan character, which is still further increased by some slight intermingling with the aboriginal tribes who were there long before the Chinese. The result was a strong, tall, virile race whose women walk with a sturdy swing quite different from the hobbled gait of golden lily feet.

Mr. Boreham also maintained that brigandage was merely a disease from which the country would recover. In this great diocese of over 13,000 square miles, the speaker said the hope of evangelization lay with the native worker. It is necessary to keep up a steady evangelistic work, inviting in the merchant just freed from the store, who might not understand much about the message, but who might perhaps return and understand a little more the next time. The tired coolie, coming in only for a place to sit down, might listen five minutes and sleep an hour, but the five minutes was often valuable.

Missionary Strategy.

In his description of a concentrated evangelistic campaign Mr. Boreham gave a graphic picture of how the missionary adapts his methods to the country. With perhaps two native evangelists and two volunteer workers, he said, he would set out for a two or three weeks' trip, fitting his itinerary to the market days when a crowd was assured. Reaching a village which perhaps had never seen a foreigner before, the little band would march about its streets, carrying bright banners on which are texts. When the curiosity of the town was excited they proceeded to the theatre of the largest temple, where by previous arrangement they were allowed to hang up their banners and address the multitude who crowded about to see what the "mad foreigner" had to say. First one spoke till his voice gave out. Then came a hymn, and the next man spoke, keeping it up from 11 in the morning till 3 in the afternoon. If the town were large enough to justify it, they might remain three or four days, otherwise they would move on to the next market town. Educational and medical work supplemented evangelical efforts.

WEDDING

Fennell-Bellamy

A very pretty wedding took place on Monday afternoon in Holy Trinity Cathedral when Mrs. Margaret E. Bellamy, widow of the late Major Hugh Maurice Ballamy, D.S.O., M.C., O.B.E., was married to Mr. Roger Charles Bell Fennell, son of Mr. Theodore Fennell, of Knutsford, Cheshire. The cathedral was beautifully decorated with lilies and palms and the Very Rev. Dean Symons read the impressive service. The bride, who was given away by Mr. A. D. Bell, looked charming in a gown of grey georgette, heavily beaded in cut steel, and wore a cornflower blue Condor hat. Mrs. E. S. Wilkinson, who acted as matron of honour, wore ecru lace over a slip of the same shade and a black hat. Little Miss Mary Wilkinson, the flower girl, wore a white taffeta frock, and carried a basket of pink carnations.

Mr. David Brand accompanied the bridegroom as best man and Messrs. W. D. Fiddes-Wilson and R. Gordon acted as ushers. A reception was held at 72 Route Doumer, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Wilkinson, after the ceremony.

WILLIAM HEUGHAN'S SONG RECITALS

A Delightful Evening of Songs of all the World at the Country Club

If a man would learn why Scotsmen are so proud of their country and its associations and never tire of boasting thereof, let him go and hear Mr. William Heughan sing the ballads of the land. If a Scotsman in exile wishes for a brief spell to be transported to the romantic Border, or to picture realistically the beauties of Argyll or the Western Isles, the majesty of Inverness, or the wild grandeur of Sutherland, let him go and hear Mr. Heughan. And if a man be outside these two categories, yet loves music for music's sake, no matter what its origin, let him, too, go and hear Mr. Heughan. Truly he is an exceptionally gifted performer and if the name as yet is not so familiar as some others, one can imagine that the only cause is that Mr. Heughan is but 35 years of age.

His short season in Shanghai began at the Lyceum Thaetre on Monday, but he appeeared at a private concert at the Country Club on Saturday and amongst those who were there it was not easy to find one after the performance who adequately could give expression to his opinion. Perhaps one incident will show how great was the appreciation. Mr. Heughan sang 20 songs—a wonderful feat in itself—and had given "Auld Lang Syne," which is taken to be the conclusion of a concert. A basket of flowers was handed to his pianist and the curtain was rung down, but the audience clamoured for yet another song and had it been anything less delightful than that beautiful piece, "The Road to the Isles," they certainly would have called for yet one more.

Mr. Heughan's voice is beautiful in tone but it is far too powerful for such a place as the Country Club and he will be heard to much greater advantage at the Lyceum. His selections were so varied that one hardly can make a choice. When, with his great voice, he made the hall ring with "A Hundred Pipers," "The March of the Cameron Men," and "Blue Bonnets," one expected every moment to hear the echo of clan slogan cries, for one could see the least romantic gripping their chairs with the excitement of the fighting music. Then he went away into Italian opera, from that to old English songs such as "Sir Roger de Coverley," again to "Widdicombe Fair" and even to quaint Irish songs. Never could it be imagined one man could be so versatile, and the programme was the more interesting because he gave a short history of each song before singing it. Mr. Heughan is a man of fine presence and the songs seemed to come better from a handsome six-foot Highlander garbed in a neat and well-cut dress uniform, with lace ruffles at his neck and wrists. It is difficult to believe that any singer ever has scored a greater success than he did on Saturday evening.

Though enraptured over the principal, one must not forget Mr. Dave Kennedy, who would have been entertainment sufficient had Mr. Heughan not been there. Mr. Kennedy is a remarkably clever comedian, singing Lauder's songs almost as well as Lauder himself and one can imagine how the Lyceum will ring when the audiences take up the refrain. But Lauder is for the man who is not a Scot, and Mr. Kennedy, as versatile in his line as Mr. Heughan in his, gave several other selections which provoked roars of laughter and applause. Miss Gladys Sayer also was very well received. Not only did she accompany all the songs of both the men, but she contributed several selections in a most capable manner.

Enthusiastic Reception at the All-Scottish Night

Mr. William Heughan's all-Scottish night at the Lyceum Theatre on Monday was a great occasion for the local Scots. Every reserved seat in the house had been booked beforehand and though the vile weather kept a few people away it was doubtful whether seats could have been found for 30 more, whilst people were standing at the back of the pit and gallery. As a matter of fact, it was not really an all-Scottish night, though it had been advertised as such. Mr. Heughan has found in other parts of the world that he has had to vary his programmes very considerably in order to satisfy cosmopolitan tastes and when he was inundated with special requests for certain English songs he faltered, allowing himself to be persuaded that Shanghai probably was much as other places. One could forgive him for again including that exquisitely tuneful little old English ditty, "Dashing away with the Smoothing-iron," and the comical "Song of the Flea" could be run into any programme, but on a Scottish night "The Trumpeter" well could have been sacrificed for either "The Cameron Men," or "Bonnie Dundee."

Still, the Scots were well content on the whole with what they did have of their own music. Mr. Heughan repeated that grand ballad "A Hundred Pipers" and the equally famous "Grigor's Gathering." He put in a very choice selection of Burns's very best, and Miss Sayer, who on such occasions takes over the duties of arbitrator, very kindly gave him instructions to sing "The Road to the Isles," than which there is no more appealing song of home in all Scotland's music. "The Skye Boat Song" also had a great reception, as it always will when sung to Scotsmen. As was predicted, Mr. Heughan was heard to much greater advantage in the theatre than in the Country Club, for his powerful voice reached easily to every part of the house and was as clear for his twentieth song as for his first.

Mr. Dave Kennedy came up to expectations with his popular humorous songs and the audience were loth to let him retire even after he had sung his sixth. Miss Gladys Sayer again went satisfactorily through her arduous task of accompanying a matter of about 30 songs, besides giving some charming selections on her own account and she was most enthusiastically applauded. The pipers and drummers of the Shanghai Scottish assisted in the programme with marked success.

A SONSIE SCOTTISH SINGER

THE TRIBULATIONS OF THE HWAH JAH

The well-known cadet training ship Hwah Jah, operated by the Far Eastern Shipping Syndicate, continues on her interesting career and her eventful voyages. A recent arrival from Hongkong states that the vessel was to have left that port on the 15th instant, in ballast for Saigon. When she cast off from her buoys it was discovered that she had developed some sort of engine trouble, so she anchored and later returned to the buoys. It is stated that since the chief officer (and other foreigners) were dismissed at Tsingtao the second officer, a Chinese, has been acting as chief officer, but at Hongkong the present master of the ship, a Norwegian, decided that he could not leave without a qualified foreign chief officer. A real chief officer was accordingly signed on, and it seems that when he went on board to assume his duties he discovered that the chief officer's quarters were being occupied by the Chinese second (acting chief) officer.

The Chinese cadet-training-ship Hwah Jah has continued on her voyaging, having left Hongkong on the evening of May 16 for Saigon, where, it is stated, she will load a cargo of rice for the Yamashita Kisen Kaisha. Her complement of cadets has sadly been depleted, no fewer than 12 having returned to Shanghai. Eight came on the str. Kwangtah and four on the Kwanglee. We have been informed that those who arrived on the Kwanglee demanded saloon passages and were more than a little surprised when they were sent as deck passengers.

A Rosta message to "Shanghai New Life," reports an interview with Karakhan, in which the Soviet representative resents American interference in the Chinese Eastern Railway negotiations. The matter, he says, can competently be discussed by China and Russia, and outside interference will only hinder the negotiations. He points out that Russia, the owner of the railway, took no part in the Washington Conference, at which resolutions concerning it were passed.

SHANGHAI WORLD EXHIBITION

Mr. Bena's Project: Meeting of Business Men Called to Discuss Feasibility

Since publishing in outline his suggestion for a World Exhibition at Shanghai, Mr. G. A. Bena has busied himself in discussing the matter with prominent people, Chinese and foreign, and has so far succeeded in enlisting their sympathies as to warrant the holding of a public meeting to consider the scheme, at least in principle. The meeting will be held on the 29th instant at the rooms of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce (in the "North-China Daily News" Building), and will be attended by representatives of various nationalities who are members of the Chamber, and of the principal public and commercial organizations in Shanghai: the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, the China Association, the American Chamber of Commerce, etc.

Varying Opinions.

Naturally, in introducing a scheme of such magnitude Mr. Bena has met with varying success. By some the idea has been approved without hesitation, and among the enthusiasts may be included leading French and Japanese merchants. The American Consul-General also has expressed approval of the suggestion, and has kindly placed at Mr. Bena's disposal a complete set of the records of the St. Louis Exposition. Another warm supporter is Mr. Julean Arnold, the American Commercial Attaché, who, in a recent latter, wrote:

"I heartily endorse Mr. Bena's proposal for a World's Exhibition at Shanghai.

During the past few decades, and more particularly during the past 10 years, physical means of communication have been improved so rapidly as to bring the West and East in close physical contact. Unfortunately, intellectually the West and East are coming together very slowly. A World Exhibition at Shanghai along the lines suggested by Mr. Bena will be signally helpful towards making for closer and more effectual intellectual contact between the West and the East. Much indeed has been done during the past few decades to train the peoples of the Orient better to understand Western civilization, but very little has been done towards bringing the Occident to a better appreciation of the civilizations of the nations of Asia. Thus, I am heartily in favour of the proposal as made, and congratulate Mr. Bena on the able manner in which it has been presented by him."

Not all, of course, are so enthusiastic as Mr. Arnold. Others who have been approached, if not entirely against the scheme, at least hesitate and point to the present unhappy state of affairs in this country as a reason for not proceeding, for the time being. On the other hand, there are those who think with Mr. Bena that the present time is essentially an occasion when a great united effort, loyally supported by foreigners and Chinese, and above all worked for with enthusiasm by Shanghai, would have the effect of greatly improving Chinese and foreign relations, help to remove many outstanding difficulties, and pave the way for further progress, more particularly the progress of Shanghai. It would be a purely international enterprise, conducted for the general benefit of all and without reference to the profit of any individual group.

Financial Prospects.

The further development of the idea will depend entirely upon whether a sufficient number of influential people can be got to approve of the scheme in principle and give it their support; and this point having been gained, it will then be for a provisional Committee to prepare a working foundation—a task in itself which would probably occupy the greater part of a year. Incidentally, Mr. Bena suggests 1930 as Exhibition year. Expert opinion, of course, will have to be brought to bear on the matter, for very many important considerations are involved and even the preliminaries—before any definite step were taken—would require a vast amount of organizing effort. But Mr. Bena is optimistic; even in the matter of finance he is persuaded that, however the necessary funds were raised—by formation of a public company or otherwise—the enterprise would pay its way.

The scheme has not passed out of the stage of indefinite discussion, and thus no set plan will be submitted to the forthcoming meeting. What is required is careful discussion of the general situation from a variety of points of view, but under the guiding idea that the exhibition is intended to promote the development of China and mark a path for the future of Shanghai. Mr. Bena will be happy to receive comment and criticism from all who are interested.

OBITUARY

Mr. R. C. Faithfull

Members of the legal world in Shanghai learned with deep regret of the death of Mr. Richard Chamberlain Faithfull in the early hours of Tuesday, following the amputaton of his right leg. He had practised in Shanghai as a solicitor for the past seven years, and was well liked by his colleagues.

Aged 74, Mr. Faithfull was a remarkable personality. His appearance as he drove through the street in his broker's carriage—a vehicle he would never give up, was familiar to most Shanghai residents, for the "old man" was remarkable for a pronounced Victorian cast of countenance and was wont to sit bolt upright with a sternness of features, believed by the kindliness in the eyes.

Mr. Faithfull came of a fine old Hampshire family, and is believed to have been a native of Winchester. The Hampshire Faithfulls are, of course, known all over the South of England. He commenced his legal career many years ago in London, where he practised on his own account for some years. In 1912 he first came East, when he set up in practice for himself in Hongkong. He did not, however, do too well in that Colony and his practice proved a poor one, with the result that he eventually came to Shanghai in 1917 and joined Messrs. Hansons. He remained with that firm for a short space of time, leaving them to take up the position of legal adviser to the Shanghai Municipal Council, which post he held till 1923 when his agreement with the Council expired and he once more started a private practice, dying in harness.

Mr. Faithfull's legal friends will be interested to learn that it was he who gave Sir Thomas Matthews his first brief.

In the presence of many old friends and colleagues, the remains of the late Mr. R. C. Faithfull were interred at Bubbling Well Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon, Dean Symons conducting the service in the Chapel and at the graveside. Amongst those in attendance were Sir Skinner Turner, Judge of the Supreme Court, Mr. R. F. le Mesurier, Chief Clerk, Mr. A. Sims, Usher, Mr. H. Browett, Mr. G. H. Wright, Mr. J. H. Teesdale, Mr. A. C. Holborow, Mr. George Matheson, Mr. C. P. Holcomb, Mr. T. Vaughan, Mr. L. Friedman, and Mr. M. Friedman. Mr. G. W. King, Registrar of the Supreme Court, was unavoidably absent owing to indisposition.

Messrs. S. A. L. McCandless, F. M. Gram, Geo. Matheson, R. F. le Mesurier, J. H. Teesdale and W. C. H. Knight acted as pallbearers. were sent.

RACING AT YANGTSZEPOO!

A proposal for the establishment of a third race course in Shanghai was mentioned on Monday in the "Journal of Commerce." It was therein stated that a local merchant has established a Land Investment Co., the special business of which will be the purchase of 200 mow of land at Yangtszepoo for the laying out of a race course similar to that at Kiangwan. The Military Governor has been approached for permission to carry out the scheme.

Meanwhile, opposition, doubtless inspired by financial motives, has arisen in the village council of Ying Ziang Zong, members of this august body having laid it down that the race course within their jurisdiction shall not be used for gambling purposes. It is not surprising to hear that efforts are being made to change the personnel of the village council. If the story has any value at all, it does show that we still have some first-class optimists, hard times notwithstanding.

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

Need of Church Work in Rural China: Peasantry Bled White by their Misrulers

The subject of the rural church occupied the time of the morning's session on the third day's meeting. The discussion was opened by Rev. H. C. Cheng who read a paper on the question. Mr. Cheng pointed out that this report applied to some three hundred million of the population of China and that these were among the most needy in the country. He reported that their Government blunds them, the military leaders rob them and also steadily on the increase in numbers they are correspondingly on the downgrade in economic position. This speaker asserted that the church had not put her heart into the work in the villages and that the salvation of China could only come through the rural population. A second paper was read by Rev. M. Chen on the same subject. Mr. Chen emphasized the willingness of the rural population to accept outside help in educational problems and that if the Church could help more effectively along these lines it would mean much for itself a great opportunity for evangelism. Mr. Chen then turned to the urgent need of a better pay for rural work and the necessity for extensive independence for the village Christians and village Churches.

The Rev. E. L. Chapin presented the report of the Committee on Rural Problems and the Christian Church. He also touched on the need for the extension for the rural school system be introduced; that a voluntary movement for rural service should be organized; that Agricultural Seminaries and Bible Schools should give special courses in training for village work; that a rural social survey should be carried out; that pioneer centres should be developed to [illegible].

The Rev. E. J. Craig also spoke on the rural problem among the multitudes of the province and the need for an indigenous church not dependent on outside finances. He mentioned in this town were 18 [illegible] and to none of these was an evangelist assigned to rural leaders. The statement was questioned later when Dr. Keller declared, on behalf of the Christian Rural School, a course for such teachers.

Mr. James Yen spoke very eloquently on the necessity of the situation of illiterates, supporting very strongly the use of the [illegible] character system to this end.

Church and State.

In the afternoon session the relations of the National Christian Council to the Governments in regard to public affairs in China was considered and an address on the subject was delivered by Mr. S. T. Wei Commissioner of Foreign Affairs for Kiangsu. A number of questions relating to this problem were raised and replied to by Mr. Wei.

The Rev. E. C. Patton presented the report of the Commission on Church and Industry. Keen discussion followed especially on the opium question and how it might best be tackled not by individuals only but by the Church as a whole.

Dr. S. H. Chuan, formerly Surgeon General in charge of Military Hospitals, addressed the meeting on the subject of opium and presented a report calling for united and vigorous action to show that the use of the drug was generally abhorrent to the mass of the people, who, however, were largely inarticulate in view of the pressure brought to bear on them by military and civil authorities. Dr. Chuan insisted that it was the duty of the Church to give voice to the people's urgent need of assistance and to appeal to the world through the League of Nations to check forever the manufacture and import of opium and its alkaloids.

Attention was called in this report to the inadequacy and obscurity of the regulations governing the importation of morphine for the [illegible] of medicine and smuggling of narcotic drugs.

Fourth Day: Church and Home

The sessions of the Council and the Home occupied the first part of the morning session and the discussion was opened by the Rev. S. Y. Hsu, who stated that without the rising power of Christian home all reforms were useless.

The report of the Council's Conference on the Church and the Home was presented by Mrs. S. M. Woo.

The question of the relations of the Council to the Governing Church and the measure of support that might be expected from the latter, was dealt with in speeches by the Rev. S. P. Chao and the Rev. K. T. Cheng.

In the afternoon the Rev. C. E. Patton presented the Report of the Commission on Church and Industry. Among the proposals of the Commission was one to secure the services of a full time secretary for this work. Speaking on this Mr. Patton pointed out that 18 local commissions had been formed in as many of the principal cities in China.

Dame Anderson's Work

The meeting was addressed by Dame Adelaide Anderson, who reviewed the growth of industrial problems and called on the Church as the only body so organized as to be able to express the needs of the people to renew its strength for the movement.

Bishop Roots, in a resolution of thanks to Dame Anderson, called attention to the fact that she had promised to give a year of service in the cause in China and expressed the gratitude of the Council therefor. The meeting, standing with the exception of Dame Anderson, carried the motion of thanks, and Dame Anderson briefly responded.

Mr. M. T. Tehou then addressed the meeting on the same subject. He pointed out that though Confucianism might pervade China as it has some of the Western nations, there would still be an industrial problem. Mr. Tehou insisted on the great importance of getting to work on the subject at once with a view especially to reducing the hours of employment of women and children in factories.

Fifth Day: The Church and Internationalism

The subject for special consideration at this meeting was that of the Church and Internationalism. The Chairman introduced Mr. Miyazaki, General Secretary of the Japanese Christian Council, who was accorded a very hearty welcome by a standing vote of the Council. Mr. Miyazaki then addressed the meeting prefacing his remarks by expressing the very hearty thanks of the Japanese for the gifts received from China for mitigating the sufferings of the recent earthquake victims. He referred in detail to the loss of life among Japanese Christians and the very extensive destruction of property sustained by them and by the Churches, and concluded with an appeal for the masses of Asia in their weakness and ignorance.

Professor Chao presented the report of the Committee on International Relations and in a short speech defined the position of the Committee as being first for study of this question, pointing out how much harm may be done by text books for schools making false statements on other nations. A study has been made of these and it has been found that, particularly in the United States, harmful misconceptions of China are introduced into school text books.

Sixth Day: Medical Missionary's Work Overwhelmed by Other Demands

The morning session was largely occupied by the reports to the Council of the work of kindred organizations.

The first report was from the Secretary of the China Medical Missionary Association, who presented the report of the Association's work as it affected the National Christian Council.

Dr. Maxwell spoke of the outside work which was gradually overwhelming the essential work of the medical missionary's calling and referring to some extent the special message that his work brings to China's ills. He emphasized the loss to the West of the complete absence of medicine from Christianity and claimed that by the earliest part to this side of the work [illegible] Council the same process was going on here.

The Rev. E. W. Wallace presented the report of the China Christian Educational Association and claimed that one the greatest needs of the Church at the moment was that of educated Chinese leaders. He pointed out the difficulties that the college were meeting and thought that this most important branch of work claimed the sympathetic consideration of the Council, especially as regards the framing of the Rev. E. C. Lobenstine for a part of his time to devote his help to the work of the Educational Association.

Dr. F. J. Wampler presented the report of the Council on Health Education and dwelt on the great loss among Christian workers due to preventable disease, which might and ought to be obviated. The activities of the Council on Health Education were enumerated and members were invited to inspect in the Council's offices the posters and material for exhibition. Mr. T. Y. Chung in speaking to this question suggested the desirability of doctors being appointed to give their whole time to the teaching and development of hygiene work in different districts.

The report of the China Sunday School Union was presented by the Rev. T. F. Pan, who spoke of the advance that had been made by the preparation of the lessons in Chinese directly and not by the use of mere translations.

Mr. J. W. Dovey presented the report of the Survey Committee which was accepted with many thanks to the Committee.

In the afternoon session the Rev. C. E. Patton presented the report of the new Missions Building. Considerable discussion took place as to the appropriate name in Chinese and suggestions for this were referred to the Business Committee. A resolution of hearty thanks to the donors of the building was adopted.

The Rev. P. Chuan advocated the provision of a Christian magazine in Chinese. There was general agreement that this was very desirable if the cost of issuing it were not too heavy a strain on the financial side.

Native Church Problems: Delegates Kept from Conference by Civil War's Turmoil

The National Christian Conference began its last day with a very full programme. Earlier in the day reports of the Denominational Groups were given. These Groups had met on Friday evening; but not until this morning had the reports of their meetings been given in to the Conference. Most of the reports gave suggestions for making the work of the Council better known to the individual churches.

A letter was read from one of the delegates in Kuangtung, stating that he desired to attend the Conference but could not because of fighting all around his village. The letter said that the same condition had prevailed the year before and that within the last year the city had changed hands five different times.

Devotional services were conducted by Mr. F. S. Brockman of the Y. M. C. A.

The report of the Business Committee was considered in the morning session. It contained many recommendations of importance which were acted upon by the Conference. Among other things passed was the appointing of Dr. S. H. Chuan and Mr. T. Z. Koo to represent the National Christian Council at the Anti-Opium Conference to be held in Geneva, arranged for by the League of Nations, this coming autumn. Miss Ruth Cheng and Mr. T. Z. Koo are to bear the greetings of the Conference to Christian groups and organizations in America nad Europe.

A new Committee was formed for the study of the problems of the Indigenous Church. The Standing Committee on Industrial Relations and Social Problems was subdivided into (1) The Industrial Committee, (2) The Committee on the Church and Home, and (3) The Anti-Narcotic Committee.

In the afternoon the Standing Committees of the Council met for organization and the consideration of the problems of the next year's work. Most of the Committees are made up of able and energetic representatives and much work should be accomplished by the time of the annual conference next year.

The closing services were led by Mr. D. E. Hoste of the China Inland Mission and the Rev. F. C. Huang.

CHURCH PARADE OF S.V.C.

Over 600 Men and Officers: Mr. Rowland's Sermon on Loyalty to Religion

"A very creditable turn-out" was the unanimous verdict passed on the Shanghai Volunteer Corps' Church Parade at the Cathedral on Sunday. Over 600 men and 51 officers turned out. The parade formed up on the Bund foreshore at half-past nine in the morning, and, headed by the band, marched by way of the Bund and Foochow Road to the Cathedral. The men presented an impressive sight as they swung along the roads, and a large crowd followed them up.

The Cathedral was full to its limits, and only just sufficed to hold the congregation. Through some misunderstanding the men were brought to the Cathedral at a few minutes after 10 and thus had to wait a considerable time for the Service to begin. The Rev. A. N. Rowland, Chaplain to the S.V.C., preached a short and interesting sermon.

The preacher said there were many people who adopted the attitude that they would join the Church when all the sections of it had settled their differences, and it had become one unanimous whole. The attitude was a wrong one, for in true religion the worship of Christ was the great and primary thing, and the troubles of the Church today were only secondary. Personal loyalty was the thing which counted, and the thing should strive after,—the hero-worship of Christ. The attitude which said, Let us wait and have a good time until the Church is perfect, was a wrong one, and brought to mind the case of the Chinese cadets on the Hwa Jah, who, when told to do some rough work, refused to put a hand to it until they had eaten, and then, when told that they would never make seamen, replied that they came aboard to be made officers, not seamen, to give orders and not to take them. The contrast this action afforded to the discipline of their own fine navy recalled to mind, again, that in the non-Christian country they should never forget htat they were here as the representatives of a Christian nation, and that they should bear themselves as such.

The service closed with the hymn "O Worship the King." The men formed up in the Cathedral grounds, and marched back to the Bund *via* Nanking Road in the same formation as they arrived. The parade was dismissed on the Bund.

The marching order of the units was as follows:—

Band, 27 other ranks.

Headquarters, nine officers, four other ranks.

Light Horse, four officers, 35 other ranks.

Field Artillery Battery: five officers, 45 other ranks.

Engineer Company, two officers, 16 other ranks.

Machine Gun company, four officers, 45 other ranks.

Maritime Company, 14 other ranks.

Italian Company, one officer, 12 other ranks.

American Troop, two officers, 25 other ranks.

A Company, two officers, 30 other ranks.

B Company three officers 24 other ranks.

Customs, one officer three other ranks.

American Company, three officers, 30 other ranks.

Portuguese Company, four officers, 70 other ranks.

Japanese Company, three officers, 40 other ranks.

Chinese Company, four officers, 124 other ranks.

Scottish Company, three officers, 45 other ranks.

Reserve Company, one officer, 14 other ranks.

Col. W. F. L. Gordon, C.M.G., D.S.O., was in command of the parade.

The Portuguese Co. as usual attended their own service at St. Joseph's.

Mr. Kan Yuk-kai and Mr. Kan Shu-ching (brother and son, respectively, of the late Mr. Kan Chiu-kang) have been elected president and general manager of the Nanyang Bros. Tobacco Co., Ld. The latter is a comparatively young man, an American returned student and the son-in-law of Mr. Chun Bing-him, compradore of Messrs. A. W. Burkill & Sons.

S. V. C. ANNUAL INSPECTION

Tactical Exercises with Good Results: 886 Members on Parade

Wednesday's inspection of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, by Major-General Sir John Fowler, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., assumed a novel form, as instead of the usual parade and march past on the Public Recreation Ground, the inspection comprised tactical manoeuvres, in which the Volunteer Corps was divided into three distinct columns, each of which included members of all branches of the Corps, as well as of the Cadet Corps.

Marching from three bases by converging routes, the three columns concentrated in Bubbling Well Road, near the junction with Hart Road, and after forming into column of route, and headed by the Municipal Band, proceeded eastwards down Bubbling Well Road to the saluting base, just east of Hardoon Road, where there were present Major-General Sir John Fowler, commanding H. M. Forces in China; Major Trench, M.C., his chief of staff; Mr. Stirling Fessenden, Chairman of the Municipal Council and Civil Commandant of the S.V.C., Mr. W. P. Lambe, Vice-Chairman, and other members of the Council; Col. W.F.L. Gordon, C.M.G., D.S.O., Commandant, S.V.C., the road being lined from Loongfei to Hart Road by hundreds of interested spectators.

The march past the saluting base was headed by Major R. W. Davis, in command of Column No. 1, followed by Major A. J. Stewart (Column No. 2) and Major S. A. Ransom (Column No. 3).

There were 886 officers and other ranks on parade, details of which are as follows:—

	Officers	Other ranks.
Headquarters Staff	13	4
Light Horse	5	62
Field Artillery	5	69
Engineers	2	36
Machine Gun Co	5	37
"A" Co., British	3	46
"B" Co., British	3	35
Maritime Co.	1	35
Customs Co.	2	36
American Co.	3	66
Portuguese Co.	5	93
Japanese Co.	3	67
Chinese Co.	4	110
Shanghai Scottish	3	72
American Troop	2	28
Reserve Co.	2	15
Cadets	0	40
Band	0	27

The infantry dismissed at Seymour Road, the Light Horse at the Race Club, and the Field Battery and Machine Gunners at the Municipal Building.

FOUR SUSPECTED ARMS RUNNERS CAUGHT

Italian and Three Frenchmen from the M. M. S. Amboise

One Italian and three French seamen, suspected to have been smuggling arms and ammunition ashore from the M.M.S. Amboise, are in custody, following an exciting chase in which the Settlement and River police participated.

Shortly after 6.45 p.m. on Thursday, while playing tennis in the Yangtszepoo Police station compound, several members of the Municipal Police were surprised by the sound of police whistles in the direction of Lay Road Jetty. A minute later four foreigners were seen to land from a sampan. They ran to a vacant plot near the police station, followed by a Riveer policeman and Chinese constables, who effected the arrests.

The Chinese River policeman afterwards reported that while patrolling the stream in his sampan, he saw another sampan, with the foreigners on board, put off from the Amboise. Suspicion that they might be arms smugglers led him to pursue the craft. Presently the foreigners threw a quantity of pistols and ammunition overboard. He chased them, whereupon they made for the jetty, which proved their undoing.

The Trustees of the Sethna Cricket Prize Fund (Capt. E. I. M. Barrett, Mr. G. M. Billings and Mr. T. Wallace) have awarded prizes for the season 1923 to A. Nobleton, of the Shanghai Public School, and J. H. Bhoora, of the Parsee Cricket Club. The prizes were given to encourage young cricketers in Shanghai in all-round play.

CATHOLIC GENERAL COUNCIL OF CHINA

Momentous Meeting in Shanghai: 45 Bishops in Procession at Siccawei: Catholic Church in China Past and Present

The first historical monument attesting the introduction of Christianity into China dates from the eighth century. It is the famous stone slab discovered A.D. 1625, near the city of Sianfu, in Shansi. It bears the date of A.D. 781, and states that the early missionaries had several churches and monasteries, and enjoyed liberty to preach the Gospel. They were banished in A.D. 845, by an edict of the Emperor Wutsung, of the T'ang Dynasty.

Scattered groups, however, continued to live in various parts of the country, and the Venetian traveller Marco Polo found several Nestorian congregations at Kashgar, Samarcand, Peking, Yangchow, Chinkiang and Hangchow at the close of the 13th century.

In the second half of that same century, and during the 14th; several Catholic missionaries were sent to China by the Roman Pontiffs and by Catholic Sovereigns. Among them were Dominicans and Franciscans, the latter having an archbishop at Peking, the well-known John of Montecorvino. Towards the middle of the 16th century, the Portuguese occupied Macao, and in A.D. 1575 erected a bishopric there.

Soon afterwards, the Jesuits entered China, settling at first at Chaok'ingfu, (1583), the official Capital of the Two Kuang Provinces; and proceeding later on to Nanch'ang, in Kiangsi, Nanking in Kiangsu, and finally going to Peking. In this latter place Ricci resolved to secure the esteem and good-will of the Emperor and Literati, in which he wonderfully succeeded, thanks to his exquisite tact, his scientific accomplishments and his thorough knowledge of the language. He thus enabled other missionaries to enter the field, the Paris Foreign Mission, the Vincentians or Lazarists, followed in the present century by various Foreign Missionary Societies, Italian, Belgian, German, Irish and American, representing the principal nations of the West.

At the opening of 1924, the Catholic Church reckoned in China 57 bishops and 2,552 ordained priests. Of these 1,481 are foreign, and 1,071 native. Comprising the bishops, the whole ordained clergy totals 2,609. These are distributed over the Eighteen Provinces and Outlying Dependencies, 393 in Chihli, 187 in Shantung, 181 in Mongolia, 172 in Kiangsu, 152 in Hupeh, 84 in Chêkiang, 79 in Manchuria, 64 in Anhui, and 18 in far-off Tibet. The number of Catholic converts reached at the same period 2,208,000 souls, Chihli having over 600,000, Kiangsu over 200,000, Mongolia, Hupeh and Kuangtung over 100,000, and Tibet nearly 5,000. These are recruited from almost every class of society, official, literary, commercial, industrial, agricultural and labouring. In large cities and towns, converts belong principally to the former class, while in rural and village places they are taken from the ranks of petty farmers, artisans and peasants. Some of the Shanghai Catholics, such as Messrs. Loh and Tsu, are industrial magnates, and carry on ship-building, manage tramways and electric works in the native city. Mr. Loh employs part of his fortune in educational and philanthropic works. Others engage in banking, or trade as merchants, manufacturers, brokers, etc. The increasing progress of the Church, the large number of converts and their various needs have determined the summoning of a General Council, to be held in Shanghai, and to which were convoked all the Bishops, the Superiors of Mission Centres, a certain number of consulting theologians, notaries, secretaries, typists, masters of ceremonies, choristers and other minor officials.

Preparatory Meeting of Bishops.

The greater part of the bishops and others convoked, having reached Shanghai about May 10, it was resolved to open the Council on the morning of the 15th. On the previous afternoon, a preparatory meeting was held at St. Joseph's Church, the residence of the Bishop, Right Rev. Prosper Paris, S. J. The hours of special sittings were then notified to all, and Five Commissions established to deal with all matters submitted to the Council. Bishop Taeconi, of Eastern Honan, presides over the First Commission; Bishop Aguirre, of Foochow, over the Second; Bishop Fabrèques, of Peking, over the Third; Bishop Guerts, of Eastern Chihli, over the Fourth; and Bishop Fatiguet, of Kiangsi, over the Fifth. Italy, France, Spain and Holland are thus represented. Among the consulting theologians, notaries and secretaries, members of the foreign and native clergy are equally represented on the Board.

Among the important matters to be discussed are Christian life and discipline, how to increase the number of converts, and helpers, recruiting and training of the native clergy, educational and philanthropic work, the Press and Catholic literature, dealings of converts and pagans, religious architecture, etc.

Opening Ceremony of the Council.

The opening ceremony of the Council took place on the morning of the 15th, in the large Siccawei Church, five miles south-west of Shanghai. From 8 a.m., a bustling and gazing crowd occupied the square in front of the building, eager to enjoy the spectacle of so many bishops and delegates from all parts of China. Punctually at 8.30 a.m., the assembled bishops started in procession from the old church built in 1851, and proceeded through the open square to the new church opened in 1910. The spectacle was most imposing, 45 mitred prelates, all in red capes, walking in the procession. With reference to nationality, 17 were French, 10 Italians, 5 Spaniards, 5 Belgians, 4 Hollanders, 2 German, and 2 Chinese. Among them were several veterans, who had laboured long years on the Mission, Bishop Henninghaus of South Eastern Shantung, Bishop Timmer of Southern Shansi, Bishop Ciceri, of Kiangsi, Bishop Prosper Paris, of the Shanghai Mission, Bishop Wittner, of Eastern Shantung, this last seized by brigands on the night of November 13, 1923, and released the next day, on condition he would get his captors enrolled in the army. Preceding the bishops were the clergy, comprising Dominicans, Franciscans, Augustinians, Vincentians, Passionists, Jesuits, members of the American Foreign Mission, Kuangtung, of the Irish Mission of St. Cohemben, Hanyang, and other Societies working in the field. His Excellency the Papal Delegate, Celso Costantini, Archbishop of Theodosia, brought up the rear. On the way, several cameras and a cinema operator worked hard at taking the most important scenes, while amidst the crowd and beyond, fire-crackers exploded, imparting to the ceremony a peculiar touch of Oriental life.

Within the church were a large but orderly congregation of the faithful, many of whom came from Shanghai, Sungkiang, Tsingpu, and the country bordering on both sides of the Huangpu. The bishops were ranged in two parallel rows in the chancel. At 9 a.m., solemn-mass was celebrated by the Papal Delegate. After the gospel, all joined in chanting the Nicene Creed, thereby affirming their conformity of belief with the Fathers and Council of the Church from the 4th century down to the present day. Mass over, the Litany of the Saints was solemnly chanted, followed by a sermon addressed to the bishops and officials of the Council. The names of the prelates convoked were then read out, each one rising and answering for his presence. The ceremony closed by solemn benediction, given by the Delegate, after which the clergy and bishops returned in procession to the old church, and unvested. It was 11.15 a.m.

Jesuit Fathers offer hospitality to the Assembled Bishops.

At noon, the Jesuit Fathers of Siccawei offered hospitality to the assembled Bishops, Superiors, theological consultors, and other officials of the Council. As many as 145 sat down at table, and enjoyed the generous fare provided for the occasion. At the close of the banquet, Very Rev. Father Verdier, S.J., Superior-General of the Mission, rose and addressed the Assembly, greeting the Delegate, bishops and other guests, sketching the various phases of the Catholic Church in China, and laying stress on the progress made in the last 20 years, thanks to the arrival of new Societies, Tolesians, Passionists, the American Foreign Mission, and the Irish Mission of Hanyang. His Excellency the Delegate replied in appropriate terms, thanking the hosts for the "royal hospitality" received, and exhorting all to labour for the spiritual and moral welfare of the Chinese people.

At Siccawei College.

At 2 p.m., Siccawei College entertained the members of the Council to a series of *tableaux vivants*, representing the latter scenes of the Passion of Christ, his glorious Resurrection, a few of the Apparitions, and the early days of the Church, terminating with the Master's Great Commission: "Preach the Gospel to every creature" (Mark VI. 15). All ended about 5 p.m., after which the venerable guests returned to Shanghai, where they are billeted among the various Catholic Churches of the city, St. Joseph's, St. Francis Xavier's, the Sacred Heart, and the general agencies representing the Missions in the interior, Augustinians, Vincentians, Franciscans, Paris Foreign Mission, Belgian Procure, etc.

UNION CLUB IN ITS NEW HOME

Auspicious Opening in Avenue Edward VII: A Great Sino-Foreign Institution

The commodious new quarters of the Union Club situated at 38 Avenue VII, on which premises the organization occupies the entire third floor, were opened on Monday afternoon and evening with an informal "at home." Mr. V. G. Lyman, President, with a few introductory remarks, declared the Club open. He was supported by Messrs. Drakeford, Powell, Steen, Calder Marshall and Campbell, a representative of Mr. Chu Pao-san, Chinese Vice-President, and other Chinese committee-men.

Mr. S. Fessenden, Chairman of the S.M.C., and Mr. E. S. Benbow Rowe attended on behalf of the Municipality, and the various Consulates delegated representatives. Mr. Hsu Yuan, Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, was in attendance.

Members of the Club acted as hosts and escorted the many guests throughout the new premises, showing them the card room. the mahjongg room. through the large ballroom in which it is proposed to hold tea dances, the billiard room, spacious enough for two tables and the Chinese lounge. Private dining rooms as well as the large banquet hall are a feature of the new rooms, lacking in the old quarters on the Bund, while the new reading room is ample enough for a good portion of the membership.

Although festivities began with a tea dance at five o'clock guests lingered through dinner at eight and the dance which followed. Heartiest congratulations were expressed during the evening on the Club's new home.

Mr. Lyman's Speech.

Mr. Lyman prefaced his remarks with words of welcome to the members and their guests and continuing, said:—

"The Union Club has been in existence sufficiently long to justify its place in the business community, and to assure its definite continuance, while its usefulness along the lines for which it was formed will, without question, steadily increase in scope and influence from year to year. Unique as an institution, it provides the necessary facilities for the business men of the three nationalities of which it is composed to meet in social and business converse under agreeable surroundings. A realization of business conditions as they exist in China suggests the value of an institution having for its main purpose the promotion of an increased feeling of cordiality and a degree of closer co-operation among the people of which this Club is composed.

"To a large extent the considerable lack of sympathetic interest existing between Chinese and foreigners as such, is due not to inherent prejudice or disfavour, but to suspicion, and to an unfortunate lack of appreciation and understanding of each other which it is so essential to correct, and which only increased personal and social contact can effectively remove.

"The Chinese and the men of the West will never know each other as they should until they are accustomed to meet not merely in their offices. or at occasional functions, but from day to day and time to time in such an institution as this where, surrounded with an atmosphere of friendship and good will, they can sit down and reason together general interest, and thus on scores of subjects, and with much satisfaction, find that their minds meet on common ground. To make this possible of accomplishment the Club was formed, exists, and will continue to exist in order to promote and extend a beneficent and wholesome influence: and it is our hope that as a nucleus for the bringing about of a better understanding, a more genuine appreciation between the men of the East and of the West, the results of its efforts will extend far beyond these walls in everwidening circles.

"It is because of this need for the development of closer and more cordial relations and good fellowship that this Club is sustained by its membership to whose continued support great credit is due, and with all the possibilities which lie before us it requires no great vision to foresee the beneficent power the Union Club will exert in the days to come."

WE ARE INDEBTED TO CAPT. CHERNICOFF, OF THE SHANGHAI TUG & LIGHTER CO., FOR THE ABOVE PHOTOGRAPH OF THE MOTOR VESSEL GLENAMOY ASHORE ON VIDEO ISLAND.

GLENAMOY'S PLIGHT

Unsuccessful Attempts to Tow Her off Video Island: More Rough Weather

All attempts to salve the motor-vessel Glenamoy have so far failed and the ship remains on the rocks in a perilous position. The damage originally done to her bows has considerably been increased by the force of rough weather which has been experienced, and on several occasions the officers and men on board have had to make a hurried transfer to the tug boats of the Shanghai Tug & Lighter Company, which have been standing by in turn.

Two or three attempts have been made at high water to lift the bows of the vessel off the rocks by flooding the after holds and towing at the same time, but the vessel held fast. Nothing can be done now until the next high tide, in about 10 days' time, when similar operations will be carried out.

ROSE SHOW

Shanghai Horticultural Society's New Innovation A Great Success

The Shanghai Horticultural Society's first Rose Show, held at the New Carlton on Tuesday afternoon, proved a great success, and there should be little dispute concerning making the event an annual one in future. The entries were numerous, and considering recent conditions the exhibits well up to standard. The cool weather of the last few days assisted the blooms tremendously, though the rain smashed the petals rather badly. This is the first time the Society has embarked on a show devoted almost entirely to roses, the reason being that the spring exhibitions usually fall rather late in the season for this particular bloom, and as roses are so popular it seemed a pity they should not be given an equal chance with later flowers. It is hoped, also, that the show will have the effect of encouraging Shanghai's amateur horticulturists to take a bigger interest in roses. One of the most interesting classes from the point of view of the exhibitors as well as spectators was that for the best arrangement of rose blooms in a bowl of not less than eight inches in diameter, which was won by Mrs. Rayner.

The awards were presented to the winners by Lady Skinner Turner, who, together with her husband Judge Sir Skinner Turner, evinced a great interest in the proceedings. Both are keen horticulturists.

Sir Skinner Turner, in the course of a short address, said he thought they could really congratulate themselves and the exhibitors on the excellence of the flowers they had seen there that day, and in presenting the winners with their prizes, Lady Skinner Turner presented with them the congratulations of both herself and her husband.

ANOTHER BIG HAUL OF ARMS

Over 50 Pistols and 7,000 Rounds of Ammunition in the Amboise

Customs searchers found another large consignment of arms on the French mail boat last Friday. Over 50 automatic pistols and 7,000 rounds of ammunition were discovered in the stewards room of the M. M. S. Amboise, which arrived on Thursday.

The steward was subsequently alleged to be responsible for the smuggling, and arrested and handed over to the French authorities. It is understood that he is being sent to France to be dealt with.

AMERICAN WOMAN'S CLUB

At a business meeting of the American Woman's Club held on Tuesday afternoon, it was voted almost unanimously to raise the Club dues to $20 a year, payable semi-annually. A new Executive Board for the coming year was also elected composed of the following ladies:—Mrs. C. R. Boynton, Dr. J. B. Fearn, Miss Ellen Jansen, Mrs. W. H. Lacey, Mrs. J. Scott Emens, Mrs. W. H. Lunt, Mrs. W. L. Merriman, Mrs. R. W. Squires, Mrs. P. W. Giovannini, Mrs. H. B. Lane.

A proposition to buy a piece of property within the city was brought before the meeting on Tuesday. This proposition had been approved by the Advisory Board and was also approved by the meeting.

SHANGHAI is to have another Russian newspaper, publication of the "Cossack Messenger" in the near future being announced.

THE engagement is announced of Montgomery Reader Harris, younger son of the late Reader Harris, K.C., and Millicent Damaris, only daughter of Sir Skinner and Lady Turner.

THE Shanghai Chinese Bar Association, in a statement just made in connexion with the rendition of the International Mixed Court, recommends the retention of the present Chinese Magistrates as, they state, the men now on the Bench are fully qualified men, honest and efficient.

THE ART EXHIBITION

An Unqualified Success: Summary of Results

(Contributed).

Now that there has been time to analyze the results of the recent Spring Art Exhibition held under the auspices of the China Society of Science and Arts, it is possible to pronounce the undertaking an unqualified success.

The rooms lent by the "North-China Daily News" were very suitable for such an exhibition, and the public owes a debt of gratitude to the proprietors of this newspaper. It is to be regretted, however, that Shanghai does not possess suitable public rooms for such purposes as this exhibition, and that those desirous of promoting such undertakings for the benefit of the entire community should have to depend upon the generosity of a private firm for suitable accommodation.

Artists from Tientsin, Peking and Shanghai participated in the exhibition to the number of 69. One lady sent pictures from Fukien province which arrived too late to be inserted in the catalogue. Five Peking artists and five Tientsin artists exhibited, the remainder being local residents.

Altogether, some 342 water colour sketches, drawings in inks, crayons and pastels were shown, together with 168 oil paintings and 13 pieces of sculpture, making a total of 523 exhibits. The sale of pictures was far from satisfactory due, it is feared, to the fact that a great many of the best pictures were too highly priced to meet the pocket books of would-be purchasers and those who had seen good pictures were not desirous of buying those of inferior quality.

It may here be noted that many pictures were marked by their owners at prices which they could not hope to realise in any part of the world. In London, for five guineas, a purchaser may obtain a very good oil painting or water colour by some artist either with an established reputation or at least with a rising reputation. Certainly, many of the pictures in Shanghai were marked at considerably more than their possible market value. Many inquiries were made as to whether an artist would not be willing to lower the price and in cases where they were, sales were negotiated.

Altogether, 36 pictures were sold, fetching something over $1,000. The best sales were made on the first day of the exhibition.

A Large Attendance.

That the exhibition was highly popular may be judged from the number of people who passed through. Estimating from the number of tickets sold, some 962 foreigners visited the exhibition, while at least 200 foreign school children, mainly from the Thomas Hanbury School, the Cathedral Schools, and the French School, took advantage of the special hours set aside for children who were admitted free. Chinese art students were also admitted free, fully 500 passing through during the six days the exhibition was in progress. The majority of these latter came from the Shanghai College of Fine Arts. The Pootung Middle School sent also a large number, as well as the Ecole Speciale des Beaux Arts.

A Surfeit of Exhibits.

From these facts and figures it will be realised that the art exhibition filled a certain need in the life of the Shanghai community. A certain amount of difficulty was experienced in getting the knowledge of the exhibition to the public, and although it was advertised and written up in the papers throughout the whole of its duration, many people have been heard to remark that they were ignorant of its existence. It may be remarked that, owing to the success with which the exhibition was meeting, it was decided to carry it on for three days longer than was originally intended. It is felt, however, that an exhibition of this kind should be kept open for at least a month, in order to give everybody an opportunity to view the pictures thoroughly. Many people complained that there were too many pictures for them really to see in one visit.

A certain amount of criticism has been levelled against the committee for not making a selection of the pictures exhibited, but it was felt that for the first exhibition, at least, all artists who were sufficiently interested to send in their work should have it exhibited, regardless of the quality. After all, the exhibition was to show the public the work that is being done in China.

Fully one-third of the exhibitors were Chinese who have taken up the European style of art with considerable success. If a criticism may be made regarding their work, it is that their colours are somewhat too crude to please European patrons of art, which doubtless accounts for the fact that there were not more sales of their pictures. They have yet to learn a lot in regard to the blending of colours, though their workmanship and technique are particularly good.

DOLLAR LINE ROUND-WORLD SERVICE

President Harrison's Trip of 26,000 Miles in 107½ Days

Representatives of the press attended a press tiffin given on Wednesday on the Dollar str. President Harrison and if the passengers have the same food that was on the table, and Captain Ahlin, master of the ship, assured them it was, and they are not seasick a trip round the world on one of these boats must add at least 20 lb. to the average man's weight.

The President Harrison left Shanghai on February 1 of this year on her round-the-world voyage, being scheduled to steam 26,000 miles and her round-the-world voyage, being return to Shanghai at 5 a.m. on May 20. She was actually off the Dollar Wharf at 5 a.m. on May 20 and tied alongside at 5.25 a.m., having touched different countries and visited 21 leading world ports, returning to this city at the hour set several months ago; 107½ days, Shanghai to Shanghai, 55 days Shanghai to New York, and 46 days New York to Shanghai.

The Dollar Line purchased from the U. S. Shipping Board seven vessels of this identical type, which are operated on a fortnightly service. They are now all strung around the globe and it is hard to conceive that there is a sailing every 14 days of a Dollar passenger liner from each of the 21 ports of call, all headed forever westward, making a chain around the world linking together many of the leading countries and most interesting peoples of the universe.

The significance of this ... can only be appreciated when considered that this is the first ... its kind to be attempted in the world. A success cannot be ... overnight, and it will require ... great amount of tireless pioneering. Even in the Mediterranean Sea it is interesting to learn that, from Alexandria to Marseilles *via* Naples and Genoa, every spare cabin is sold out considerably in advance, as they have never had such a service between those ports as is now offered by this Company, both in the way of accommodations, courtesy and table.

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS

In the outports can rely on fresh supply of Films, Plates and Papers and all Photo Sundries by sending to

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Developing and Printing by experienced operators.

THE RECENT INCURSION OF SNAKES ON THE BUND HAS HAD SOME INTERESTING AS YET UNRECORDED RESULTS

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

MONEY AND EXCHANGE

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, May 23.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/3⅜=Tls. 6.09 at 71.70=$8.49	
Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 71½=Tls. 140.35 at 71.70=$195.75	
Mex. Dollars, market rate	71.9375
Native Interest	13
Copper Cash	270,000
Bar Silver	34 1/16
Bank rate of Discount	4 per cent.
Paris on London	Frs. 77.45
New York on London	G.$4.34¼

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/3¼
Demand	3/3⅜
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	71
Demand	71¼
PARIS—	
Demand	1318
INDIA—	
Demand	231¾
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73¼
JAPAN—	
Demand	56¾
BATAVIA—	
Demand	197
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	71½

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/4
4 m/s. Credits	3/5¼
4 m/s. Docs.	3/5⅜
6 m/s. Credits	3/5⅜
6 m/s. Docs.	3/6¼
NEW YORK—	
Demand	72¼
4 m/s. Credits	74¼
4 m/s. Docs.	75
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1385
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/3⅞
New York T.T.	72

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR MAY.

Hk. Tls. 5.60 at 3/2½	£1
„ 1 at 1148	Frs. 12.79
„ 1.29 at 69½	Gold $1
„ 1 at 58¾	Yen 1.90
„ 1 at 228⅝	Rupees 2.54
„ 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
„ 1 at 15.575	It. Lire 17.35
Marks and Roubles	no quotation

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates for May 23:—

It. Lire 16.10	Tls. 1
Swiss Frs. 4.03	Tls. 1
It. Lire 9.00	Y. 1

Sino-Scandinavian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates May 23, Nominal:—

Tl. I.: Norw. Kr.:	5,03
Tl. I.: Swed. Kr.:	2,62
Tl. I.: Dan. Kr.:	4,12

WEEK'S EXCHANGE NOTES

May 24.

At the close of business on the 22nd instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 36,495,000 and $41,610,000. These figures include Tls. 5,790,000 and $23,540,000 in Chinese banks, in which there were 2,751 bars.

Bar Silver.

Arrivals were:—
- 702 bars from Bombay
- 554 „ „ America
- 55 „ „ London

1,311 bars

Shipments were:—
- 76 bars to Canton
- 10 „ „ Yunnan

86 bars

Sycee.

Arrivals were:—
Nil.

Shipments were:—
Tls. 100,000 to Anhui

Dollars.

Arrivals were:—
- $450,000 from Tientsin
- 200,000 „ Chinkiang

$650,000

Shipments were:—
- $1,300,000 to Wusih
- 600,000 „ Soochow
- 500,000 „ Cocoon districts
- 400,000 „ Kashing
- 230,000 „ Ningpo
- 150,000 „ Huchow
- 70,000 „ Hangchow
- 50,000 „ Tatung

$3,300,000

Silver.

With a steady rise each day, the price came yesterday at 34 1/16d. ready and 34⅛d. forward, showing rises of one penny and 1 1/16d. respectively, compared with a week ago. India, China and the Continent have all been reported as buyers.

Bars in stock, 5,235, including silver Yen 10 lakhs.

Stocks of sycee and dollars amount to Tls. 365 lakhs and $416 lakhs, against Tls. 353½ lakhs and $442½ lakhs last week, and Tls. 210¾ lakhs and $385½ lakhs on May 22, 1923. $33 lakhs have been shipped from Shanghai to the cocoon districts during the week.

Exchange.

Exchange left off last week with the official quotation at T.T. 3/2½d. On Monday it was 3/3d., on Tuesday and Wednesday 3/3¼d. On Thursday it opened at T.T. 3/3¼d., the market opened steady with sellers at 3/3⅜d. for near delivery, but with practically no bills offering gradually eased off during the day and closed with the best sellers only quoting 3/3¼d. for May/June delivery. Late in the afternoon the official rate was lowered to 3/3¼d., at which it remains, nearly 1¾d. below the parity of forward silver.

The market yesterday morning opened steady with sellers at T.T. 3/3⅜d. May/June and quickly firmed up and inter-bank business was done at 3/4d. for June. It gradually eased off again and closed easy in the forenoon, with sellers at 3/3⅜d. May/June, 3/3⅛d. July/August, 3⅜d. September/December and Gold $ T.T. 71⅜ May/June, 71⅜ July/August, 72 September forward.

THE SILVER MARKET

India still dominates the silver markets and prices are higher even against selling by China, states an American report. Of the $25,352,639 exports from this country during the first three months of this year, the greater part has gone to India, despite China's large January purchases. This combined total is more than double that of the corresponding period of last year, when it totalled $13,843,766, with silver around 67 cents, against 64 cents at present. In the first three months of 1922 combined exports were $16,375,344.

Although India's total overseas trade is smaller, the decrease is in imports, with an actual larger net favourable balance because of the sustained level in exports. For February, this net favourable trade balance was Rs. 174,700,000, one of the best showings of this kind in its history.

The London market fails to reveal any increased consumption by Europe. Apparently new silver coinage is being taken care of against old silver reserves, although these do not amount to any appreciable totals.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

A More Promising Week Again Upset by Rain: Piece Goods Statistical Position Sound

May 24.

Until yesterday, merchants were feeling quite happy once more, for throughout the week there had been no more rain than was necessary to make the morning canter comfortable and business had brightened up very considerably. The quantities disposed of were not particularly great, but prices on the whole were better and there was a distinct improvement in the demand. Then came renewal of the deluge and again the market is full of doubts. The cotton and produce men are exceptions to the above. Most of the Chinese cotton dealers still are gambling on the gold exchange, whilst the sudden advance in exchange rates has taken all the interest in life out of the export merchants and they have rather less to do than a wildfowler in July.

Piece Goods

The northern markets again have been the principal contractors this week, but the gross sales have not been very great. The market was much brighter and some slight concessions by dealers led to a few sales. With improved weather conditions, clearances increased. The statistical position is the most satisfactory feature of the market and attention has been drawn to the fact that just now it is practically the same as in 1919. There is, however, the great difference that in 1919 there were abundant supplies of cotton in hand and when these were unloaded prices slumped, but now there is no cotton to spare and, indeed, it is said that unless there is a bumper crop this season—which is most unlikely—there will be very little available. So there is every reason for believing that prices will be kept up.

Cotton, Yarn, etc.

China Cotton—The market has continued fairly steady at last week's quotations, but it has been a very dull week, for speculators still are hovering round the gold market. Very little business was done in the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange, sales amounting to less than half of the recent average. Yesterday's closing quotations there were:—May, 46.75; June, 46.30; July, 45.85; August, 44.80; September, 41.30; October, 38.90. Spot quotations:—Tungchow, 48.50 to 49; Shanghai, 45.50 to 46; Shensi, 46.50 to 47.50; Hankow, 45 to 45.50.

Yarn.—With very little demand, this market also has remained dull. Yesterday's closing quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange were:—May, 178.30; June, 176.30; July, 173.90; August, 172; September, 168.80; October, 165.20.

Produce.

The slight revival of interest which was recently experienced in the produce export market has been checked by the sudden advance in exchange rates. Home buyers show no signs of adjusting their ideas to the new C.I.F. values and business in all commodities is moribund. Supplies are scanty and, in consequence, native holders are in a strong position. The outlook generally is far from promising.

ADDITIONAL SALVAGE TUGS FOR SHANGHAI

Two Purchased by Tug & Lighter Co. from H. M. Government

The Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co. have just acquired from H. M. Government the rescue and salvage tugs Saucy and St. Aubin, these two tugs having been taken over by Mr. Firth at Bombay late last month, and both arrived in Shanghai last Friday.

The Saucy is a two-funnel two-masted tug of a very much larger type than the Saint class, having been built to the order of H. M. Government during 1918 for extra heavy work. The St. Aubin is of the same class in all respects as the St. Dominic and St. Sampson previously acquired by the Company. The two tugs made the run from Bombay to Singapore in 9½ steaming days and from Singapore to Shanghai in the same time, after having been delayed owing to the St. Aubin having called at Hongkong and the Saucy having been called by wireless to proceed to the wreck of the motor ship Glenamoy.

RUBBER PRODUCTION IN CEYLON AND MALAYA

London, May 19.

In the House of Commons to-day, replying to a question suggesting the desirability of the Malayan and Ceylon authorities not changing the assessment of standard production of rubber estates while the owners or lessees are visiting the British Empire Exhibition, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. J. H. Thomas, said that such consideration as was desirable in the light of local conditions would no doubt be given by the Governments concerned in such cases, but he did not think that it would be practicable to adopt a suggestion of the nature proposed.—Reuter.

UNION INSURANCE SOC.

Mr. Montague Ede Retiring: Handsome Recognition of Long Service

Hongkong, May 16.

At the annual meeting of the Union Inurance Society of Canton to-day, the Chairman announced that the General Manager, the Hon. Montague Ede, was retiring on June 30.

In recognition of Mr. Ede's services the directors voted him £20,000 and his present commission on profits for three years. Mr. Paul Lauder has been appointed to succeed Mr. Ede.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE C. P. R. SHARES

The latest statistics regarding the distribution of Canadian Pacific Railway shares are contained in the last annual report, which shows that the United Kingdom controls 50.73 per cent. of the total stock outstanding. Canada comes next with 21.14 per cent., followed by the United States with 20.69 per cent., France 2.95 per cent., and other holdings with 4.49 per cent.

THE COTTON MARKET

A cable received from Messrs. Anderson, Clayton & Fleming, New York, May 16, states:—

The continued low temperatures in the south, scant supplies and the strength of the old crop are steadying influences. Better grades and staples are in moderate demand; medium and lower grades are neglected. The domestic spinning condition is bad."

COAL OUTPUT

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending May 10, amounted to 93,291 tons and the sales during the same period to 10[illegible] tons.

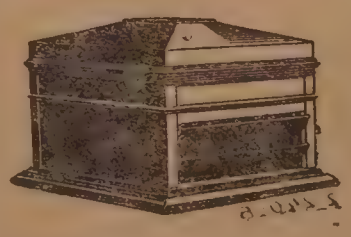
$ 230.00

SOMETHING EVERY MUSICIAN HAS BEEN WAITING FOR—

$ 320.00

THE RECOGNISABLE REPRODUCTION OF MUSIC ON THE GRAMOPHONE

THE **NEW COLUMBIA GRAFONOLA** MAKES EVERY OTHER GRAMOPHONE OLD-FASHIONED AND UNTRUE



$ 170.00

$ 280.00

ROBINSON PIANO CO. LD.

COMPANIES' NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Yangtsze Insurance Association Ltd.—The 34th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 26 The Bund, Shanghai, on Tuesday, May 27, 1924, at 4.30 p.m.

A dividend of $4.25 per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 17 to 27, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ltd.—The 8th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 26 The Bund, Shanghai, on Tuesday, May 27, 1924, at 3.30 p.m.

A dividend of Tls. 1.40 per share will be recommended.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 17 to 27, 1924, both days inclusive.

The China Import & Export Lumber Co., Ltd.—The 22nd Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 6 Kinkiang Road, Shanghai, on Friday, May 30, 1924, at 3 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 23 to 30, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Weeks & Co., Ltd.—The 24th Ordinary General Meeting will be held at No. 37 Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Friday, May 30, 1924, at 4.30 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 24 to 31, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ltd.—The 25th Annual Ordinary General Meeting will be held at No. 24A and 24B Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Monday, June 2, 1924, at 4 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 24 to June 2, 1924, both days inclusive.

Share Report for Week Ending May 23, 1924.

No. 24/20

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
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The Local share market has continued an inactive during the past week and generally conditions are very depressed. A few "Rubber" shares exhibited very small transactions at prices and buyers are holding them offer for more parcels on most cases. There has been no business in London and quotations reported by cable to-day cover nominal approximately the previous week's "Closings".

Cotton mill shares also exhibited very small transactions with prices and buyers are holding at the same as last week's closing quotations. Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co. shares are quoted at Tls. 95 with buyers at Tls. 94 and sellers at Tls. 96. Shanghai Dock and S. & H. Wharf are again quoted as "Buyers" but no business is reported.

Our London market quotations with the exception of Gula Kalumpong Rubber Estates and Shanghai Electric Construction Co. show no marked changes and the following are the latest prices offered to us by cable this week:—

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Gold Loan 1913, B.I.	£ 72. 10. 0 (Middle Price)
" " "

May 27, Tuesday. June 24, Tuesday. July 29, Tuesday.

RUBBER AUCTIONS.

The following telegraphic advices have been received:—

Singapore, May 21, 1924.

Spot or May	31⅜ cents
June	32 ,,
July/Sept.	32¼ ,,
Oct./Dec.	34¼ ,,

Market firm.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded *		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
1905	5 to 20	5-4-24	T97	*d* 320,000	6	June-Dec.
1907	do.	19-3-24	T97	500,000	6	do.
1908	do.	9-5-24	T98	620,000	6	do.
1909	do.	15-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
1910	do.	16-5-24	T97	343,800	6	do.
1911	10 to 30	9-5-24	T97½	350,000	6	do.
1912	do.	3-1-24	T99	340,000	6	do.
1913	do.	3-5-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
,,	10 to 50	19-5-24	T89	500,000	5½	do.
1914	10 to 50	19-5-24	T89	900,000	5½	do.
1915	do.	9-5-24	T89	800,000	5½	do.
1916	10	9-5-24	T97½	1,400,000	6	do.
1918	10	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
1919	10	9-5-23	T102	1,793,300	7	do.
1920	10	1-5-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
,,	10 to 30	29-3-24	£104	£750,000	6	do.
1921	do.	14-2-24	$117	$1,000,000	8	do.
1921	do.	12-5-24	T109	T5,096,100	8	do.
1922	do.	16-5-24	T104½	T8,000,000	7	do.
1923	do.	19-5-24	T97½	*a*T6,000,000	6	do.
1924	do.	1-5-24	T97½	T500,000	6%	do.
1911	do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6	May-Nov.
1914	do.	12-9-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
1915	do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
1921	do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8	do.
1923	do.	17-12-23	T95	*a* T800,000	6	May-Nov.
1921	10 to 30	9-5-24	T107	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
1922	do.	6-6-22	T108	T500,000	8	do.
1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
1908	do.	2-4-23	T94	*e* 800,000	6	do.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded *		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
1905	5 to 20	31-8-22	T96½	T250,000	6	June-Dec.
1909	do.	1-4-24	T98	750,000	6	do.
1911	do.	26-9-22	T92	250,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
..	do.	28-3-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
..	do.	..	..	250, 00	6	Jan-July
1912	do.	2-4-24	T98	250,000	6	June-Dec.
1913	do.	3-4-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct.
..	do.	11-1-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
1914	do.	22-3-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct;
1916	5 to 25	3-4-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
1922	do.	12-2-23	T95	750,000	6	do.
1922	do.	10-1-24	T98	500 000	6	Mar.-Sep.
1907	20	1-2-24	T93	450,000	6	May-Nov.
1901	Perpetual			139,000	6	do
1914	5 to 20			130,000	6	June-Dec.
1915	do.			110,000	6	May-Nov.
1906	do.			250,000	6	do.
1911	do.	7-6-23	T98	300,000	6	June-Dec.
						do.
1923	10 to 20	27-2-23	T95½	*h* 270,000	6	do.
1923	25	14-4-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
1915	10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
1914	5 to 20	14-10-22	T92	T230,000	7	Jan.-July
1922	5 to 20	..	..	T600,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—*b*—Tls.65,100; *c*—Tls 51,100; *d*—Tls.34,100; *e*—Tls.68,500; *f*—Tls.252,400; *g*—Tls.139,800; *h*—Tls.12,300; *i*—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorised Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1923: Jan.	1923: Feb.	1923: Mar.	1923: Apr.	Total output this finyr; to date.
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Alma	Tls. 600,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	216,000	8.87d	6[illegible]	22,000	18,000	17,000	19,000	144,000
Amberst (New)	,, 500,000	Oct.	72,142	50,000	50,000	*4.80	12,000	8,211	8,445	14,662	11,670	66,041
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	600,000	510,000	600,000	8.16d	..	61,000	50,000	65,000	62,000	211,300
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,524,711	1,068,332	..	5.06d	..	181,000	161,100	187,000	173,000	702,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 300,000	Sept.	369,147	329,012	250,000	10.21.41	..	..	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam	,, 400,000	Dec.	25,310	21,[illegible]	15[illegible]	[illegible]	..	12,500	11,500	13,000	15,300	52,300
Bukit Toh Alang	,, 500,000	Mar.	305,845	248,182	345,000	7.54d.	..	..	..	..	23,000	23,000
Bute	,, 500,000	Dec.	230,067	177,850	159,516	11.11d.	..	17,500	16,800	13,600	Nil	47,700
Chemor United	,, 360,000	Dec.	340,794	267,027	..	8.40d.	..	27,200	23,300	9,500	16,900	76,900
Chempedak	£35,000	Oct.	145,760	103,063	..	1/5.42d.	30,700	14,000	4,400	1,000	13,200	63,300
Cheng	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.03d.	102,014	10,500	9,700	11,500	11,400	145,414
Consolidated (1914)	,, 375,000	Dec.	689,999	645,278	761,500	7.47d.	..	53,000	56,779	44,437	43,523	192,739
Dominion	,, 850,000	Dec.	271,150	324,546	306 867	9.63d.	..	28,032	27,654	16 990	19,098	91,074
Gula-Kalumpong	$500,000	Dec.	1,114,000	93 000	1,215,000	1/0.[illegible]d.	..	[illegible]	78,000	66,563	82,000	315,000
Java Consolidated	£85,000	Dec.	686,524	622,[illegible]	..	[illegible]	..	63,300	60,000	72,300	72,000	254,100
Kalawang	,, 150,000	Dec.	149,220	116,710	..	12,290	..	10,592	8,[illegible]	7,[illegible]	[illegible]	224,1
Karan	,, 250,000	Mar.	101,[illegible]	79,[illegible]	84,000	8[illegible]	..	..	..	..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kota Bahroe (1921)	,, 3,000,000	June	1[illegible]	3[illegible]	..	..	160,91	24,150	26,[illegible]	19,180	19,640	256,743
Kroewoek	£70,000	Dec.	449,000	382 [illegible]	54[illegible]	0.7.24.	..	33 000	33,000	59 000	36,000	229,000
Langkat	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	827 [illegible]	94[illegible]	97[illegible]	[illegible] 0.28	179,300	92,000	71,000	70,000	64,000	477,300
Padang	Tls. 600,000	April	22[illegible]	171,000	..	10[illegible]	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pengkalan (1921)	,, 150,000	Mar.	130,[illegible]	[illegible]	176,088	1[illegible]	..	..	..	..	..	..
Permata	,, 250,000	Oct.	98,[illegible]	86,[illegible]	..	0.[illegible]	17,[illegible]	8,000	6,093	5,867	..	37,536
Repah	,, 275,000	Dec.	68,834	217,087	..	..	..	17,400	8,700	15,900	11,000	53,000
Samegaga	,, 600,000	Sept.	361,810	250,813	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
See Kee (1913)	,, 100,000	June	179,665	142,960	115,[illegible]	11.[illegible]d.	120,[illegible]	[illegible]	11,000	10,500	[illegible]	159,709
Semambu	,, 300,000	Dec.	161,[illegible]	21[illegible]	158,[illegible]	0.9[illegible]	..	13,400	13,100	7,[illegible]	17,[illegible]	50,000
Senawang (1921)	,, 375,000	Jan.	272,000	27[illegible]	..	8[illegible]	..	..	11,200	16,[illegible]	17,[illegible]	48,100
Shanghai Kedah	,, 400,000	Sept.	13[illegible]	24[illegible]	..	8.[illegible]d.	67,[illegible]	21,[illegible]	17,[illegible]	17,021	22,007	149,411
S'hai Klebang	,, 515,000	Dec.	12,[illegible]	10[illegible]	..	11,[illegible]	..	[illegible]	5,000	..	..	16,700
S'hai-Malay	,, 600,000	Dec.	3[illegible]	28[illegible]	10[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	7,984	68,491
S'hai Pahang	,, 200,000	June	20[illegible]	18[illegible]	..	9[illegible]	100,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	158,126
S'hai Seremban	,, 325,000	Dec.	14[illegible]	11[illegible]	..	9.[illegible]d.	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	42,500
S'hai-Sumatra	,, 600,000	Oct.	661,[illegible]	67[illegible]	250,000	[illegible]	111,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sua Manggis	,, 200,000	Dec.	1[illegible]	1[illegible]	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungala	,, 100,000	Mar.	16[illegible]	[illegible]	..	17.20	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungei Duri	,, 400,000	June	20[illegible]	20[illegible]	22[illegible]	11.61d.	17[illegible]	2[illegible]	2[illegible]	[illegible]	10,01[illegible]	19[illegible]
Taiping (1913)	Tls. 250,000	Dec.	1[illegible]	1[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	..	..	..	[illegible]	..	[illegible]
Tanah Merah	,, 750,000	Mar.	[illegible]	[illegible]	..	7.[illegible]d.	..	..	..	..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tebong	,, 750,000	Jan.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ziangbe	£150,000	Dec.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	..	67 00	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expenses

†Estate Figures.

| Company | Authorised Capital | | | Par | Sh. | Dividends last 3 years | | | Dividend for year ended | Dividend for year ended | Dividend for year ended

COMPANY MEETING

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., LD.

Annual General Meeting.

The [illegible] annual general meeting of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld., was held on Thursday afternoon; Mr. James Ambrose presided, supported by Messrs. D. W. Crawford, E. H. Dunning, (directors) J. F. Lucas, (secretary) and other [illegible] representing 1,848 shares.

The Chairman said:—

As the report and accounts for the year ended February 29, 1924, have for some time been in your hands, with your consent I propose taking them as read.

Your directors have great pleasure in presenting to you what is, in their opinion, such a satisfactory result of the past year's working, for though the great bulk of the work of reconstruction and alterations to your premises was completed during the previous year [illegible] done during the year under review to finish off the premises internally which I believe may now be considered as completed and in a manner satisfactory to you all. The work took a long time to complete, but as you must be aware it is much more difficult to carry out such changes as we have made than it is to [illegible]

There was [illegible] any particular [illegible] in our trading during the year except that the turnover was not a record one, was larger than that of the previous year and the business which so far has been done during the current year is very satisfactory, and would be about in still more so if general business conditions in Shanghai improved.

Turning to the accounts you will see that the balance of working accounts is $77,125.44 against $40,081.65 which may be considered a satisfactory increase.

Land and buildings still stand in our books at $330,000 but you will see that we have expended on these buildings the sum of $126,113.02 in addition to $14,343.25 received from the Municipal Council for the surrender ex the lots for widening the Nanking Road, or in all a total of $140,456.27.

The assessed value of our land is Tls. 292,125 which is more than ample cover for our debenture issue of Tls. 240,000.

Furniture, fixtures and machinery stood in our last balance sheet at $23,778.69 and during the year we have expended on these the sum of $6,781.11 less depreciation written off of $5,559.80 leaving this item as shown in the balance sheet now before you at $25,000.

I would like here to draw your attention to the fact that during the three years ended the February 29, last we have expended on:—

Furniture, fittings and Machinery	$25,890.00
Buildings improvement account	126,113.00
Buildings on B.C. Lot 925	92,443.00
Paid off mortgage on B.C. Lot 925	13,341.00
	$257,787.00

the bulk of which has been paid out of revenue and in addition during the same period we allocated to stock reserve $75,000, which figures are, I think, ample evidence of the soundness of your business.

Our stocks have been carefully taken, checked and valued at actual cost or less and stand at $[illegible] an increase over last year of $[illegible]

Stock reserve has disappeared from this year's balance sheet the $20,000 standing at credit of this item having been used during the year to write off stocks damaged and general reserve is unchanged at $150,000.

Bank overdraft is $422,007.13, practically the same as last year when it stood at $420,724.80.

Investment account is unchanged at $5,805.97, a list of which investments can be seen by any shareholder or depositor to date present value of which is over $12,000.

I run the report you will see that the balance at credit of profit and loss account including $5,539.52 brought [illegible] to $[illegible] out of which [illegible] to deal with [illegible] overdraft [illegible] and [illegible] to stock reserve [illegible] to staff pension [illegible] $5,000 and to [illegible] $[illegible] carried to the [illegible] account to [illegible]

this item will then amount to $100,000, as against $126,113.02 expended in alterations and improvement, so that if all goes well during the current year this item on both sides of the account should almost or quite disappear at the end of the current year.

This, gentlemen, is all I have to say in connexion with the report and accounts now before you, but I will do my best to answer any questions shareholders may wish to put to me.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions were unanimously passed:—

That the statement and accounts as presented for the 12 months ending February 29, 1924, be accepted and passed—proposed by Mr. J. Ambrose and seconded by Mr. D. W. Crawford.

That a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. on the capital of the company be declared, payable at the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation to shareholders on record on May 22, 1924 proposed by Mr. J. Ambrose and seconded by Mr. E. H. Dunning.

That Mr. D. W. Crawford be re-elected a director of the company—proposed by Mr. H. H. Reed and seconded by Mr. B. H. Goying.

That Messrs. M. Thomson & Co., be reelected auditors to the company to [illegible] until the [illegible] general meeting and that their remuneration be Tls. [illegible] per annum proposed by Mr. B. H. Goying and seconded by Mr. P. W. Egharave.

At the conclusion of the regular business Mr. Reed, in resolving a vote of thanks to the directors and [illegible], said that they had with their able management of the business [illegible] through a difficult period when in the past year [illegible] the entire front of the building was nothing but a blank wall.

In reply the Chairman stated that the success was due to a hearty co-operation between company officials and employees.

CLUB AND SOCIETIES

THE SHANGHAI TOTAL ABSTINENCE LEAGUE

Seventh Annual Meeting: Teaching Temperance in the Schools

The seventh annual meeting (eighth year) of the Shanghai Total Abstinence League was held on Tuesday afternoon, when a small, but keenly interested, number of members were in attendance. Mr. G. E. Peet, the President, occupied the chair.

The various activities carried on by the Committee throughout the year were reported to the meeting. It was noted that the Bulletin had been issued regularly and that appreciative remarks had reached the Committee about the successive issues. Correspondence with the Municipal Council about introducing temperance teaching in the Municipal Schools was referred to. Also a sub-committee had spent time writing to America and Great Britain to gather information about methods of teaching temperance in the schools of those countries. The Committee entered a protest against the issuing of new licences in [illegible] and other districts.

Reference was made to a prize competition for children attending the Municipal (Foreign) Schools, on the subject: Alcohol, What it is, and What it does. The results of this competition will be announced later.

The treasurer's statement showed a small balance of $146, and it was made clear that funds are needed to carry on the work.

A [illegible] was read, a number had failed to pay dues for the year just completed. It was hoped that better results would forthcoming next session.

Officers and a Committee were appointed, as follows: [illegible] G. E. Peet; [illegible], Captain H. McCallum; Secretary, W. M. Cameron; Treasurer, C. J. Parsons; Committee, G. W. Shipway and J. Mason; W. A. B. Inwood continues as editor of the Bulletin.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to [illegible] for their co-operation.

MUNICIPAL GAZETTE NEWS

Police Report for April.

Serious Crime.—This includes the murder of two Chinese and the attempted murder of a Foreign Constable and coolie by an armed gang of robbers in the Gordon Road District on the night of April 5: the murder of a railway coolie who was shot dead on the Chekiang Road on the morning of April 19: the murder of an unidentified Chinese who was shot in a house in Yunnan Road on April 20: the death of a wheelbarrow coolie on April 24 following a fight with another coolie in the Central District on April 22: the murder of a Chinese who was found with bullet wounds in an alleyway off Park Road on April 24 and who died in hospital the following day: the wounding of a Chinese who was shot in the stomach on the afternoon of April 26 on the Fokien Road: the murder of an unknown Chinese whose body with a bullet wound in the head was found in an alleyway off Taku Road on the night of April 28: and the murder of another unknown Chinese whose body bearing two bullet wounds was found in the country off Penang Road in the early morning of April 29.

Seven men arrested in the first mentioned case and one in the fourth were under remand at the end of the month.

Robbery.—Seven reports of armed robbery from dwelling houses and shops and two of armed highway robbery were recorded. Shots were fired by the robbers in six instances, resulting in the death of two Chinese and the wounding of a Foreign Constable, a Chinese coolie and a Chinese female. Two cases of attempted armed robbery from dwelling houses also occurred, the robbers in both instances making good their escape on an alarm being raised by the inmates.

In connexion with the foregoing reports and with armed robberies committed prior to April 1, eighteen persons in possession of two automatic pistols were arrested. Four were remitted to the Court of the Military Governor, one was sentenced to imprisonment and the charge against six was withdrawn, while the remaining seven were under remand at the end of the month. The charge against three men arrested for beng associates of armed robbers was withdrawn. Two men arrested for being associates of in possession of a loaded pistol each for an unlawful purpose. One was sentenced to imprisonment whilst the other was under remand at the end of the month. One man, arrested for murder and armed robbery in territory under Chinese jurisdiction, was handed over to the authorities concerned.

A robbery from a building in course of construction in which no arms were used occurred in the Yangtszepoo District. In connexion with this report and with a case which occurred in March, four men were arrested. One was sentenced to three years' imprisonment whilst the other three were under remand at the end of the month.

Trafficking in Firearms.—During the month two Japanese were arrested and charged with trafficking in firearms. They were sentenced to seven and five days' imprisonment respectively. Two Chinese charged in connexion with the attempted sale of an automatic pistol were also dealt with. One of them, who was further charged with offering a bribe to a police officer, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment whilst the other man was acquitted. Another Chinese charged with being in possession of pistol ammunition was under remand at the end of the month.

False Information.—A Chinese, who was arrested in connexion with armed robberies in the Gordon Road District and against whom the charge was subsequently withdrawn, was at the Mixed Court on April 25 sentenced to thirty months' imprisonment for giving false information implicating himself and two others in the above robberies.

Illtreatment of Slave Children.—Reference has been made in previous reports to cases of illtreatment of slave children in Chinese families. While the buying and selling of children is just as illegal in China as elsewhere, it is common knowledge that it is recognized and extensively practised and there need, therefore, be no apology for setting out for purposes of record yet another case which has been dealt with and which goes to show that these children even when placed in homes where their lot might be a happy one are very badly treated. As a rule previous reference has been made to these cases when the cruelty has been of a particularly revolting nature. In the instance now dealt with, however, the main point of interest lies in the fact that the cruelty was perpetrated with the full knowledge of and in the house of an ex-official of high position. Two slave girls aged 13 and 15 had been accused of the theft of a silver spoon. Their mistress, previously the mistress of a brothel and now married to the aforementioned official, is alleged to have assaulted the girls with a thin iron rod on several previous occasions, and this instrument, according to their statement, was again requisitioned to punish them for the loss of the spoon. Subsequently the girls ran away from the house intending to proceed to the Door of Hope. They spoke to a Constable who took them to the Police Station from which they were sent to the Shantung Road Hospital. The medical certificates show that one of the girls was suffering from extensive and severe bruising in both shoulders and thighs and the second from a small scalp wound probably caused by a blow. One of the girls states that she was sold into a brothel previously managed by the woman, now the official's wife, for the sum of $70. On the girls being brought before the Mixed Court they were at their own request sent to the Door of Hope.

Crime beyond Settlement limits.—Two cases of murder and twelve of armed robbery were reported as having occurred during the month in territory under Chinese jurisdiction in the neighbourhood of Shanghai. In three instances inmates of houses plundered were wounded, whilst in a case of armed highway robbery the victim was shot with fatal results.

Executions.—Five Chinese were executed at Lunghua in the presence of a representative of the Municipal Police. Three of these men had been found guilty of murder, attempted murder and armed robbery in the Settlement during December 1923 and with being in possession of two loaded automatic pistols when arrested. The other two men were convicted of armed robberies in the western district during September 1923.

On April 29 a brigand, who had been found guilty of kidnapping in Shantung two women whom he later brought to Shanghai, was executed at Lunghua.

Legal Assistance to Armed Robbers.—It would have been surprising if the decision arrived at by the Magistrates and Assessors of the Mixed Court, namely, that in every charge of armed robbery brought before the Court the accused should have the benefit of legal assistance, had not very quickly given rise to discussion. It is well known to the Police that news of the Mixed Court decision travelled very rapidly indeed among the members of the armed robber fraternity—in itself extremely significant as proving the importance with which they regarded it—and there is unquestionably grave reason to fear that the good intentions which led up to the innovation will be set at naught and may even cause dire results by reason of the attitude of those whom it is sought to benefit. Far from viewing the new rule as a worthy attempt to copy the best methods for the administration of justice, armed robbers already inside the Settlement regard it as a further loophole of possible escape. With the spread of the news to the neighbouring provinces, it is quite certain that their brethern in crime outside the Settlement will welcome it as an additional and determining reason why they should migrate from their native villages to the foreign Settlement of Shanghai where, instead of the short shrift provided by Chinese methods, they will find themselves entitled to the benefits of legal advice when captured.

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SPORTS AND PASTIMES

THE YACHT CLUB

Exciting Experiences and a Record Muster for the Opening Cruise

The members of the Shanghai Yacht Club had a splendid time on Sunday on the occasion of the opening cruise. All the six new boats of the Byrne class turned out and with this substantial addition to the fleet there was what was said to be a record muster, 21 cruisers, motor boats and racing yachts following the Commodore's Phantom up to the Seven Mile Reach, where the Foam anchored, the others tying up round her. Nearly 100 members, with a number of ladies, then gathered on the Foam, where the customary pleasant formalities were observed and on the call of the Commodore (Mr. E. T. Byrne) toasts were drunk to the King and the Shanghai Yacht Club.

Arrangements had been made to sail three races after tiffin, but a number of exciting happenings during the race for the Byrne boats reduced the programme to two. Early in the morning there was practically no wind, but it freshened during the run up to the anchorage and by the time set for the first race there was a spanking sailing breeze and all were anxious to see how the new boats would behave. Four of the six got away to a very level start, but the Vice-Commodre's Gnome (No. 25), which had been performing wonders on the way up, soon forged ahead and thereafter had the race to herself. The Sprite fouled a mark-boat, and the Rear-Commodore's Ghost, halfway through the race, struck a submerged stone-bank and her rudder-post snapped off short, putting her out of the race. The rest performed splendidly, showing fine sailing qualities and proving to be very seaworthy. Mr. H. K. Strachan's Spook ran in fourth, but a sudden gust just as she was rounding the Foam carried her on to the flagship, her mainsheet was torn away and she capsized, the skipper, the owner and two others getting a ducking. The experience was worth it, for no harm resulted, the boat remained afloat and in 20 minutes had been set right again and could have been sailed if necessary, showing that there need be no fear of serious accidents. After this the whole fleet raced for home.

The Gnome won the Byrne class race, the Haikuan (Dr. Hill) won the old boats' race on time allowance, and there was a most exciting run home, the Viking and Phantom finishing almost dead level, with several others close behind and the result will not be known until the allowances have been calculated. Altogether it was a most interesting and enjoyable cruise.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES

France Unexpectedly Beaten by United States in Rugby Final

Paris, May 18.

The United States to-day defeated France in the final of the Olympic Rugby by 17 points to 3.

The United States, whose victory upset all calculations, scored the first try four minutes from the opening of play and thenceforth had the best of the game. The lighter Frenchmen did not like their hard tackling. Two Frenchmen were incapacitated and one was badly shaken, and the losers became demoralized towards the end. The Americans showed superior speed, weight and dash. The French forwards played well, but the backs failed to pierce the American defence.—Reuter.

LAWN TENNIS

Davis Cup Competition: Denmark's Victory over Hungary

Copenhagen, May 18.

Denmark to-day defeated Hungary in the Davis Tennis Cup by three matches to two.

Denmark will now meet Italy.—Reuter.

Vienna, May 19.

Switzerland beat Austria by three matches to one in the first round of the Davis Cup competition.—Reuter.

CRICKET IN ENGLAND

South Africans v. Notts: A Fine Innings by Nourse: County Championship

London, May 15.

The match between Notts and the South Africans was continued at Nottingham to-day. The weather was glorious, and there was an attendance of 6,000. In their first innings the South Africans had made 186, to which Notts replied with 93 for five wickets. The Notts innings was completed to-day for a total of 185. Pegler, for South Africa, captured five wickets for 47 runs. In their second venture the South Africans made a total of 236, Nourse being responsible for an unfinished innings of 147, compiled in 195 minutes. He played a superb all-round game, and his total included 19 fours. The South African bowler, Staples, took five wickets for 78 runs. The match will be continued to-day.

At Cambridge, Yorkshire beat Cambridge University by an innings and six runs. Yorkshire made 234 runs for eight wickets and declared, Sutcliffe making 108 not out. In their first innings Cambridge made 111 runs and 117 in the second. Rhodes, for Yorkshire, took six wickets for 22 runs in Cambridge's first innings.

At Gravesend, Kent beat Northants by 27 runs. Kent made 206 and 67, while Northants scored 193 and 53. In Kent's first innings, Wells took four wickets for 25 runs and four for 20 in the second. In Northants' second innings, Freeman took five for 12 and Woolley five for 14.

Sussex defeated Gloucestershire at Bristol by an innings and 16 runs. For Sussex, Cox made 78, while Tate, in Northants' first innings, took six wickets for 24 runs, and Cox six for 66 in the second.—Reuter.

South Africans Beaten by Notts: County Marches

London, May 16.

The match between Notts and the South Africans was concluded at Nottingham to-day, Notts winning by three wickets. The South Africans had made 186 in the first innings and 236 in the second, while Notts had made 185 in the first innings. To-day Notts went in a second time and made 238 for the loss of seven wickets, thus winning the match. For Notts George Gunn made 58 and John Gunn 89 not out.

At Lords, Middlesex beat Warwickshire by an innings and nine runs. The Middlesex player Dales scored 109 not out.

Surrey defeated Somerset at the Oval on the first innings. Lyon, for Somerset, made 95 in the first innings.

At Leyton, Leicestershire beat Essex by seven wickets. In Leicester's second innings Astill made 75 not out.

Lancashire beat Glamorgan at Liverpool by 128 runs. In the first innings Lancashire scored 49 and 208 for eight wickets (declared) in the second. Glamorgan made 22 in their first venture and 107 in the second, Spencer, for Glamorgan, took five wickets for nine runs in Lancashire's first innings. In Glamorgan's first innings Parkin took six wickets for six runs and R. T. Tyldesley four for 16. In Glamorgan's second innings Parkin took four wickets for 30 runs.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS.

County	Pld	Won	Lost	1st inns Won	1st inns Lost	Pts
Yorkshire	2	2	0	0	0	10
Middlesex	2	2	0	0	0	10
Surrey	2	1	0	1	0	8
Lancashire	2	1	0	1	0	8
Sussex	2	1	0	1	0	8
Kent	2	1	0	0	1	6
Leicestershire	2	1	0	0	1	6
Derbyshire	2	0	0	1	1	4
Essex	2	0	1	1	0	3
Glamorgan	4	0	3	1	0	3
Worcestershire	1	0	0	0	1	1
Somerset	1	0	0	0	1	1
Hampshire	2	0	1	0	1	1
Northanptonshire	1	0	1	0	0	0
Warwickshire	1	0	1	0	0	0
Gloucestershire	2	0	2	0	0	0
Notts	—	—	—	—	—	—

S. Africans Open Badly at Manchester

May 17.

The match between Lancashire and the South Africans was opened at Manchester to-day in glorious weather before 12,000 spectators. The South Africans batted first and were all out for a total of 60, Richard Tyldesley taking seven wickets for 27 runs while Parkin took three for 28. Lancashire then went to the wicket and at the close of the day's play had scored 246 for the loss of five wickets, Watson making 100 not out and Sharp 55. The match will be continued on Monday.—Reuter.

Sketch of Mrs. Irene Kuhn by Mrs. R. J. Roberts, which won the prize in the rapid sketch competition at the Art Exhibition soiree last Sunday evening

South Africans Defeated by Lancashire

London, May 19.

The match between Lancashire and the South Africans was continued to-day at Manchester. The weather was dull, and there was a small attendance. There was a soft wicket. In their first innings the South Africans had scored 60, to which Lancashire replied with 246 for five wickets. To-day Lancashire completed their innings for 293, to which Watson contributed 117 in 230 minutes. He played very sound cricket, and his total included a five and 17 fours. Pegler, for South Africa, captured six wickets for 68 runs. Going in a second time, the South Africans made 147 for the loss of seven wickets. Rain then started to fall, and there was no play after the tea interval. The match will be concluded to-day.

Playing at Derby, Glamorgan beat Derbyshire by seven wickets. Derbyshire scored 105 and 74, while Glamorgan scored 111 in their innings and 72 for three wickets in the second. In Derbyshire's second innings Ryan captured five wickets for 19 runs.—Reuter.

London, May 20.

The match between Lancashire and the South Africans was concluded at Manchester to-day, Lancashire winning by an innings and 78 runs. In the first innings the South Africans made 60 and Lancashire 293. In the second innings South Africa had made 147 for the loss of seven wickets, and to-day the innings was concluded in a quarter of an hour for 155 runs. For Lancashire Parkin took five wickets for 61 runs and R. T. Tyldesley five for 50.

There was no play at Leeds in the match between Yorkshire and Surrey. The wicket was saturated, and the match was abandoned.

At Lord's, Middlesex beat Gloucestershire by 216 runs. Hendren, for Middlesex, made 55 in the first innings and 87 in the second. In the Middlesex second innings Hearne made 93, and the same player took six wickets for 36 runs in Gloucester's second innings.

Warwickshire beat Sussex at Birmingham by nine wickets.

In their match against Notts at Leicester, Leicestershire won on the first innings. In the first innings Notts made 174, and 109 for six wickets in the second. Leicester made a score of 349. In Notts' first innings Skelding took eight wickets for 44 runs. King made 92 for Leicester.

Worcestershire won on the first innings in their match against Kent. Harding (Kent) made 91 in the first innings.

Somerset beat Hampshire at Southampton by four wickets.—Reuter.

BRITISH GOLF RECORD

Remarkable Performance by C. A. Whitcombe in "Daily Mail" Tournament

Deal, May 15.

The "Daily Mail" £1,000 Professional Golf Tournament was won by the young Lansdowne professional,, C. A. Whitcombe, who, following a wonderful first round in 70 yesterday, which broke the course record, accomplished a marvellous fourth round in 69 to-day, aggregating 289, which is a British championship course record. A hundred leading British professionals took part in the competition.

The previous best 72-hole record over a championship course was 291, set by James Braid at Prestwick in 1908.—Reuter.

BRITISH LADIES' GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Miss Cecil Leitch Again Defeated by Miss Joyce Wethered

London, May 21.

A feature of the fifth round of the British Ladies' Golf Championship at Portrush to-day was a renewal of the battle for supremacy between Miss Cecil Leitch and Miss Joyce Wethered, which began in 1920, when Miss Wethered in a suprising manner defeated Miss Leitch in the finals of the English Championship and repeated her victory in 1922, after which Miss Leitch was absent from competitive golf until the present, Miss Wethered was excellent throughout and won by the wide margin of 6 up and 4 to play, Miss Leitch failing chiefly through weak putting.

In the semi-finals, Miss Wethered beat Miss Holme by 4 and 3 and Mrs. Cautley beat Miss Gourlay by one hole.—Reuter.

HOME RACING

Great Jubilee Handicap

London, May 17.

The Great Jubilee Handicap (one and a quarter miles) run at Kempton to-day resulted as follows:—

Parth 1
Verdict 2
Soldumeno 3

Twelve ran. Won by a short head, the same separating second and third.

Betting: 9 to 2 Parth; 3 to 1 Verdict; 6 to 1 Soldumeno.

Place Betting: Evens on Verdict; 7 to 4 Soldumeno; Parth proportions.—Reuter.

The Newmarket Handicap

London, May 20.

The following is the result of the Newmarket Handicap (one mile and a half), run at Newmarket to-day:—

Baton Rouge 1
The Carpenter 2
Vindictive 3

There were six starters. Won by two lengths; three lengths between second and third.

Betting:—7 to 4 against Baton Rouge; 9 to 2 The Carpenter; 7 to 2 Vindictive.

—"North-China Daily News" Special Service.

Newmarket Two-year-old Stakes

London, May 21.

The following is the result of the Two-year-old Stakes, run at Newmarket to-day:—

High Level 1
Dandaloo 2
Field Argent 3

There were 15 starters. Won by two lengths; half a length between second and third.

Betting:—100 to 6 against High Level, 100 to 6 Dandaloo, 10 to 1 Field Argent.—"North-China Daily News" Special Service.

The Newmarket Stakes

London, May 21.

The Newmarket Stakes (one and a quarter miles) resulted as follows:—

Hurstwood 1
Salmon Trout 2
Sansovino 3

Won by a neck, a head separating second and third.

Eight ran, all of which are engaged in the Derby. The unplaced horses were Bright Knight, Despatch, Buck Yeoman, Eaglestone and Polyphontes.

Betting:—10 to 1 Hurstwood; 5 to 2 Salmon Trout; 11 to 2 Sansovino.

On settling down Salmon Trout led from Sansovino, Hurstwood and Bright Knight. At the Bushes each of these four tried to force its way to the front and as the horses came closer home it was impossible to separate them, but a few feet from the post Hurstwood claimed the lead, while the other three were locked together as the post was passed. It was one of the finest finishes ever witnessed, Bright Knight was favourite at evens, but came in fourth, short head away.—Reuter.

RACING IN FRANCE

Epinard Beaten by a Neck When Conceding 11 lb. to Sir Gallahad

St. Cloud, May 19.

Captain Cohn's winner of the Lincolnshire Handicap, Sir Gallahad carrying 8st. 7lb., and ridden by Frank O'Neill, to-day beat M. Wertheimer's Epinard, carrying 9 st. 4 lb., and ridden by E. Haynes, by a short neck in a match over six-and-half furlongs.—Reuter.

***M. Pierre Wertheimer's chestnut colt Epinard, last year as a three-year-old, won the Stewards' Cup, carrying 8 st. 6 lb., on July 31, and on October 31, carrying 9 st. 2 lb., was unluckily beaten in the Cambridgeshire Stakes at Newmarket by Verdict by the narrow margin of a neck. Epinard was entered for the principal spring handicaps in England, but was scratched and is apparently being reserved for the Ascot Gold Cup, to be contested on June 19. Capt. J. D. Cohn's bay colt Sir Gallahad III won the Lincolnshire Handicap in March of this year.—Ed

CORRESPONDENCE

LEECHES AND LAPPERS

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Shanghai by swarms of snakes, eels, turtles, tortoises, terrapins, frogs, salamanders and alligators, reminds me of an interesting conjecture which I came across recently. I hope you will let me repeat it as it has a bearing on prohibition. No. Sir, I am not going to intimate that the creatures mentioned were nothing more than the effects of a disordered imagination; when Shanghai people see snakes they see the real thing, and I am quite prepared to accept Mr. Sowerby's explanation that in spring time every Chinese home is turned into a Noah's ark for the sake of acquiring merit, just as in a recent trial the magistrate was half inclined to believe that a foreign young lady kept bluebottle flies during the winter, putting them into a fresh bottle of milk every morning. At the same time I think my story is much more instructive and quite as scientific, even though leeches are not such imposing creatures as snakes and alligators.

In your leader on prohibition it was stated that in days when no one was aware of the dangers of drinking impure water, those who did not drink water in its natural state stood as good or even a better chance of surviving than those who did. In a theological work just

a very interesting incident in Old

narrate, as perhaps it is not familiar to everyone. A Jewish general in Palestine with an army of 32,000 men determined to make a night

accomplish his purpose he wanted only a few picked men. How were these to be selected? First, he told all who were afraid to go home, and 22,000 left him. There were still too many. So the remaining—10,000 were led to a pool of water and told to drink. All but 3,000 went

mouths into the water and drank freely. The 3000 scooped up water in the hand and lapped it with the tongue as a dog lappeth. The moderate drinkers were the men chosen. A great victory was won. What is the explanation of the test? It is usually said that it weeded out the soldiers who were deficient in self-control, just as some "Tommies" to-day on a long march on a hot day drink the contents of their water

thirst, leaving none for the rest of the day. However, it is now said that painful experience led to the drinking of the water cautiously and sparingly.

"During the campaign against the Turks beyond the Jordan in 1918 a careful observer noticed a fact which probably is the real key to the behaviour of Gideon in making the final selection of his fighting men. It was observed that the raw recruits in the Arab force thrust their faces into a pool of water to drink. The pool was alive with leeches, which fastened themselves in the noses and throats of the drinkers and caused great pain

accept this as the real explanation of a decision which has been so variously, and even symbolically, interpreted by comment-

Alike to the Prohibitionist and Anti-Prohibitionist the whole story should be very suggestive.

I am, etc.,
A Lapper.

Shanghai, May 15, 1924.

PROHIBITION OF SMOKING

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—When will some of us in the world learn "tolerance"? The letter from our lady correspondent, M. H. Polk, is an example of that intolerance which, carried to its logical conclusion, is the cause of the breeding of strife between man and man and the upsetting of this world's peace.

The remedy; your correspondent does not like "[illegible] of" and therefore if we can enforce it [illegible] will be prevented [illegible] for in the [illegible] decided [illegible] A proposed [illegible] to the [illegible] of women to smoke [illegible] a most inconvenience selfishness vs. selfishness.

Your lady correspondent proposes victory for herself by might—enforced prohibition, and the wishful smoker proposes to ride rough-shod over the feelings of others and puff as he selfishly feels inclined. Now I would maintain that the same blame attaches to both, and that the solution of the problem is a conversion of your lady correspondent to the attitude that: "if to be truly unselfish I must suffer being smoked, then smoked I am willing to be." And on the part of the wishful smoker, his attitude should be that: "if my smoking is displeasing to others, then I am content to forgo that indulgence." But prohibition and mailed fists and all tyrannies of that order should in these more enlightened days be relegated to the scrap heap (as tried and found wanting) since prohibition is a usurpation of the fundamental right of all individuals to choose good, not have it jammed down their necks, for that conveys no virtue to the recipient nor to the bestower. Your correspondent quotes: "Self preservation is the first law of life," but I would remind her of a higher and nobler law, that whosoever is willing to lose his life, etc. Prohibition is basically dishonest and a sham.

I am, etc.,
Spectator.

Shanghai, May 16, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—The correspondence columns of your most respected journal are entertaining by reason of the discussion now proceeding as to whether a lady who objects to smoking or a man who objects on his part to not being given permission to smoke after dinner should have the right of way.

Rumour has it that those brave and glorious great-grandfathers of ours were chased into the Ritchen to enjoy their pipes. In later years, however, the hand which rocks the cradle would seem to have allowed the evil-smelling thing the entry of her dining-room.

To-day, if one's hostess has a soul—ask Epictetus about that—she will mark the moment when her male guest approaches utter extinction and retire with her retinue of ladies. Then one smokes the pipe or cigar or cigarette of utter peace—perfectly certain that all the innocent ears are very near and on the *qui vive* for the best story told.

But if the sweet lavender and *pot-pourri* scented drawing room should be reserved from all possibility of taint, the hostess is either one of those virgins who grow lilies or an amazon who never captured a man.

According to our modern usage, one expects to be allowed to escape from the super-rule of the female for at least 50 minutes after dinner—and to be allowed to smoke, for

"Woman is only a woman. But a good cigar is a smoke".

I am, etc.,
Twemlow.

Shanghai, May 17, 1924.

THE LINCHENG AFFAIR

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—In your correspondence [illegible] of the Ten [illegible], "Barbarian" reminded us of the Lincheng affair which happened a year ago, but "Fraternity" on the same date asked us to forget the incident of the Japanese 21 demands.

It is not that "Barbarian" and "Fraternity" belong to two different schools of thought—one is "lest we forget" and the other "let bygones be bygones." But like King Edward, who was accredited with being able to say the right thing at the right time, each of them has not the least doubt as to which school he should belong when occasions arise. It depends very much on how matters have affected him.

Much prominence was given to the Lincheng affair when it occurred, and constant references were made to it on subsequent dates in your paper, but the murder of Chinese after the Japanese earthquake did not seem to have aroused general indignation. Your paper did not give such prominence to it as the gravity of the matter deserved. Indeed the heading of the article of the 8th instant would lead a reader to think that Koreans only were concerned.

A year has now elapsed, since the Lincheng incident occurred, so most of us, excepting "Barbarian," can view the matter in a reasonable and sober light. It has been admitted that the perpetrators of the crime were bandits and not ordinary citizens who were the murderers in Japan. I believe no country in the world can afford to subjects of other nations immunity from the molestation of its outlaws. But if Chinese can be murdered by Japanese country folk with impunity, then might is indeed right. If suitable restitutions are not forthcoming from Japan for the murders, the payment of a heavy indemnity for the Lincheng affair will only embitter Chinese feeling, who were responsible merely because they had not power to overthrow the warlords who are ruining the country.

Enclosing my card,
I am, etc.,
P. C. Ho.

Hankow, May 13, 1924.

*This letter is referred to in Notes and Comments—Ed.

MOSAIC LITERATURE

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—I have read with interest Cione's letter in your issue of May 9. With the change of one word let me apply to myself the last statement in that letter. "My object in writing is only to endeavour to counteract the misleading impression that Cione's letter is liable to leave on the casual reader."

His reference to "a Prof. Wilson of Princeton Theological Seminary" would give a casual reader the impression that Prof. Wilson is an obscure, unknown person, so as a preface to my remarks it seems necessary to give some facts along this line.

Prof. Robert Dick Wilson has spent about 40 years studying the languages and literature bearing on the Old Testament. He has mastered Greek, Latin, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Syriac, Arabic, the various Aramaic dialects, Babylonian, Ethiopic, Phœnician, Egyptian, Coptic, Persian and Armenian—in all about 26 languages or dialects.

He studied with Schrader (called the father of Assyriology). He studied Arabic and Syriac under Sachau and Arabic under Jahn and Dieterich, Hebrew under Dillmann and Strack and Egyptian under Brugsch.

After a patient and careful study in every language of all the extent literature having any bearing on Old Testament criticism, Prof. Wilson has come to the conclusion that the composite origin of the Pentateuch in the sense claimed by the critics is a fallacy.

What, then, are we to do with Cione's statement that "Biblical scholars are agreed that the Pentateuch is a composite work etc."? The inference is that Prof. Wilson is not a Biblical scholar. In the same way many other noted and brilliant contributors to the discussion of Biblical questions would be ruled out.

Cione has well illustrated the critical position, which is practically this: "Those who agree with us are scholars; those who disagree with us are not scholars."

There are many cogent reasons why conservative scholars refuse to accept the documentary hypothesis. Out of many passages that disprove that hypothesis let me refer briefly to two.

First, the critics claim that nowhere is the composite nature of the narrative more evident than in the Bible account of the deluge. But one of the Babylonian flood stories that goes back to about 2000 B.C. follows in a general way the Bible narrative and contains both the so-called J and E elements of that narrative. This startling refutation of the documentary hypothesis moves Prof. Sayce to speak of that hypothesis as "a philological mirage."

Secondly, take the narrative of the plagues. The first nine plagues, taken in the order given fall naturally into three groups.

1. Blood	4. Flies	7. Hail
2. Frogs	5. Murrain	8. Locusts
3. Lice	6. Boils	9. Darkness

The first plague in each series is introduced, with slight variation, by the words, "And the Lord said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning and stand before Pharaoh—lo! he cometh forth to the water."

The second plague in each series is introduced by the words, "And the Lord said unto Moses, Go in unto Pharaoh and say unto him [illegible]

Thus the first plague in each series is announced to Pharaoh by the river side, and the second in his palace, but the third in each series is brought on without warning. This orderly arrangement could not be brought about by combining separate documents.

Compare with this analysis the one given in the Oxford Hexateuch.

J	E	P
The river smitten death of the fish	Waters of the river turned to blood	Waters of Egypt turned to blood
Frogs	—	Frogs.
—	—	Lice.
Flies	—	—
Murrain	—	—
—	—	Boils
Hail	Hail	—
Locusts	Locusts	—
—	Darkness	—
Death of firstborn	Death of firstborn	Death of firstborn

Let the casual reader compare these two analyses and take his choice. As to the possibility of the Pentateuch having been written in the time of Moses (1300—1400 B.C.), Prof. Sayce tells us that there was a postal service between Canaan and Babylonia in the days of Naram Sin (about 2650 B.C.), and that some of the clay *bullae* which served as stamps are now in the museum of the Louvre. The Phœnician alphabet was invented several hundred years before the time of Moses, and the Hebrew language was spoken in Canaan before the time of the Exodus. There is absolutely no reason why the Pentateuch could not have been written in Hebrew by Moses, using either the Phœnician script or the Babylonian cuneiform script, both being current at that time, and Moses being "learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians."

The trouble with a great many radical critics is that they are so wrapped up in their preconceived theories that facts have no chance to penetrate.

A modern writer puts the matter thus

"Facts are quite helpless in the face of theories. For after all, most facts are insufficiently encouraged with applause. When a fact comes along, the people in charge are generally looking the other way. This is what is meant by not facing the facts.

All the experiences of the theorist's life tend to confirm his theory. This is always so. Did you ever hear of a theory being confuted?"

I am, etc.,
W. H. Venable, M.D.

Kuling, May 15, 1924.

A PROCLAMATION OF THE DAYS OF CHRIST

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—According to Home papers just to hand, ecclesiastics and theologists of all religious convictions are intensely excited over the discovery by the French Government Archaeological Mission of Southern Tunis of a document which it believes is the original decree issued by the Romans that denounced Jesus and under whose clauses He was tried and crucified.

Nothing touching the discovery of the document has aroused scepticism of its authenticity. It seems to substantiate the history of Jesus's trial, placing the responsibility on the Roman Government rather than on the Hebrew high priests. According to the decree it would also appear veritable that Jesus's crime in the eyes of Rome was that He named Himself "King of the Jews."

A summarized translation of the decree follows:—

"To all Colonial Governors of the Roman Empire in Palestine and Near and Further Arabia. Prophets and religious revolutionists have arisen among the people. These prophets are not to be interfered with under Roman law except when their teachings are of such a nature as to cause disturbances among the people. In such cases they are to be effectively suppressed. It is particularly desirable that these prophets be not allowed to interfere with collection of taxes or any other political affairs."

Since Rome at this time was dominated almost exclusively by Pagan religionists and by Pagan religious doctrines, it is highly credible that contrary beliefs were treated with the extreme severity this decree indicates. While the Government itself was liberal in attitude toward religion, it was nevertheless so superstitious where its strength and dignity were concerned that anything which tended to hamper its movements was speedily exterminated as inimical to its sacredness.

It is generally admitted that this period of Rome was one in which the conduct if its Armorial and Civic government was the real [illegible] ligion. Under such [illegible] it is easily believed that Jesus's [illegible] turbances, in making it difficult for the Roman tax collectors and other officials to function smoothly, invoked the wrath of Rome.

I am, etc.,
M. E.

Shanghai, May 19, 1924.

*Abler pens than ours will [illegible] bably reply on this subject, but the general trend of our correspondent's letter does not at all suggest substantiation of the history of our Lord's trial as given in the New Testament. The Romans certainly had no ground of complaint against Him in respect of tax-collecting (*Vide* "Render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's"). Nor do we know what our correspondent means by "Jesus's disturbances." The only popular demonstration, on His side, was the entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, which ended in the throwing out from the Temple of money-changers and those who sold doves for Jewish ritual—no Roman tax-collectors were involved.—Ed.

TRAINING SHIP HWAH JAH

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—With reference to the article published in your paper of the 8th inst., we are to point out the letter you referred to contains nothing else but tissues of falsehood and the comments made thereform were therefore misleading.

We know, as well as the cadets of any other nationality do, what we must learn from and what duties are assignable to us by officers appointed for that purpose. To get us to execute any work of the crew in which the officer themselves even do not feel inclined to participate, or to take an interest in the training of ourselves for its performances is an infernal mistake. They must be conscientious, if their respects and capacities desirve recognition. We have been treated as chattles: we would not tolerate longer. We can learn and have learned nothing from the officers, who could not even mind their own business for which their removal from the ship is perhaps, one of the reasons.

The defects of the ship and in her engines are said by the officers to be none, when she first came into commission on January 12, 1924. They were put on board prior to January 1 for purpose of examining the ship for which they were paid. For the above purpose and in their brief association with contractor Tung Tai, who repaired the ship, they were somehow able to give him, the contractor, a certificate of works done to their entire satisfaction and, we understand, if was on strength of this certificate, the owners made payment. The statements of the letter above referred to must, therefore, go wholesale against themselves in view of the facts above alluded to. More serious still an affair entirely detrimental to the interest of their employers, a responsible officer declared damagd cargo to the extent far more than what the Marine Surveyor could discover from his survey at Yokohama. It is, therefore, proved by fact that he is incapable of carrying out his duties and is equally incapable of not only teaching ourselves, but of maintaining discipline of members of the crew under his control. Talk of plugging the soil pipe through which water gained its way into No. 4 hold thereby causing to cargo is an absolute lie. Plugging could not be done without lifting out the cargo and no cargo was lifted throughout the voyage.

The most sorrowful scene that occurred on board was the time they were told to leave the ship and to appear in the Charterers' office in Shanghai to answer to certain questions before allowing their pay. To this, they protested and were eventually given their pay, but, so far, they did not appear before the Charterers as promised.

The lost of an anchor and chain at Yokohama has made them the laughing stock to the Shipping Community. In consequence, the Charterers had it let their original plan a stay of execution which are, in our opinion, justified.

We are glad the suffers and frequent fright we had are now things in the past. Pardon us, Mr. Editor, for most writing too much. We mind our own business and need no public sympathy.

We suggest that owners or agents of ships should not have their ships officers, who devote their energy to the purchase of ships [illegible] conversion of ships artificially called "scraps, to their own benefits, the "earning," of unwarranted money for overloading their ships.

Thanking you for inserting this letter in the columns of your valuable paper.

We are, etc.,

THE CADETS.

The above letter, unsigned and undated, reached us from Hongkong and is published mainly for purposes of interest. Some of its wilder statements are dealt with to-day in a leading article, because, if the cadets did not write it, some one else evidently is interested in trying to get a false version of the story of the Hwah Jah accepted.—Ed.

CHINESE HEBREWS

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—May I be permitted to contribute the following information in answer to the query contained in your article under "Notes and Comments" in to-day's issue on the subject of "Chinese Hebrews?"

The first appearance of Jews in China is presumably much older than the time stated in the "Jewish World" of April 3 (205 B.C.E. and 2[illegible] C.E.). The oldest record, probably, is the one which is contained in the second Isaiah, who, to conclude from his prophecy on Cyrus (Chap. XLV), was a contemporary of Cyrus the Great (530 B.C.E). Isaiah prophesies in chapter XLIX, 12: "These shall come from far, and these from the north and from the west and these from the land of Sinim" whereby no doubt China (Sina) is meant, as Manasseh-ben-Israel translates it (see History of the Jews in China, by S. M. Perieaam, London 1913). We can take this as proof that Jews were already settled in China prior to the erection of the second Temple by Zerubbabel, and the re-establishment of the Jewish commonwealth by Ezra. These Hebrews may have come viâ the great Central-Asiatic trade-routes and they were probably immigrants from Chaldea because of their being in possession of fragments of the Prophets Zachariah and Malachi and their knowing several Talmudic rites.

The Ten Tribes.

The "Chinese Recorder," Shanghai, Vol. XVI, page 47 states that: "According to Forster. . . .

"[illegible] remainder of the ten tribes, according to the Cochin History Roll emigrated through Media and Persia in the direction of Chinese Tartary, and [illegible] of Simeon, Ephraim and Manasseh are represented to have settled in the country of the Chazar Tartars, when they became ferocious nomads, celebrated for their horses, and dreaded for their warfare. Moreover, the Royal Family in this great Tartar tribe were Jews, and the Chagan or King of the Chazars was always chosen from this Jewish Stock. . . . . From the sixth to the tenth century the Chazars were the lords of Central Asia."

The Jews themselves asseverate that their ancestors immigrated into China at the time of Han Dynasty, viz. towards the end of the reign of Ming-ti (58-75 C.E.).

During the following centuries the Hebrew population increased rapidly until the great Bai Chi Revolution in the 9th century when a large percentage of the Jews perished. After this they slowly recovered until the time of the travels of Marco Polo (1286) when the principal settlements of Jews in China were Khansa (Hangchow), Pienlang (Kaifengfu), Kanfu (now Kanpin) and Ningpo. The first named two settlements were the most important ones. The Jews at that time numbered several thousand. In 1329 and 1354 the Jews are mentioned in Chinese history as having rendered help to the declining Mongolian Dynasty. Their name is mentioned as Dju-Hudu (Yehudim).

Towards the end of the fourteenth century the large Jewish colony in Kaifengfu (Honan) suffered heavily from inundations of the Yellow River, and frequent conflagrations sadly reduced the importance of the city. The Jewish quarter was situated not more than 500 feet from the river embankment, and was especially prone to damage by floods. In 1642 Kaifengfu was besieged: the embankments were destroyed, 100,000 people perished, among them many Jews and many Hebrew manuscripts were destroyed. The Jewish Synagogue was subsequently restored. At the time the Jews were called by the Chinese: Tiao-Kin-Kiao, the sect "that pluck out the sinews," referring to the ritual slaughter of animals. Naturally, if a Chinese saw a Jew picking out a sinew it would not take long for him to name the sect. This nickname adheres to the Jews up to the present time.

Father Ricci's Record.

The first personal observations were reported by the famous Jesuit Father Ricci in the early part of the seventeenth century, when he received a visit from a scholar who had come to Peking from Kaifengfu in order to pass his examination for a government appointment. This man's name was Ngai and he mistook Father Ricci for a co-religionist as he had heard it mentioned that he worshipped one God. The features of this man were distinctly different from those of an ordinary Chinese. Very valuable information was gained from him and Father Ricci and his successor, Father Julius Aleni, were able to verify all his statements by visits to the congregation at Kaifengfu. In 1704 Jesuit Father Gozani visited Kaifengfu and gave full details of the Jewish customs, and he described their Synagogue, which was called "Li-pai-tze," *i.e.* weekly meeting house. In the centre of the principall hall was erected a high chair covered with embroidered cushions, on which the Jews used to put the Thora scroll when reading it before the assembled congregation. They called it the "Chair of Moses." When the Jews entered the Synagogue they removed their shoes and when reading in the Thora scroll the reader covered his face, imitating Moses (Exod. 34. 33). No Talith was used by them; they only covered their heads with blue turbans and threw red shawls over their right shoulder and tied them beneath their left arm.

In 1842, after the conclusion of the Treaty of Nanking Mr. James Finn, afterwards British Consul at Jerusalem, wrote a letter composed both in Chinese and Hebrew to the Chinese Jews, which was forwarded by the British Consul at Amoy, but no reply was vouchsafed to the same until fully 28 years later. The then Rabbi deplored in pathetic tone the decay of the Jewish colony and their assimilation into the surrounding Chinese population. Another attempt to inquire into the condition of the Jews at Kaifengfu was made in 1850 by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Smith, Bishop of Victoria, when paying a visit to Shanghai. Two messengers were sent to visit the congregation, and returned after many hardships, reporting the decline of the Jewish colony numbering only 200 heads.

Massacre by Taipings.

The Taiping revolution 1860-64 dealt a mortal blow to the Kaifengfu Jews, who were massacred in great numbers. This period was started off with the great inundation of 1860 when half of the Jewish settlement was carried away by the floods. During the second half of the last century the Chinese Jews seem to have been the target of energetic endeavours to convert them to Christianity and in consequence they shut themselves up entirely. In 1866 Rev. Dr. Martin of the Tsung-wan College in Peking reported in the "New York Times" a journey to Kaifengfu, the 470 miles of which it took him nearly a month to cover. He found that the Jews did not more follow Jewish rites, they no more circumcised their new born sons and the Hebrew language was being forgotten. End of last century many Hebrew documents and scrolls found their way into European museums. Bishop Smith secured eight small books containing each one of the Sabbath sections of the Law in Hebrew, six copy scrolls, 30 of the weekly portions of the Law and over 30 quarto books on Chinese paper containing prayers for every day use, for Sabbaths and festivals. In 1898 Dr. Neubauer of Oxford described these documents fully in the eighth volume of the "Jewish Quarterly Review." They were deposited at the museum at Lincoln's Inn of London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews. These are evidently the "some 60 Hebrew manuscripts" mentioned according to your article by the "Jewish World" as having been acquired by the Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati. One scroll each was presented by the Society to the British Museum, and the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. One copy is at present in Hongkong. Rev. Dr. Martin has supplied Yale College and the Lennox Library at New York each with a scroll. The Hon. Mayer Sulzberger possesses another. Dr. Scherzer of the Austro-Hungarian Novara Expedition obtained a Roll for the Vienna Imperial Library and the Jesuit Father at Siccawei exhibited another one at Shanghai, which was afterwards sent to Paris. Marcus N. Adler in "Chinese Jews" states that these are all "Chinese" copies of a faulty old copy executed by ignorant scribes.

Help from Outside.

Toward the end of the last century the Jews of all the world became aware at last of their isolated brethren in China. Several abortive attempts were made to bring help to the Jewish colonies in China. Amongst those interested in Shanghai in this movement were Messrs. Lewis Moore, S. J. Solomon, D. E. Abraham, Sir Edward Sassoon, and others. Letters and messengers were despatched but beyond bringing a few individuals to Shanghai, nothing tangible was achieved. Rabbi Hirsch and the late Mr. Edward I. Ezra were authorities on the subject of Chinese Jews. Major Lehmann of the *ci-devant* German garrison in Kiaochou, according to Mr. S. J. Solomon, visited a place about a hundred miles southwest of Kaifengfu, where there were about 500 native Jews, most of whom were engaged in the silk piece goods trade. From this it would appear as if the greater part of the Jewish colony at Kaifengfu in order to escape persecutions perhaps, or for other reasons, migrated to a near by place. In his book: "Wandering in Northern China" (The Century Co. New York & London, 1923), Harry A. Franck, the author of "A Vagabond Journey Around the World" describes a visit to the Jews in Kaifengfu. He found them to the number of 200 in very poor surroundings. He states that they intermarry with the Chinese and some have even taken up Chinese idol-worship; circumcision has not been practised for generations. Their features in no wise distinguish them from their neighbours, the Chinese. A man named Chao was the "head Jew" and the colony consisted of eight families with seven family names between them. If anything they were more friendly and communicative to Mr. Franck than pure Chinese of their class would have been. As a last relic of the former Synagogue he found a memorial stone in the compound of the Kaifeng Mission of the Canadian Episcopal Church bearing a sketch of Hebrew history and the names of the patriarchs. "Once it bore also the names of the principal Jewish families in Kaifeng, but they were obliterated in order to throw off the scent those who tried some decades ago to persecute them."

A Personal Experience.

I have personally visited the Jewish colony in Kaifengfu on two occasions. The first time in 1903 when I met with the same result as the last mentioned author. The second time in January of this year. When mentioning the poor results of my investigations made for a home paper, to my business friend, a Chinese druggist, in his shop at Kaifengfu, one of his customers present at the time mentioned that he knew of Jews in much better circumstances than those met with until then. On my request he introduced me to the accountant of a large oil hong, who in turn invited me to partake in an old-fashioned Sabbath-eve dinner. My objection that I was not a co-religionist was politely waved aside. At the subsequent dinner in a well furnished private house I met a very patriarchal-looking host and a score of persons of both sexes, garbed in Chinese dress and apparently belonging to the better and best class. The features of some of them bore the unmistakable stamp of their forefathers. The dinner consisted of the usual Chinese courses with the exception of the customary fat boiled pork. After dinner my venerable host permitted me to inspect a large chest filled with ancient scrolls and books in Hebrew characters. My query whether these documents were for sale met with a refusal and a hasty closing of the chest.

Another Jewish colony in China was situated at Hangchow. The Synagogue at this place seems to have been destroyed during the Taiping uprising and it was never rebuilt afterwards. As far as I could ascertain there are no Jews left in Hangchow proper. The present Austrian Consul in Shanghai, Mr. Franz Winkler relates that on a houseboat trip during one of the first years of the Great War, which he undertook in company with Messrs. Pucher, Engel and the late Mr. Dabelstein the party met with a crowd of Jewish-looking individuals on a river bank about 70 miles southwest of Shanghai, presumably the channel between Kashing and Haining. They wore Chinese dress but their features were of a lighter, rosier hue than the other Chinese country people. They had curly hair and noses of a distinctly semitic type. Their behaviour was much more courteous and fearless than that of the average Chinese peasant. It is safe to assume that these people are emigrants from Hangchow shut up in some place of refuge in the country where they have remained in practically unbroken isolation since their migration. It is a pity that Mr. Winkler omitted to make exact notes of the spot of his interesting encounter.

The details of the present letter have been taken from the various sources mentioned therein, from informations personally given and from personal observations.

I am, etc.,

E. M. BERTHEL.

Shanghai, May 19, 1924.

PIRACY

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—This is extracted from Admiral Sir Percy Scott's book "Fifty Years in the Royal Navy" and forms an interesting comparison as to how piracy was dealt with, just 50 years ago, and now.

"The remaining part of 1874 brought the Active some lively work. We got information that a trading schooner, the Geraldine, while beating up the Congo river, had gone on shore, and had fallen a victim to the pirates who infest the river. The bandits had boarded the vessel, killed the crew and looted her. We went off at full speed and anchored in the delta of the Congo. The following day the Commodore with a small party of Officers proceeded up river in a gun-boat. We inspected the Geraldine and found she had been gutted. We then went on to a trading station about 40 miles up. All the Chiefs were summoned to a palaver. They arrived, armed, in war canoes. Sir William Hewett, through our interpreter, told them that unless they produced the murderers, he would return later on, in the dry season, and burn every village from the mouth of the Congo to where we were then. The Chiefs refused to give up the murderers. At the end of August the Chiefs were again summoned and asked to surrender the murderers. No reply being received, hostilities were begun, such operations ended with the destruction of the villages and canoes by fires. Thus Sir William Hewett kept his promise of burning everything from the entrance of the river to Punta-da-Lenha the lesson effectually stopped piracy and increased trade on the river."

I am, etc.,

NAUTIC.

Shanghai, May 19, 1924.

AVENUE ROAD

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I imagine there are many who will not agree with the writer of your Notes and Comments that the appellation "Avenue Road" is absurd. I, for one, think it is both euphonious and picturesque and not necessarily redunant, for "Avenue" in this instance is not a noun but a descriptive term. It suggests to the mind a vista of green and shady trees with the bright sun above and birds singing in the branches.

There are so many unbeautiful things in city life that we really should be allowed to retain our street names which are, in many cases, very felicitous. The French practice of immortalizing their heroes, until they fall from grace, in their street names has its drawbacks; and I think we should find some other way of honouring them than by inflicting their sesquipedalian cognomina on our citizens.

By the way, it is not only small and sleepy towns at home that tolerate an Avenue Road for there is one in the Metropolis itself and Herbert Spencer, the philosopher, lived in No. 64 for some yars.

I am, etc.,

CIONE.

Shanghai, May 20, 1924.

CHINA Journal of Science & Arts, edited by Mr. A. de C. Sowerby and Dr. J. C. Ferguson, is a bi-monthly, profusely illustrated magazine. It contains authentic articles written by experts on the Arts, Literature and Science of China. The annual subscription is $10.00 Shanghai currency, or $6.00 gold for U.S.A. and Canada. Office:—Room 102, the Ben Building, Shanghai. Central 3247.

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LAW REPORTS

MONEY-LENDERS' HOTEL VENTURE

Court Sequel to Sealing Up of Premises: Large Sums due to Tradesmen

The three Indian moneylenders whose venture as hotel proprietors seems likely to have an unhappy financial ending appeared before his Honour Judge Cunnington at H. M. Supreme Court on Monday on judgment summonses. The first was by the Great Light Electric Co., for $298 and $58 costs.

His Honour—Their story is that they were deceived by the Portuguese who entered into partnership with them. He put no money in the firm, but the consideration was that he should act as manager of the hotel, and they said that the hotel was paying but that the Portuguese would not allow them to enter the premises or pay them any money.

Mr. Tyche Wing, for plaintiffs, said the hotel was now sealed up and proceedings were pending in the Portuguese Court.

Upon "the leading member of the firm" being called, Gujjan Singh went in to the witness box, on behalf of himself and the two other defendants, Sucha Singh and Bishen Singh, and asked for an adjournment. He stated that five months' rent was due to the hotel landlords, Messrs. Brandt & Rogers, and they could only pay if they were allowed to reopen the hotel and carry on business.

"Burden on His Friends"

Cross-examined by Mr. Wing, witness admitted that he was a moneylender, but added that he had no means and no occupation, and was "a burden on his friends."

Mr. Wing—Is Bishen Singh also a burden on his friends?

Witness—He can speak for himself.

Bishen Singh stated that he had no money except $400, out on loan at 2 per cent. per month. He added that if they were unable to restart the business they stood to lose $6,000.

His Honour, observing that the defendants seemed to have been rather unfortunate in associating with the Portuguese manager, da Silva, adjourned the matter for a fortnight.

In the second case, the Wing Tai Co. asked for payment of $600, for which judgment has been given, the balance of a furniture account. Plaintiff's representative said the original account was for $1,650, and Gujjan Singh had paid $1,300, but other accounts made up the balance claimed.

Gujjan Singh said he had paid $1,300, and denied that more than $350 was due, and his Honour adjourned the case for plaintiff to produce a detailed account.

WINTERGARDEN CAFE FRACAS

Manager Committed to the Higher Court on Assault Charge

After several more witnesses had been heard on Saturday morning in the continued action against L. E. Brown, manager of the Wintergarden Café, by Mr. Martinson and Mrs. Shmakova, arising out of allegations of ejection and undue violence, Mr. N. E. Lurton, U. S. Commissioner, found that a *prima facie* case had been made out and bound defendant over to answer to the Higher Court.

The Commissioner, in giving judgment, said in part, "In reviewing the evidence before me, it seems that the complaining witnesses went to the Wintergarden Café in a peaceful manner. There was a disturbance on the floor and it would seem that a portion of the blame may be attributed to them, while Mr. Brown attempted to suppress the commotion. There arises the question of the amount of pressure that he, as manager, possessed. The evidence shows that complainants were seriously injured and that excessive force was used. Martinson was clearly struck heavily over the eye and the doctor's certificate states that undue force was used on Shmakova.

"The big point to my mind is the degree of force that a manager may use to suppress commotion and I am inclined to believe that excessive force is unlawful. He appears to have stepped beyond that degree of judgment which is permitted all citizens to exercise (but it less than that of the police). I find that a *prima facie* case has been made and will bind defendant over to the U. S. Court for China and fix bail at G.$50."

Preceding the finding, Mr. Schuhl stated, in argument, that there was no question of the assault, both having been set upon and beaten within the café. Referring to witnesses he was of the opinion that two of them were entirely disinterested, while with reference to another (defendant's), he would not believe him on a stack of Bibles. Five qualified witnesses stated that they saw defendant strike both Martinson and Shmakova.

Mr. Snyder, for the defence, declared that the evidence of complainants was highly insufficient, while the fact that Martinson asked a marine outside to go to the station was in itself enough to show that he did not know who struck him. There was no question but that witnesses for plaintiff had talked the matter over before coming into Court.

MAHJONGG AT THE U. S. COURT

A Chinese Claim for Payment for Tons of Sets Forwarded to America

The U. S. Court for China and its attendants sat in on a prolonged Mahjongg session on Tuesday morning and afternoon, which, if not as lively as some games, was quite as intricate and involved high stakes. Wong Chen-tai, with other Chinese dealers associated with him in the suit, brought suit against Marion L. Gregg, doing business under the firm name and title of the Shanghai Domino Co., claiming $16,677.11 due on merchandise delivered to the defendant. Mr. Sidney Moss appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. H. D. Rodger for the defendant.

The first witness called was the plaintiff, Wong Chen-tai, a dealer in mahjongg sets, who claimed to have done business with the defendant and produced his Chinese account books in evidence. In order to identify the books it was necessary to call another witness. Tsien Tsze-chao, who said he had been employed by the defendant from March 1, 1923 to February 4, 1924, at a salary of $60, as an accountant and general worker and after Mrs. Gregg left for the States on September 4, 1923, he became her attorney in fact and was empowered to sign invoices for the company. While Mrs. Gregg was away, he said, he bought from 4,000 to 5,000 sets of mahjongg for her, paying the dealers first by check, and then when the letters of credit sent by Mrs. Gregg were not negotiable, he borrowed money and gave promisory notes to pay for the goods.

Books Under Question

To prove this statement he produced a set of books which were challenged by the attorney for the defendant, as not being *bonâ fide* books, but giving the appearance of having been written up at one time, and not having been used. He later stated that he had copied these entries from the office books into a new set of books because Mrs. Gregg had not acceded to his request for an accounting when she returned to the office and he feared that he could not prove the amount due him without this duplicate set, which he claimed, was an exact copy of the original books. When asked where the origined books were he said he had seen them in the office on the day when he was "kicked out." On cross-examination he stated that he had inspected the mahjongg sets shipped to Mr. Cowen of San Francisco and to the International Trading Co. and that he had been informed by Mrs. Gregg later that the shipment had been refused as unsatisfactory.

In the afternoon Mrs. Gregg was called to the stand by the plaintiff's counsel, to answer questions with regard to the present whereabouts of the books, which she stated could not be found. On cross examination she further stated that on her return from the States she went to the office on January 30, and found everything intact. She remained there only an hour with some friends and did not return, on account of illness, until February 4 when she found the place looking like a Chinese Tea Room, with 50 Chinese about, and the room in filthy condition. She had to call the police to clear the place, on asking the accountant, Mr. Tsien, for the books he said he did not have them and did not know where they were. She said she had never been able to secure the books although the Mixed Court had ordered their return.

Promissory Notes

The remainder of the afternoon was taken up with Mr. Tsien's statements with regard to the amounts claimed as owing to plaintiff. He stated that he was obliged to borrow money and give promissory notes because the money he had received from defendant did not cover the shipments forwarded. When it was put to him in cross-examination that he had shipped mahjongg sets costing only $2.50 or $3.00 apiece he denied the statement and said he had shipped no sets costing less than $4.50 or $5.00.

The plaintiff, recalled to the witness box submitted samples of the goods furnished by him. Cross examination was reserved, until resumption of the case this morning.

"TOOK HIS FUN WHERE HE FOUND IT"

Discharged Seaman's Plight in the Paris of the East

James Kelly appeared before Judge Purdy at the U. S. Court on Monday, charged with vagrancy.

The acting U. S. District Attorney, Mr. H. D. Rodger, prosecuted and Mr. N. F. Allman, at the Court's request, appeared for defendant.

Kelly, according to his own story, had been paid off and left his ship on April 7 and from that time till May 1 life had been a gay round of wine, women and song. At that time he realized that nothing remained of his $130 and G.$100 except $3 which he gave to a fellow-sailor who was destitute and then applied to the Shipping Office of the U. S. Consulate-General for medical relief, having contracted a certain disease.

Mr. J. T. Wright, of the Shipping Board, said that defendant did not ask for medical relief, but only for "two dimes" and as defendant was "staggering drunk," he was taken to the U. S. gaol where he had been since that time.

The Judge found accused guilty and postponed sentence.

BIG CLAIM AGAINST DRUG COMPANY

Allegation that the Wrong Ointment was Supplied: a Lady's Subsequent Sufferings

The case of Magdalena Guignard *v.* the American Drug Co., a claim for Tls. 50,000 damages for alleged injuries arising from the use of an ointment which it is said the defendants negligently substituted for the harmless ointment ordered, was begun in the U. S. Court for China on Thursday, Mr. F. J. Schuhl appearing for the plaintiff and Mr. W. S. Fleming for the defendant.

The complaint sets forth that on November 22, 1923, the plaintiff's husband handed to defendants a prescription written by Dr. Reiss calling for a certain ointment for the cure of dhobie itch. On November 23 Dr. Reiss informed the plaintiff that the ointment could be used by plaintiff as well as by her husband. On November 26 the plaintiff inquired if defendants could duplicate the prescription. The defendants said unqualifiedly that the prescription could be filled accurately from the records. The defendants failed to deliver the ointment ordered but negligently and unknown to the plaintiff substituted another and dangerous compound which fact was unknown to the plaintiff until she was badly injured by its use, suffering intense pain, being confined to her bed and sustaining internal injuries from which she can never recover, her health and activities of mind being permanently impaired. It is further alleged that the defendant was through these injuries unable to care for her infant child.

Mr. Guignard, husband of the plaintiff, said that on the evening of November 26 the second ointment was received, but was not examined or used by him. His wife retired early and he was reading in his study when he heard her cry out in agony, and he found her in great pain. He then learned that she had used the new ointment, and on comparing the two ointments he found that they differed in colour and the numbers were different. He telephoned to the drug store and went for Dr. Reiss, who gave a soothing lotion. His wife suffered extreme pain at the time and was still subject to nervous seizures.

Mr. Guignard denied that his wife previously had been neurothenic.

The plaintiff substantiated her husband's evidence, adding that as she still suffered from nervous attacks she had to keep very quiet, not being able to see many people without subsequent exhaustion. When she was examined by physicians in February internal growths were found.

Dr. O'Hara stated that he could not find any other cause for plaintiff's condition except the use of the second ointment, although other irritation might have produced it.

Dr. J. E. Murray stated that he examined plaintiff previous to the use of his ointment and found her in perfectly healthy condition and that it was quite possible the growths had been caused by the second ointment.

Mr. Henry Schloten, general manager of the defendant company at the time the ointments in question were compounded, said that, unless the physician gave the name of the patient for whom the prescription was intended, no record of the patient's name was put on their records.

Mr. B. Shmoulevsky, of the pharmacy department of the defendant company, testified to refilling the prescription according to a number left on his desk. He had no knowledge of the patient for whom the ointment was intended, but said that it was an ordinary formula.

The case was adjourned.

ARMED ROBBERS SENTENCED

Gang Who Fired at P. C. Bennett Before the Mixed Court: Two Sent to Arsenal

Seven armed robbers, one of whom is thought to have shot at P. C. Bennett while he was in charge of a search party on the night April 5, came up for trial by Mr. Martin and Magistrate Kuan at the Mixed Court last Friday. Mr. Allman defended in one of the first cases in recent years where poor prisoners capitally charged have been legally represented.

Chief Det.-Insp. Cruickshank stated that the men were accused of having robbed three shops on Cho Da Koh Alleyway at about 9 o'clock, murdering the master of the first, ransacking it and the other two, after which they shot a wheelbarrow coolie and murdered another passer-by on the road. It would be remembered, said the officer, that P. C. Bennett's skull was fractured in two places by bullets, one passing entirely through, while the other had to be removed by the surgeon's scalpel. A third, of .32 calibre glanced from the holster and saved what might have been a severe injury to the groin.

The group were also thought to have participated in robberies in Kashing Road and Alabaster Road on the following day, on which after many shots were fired they wounded two other Chinese.

Det.-Sgt. Andrews stated that information was received on April 8 that four men connected with the gang intended to come from Chapei and proceed to a tea shop on East Yalu Road and detectives were despatched to that point. As was expected they arrived in due time, two of their number going to an upstairs room while two others remained below. While men in plain clothes remained on guard in the main portion of the premises three detectives entered the adjoining room to that occupied by the suspects and one of them heard an inmate tell the other to have no fear, for he was quite prepared for the officers.

Drawing their weapons the detectives forced the door and one of the accused pointed a [illegible] them and jerked at the trigger but the gun jammed. Quick as a flash the officer was on his man and had the gun. He noticed [illegible] suspect reach for his [illegible] stopped him and drew another one of .32 calibre, from [illegible] clothes. When these arrests had been completed the two [illegible] were taken into custody, one of whom told them that he would [illegible] foreign assistance because he knew where others were. Acting upon his information Settlement Police charged two more and then accompanied by Chapei police went to the designated address and found, not the man wanted, but another in his bed. He was arrested and charged with being an accomplice.

Continuing his evidence Sgt. Andrews told the Court that when the information was first received at Gordon Road Station, he went to the scene and found the murdered master of the shop at 47/48, as well as two cartridge cases, of .32 and a .25 calibre, at 39/40 he found one 25 calibre, while outside the shop he picked up one of each. At the third shop the inmates pointed out the spot where the wheel barrow coolie fell. Before leaving the box, he introduced as evidence the bullet extracted from Bennett's skull and the one taken from the coolie's elbow at the Shantung Road Hospital.

Mr. N. F. Allman asked him whether he meant the Court to believe that these bullets came from the guns introduced by Mr. Cruickshank, to which he replied that it was quite probable.

Evidence was then called. A shop assistant said the robbers came in and took $102. They came in and shot his father. One jumped over the counter and the bullet struck his father in the head. He died at once.

Fell Down in a Fright.

Another witness, who was in the first shop, stated that as the murderers entered, one of them pointed a gun at him, whereupon his feet gave out from under his knees and he fell down from fright. First accused had the gun and he recognized third and fifth in the dock as being in the gang, who were brought by the police to the shop afterwards.

Replying to Mr. Maitland's question whether he could identify any of the men, a 12-year old boy said he knew third and fifth accused as robbers. There were five or six in the gang, but he had his back to them most of the time, for as they entered he was counting the coppers. He was very sure, certain, that these two came into the shop.

A Sikh, who was in the search party, told a graphic story of the encounter with the robbers in Haiphong Road. Bennett ran after them and fell, shot in the head. None were captured.

Accused then gave evidence, several denying any complicity in the affair, though all had made voluntary confessions.

The first and third accused were sent to the Arsenal to be shot, the second and fourth to Kompo for trial there by the Chinese authorities, the fourth accused was expelled, the sixth sent to prison for five years and the seventh prisoner discharged.

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

GERMANY EXPECTED TO ACCEPT THE DAWES REPORT

Financial Houses Strongly in Its Favour as a Check on Speculations in Exchange: France Proposing Certain Modifications

Berlin, May 17.

The Socialist Party, which will be the decisive factor in any coalition which may presently be formed, as a result of the elections, is expressing [illegible] hesitation to acceptance of the Dawes reparations report, a meeting of the party to-day deciding in favour of continuation of the policy of the Marx-Stresemann Government.

Industrialist banks are now desperately in favour of adoption of the report, in consequence of the financial crisis due to the belated effort of the Reichsbank to arrest the indiscriminate grant of credits that followed the stabilization of the mark. The necessity of meeting commitments, as such has caused a stream of bankruptcies among smaller banks and retailers. The crisis has been intensified by the appreciation of the franc, which has caused widespread havoc among the innumerable speculators on its fall.

There is every indication that the parties of the Right will use the strength which they acquired in the elections [illegible] and settlement, but to complete the destruction of progressive movements that have gradually weakened since the revolution.

A [illegible] demonstration at Hahn and similar demonstrations, which have been planned at Berlin, Breslau and elsewhere, testify to the growing strength of [illegible] and the political effort at self-assertion on the part of the masses on the Ruhr, half a million of whom were locked out because they insisted on the establishment of a seven-hour shift, is evidence of the weakness of the workers.—Reuter.

Suggestions from France

Paris, May 16.

The French Ambassador in London handed Mr. Ramsay MacDonald the letter from M. Poincare, which submits certain points of principle which appeared to the Premier to facilitate putting into execution the experts' report.

It also deals at some length with the question of the Ruhr and emphasizes the importance of allowing some latitude to the specialists appointed to supervise the change of *régime* in the railway *regie* with a view to putting the experts' report into operation without loss of time when the time comes.—Reuter.

Italy and German Reparation.

Milan, May 19.

Signor Mussolini, the Premier, met MM. Théunis and Hymans, the Belgian Premier and Foreign Minister, yesterday and opened preliminary discussions on reparations on the lines of the Belgian conversations in Paris and London.—Reuter.

ALLIES AND GERMAN REPARATIONS

Conversations Between Italian and Belgian Premiers: Inter-Allied Debts

Milan, May 19.

A *communiqué* regarding to-day's conversation between the Italian Premier, Signor Mussolini, and the Belgian Premier, M. Théunis, and the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Hymans, states that the Ministers expressed the opinion that as soon as the exchanges of views between the Allies were sufficiently advanced, it would be advisable to convène an inter-Allied conference to put the finishing touches to the reparation agreement. They decided to do their utmost to execute the same when it would be possible to give effect to the experts' plan. The Ministers agreed that in any case the question of inter-Allied debts should be considered as being connected with the reparations problem.—Reuter.

SCARCITY OF MONEY IN GERMANY

Industrial Firms' Inability to Obtain Credit: High Rate of Interest

Berlin, May 19.

The Becker Steel Company of Willich, Rhineland, one of the biggest in Germany, have been compelled to place their affairs in the hands of an official receiver owing to the difficulty of obtaining [illegible] which all industrial undertakings in Germany are suffering, but the works will continue for the time being.

The Deutsche Werke Company, another big concern which is also a victim of lack of credit, has been compelled to retrench by closing some of its works.

The scarcity of money is so pronounced that 50 per cent. interest is demanded for cash.—Reuter.

AUSTRALIAN LOAN OF £10,000,000

London, May 19.

Underwriting is in progress of an Australian Commonwealth Loan of £10,000,000 at 5 per cent. The price is 100 and the Loan will be redeemable in 1925-45. The conditions are the same as those of the existing issue. Reuter.

SOVIET RUSSIA AND THE POWERS

A Wave of Recognition: Change of Attitude of America and Japan

Moscow, May 18.

The "*Izvestia*," in a leading article, emphasizes the existence of a wave of recognition of the Soviet Government and says that the first question which the new French Government must decide will be the arrangement of an agreement with Soviet Russia. The newspaper adds that Japan and the United States are changing their attitude towards Russia and the question of recognition will play no [illegible] in the coming Presidential elections in the United States.

BOLSHEVIK MENACE IN THE NEAR EAST

Strained Relations Between Russia and Rumania: The Little Entente and Italy

London, May 19.

[illegible] the Belgian Ministers, Dr. [illegible], the Czecho-Slovakian Foreign Minister, is also visiting Italy. His conversations with Signor Mussolini have already had satisfactory results in securing favourable conditions for Czecho-Slovakian trade, especially with regard to Adriatic ports but, according to diplomatic experts, they may result in remodelling the Little Entente, the [illegible] of which has been recently impaired by the increasingly strained relations between Rumania and Hungary on the [illegible] of Bessarabia.

[illegible] has been strengthened recently between Rumania, Poland and Turkey, the three countries most threatened by the Bolshevik menace. It is noteworthy in this connexion that a Japanese Military Commission has arrived at Bukharest.

Later.

Reuter's Agency learns that there is no truth in the report from Bukharest that any negotiations are proceeding between Japan and Rumania for the purpose of military co-operation against Russia.

It is pointed out that the Japanese Military Mission, which is now at Bukharest, is touring the world with the purpose of investigating [illegible] military systems from the point of view of efficiency, and particularly with a view to the reduction of armaments by Japan. The Mission is devoid of any political status. It has already visited Spain, France, Italy, Turkey and Hungary and is going to Austria, Czecho-Slovakia, Poland, Germany, Belgium and England, returning home *via* the United States.—Reuter.

THE ANGLO-SOVIET CONFERENCE

Unparliamentary Suggestions in House of Commons as to Political Propaganda

London, May 19.

Protests against questions reflecting upon the representatives of a friendly power were made in the House of Commons to-day, when Sir Leonard Lyle, Conservative member for Epping, asked the Premier whether his advisers were assured that no political propaganda was being carried on by the Russian representatives now in England.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, replied that the Soviet delegates were here on a friendly mission and until definite evidence to the contrary was forthcoming it was to be presumed that they would abstain from action which could only stultify the negotiations.

Mr. J. E. Davison, Labour member for Sheffield, said that the Prime Minister himself had anticipated that the delegation might be guilty of monkey tricks (Cries of "Order" and "Withdraw").

The Speaker said that it was impossible to allow such comments on negotiations between the Government and a friendly power. The Government of Russia had been recognized by the British Government and must be treated as any other foreign Government (Ministerial cheers).—Reuter.

Russia's Request for a Long-term Loan for Purchases to be Made in Britain

London, May 20.

A *communiqué* on the Anglo-Russian Conference states that the Soviet Delegation handed to the British Delegation a memorandum in which it was stated that, if Britain would assist in the flotation of a long-term loan, the Soviet would devote a lump sum to cover Russian pre-war debts to British holders of bonds before March 12, 1917. The greater part of the loan would be spent in Britain for machinery and other necessities.

The British Delegation replied that closer examination of the proposals was necessary, but any assistance in the flotation of the proposed loan would be very limited and there could be no question of a Government guarantee.

The Soviet Delegation stated that the Soviet were not prepared to [illegible] bonds at the full pre-war value. Interest arrears should be ignored and the principal reduced, as Russian assets had been reduced in consequence of the war and civil war. Limited payments to bond-holders should, however, be made as soon as possible. The Russians urged the British to do their utmost to help the loan, which, they said, would develop Anglo-Russian trade. They submitted that participation of the Russian State Bank would afford solid security.

The British delegates again emphasized their inability to guarantee the loan, although they would sympathetically regard Soviet efforts to raise a loan privately.—Reuter.

DUBLIN'S MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

Allegations of Negligence in Management of City's Business

London, May 20.

The Free State Government has dissolved the Dublin Corporation and appointed three Commissioners to perform its duties on the ground that these were not being effectually discharged.

Later.

The Irish Free State Local Government Ministry has reported that efforts of individual members of the Dublin Corporation to secure efficient and economical management of the city's business have been unavailing in the absence of support from the majority. Efficient administration of the capital has become a matter of national interest and it is proposed to examine the problem of city government as early as possible in the light of the modern results achieved elsewhere.—Reuter.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN BRITAIN

Government's Insurance Bill: Boys' and Girls' Allowances: Agriculture Not Included

London, May 20.

The Unemployment Insurance Bill, introduced by the Government, passed the second reading in the House of Commons to-day without a division.

The Minister of Labour, Mr. Tom Shaw, explained that it abolished the period during which unemployed had hitherto not received benefit. It gives for the first time benefits to boys and girls between 14 and 16 years of age of 4/- and 5/- a week respectively, provides instructional courses for them when unemployed, increases men's and women's unemployment benefit and also the allowance for dependents and children, and removes the disqualification from benefit for workers indirectly unemployed through a dispute. Agricultural workers are not embraced by the Bill. Mr. Shaw declared that the scheme was financially sound.

The opponents of the bill declared that it extended the dole system and did not advance the unemployment schemes, which it had been expected that the Government had cut and dried. They contended that children would be prematurely employed in industry, instead of being kept at school. The Conservatives insisted that drastic amendments were necessary in Committee.

The question of the Government's lack of employment plans is likely to be raised in an acute form on Thursday, when a doubtful division is likely.—Reuter.

Phenomenal Decrease Due to Government Policy

London, May 21.

The attack on Mr. Tom Shaw, Minister of Labour, on the subject of his Unemployment Insurance Bill opened in the House of Commons to-day with a number of questions demanding what the Government had done to deal with unemployment.

Mr. Shaw said that the employment exchanges in the year ending April 7, 1924, had filled 962,063 vacancies (Ministerial cheers), which was a great deal more than before the Government took office.

Replying to supplementary questions, the Minister of Labour said that the members of the Opposition would have a better opportunity of scalping him to-morrow, when he would show that the phenomenal decrease in unemployment was directly due to the Government's policy (cheers and counter-cheers).—Reuter.

MALARIA ON BRITISH SHIPS

Board of Trade's Advice Regarding Necessary Precautions

London, May 21.

The Mercantile Marine Department of the Board of Trade has issued a notice giving a series of precautions which it is advisable to take against malaria in British ships trading to Africa, India and the Far East. It is based on information furnished by the Ministry of Health, which represents the latest results of modern research.

The Board has sanctioned a clause for inclusion in the agreement with a crew whereby the crew agree to use mosquito netting and to take quinine, etc.

The master of a ship is enabled to inflict punishment on members of a crew for refusal to adopt the precautions.—Reuter.

LONDON, May 19.—The Sultan of Perak officially opened to-day the refreshment room of the Malaya Pavilion at Wembley.—Reuter.

NATIONALIZATION OF COAL MINES

British Labour Member's Bill Rejected: Liberal Vote Not Unanimous

London, [illegible]

The House of [illegible] by 264 votes to 168 refused second reading of a bill [illegible] a Labour Member [illegible] nationalization of [illegible] chase and their tra[illegible] Mining Council, [illegible] the Minister of [illegible] giving compensation [illegible]

The mover of the bill [illegible] there were [illegible] royalties of over £500,[illegible] which was more than [illegible] received.

Rejection of the bill was [illegible] by a Conservative [illegible] rash and disastrous [illegible] was seconded by a Liberal [illegible]

Mr. Shinwell, the Minister of Mines, said that the Government wholeheartedly accepted the principle of the bill, though [illegible] recognized that the country had not given a mandate for the nationalization of mines.

Mr. Lloyd George, who was repeatedly interrupted by Labour Members, denounced the bill as establishing a gigantic coal trust in the interests of a section of the community, but he was sure that the House would not examine in a partisan spirit any broadminded proposal to improve the miner's lot (cheers).

The Liberal vote was split.—Reuter.

THE NAVAL BASE AT SINGAPORE

Questions in Parliament as to Purchase of Rubber Company's Land

London, May 21.

In the House of Commons to-day, replying to Mr. R. Spence, Labour member for Berwick and Haddington, Mr. A. V. Alexander, Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, on behalf of Major Ammon, Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty, stated that the late Government had bought no land from the Bukit-Sembawang Rubber Company with the object of establishing the Naval Base at Singapore, as the land required for the Base was acquired by the Government of the Straits.

With regard to Mr. Spence's further questions as to the price paid per acre, the number of acres [illegible] leased to the Bukit-Sembawang Co., the date and terms of the lease and the rental, and whether the land leased was fully cultivated for rubber production, the Government had no information to regard to what transactions had passed in the Colony in that connexion.—Reuter.

BRITISH EMPIRE AIR SERVICE

Government Willing to Provide Ground and Other Facilities

London, May 21.

In the House of Lords to-day, amplifying the Government's airship plans announced by the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, on May 14, Lord Thomson, the Secretary for Air, said that the Air Ministry would provide the necessary ground and facilities in England, India and some intermediate stations. An airship highway to the East would be provided suitable for ships of the largest size, and also harbour accommodation and repair facilities, which would be open to all.

The Secretary for Air declared that he had found a wide trend of opinion that, until the airships were properly tried out and their safety and convenience proved, they were not likely to be of much commercial value.—Reuter.

MANILA, May 20.—Two women and two children were burned to death and many are missing in a fire on the inter-island steamer, Lalloc, on the Mindanao Coast.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

...RCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Impressive Ceremony in Edinburgh: a State Procession

London, May 20.

The ex-miner, Mr. James Brown, in the scarlet uniform of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ayrshire, ...ved an ovation by the popula... Edinburgh to-day when he ...m the Royal carriage from ...al Palace through decorat... ...ets to open the Gener... Assembly of the Church of Scotland as Lord High Comissioner. He was accompanied by Mrs. Brown, ...ssed in satin. Both ...owledged the plaudits of the ...titude, bowing and smiling. The ...al Salute of 21 guns was fired ...n the procession left St. Giles ... for the Assembly, where ... in magnificent uniforms ...d their entry.

...monies of the day began ...ée at Holyrood Palace, ... and Mrs. Brown, seated ..., received Scottish ... The procession in the ... was marked by the custom... ... included the Lord ... of Edinburgh, the Solicitor-... of Scotland and an ...istocratic suite.—Reuter.

THE PUNJAB RELIGIOUS FERMENT

Trial of Akali Ringleaders: Evidence as to Violence of the Demonstration

Nabha, May 17.

The trial of 22 Akalis, alleged to be the ringleaders of the march of jathas, or bands of fanatics, on Jaito in February last has opened.

The Administrator deposed that he had expected the jatha to consist of 500 persons, besides 200 camp followers, but his arrangements to arrest them had been upset owing to the violence of an armed crowd of thousands which unexpectedly had been following the jatha.

The Administrator has proceeded to Jaito to handle another jatha which is expected on May 25.—Reuter.

MAHSUD OUTBREAK

Constabulary Outpost Attacked in Punjab: Revenge for Raider Gang Wiped out

Peshawar, May 16.

A gang of 100 Mahsuds near Tank (Punjab) is reported to have wiped out a small force of frontier constabulary, 11 constabulary-men being killed and three wounded. Ten rifles were captured. It is understood that the enemy also sustained casualties.

Reinforcements have been sent from Tank.

It is believed that the attack was in retaliation of the constabulary's recently accounting for a gang of Mahsud raiders near Draban.

Simla, May 17.

A party of scouts intercepted the Mahsud gang, which wiped out a small force of frontier constabulary, at Tomand and killed two and wounded one of the enemy.—Reuter.

£25,000 FOR WRONGFUL LUNACY DETENTION

Dr. Adams' Appeal on £20,000 Damages Upheld But New Trial in Other Case

London, May 16.

The Court of Appeal has given judgment in the case of Mr. Harnett who, on February 29 last, was awarded £25,000 damages against two doctors, Messrs. Adams and Bond, for wrongful detention in a lunatic asylum.

The appeal of Dr. Adams, the head of the asylum and against ... damages in the sum of £20,... ... were awarded by the Lower Court, was allowed, the Appeal Court entering judgment for him with costs.

In the case of Dr. Bond, Commissioner in Lunacy, against whom £5,000 was awarded, the Appeal Court ordered a new trial and granted Dr. Bond the costs of the Appeal, while the costs of the trial will abide the result of the rehearing, with certain limitations.—Reuter.

OBITUARY

Sir Charles Townshend

Paris, May 18.

The death is announced of Major-Gen. Sir Charles Townshend at the age of 63.—Reuter.

The late Major-Gen. Sir Charles Townshend, K.C.B., C.B., D.S.O., will chiefly be remembered for his heroic advance on Kut-el Amara, while in command of the 6th Division and Force in Mesopotamia early in 1915, and the tragic surrender of that force to the Turks. Handicapped from the start with inadequate transport facilities, medical stores and short rations, his troubles began long before he reached Kut.

Fighting a losing fight for some months he eventually surrendered with his whole force to the Turks. The G.O.C. himself was taken to Constantinople. After a few months' captivity he was released on parole, went Home and engaged in negotiations regarding the exchange of prisoners of war. Those men, as prisoners, were taken away from Kut when the Turks subsequently evacuated undergoing untold hardships. He received the K. C. B. in 1916 and resigned from the Service in 1920.

A grandson of the late Lord George Townshend, and a cousin and heir-presumptive of the present Marquess of Townshend, the late General was born in 1861 and married a daughter of the Comte Cahen d'Anvers. He had a distinguished military career before the Great War, seeing active serrice in Egypt, India and South Aprica.

M. D. de la Meurthe

Paris, May 19.

The death is announced of M. Deutsche de la Meurthe, the noted philanthropist and a leading figure in the aviation and motoring world.—Reuter.

Sir W. E. Goschen

London, May 20.

The death is announced of Sir William Edward Goschen at the age of 76.—Reuter.

The Rt. Hon Sir William Edward Goschen was born on July 18, 1847. He was educated at Rugby and Oxford and entered the Diplomatic service as attaché in 1887. After service in Madrid, Buenos Aires, Paris and Rio de Janeiro, he was appointed to the staff of the Rt. Hon. G. J. Goschen's special embassy to Constantinople in 1880 and became second secretary there in the following year. He was appointed secretary to the Legation in Peking in 1885, to Copenhagen in 1888, Lisbon in 1890, Washington in 1893, and Petrograd in 1894; acting as chargé d'affaires at Copenhagen, Lisbon and Washington, and Minister Plenipotentiary at Petrograd during the absence of the Ambassador. He was Minister Plenipotentiary at Belgrade 1898-1900, at Copenhagen 1900-1905, Ambassador in Vienna, 1905-8, and in Berlin 1908-14. He was created K. C. M. G. in 1901, G. C. V. O. in 1904, Privy Councillor in 1905, G. C. M. G. in 1909, and G. C. B: in 1911.—Ed.

Mr. L. Wallace Bates

Paris, April 22.

Mr. Lindon Wallace Bates, an engineer who achieved international note as an expert on waterways, died here to-day from a stroke of paralysis after a three years' illness.

Mr. Bates was a member of the Commission which prepared plans for the improvement of the Port of Shanghai.—Reuter's American Service.

THE LAUSANNE TREATY

Turks much Worried over Non-Ratification Ascribed to French Intrigue

London, May 17.

The "Daily Telegraph's" Diplomatic correspondent say that Angora is worrying greatly about Japan's delay in ratifying the Lausanne Treaty, which would have rendered the Treaty operative, since it had already been ratified by Great Britain and Italy. He asserts that the Turks ascribe Japan's dilatoriness to French diplomatic intervention in Tokio, as the Poincaré Government has so far withheld ratification.—Reuter.

Tokio, May 19.

It is stated that the ratification of the Lausanne Treaty will be completed within ... It is officially denied that there has been any French pressure against ratification of the Treaty.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FRANCE'S FINANCIAL BURDENS

Foreign Policy the Present Essential Point

Paris, May 19.

The "*Matin*" publishes an interview with the Radical leader, M. Herriot, who said that foreign policy was at present the essential point. It was impossible to introduce the military and fi... ...dens on France wit... ...her at ease w... ... France could e... ... only after clea... ... dating her po... ...

WEAKNESS OF THE FRANC

The Gold Reserve Extensively Overdrawn: Fears of a Spendthrift Policy

Paris, May 21.

Political circles are very much alarmed over the weakness of the franc, which has fallen 13 points to £1 since the general election, although it recovered to-day to 78.70.

It is stated that the previous intervention of the Bank de France was so profitable as not only to leave the British and American credits intact, but to build up a strong reserve of sterling and dollars. The reserve, however, has since been extensively dr... ...

An upshot of a conferen... ...tween President Millerand and the leaders of the Left to-day is that MM. Herriot and Painlevé, on behalf of the latter, have issued a public undertaking to maintain the policy of balancing the Budget.

If this announcement does not reassure the market the question of issuing a fresh counter-offensive in support of the franc will be considered.

Reliable observers attribute the collapse of the franc as being partly due to the *bloc national* "bearing" the franc and partly to the anxiety of financiers lest the new Government should prove spendthrift.—Reuter.

CONGRESS'S FIGHT WITH PRESIDENT

Insistence on Exclusion Measure and Soldiers' Bonus

Washington, May 16.

After being passed by the House of Representatives by an overwhelming majority and the Senate by 69 votes to 9, the Immigration Bill, with the provision excluding Asiatics after July 1, is now before President Coolidge, who will probably send the measure to the State and Labour Departments for their recommendations before deciding to sign or veto it.

May 17.

The House of Representatives to-day adopted the Soldiers' Bonus Bill over the President's veto.—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, May 18.

It is understood that the Labour Department has approved the administrative provisions of the Im... Bill. The ... is now in the hands of the State Department, which reports to President Coolidge, who has until June 29 in which to decide his course of Action.—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, May 19.

The Senate has passed the Soldiers' Bonus Bill over the Veto of the President.

The measure now becomes law.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, May 20.

The newspapers of the metropolis are unanimous in condemning the Soldiers' Bonus Biill, estimating that it entails an expenditure of about $4,000,000,000 and opens the way for numberless further demands for *largesse* for the benefit of special groups at the expense of the whole people.

The "New York Herald" predicts another four years' term for President Coolidge to keep up the fight against such extravagance, praising his courage in exercising the veto. The "New York Times" and the "New York World," on the other side of the party line, ridicule the law-makers who expect to go before the country to sustain President Coolidge's candidacy for the presidency, but fail to render him loyal support where it is most needed, namely, in Congress. The "New York Times" declares that the Senators in supporting the ... showed courage, but "it ...

Paris, May 21.

Several newspapers express the opinion that th... ... of the ... Soldi... ... moves the possibility of an inter-Allied settlement for some time and compromises the labours of the experts.—Reuter.

STRENGTHENING THE U. S. NAVY

Proposed Construction of New Cruisers and Alterations in Battleships

Washington, May 20.

Mr. Butler, Chairman of the Naval Committee, has advised the House of Representatives that at least $150,000,000 must be expended on the Navy if it was to equal the strength of the British Navy, and that, before the present session ended, action must be sought for a Bill designed to establish a ratio of 5/5/3 as far as the United States was concerned.

Mr. Butler added that the present actual comparative strength of the British Empire and United States and Japan was 5, a fraction ... The construction of eight fast cruisers by 1930 at an estimated cost of $15,000,000 each, and six gunboats for use in Chinese waters, and also the conversion of five or six battleships into oil-burners, and increased elevation of the guns of 13 battleships would be proposed in order to strengthen the Navy.

Later.

The United States light cruiser Trenton is sailing on a 25,000 miles test cruise round Africa with the object of determining the effectiveness of long-range scouting and the ability of this type of vessel to operate independently away from a base. The data are likely to be used to support the Navy Department's request for 11 similar ships, which, experts claim, is the requisite to equalize the British cruiser strength.—Reuter's American Service.

U. S. SHIPPING BOARD INVESTIGATION

Losses on West and East Coast Routes: Dutch Indies Service Abandoned

Washington, April 21.

The House Shipping Board Investigating Committee spent to-day in going over with Captain Inman Sealby, travelling director of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, the technical details of foreign shipping conditions.

Prior to last July, Captain Sealby testified, the west coast service was losing from $16,000 to $50,000 a month with the east coast route losing not under $30,000, except during the wool season when the losses were slightly reduced. Present losses in the Pacific service, the witness continued, have been pared down to from $10,000 to $12,000 a month. No relief has been found, he said, for the New York route. He had recommended that the service to the Dutch East Indies be discontinued on account of cargo conditions.—Reuter's American Service.

RUSSIAN WHITE EX-OFFICER EXECUTED

Riga, May 21.

A telegram from Moscow states that Colonel Selikanov, of the White Guard army, has been shot in accordance with the sentence passed on him.—Reuter.

THE DUTCH-SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS

The Hague, May 16.

Replying to a Communist, M. van Revesteyn, the Foreign Minister, said that the Dutch ... regarded the Russo-Dutch negotiations as postponed, but the Soviet regarded them as broken off. Moreover, the Russian reservations with regard to the application of the most-favoured nation clause were unacceptable.

M. Troelstra, the leader of the Social Democrats, expressed complete satisfaction with the explanation of the Foreign Minister.—Reuter.

BREACH BETWEEN SOVIET AND GERMANY

Missing Communist Taken: The Raid on Red Embassy in Berlin

Berlin, May 16.

The police report that they have re-arrested the wanted Communist, M. Bozenhardt, whose escape on May 3 was followed by a raid on the headquarters of the Russian Commercial Delegation. They allege that he was arrested in the house of one of the members of the Delegation, where he had apparently been hiding for a fortnight.

The German Government are apparently prepared to accede to the Russian demand to pay compensation for damage done inside the Delegation offices, but are unwilling to recognize the extraterritorial rights of the offices or to agree to punish the responsible police officials, notwithstanding the fact that the police superintendent has already been suspended.—Reuter.

SUPPRESSING REVOLT IN RUSSIA

Ex-Officers Condemned to Death

Riga, May 20.

It is reported from Moscow that the political department combatting counter-revolution is active. Captain Suror, a follower of Admiral Koltchak, has been condemned and shot at Tomsk. M. Ozol, of the Tsarist secret police, has been sentenced to death at Leningrad, without right of appeal, for service carried out before the revolution.—Reuter.

Moscow, May 21.

The Ukrainian Executive Committee has commuted the death sentences, passed at Kieff on April 9 on a number of well-known local intelligentsia on a charge of treason, to ten years' imprisonment. The other sentences which were passed at that time have been reduced by half.—Reuter.

THE BIG BANG

Listeners-in Disappointed by Result of Melinite Discharge

London, May 17.

The results notified up to the present of the "big bang" provided by the explosion of 10 tons of melinite to study the behaviour of sound waves are disappointing as far as long distance audibility is concerned. They revealed several vagaries of the upper air as evidenced by zones of silence comparatively near the scene of the explosion, while several places heard two or more distinct reports. The organizers have decided to postpone repetition for different atmospheric conditions.—Reuter.

ROUND THE WORLD FLIERS

Americans' Terrible Journey: Maclaren Now in India

Calcutta, May 16.

Squadron-Leader Maclaren flew from Allahabad in six hours. He will most likely remain in Calcutta a few days, pending the arrival of his new engine from England.—Reuter.

Calcutta, May 22.

A telegram from Akyab states that, owing to adverse weather, Squadron-Leader MacLaren will not leave for Rangoon to-day.—Reuter.

Calcutta, May 21.

Squadron-Leader Maclaren has left Calcutta for Akyab.—Reuter.

Akyab, May 21.

Squadron-Leader Maclaren has arrived here.—Reuter.

Tokio, May 17.

The American fliers arrived at Paramushiru at 11.25 to-day.

They started at Paramushiru from Attu without warning in spite of [illegible] of an approaching storm. Two planes alighted in Kawanura Bay while the third alighted off Shumshu Island nearby, thus making aviation history and winning for the United States the honour of first flying across the Pacific.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Paramushiru, May 17.

The faces of the American aviators were lacerated by the Arctic winds and snowstorms.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, May 18.

A telegram from Reuter's correspondent at Paramushiru of yesterday's date says that the American flight from Attu to Paramushiru of 936 miles took 12 hours and 10 minutes, during which the fliers were forced down by strong winds and a heavy impenetrable snow storm for a six-hour wait off the shores near Koloski, Behring Island. The weather at Paramushiru is at present a wild gale with rain and snow. The temperature is under freezing point.

The fliers, who since leaving Santa Monica on March 17 have flown 5,335 miles in 73 hours actual flying time, declared that the Attu-Paramushiru leg was the worst with the leg to the Sitka Sea a close second. Lieutenant Lowell Smith stated that, though they are 17 days behind schedule, they hope to make up and reach Santa Monica on September 1.

Reuter's correspondent says that the aeroplanes will take on fuel and oil [illegible] and, if the weather is favourable, the flight will be continued immediately.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

American Fliers Arrive at Kasumigaura

Tokio, May 19.

The American aeroplanes left Paramushiru at 7.05 this morning for Hitokappu Bay.

Later.

The American aeroplanes arrived at Toshimoye at 2.50 this afternoon.

Later.

The official time of the arrival of the aeroplanes was 2.05 this afternoon at Toshimoye Lake, which is one mile distant from the village of Toshimoye on Etorofu Island, which was chosen as a more suitable landing-place. The flight was made under perfect conditions, according to reports received from Paramushiru and Hitokappu this morning.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, May 21.

The latest report from Hitokappu, sent at 10 yesterday evening, says that weather conditions for the flight to-morrow are unpromising. The U. S. destroyer Ford, which has arrived from Kashiwabara Bay, is proceeding to Kushiro.

The latest available information here says that the aeroplanes hope to leave at 6 o'clock this morning, proceeding direct to Kasumigaura after taking on fuel at Minato.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, May 22.

The American aeroplanes started from Hitokappu at 5.30 this morning.

Later.

The American aeroplanes passed over Kushiro at 7.50 on their way to Minato, where they will re-fuel, hoping to reach Kasumigaura today. They will proceed to Kasumigaura from Minato after a two hours rest.

Later.

The American planes arrived at Minato at 10.40 a.m.

Later.

The American fliers left Minato at 12.36 p.m.

Later.

Very intense interest is being taken in the arrival of the American fliers, who are expected to reach Kasumigaura between four and five this evening. Thousands of people with flags greeted the fliers at Kushiro and Minato, while elaborate receptions are being prepared at Kasumigaura and Tokio.

Later.

The American fliers arrived at Kasumigaura at 5.40 p.m.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ROUND AUSTRALIA AIR FLIGHT

8,500 Miles in 90 Flying Hours: Aviators' Welcome in Melbourne

Melbourne, May 19.

Wing-Commander Goble and Flying Officer MacIntyre arrived here in a seaplane to-day escorted by a fleet of aeroplanes. They were cheered by enormous crowds, who lined the Esplanade for miles. The airmen alighted safely on the suburb of St. Kilda, thus completing a round Australia flight, the greatest in the history of Australian aviation. The distance was 8,500 miles and occupied 90 flying hours. The airmen left Melbourne in April 3.

As the airmen stepped on shore they were greeted by the Federal and State Ministers and representatives of the Air Force, the Navy and the Army. Subsequently they attended a civic reception.—Reuter.

Tokio, May 20.

A despatch from Toshimoye states that bad weather prevents the American airmen leaving for Minato to-day. They hope to leave to-morrow.

Later.

A telegram from Toshimoye states that Lieutenant-Commander Smith reports that the flight is held up by heavy fog and the prospects are not good for to-morrow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE FILMING OF FIGHTS

Tex Rickard Indicted for Illegal Transportation of Moving Pictures

Newark, N. J., May 20.

The Federal Grand Jury, after an investigation into transportation of films of the Dempsey-Carpentier fight from New Jersey to other States, which is forbidden by law, has returned an indictment against Tex Rickard, the promoter of the fight, and six others.—Reuter's American Service.

ANOTHER FRENCH SUCCESS

American Altitude Record Beaten

Paris, May 18.

The French airman, M. Boussoutrot, to-day attained an altitude of 2,000 metres with a load of 3,000 kilogrammes, thus breaking the American record of 1,629 metres.—Reuter.

BITING THE HAND THAT FEEDS THEM

American Relief Expedition Accused of Spying

Riga, May 17.

It is reported from Moscow that the Minsk Supreme Court has sentenced a man named Katzawrof to five years' imprisonment and a woman named Rumientseva to 10 years' imprisonment for espionage on behalf of the American Relief Administration, which, M. Zinovieff, at the Provincial Conference of the Communist Party at Leningrad stated, was purely a spying organization.—Reuter.

BRITAIN'S EXPORTS

Investigation of Markets

London, May 21.

In the House of Commons to-night, Mr. Sidney Webb, President of the Board of Trade, announced the Government's intention to appoint a committee to investigate the question of obtaining the necessary markets for exports.—Reuter.

SCHELDT CONSERVANCY COMMISSION

Brussels, May 21.

The Scheldt Commission has considered two proposals, of which one favoured all the Scheldt services being controlled by one Minister. The other proposal involved the addition of an extra delegate representing the Netherlands Waterstaat and another representing the Belgian Department of Ponts et Chaussees to the Holland-Belgium Commission, with a local Commission with headquarters at Antwerp. A vote will be taken on these suggestions on June 30.—Reuter.

NEW MOTOR SHIP

London, May 17.

The motor-ship Marudu, accommodating 53 passengers, has been launched at Belfast for the Straits Steamship Company of Singapore.—Reuter.

HOLLAND AND AMERICA

The Hague, May 16.

The Second Chamber has approved the Dutch-American Arbiration Treaty.—Reuter.

PRES. COOLIDGE UNWELL

Washington, May 17.

President Coolidge cancelled all his engagements to-day and was absent from his office, suffering from a slight cold.—Reuter's American Service.

INDIAN REVOLUTIONARIES SENTENCED

Cawnpore, May 20.

The trial of the eight Indians charged with conspiring to establish a Communist international organization throughout India, has ended. All of them were sentenced to four years' imprisonment each. It is understood that appeals will be preferred to the High Court.—Reuter.

HANOVER AND PRUSSIA

Berlin, May 19.

A plebiscite in Hanover has rejected a proposal for the secession of the Prussian province of Hanover from Prussia.—Reuter.

TELEGRAPHING PHOTOS

New York, May 20.

By a new process of electrical transmission, the American Telephone and Telegraph Company yesterday successfully sent to New York from Cleveland, Ohio, 15 photographs in two hours. The pictures were five inches by seven inches and were perfect enough for reproduction in newspapers.—Reuter's American Service.

ANOTHER ROYAL VISIT TO WEMBLEY

London, May 20.

The King and Queen, touring the British Empire Exhibition to-day, visited the Malayan section, where three picturesquely dressed Malays came forward bearing trays with costly fabric and a silver gong as presents.—Reuter.

U. S. PRESIDENT AND A WORLD COURT

Washington, May 21.

President Coolidge informed the Republican Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee at a conference at White House yesterday evening that his position with regard to the World Court was the same as outlined in his message to Congress in December 6.

It is stated that a committee headed by Senator Lodge will endeavour to formulate a plan harmonizing with President Coolidge's plan recommending adherence to the present Permanent Court of International Justice.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

GERMAN-AMERICAN LIQUOR TREATY

Washington, May 19.

A Liquor Treaty, similar to that with Great Britain, has been signed with Germany.—Reuter's American Service.

WORLD'S AGRICULTURE

Rome, May 20.

The Congress of Agriculturists, in which over 300 of the world's prominent agriculturists participated, has concluded. It adopted a proposal to establish an International Society of Agricultural Science with headquarters at the International Institute of Agriculture. The President of the Society will be Professor Lipman of the United States and the Secretary-General will be Professor Hissing of Holland.—Reuter.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN

Motion in House of Commons to Reduce the Salary of the Minister of Labour: Alleged Unfulfillment of Government's Pledges

London, May 22.

The unemployment policy of the Government was to-day challenged in the House of Commons on a motion by Sir W. Joynson-Hicks, the former Minister of Health, to reduce the salary of the Minister of Labour, Mr. Tom Shaw, by £100.

The Government had warned its supporters of the urgency of the occasion.

The debate was begun by Mr. Shaw introducing the estimates of the Ministry of Labour in the Committee of Supply. He made a fierce attack on his predecessors and declared that their "blundering incompetence has not been equalled in our history." He praised Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's restoration of British prestige abroad and stimulation of employment at home.

Mr. Shaw's review of foreign policy, and forecast of Government schemes to increase the national wealth and efficiency, was made to the accompaniment of laughter and ironical cheers from the Opposition benches, and the Chairman had to intervene to remind Mr. Shaw to keep to his subject.

Sir W. Joynson-Hicks, in moving the resolution for the reduction of Mr. Shaw's salary, said that parts of Mr. Shaw's speech might have been made by the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Health or the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but little of it by the Minister of Labour. Mr. Shaw had not told them a single scheme to provide work for one man. The only explanations of the Government's unfulfilled election unemployment pledges were that they knew they could not fulfil them, or alternatively, they had not the ability to carry them out.

Mr. C. F. G. Masterman, Liberal Member for Rusholme (Manchester), while expressing neutrality on behalf of the Liberals, said that it was sheer nonsense to pretend that the Labour Party was in any way responsible for the reduction of unemployment since it assumed office.

Another Liberal, Dr. T. J. Macnamara (Camberwell), was an even less sympathetic critic.

Miss Margaret Bondfield, Labour member for Northampton, was speaking when the debate was interrupted by private business.

The debate was concluded by a Conservative motion to apply the closure, which was defeated by 244 votes to 210. Sir W. Joynson-Hicks' motion was thereby talked out.—Reuter.

THE SUGGESTION OF A WORLD COURT

Discussion by Foreign Relations Committee of U. S. Senate: Conditions Proposed

Washington, May 22.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee to-day discussed the World Court question with results which, several Senators predicted, might lead to an agreement and ensure a report to the Senate before the adjournment of the session.

Some Senators are of the opinion that an agreement may be reached upon the Harding-Coolidge proposal of membership in the present Court with the so-called Hughes safeguards included as definite amendments to the Court Statute to be specifically ratified by the signatories to the Protocol. It is said to be practically unanimously agreed that the United States could not agree to any Court plan binding her to recognize the authority of such a tribunal and to render *ex parte* advisory opinions.

Washington, May 23.

Senator Pepper has submitted to the Senate a composite plan of adherence to the World Court with reservations.

The plan, which has been referred to the Foreign Relations Committee, provides for modification of the late President Harding's proposal so as to transfer the election of the judges from the League of Nations Council and the Assembly to similar bodies appointed by the Court. It also urges the summoning of a third Hague Conference to clarify and codify international law.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CITY EQUITABLE FIRE INSURANCE CO.

Official Receiver's Claim for £2,000,000 Against Bevan's Co-Directors

London, May 22.

Mr. Justice Romer to-day gave judgment in the case in which the Official Receiver as Liquidator of the City Equitable Fire Insurance Co., asked on a misfeasance summons that Gerard Bevan, who was sentenced to prison on December 5, 1922, the other directors and the auditors of the company should be ordered to pay £2,000,000, the amount of the losses resulting from Bevan's frauds. Mr. Justice Romer found that the Official Receiver's action had failed against all the Directors, except Gerard Bevan, against whom he made an order for the payment of £247,000 in respect to losses sustained by the company.—Reuter.

THE WORLD'S NEED OF LIBERALISM

Mr. Lloyd George's Revival Campaign: Conference at Brighton

London, May 22.

Mr. Lloyd George has started a great Liberal revival campaign. Addressing the annual conference of the National Liberal Federation at Brighton to-day, he said that Europe and the world needed Liberalism. Replying to the taunt that the Liberal party was dead, Mr. Lloyd George said that over four millions had voted Liberal during the last election and that there would be many more if the Tories proved as ineffective in Opposition as in office and if the Socialists continued to demonstrate that they were frightened of their job. He looked forward to the day, which was not far distant, when the Liberals would resume office.

Sir Donald MacLean was re-elected President of the National Liberal Federation.

Sir Robert Hudson, who was re-elected Treaturer, dwelt on the Federation's need for money and said that if the position was no better at the end of the year he must resign.—Reuter.

NATIONALISTS IN INDIA

Differences of Opinion Between Party Leaders in Conference

Bombay, May 23.

Some difference in Indian Nationalist opinion is revealed by statements following a conference between Messrs. Gandhi, Nehru and Das to decide their future attitude with regard to non-cooperation.

Mr. Gandhi made a statement reiterating his opinion that entry into the Legislatures was inconsistent with non-cooperation, but said that he could not be a party to putting obstacles in the way of the Swarajists. If he entered the Councils, he would strengthen the constructive programme.

Messrs. Das and Nehru, in a counter-statement, defend the policy of obstruction, but accept Mr. Gandhi's suggestion with regard to a constructive programme of definite enconomic policy and prevention of drain on the public wealth from India. They say that they will consequently fill elective posts and serve on every committee possible, but add that, if they find it impossible to resist the bureaucracy without disobedience, they will retire from the Legislatures and help to prepare the country for disobedience.—Reuter.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

WEMBLEY OPEN AT LAST

British Empire Exhibition Opened by King: But Show Still Far from Ready

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

London, April 23.

Wembley opened to-day, or at least as much of it as was ready, did. There never was any doubt that it would open in time, but the publicity artists attached to the Exhibition, who are quite the most inefficient that it has ever been my lot to meet, doubtless thought it was a great stunt to keep public anticipation keyed up. In that case, it was about the only stunt they ever have thought of.

It will be about June 1 when the Truthful Chronicler will be able to write the Only Reliable Narrative on what the British Exhibition at Wembley really is. I doubt whether any section of the whole concern, with the possible exception of Canada, had its exhibit ready to time. It was the intention of the Exhibition authorities to allow one month between the completion of the Exhibition for the purpose of clearing up and adding finishing touches. It can well be imagined what the state of the grounds is therefore, to-day, when the King started in its course to a successful outcome, as we hope, this vast Imperial undertaking.

£24,000,000 in Value.

We all hope it. Lloyd's especially hope it, since they have guaranteed about £2,000,000, and in respect of this outlay, I understand that the receipts are each evening paid over to the officials of the Bank, which has in the grounds a special branch. The Bank is so enthusiastic that it has printed at its own cost stamps in colours showing these Bank premises, and affixes them to all the letter it sends out. So doubtless hope the purveyors of entertainments in the grounds, since they have paid very large sums for the privilege of a monopoly. Yet to-day when the Exhibition opened, I think 10 per cent. would be a generous estimate of the side-shows which were actually ready. Still, there is one really good scenic railway ready, and this covered up the fact that some of the other shows are only in the initial stages of being constructed at all.

It will undoubtedly be a very fine Exhibition when ready. They say it represents £24,000,000 in value. No doubt it does. Or will. Later on it will be a picturesque aggregation of first-class exhibits. It is not the aggregation yet, unless you include those exhibits—and their name is legion,—which are still in packing cases. It is certainly not picturesque at present, for there are no leaves on the trees, few flowers in the beds, and some of the turf is only being laid down at this late moment. Of course there have been blunders. I have alluded to the biggest and worst, the failure in respect of publicity. There are others, though many of them are ancient history. Had a greater effort been made and a broader view been taken months ago of the outlook, we should not now be faced with the undoubted fact that half the visitors will consider the opening of the Exhibition would profitably have been delayed for another month.

The Home Exhibits.

It is true that some of the exhibits are fairly complete, more especially the machinery section, but many Overseas Departments are greatly in arrear. There have also been some errors of judgment. A special little theatre was built to reproduce by the employment of electrical power marvellous miniature spectacles of the naval battles of the late war. It is now discovered that there is not enough power to give the show, at all events for present. There seems, too, to be some doubt as to whether feeding accommodation is quite adequate, not because Messrs. Lyons are not doing it well, but because, the principle of open-air cafés is very extensively adopted, and many of us are not quite accustomed to this sort of thing in our climate. Nor have the roads been adequately prepared, at all events at present. Debris of all kinds abounds, and though it is quite true that owing to the great good fortune of a brilliantly fine and warm week before the actual opening ceremony, there was little mud about, it is very clear that unless there is caution and provision, the place may very soon provide all the swampy inconveniences, which it did on the occasion of the England *v.* Scotland Football Match. On the opening day, the circular "Never-Stop" railway rather suggested a "Never-start" railway, because this had not got going at all, but at all events, there are plenty of means of locomotion when once they are in full use. Something of the kind will be necessary, because the distances are considerable, and to see everything you have apparently to walk about 10 miles.

Broadcasting His Majesty.

The opening ceremony was undoubtedly a great success. The King delivered his speech in the Stadium, in which a royal pavilion had been erected and for which there had been planned a semi-military pageant of much imposingness. There were at least 120,000 people present, though whether all who ought to have got there actually arrived is another matter, since with their genius for blundering, some of the official invitations were only sent out four days before the event and the tickets issued the night before. The King's clear voice is suited to broadcasting, and the substance of his speech which he wrote himself frankly does His Majesty credit. On this occasion he spoke to about million people, all of whom heard him clearly. I suppose there was not a seaside place in the country, which had not erected on or near the pier a special receiving arrangement, which not only carried the Royal words, but the music and the cheering, and the reverberation of the crowd's repetition of the Lord's Prayer repeated by the Bishop of London.

Round the World in 80 Secs.

The only thing the five millions missed was the little incident of a small telegraph boy ascending to the royal pavilion and handing a telegram to His Majesty, announcing that the Royal message, declaring the Exhibition open had been sent all round the world in 80 seconds. The King thanked the boy for the message and for an accompanying map of the route, which was presented in a large envelope, and the lad then retired imperturbably, unaffected by the tumultuous cheers of the audience. The listeners-in of course also missed the colour, though as the day was cold and the skies dull, women were dressed solely in black or dark browns, and there were few spring hats. What colour there was, was provided by military men, or by Court officials in the full panoply of their State attire, while there were a certain number of Overseas visitors who had donned the costumes of their respective countries. In any case, the opening pageant was a complete triumph, and even impressive in its way, while there was so much broadcasting apparatus scattered about the grounds of the Exhibition itself, that for the whole day there were voices and music coming from unsuspected places. All the Labour Ministers were present in levée dress, with the exception of the Prime Minister, who by Royal permission was having a few days' holiday before the resumption of Parliament.

Financial Prospects.

Now, a few words as to the future. I understand that the promoters of the Exhibition hope for an attendance of 60,000,000 people. This means a very great deal, since the entire population of this country is only 45,000,000. I believe the actual expenses are based on a minimum of 175,000 people a day. Everything turns, therefore, on whether Londoners and Overseas visitors will content themselves with three or four visits only to the Exhibition, or whether on an average they will go once a week. The man who comes up from the country only goes once or twice. An Overseas visitor may go three or four times, and clearly there are a number of these coming, since you cannot now book rooms at any of the chief London hotels for months ahead, and all the shares of transport and catering companies are rising rapidly in value. At present there are no great actual signs of the visitors, whom I can only congratulate on waiting a few weeks more before coming. As to the Londoner I am still under the impression that he will find Wembley too far out for frequent evening attendance. To reach the spot it takes many Londoners two hours, with, including the admission charge of 1/6d. a return fare of about 3/6d. to 4/–, a sum which will be quite prohibitive in the case of middle-class families, several of whose members would like to be present.

At the same time a curious traffic has arisen from the country. Thus from Hastings, which is just 62 miles from London, there is every day, throughout the Exhibition, a regular charabanc service to Wembley and back. The vehicles are beautifully fitted up, just like private saloons, and the return fare is 8/6d. Under these circumstances, such services by road, which exist all over the country, will afford a very severe competition to the facilities offered by the railways. These facilities are roughly about a fare and a quarter for the return journey, and no doubt will attract scores of thousands. As I said before, however, it is not the excursionist who will make the Exhibition pay.

The Stadium an Attraction.

At the same time the Stadium will always be an asset. Many interesting events are to take place in it. Presumably we shall have therein the Empire Pageant in July. The Final of the Football Cup takes place there on Saturday. Mr. Cochran is arranging his Rodeo in the summer, an event which has produced a good deal of acrimonious controversy in the British papers, though I think it is not unconnected with the skilful hand of the advertiser. A Rodeo is simply an exhibition of buck-jumping horses, and the handling of semi-wild steers. Is it cruel or it is not? The Americans, who know most about it, strongly deny the suggestion. Moreover the show will benefit, because public dinners are to be given there on a large scale. It is a great idea. You will be able to eat your dinner, and afterwards instead of listening to boring speeches, you will be able to go and divert yourself among the various entertainments. Certainly on the first day of the Exhibition, there was enormous public patronage of those side-shows which were opened, which is a good augury for future.

A Very Great Idea.

Despite the criticisms I have made, and the truth of which all the papers are now having to admit, I am glad to assure those who have taken a personal or financial interest in this advanture, that, in my opinion, it will be a great success. This Exhibition certainly shows progress on the side of magnitude; it covers 220 acres, and its gardens and pagodas and pavilions are intersected by, as I have said, nine miles of main roads and six miles more of small roads. Its vast ferro-concrete palaces and pavilions, its spires and domes and minarets, its stucco mountains, and its electrical moonbeams shimmering over its lakes, certainly convey an idea of beauty and variety foreign to the London landscape, and do mark distinct progress on the aesthetic side of undertakings of this nature. The Overseas displays are exceptionally good, and it is not altogether their fault that they are compelled to open late. The British press as a whole has been singularly sympathetic. There is an honest effort to lay stress on the fact that this Exhibition rests, or should rest, on worthy inspiration, and is planned solely as a demonstration of peaceful progress and prosperity, with the additional aim of showing the advance of the arts and sciences, and indeed of civilization since the days when we first founded our Overseas possessions.

Finally, it ought to be added that although there was a huge attendance on the opening day the crowd was both orderly and good humoured. The railway facilities were quite adequate and the outlook with any sort of luck generally encouraging. Any Exhibition of this nature must, in this country, gambles very largely on the weather. It is months since we have had, with the exception of Easter, much warmth or sun, so the odds are now rather in our favour that we may have some fairly fine weeks ahead of us.

A French newspaper states that Mr. Sidney Powell, merchant, of Tientsin, while staying in London, on the way to Paris, was robbed of jewels and money to the value of Frs. 15,000 by an hotel thief. News reached Tientsin recently that Mrs. Powell had been relived of most of her jewellery also.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER

Trans-Pacific Opium Smuggling: New Chinese Counsul-General at Ottawa: What Trades Belong to China: A Strange Murder Trial

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Vancouver, B.C., May 1.

The liner Empress of Russia carried only a light passenger list when she sailed for the Orient to-day. Among the passengers was Mr. T. P. Lachlan, head of the tea department of Jardine, Matheson & Co., of Shanghai. Charles F. Turner, of Detroit, an exporter and importer, will visit several parts of the Orient placing orders for the season's requirements. Mr. C. Henriques, prominent business man of Manila, was homeward bound.

Death Follows Voyage

Shortly after the Empress of Russia arrived here from the Orient on Monday, April 22, Mr. Jacob Sloat Fassett, of Elmira, former N.Y. state senator and congressman, died at the Hotel Vancouver here from heart disease. His death was quite unexpected and came as a severe blow to his wife who had accompanied him on a tour of the Orient where he had large interests. He had important mining holdings in Korea and was associated with a Philippine mahogany company. One of the largest sacks of mails received here for an individual was waiting for Mr. Fassett when he arrived here.

Ex-Senator Fassett was a member of the New York senate from 1884 to 1891 and was a member of Congress from 1905 to 1911, representing the 3rd New York district. The body was taken to New York. Mr. Fassett was 71 years of age. The death came as a great shock to the many from China and Japan who had met him on the steamer and who were apprised of the news as they were leaving for different points across the continent.

Drugs Seized on Liner.

Narcotic seizures on an extensive scale continue to be made on liners arriving here from across the Pacific. The Empress of Russia had not long been in dock when Customs officials found 284 tins of opium, valued at $17,000. The opium was found concealed between the walls of a state room and the iron bulkhead of the ship and had evidently been placed there before the passengers who occupied the cabin came aboard at Ho[illegible]

Consul-General Arrives.

Among recent arrivals from the Orient was Mr. Lo Chang, China's new Consul-General in Canada. An interviewer here found him to be an Oxford graduate who revealed the Oxford accent. The son-in-law of Mr. Kang Yu-wei, the famous monarchist, Mr. Lo was formerly Consul-General at London and Singapore. Speaking of his country's necessity of importing commodities which it did not produce, the new Consul-General remarked; "At Buckingham Palace, you know, it was Charles the Second, wasn't it, who tried to grow mulberry bushes. But in the end he found it cheaper to import these things, which were not natural to his country." One of his special studies in Canada, said Mr. Lo, would be scientific agriculture. "We are an agricultural people, always have been, but we import a great deal of rice from Siam and Straits Settlements. When these countries have crop failures we naturally suffer and we think that by introduction of more scientific methods we can increase our output so as at least to diminish the deficiency in our own output."

The new Consul-General stayed in Vancouver several days before proceeding to Ottawa, his future home. Vancouver and Victoria Chinese associations fêted him freely and he was given a really good time. When the liner reached Victoria a large delegation of his countrymen there welcomed him and persuaded him to give them a brief address in Chinatown.

Globe-Trotter Still Moving.

Other interesting passengers on the ship were Mr. J. Hope, famous globe-trotter, who has been 24 times around the world, Miss Katherin Mayo, of Bedford Hills N.Y., well known authoress, and her companion, Miss M. Moyca Newell, who owns a fine herd of 100 pure bred Holstein cows. These two women founded the British Apprentice Club in New York, which has a membership of 1,300 boys of the British merchant marine.

Rev J. Noble, of the Mission to Lepers of the Australian Presbyterian Church in Korea, was also on board. He was making the long trip to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church to be held in Edinburgh.

Pioneer Chinese Deported.

Chong Tong, after a residence in British Columbia since 1880, must go back to his native land as the result of a decision given by Chief Justice Hunter, upon a *habeas corpus* application. The decision is important in that it settles definitely a question that has been before the courts on numerous occasions in respect to convictions under the Narcotic Act.

Chong Tong was convicted of having drugs in his possession and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. The deportation order followed in due course.

The chief justice ruled that where a man is being held on a deportation warrant, he could not go behind that warrant except to determine the truth or otherwise of any fact set out in the warrant of deportation. In other words the validity of the conviction could not be attacked. This is pursuant to the statute of George III, which sets out what may be done on a *habeas corpus* application, where the subject matter of a *habeas corpus* proceeding is of a civil or *quasi* criminal nature.

Twice Sentenced Death.

Twice sentenced to be executed, twice reprieved, his scaffold erected and pulled down and his grave dug on two occasions, this is the unique experience surrounding Chong Sam-bow, who shot and killed John Clayton Jones in a downtown street here on July 18 last. By a strange coincidence the date now set for the execution is exactly one year to the day of the murder. In one trial the jury were discharged before the case was concluded, the third disagreed and were dismissed, and at the fourth trial, two days ago, the jury returned a verdict of guilty, Chong Sam-bow having again to stand in the dock and receive the death sentence. The question whether the accused man was sane or insane at the time of the killing is the issue which has spared the Chinese life to date. Alienists have been called by the defence and prosecution, the net result being that the third jury found the prisoner sane at the time of the shooting. His counsel even now has not given up hope of saving Chong Sam-bow's neck, for it is stated that he will endeavour to have the case again re-opened on appeal, taking advantage of a technicality in that his client's life had been placed in jeopardy by court procedure during the trial, which objection he had voiced before the trial judge prior to the passing of the death sentence.

DANCING as an addition to the Church service has often been suggested and has lately been put into practice at the ancient church of St. Mark's-in-the-Bouverie at New York, much to the scandal of the bishop of the diocese, who at last deprived the church of episcopal administration. Presumably this means financial support. The dances were performed by barefooted girls and naturally attracted large congregations. The rector's defence is that the dances are not an innovation, but have the sanction of ecclesiastical tradition.

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

The Exodus from the Hebrides: The Undue Proportion of Unskilled: Words that Scotland Gives to the World: The Sporting Season Reviewed

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Edinburgh, Apr. 2.

The organized flow of emigrants from the Western Isles to Canada, which commenced last year, will be continued and probably extended this season. The prophecy of the Seer of Brahan, who in vision saw the Long Island depopulated and the home only of seabirds, is being brought a stage nearer. The readiness of the people to leave must not obscure the fact that the going is a painful ordeal. It means more to the outer islesmen to leave their home than it does to most people. It is not only that their associations with the isles are inevitably deeper and closer. The reason has its roots in the Highland psychology. An authority speaks of the Highlanders' "family pride, their love of clan, their sense of the continuity of their history." They are consciously part of an existence which goes back into the past and goes on into the future, but an existence which is bound up with membership of the clan and life on the land of their forefathers. It is this they are leaving. The departure means a real disruption, and not merely a change of scene. A young man, one of the latest party to leave, had the clearest perception of the possibilities of the life ahead, and of the hazardousness of what he was leaving indeed. His neighbour in the Highland way, and with the expressiveness of the Gaelic, said to him: "You are leaving home, and I think I shall not see you any more; and if you should ever come back, I am afraid the croft will no longer be here as it is now." The disappearance of the croft, which had been the family's home for generations, grasped the young man as nothing else had done. With tears in his eyes, he told one of the Canadian Government agents that if he could honourably hold back even then, he would not go.

These people make the distinct impression of ability to work their way and to carry through with success, to make good on the other side. One feels that the description of "ideal settlers" so frequently applied to the race is not a rhetorical phrase, but has the merit of truthfulness. They look the proper stamp. Here were a group of people accustomed to battle with sea and storm, with uncertain soil and uncertain climate, trained to labour and hardships, not expecting too much from life, unessential as the blows as they are grateful for the smiles of fortune, deeply conscious of Providential dealing in all things. They will strike a new root in more favourable conditions: they will plant themselves deep in their new country.

It is a movement which will continue in increasing extent. It is the old story over again. Emigration from the Highlands and Islands is no new thing. The Highland people were among the earliest settlers overseas. They were in at the start in all the Dominions, and the overflow from these parts has been proceeding in the same direction for about the last 200 years. This emigration has generally been of a mass character by groups and families. The same movement is taking place once more. The spirit is in the air. The mood is coming on, the Hebridean is pondering, and he is getting restless, and from his western coast he is sailing into the further away across the Atlantic waves.

Obituary.

Suddenly, at Marseilles, on March 26, of pernicitis, on his way home from Hongkong, Robert, aged 25, third son of the late Robert Hutchison, Glasgow and South Western Railway, and Mrs. Hutchison, 4 Millbrae, Shawlands, late Kenilworth Avenue, Glasgow.

At a nursing home in Eastbourne, on March 26, George Henry Burnett, aged 61, late of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corpn., and Major Road, Forest Hill, London.

The Great Army of Unskilled.

One of the most depressing features of the industrial scene, a chill anxiety to those who have some responsibility for the education of young people, is the dependency of young entrants employment for at least half of those leaving school in search, and, of course, no consolation can be found in the fact that the same problem is to be found in other countries. Suggestions have been made that education should be carried on in the meantime, beyond the school-leaving age, but obviously this is no remedy for the serious state of affairs that exists: merely means deferring the problem a year or so when the result may be disastrous will be more disastrous in the long run. It is the nation's youth that had to pay most heavily in the war. And its price is still paying. Nearly one-half of the unemployed in Scotland are men between the ages of 18 and 28. Many of them, because they fought for their country, have never had a fair chance to follow out a calling, or to get a footing in the labour market. Hence the large proportion of them are classified as unskilled workers. Equally deserving of sympathy are the lads who, because of the war and its industrial consequences, have been denied the opportunity of beginning their apprenticeship to some useful occupation. Like the man who came back, they are at a dead end. Mr. J. M. Cranwood, of the Ministry of Labour, expressed to the members of the Rotary Club in Edinburgh the opinion that very few of the unemployed are what might be called unemployable. They are anxious to get work, but, as matters stand, there is not work for them. The demoralizing effect of this on the country's manhood does not need to be emphasized. It is a position towards which little can be done, even by a Labour Government. This does not mean, however, that nothing can be done. The Trade Unions, if they worked, could render practical assistance. The building trades are crying out for men. The labour available in Scotland to-day for the erection of houses—the nation's greatest need—is little more than a half of what it was in 1920. Here, at least a large number of the unemployed could be usefully absorbed. But thanks to the selfish and short-sighted policy of the Trade Union leaders, they are shut out. How these leaders reconcile this conduct with the ideas of democracy and brotherhood they so freely express, is what no outsider can understand.

Heckling and Thrums.

A number of textile expressions have been embodied in our language, but many Scots, not to mention Southerners, would be unable to explain their origin and meaning. Two of these words, heckling and thrums, are especially intriguing, and it will be interesting to reproduce the explanations given by Mr. George L. Barclay in a lecture to the Dundee Burns Club. Heckling, as most readers will be aware, is the questioning and cross-questioning with which a political meeting in Scotland usually closes. That heckling, Mr. Barclay said, got its name from a process familiar in pre-machinery days. The flax had to be straightened out, the men stood in rows, and, as the operation was somewhat mechanical, they could indulge in conversation. They were ardent politicians; in fact, many of the Chartists were recuited from their class. While they wrought one of their number read the newspapers. A thrum, he explained, was a bit of waste yarn. Barrie in seeking to immortalize his native town used the name as nothing better than a cast-off article, but the despised bit of waste has become synonymous with all that was best and sweetest in life. The thrum went into the waste bag, but it could be used to tie up broken threads on the loom. Did Barrie himself see his characters in a light like that? They were ordinary everyday men and women, and it might be that all they could do was to furnish a thread to tie up a broken bit of life.

Moray Golfers and Premier.

Mr. J. Ramsay MacDonald, to whom an offer of honorary membership of Spey Bay Golf Club was intimated, has intimated his acceptance of the invitation. They invited him "to accept the small recognition from a Morayshire club in the great honour and distinction that you, a Moray man, have attained in becoming the head of His Majesty's Government." The Spey course is in miles from Lossiemouth with the Lossiemouth Club which expelled Mr. Macdonald from its membership for his pacifist conduct during the war.

No Kilt For Him.

In the new Galsworthy play, "The Forest," the leader of the native bearers is the son of a great Baganda chief on the shores of Lake Tanganyika. He talks good English, and tells two stories in that language. While his grandfather was chief, Dr. Livingstone appeared on the scene. "'Do you come in peace or war?' my grandfather asked him. He said in peace—to heal our wounds and heal our sores. And when our wounds were healed ... Dr. Livingstone had annexed us and we belonged to Britain." During the war this stout young Baganda was drafted into the Gordon Highlanders, but refused to wear the kilt. When asked what was wrong with the kilt, he answered fiercely "It is a woman's garment, and I—I am a man!" Steady the Gordons!

Extremely Dull.

A dean, in a neighbourhood near London has caused some stir by a sermon on temperance. I am advised by a London Scot who lives in the district and heard the discourse. Incidentally the dean mentioned that recently he visited a small English village where the inhabitants, noted in the past for convivality, had undergone a "cure" and were now all strict teetotallers. "To tell the truth, dear friends," said the dean in his sermon, "I found them dull—extremely dull."

"Dry" Palace of Holyrood

Edinburgh, Apr. 9.

The interest taken in the appointment of Mr. James Brown, M.P., to be Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland is quite extraordinary. The foolish talk of a boycott has disappeared, and Scotland will support the Labour miner without reservation. The Duke of Atholl has been giving advice and assistance to Mr. Brown. "I was instructed by their Majesties," said the Duke, "to co-operate with the Office of Works in general improvements of the Palace which are being carried out. The rooms used by the High Commissioner will be ready by the time of the General Assembly next month, and though in no sense lavishly furnished, will be worthy to receive His Majesty's representative. His Majesty, with his accustomed generosity, has given instructions that the Lord High Commissioner will have the benefit of articles such as china, cooking utensils, glass, etc., that the Commissioner formerly had to supply himself, and which was a very heavy burden. Carriages and harness have also been provided by His Majesty." Asked as to Mr. Brown's Prohibitionist views, and whether they would be put into effect at Holyrood, the Duke said, "This is entirely a matter for Mr. Brown himself, but if I believed in a thing I should think very little of myself if I did not support it."

China to Glasgow.

This is Glasgow's year for the World Sunday School Convention, and as the meetings take place in June, delegates from the most remote places are already packing their trunks. The first of them is on his way, the Rev. A. L. Ryan left Manila over a week ago. At any moment it is expected that the Rev. E. C. Tewkesbury, secretary of the China Sunday School Union, with 30 others will leave China by the trans-Siberia railway. Three ships are sailing from North America, the first leaving to-day, making the journey to Glasgow *via* Palestine and Egypt. Lord Pentland is acting as chairman of the Convention, and the speakers will include General Sir Robert Baden-Powell, Sir George Adam Smith, Lady Frances Balfour, Lord Aberdeen, and Lord Cecil of Chelwood.

The Parsimonious Scot.

How old is the satire against the Scotsman for his parsimoniousness? We have just come across a version in an interesting reprint "Antanda; A Sacrifice to an Unknown Goddesse, or, a Free-Will Offering of a Loving Heart to a Sweet-Heart," by N. H., of Trinity College, in Cambridge. It first appeared in 1653; the reprint is published by Elkin Mathews. The poem is prefaced by five congratulatory poems by ingenious young gentlemen friends of N. H.—Nicholas Hookes—and is a sequence of verses in the fashion of the time on Amanda, singing, feasting, pledging her lover, about to pray, praying, after prayer, and also on more delicate occasions (all with the infinite courtesy and unblushing frankness which were *a la mode* in the seventeenth century—some of it so quaintly frank as to be humorous). Then come some miscellaneous poems, including a translation from Michael Drayton into Latin verse and one on the "Rout of the disloyal partie of Scots at Dunbarre," beginning—

"Is Jockie routed? Charon, rig the boat," and containing references to "coarse oatmeal bags." "Howlings for losse of Bernes, of gudes and geer!" and dancing "Scottish gigs." But the point of special interest is the warning given to Charon, the "ferry-mon" of the Styx. Foure thousand Scots at least are coming, with kettles hanging at their gurdles. Be on your guard!

"Ah! Charon, launch into the deep, there make Conditions e're they board thee, do not take A mon into thy skiffe till thou art paid." The poem is packed with exulting insults, but it is an interesting comment on Scottish thrift that we have turned the old-time anathema into a modern profitable jest—for which the English pay!

School Badges—And Others.

A few days ago I renewed acquaintance with a distinguished Chinese whom I had not met for a good many years. He was a picturesque figure—not, however, because he sported a pigtail or wore robes of padded silk, but because the garments he displayed to the world were a handsome fur-collared overcoat and a school cap, silver braided, tasselled and crested. Separately, these two items of apparel were commonplace but associated on the person of a Chinese gentleman, head of a Chinese household, they were noteworthy to say the least. The cap, you see, was not one that could be had just for the buying. What the gilt spurs of knighthood meant to the lads of the age of chivalry, that cap signified to the boys of the school at which my Chinese friend was educated. Scholastic honours were despised in comparison, for, of course, it was the cap worn by members of the First Fifteen.

A football cap, with its gaudy braid, its vaunting embroidered dates, and, above all, its swinging tassel, is essentially a helm for the head of youth. It would be out of place on the head of a Bailie or a kirk elder. Very few of us can live up to its tacit challenge; we, growing up and realizing our limitations, and the surprising effectiveness of other people's competition, content ourselves by sporting rosettes or badges on our watch chains, or perhaps on special occasions a rose, a thistle or a leek, or an enamelled clover leaf in our coat lapel. But there was my hero from the Flowery Land facing the cold gaze of the upstart Occident with the gallant oriflamme above his skull. He must have preserved it with care, for its condition was excellent—its veleet lustrous, its silver bright. Pride in it had survived the shock of leaving school and finding that even its First Fifteen was not universally greeted with wreaths and trumpets; survived too the disillusion of growing to manhood, the years of separation from others brought up in the same cult, the return to the atmosphere of the brooding East.

Certain of our agitators would like to abolish the ceremonial of public life, its uniforms and ritual. The wish is a vain hope. Even the medicine man of a cannibal tribe is distinguished by particular paint patterns. The first thing a man does, who wants to smash the organization of the big society called the nation, is to join a society with like ideals, and very likely wear a special button or badge or bomb to show his pride in it. Some of us learned the value of this love of distinguishing badges during the war. Men put up service stripes and wound badges not only because they were proud of having served and having been wounded, but also because they felt the exhilaration of belonging to a big brotherhood of veterans who had lost at the least a little skin for a cause. Man seems to want a label to be proud of. Men of a regiment are sure it is the best in the army; each battalion boasts of its superiority; each company looks down a little on all the others, and in each platoon you find a healthy contempt for all the other platoons—compared with itself.

The Golf Championship.

In the long history of the amateur championship only two players—Mr. Harold Hilton and Mr. Horace Hutchinson have won it two years in succession, with St. Andrews the venue each year. Mr. Roger Wethered, who has found the Old Course his best hunting ground, seems favourably placed to prove himself the third golfer to achieve the noteworthy feat. Admittedly he has a chance but—there are others. Champions from many lands will be there striving to relieve us of the honour. Bobby Jones, America's best, is coming; Australia will be represented, even the Indian champion is going to have a try, and our own Home Scots—who will not be far away at the finish—will be out to do their best to bring glory to the old land. Surely some problem spotting the victor here? Many English critics, however, are already telling us quite frankly that the event is once again going to England. As one leading authority puts it—"Roger Wethered seems likely to start as warm a favourite for the championship as ever St. Andrews has known." Mr. John Caven is one of those who reckons the champion will start first favourite. He thinks Cyril Tolley another formidable opponent, and Ernest Holderness must be carefully watched. With regard to Scotland's chances, Mr. Caven mentions Jack Wilson, W. B. Torrance, W. A. Murray, Robert Scott, jun., and Willis M'Kenzie as our hopes (we will include his own name in the list.)

Seven-A-Side Rugby.

Despite the protests of self-styled purists and others who see no good in what they term a distortion of a great game, the practice of holding Rugby seven-a-sides increases in popularity in Scotland, until now practically every centre holds its own tournament when the more exacting work of the season has been brought to a finish. One need not seek far to find the reason of public interest in this abridged form of the game. No matter how well a Club may be playing, or how successful it has been, the supporter is apt to get wearied even before the competitive part of the Club's activities is completed, hence he welcomes something novel as a relief if it offers a fair amount of enjoyment. The nature of these games, too, appeal to his sporting instincts.—seven-a-sides can and do provide the fast and thrilling play which may be lacking in a match under ordinary conditions.

At Edinburgh, Watsonians came out on top, Heriot's F. P.'s being runners-up. On the Borders Hawick were the victors, Jedforest being second. The Dundee tournament winners were Kirkcaldy, Dundee High School F. P.'s coming next.

Rangers Retain Championship.

Though they have still three matches to play, the Rangers are now certain of the Scottish League championship. The position at the other end of the table is interesting. Clydebank's chance of escaping relegation is very remote, and other clubs which are not safe yet are Third Lanark, Clyde, and Queen's Park. The last-named had a welcome win over Aberdeen, and with two more matches in hand than the other two clubs, should yet make their position secure. It is now certain that Cowdenbeath will step up from the Second to the First Division along with St. Johnstone, and Arthurlie.

Two plans for neutralizing the Philippines in the event of their attaining independence are before the American Congress. One is that the Powers interested should conclude a treaty giving the Islands a guarantee against attack. The other is a proposal to make an agreement with the Filipinos themselves under which they would promise never to give up their independence by treaty to any other nation. All this is purely academic discussion. The Filipinos are not to have independence until they learn to govern themselves as well as Messrs. Fall, Denby, Daugherty, Doheny and others have governed the United States. It is quite useless for them to hope to attain such heights.

OUR AUSTRALIAN LETTER

Imminent Prospects of a Return of Labour to Power: Successes in Three States: Flying over the Flooded Bush: Subsidy for Far Eastern Trade

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Melbourne, Apr. 8.

Parliament is once more in session, though it has temporarily adjourned for about a month in order that members may go over to Sydney and participate in the Special Naval Squadron festivities. There is not much that is now expected from these, but it was noticeable that political Labour did not lodge protests against "wasting the people's time in order to pay tribute to an effete militarism," that being the sort of way the Federal Opposition and its friends mostly talk when they are mounted on the soap-boxes, which are the popular rostrums of liberty. During the fleet's visit to Sydney the battle cruiser, Australia, will be sunk off the Sydney Heads with some ceremony. She cost the best part of a couple of millions, and the agitation which has been going forward against her destruction in accordance with the Washington Treaty is ample evidence of the irresponsible ignorance of Australian pressmen and politicians, who want to defy the world, or at least the great nations of it. But they are learning, and the League of Nations is proving of the highest educative value. Probably the most interesting incidents of the sittings of the Commonwealth Parliament in its present session were the reports of three members—Major-Gen. Sir Neville Howse, V.C., and Col. Cameron, of the House of Representatives—who attended the fourth assemblage of the League.

The Light that Failed.

Labour has made an absurd mistake in Parliament—a mistake which one fears indicates that amongst the astute tacticians of Sovietism our subscribers to the great Red Objective are mere children. The Prime Minister moved the adoption of the Imperial Conference resolutions in *globo*, and the Labour Opposition was so anxious to get its Pacifist feelings on record that it insisted upon at once moving an amendment that it approved of the foreign policy of the Ramsay MacDonald government, "as approved by the representatives of the people." Having thrown down the gauge the Opposition adopted the policy of masterly inactivity. It refused to talk—why, is not quite clear. An election for the State Assembly of South Australia was pending, and there were those who believed that the silence was due to a belief that it was silvery and that garrulity might produce statements which could be seized upon and used to the detriment of the party. There was probably a good deal of truth in that view, but it also seems likely that an issue, such as that of the foreign relations of the Empire and the Singapore Base, bristles with so many difficulties that the Opposition did not want to talk—South Australian elections or not. Labour in Australia hates the very mention of Empire, because it pre-supposes an outlook beyond the corridors of the trades halls. One member, who appealed for a statement as to whether the Opposition was for or against the Empire, was howled down with derisive cries, of which the chief was the single word "Empire." Later on when the matter of ratifying the Lausanne treaty was brought forward Labour devoted quite a lot of venom in emphasizing the fact that when Britain was at war every Dominion had the right to declare itself neutral. But the Opposition, which is chiefly concerned in winning votes, lost its way. The light of the leader went out. It found itself anxious to support quite a lot of things accomplished by the Imperial Conference, but deprived of the opportunity of doing so. The leader, Mr. Charlton, said there was nothing in the report of the Prime Minister, and consequently it was useless for him to ask the House for the concession of opportunity to discuss what, on second thoughts, his party had decided was in the report. Thus for the first time in its history, probably, Labour has had ammunition to fire, and yet has itself rejected the opportunity of making the pyrotechnic display. Thus the discussion on the Imperial Conference resolutions took the form of propaganda speeches from the ministerial side, to which the Labour Opposition listened with ill-concealed restlessness, and occasional interjections, without so much as filling columns of useful fighting material in convenient "Hansard" form for the use of their friends outside.

League of Nations.

Gen. Howse's report on the fourth assemblage of the League of Nations gave politicians much to think about. They learnt for the first time that English was only included in the language of League officialdom by chance, as America was supposed to speak English and likely to be a member. They also listened to an explanation of the diplomacy of the Council of the League on the famous occasion when Italy almost went to war with Greece, which diplomacy gave Italy all she demanded and put Greece in the position of the toad under the harrow. Gen. Howse admitted that the League had no machinery by which it could coerce either disputant, and his colleague, Col. Cameron, subsequently told the House that several of the smaller nations, whose voices are heard in the Assembly, flatly refused to acknowledge themselves responsible for giving armed assistance in the matter of preserving peace. The interpretation of Article 10 seems to be still in the air, though the Australian delegate is satisfied that the League cannot compel a country to supply armed force to suppress trouble, should its Parliament decide otherwise.

When it came to describing the resolutions passed regarding the international status of Labour, the reduction of working hours, and general improvement of the conditions of the workers, Gen. Howse was plainly accorded a sympathetic hearing from the Labour Opposition, but one must confess that the whole business seemed largely impracticable. It is comparatively a simple matter to pass pious resolutions, and even to report that some of those resolutions have been given effect to by certain nations, but to Australians the most that can be said is that conditions are being slowly created which will put labourers in Japan, India and middle Europe in a position approximating that of labourers in Australia. The process of bringing all workers to the highest standard of living and the lowest standard of heavy labour must be a long one, and the result, when the revolution is accomplished, no man can foresee.

Subsidy for Far Eastern Trade.

Some time ago the Government announced its willingness to subsidize steamers so as to develop Australian trade with China, Japan and the Straits Settlements. The Minister who made the promise was strongly suspected of doing so with a view to gratifying those to whom the dismissal of Mr. E. S. Little did not recommend itself. No sooner was the promise made that it was further announced that the Government was waiting for definite offers of trade and shipping. At last it has been announced that a £40,000 a year subsidy is to be granted upon certain conditions, and it is unnecessary to say that at once objections are being raised by certain shipping companies which claim that they are already supplying an efficient service and are ready to increase it with any increment of trade.

It is pointed out that the trade in wheat and flour with China has greatly increased since June, 1923, and they could also have said much the same of butter and milk, and in a lesser degree of meat, but these facts cut little ice. The increases are not important as compared with the enormous business to be done, and there is a strong feeling that the present responsible minister, Mr. Chapman, does not take the matter of creating the trade in jams, preserved fruits, dried fruits and meats at all seriously. The opposition of those who have already secured some sort of trade is natural; they want no competitors, and until the driving power of the producers in this country is felt little progress can be made.

Doradilla Grapes.

There is quite a curious story attached to this variety of grapes. It is, I believe, a form of fruit which strongly resembles the sort of grapes a bunch of which it took two spies to carry out of Palestine. It is said not to be a table grape—though something like a large muscatel—but especially suited to the manufacture of spirits. It seems that when the Victorian State Government started to settle returned soldiers on the land, it placed them on small irrigated areas, and its officials advised the planting of Doradilla vines, because they would give the quickest and heaviest returns. The soldiers, whose knowledge of vineyards was probably limited to the bayoneting of Germans amongst the grapevines of the French Champagne, accepted the advice and this year found themselves with tons of the fruit, which the distillers declined to buy. The latter said the government must reduce the excise on brandy, or the grapes must rot. The attitude taken up was somewhat similar to that of the jam-makers and canners who, by declaring they did not want the fruit, so worked upon the feelings of the Country representatives in the government that a bounty, both on production and export, was given to the jam manufacturers and canners provided they bought the fruit. It should be added that the government fixed the price to be paid for fruit. In the case of the grapes the distillers worked precisely the same game, and the government has hurried through parliament an increase of 5s. 0d. a gallon on imported brandy, and has not fixed the price the distillers are to pay for grapes. All of this, of course, means that some comparative understrappers of a State Department have, by giving unauthorized advice to soldier-settlers, succeeded in rushing Australia into an amendment of her tariff, and quite possibly an unpleasant argument with the French exporters and the Australian importers of high-class wines.

Another State Election.

In my last letter I mentioned the victory of Labour in Western Australia in the elections for the Legislative Assembly. That victory was largely attributable to the general disgust and confusion caused by the creation of many different parties, each representing some slight shade of difference in its outlook. Labour went boldly to the polls, declaring,—"we are in favour of socialization, and we all think the same, and our party is solid." It naturally won. Now in South Australia the same factors have created the same results. There are 46 members in the Assembly, and given all doubtful seats the Barwell (Liberal) government will have 21 supporters, Labour will have 23, and there will be two members representing the remnant of the Country party. Labour will naturally go into office and any little difficulty about a majority will be overcome by buying a member or two, with one or other of the various remunerative jobs which are at the disposal of the majority. This is not libelling Labour; it is the frank recognition of its common practice. It has only to persuade a Barwell follower to be Speaker and it is safely in office for the next three years. But Labour's recuperative power is not solely due to Labour's merits. Sir Henry Barwell and his friends were busily engaged in December, 1922, in driving out of the Federal parliament those followers of Mr. Hughes, who had once been Labourites, and they were successful. The Nationalist voters, who had followed Hughes, naturally went back to the Labour camp, and at the late election voted Labour once again. It was the obvious and certain thing to happen, and sane and progressive government suffers in consequence. It must be admitted that Labour in South Australia has hitherto been of the modest and moderate variety, but the advent to office of Labour in three States—Tasmania, Western and South Australia—during the last few weeks, and the general feeling that Labour will soon regain power in the Commonwealth parliament is causing the quidnuncs some anxiety.

Flying Developments.

Australia is disposed to take aeronautics with the same casualness that her soldiers displayed in warfare. A seaplane has just got up off the water near Melbourne to fly round Australia, surveying the coast line for flying purposes. The total flight will be 9,000 miles, and the longest non-stop journey about 450 miles between Thursday Island and Elcho Island in the extreme north. Though there is reason to think that the journey will involve considerable risks no one seems particularly interested. Since Mr. Hughes went out of office we have been periodically promised an air mail service between Adelaide and Sydney, and between the latter and Brisbane. The first of these services we are now assured will commence this month. It will have the effect of cutting Melbourne out of the line of communications between the east and west of Australia, shorten the time of delivery of overseas mails in Sydney, and give New South Wales and Queensland extra time to write their outward correspondence. But it will do more. It will bring into close touch with Adelaide and Sydney the long line of little settled country between those two cities, and what that means may well be gathered from the experience of the two air services in Western Australia and Queensland. For the past 18 months the Western Australia service has flown its 1,200 mile journeys twice a week without losing a quarter-of-an-hour. The regularity of a train service is not in the comparison. Passengers are taken, and numerous stretcher cases have been carried to medical aid. In Queensland the country traversed has lately experienced floods, and the aeroplanes flying over the waste of waters—sometimes 100 milles or so across—have effected many rescues, and also allowed business men to carry on, station hands to search for lost stock, and indeed to reduce the proverbial terrors of the bush to a negative quantity. The new services will soon be followed by others, and taxi-cab planes will link up with the main routes, even as they do in the neighbourhood of our towns and cities.

A Timely Rescue.

The Japanese merchant ship, Honolulu Maru, has reason to be thankful that the Special British Naval squadron was in Australian waters, when about 80 miles from the New South Wales coast she encountered a severe storm, her cargo shifted and there appeared an excellent chance of her foundering as many another ship has in that vicinity. Her S O S call reached the light cruiser Dauntless which was on her way northwards from Tasmania, and the warship at once went to the scene, stood by, until relieved by another light cruiser, the Dragon, which had also been sent. The Dauntless then returned to Sydney, whence tugs had been despatched, and in due course the Japanese steamer was brought into Jervis Bay and safety. It is interesting to record that the steamer Canberra, which was steaming 16 miles an hour with the gale, picked up the call and turned to go to help, but against the wind she could only make two miles an hour. It came therefore as a relief to that ship to learn that her efforts were unnecessary as the Dauntless was coming up with the wind at the rate of 23 miles an hour. The Honolulu Maru was a steel screw steamer of 5,751 tons, belonging to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, and had a cargo of wool, flour, milk etc. She also carried 1,400 tons of slab zinc. It is probable that had the seas been less violent the captain of the Honolulu Maru would have ordered his crew into the boats, and their remaining aboard seems to have been a case of Hobson's Choice.

It was reported on Tuesday in "Shanghai New Times," a Russian journal, that Jews continue to leave Russia in a state of panic. Recently, over 30 families have arrived in Shanghai from Vladivostok, bringing news that trains and steamers arriving from East Russia are crowded with Jewish refugees, hurrying away from the country in consequence of the increasing anti-Jewish feeling.

NEW JOYS FOR THE GOURMET

The lament that a general taste for smoking, the luxury of life, and the new distribution of wealth have destroyed appreciation of the fine art of cookery finds little response among the experts. The epicure may not be so familiar a figure as he was, and he is certainly not so solemnly self-conscious. But at no time, and nowhere in the world, was the poetry of food more appreciated than in London to-day.

This is the testimony of M. Fontaine, the chief of Prince's, who was trained in Paris, and with nearly 30 years' experience of London is in a position to compare present and past.

"Money has, no doubt, changed hands," said M. Fontaine to me today, "but the Londoner has under our guidance gained a first-class knowledge of good cookery.

"There are, moreover, quite a number of real old-fashioned gourmets. For instance, these dishes are in great demand just now—plovers' eggs, 'poussin, a very small chicken. You can have a poussin small enough for one or large enough for two. They are a most obliging species.

Caviare.

"Caviare has all its old popularity now that it can be had in fine quality—not pressed, but with every egg in separation, the test of good caviare.

"But let me whisper this season's secret. Quails have never been so delicious. Perfectly amazing is the demand for them. Followed by an ice 'parfait,' you will feel at peace with the world, especially if you have had a glass of champagne to help things down. A word to Londoners about champagne: do not overdo the ice. Champagne should not frozen!

"Asparagus, young vegetables, and strawberries are in nightly demand. Diners out in London are always on the look-out for strawberries in spring. This is particularly so this season.

"The chief difficulty a chef has in London is to keep up with the varying demands of each season. This season is a complete answer to the old libel that the Englishman does not know how to choose a menu.

"Dainty morsels with supper, garnished with asparagus 'points' are now as popular in London as they are in Paris. Unfortunately it has been difficult to get 'pauillac,' or milk-lamb this season. This delicacy is in great demand. London's taste has, indeed, been educated beyond belief."

A chef at the Savoy Hotel said: "We are putting on no fewer than four hundred new dishes to cope with the torrent of visitors London is expecting. Quite out of the ordinary, but most delicious is the Argentine dish known as 'Puchero.' This is in great favour just now. It consists of beef, bacon, chicken and rice.

"Should you not fancy 'Puchero,' you may quietly be led to like a Brazilian delicacy known as 'Bacalhao-com-Batatas.' This is soft cod, cooked in green oil with tomatoes and potatoes.

"As a sweet a dish known as 'Chinese night' may be commended. This is half a Chinese melon saturated in aromatic Chinese wine. The centre is stuffed with crushed cheetle nut and cream. The whole is then iced."

The Ideal Menu.

M. Eugene, chief chef at the Piccadily Hotel, considers the following an ideal dinner menu:—

Hors d'Œuvres, Printannier Royal, Crême de Laitues, Delice de Sole, Vol-au-Vent, Petits Pois au Beurre, Pgularde de Surrey roti au Cresson, Salade de Chicorée, Coupe Alexandra, Friandises.

As a pick-me-up after the dancing which usually follows dinners nowadays, Pigeon Bordeaux with Pommes Chips is suggested.

At the Florence Restaurant delicacies in great demand are Spring Salmon and Soufflet Surprise, the latter with home-made "petit fours."

A typical supper menu suggested by a man about town is Huitres Natives, Consommé Double, Caile, Ice Pralinée. This expert declares that fish at supper is outrageous. But surely the strangest supper in all London is that made by an old stalwart who says that he cannot sleep until he has eaten a piece of under-cut done "Maître d'Hôtel."

The Australian vanguard has already arrived, and hotels and restaurants are laying in supplies of "Passion Fruit." A doctor strongly commends the American passion for grape fruit. "It is a tonic in itself," is his verdict.

As for private entertaining, the glory of the old-fashioned dinner-party has vanished. The gourmet mostly haunts restaurant land, and though he has his grumble, he also has his joys.

E. L. M.

OUR PARIS LETTER

M. Ribot's War Memories
Clemenceau Staff Soldier

A series of 38 letters written by the late M. Ribot to a friend, and [illegible] war. The letters cover the period between August, 1914, and October, [illegible] the financial relations with England and the United States, the critical position in March, 1917, the failure of the offensive in Champagne in the following month, the Russian revolution, affairs in Greece, and the fall of the Cabinet in October, 1917.

It could hardly be expected of such an old Parliamentary hand as M. Ribot, and especially of one who [illegible] should reveal any secrets of importance or tell the world anything sensational. His letters are chiefly remarkable for a series of pen-pictures of individuals. Of the present President of the Republic, whose colleague he was in the Viviani Cabinet at the beginning of the war, M. Ribot writes: "The portfolio of War was in the strong hands of M. Millerand. He showed himself to be a tireless worker, living very much within himself, caring nothing for social relations, seldom asking [illegible] when he had once made up his mind and occasionally obstinate, tenacious and patient in his legitimate ambi[illegible]

Clemenceau the Fencer

[illegible] which always disconcerted his op[illegible] orator than a first-rate fencer. When [illegible] setting forth political ideas and principles, he was not at his best. His speeches on these occasions were badly put together, and it was easy to detect passages that had been inserted by his collaborators. The whole thing was lacking in inspiration; but he was brilliant when he had to improvise, and he had a supply of retorts that stuck like arrows in a wound."

Of M. Briand the silver-tongued orator, five times Premier and now [illegible] "It was M. Briand's custom to bring despatches to the [illegible] thought the Council would help him to make up his mind. While he [illegible] his colleagues' opinions on their faces. He showed extraordinary cleverness and flexibility in meeting the objections which he foresaw, and he graduated his own utter[illegible] and [illegible]."

Foch the Greatest of Them All.

Foch the Greatest of Them all. M. [illegible] gives an [illegible] that of Marshal Foch. "He would have [illegible] who points out that, in spite the [illegible] principle of the con[illegible] [illegible] very few people here," which always disconcerted his op[illegible] private pro[illegible] have spoken to regarded it as [illegible] lity. Even a who listened to him felt that here [illegible] to be fully relied upon. In the course of several journeys I made with him to London, what struck me about him was to see so much knowledge combined with so much good sense, so much personal worth and so little desire to shine, an indescribable mixture of familiarity and dignity that could not fail to inspire confidence. This explains why our allies were so quick to appreciate Gen. Foch and cheerfully admitted his superiority, and why they accepted him as commander-in-chief when, after reverses that [illegible] necessity of unity of command was [illegible] which his military genius had its full scope. When I met him after [illegible] simple, as devoid of vanity and all personal ambition as when he was chief of staff. I do not believe there is any greater or more likeable personality in our time."

Marshal Petain.

Of Marshal Pétain M. Ribot writes: "He has all the highest qualities of a leader. He knew what his men could be asked to do, and he left nothing to chance. Best of all, he had personal authority. He was not quite careful enough in what he said after he rose to positions of great responsibility, but there was never anything of the courtier about him. He is outwardly cold and reserved. I feel sure that in reality he has much keener sensibility than most people credit him with."

In another letter M. Ribot writes: "Gen. Joffre will go down to posterity as the man who won the battle of the Marne, and that is a sufficient title to fame. I often saw Gen. Joffre at the meetings of the War Committee. There was never anything striking in his explanations, but he showed much good sense and solid judgment."

"Football" Now a French Word.

It is almost as difficult for a new word to get into the French [illegible] old reputation to enter the Academy itself. The candidates are put [illegible] with, they have no chance at all unless they happen to satisfy M. Rébellian, formerly librarian of the Institut de France and now a member of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres, who is a sort of [illegible] births. He puts them down in alphabetical order and presents them [illegible] Academicians who form the dictionary committee. When this body meets, each of the five has [illegible] sheet of the last edition of the dictionary stuck on the left-hand page and the new words inscribed on the right, under a large query mark. The claims of the candidates are fully discussed and, if admitted, are referred to the next meeting of the whole body of Immortals.

In this way it was decided that "football" had earned its place in the French language but that "basket-ball" was not yet acclimatised; that the war meaning of "as" (ace) as a "first-rater" or "Number 1 man" as the Chinese would say, is *puikia*, but that the much older word "bécane" (bicycle) is not. The derivation of this word may be worth relating to those who do not know it. During the bicycle craze a quarter of a century ago, [illegible] his visits to his factory, was [illegible] caused him to pronounce the oft-used word "mécanician" as "bécanicien." "Next day, every [illegible] word so as to signify the article they manufactured.

GERMAN PRIVATE PROPERTY IN ENGLAND

The *"Frankfurter Zeitung"* of March 25 publishes a noteworthy [illegible] who points out that, in spite [illegible] principle of the con[illegible] [illegible] very few people here," [illegible] private pro[illegible] have spoken to [illegible] regarded it as [illegible] lity. Even a [illegible] who listened to him felt that here [illegible] recently told me that he, too, was wholly ignorant of the fact. . . . As things are now a release of private property can only be really effective if all former liquidations [illegible] other hand much still remains to be settled—for example, the whole question of the securities belonging to private persons and confiscated in English banks, making, with interest, a total sum of £10 millions. The question of American securities, of which the certificates are lying here in London, is also an open one. The Court of Arbitration is still dealing with a dispute as to whether the right to [illegible] themselves has been seized with these certificates. It is to be feared that this will be affirmed, for the certificates, so as to be marketable, are not made out in any names. Their total value, without interest, would probably amount to about £15 millions."

The *"Frankfurter"* adds an editorial comment in which it points out that English public opinion does not seem to realize that the Treaty of Versailles has annulled the principle of the inviolability of private property which used to be internationally valid, and that England is far behind several other countries in removing this injustice.

OLD LONDON

A "Stande of Ale" Presented by Symon the Anker

Yet another City church is in need of funds for the repair of the fabric. Yesterday it was St. Clement's, Eastcheap, or the church where Captain Cuttle was wont to worship; to-day it is Allhallows, London Wall, so called from its position on the wall which the Romans buildt some 1,600 years ago. Important remains of a Roman bastion may still be found beneath the semi-circular vestry.

When and how the first Christian church was built on the site one cannot say. The parish is mentioned in a will of 1285, and the list of rectors begins in 1349. There was a cell, known as the "Anker-hole" in the church for the use of anchorites —one at a time, please, for these pious gentlemen were touchy about their preserves—the most celebrated of whom was "Symon the Anker," who wrote "The fruyte of redempcyon," which Wynkyn de Worde printed in black-letter in 1514—

Of your charyte praye for the Anker of London Wall wretched Symion that to the honour of Jhesu Cryst and of the virgyn his moder mary hath compyled this matter in englysshe for your ghostly comforte that understande no latyn.

Symon received more than enough from visitors who admired his piety or yielded to his importunity, for we find him on one occasion giving to the church a "stande of ale," and on another a "chalys. . . wayenge viij vnces."

Old Allhallows had a tower and bellturret of timber, and a [illegible] against the Holofernes of Spain like Deborah, a Mother in Israel:

> In Court a Saint,
> In Field an Amazon,
> Glorious in life,
> Deplored in her death.

The church escaped the Great Fire, but by 1764 it had become so dangerously dilapidated that an Act of Parliament was obtained for its removal, and the present building, from the designs of George Dance the younger, was erected at the cost of £2,941.

Allhallows has for many years made a special appeal to work-girls whose means compel them to come to town by the early trains, and who desire a place of rest and shelter before their warehouses and offices open. Reading and sewing are permitted.

To show how deeply the kind thought of the Rector is appreciated it should be mentioned that, in the [illegible] of the matter of [illegible], when [illegible] the very [illegible] the attendance [illegible] about 50 per [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with the [illegible] Company,—the rector is their chaplain—and they [illegible] given £50 towards the fund for repairs.

2,500,000 HOUSES TO BE BUILT

Government Scheme to Extend Over 15 Years: "A Great Revolution"

"We are on the eve of a tremendous proposal by the Government," declared Mr. Coppock, general secretary of the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives, in speaking of the Government's housing proposals at a conference on housing held at Miss Maude Royden's Centre, the Guildhouse, Eccleston-square.

The Government, said Mr. Coppock, had devised ways and means to deal with the housing problem, and these would be submitted to the House in the coming week.

If contented workers were required they must be well housed and fed and given an interest in industry. Men could not be manufactured on the mass production like Ford cars. Despite what had been said about the Addison house, it was the best that was ever built for the working-classes in this country.

"But," he added, "the ones we are going to build will be better."

On the matter of dilution, Mr. Coppock said it was impossible to train a man to any of the craft after he had got beyond a certain age. Any augmentation must come from boys from 18 to 20 years of age. But in return for training these they demanded a guarantee of employment for some years, and he thought he could say that the guarantee would be fulfilled for a period of at least 15 years, provided the Opposition in Parliament agreed.

"The programme we have set out," added Mr. Coppock, "is 2,500,000 houses in a period of 15 years, which is 500,000 less than we anticipate being able to do. The people tackling it are going the right way about it. Industry is prepared to use every effort to do this work. It is possible we are on the eve of one of the greatest revolutions in Great Britain."

At the close of the speech, Mr. William Woodward, an architect, asked Mr. Coppock, who had claimed to be a bricklayer, when he laid his last brick.

Mr. Coppock: In 1911, in the good old days.

Mr. W. Arlidge: How many bricks did you lay in 1911?

Miss Maude Royden (the Chairman), interposing: The question is neither intelligent nor courteous, and I disallow it.

Mr. Woodward and Mr. Arlige then left the meeting.

SOME "OLD WIVES'" REMEDIES

By a Doctor.

Almost every year I add a new "queer remedy" to the list I have collected during my professional life.

The other day, for example, I found a child limping about, and on inquiring the reason was told that it had slices of onion between the soles of its feet and its stockings. The object was "to ward off the whooping cough" which is prevalent just now.

Garlic, of course, is a valuable drug in whooping-cough, but I confess I can't see how the sliced onion can affect anything.

Last summer I met an old man who declared positively that he had cured himself of rheumatism by getting stung by bees. He deliberately invited the insects to attack him. That remedy, of course, is well enough known; but so far as I know no scientific basis for it has ever been discovered. At the same time I do not wish to dogmatise.

Years ago I heard an old woman, with a local reputation as a witch, declare that whooping-cough was a more dangerous disease when it attacked a girl than when it attacked a boy. At the time I thought she was merely talking. But the figures of the Registrar-General of England and Wales confirm her opinion year after year.

The queerest remedy I ever saw was a triple strand of ordinary sewing cotton wound round an old man's naked waist. It had cured him—or so he said—of lumbago. Nor could I induce him to remove it. He told me, too, that a double or a single strand was useless for the purpose.

Quite intelligent people use these queer remedies. I have found, though they take them, as a rule, on the [illegible]ly, to avoid being laugh[illegible] [illegible]ce met a woman docto[illegible] "anti-rheumatic" [illegible] she had [illegible] according to the pres[illegible] country jeweller.

I'm afraid most of us l[illegible] guilty love of magic [illegible] scientific we may believe [illegible] to be.

LONDON'S "EMBRACE"

Sir Ian Hamilton on a "Hopeless Attachment"

"If I were asked why I [illegible] emigrate," said Ge[illegible] Hamilton to the Brit[illegible] Club at Penge "I would l[illegible] to reply, 'I simply can't d[illegible] cause of my hopeless [illegible] to London.' London [illegible] of you as an octopus g[illegible] periwinkle, and, ones you are [illegible] there is nothing that will free you from that embrace—not tax collectors, not midnight cats, not officers playing barrel organs, not even ground rents or strap-hanging."

Sir Ian declared that he should be the one great authority on emigration in the Kingdom, as he had visited every hole and corner of the Empire as Inspector-General of Overseas Forces.

His experience was that the healthiest children, with rosiest cheeks, most resembling Kentish children in the Dominions were to be found in the South Island of New Zealand, and in Vancouver Island, on the Pacific Coast of Canada.

Those were the places he would advise married couples to make for, because perfect energy and perfect health were worth a great deal more than rubies.

PROHIBITIONS

Smoking in America

The young American [illegible]ho has just been expelled [illegible] because she insisted on smoki[illegible] only one instance of the att[illegible] of the great A[illegible] towards this all-in[illegible]. Recently the appoi[illegible] a teacher was held in abeyance for the same reason. Another teacher bought a motor in order to get far enough away from her school to be able to smoke. In the [illegible] clubs the well-known restr[illegible] still holds that women ma[illegible] smoke there. Hotel managers take it upon themselves to interfere if women smoke in public, and at one hotel all smoking is prohibited on the ground that "Vermont does not like it, and what is good enough for Vermont is good enough for everybody else." In the trains the conductor practically refuses to let women sit in the smoking-cars. This is partly, no doubt, to prevent the men from being overcrowded, but it is also considered not quite the [illegible] for ladies to sit in smoki[illegible] cars. Smoking, in short, is still a [illegible] moral question in the [illegible] which first [illegible] Europe with tobacco. A[illegible] a grave moral question, [illegible] plied with greater ri[illegible] women than to men, i[illegible] make it even graver [illegible] more moral.

The result is, of cou[illegible] is still either very d[illegible] smart to smoke, or it [illegible] prehensible. It makes [illegible] deal of exaggeration [illegible] American women insis[illegible] ing in public, where [illegible] probably not smoke ot[illegible] only to register a prot[illegible] male prejudice. And s[illegible] der protest undoubtedly [illegible] attract too much attention, and therefore to become either very smart or very f[illegible]. It is still possible to be fast in America, and there is no doubt that [illegible] either via smoke or [illegible] possesses considerable attractions for the youngest of all generations. In some ways, of course, a country of prohibitions is much more amusing to live in [illegible] which individual [illegible] It remains young for one [illegible] the prohibitionists themselves [illegible] ing up the burden of age, an[illegible] sponsibility. It provides the sense of adventure which used to come from defying nurse in the nursery. And as smoking does not matter very much one way or ano[illegible] is given a zest which the older countries have completely [illegible] ten, and which is only to be [illegible] captured in the land of liberty and prohibition.—"Manchester Guardian."

SPECIAL ARTICLES

PAPINI AND HIS BOOK

Notes of a Sermon Preached by the Rev. C. E. Darwent in Union Church, Tientsin, on Saturday evening, March 30

Text: Ezekiel XXVII. 1 & 2. "He set me down in the midst the valley; and it was full of bones; and, behold, there were very many, and, lo, they were very dry."

This chapter refers to the religious condition of the Jewish nation in the time of Ezekiel, and has become the most famous chapter in this most wonderful book, because we in our day have some remnants of conscience left, and we recognize that Ezekiel has hit us all very hard indeed. It has proved the most wonderful mirror ever constructed; it is so well furnished that we can all see our own faces reflected in it. To a large extent we, it is commonly complained, are still in this valley, where there are bones, "and behold they are very many, and, lo, they are very dry." The change of the past to the present tense in the version of the text, that I have given, is according to the popular judgment, true, the bones "are very dry."

I am using these words of Ezekiel, in order to cast light on the popularity of a recently written book, by one, Papini, on the Life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. As I have said, there is a general wail over the want of life in the church of Christ, for that is the complaint. It is complained that Christianity itself is dry, in want of the mysterious thing that we call life, the life of God in it, and in us who profess it. According to much of what one hears, the whole of the church and its institutions and agencies are in the condition of North China at the present time, utterly dry, for we have not had a drop of rain for near six months. Unless my memory deceives me there was a Conference of a certain Church held at Shanghai a little time ago. A paper was read, which made me rather sad, for it seemed to be a general admission of the truth of the charge of dryness, like these bones. It was admitted that men stay away from church. I was reminded of the story of a tourist in Scotland. Passing through a village he met a labourer, and pointing to the British Church and the United Free Church, asked the man, which of the two churches he attended. The answer he got was, "Weel, its the auld kirk I stays away frae." So many are connected with churches, but stay away from them. I gathered from this, as I have gathered from other similar papers, that our church services are considered dry, like these bones.

The Hungry Sheep Look up.

Then there are our sermons. If I remember rightly, this paper had this sentence in it, or one to this effect, "The less said about our sermons the better." Truly a dreadful utterance, if Paul was right, as I believe he was, when he said, that we are not "sent to baptize, but to preach the Gospel." It means, if true, either that we have been sent to preach a thing called the Gospel, which is hopelessly dry in itself, or it means that we have made a hopeless mess in our efforts to commend a thing full of life and interest. The complaint is not that sermons are long. Spurgeon's were long, but yet, as he once said, "no one had ever been able to build a chapel big enough to hold all the people who wanted to hear him at the same time." People do not object to length, if sermons are not dry. You can be short and dry, as this story shows. A newly-ordained clergyman asked Douglas Jerrold to hear his first sermon. Jerrold went and heard it and the preacher said, when the ordeal was over, "I was short, for I didn't want to be tedious." "But you were tedious," said Jerrold. One can be short and dry. That the dryness of sermons has become proverbial is seen in the fact that the producers of them, alas, often attempt witticisms at their expense, as in the story of the meeting called at the students of a theological college to send a resolution to the authorities on the damp state of the walls of the studies. One solution of the difficulty was suggested, that the senior student should paper the walls with his sermons. Then one need hardly spend much time in showing that the common idea of theology and theological studies and of theological books is that they are all hopelessly dry. Public libraries hardly purchase any, nor are any asked for. The reason commonly given for the absence of the working classes from churches of all kinds at home is that the masses have the idea that the services in the churches are tedious and dry. If they thought them interesting, they would surely attend, as they do the picture palaces.

Pot and Kettle.

Now, in regard to all this general accusation of dryness in the religious world, the first thing to be said is this. *Other things* can be a valley of dry bones as well as religion. We may as well notice that first of all. That seems to be forgotten. Man, indeed, has a remarkable faculty for making the finest works of God and man dry and uninteresting. Man can be so dull and incapable of feeling the vital force of a great thing, that he pronounces it dry. Music is a grand thing, but I have been to some dry bone concerts in my time. So have we all. There is no science, if it is a science, more crucially important than economics; yet Thomas Carlyle, who knew what is what, called it "The dismal science." Not only theological professors can be dry, but *all* professors. I have known a professor of astronomy, who had the whole of the marvels of the heavens to discourse on, do it so badly as to be as dry as a chip. And the purport of these illustrations that I am giving is to show that if mighty and glorious subjects are said to be dry, it is not their fault but the fault of the human medium by whom they are expounded and the fault of the people who listen or read. And often enough the bones that are very dry to one man are clothed with living flesh to another.

The Great Attraction.

And now, we will come to the book, that I have named. Not so long ago, all the people who had so much to say about the dryness of the Christian faith and life and church had a shock. A "Life of Christ" appeared in Italy that became the sensation of the day. Edition after edition appeared. They were snapped up at once. It was soon translated into other languages, English among them. It has been eagerly read everywhere. Some of us remember the sensation caused by the story called "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab," and "Mr. Brown of New York," and "Helen's Babies." It has had a similar great run. Publishers and author and readers have all been happy. It seems incredible that a new Life of Christ should have such a run. There are so many and such excellent ones; Canon Farrar's, Geikie's, David Smith's and others. Then there are the original and incomparable Lives, which we call Gospels, and which are sold by the million by the Bible Societies. Yet there it is; Papini's "Life" vies with popular novels in circulation.

What then is the conclusion to be drawn from the success of Papini's "Life of Christ"? This, that it is all nonsense to talk of the dryness of the Gospel. If the world thinks there is no interest and life in it, then it must be our fault. Here is a book that tells a story that must be familiar to us all; a story that has been told and preached and written about and made the subject of great paintings that are familiar to all, yet it is read in this new book, as if the hero of it were a great man, who died only yesterday. Here is Papini on Judas; "Only two creatures in the world knew the secret of Judas, Christ and the traitor himself. Sixty generations of Christians have racked their brains over Judas, yet he remains incomprehensible. And this of Capernaum; Men of finance had settled there for gain, like flies on rotten pears." And this on the disciples; "A great man creates great men: David his "mighty men;" Arthur his knights; Napoleon his marshals, and Jesus His disciples."

The Fool Hath Said in His Heart.

Now, as to the church, and as to the Gospel and all that we mean by Christianity being a "valley of dry bones." It shows almost incredible shallowness and want of observation to say such a thing. Begin with the day in which we live. If there is anything that stares one in the face, it is that in one way or other the Gospel is the one live thing of the day. It is at the root of the great part of our "problems;" it is quoted in support of theories of economics and politics and against them. The point is that *no one thinks it can be left out.* For that is the remarkable thing about Jesus Christ. No one can leave Him entirely out of consideration for any considerable time. There are the people who have no faith in Him at all, who have "given up Christianity." You would think, that as ours are free countries, these people would let those who want to be Christians alone; that they would say, "Well, let them worship Christ if they like, they can do no harm." But it is not so. They show a bitterness to Christ and Christianity that they do not show to Buddhism or any other faith. They rather boom these others as picturesque. And the reason is this; that you cannot treat Christianity as a matter of mere antiquarian interest as you can other religions and philosophies. That is a remarkable fact, but it is one. You can study the beliefs of Socrates, Plato, Confucius and all these worthies, and you can praise them, and write them up, and write a poem about one of them and call it "The Light of Asia," without ever feeling under the lightest obligation to be Buddhist, a Platonist or anything else.

The Hound of Heaven.

But not so with Jesus Christ. He is a living problem, not a dead one. "You can study all the others," as Dr. Simon, my old theological tutor, used to say, "as you can study old boots, or any old antiquarian subject." Not so with Christ. If you praise Him, or admit He lived and did and said the things accredited to Him or even a tenth of them, then the question bobs up at once, "What are you going to do about Him? If He is that, why don't you obey Him? Why not follow Him? Jesus Christ always somehow gets some hold of the conscience. He is never a mere curiosity. No. I often think of the story of an American traveller in Rome on this matter of the grip Christ has on the conscience. His companions noticed that this traveller once took off his hat, as the party passed a bust of the old god Jupiter lying on the ground. One of them said, "Whatever made you take off your hat to that old thing?" "Oh!" he said, "One never knows but what there may be something in those old religions, and it is best to be on the safe side." A man like Huxley, good man as he was, was always harking back to Christianity; giving reasons why he had given it up. Why couldn't he be done with it once for all? But men cannot. They make one think that they fear "there is something in it" after all. Christ is so great, so commanding a figure, so permanent a figure in the life of every age since He lived, that He cannot be summarily dismissed. No. They can say what they like, but it is still true, that the Gospel is "a savour of life unto life or of death unto death." It is so. He is not dead like Plato. He "ever liveth," and we know it. When a man gives up Christ, he knows that he has done a thing, fateful, final, decisive for his destiny. It is not like changing his Chinese teacher. O dear, No.

Not Peace but a Sword.

Look round to-day, and you find, that Christianity is the crux in several countries. There is Ireland. It is not race that divides the north from the south. It is that north and south take different views of many elements in the Gospel. What is the use of saying that a religion is dry, when it can divide a country as it does Ireland? There is Russia. If all or a half of the tales one reads are true, the present rulers of Russia hate the Gospel. One might have thought that they would have said, "You peasants and bishops, can stick to your faith if you like, as long as you obey our law." But it is not so. There seems to have been a bitter persecution, and hundreds have died for their faith in Christ, as readily as the first Christians did. Christ is so great, that, if people think about Him at all, they are either for Him or against Him, as He said they would be. There are the United States of America. The Americans are a busy and shrewd people. They pride themselves on not wasting time. Yet here is their country split almost in two over the Fundamentalist and Modernist controversy. Able editors, who have a fine nose for what will take the public, give it front page position. Clearly in the States the Gospel is not a "valley of dry bones." No one can say of the doctrines of the Virgin Birth, of Bibical Inspiration, of the Lord's death for sin, and His rising physically from the dead, "The States are full of bones, and, behold they are very many, and; lo, they are very dry." Indeed not. Here is, indeed, a remarkable thing, a great nation of 110,000,000 of educated people being compelled to answer the old, old, and eternally vital question, "What think ye of Christ?"

The Only True Rest.

We might pass in review the history of the Christian Church, and ask any candid mind whether that has been a "valley of dry bones." There is the story in the "Acts of Apostles." That was hardly dry for the apostles. As it has been wittily said, the finest tribute ever given to two unknown men is that given to Aristarchus and Gaius, that "they were PAUL'S companions in travel." You had to be a man to go through it preaching Christ with PAUL; they had far from a dry time, "in perils oft," and no press to take up their case. There was the conversion of the Germanic tribes by Boniface and other heroes of Christ. They did not have a dry time. Christianity has kept the world alive and compelled it to think of the greatest things, as at the time of the Reformation. No one who took part in that gigantic debate, on one side or the other, found himself bored by the DRYNESS of it. No. One thing there is, that cannot be said of the Gospel, that it is a dry bone. Indeed not. It has always been like its divine Lord. They said, "Who is this?" And there is something about Him and His message, and His personality, and His claims, and in the prodigious place He occupies in the world to-day, that will let the world have no rest until it finds its true, rest in Him.

IMPRESSIONS OF CHINA

Strong Men

By George E. Sokolsky.

Every once in a while some foreign authority on Chinese politics talks about a strong man. All of China's woes would cease were there but a man of nerve and muscle, of character and force, of despotic disposition and popular approval, who would take the helm and steer the ship. So say these authorities. Yet no such man appears on the horizon. Wu Pei-fu, Chang Tso-lin, Chi Hsieh-yuan, Feng Yu-hsiang, Sun Yat-sen, Tuan Chi-jui—where are the strong men of China? The answer perhaps is that China needs not a strong men but a virile generation of men, that China requires not a despotism in government but an articulate public interest, that the loyalty to family be—changed into a loyalty to nation. And when these things come, shall we not criticise those who are to the fore as too aggressive, as wanting in civility and as misunderstanding our motives? When there is progress, there is always dissatisfaction. The Hottentots are probably the most satisfied people on earth.

History Repeats.

"The commercial solvency of the country however is one thing and the financial solvency of the government another."—Customs Returns, 1882.

"It may be confidently asserted that China meets the whole of her obligations without any depletion of her currency, and that the Chinese buy no imports except such as can be obtained in exchange for exports. No doubt the government is hard pressed for funds, but the country grows wealthier every year.—Customs Returns, 1898.

Boxer Indemnities.

Everyone seems to have a plan for spending the Boxer Indemnity money which the United States Congress has agreed to return to China. Some would spend it for Huai River Conservancy so that 10,000,000 people may not starve. They say that they can get enough rice out of the valley to feed every Chinese in the country two months' rations of rice. They also say that ricsha coolies, bandits, beggars and other wretches come from the Kiangpei district, impoverished by the uncontrolled activities of the Huai and its affluents. Another would spend it to develop Tsing Hua College into a great research university. Still another would establish schools in China taught by Americans. Some would use it to pay China's unpaid bills to American merchants and firms. None seem to advocate using it to continue educating experts in jazz and the use of the choice phraseology of American slang.

Sun Hung-yi.

For years he withstood the call of Peking. He sat in his coolie house in Shanghai an outcast seeking for a way to unite the antagonists of Peking into a working political party. Sometimes he wandered southward to help the Great Sun in keeping China disunited. Other times he, the Small Sun, was disunited from the greater. He knew the inner workings of every provincial yamen. Often he arranged the inner workings. He knew long before Hsu Hsih-chang did, that the writer of odes would cease to be President, because he had laboured to bring that day about. His words went further than those of many of the great Tuchuns, for people will listen to the words of one who although he might have wallowed in the trough of Peking corruption, chooses voluntarily poverty, at times starvation. He has travelled to every Yangtze capital. He has talked to every Yangtze Tuchun. He has spent a fortmight of so with the Warlord at Loyang, where his most intimate friend has long been chief political adviser. They say in Peking that were he desirous, he could be Premier. But perhaps he will return to his native village to read the classics and collect coins.

Logic.

Chauffeur.—Why do you dismiss me?

Foreigner.—Your services are worthless. You cannot drive a car. You will surely kill someone if you continue driving. You know nothing about a car. You are stupid.

Chauffeur.—The foreigner is hard-hearted.

Foreigner.—But don't you understand? If you drive a car, you will surely kill a man, probably a fellow-country man. Also you will ruin the car. They should never have given you a licence.

Chauffeur.—If I knew as much as you want me to know, I would be a mandarin, not a chauffeur.

Foreigner.—But I pay you to drive and take care of a car.

Chauffeur.—The foreigner are hard-hearted. They have no mercy. Rice is dear.

THE International Women's Suffrage Alliance reports that the Governments of Norway, Sweden and Denmark are bringing before their respective Parliaments, Bills to give certain rights to women to retain their nationality on marriage to a foreigner. It is suggested that in order to avoid the difficulties caused by discrepancies in the laws of various countries, it is necessary that an International Conference should be called for the purpose of adopting an international convention on the subject.

IN opposition to the Ku Klux Klan, for which, until recently, he was "emperor," Mr. William Joseph Simmons has now incorporated at Atlanta, Georgia, the Order of the Hidden Hosts of Knights of the Flaming Sword. He announces that the new order will be "The largest detective agency in the world" whose members will bind themselves by the most solemn oath to supply to the police and President all knowledge they gather "of unlawful acts or un-American policies." Unlike the Ku Klux Klan Hidden Hosts will not wear masks, but their work will be "secret, and they will be ubiquitous" in their devotion "to pure American Protestant Gentile principles.

SHANGHAI—THE WONDER CITY OF ALL ASIA

II.—80's of Shanghai—An Inspiration to the Present Generation: The English Settlement and the French Concession: Personal Comment on Everyday Matters: Sound Advice for Upbuilding of the Port

Other Things that Strike One.

Now, let me see. I have "covered" Shanghai's cosmopolitanism, the "English" Settlement, the French Concession, the H. C. L. and H. R., and street pavements (the reader may smile, and tell me that this is merely my own mind and not in your columns). So let me say something about hotels and hotel rates, that I omitted to mention. Hotels, no doubt, are not what they were decidedly cheap. But there, again, improvement has been at work, and very few hotels are better than they were then, though the rates are also. But you are recommending the old days, because in the old days you could live cheaply in dollar and currency. It seems to me that in those days I was also in dollar and currency. It is true that in those days I was also in dollar and currency, but I was also in dollar and currency. I was also in dollar and currency. I was also in dollar and currency.

...ber brokers meekly tailing on be... ...nd somewhere, and were to ask ... a really truthful opinion on the ...ent trade of the port they would ...wer, with expletives common ... them, that things are very ... ...d.

...t is undeniably true. To ...t for it is not a difficult task, I suppose, for we know that many ... important consuming cen... are destitute of stocks, dealers ...ld be willing to buy, but internal ...itions (particularly in the Up... Yangtze and in Szechuan) are ...h as to discourage the most stout... ...rted.

...hen, if you compare the hong ...you will find that in recent ... many more firms have be... ...established here, not only mak... competition much keener but ... necessitating that trade ... divided up among a greater ...mber (unless some of them are ...g successfully to use at... ...re as a means of subsist... ...e). This is possibly an import... reason why some of the older ... who had things fairly much ... own way in the old days and ... feel the pinch of competition ... against taking a smaller share ... the trade as well as smaller pro... margins.

Shanghai's Principal Purchases.

It would be a fascinating study ... condense the figures of the port's ... and print percentages of cer... lines of trade in relation to the ...al. But it would be a herculean ...k, and when I had done it the Editor would not publish it, for probably the readers wouldn't read it. So I will improve the shining hour in other ways. At the same time I would like to pat the piece goods men on the back. Piece goods is the clinical thermometer, and piece goods men are—well, the abstract principle of Shanghai's commerce. Cotton piece goods of all sorts represent roughly 30 per cent. of the total import trade. Raw cotton and cotton yarn generally run to about a million and three quarters (haikwan taels)—in 1922, Hk. Tls. 1,632,000—to feed the 2...0 spindles that are being operated in China (while China, as ... readers will of course know, ranks third among cotton-producing countries in the world). Metals —... cobbles and shorts, plate ..., *old* iron, galvanized sheets ...r all sorts of other metal sundries —...erally run into the 20 million ... in Customs value. British and American metals men have for some time been faced with strong German and Continental competition, of course.

The remarkable growth of machinery coming into this market is naturally indicative of great industrial expansion. In 1921 machinery imported—very largely textile machinery, and this applies also to 192...—was valued at roughly 33 million taels, which was nearly maintained in 1922. In that year (to repeat the latest year for which I have figures) Great Britain beat all comers with 45 per cent.; then followed U.S.A. (25), Germany (16), and other supplying countries shared the rest.

Other important branches of the import trade of Shanghai include electrical materials and fittings, motor cars (with America in undisputed lead), analine dyes (which trade has reverted to the Germans), ker... oil, timber, paper, wines and spirits, cereals and flour, cigarettes, while an absolutely formidable list of sundries includes practically everything that Western factories produce.

Comment—Wise or Otherwise.

The above may be enlightening, or it may not be. I repeat that it is not easy to give a true bird's-eye view of a great port's general import trade in the space of a single article.

But before I close I would like to remark on the changed trading character of Shanghai during the past decade or so. On the foreign side: Many more firms have come into existence, being balanced some ... say by those who have gone ou... whose collapse in many inst... is directly traceable to a lack of appreciation of the natural difficulties of trading in China among the Chinese. Successfully to build up a constructive import trade in China, the foreigner should be possessed of capital, experienced knowledge and a temporamental fitness to deal with the people, an infinite ... of patience, great natural in... ...m to caution, and a genial ... ...sibility to meet conditions that ... never reckoned upon meeting. Many commercial funerals, mostly among American firms, have been witnessed, the cause of death being due to one or more of the causes I quote. The foreign trader was "shy" of one or more of the essential factors making for prosperous and abiding connexion with the Chinese. Therefore, I think it should be said, and it cannot be said too strongly or too often, that it does not by any means follow that a man who has been successful in any line of business at Home—*maskee* what country he comes from—must automatically succeed here.

Then on the Chinese side: I have no space to go into details here, but I will some day write up the differences that I notice in a period of 20 years. Let me say, however, that old customs are fast dying. There is a great deal of awful rot talked round the world regarding the Chinese as a whole. Thank God there are a few of the old type left, than whom there are none better, but for the essentially "new" type of Chinese businessmen who has dropped from the sky or risen up out of the earth like mushrooms during the last decade or so, one cannot write with enthusism. They are a menace to their country's commerce.

The Chinese have changed, and none of them more than those who are engaged in the business of the port, with whom foreigners are largely brought into touch. Shanghai is a great commercial city where old customs are fast giving way to new and less attractive customs, an inevitability in the march of competition which is an inherent economic factor in the world to-day.

It cannot, therefore, be said that the Shanghai importer's lot is always a serene and happy one.

THE LATE BISHOP POZZONI

Life Story of a Great Roman Catholic Ecclesiastic in China

A full and interesting account of the career of the Right Rev. D. Pozzoni, Bishop of Tavia and Vicar-Apostolic of Hongkong, who passed away at Hongkong on February 20, appears in the current number of "The Rock," the Hongkong Roman Catholic monthly journal, and reveals a singularly fine character and a most devoted and successful worker in the mission field.

Dr. Pozzoni, says this account, was born at Padermo d'Adda, in the province of Como, Milan Diocese, on December 22, 1861. He studied for the priesthood in the celebrated Foreign Missions Seminary of Milan, where he had a brilliant scholastic career, distinguishing himself especially in mathematics. The present Holy Father, Pope Pius XI, was one of his professors and never forgot his old pupil. Ordained in Milan on March 1, 1885, Dr. Pozzoni arrived in Hongkong on December 19 of the same year. During the following 20 years he laboured as a missionary in the interior. almost entirely among the Hakkas. In those days there were very few priests in this Vicarate and Father Pozzoni had to care for the three large districts of Nam Tau (now known as Po On), Kuai Shin (now, Wei Yung), and Hoifung.

Disguised as Chinese.

Anti-foreign feeling was then strong and Father Pozzoni was obliged to go about disguised as a Chinese, queue and all. Even in such a disguise he was unable to enter Waichow city except under the cover of night. He was known throughout the Mission as a a very zealous missionary, who never considered either pain or fatigue when duty or charity called him to action. It is remembered, for instance, that on one occasion he did not hesitate to go from Saikung right across Mirs Bay at night in a small sampan in order that no time should be lost in reaching one of his Chinese catechists who had been suddenly taken ill. Times without number he undertook long perilous journeys of three or four days just to succour some poor Christian in his sickness and to give him the last Sacraments of the Church: journeys, by night as well as by day, on which, on many occasions, it was with difficulty that he succeeded in persuading a Chinese servant to accompany him. He was fearless in all dangers of the Mission field. Once at Tsiung Yen Ha, in the Po On district, a dying Christian was awaiting his coming, but as all his relatives were strongly opposed to Christianity they refused to allow Father Pozzoni to visit him. They even took the sick man into the village common house and mounted a guard over him, declaring that they would kill the priest if he dared to approach. Father Pozzoni concealed himself in the vicinity until he was informed that the guardsmen were at their common meal. He then stole alone and unobserved into the house and succeeded in reaching the bedside of the dying man, administering to him the last Sacraments and escaping unhurt.

Brave Deed in Boxer Days.

On another occasion, during the Boxer troubles, although warned by Mgr. Chausse, Vicar-Apostolic of Canton, not to venture on the East River (whence all the Missionaries had been forced to retire after the Mission residence at Shek Lung had been burned down and the local missionary, Father Montanar, had escaped death only by hiding in a sugar-cane field) Father Pozzoni was unable to resist the desire to visit his Christians in Waichow city. Taking all responsibility on himself he went alone up the river to Waichow, where, on his arrival, he was immediately surrounded by a hostile crowd who asked how he dared to come there, many shouting "kill the foreign devil!" Father Pozzoni asked to be allowed to speak. "I am Father Su," he said (that was his Chinese name), "and I am well known among you. I have always tried to do good to everybody and you know it. Now who wants to kill me? Do you want to kill me?" (turning to one of the crowd). "Not I, surely," this one answered. "And you (turning to another) do you want to kill me?" "Not I, surely." "Then I am safe among my good people, am I not?" All laughed and praised him for his courage, and he remained in the city.

Father Pozzoni always lived the simple life of the very poor: indeed it frequently happened that European travellers calling at his station in the interior expressed surprise at his way of living, which was that of the poorest Chinese peasant. Whatever funds were placed at his disposal were expended in promoting missionary work, in chapels and schools, in catechists and teachers. The extension of God's Kingdom was the one end which he always kept in view: it was for that he had left home and country and all the rich prospects which had awaited him there. The extent of the success of his missionary labours can be gauged by the fact that, whereas when he first went on the Mission the Christians were but a few thousands, with four priests, the numbers had increased to 14,000 when he was consecrated Bishop: now the total is over 27,000, under the spiritual care of about 20 priests.

On the death of Mgr. Piazzoli in 1905, Father Pozzoni was elected Bishop, and was consecrated in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Hongkong, on Sunday. October 1, 1905. During the 18 years of his Episcopate Dr. Pozzoni never for a moment ceased to live up to that grand ideal of humble and faithful service which he had set for himself in the early days of his missionary labours. He was a man of remarkable piety, and inspired others with his devotion.

COMMANDERS IN THE MAKING

Or the Cruise of the Hwah Jah

From the "China Illustrated Review"

I.

It was the good ship Hwah Jah and she sailed the Eastern seas,
As a training ship for China's young cadets.
Who each thought himself a Rajah, as he sniffed the salty breeze
With the appetite that ocean soon begets.
There was Wong and there was Liu, Chang and Zee and Sun and Chiu:
There were Li's and Lo's and Ling's and sev'ral Fats.
And they sang in happy vein, as they scanned the placid main,
(With a glance at their immaculate grey spats).

Oh, we'll sail the world around: we shall camp on foreign ground.
We'll see London, Berlin, Madrid and Paree.
We may even glimpse the Turk: but we'll never, never work,
Since, in future, all commanders we're to be.

II.

They had passed a stormy week. My word, how that ship could leak!
The instructors were the ones to patch it up.
Who besought, without avail, some assistance. All the pale
Future Nelsons were too ill even to sup.
There was Wong and there was Liu, Chang and Zee and Sun and Chiu:
There were Li's and Lo's and Ling's and sev'ral Fats.
Sang in accents quite forlorn as they heard the drear fog-horn.
(And adjusted life-preservers to their spats).

Though the sky be black as ink and the ship about to sink,
We shall do naught that would lower dignity.
To avoid dangers that lurk, we're not called upon to work,
Since, in future, all commanders we're to be.

III.

When the bunker coal gave out, they preserved a courage stout
As they watched the captain split up kindling wood.
When besought that they'd assist, each appeal they would resist:
But encouraged their instructors with "That's good!"
There was Wong and there was Liu, Chang and Zee and Sun and Chiu:
There was Li's and Lo's and Ling's and sev'ral Fats.
Raised once more a happy song with the boilers strong,
(And they'd found they still possessed their precious spats).

Oh, we'll sail the world around, if we do not run aground.
Guatemala and the Argentine we'll see.
Still we'll regularly burk any tendency to work,
Since, in future, all commanders we're to be.

VI.

When at length they got ashore after thirty days or more
Of disaster and of mishap on the deep,
Scarce their feet had touched the land, they proceeded, as a band,
To the army without losing any sleep.
There was Wonfi and there was Liu, Chang and Zee and Sun and Chiu:
There were Li's and Lo's and Ling's and sev'ral Fats:
And they sang, as they salaamed to the General (who was charmed
As he gazed on their immaculate gray spats).

Hai yah! Here, upon the ground, we shall henceforth each be found.
Let the foreign devils dominate the sea.
Here we'll never need to toil: yet receive our share of spoil.
Since, in future, all commanders we're to be.

R. R. L. F.

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SHANGHAI TIENTSIN

THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

When Lord Darling's volume entitled "On the Oxford Circuit and other Verses" appeared in July, 1909, a second edition was called for in the same month. Hitherto his busy life has prevented the appearance of a new edition, but in the leisure of his retirement he has been persuaded to prepare a third edition, and this will shortly be published by Mr. Murray. The book will contain all the old poems, and a nearly equal number of new ones—grave and gay, as becomes the author of "Seria Ludo."

∴

The boom in Herman Melville is not so lively as it was a year ago, when an enterprising English critic discovered that there was a story called "Moby Dick." It still holds a certain sway, however, and it may get a little impetus from the fact that a hitherto unpublished novel by Melville is appearing with Constable, "Billy Budd." He was an ordinary seaman of about the time of Nelson, and we get a very complete portrait of him as a sailor, as a man, and as a fellow to whom the life adventurous came in full measure.

∴

Floods of tears have flowed in all countries over the pathetic death of Dumas *fils'* heroine, "the Lady of the Camelias." Who could refuse his tears when Sarah Bernhardt was calling for them with her golden voice? And those who wept for her were, whether they knew it or not, weeping for a real woman, who once had Paris at her feet. Marguerite Gautier, as Dumas tells us in his preface to the play, was Alphonsine Plessis, who took the liberty of calling herself Marie Duplessis because that name had a more aristocratic ring. That sale of her effects, with which the novel opens, was a real Parisian event. Copies of the catalogue still exist; and there is a monument to her memory in a Montmartre cemetery. Men and women of sentiment laid flowers on it only a few weeks ago, on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of her birth.

∴

Count Leon L. Tolstoi, the son who sympathized with his father to the extent of accepting his doctrines and endeavouring to work them out in practice, has written a work called "The Truth About my Father" which promises to throw much light upon, and to clear up several doubts as to the purposes and character of one of the world's greatest men. The book, which is to come from Mr. Murray, will contain many intimate revelations as to Tolstoi's aspirations and achievements, his relations with his wife, his family life, friends, studies, his discussions and his disagreements.

∴

We have been thinking of Singapore in terms of the great naval establishment which it has been proposed to create there. A Chinese, who is a graduate and LL.D. of Cambridge, Mr. Song Ong-siang, thinks of it differently in a book that John Murray has published, "One Hundred Years' History of the Chinese in Singapore, 1819-1919." It is a chronological history, beginning with the foundation of the Chinese Settlement and coming down to our own day. It gives sketches of the lives, pursuits, activities and fortunes of the Chinese residents in Singapore, and generally has a human and interesting story to tell.

∴

Last month witnessed the celebrations of the centenary of the death of Byron and, very appropriately, Mr. Murray announced the immediate publication of Mr. Harold Spender's book on "Byron and Greece." This will contain a large amount of new material relating to Byron's life-long attachment to Greece, and will present for the first time a complete collection of the poet's writings on the subject of Greece, including all the racy letters he wrote from the Near East. It will also tell the full story of the burning of Byron's memoirs and there will be a special chapter dealing with the incident—which has not been fully described before—of the taking of the Greek Marbles from Athens by the Earl of Elgin which elicited the famous "Curse of Minerva."

"THE KING'S TREASURIES"

A hundred and fifteen volumes have now been issued in the compact and attractive "King's Treasuries" series, published by J. M. Dent and Sons. Under the editorship of Sir A. T. Quiller-Couch, the selections have been made with unimpeachable taste and discretion, and the latest volumes again go well beyond the stereotyped range of anthology. Who would not desire to add to his bookshelves such desirable "bedside books" as Mr. N. G. Brett-James's collection of "Modern Essays" (Birrell, Gosse, Belloc, Chesterton, etc.); or Mr. Belloc's brilliant essay in constructive imagination, "The Eye-Witness" (which deals with historical events from the point of view of a contemporary)? A volume of special interest is the set of "Plays Before Shakespeare," compiled by Mr. Evelyn Smith, which includes "The Pageant of Noah's Flood" and other moralities, and Lyly's "Campaspe" and Marlowe's "Dr. Faustus" as representing Shakespeare's immediate predecessors in comedy and tragedy. A collection of Norwegian tales from Hans Aanrud and half-a-dozen plays (suitable for school acting) by Constance d'Arcy Mackay, under the title of "The Beau of Bath" help to keep up the reputation of "The King's Treasuries" for getting off the beaten track.

Old friends are also to be found—"Bacon's Essays and Other Writings," "Some English Diarists," "Pages from the Latin Authors," and anthologies of Keats and Shelley and "Lighter Verse"—all very pleasant to handle and competently edited and annotated. The price is now reduced to 1s. 6d. a volume.

THE INDEFATIGABLE FARINGTON

Intimate Glimpses of Famous People.

The third volume of the Farington Diary (1804-1806), by Joseph Farington, R.A. (published by Messrs. Hutchinson, £1 1s.), gives us, among a great deal of matter of no great public interest, a number of more or less intimate glimpses of some of the people of the period: Nelson and Pitt, Sheridan and the Young Roscius, and Daniel Lambert, the Fat Man.

Farington tells us little new about Nelson's death at Trafalgar; but those who are interested not only in what comes out of the mouths of great men, but extend their curiosity to what goes in will no doubt be thrilled to know that while Nelson did not appear to be in very good health just before the action,

"He eat and drank with seeming appetite, but eat chiefly at dinner *Macaroni*, which showed that his appetite required some artificial stimulus."

There is here a fine contempt for foreign kickshaws, fit only to tempt the appetite that quailed before British beef and beer.

A still more spicy bit of gossip of the same sort reached Farington through Heath, the engraver, who, after dining with Sheridan, reported that:

> Sheridan drinks port wine out of large glasses, that he never tastes malt liquor, and drinks very little water, but at dinner drinks wine profusely, and afterwards continues to do the same all the time he sits in company. He fills his glass to the top, and does not sip it, but throws it down his throat at once. He drinks from three to six bottles a day.

After this, it is really not surprising to hear that Sheridan's appetite, too, needed tempting: that "he only picks bits or takes a grill," or that "his face is much disfigured by this mode of life, and his legs swell."

Nor is it surprising that Daniel Lambert, the big man, whom Farington saw at a house in Piccadilly, had a "heavy look" in his countenance—though, not, the diarist adds, an unhealthy one.

Lambert at that time was 36 years old and weighed more than 50st. He declared to Farington that his appetite was only a common one; but "on the whole his appearance gave me pain," which, as his legs and thighs were without form, being "rolls of flesh indented," and his feet hardly to be seen, is scarcely to be wondered at.

The Cost of Living.

We grumble to-day at the cost of living, and ruefully compare the butcher's book and the restaurant bill with those of 1914. They were doing the same thing in 1806.

Farington noted, on August 20 of that year, that when Nixon, R.A., came to visit him they talked, not of art, but of "the difference of Coffee House expences now compared with what they were in the year 1770." Then a meal at Slaughter's Coffee House, St. Martin's-lane, which included three mutton chops, potatoes and butter, bread and a pint of porter, cost only 1s. 2½d. Those good old days!

In 1806 a mere cut from the joint (lamb), a pint of porter, and a slice of bread, taken at the Percy Coffee House, Rathbone-place, Oxford-street, cost three and sevenpence!

There is, naturally, much talk of artists of the period; and Farington records his opinion that Turner's picture of The Battle of Trafalgar was "a very crude, unfinished performance, the figures miserably bad."

Such scraps are amusing when found, but they take a lot of finding; and one questions whether interest in the diary will survive the publication of the five more volumes projected.

LORD DARLING'S VERSES

"On the Oxford Circuit, and Other Verses." By Charles Darling (Lord Darling, of Langham). (Murray. 6s.)

Lord Darling's verses have had a vogue of their own for 30 (or is it 40?) years. They have always had the special attraction of the writer who knows his own *metier* to a nicety, never strays from it, and spares no effort to attain its highest qualities, (says the "Observer"). In the present volume we have a collection of *vers de societe* first published 15 years ago, and now replenished with some additions in a graver mood. These years have not been propitious to the lighter lyre. The careless rapture of the Edwardian prime has not returned, and our poets must be serious or nothing. The later numbers of Lord Darling touch the chords of strife and bereavement, but in Stoic mood. He is a Jack Point who can sting. The lines beginning, "Oh, spare our happy German homes!" are as finished in mordancy as anything in the "Anti-Jacobin," and those on the Hindenburg Line have the true genius of classic epigram.

There is no better criterion of taste than the power to parody without profanation. Lord Darling challenges it without scathe in such a piece as "The Flowers of New Forest":—

> Near Lyndhurst they spied thee—
> they cut thee, they dried thee—
> The flowers of the Forest are all
> stolen away.

"On the Oxford Circuit" is worth the attention of all who have ever considered the intractability of the English hexameter: its slow beat just allows time for the fatal smile to break in, and Lord Darling's use of it convinces one more than ever of its function as the predestined servant of whimsicality. "Little endures—Have a cigarette?" is good modernity for *aeyuan servare mentem*. And when the book closes on a personal note, it is pithy, clear, and quaverless:—

> Mantle and stole laid by, and cap
> of doom;
> Bereft, alone, I wear no ermine
> more;
> Nor judge—yet one Assize
> I, fearful, must attend.

THIS SAD OLD WORLD

"The Dream." By H. G. Wells. (Cape, 7s. 6d.)

Mr. Wells is once again giving the world a dressing-down — this "frowsy old germ-saturated world." He is once more scarifying its religion, its education, its tenacity of tradition, its disregard of science and its reluctance to organize itself. Once more does he attempt to demonstrate how cramping our code of sex is to choice spirits. It is a world of "muddle and wretchedness," and his story is "a story of love crossed, imaginations like flies that have fallen into gum, things withheld and things forbidden. And all for nothing. All for pride and spite."

All very sad, and yet a nice, bright book, illustrating Dr. Bain's remark that "Art is Nature freed from the painful." This evasion of depression is possibly aided by the author's new device for getting perspective. In a very recent romance he portrayed our frail humanity from the spy-hole of a fourth dimension. This time he takes us to a world two thousand years ahead, where someone dreams in an hour a whole twentieth-century existence and retells it to his companions. They are not deftly manoeuvred, these heirs of futurity, with their "bare, strong bodies," their freedom from sex-jealousy and their intellectual emancipation. So poorly are they dramatised that it is difficult, in following their dialogue, to "tell t'other from which." But they do help passively to dramatise Mr. Wells as a critic of existence and also to give the anodyne of detachement to his picture of squalor and entanglement.

It is the grim, lower middle-class under-world of "Tono-Bungay" and "Mr. Polly," traversed once more, with a heightening of selective vision, a better sense of character and a more subtle balance of narrative. It is a common objection to Mr. Wells's later novels that nearly all their figures elude the memory, and that more of the books themselves fade into leaflets of free-love propaganda. But one seems to discern a better expectation of life here in some of Henry Mortimer Smith's family circle. Not so much in his beautiful sister Fanny, who goes away to be a newspaper magnate's mistress and lives happily ever after, as in her overwrought mother, whose sense of the fitness of things is sincerely outraged when she finds that Fanny has not "reaped as she has sown." This poor mother, in whom Mr. Wells diagnoses a strong touch of vindictive trade unionism in morals, is a masterly portrait of human goodness warped by constriction, squeezed dry of imagination and generosity, and reduced to tough unlovely fibre. Nothing is spared in restraint or finish, and if she has not the sublimation of Mr. Hardy's women, there is the same effect of pity enhanced by detachment. The father, too, a struggling greengrocer, with his voluble interest in Providence and its "lessons," and his insecure commercial morality, stands well out in the round, as does Uncle John Julip, the dishonest head gardener, and Matilda Good, graduate in all the lore of London landladies.

Such part of the plot as hinges upon passion will have no surprises for the habitual reader of Mr. Wells, but all will enjoy the raciness of an iconoclasm that shows no staleness in what must be something like its twentieth innings. It is all but free from the blemishes of exaggeration, and rich in the varied resources of intellectual caricature. — The "Observer."

MR. BRETT YOUNG

"Woodsmoke." By F. Brett Young. (Collins. 7s. 6d.)

It is less by breaking new ground than by working over again familiar materials to which his hand is disciplined, that Mr. Brett Young has achieved this entertaining story. Entertainment is distinctly its impulse: there is no sense of creation as in those other African studies of "The Crescent Moon" and "Pilgrim's Rest." One of the figures—the neurotic Rawley—is repulsive enough and in a sense tragic, but since we know from the outset that the tragedy is to fall mainly upon his own head, that does not disturb the reader's serenity. And, talking of what is known from the outset, one would like to protest against a publisher's jacket whose picture takes the edge off the story's crisis by showing how that crisis is to be approached.

The attractive, but self-disciplined woman, the pitiful and half-demented husband, and the chilvalrous soldier—it is only the accomplished novelist who would venture to build his theme upon such a very conventional "triangle." But the treatment never becomes otiose, nor is interest slackened by recollection of the very similar situation in Mr. Masefield's "Captain Margaret." Mrs. Rawley, as the "tragic bride," is invested with poetry as well as charm: Captain Antrim, moving unconsciously under the stimulus of sex attraction, is true to the naivete of his type; and Rawley drees his weird with all dramatic propriety. The ghost business at the end is rather gratuitously sprung upon the reader—and ghosts that are not seen but smelt are a variety which ought to be sternly discouraged.

M. POINCARE'S PERSONALITY

M. POINCARE. A Biographical Portrait. By Sisley Huddleston. Fisher Unwin. 7s. 6d. net.

Mr. Huddleston's appreciation of M. Poincaré is judicious and well-informed. He has had exceptional opportunities for forming a judgment concerning the French statesman, for he has been [illegible] practically since the Armistice, and as a keen journalist, has [illegible] and often reported many of the conferences which have been held in a vain attempt to reach some understanding concerning reparations and inter-Allied indebtedness. And this book will be cordially welcomed by the friends of France in Great Britain, for it removes many misconceptions, the principal of which is that M. Poincaré, in his foreign policy, does not represent France, and also places in a sympathetic light a statesman who is not regarded very sympathetically in Great Britain. For M. Poincaré, unlike M. Clemenceau, lacks those qualities which have made "the Tiger" a popular and lovable figure in England. He is essentially a Puritan; and Englishmen, who have so many Puritans in their own country, prefer to find in a Frenchman *panache* and something akin to romance. There is something just a little forbidding in the austere, methodical, industrious Lorrainer. M. Poincaré is at the Quai d'Orsay by eight in the morning, and often stays there until eight in the evening. He regulates his day so precisely that his chauffeur gets his time-table written in M. Poincaré's own hand, from which there is never any deviation. He writes nearly all his own documents and has almost a schoolmaster's passion for the right word and the proper punctuation. When he goes to his Lorraine country house at Sampigny, he goes by train rather than by motor-car, for he says he can work better in the train. He is incorruptible and loaths nepotism. His speeches are in a way models of their kind, but he secures his main effects by what Mr. Huddleston calls his "damnable iteration." His memory is prodigious, and, having prepared a speech, he never departs from it. These are admirable qualities, but they do not turn him into a popular idol. However, M. Poincaré is probably at heart a very emotional man. Mr. Huddleston gives more than one instance, and we also remember the very touching itinerary he made in his beloved Lorraine when that which had been lost was again found.

Englishmen, particularly those who have come into touch with him officially, have two things to say about him—one a compliment, the other a criticism. They all admire his honesty—even those who detest him the most fiercely. M. Poincaré's honesty is one of the assets of Europe, and in the City of London to-day it is remarkable how those most opposed to his Ruhr policy are anxious for him to remain in power, until the reports of the Committees appointed by the Reparations Commission have been published and considered by the respective Governments. "We know where we are with him, at any rate," is official England's verdict concerning the French statesman. The criticism is that M. Poincaré, like so many lawyers, lacks that dramatic sense, that instinctive use of a gesture, that subtle appeal to the imagination, that gift of the unexpected touch, which differentiates the statesman from the official. There, again, leaps forth the Puritan's instinctive distrust of the heart and of an appeal to its emotions. Mr. Huddleston gives one instance. When the Germans ceased passive resistance, then there was the opportunity for a magnificent gesture. M. Clemenceau and M. Briand would have made it. But nothing happened. Again we might mention the issue of the famous Baldwin *communique*. If M. Poincaré had followed it up by determined negotiations and kept Mr. Boldwin a willing prisoner in Paris, we might have had a settlement last year. We have heard that a defect of the French lawyer is a tendency to temporise. Contrary to the general belief that M. Poincaré is a man of precipitate action, we seem to detect this failing in much of his policy. But, taking him as a whole, M. Poincaré is a man of whom France has every reason to be proud. He is a patriot first and a Puritan afterwards, and behind all his preciseness there burns the passion which has made his country great.—The "Morning Post."

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

...S OF A MARRIAGE

...Telephone and ...ervised.

...been married old ... Well, I wouldn't be ... Not if you have to ... pieces on any... that included in the lay... Well I should say ... my buddie and no... sort him but matrimony ...ntent with getting mar... himself, he must drag all his ... it with a bally procession ...dle. You'd think a man would care more about his best ... than to let him in for a ... like that, wouldn't you? But ... the poor moonsick calf can say ... "she wants a picturesque ... and anything she wants, go...

Let in for It

... wanted a really pictures... ...ding I'll say she might have ... than to have picked him for ... bridegroom, but the rest of us will do all we can to provide the ... pulchritude. When he ... and I know the ropes for ... top-hole affair of course I ... carelessly that no cere... was considered really legal, not to mention good form, if I ... there to sanction. Where... upon he says: "That's good. You ... with me up in the proper cut ... collar and the sort of cuff ... to wear, for I've no time for ... details, important as they are ...

...orning isn't it? He'll be ex... me to line up his clothes ... him, and for all the blinking ushers. I'll have to produce the ... out of my pocket, as brisk as the conjurer pulls out the guinea pig from the silk hat. Likely I'll ... to buy the gifts for the wed... party. O a best man's lot is not an easy one!

Ah, that's good. Boy, catch two ... of the same, chop chop. Now look here, will you? See this pile of ... and Illustrated Pictorials and Vogues and what-nots I nip... from my sisters and sneaked off ... Do you suppose their ... editors tell you anything about what a well-dressed man should wear to his own wedding? Not a word. Here's page upon page of brides, and almost as much for the maids of honour and brides... and pictures, but the only ... to the man in a long article on the Period Wedding, whatever that may be, is—"The ... black of the groom's clothes."

Why the Bridegroom?

I don't see why they can't leave ... men out of it altogether, or ... can't they have a nice informal ... with the men in white ... trousers and blue coats, not to mention soft shirts? But no. ... debates of hours as to the proper amount of stripe in the ... grey trousers, and I ... if the groom wore the ... studs his bride would leave ... at the altar. I wish to heaven ... notes on the last function ... in, but that's out of ... by this time.

... that I'd mind so much, if ... all this rowing about the ... waistcoat and the ... style of spats we got any ... for making ourselves ... But will the society ... tell how Reginald Brewster ..., Esq., looked charming in ... black frock coat, in the ... label of which nestled a ... gardenia? No, drat it, they will hardly remember to print our ...

The bridesmaids? O Boy, now ... talking. I don't mind say... ... if it wasn't for one of ... I never would go on with ... Now, do you think pearl ... or onyx —?"

"Suit"—able.

... "A new suit, sir; yes, ... colour, sir?"

... "Any old colour as ... powder won't show."

BONNY BABIES

Shanghai's British Babies Invited to Compete.

... Baby ... Council, 117, Piccadilly, London, W.1, ... shall be ... to give any further information ... Competitors desiring to ... photographs must send ... addressed envelope.

... Majesty the Queen is Pa... of the Council, the Prince ... Wales is President, the Viscount ..., Chairman, and the Vi... Burnham, J.P., Vice-Chairman.

NINTH BIRTHDAY

Shanghai Branch of the W.C.T.U.

The annual meeting of the local branch of the Women's Christian Temperance Union was held on May 10 at McTyeire School hall as speeder of the day Dr. George Huntley who

THE TRIMMED CLOCHE

presented "Modern Facts About Alcohol" pointing out the change in the world's attitude, as evidenced by the fact that prohibition exists already in Persia, Arabia, Turkey, and parts of Canada as well as in the U.S.A. Dr. Huntley stated that physicians no longer regarded alcohol valuable as a stimulant, as a sustaining factor or as a means of nourishment, since it simply afforded temporary relief by diminishing the sensibility of the brain and nervous system. The speaker said in part: "Sir Frederick Treves, for example, when with the British troops at the relief of Ladysmith, found that the alcohol drinkers were the first to drop. In expeditions to the North or South Poles the use of alchool is not permitted.

"Baron von Liebig, the German chemist, says that to get as much food value as five pounds of bread contain, one must drink 73 gallons of beer, moreover, vitamines are destroyed by fermentation. Wounds heal more slowly in a patient who takes alcohol and pneumonia patients who have been habitual drinkers have smaller chances of recovery.

"As a matter of revenue, the returns from liquor licenses are more than used up in supporting criminals who have become such through drink, inmates of insane asylums or other dependents. Employers recognize the extra efficiency of total abstainers. Out of 1,000 serious accidents 57 per cent. happen to habitual drinkers and 19 per cent. to the average worker. Prohibition is no more an enfringement of personal liberty than legislation against the use of drugs."

THE APPEALING POKE BONNET

cial purposes. The Imperial Judging Committee in London will be composed of doctors, artists, well-known women interested in Infant Welfare Work, and representatives of the Dominions. The committee will select a Short List of competitors (probably six) in each class, from which the winning competitor in each class will be selected. To the winning competitor in each class a 1st prize will be awarded; the other competitors on the Short List will each receive a consolation prize. Steps will next be taken by the Judges to determine the Champion Baby, to whom an additional prize will be awarded.

Dominions, Colonies and Protectorates.

As far as possible the organization of sub-competitions is proceeding in the Dominions. Through these sub-competitions prizes will be competed for by Dominion babies only. The results of the competitions will be announced, and the prizes presented to the winners of their districts, during Imperial Baby Week, July 28 to 31, at the British Empire Exhibition. Entries from Overseas should reach the National Baby Week Council not later than June 25 1924. The Secretary, National

MUSIC AND HEALTH

Views of an Erstwhile Glasgow Student

Many Glasgow people are talking with interest of Dr. Agnes Savill's views concerning the effects of music on health and character.

Readers will be interested to know that Dr. Savill (who was before her marriage Dr. Agnes Blackadder) was a medical student in Glasgow over 20 years ago.

Glasgow is eminently a musical centre, and the consensus of opinion with regard to Dr. Savill's work is that music has undoubtedly a very real physical and psychical effect on health.

A Convert

Dr. Savill is a convert in that she started life with a distaste for music and what was almost a dislike of musicians. Reared in a typical Scottish and therefore austere environment where scales and musical exercises were a compulsory part of education, Dr. Savill, in common with many boys and girls, missed the spirit and meaning and message of music. Rhythm, expression, and even melody meant nothing to her except a confused medley of sound or "noise," so that, as doctor and musical expert, her present conclusions are irrefutable.

This is what she says:—"All music is a healing agency. The lighter forms uplift the mind from despondency; the greater music gives a message similar to what philosophy or religion imparts.

Music is comparable, she says, to the philosophical teaching of the late Sir Henry Jones, whose ... contained in many ... Caird Hall, which ... Glasgow, ...

A Message of Hope

(2) There ... a real ... It ... an inspired message of hope and courage, and ... to the ... is extremely ... any ... mind teacher of human ... Curiously, but ... ...

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

Per H.S.L.S Hindenburg ....May 25
Per A.O.L.S. Pre. Jackson .. „ 25
Per H.A.L.S. Preussen .... .. „ 26
Per M.M.S. Chantilly .. .. „ 29
Per N.Y.K.S. Havre Maru „ 31
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia June 1

OUTWARD

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON, ETC.—
Per P. & O. S. Khiva .....May 27
Per H.A.L.S. Saarland .. .. „ 27
Per O.S.K.S. Andes Maru .. „ 26
Per N.Y.K.S. Kashima Maru.. „ 30
Per H.A.L.S. Saarland .....June 2

FOR JAPAN, CANADA, U.S.A. & EUROPE:—
Per P.M.S. Pres. Pierce ....May 24
Per T.K.K.S. Taiyo Maru .. „ 25
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. McKinley.. „ 30
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Russia „ 31
Per T.K.K.S. Tenyo Maru.. „ 31
Per O.S.K.S. Manila Maru..June 3
Per P.M.S. Pres. Wilson .. 7
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jackson .. „ 11

FOR MANILA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND VIA HONGKONG:—
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jackson ..May 26
Per P. & O. S. Khiva ..... „ 27
Per N.Y.K.S. Kashima Maru.. „ 30

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per str. Kiangteen, May 16. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Portway.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 16. From Ningpo Mr. and Mrs. Fitszimons and two children, Mr. Monzo.

Per str. Szechuen, May 16. From Hongkong and Swatow. Mrs. R. K. Duncan, Mr. A. Dodd, Mr. A. Jenkins.

Per str. Woosung, May 16. From River Ports. Miss S. Smith, Mr. S. D. Gilbert and party, Mr. T. F. Drysdale.

Per N. Y. K. S. Yokohama Maru, May 16. From Japan. Miss S. A. Rehnborg, Mr. J. M. Major.

Per N. Y. K. S. Shidzuoka Maru, May 17. From Japan. [illegible] Miss E. Toole, [illegible] A. Arthur, Mrs [illegible] Simian and child.

Per str. Luchow, May 17. From Hongkong. Mr. [illegible]arton.

Per str. Haean, May 17. From Foochow. Miss [illegible] ryt, Mr. Y. [illegible]

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, May 17. From Ningpo. [illegible] Mrs. H. [illegible]

Per str. [illegible] River Ports. Mr. [illegible] G. Seabdi, Mrs. A. Terrible.

Per str. Kiangshun, May 17. From River Ports. Mr. Reeds, Mr. Sawyer.

Per str. Luenho, May 17. From River Ports. Miss Lyborger, Rev. C. B. [illegible] children, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Charlton and two children, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Carroll, Mr. Y. Ross Young, Miss Holt, Mrs. A. Winchester, Miss Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Irish and four children, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Cornish.

Per R.M.S. Empress of Russia, May 17. From Vancouver, etc. Mr. H. Aust, Mr. W. Axelrod, Mrs. M. E. Bellamy, Mrs. H. Brinberg, Mr. G. Diestel, Mr. G. Glatzel, Mr. L. Weil, Mr. L. G. Jupp, Mr. R. M. Marshall, Mrs. M. McKenny, Miss M. McKenny, Mr. D. Mullen, Mr. K. L. Rozendaal, Mr. L. T. Snyder, Madame W. Milshanoff, M. M. Stark, Mr. A. Van Der Werth, Mr. C. T. Hauss, Mrs. C. Holland, Mr. G. Offord, Mr. A. C. Lofts, Mr. W. McLean, Mr. J. Holdsworth, Mr. F. Anderson, Miss E. A. Bradford, Mr. E. Bergman, Mrs. M. Parrish, Mr. T. D Sandeen, Mrs. C. Shizuka, Master J. Shizuka, Mr. G. Ronconi, Mr. Nicholas.

Per str. Wuchang, May 18. From River Ports. Mr. H. A. Gray.

Per str. Hsin Ningshao, May 18. From Ningpo. Mr. E. N. Remedios.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 18. From Ningpo. Mr. Jewell, Mr. Maronolo.

Per str. Kiangyu, May 18. From River Ports. Bishop Beloth, Dr. Douglas, Miss Thomlinson, Mr. Robert.

Per str. Tungchow, May 18. From Tientsin. Miss Stalk, Mr. and Mrs. Samarcq and five children, Mrs. J. Johnstone, Mr. W. H. Crafter, Mr. Y. Yanida.

Per str. Kaiping, May 18. From Chinwangtao. Mr. and Mrs. Liebreich and daughter, Mrs W. B. Chilton.

Per str. Poyang, May 19, From River Ports. Mr. Boisseson, Rev. and Mrs. Maslin and child, Masters P. Maslin (2), Miss M. Maslin, Mr. and Mrs. B. Reiss, Mr. G. Gandibert.

Per str. Kungwo, May 18. From River Ports. Dr. and Mrs. H. Fowler, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Mullet and two children, Mr. and Mrs. J. Pratt and child, Mrs. C. S. Gilliland, Mr. and Mrs. Luff, Misses Lacy, Brown, H. Rose, H. Reger, H. S. Robertson, [illegible] A. J. Morrison, T. J. Engstrom.

Per str. Kianghsin, May 19. From River Ports. Mr. M. Robert, Mrs. W. Crosbie.

Per str. Ningshao, May 19. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. A. Ross, Miss A. Wilson.

Per str. Sinkiang, May 19. From Amoy and Hongkong. Capt. Hope, Mr. E. Jones, Mr. Anderson.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, May 20. From Ningpo. Misses Honey, Cressy, [illegible] Mr. and Mrs. Carey, [illegible]

Per str. Kiangwah, May 20. From River Ports. [illegible] Miss [illegible] ryt, Mr. Y. [illegible]

Per R.D.S. President Harrison, May 20. From San Francisco, etc. Mr. [illegible] Wood, Miss E. Haber, Mr. J. E. [illegible] mark, Mr. McI. C. Graham, Mr. [illegible] Yarrow, Miss A. Mayneld, Miss [illegible] [illegible] Mr. [illegible] Mr. [illegible] Mr.

The North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT AND CONSULAR GAZETTE

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WOMAN'S PAGE 359

Speaking recently in Moscow of the assault by a Chinese soldier on Mr. Campbell on the city wall of Peking, M. Trotzky, the eminent Bolshevist, declared that he "could not refrain from saying loudly, on behalf of all of us to this Peking soldier, 'Moscow's proletariat are with you heart and soul.'"

THE CABAL AGAINST WU PEI-FU

All the Profiteers of Republicanism United in Resisting the Strong Man: Only President Tsao Firmly on His Side

FROM RODNEY GILBERT.

Peking, May 23.

There has been much talk here lately of an organization among the militarists and the Tientsin politicians to eliminate Wu Pei-fu. The local press, both Chinese and foreign, has been making much of this as though it were news. Anyone who has followed Chinese affairs for the past five years knows that there is no leader in the Chihli party who has not been praying for Wu Pei-fu's downfall from the time that he first emerged from Hunan and obscurity. The Loyang chief has his shortcomings, as everyone knows, but he does have qualities which lift him above the vast majority of his official contemporaries in this country and which sometimes threaten to carry him into a position of supreme centralized authority. The establishment of any man in a position of supreme centralized authority in China would ill suit the purpose of the vast horde of persons who wear titles and medals in the name of the unhappy Republic. When Dr. Sun Yat-sen's death was rumoured throughout the North, the first idea that popped into every official mind was that Wu Pei-fu was master of China; and so it happens that the strenuous anti-Wu prapaganda which has been filling the papers came immediately on the heels of the report of Dr. Sun's demise.

The reported movement against Wu Pei-fu is not so much an anti-Wu movement as it is an anti-master movement. The politicians do not want a boss. The militarists do not want a commander-in-chief. None of them wants reunification if reunification means anything like Government. There is only one high political figure in all China who is willing to see Wu Pei-fu in supreme command, and this is because he is absolutely sure that no matter how high Wu rises he will always be one grade higher. This person is President Tsao Kun. It is for this same good reason that, while the President allows his relatives and subordinates to play about and amuse themselves and make great profit out of the maladministration of public affairs, when Wu Pei-fu awakes and takes an interest in some particular situation and says "No!", President Tsao Kun ignores the relatives and servants who farm him and echoes a most decided "No!"

Nanhing Tuchun's Misgivings.

It is said here that Ching Hsieh-yuan, Wang Cheng-ping and Feng Yu-hsiang have entered into an alliance to do away with Wu Pei-fu politically. There is probably much truth in the statement that this league is now particularly active. Their activity, however, is not prompted by a new thought but is inspired by panic. All of these worthies have reached a position in which they are entitled to cherish ambitions. If Wu Pei-fu, who appears to have a good many years to live, is going to be dictator of China and put all of them in their places, these gentlemen are going to enjoy none of the fruits of Li Yuan-hung's eviction and Tsao Kun's election, which have already cost them much in both cash and contumely.

In Chi Hsieh-yuan's domain Wu Pei-fu supports Tsai Cheng-hsun, Tuchun of Kiangsi (which is not to his credit) and runs the province to suit himself, although Chi is supposed to be Inspector General of Kiangsu, Anhui and Kiangsi. Wu also negotiates with Lu Yung-hsiang and other dangerous neighbours without consulting Chi. In Shantung, Wu has invaded the territory of Tsao Kun's former chief of staff, Hsiung Ping-chi, and has incommoded every Tientsin and Paoting man who is close to the President by putting his own agents over the returned German properties in which these worthies were interested through Chang Chih-tan, Chin Yun-peng and Pan Fu. In Fukien he still controls the situation in spite of Chih Hsieh-yuan and Tu Shih-kuei. And finally in Chihli party against Wu coincided commissioner in Tientsin under Wang Ch'eng-pin's nose and has very nearly succeeded in taking the latter's 23rd Division away from him. In spite of the fact that the cordially denounced Wang Yu-chih and Li An-ching, who are the closest of all persons to the President, are the pledged patrons of these various provincial chiefs who would like to do away with Wu Pei-fu, they are forced to observe that when Wu really wants something (as in the Tsingtao case) he gets it.

It must also be remarked, if the general public has not noticed it, that in China proper there are only two counties palatine in which Wu Pei-fu's writ does not run, namely Kuangtung and Yunnan. The revived activity of the combine in the Chihli partyt against Wu coincided with the report of Sun Yat-sen's death. If this had been verified China would have been united under Wu Pei-fu in less than a year and Manchuria would have come to a working understanding, not with Peking as dominated by the Tientsin and Paoting cliques, but with Tsao Kun as dominated by Wu Pei-fu. This same report of Dr. Sun's death accounts also, therefore, for the revived interest which both the Tientsin conspirators and Chang Tso-lin are showing in a peace agreement

The Party's Main Prop.

It is doubtful whether Chi Hsieh-yuan, Wang Cheng-ping and Feng Yu-hsiang really want to do away with Wu Pei-fu altogether. They know as well as the President does that Wu is the mainstay of the whole Chihli organization, that he commands respect because of his personal honesty, and that he can always be trusted to fight as none of them can fight when fighting is required. They know as well as Tsao Kun that if Wu Pei-fu were really eliminated they and the President would have either Tuan Chi-jui or Chang Tso-lin down upon them in a trice and that the Chihli party would be crushed like a persimmon under a cart wheel. They do not really want to lose Wu, but they are sincerely devoted to the task of dragging him down to their level. They want him in the position where he too will have to deal with Tsao Kun through Wang Yu-chih and Li An-ching.

PEKING'S SUPREME COURT

Complications with Regard the Appointment of a Chief Justice

JUDGE YU UNPOPULAR

Peking, May 25.

The demand of the Senate for the nomination of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to be submitted to that House for confirmation appears to be leading to further complications as the question develops. There is reason to believe that the Senate does not care very much who is appointed as long as its demand is granted. Official circles, believe, however, that Judge Yu is not popular in Parliamentary circles and there is no doubt that the Cabinet fears that if his name were put forward he would be rejected. The consequence is that the Government has not taken the natural step of submitting to Parliament the name of the present Taili Chief Justice, Mr. Yu Chong-chi.

The Senate's interpretation of the Constitution on this matter, that although Judge Yu was appointed prior to the promulgation of the Constitution his position as Chief Justice required the endorsement of Parliament when the Constitution came into force, is not being seriously contested by the Cabinet. It, therefore, has to choose between nominating Judge Yu or someone else for the substantive post.

According to unofficial Chinese reports the course decided upon shirks the issue, for it is said that the Cabinet will submit the name of Dr. Wang Chung-huai, and if his nomination is passed Judge Yu will carry on the duties of Chief Justice in an acting capacity. If this plan is adopted, Parliamentary circles expect that the Senate will reject Dr. Wang, not on personal grounds but because he is still nominally Minister of Justice and Chinese Judge at the Hague Arbitration Court.—Reuter's Facific Service.

THE AUTONOMY OF HUNAN

Peking, May 22.

General Ma Chi has been sent to Changsha in a further effort to keep General Chao Heng-ti to his promise to cancel the autonomy of Hunan. According to Chinese reports General Chao, while not willing to cancel the provincial constitution of Hunan, has made known his readiness to contribute to the maintenance of the Northern troops pending a final agreement with Peking.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE CHINESE TRADE MARKS LAW

Shanghai British Chamber of Commerce Supported by Manchester: Members Urged to Refrain from Registering Pending Satisfactory Arrangement

A meeting of the China Section of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce was held on April 14 to receive a report from the Executive regarding the Chinese Trade Marks Law.

Mr. J. Rankine Finlayson, Chairman of the Section, presided, and in his report to the meeting explained that the Executive had been meeting constantly during the past three months, to deal with this important matter. The present position was that the Chinese Government had made a most unsatisfactory reply to a note submitted by the Diplomatic Body in Peking on behalf of all the foreign interests involved. The note had requested the Chinese Government to give certain assurances, particularly as regards the employment of foreigners in the Registration Bureau. In their reply the Chinese Government merely said that foreign assistance may be engaged with due regard to circumstances, whenever the necessity arose, and none of the suggestions made have been fully adopted. In these circumstances the law was not being recognized by the British Government, with whom the Manchester Chamber had been in close touch throughout, and it was understood that further representations were not to be made to the Chinese Government in view of their refusal to adopt the suggestions already made. The Chairman said that it was the intention of the British Minister and the Government to watch carefully the administration of the law, and to take action whenever British interests were involved, with a view to maintaining the rights which British subjects enjoyed under the Treaties with China. In Article 7 of the Mackay Treaty, the Chinese Government undertakes to afford protection to British Trade Marks against infringement, imitation, or colourable imitation, by Chinese subjects.

The Chairman said that, in view of these facts, the Executive had decided to recommend the members not to register their marks under the Chinese law. If anybody sought to register marks belonging to British firms, notice would appear in the Chinese Trade Mark Journal which is to be published in China, and the British firms would, under Article 26, be able to protest through diplomatic channels within six months. The rights and privileges attached to "prior user" were admitted in the Chinese law (see Article 30), and it was felt that in these circumstances, diplomatic action would be able to protect owners of British marks. Amongst the reasons which the Chairman advanced against registration, the following may be mentioned:—

Some Objections.

It was generally recognized that trade marks were a very complicated and difficult matter with which only those who had a long study of the subject were competent to deal. No confidence could therefore be placed at present in the Bureau of Trade Marks under purely Chinese administration since the Chinese had not the necessary experience. Similarly, tribunals to try and judge trade marks cases both criminal and civil, which are also composed purely of Chinese, would be open to serious criticism. Moreover, it is important to remember that under Article 15 of the Treaty of Tientsin, all questions in regard to the rights, whether of property or person, arising between British subjects shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the British authorities, a provision as needful as ever in view of China's present chaotic condition. Property in trade marks is not the least valuable form of foreign property in China.

Then again, according to Press reports to hand from China there was a danger that local Chinese lawyers would be given a monopoly of the right to act as registration agents, in which case British firms might justifiably conclude that they would be mulcted in excessive charges by those persons in possession of a monopoly. This view has unfortunately already been supported by reports that Chinese lawyers are offering large payments in return for monopolies. This and other reports give grounds for the fear that the administration of the law may possibly be exposed to the gravest evils and corruption.

Shanghai's Action.

Mr. Finlayson reminded the meeting of the fact that the British Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai Branch of the China Association, both of whom, being on the spot with full knowledge of all the circumstances, were able to reach decisions which commanded the confidence of those at home, had unanimously maintained the view they had originally expressed, namely, that registration on the part of British subjects, would be highly detrimental to British interests.

The Vice-Chairman, Mr. W. Maxwell Reekie, supported Mr. Finlayson's remarks, and Mr. K. D. Stewart, the Hon. Secretary, expressed the view that the weakness of the Peking Government meant that they would be powerless to enforce this or any other law in the districts outside Peking, where, as was generally known, their influence and power was of small effect in China at the present time. He felt that the proper course at the moment was for British firmms to decline to register their marks so that the Chinese law would either become a dead letter or lose the Chinese Government would be persuaded to alter their attitude and make the law a sound and workable proposition.

The Chairman further pointed out that British firms might deem it useful to prepare for registration by making lists of their marks and sending them out to China, so that if an improvement in the situation came about no time need be lost in affecting registration if desired.

Finally, the meeting unanimously adopted aa resolution associating the Manchester Chamber of Commerce very clearly with the attitude of the British Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, and urging all the members of the Manchester Chamber who are interested in trade with China to refrain from actually registering their marks in China until the British Government received reasuring and satisfactory information, and this rendering it possible to take the matter into further consideration.

Diplomatic Body's Note

Peking, May 26.

The Diplomatic Body sent a Note to the Waichiaopu on Wednesday last pointing out that the Chinese Government had not yet replied to their Note of April 5 with regard to the Trade Marks Law.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING'S POLICE TAX

Strongly Opposed by Residents of Metropolitan Area

Peking, May 24.

Residents of the Metropolitan Area made a demonstration yesterday before the Senate of opposition against the Police Tax. This matter was brought to the attention of the Minister of the Interior yesterday by the Senate.

A meeting, which assumed the character of a demonstration, took place yesterday at the residence of Mr. Tien, whose daughter and servant were recently murdered by men from Heilungkiang. Resolutions condemning the Premier and the Minister of the Interior were passed. Many Chinese suggest that these demonstrations were directed against the Cabinet.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING, May 24.—The Chinese press reports that the Government has approved the suggestion of the Chinese Minister at Tokio for the appointment of an Educational Commissioner in Japan to attend to affairs connected with Chinese students. The Chinese papers believe that Mr. Huang Fu will be offered the post.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PEKING'S EMPTY POCKETS

Shadow of Approaching Dragon Festival Gives Food for Uneasy Thoughts

Peking, May 22.

Premier Sun Pao-ch. had recovered from his illness sufficiently this morning to attend the meeting of the Cabinet. The official report says that no important business was transacted. It was resolved to appoint Mr. Sun Wei-tsun Tangin as Financia, and Mr. Kao Yi-wen Chief of the Commercial Bureau of Langkow.

Unofficially it is reported that the Vice Minister of Finance furnished a report on the financial situation which put forward various difficulties in the way of tiding over the Dragon Festival.

Premier Sun did not attend the meeting of the Senate yesterday afternoon, but the Cabinet Office sent a written reply to the Senate, explaining that the Premier was too ill to attend and stating that there had been no change in the relations of China and Russia since April 1. The Soviet Mission had sent no reply to Dr. Wellington Koo's Note.

The Cabinet, replying to the Senate's demand for submission to it of the nomination of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, said that the present Chief Justice had been appointed prior to promulgation of the constitution, and the Cabinet, therefore, did not think that this case came under the Constitution.

A meeting will be held by the Senate on Friday next at which this question will be further discussed. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE ATTACK ON DR. KOO

Communist Students Arrested

Peking, May 23.

Some Communist students have been arrested in connexion with the bomb attack on Dr. Welington Koo but it is understood that they will not be directly charged with the attack but with complicity in Communist activities.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 26.

The British Legation has transmitted to the Waichiaopu a telegram from Mr. Ramsay MacDonald in his capacity as Foreign Minister congratulating Dr. Wellington Koo on his escape from the bomb outrage and expressing sympathy for the victims.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

BRITAIN AND THE BOXER INDEMNITY

London, May 26.

The House of Commons to-day passed the first reading of the China Indemnity Application Bill, introduced by Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, making further provision for the application of money paid on account of the China indemnity.

Later.

The China Indemnity Application Bill, mentioned earlier, provides that any sums received after December 1, 1922, on account of China Indemnity be paid into a fund called the China Indemnity Fund and applied for purposes which, in the opinion of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, are beneficial to mutual interests of His Majesty's Government and the Republic of China. And expenses in the administration of the fund will be defrayed out of the fund.—Reuter.

MR. Sun Hung-yi has again been mentioned for the Peking Premiership in succession to Mr. Sun Pao-chi. Mr. Pien Shou-tseng, a strong "wire-puller of President Tsao Kun," will be given a ministry, states the vernacular press.

"THE bearded figure seen in the centre of the group is the new President, Sun Pao-chi," runs the title to a picture in the London "Sphere." The caption also states that in a recent issue this journal "dealt fully with personalities within the Chinese Republic." We were not privileged to read the article. If the writer did not deal more accurately with his personalities than this it must have been really enlightening.

THE MIXED COURT RENDITION

Chinese Convinced of Failure of Demand for Unconditional Surrender

Much comment, a great deal of it rather wild propaganda, has lately appeared in the Chinese newspapers on the subjects of the "return" of the Mixed Court to China and extension of the International Settlement. The following review, however, which appeared in Wednesday "*Morning Post*," possibly is (so far as it goes) a fairly accurate presentation of the Chinese view: —

In the negotiations which have been conducted by the Diplomatic Body, the question of the improvement of Shanghai harbour is considered to be not vital and therefore has been shelved for the time being. The Diplomatic Body is, however, firmly determined to obtain an extension of the Settlement. During the past few years the Municipal Council has constructed several new roads outside the original boundary—Jessfield Road, Edinburgh Road and Yu-yuen Road—and under the present Mixed Court system there cannot be any question about the Court's jurisdiction over matters occurring in these roads. It is important that the boundary should be properly demarcated in order to avoid disputes. It is feared that Peking's demand for unconditional rendition of the Mixed Court will fail, but it will strongly oppose the harbour improvement proposals on the ground that the work should be undertaken by the Chinese Government. The authorities have intimated that funds are being raised for the work and when the time for carrying out necessary improvements arrives foreigners will be asked for advice and co-operation.

The Government's position in regard to extension of the Settlement has been rendered very difficult in that what formerly was merely a wish expressed by foreigners has now become a demand into which other questions have been drawn. The situation is further aggravated by the fact that unauthorized extensions have taken place and no satisfactory adjustment of limits has been secured by negotiations which followed.

A Shanghai Delegation in Peking

Peking, May 25.

A delegation representing Shanghai public bodies has arrived in Peking to put before the Government their views in favour of early rendition of the Shanghai Mixed Court. It is expected that the members of the delegation will be entertained by the Vice-Minister of Justice at a reception which representatives of the Waichiaopu and other Ministries will be invited to attend in order to hear a statement from the delegates.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE LINCHENG TERMS

Discussion by Diplomatic Body But No Result Disclosed

Peking, May 22.

The meeting of the Diplomatic Body yesterday was called to discuss one question only, namely, the Lincheng demands. Before the meeting terminated, however, the subject of the preliminary conference on the increase of the Customs tariff was briefly mentioned but led to no action. The decision regarding the Lincheng demands has not yet been communicated to the Chinese Government and no statement will be made by the Diplomatic Body until its decision has been forwarded to the Waichiaopu.—Reuter.

Peking, May 26.

The Diplomatic Body have not yet sent to the Waichiaopu their reply to the Chinese Government's request for discussions regarding the Lincheng claims as the details have not yet been sent to the Doyen by some of the Legations. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE Doyen of the Diplomatic Body has sent a Note to Dr. Wellington Koo urging China to employ foreigners, when drawing up the trade marks laws.

YANG SEN TO BE TUPAN OF SZECHUAN

High Promotion for Wu Pei-fu's Successful Lieutenant

Peking, May 23.

A mandate will shortly be issued appointing Gen. Yang Sen Tupan of Szechuan, Mr. Tang Hsiao Civil Governor of Szechuan, Gen. Liu Hsiang Tupan of the Szechuan, Tibetan and Yunnan borders, Gen. Liu Tsung-hui Tupan of the Szechuan-Shensi border, and Gen. Tien Sung-yao Assistant Director of Military Affairs in Szechuan.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 23.

A Mandate issued last night appoints General Yang Sen Tupan of Szechuan, General Tang Hsiao Civil Governor of Szechuan, General Liu Hsiang Tupan of the Szechuan, Tibetan and Yunnan Borders, General Liu Tsung-hui Tupan of the Szechuan-Shensi Border, and General Tien Sung-yao Assistant Director of Military Affairs in Szechuan.

Another Mandate accepts the resignation of Mr. M. T. Liang, Director for the restoration of Weihaiwei, and instructs the Waichiaopu to carry on the Weihaiwei negotiations.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE RESTORATION OF WEIHAIWEI

Waichiaopu to Take Charge of Future Negotiations

Peking, May 24.

The Cabinet meeting this morning resolved to accept the resignation of Mr. M. T. Liang (Liang Mengting) from the post of Director of the Weihaiwei Restoration Commission. Further negotiation regarding the restoration of Weihaiwei are entrusted to the Waichiaopu.

Mr. Wu Chung-hsien has been appointed Vice-President of the Emigration Bureau. Mr. Mu Hsi-chu has been appointed Judge of the Administrative Court.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINESE INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE

To be Held in Peking in the Autumn under Auspices of Ministry of Commerce

Peking, May 23.

The "Government Gazette" announces, with reference to the proposal to call a Central Industrial Conference in Peking next Autumn, that the conference will be divided into two sections. One will be known as the Industrial Delegates Section and will be organized by the representatives of officially recognized industrial institutes and leading enterprises. The second will be termed the Industrial Administration Section and will be organized by the administrative authorities of industrial organizations in the provinces and provincial districts. The two sections will be held separately, but both in Peking. The former will be under the auspices of the Ministry of Commerce. Its aim is to encourage and improve industries generally, it will last 15 days but that period may be extended for 10 days. The members will be chosen from the Chinese Chambers of Commerce throughout the country, representatives of the Ministry of Commerce, and fishing and mining institutions, while business concerns of Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin, and Canton, authorized by the Ministry of Commerce, may each send one delegate. Chinese Chambers of Commerce overseas may also send a delegate each. One general committee and four executive committees will be elected from these delegates.

The Industrial Administrative Section will aim at development of industries also. Its special work will be to study the views and suggestions of the provincial administrative authorities particularly with the view to deciding upon common policies. The delegates will be selected from the Industrial Commissioners in the provinces, representatives of gold and other mining, forestry and kindred industries.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

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ALIVE OR DEAD?

May 26.

ABOUT the year 60 of our era there was a celebrated trial in the city of Cæsarea in Palestine. On that occasion the prosecuting attorney said to Herod Agrippa, the judge, that the case did not hang on any of the usual legal charges but was a dispute between the Jewish rulers, who said that a certain famous teacher of their nation was dead, whereas the prisoner, Paul, asserted that he was alive. It was a peculiar point to occupy the attention of a Roman court. A detailed and very interesting account of the trial is given in a book too well known to require to be named, and the position is yet so far unsettled that a very serious division has arisen in some of the larger denominational churches in America over this very question; one party, the Modernists, maintaining the views of the Jewish leaders of 2,000 years ago, that the person referred to is really dead, and the other, the Fundamentalists, insisting that he is alive. Lawyers could quote many *causes célèbres* in which the question whether a certain party to the suit was alive or not was debated by some of the brightest lights of the legal profession. There was the Tichbourne case which came for trial in 1868. The eldest son of Sir James Francis Tichbourne was lost at sea in a vessel called the Bella which sailed from Rio de Janeiro in 1854. His mother, as mothers will, refused to believe the report of her son's death. She advertised for him in many papers and ultimately received a reply from a butcher in the town of Wagga-wagga in Australia. The claimant was as unlike the lost son as could possibly be imagined. The son was a slim youth with straight black hair and could speak English only with a French accent. The claimant was a stout man with fair wavy hair, knew no French and spoke very rude English. In spite of these, and many other proofs to the contrary, Lady Tichbourne believed that this was her prodigal; she took him to her heart and loved and trusted him till the day of her death. More astonishing still, scores of people identified the claimant as the heir and huge sums of money were subscribed to enable him to substantiate his claim. It was a case of the Englishman's love of justice for the under dog running to seed, but a hard-hearted judge and jury convicted the claimant of perjury and sent him to prison for fourteen years. Then, on the other side, there is the tale of Enoch Arden, who was really alive but returned to his home to find that he was legally dead and, finding that there was no niche for him in a world that was dead to him, decided to remain dead to the world but, by a whimsical turn of fate, was immortalized by Tennyson.

These instances show that it is not an easy problem to decide whether a man is alive or dead. We have the case of Dr. Sun occupying the attention of the world and, at the present moment, he would be a bold man who would predicate the truth or falsity of the rumours that have reached us of his decease. It may be said that Dr. Sun has merely to saunter out of his office, if he be really alive, and show himself to any one of a dozen reporters who are desperately anxious to get authentic copy and utterly indifferent whether he is "to be or not be" as long as they can be certain whether they ought to use a negative or affirmative in making their report. But what would story-tellers and writers of fiction do for a living if every good plot were to be settled in this off-hand, matter-of-fact fashion? Reuter's correspondent at Canton, Mr. Hin Wong, ventured to report that it was rumoured Dr. Sun was dead and he is now in prison, doubtless meditating on the blessing of living under a constitutional Republican government. Later Mr. C. M. McDonald went as a special correspondent to Canton and said, in effect, to Mr. Eugene Chen, Dr. Sun's secretary, "Bring out your lion and let him roar for me and I'll soon put an end to all this pother." Mr. Chen was indignant to the point of discourtesy and pointed out that it is open to any man at any time to assert that any other man is dead. And if we are all liable to be called on, every now and then, to prove that we are not dead—and we have shown at the beginning of this article what a difficult task that is—why! what is to become of us? We have some sympathy with Mr. Chen.

Editors, as well as politicians, find it necessary to be "not at home" to callers sometimes and we are at all times too busy to take time to demonstrate our aliveness to those who presume to doubt it. At the same time Dr. Sun—presuming he is alive—and Mr. Eugene Chen are reviving the methods of the tyrants of barbarous days when they throw a man into prison and threaten his life for presuming to whisper that the King is dead. A drastic action of this kind makes what may be an idle rumour look very much as though it might be true. And true or false it is a wrong thing to do anyway. It is recorded that in the battle of Hastings a rumour spread that Duke William was dead. The Norman leader at once removed his helmet, rode out in front of the ranks and so reassured his men. Later it was said that King Harold was slain and as the rumour was true the English King could not imitate his opponent; therefore the battle was lost and Duke William became King of England. We commend the story to Dr. Sun's attention.

CHINA FULL OF OPIUM

May 27.

READERS of our up-country correspondence are sufficiently familiar with the evidence it affords of opium growing and smoking in practically all provinces of China. Impressive as are these reports, however, they are only the personal observations of each writer as he goes about his business and we may, therefore, add to them effectively by some quotations from the results of a systematic investigation made by the International Anti-Opium Association of Peking. The inquiry began last October, when poppy was planted in the southern provinces, and was continued month by month until the last poppies were sown in Jehol and Manchuria in April, 1924. It may particularly be noted that foreign reports are corroborated by Chinese.

Beginning in Hunan—a province which prides itself on independence, self-government and enlightenment—we read: "Opium rampant everywhere under military orders." In some places the civil officials tried to stop it, but failed "because of militarists." In districts where it is not grown it is freely imported. Kuangtung grows very little opium, except round Swatow, chiefly because its neighbours grow so much that "it is easier to buy than cultivate." Last January a Government Opium Monopoly was established by the Canton Government "aiming at control and ultimate prohibition?" The question mark sounds rather dubious. Meanwhile in Kuangsi the trade in opium is now regularly organized and shop licences to deal in opium are a steady source of revenue to the authorities. "The International Anti-Opium Association possesses copies of the opium monopoly stamps of this province, which after payment of taxes render all transport and sale immune from restrictions." We read that,

"Before the Revolution the opium trade was practically dead here. Now it has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the men smoke.

Worse even than Kuangsi is Fukien which "shows an absolute and general retrogression. The whole province is virtually under military compulsory poppy cultivation. About 70,000 troops under five principal Generals as well as the navy and marines are all being supported by opium taxation." It we remember rightly, Fukien showed other provinces the way in the evil device of compelling farmers to buy a licence to grow opium in order to pay later on for the privilege of selling it. Many earnest petitions have been sent to Peking by residents but quite without avail. Turning to Yunnan we read that

The whole province is almost one extensive poppy field. North, south, east and west sections of the province report two acres out of every three planted with opium. Official proclamations state that the tax on land this year, 1924, will be the same as formerly whether opium is planted or not. Food stuffs are very dear, owing to limited cultivation. The states under hereditary rulers along the Burma border show extensive cultivation. . . . Yunnan opium is the cheapest in China, being as low as 40 cents an ounce. As all the neighbouring provinces extensively produced opium, and the French Government has prohibited export through Tonkin, a glut is expected in the market in 1924.

Sixty per cent. of the male population in the province use opium.

Kueichow, always a great place for opium growing, where, however, the Empire did succeed in practically stamping it out, is now again reported as one vast field of cultivation. Of Szechuan we are told "At least two-thirds of province cultivated with opium."

Szechuan opium is renowned as of the highest grade, hence the enormous traffic down the river to central and eastern provinces. "Ton after ton is being shipped from this city" writes a Missionary. Local military and civil monopolies exist in all large towns, especially those on the river. $200,000 was received from transport receipts during 1923 at one port, writes a correspondent who sent a sample of the monopoly receipt. The export by river has been mildly estimated at over 400 tons during the past season. Local price of opium varies from 40 to 70 cents an ounce.

With so much obtainable from up river, Hupeh does not cultivate opium to any extent but deals in it extensively.

There are no reports of any extensive opium cultivation in this province, the reason being that imported opium is so cheap and abundant. The opium traffic on the river from Szechuan, and by road, rail and river from Yunnan and Kueichow, has increased tenfold. Opium monopolies under combined military and civil administrations have been formed at Ichang, Shasi and Hankow, and provided the taxes are paid opium sale is free and open. Two of these organizations bear the name of "The Army Joint Office for General Control of Investigation" and "The Transport Company for the Succour of Ichang."

Kiangsi "has surrendered during the last two years to the prevailing wave of poppy cultivation and opium traffic. Cultivation is encouraged and since the establishment of a monopoly $4 poppy tax is imposed on every space of land capable of growing a tan of rice." Anhui, "the province claiming allegiance to the Central Government, has given during 1923 the most flagrant evidence of opium recrudescence." Opium is sold as openly as eggs or vegetables.

Opium land taxation has been the main object. We have the details of opium land taxes in Fuyanghsien in N. W. Anhui. The Hsien is divided into eighteen districts and taxes have varied from $3,000 to $60,000 a district. Pochow with a uniform tax of $5 a mow will realize $200,000, and Yingchowfu, $400,000. An estimate for the province may be inferred from these three counties.

Of Shensi it is reported

There is no evidence of improvement in this province which for years has been noted as one of the most delinquent provinces in China. Foreign evidence is absolutely contradictory to that supplied by the recent Government Investigating Commissioner who declared "not a poppy root could be found in the province." The explanation of this latter statement is that it was made after the opium harvest had been gathered. Kansu supplies a similar example of bland effrontery:—

A correspondent writing from Lanchow, January, 1924, says: "We are greatly amused at the report of the Government Opium Investigating Commissioner in which he states that Kansu and Shensi had done well in their prohibition of poppy planting this year. The Government recommended that the Commissioner be thanked for his hard work. To tell the truth the Commissioner was not allowed to enter the province until after the opium harvest had been reaped. Wheat is three times the normal price, and the cost of all foods and commodities is doubled. The poor are in great distress and the prospects bad unless more wheat is grown this year.

Chihli does not grow but smuggles. Shantung has retrograded sadly, especially at Tsingtao since the Japanese, who had introduced effective suppression, gave it back to China. Honan, Manchuria and outlying regions grow and traffic in opium extensively.

Shansi, Kiangsu and Chêkiang afford honourable exceptions. The two latter have to contend heavily with smuggling and opium is undoubtedly very largely smoked in them. Shansi is an example of what really can be done where there is a will.

The province of Shansi has 105 hsiens or districts and in 85 the Governor has established Anti-Opium Societies, and the magistrate of the district is nearly always the President. During the last two years, 51,000 persons have been treated in the "Opium Curing Houses," 8,000 persons have been arrested as smugglers, and 15,000 arrested as smokers. During 1922 nearly 40,000 ounces of opium and morphia, and 18,000 opium lamps and pipes were seized and burnt.

By extensive circulation of Anti-Opium literature all over the province, and by public lectures the people are being educated on the evils of the habit. Opium smokers and pill eaters when arrested are compulsorily sent to "Curing Houses." On discharge they have to pay $30 which is returned at the end of one year if they are still abstainers. But for the menace of the neighbouring provinces, and the morphia traffic along the Peking-Hankow Railway, narcotics would be unknown in this province.

Possibly the most serious side of the traffic in drugs is the use of morphia, heroin and the like, which grew up in the hands of smugglers when opium suppression was a real thing and continues to flourish. Of opium-smoking itself, one is tempted to say from experience of Chinese who practised it regularly, that in moderation it is not more harmful than tobacco. Unfortunately the bounds of moderation would appear to be more quickly passed in respect of opium than of any other practice. And above all there is the great stain on the reputation of republican China that whereas the derided Empire put down opium, its successors have reintroduced it. On the other hand, there is a strong sentiment among respectable Chinese against opium, which will probably take effect when they nerve themselves to make an end of their military barons and wasting armies.

THE TRADE OUTLOOK

May 27.

WHATEVER faults, real or imaginary, may be laid at its doors, the present British Government cannot be saddled with the one of undue lack of optimism, a virtue extremely advantageous, if not absolutely necessary, in a party which, coming into power for the first time, was and is faced with problems as varied and diverse as those which have ever confronted any British Parliament. Mr. Sidney Webb, President of the Board of Trade, speaking a month ago to his constituents in the Seaham Division of Durham, in a speech mainly of a party character, made an interesting reference to the trade position, a reference to which many people at Home apparently cannot subscribe. Mr. Webb is convinced that there is now visible an upward turn in trade, instancing as evidence in support that Bradford and Sheffield, Northampton and Leicester "reported to-day less lugubriously than they had for a couple of years." After expressing his gratification at the shipbuilding position (a gratification that is by no means justified after a careful study of the quarterly shipbuilding returns for the period ended March 31 last) he remarked that it was pleasant to see the production of coal, week by week, up to the record year of 1913. Quoting from our London contemporary, "Lloyd's List," than which there is no better-informed journal on general trade matters in the world, "the speech savours of an easy-going optimism which appears to arise from hasty generalization," an opinion with which most people directly concerned with the economic position regretfully will agree. The lack of foreign orders in British shipbuilding yards, as compared with pre-war times, and the great number of idle berths and thousands of unemployed shipyard workers, is in itself sufficient reply to his observations on shipbuilding; while as to coal, the mere fact that "the production is up to the record year 1913" needs to be considered with the equally obvious fact that British exports have been shrinking for some months past. It follows as the night the day that before there can be cheaper coal (and at present the comparatively high price of this commodity is having, directly and indirectly, a marked deterrent effect on British industrial revival) the output must be considerably in excess of that for 1913.

We are with our London contemporary in wishing that Mr. Webb had been more explicit and less complacent in treating a subject so vitally important. Where Mr. Webb was relevant and apposite, however, was in his laying stress on the need of

peace throughout Europe. His Government is, admittedly, working in every way for that peace. But what has and more influence on the European situation than any Government action has been the report of the Experts' Committee, and the prospect which it offers of a business-like settlement of the reparations problem. That was not the work of the Government, though the Government can now do much by helping to translate the report into effective action. "At the moment the future of international trade depends primarily upon the successful handling of German reparation payments, and there is much to be done before that can be accomplished."

CHINA INDUSTRIES CONFERENCE

May 28.

One of the most hopeful news items emanating from Peking for some time past is that contained in Reuter's telegrams yesterday that a central industrial conference is to be held at the capital in the autumn. The Ministry of Commerce, under whose auspices the event is to take place, is to be congratulated upon the idea, and, if it materializes, much might come of it for the development of China's native industries throughout the country. The development of these industries undoubtedly lies in the future. The time must come when the thousand and one crafts for which the Chinese have for centuries been famous will provide great national wealth and tend to the improved well-being of China's millions. From a remote epoch the Chinese have enjoyed high reputation for their manual skill and industrial habits. There can be no doubt also that they can hold their own when they take their part in large-scale industrial work. Their artistic talents are by no means meagre, and they have a happy knack of combining a rather crude art with industry which can be fostered to considerable degree. But, as most of our readers will know, there have been factors which have retarded the development of manufacturing in the country, except by the old crude processes that have remained for many centuries. It may indeed be said that, with the exception of the comparatively few new-style factories in China which have been modelled after foreign factories for the manufacture of essentially foreign commodities, there does not exist any industry whose plant has received any material change since the contrivance was first introduced—and that goes back to the remote past. Some of the adverse factors may have disappeared, or ceased to have much effect, but it will take time to convince the provincial governments that it is the essence of stupidity in statecraft to discourage any industry that shows promise by putting upon it the maximum of taxation that it will bear.

An authority, writing on this subject, said that the official tendency to overtax everything that prospers is one of the greatest and most formidable obstacles in the path of industrial development. The writer is conversant with many native industries, particularly in the southern provinces, where it was necessary for the plants to be closed entirely, as no profit was possible after the extortionate taxation and "squeeze" to those in authority had been met. A large number of Chinese magistrates, both great and small, against whom no one could bring a charge of extortion, made a systematic practice of throttling everything in the nature of an industry, as they believed, in the interest of the State. "The goose that lays the golden eggs," as a writer in an industrial publication on China has remarked, "used to be served up to the Central Government with much *éclat* as evidence of the small magistrate's interest in the national welfare and diligence in the performance of his duties." In these Republican days, the same practice is even more ruthlessly pursued, but with the difference that none of the returns find their way into the coffers of the Central Government. According to a recent report of the Ministry of Commerce, there are now about 30,000 factories scattered throughout China. We suppose that among this number at least seven-eighths of them are one and two-room workshops which would not be classified as factories in Europe and America, and there are probably not more than a thousand to fifteen hundred that would compare favourably with similar plants in the Occident. But the number of the latter is increasing, and there is, however, a greater readiness on the part of wealthy Chinese to invest their money in native industries, so that evidence leads one to believe that industrialism in the interior on improved lines may be looked for. This is where the Ministry of Commerce can justify its existence, and we hope that it will.

The proposed conference, we notice, is to be divided into two sections. One will be known as the Industrial Delegates Section (to be organized by the representatives of officially recognized industrial institutes and leading enterprises), and the second known as the Industrial Administration Section (to be organized by the administrative authorities of industrial organizations in the provinces). The aim is, of course, to improve industries generally. The conference is to last from fifteen days to a month. Members will be chosen from the Chinese Chambers of Commerce throughout the country, with officials from the various government departments. "while business concerns of Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin and Canton may each send one delegate." That is good, and if the Ministry of Commerce were wise it would extend invitations to some of the larger foreign industrial interests in the country, for from them much might be learned, and we feel sure that their advice would be willingly given. The Industrial Administrative Section will specially study the views and suggestions of the provincial authorities with the particular view of decision of common policies. Delegates will be selected from the Industrial Commissioners in the provinces, representatives of gold and other mining, forestry and kindred institutions. It seems to us, therefore, that in this conference the opportunity is presented for doing something well worth the doing. China needs to do all that lies within her power for the fostering of her industrial progress. The more large factories she has, the greater will be the contribution of those factories to her national wealth, if the foolish policy of killing the goose that lays the golden egg is stopped. Taxation must be equitable and low enough to enable capitalists who are prepared to risk their money in inland undertakings to make a good return on their investments. Can the conference exercise enough influence throughout the provinces by means of guilds, chambers of commerce and even the new labour organizations, to keep the rapacity of local officials and militarists within bounds? That is the great question on which the success of industrial China depends.

THE VALUE OF CO-OPERATION

May 29.

If the monetary losses alone (to say nothing of the general public inconvenience and economic chaos) of labour disputes in Great Britain and the United States during the last decade were totalled up, the result would be a sum so colossal as to be staggering. The ideal is, and has been for many years, mutual co-operation and understanding between employer and worker, and in those few cases where this has been brought into effect the result has proved beyond doubt or cavil that the ideal is by no means an illusory one. While trades unions, on the whole, are a boon and a necessity to the general worker, the fact that they are practically above the law is not always beneficial, even to the unions; while financial immunity from the results of any actions they take often has resulted in a sense of irresponsibility which has communicated itself to individual workers. An illuminating example of what co-operation between employer and man may mean was shown a few weeks ago, at Home, in the case of a vessel called Londoner. The vessel was damaged in collision in the Thames in January and was sent to the works of Messrs. Fletcher, of Limehouse, to be patched up temporarily before going to Holland for thorough repairs. (It may be mentioned that at the time, owing to shipyard troubles in England, of fifty-two vessels which were at Rotterdam, undergoing repairs or waiting for repairs, forty-eight were British). Messrs. Fletcher, knowing that they had little work in hand and realizing that if the job were thrown open to public tender it certainly would go across the Channel, decided to purchase her outright. They laid the matter before their men and offered to allow them to subscribe up to 50 per cent. of the price of the ship. No one was asked personally, still less compelled, to subscribe, but the firm pointed out that there was a reasonable likelihood of making a satisfactory profit, and that the main thing was that work should be provided. The response from the men—all classes, and even from apprentices—was such that the subscription per man had to be limited. They bought the vessel, carried out all repairs, and then sold her to a Norwegian company at a price which gave a very satisfactory return on the original outlay. This is, of course, an isolated example, but the principle involved is one which might well be embraced by others. It possesses the cardinal advantage of enlisting the sympathy, interest and co-operation of the workers concerned, and of making them realize and understand that they were working for their own benefit, besides that of their employers. Let us hope that the case we have cited is but a precursor of a wider feeling of sympathy and interest between employer and employed, and the harbinger of a new order of things, in which master and man realize that their interests are parallel and not divergent.

To travel from Khiva to Bokhara in central Asia till now has involved a horse ride of about a week. The Russian Government has now inaugurated an air service covering the distance in about three and a half hours. Flights are to be made twice a week.

Peking, May 23.—Gen. Yuan Tsuming, Tupan of the Szechuen-Kueichow Border, has recommended the appointment of Gen. Wang Tien-pei as Assistant Director of Military Affairs in Szechuan, according to semi-official information. It is suggested in explanation of the report that Gen. Yuan wants the position of Inspector-General of Szechuan and Kueichow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR WORKERS

May 30.

The mail bags from Home of the past few months have been bringing us leaflets from the International Federation of Trade Unions, which has headquarters at Amsterdam. Whether other people in Shanghai have been equally favoured, we do not know; nor we must confess, do we know much about the I. F. T. U. beyond what it tells us. It certainly does not appear to be a Red organization; it has branches in every capital of Europe, and even in Johannesburg and Jerusalem, but none in Russia; and in recording that the Norwegian trade unions held a referendum to decide whether they would affiliate with the Red International of Labour Unions (which the Norwegians decided not to do by a large majority), one of the leaflets before us is at some pains to point out that the Red organization's claims to support in other unions are demonstrably false. There are some interesting paragraphs on the efforts in different countries to get paid holidays for workers, which read rather pitifully: most people will sympathize with the I. F. T. U. in this undertaking. Among other entries we note one to the effect that Samuel Gompers and John Quinn, the American Labour leaders, "have united to oppose unlimited immigration." The I. F. T. U. comments on this that

The large industrialists are of course opposed to the restriction, as they realize that it means that wages will be maintained on a high level.

As, however, it will mean also that European labour markets will be glutted with unemployed for whom there is not now and has not been for many years any outlet except in the new worlds, we do not see that the I. F. T. U. have much cause for rejoicing. Incidentally Mr. Gompers has very little to do with internationalized labour.

But the great aim of the Amsterdam organization is to abolish war and surely no one will cavil at so laudable an ambition. The methods of attaining it are more open to question. Here is a quotation from one very elaborately got-up leaflet:—

We are drawing near the tenth anniversary of the day which saw the outbreak of the world war—that fatal August day which let loose Armageddon upon the world, and opened the way to a slaughter and havoc which has been unexampled in the annals of the world.

For four long years the world suffered untold agonies: for four long years the peoples fought each other like wild beasts: for four long years the flower of the world's youth was sacrificed on the battlefields: for four long years civilization was forgotten, and its most elementary lessons were thrown to the winds.

During these four terrible years, thousands of young men went forth to battle in the confident hope that they were fighting to end war, and to make the world safe for democracy.

They did not know that they were merely the dupes of the lies and insinuations of small groups of capitalists, who were seeking to strengthen and extend their domination of the world.

Then came the sham peace that shattered the illusion of so many, and destroyed the dream that this was the war to end war.

And now the countries of the world are again making ready for fresh war.

. . . On the third Sunday in September of this year, the International Federation of Trade Unions is organizing an Anti-War Day in all the affiliated countries. It is supported by the Socialist and Labour International, the International Co-operative Alliance, and the International of Socialist Youth. Let this day be the first day of the mobilization of the International Peace Army.

And in another leaflet, circularized with a special eye to the proper celebration of May Day:—

The two great reforms which must first of all be carried and extended are the eight hours day and social insurance. They must be followed up by the introduction of workers' control, and great changes in the organization of industry, which are indispensable if labour is to combat capitalist influences and to prepare for the advent of a social system in which the fruits of the labour of all will be for all, and not for a few only. When they have achieved success in these directions, the working classes will have shown that they are ripe for the accomplishment of their great historic mission—the emancipation of Labour through social justice which can only be established in a world at peace.

Comrades demonstrate.

For the Growth of Well-being in the World!

For Social Justice!

For Freedom!

For the Peace of Humanity!

Does any sober-minded man seriously believe that Capital deliberately makes wars, the destruction of everything by which it lives? Sometimes it acquiesces in them, no doubt, as it did in Germany's war. But then the German Socialists also shouted for that war, much to the chagrin of pacifist doctrinaires abroad. In times of strong emotion, patriotism is the natural instinct of the vast majority and always will be; internationalism is an anæmic intellectual invention, potent only in the very sphere of that organization which the I. F. T. U. pretends is most hostile to it—Capital! Where does all the windy talk, of the kind we have quoted above, bring us? For thirty-two years, our Labour correspondent told us the other day, the Independent Labour Party have been indulging in it, and now, when their theories are put to the test of the actual exercise of power, their recent conference was chiefly concerned to cover up the proved unworkability of all the wild theories of the past. When we come down to actual fact, it is not the professional Labour leader that has done most for the manual workers, but men from the ranks and associations of Capital — Robert Owen, Lord Shaftsbury, Sir Robert Peel, Wilberforce, Gladstone, the Rowntrees, Cadburys, Colmans, and Lord Leverhulme. We have waded through a number of the I. F. T. U. leaflets and they appear to be well intentioned. But they are none the less sorry stuff. More and more it is recognized by serious-minded men that the interests of Capital and Labour are identical and in many directions the former is giving increasing proof of its perception of the fact. To seek to keep the two classes apart, to inculcate hatred and organize disunion, as the I. F. T. U. is trying to do, will injure most of all those whom it affects to serve.

Three members of the Shanghai Chinese Bar Association returned to Shanghai on Wednesday from Peking. They have been "fighting for the return of the International Mixed Court." Mr. Tung Kang, former Minister of Justice and Finance, who was the fourth member of the party is remaining in the Capital for the present.

An agreement has been reached between the General Post Office and the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services for the fortnightly carriage of mails from the United Kingdom to Japan, China and Hongkong. The regular through service was to commence with the sailing of the R.M.S. Empress of Scotland from Southampton on Saturday last. The liner's mails are expected to be transferred from the Atlantic port to the Empress of Asia, due at Hongkong from Vancouver on June 23.

THE MISSIONARY OUTLOOK

May 31.

WE may not always agree with the opinions and methods of individual missionaries, but there must be few in the community who do not approve, at least to some extent, the philanthropic efforts of the missionary body as a whole to bring to China all that is good in our Western civilization. Even merchants and traders who are indifferent to religious propaganda cannot but acknowledge the advantages they have derived from the pioneering of the early missionaries, and it must be a relief to them to know that when travelling in the interior of China they are generally within easy reach of a fully qualified missionary physician. On the whole, life in China would be vastly poorer if the missionaries were not here, or if their number seriously declined. It is a question, therefore, of general interest whether the stream of Protestant missionaries coming to this country will continue in the future to be as strong and steady as heretofore, despite the various influences, favourable and unfavourable, which are now changing the whole life of the Chinese, and the effect of the Great War on religion in the West.

To answer this question it is perhaps best to turn to the United States where the great financial prosperity enables the churches to send out more missionaries than any other country. Formerly, Great Britain was in the lead, but the classes there which support foreign missions have been very hard hit by the war, heavy taxation, and the high cost of living, so that the income of the missionary societies has been reduced and missionary recruits are fewer. But wealth alone is not the impelling power in missions. What has been the influence of recent world events upon missionary ideals? A few months ago at Indianapolis, U.S.A., there was a convention of six thousand college students belonging to the "Student Volunteer Movement," an organization consisting of individuals who have purposed to give their lives to foreign missionary service. The official report of the Convention must cause misgivings in the minds of old-time missionaries who expect missionary candidates to have glowing faith and zeal. Perhaps in Shanghai there are people who can remember how the whole of England in the 'eighties was stirred by the "Cambridge Seven," who later came to China as missionaries. But at Indianapolis there was little enthusiasm and much searching of heart. To quote from the report, "a conviction that America was not 98 per cent. all right grew upon the delegates." It was felt that "the old order of things is unsatisfactory." "We could scarcely blame the girl from China who asked why we sent missionaries to her people when our own needed Christianizing so badly." The gloom was deepened by another Chinese who deplored the students' "lack of knowledge of things Oriental, and of the need for harmonic vibrations of purer tones." There was no discussion of theological issues, although the churches in America are gravely disturbed by the controversies between the Fundamentalists and Modernists. Indeed the word "church" was seldom mentioned. This seeming indifference to doctrinal and ecclesiastical convictions is not evidence that the students had soared to serene spiritual altitudes where controversy has no place. On the contrary, more than one writer present at the Conference deplores their lack of spirituality. "Vital personal religion is not strong to-day among the college and university students of America." Discussion was mainly concerned with such topics as racial equality; the proper attitude towards war and the means of securing world peace; and—strange to say—"how far Americans had any right to adopt any methods of missions or of colonization which would tend to impose our Western civilization or our Western Christianity upon the peoples of the world." It is evident that the whole movement is changing; it is passing out of the control of its founders and the old mission cries have more or less lost their appealing power. "The present student generation is thinking not so much of evangelization in the ordinary sense of the word, as of reconstruction of society as well as individuals." Moreover, there is the suspicion that "it does not regard the challenge of foreign missions as of paramount importance in the Christian programme."

To the friends of foreign missions all this, at first sight, is not very encouraging. These students do not seem to feel they have a great and inspiring message to deliver to distant peoples; they are more concerned with social reforms, yet their missionary ardour even in this direction is dampened by their dissatisfaction with the social conditions of their own country. But they are young, very young, and we should remember that organized Christianity was grievously wounded by the Great War, and that the young are in revolt against the old ways and wish to find something new and better. In religion the old forms in which spiritual truths are expressed are being questioned and the students must be given time to think things out for themselves. Periods of spiritual unsettlement, change, sometimes actual declension, have not been infrequent in the history of Christianity; but true religion has always shown a wonderful power of recovery. The knowledge of Christianity that is now being spread rapidly over the whole world must surely be preparing the way for a great religious movement which will not be quite the same as any in the past. This will revive the churches in the homelands and greatly strengthen "indigenous" Christian churches in non-Christian lands. To return to the main point. Whether foreign missionaries to China in the future will be very numerous is doubtful, and those who do come, earnest and confident, will probably be very conservative in their theological views. But more and more the work now done by missionaries will be carried on by Chinese Christians and on lines marked out by themselves.

SCENTS

There's the gorse scent in April, like apricots sun-warm;
The pear-like scent of walnut leaves between the fingers pressed;
The sallow scent like almonds; the scent of fresh-turned earth,
And the scent of the limbs of a baby new-bathed and put to rest.

There's the vagrant scent of a camp-fire; the scent of a cow's sweet breath;
The scent of tweeds and of mushrooms and of bean-flowers set arow;
Of apple-lofts and of birch-bark—but the dearest scent to me
Is the salt clean smell of seaweed on the rocks when the tide is low.

TERESA HOOLEY
in the "Observer.

PEKING, May 28.—It is reported that a hitch has occurred in the Sino-German negotiations owing to the German Government not approving the proposed argeement.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Man-Power

It is something of a paradox that, in connexion with industry in all of its branches, the mind of man continually is working to eliminate, or at least to reduce the necessity of man-power. The commencement of this never-ceasing endeavour to make man independent of himself, so far as the production and use of energy are concerned, may be reckoned at the latter part of the eighteenth century, when the early development of the steam engine took place. It is very little more than a century ago that man-power was the predominant source of energy. Man utilized the power of horses and oxen, and he used, to some extent, the power of streams and waterfalls; but in the aggregate, man's own energy output was the measure of the power available. If any industry employed fifty men, then that industry enjoyed the amount of energy those fifty men could exert, and no more. A century ago iron and steel were produced with but little more than one-tenth horse power per man employed in the industry; to-day forty-two horse-power is developed for every man so employed—420 times as much. Flour mills have been grinding grain since the early days of industry; to-day, every employee in such a mill has two-hundred times his own energy output to work with. And so for every industry. Wherever we turn in a "modern" country, the key-note is power, and more and more is "labour" coming to mean attendance upon some machine which actually performs the labour. Despite what fanatical agitators may say, the more cheaply we can produce power to do the work of man, the more far-reaching will be its benefits, for cheap power is the final and ultimate solution not only of industrial ills but also, to a great extent, of the social and political ills of the world.

The Hwah Jah Once More

The following particulars supplementing the accounts of the happenings in connexion with the str. Hwah Jah, and referring to the time the vessel has been at Hongkong, were received from that port last Friday:—".....The present captain wanted a European mate and a European engineer. He has been given a mate but.....no engineer. Apparently he has had trouble with the cadets as they wanted to run around the same as they did.....One of the cadets told.....that they would get this captain out of it as he was too harsh with them. The Hwah Jah had the Blue Peter up for three days before she eventually got away. She sailed on May 16 for Saigon to load rice for Japan. On the morning of sailing she let go from buoy and shortly after dropped anchor. The rumour came ashore that it was due to engine trouble but the real cause was this: the cadets refused to leave the bridge when asked to do so by the captain. He ordered them three times to get off the bridge till he was finished manoeuvring and as they would not do so he told the mate to drop anchor. He then came ashore and saw Mr.....who was staying at the King Edward Hotel ....Whatever agreement was reached the ship left shortly after mid-day.....The previous second mate who was made mate is now purser or something similar..... put an inspired article in the local papers saying that all the reports about trouble on board were untrue and that she is going to Australia, South America, etc., etc. The ship is chartered to Y.K.K. for six months from March 1....." And so the interesting cruise continues.

The China Pony Problem

Racing people in the North for long will talk of the Tientsin meeting just concluded, for much history was made there. The China pony question has not been solved yet by a long way and possibly it will be argued for many years, but the Tientsin meeting may do a great deal towards a settlement. Many argued that Tientsin did the wrong thing in separating the so-called true China ponies from half-breds and arranging separate classes for the latter, but there is this much to be said for it—the issue now has become so complicated that a settlement may be forced earlier than otherwise would be the case. A pony who is allowed to race at Kiangwan as a China pony, at Tientsin has been put amongst the half-breds and has done well. In Shanghai we have ponies who can race on one of our courses but not on the other. Another pony classed at Tientsin as a half-bred now has been sent down to Shanghai and, having previously raced at Kiangwan, presumably he will run there again. Mr. Hill ventured the opinion recently that if two or more half-breds came together in the Champions under favourable conditions and the race were run all out, the record for the distance would be beaten by at least 5 sec. and the running at Tientsin suggests that he was not far out. If so, what will be said should a pony who already has raced here as a China pony, but has gone to Tientsin and been pronounced a half-bred, and who has run with half-breds and broken records, come to Shanghai again and, being still eligible, canter away from our genuine China ponies? So far there are no two racing clubs with unanimity as to the proper way out of the difficulty—not even Shanghai and Kiangwan—and one cannot foresee any lasting solution until delegates are appointed from all the recognized clubs to form a China Jockey Club, with an agreement to abide by its decisions, whatever they may be. A gathering of Shanghai jockeys not a fortnight ago raised their glasses to "the Future Jockey Club of China" and it ought not to be very long before they delete the "future."

Trotsky's Diplomacy

Once again has Mr. Trotsky given evidence of his exquisite sense of diplomacy by making a speech of deliberate offensiveness to Great Britain at a time when his colleagues in London are using all their persuasiveness to induce the British Government to give them money. The British delegates' steady refusal to be entrapped may, of course, explain Trotsky's behaviour: like the ill-mannered urchin, found out and detected in his naughtiness, who spits and calls bad names. However, the conference in London is not absolutely over yet, so it seems silly to go on in this manner. According to Rosta (the official Bolshevist news agency), Trotsky, speaking in the Moscow opera house, referred more or less apropos of nothing to the assault by a Chinese soldier on Mr. Campbell on the city wall in Peking. He does not, however, appear to have said anything about the assault, but informed his audience that the Chinese soldier was given 40 strokes with the bamboo for walking on the part of the city wall reserved for foreigners. Was he indeed? We do not remember any such punishment being reported from Peking. If it even took place, it was not for walking on the wall, but for a peculiarly brutal and quite unprovoked assault. Trotsky then went on to say that he did not wish to complicate the course of Soviet diplomacy, nor give "the British reactionary press further excuse for saying that he wished to compromise the negotiations in London;" but he could not refrain from "saying loudly, on behalf of all of us, to this Peking soldier 'Moscow's proletariat are with you heart and soul.'" And now let us get on with the job of inventing some charm which will cause British gold to flow into the pockets of the leaders of Moscow's proletariat, without their being troubled to restore what they have stolen, repay what they owe or fulfil any promise they make.

Avenue Road

A valued correspondent returns to the charge on the subject of our recent note on Avenue Road which, he says, is "used in other places besides Shanghai and is not a redundancy as you make out." About the phrase being used elsewhere we accept his word. As regards redundancy, the farthest meaning for avenue from the ordinary one of a road flanked with trees that we can find is the figurative sense of a means of access or attainment. Possibly Avenue Road was so named allegorically, to indicate the steps by which social climbers arrived at the august heights of Bubbling Well. In any other sense we are not convinced that the name is not redundant. Our correspondent then says that he finds "a more flagrant example of tautology in the largest city in the world: what about Mansion House?" Well, mansion must once have meant something distinct from a dwelling house, for we have, in the New Testament, "in my Father's house are many mansions." But apart from this "mansion" as meaning a house by itself is apparently modern. The dictionary given "mansion-house" as a hyphenated noun and quotes Bacon on "Use of the Law":

> This party purposing in this place to make a dwelling, or, as the old word is, his *mansion-house*, or his manor-house, did devise how he might make his land a complete habitation to supply him with all manner of necessaries

Evidently the word was not new in Bacon's day. It might also be mentioned that the word mansion bears a special significance in ancient astronomy and in astrology. We do not suppose the Lord Mayor of London ever had much to do with these. But there is evidently plenty of support for Mansion-house.

The Siberian Railway

In a recent article "Engineering" gave an account of the movement in the United States tending towards improving the mileage of locomotives by working them through for longer distances than formerly, changing the crews two or three times *en route*. The "Railway Review" of Chicago gives an account of what is believed to be, up till the present, the record of operation of this kind. The service is on the Southern Pacific Company's system, and a special class of 4-8-2 type locomotive has been designed and built. Oil is used for fuel, and the engines in this service are reported to be doing 12,000 miles per month. The distance covered by the regular run is no less than 815 miles without changing locomotives. The schedule speed works out to between 24 and 26 miles per hour with trains of from 12 to 14 passenger, baggage and mail cars. One is forced to wonderment why the Soviet Government, in such urgent need of money, and having to hand such a fine source of revenue as the Trans-Siberian Railway, does not copy some of the initiative referred to above. Even with the Russian Government at its best, really very little was made of the line. The writer was in Tientsin in just 14 days after leaving Liverpool Street Station, this including the sea trip, and stops of many hours at The Hook, Berlin, Alexandrova, Warsaw, Moscow, Harbin and Changchun, and a breakdown in the middle of Siberia which caused a delay of several hours. Much of the line then was single-track, the engines used wood fuel and the train continually was held up for military and other Government trains. Yet the journey only took 14 days. Mr. H. E. Morriss has just arrived Home, travelling by approximately the same route, in about three weeks and it seems obvious that if a directorate such as that of the old Great Western, or one of the big American railways, had the management of the line, the journey would occupy well under a fortnight. If that were so, every berth on every train running out and Home would be occupied and the revenue would be worth having.

A People's Songs

In one of the numerous histories of the Franco-Prussian War a writer ventures the opinion that the success of Bismarck's legions practically from the first day in the field was due as much as anything to the fact that they were concentrated for some while along the border waiting for the declaration of war that everyone knew would come and that during the interval they were encouraged to sing in chorus what unromantic people of the present day term "Jingo" songs, but which could more honourably be styled patriotic ballads. Outstanding amongst those German ballads was the essentially patriotic, even though somewhat boastful, "Watch on the Rhine," a sonorous and powerful song that must stir others as well as Germans, just as "The Marseillaise," "Rule Britannia" and "The Standard on the Braes o' Mar" appeal to others besides Frenchmen, Englishmen and Scottish Highlanders. There can be no doubt that songs of this sort, with a good, swinging, defiant tune that can be roared out by voices beyond all hope of reaching concert pitch, do exert an immense influence on any man who has a country to be proud of and who has the spirit to

be proud of his country. Really there was no particular reason why this year's Empire Day celebrations should excel in enthusiasm those of several other years which could be mentioned. At the same time, certainly there never has been a more enthusiastic gathering at the Shanghai Club. It was but natural that sporting Britons should shout themselves hoarse in recognition of the gallant Capt. d'Oisy, it was but fitting that they should be stirred by the fine speech of their Consul-General and proud of the kindly testimony of Mr. Fessenden to the worth of their Empire, and they sang the "National Anthem" with the usual spirit. Yet the first few notes of Mr. Heughan's "Land of Hope and Glory" made a tremendous difference and staid old gentlemen could be seen joining in the refrain more lustily probably than they had done for a quarter of a century. Good songs exert a wonderful influence.

Highway Robbery

Destiny again, equally capricious and inexplicable in the case of animals and of men, as we moralized at great length a week or two ago. On Tuesday morning a lady and gentleman were driving along Avenue Haig, close by Nanyang College, when the lady's eye was caught by the sight of a Chinese girl dragging something along the road by a string. The "something" was a cat, cruelly bound about with twine, which, as subsequent investigation showed, had cut deeply into the poor beast's body, and generally bearing marks of brutal usage. Thereupon the brakes were jammed on and the lady sprang from the car in pursuit of the girl, who incontinently fled, conscious of her own abominableness. The cat was so tightly tied that it took some time to loose it. The usual crowd collected and presently a virago, who realizing the lady's evident intention to carry off the cat from its tormentors, poured forth a torrent of abuse and as this was unavailing tried to regain the cat by *force armes*. It was explained to her that she and her ilk of a girl had proved themselves unworthy of owning any animal let alone a cat, that she would be prosecuted (steps to this end are being taken) for that have the cat back she should not. Whereupon the lady leisurely mounted the car, gears were shipped in, and the cat was saved. It may be mentioned that the crowd were obviously and wholly upon the lady's side. One would say that the ex-owner of the cat was known. This is the true story of a flagrant piece of highway robbery in an excellent cause.

The Love of Zion

A pamphlet appealing to local Jews to subscribe to the Palestine Foundation Fund affords striking evidence of the success, both moral and material, attending the efforts of Jewry all over the world to stem for ever Israel's wanderings through the ages. Every Jew, from the financier to the San Francisco clothes-presser and colonist in Palestine, is eagerly doing his bit for the cause. The devotion of the colonists appears worthy of the Pilgrim Fathers themselves. Sir Alfred Mond, in an article reprinted in the pamphlet, says:

> You can go down the streets of Jerusalem as I did. You will meet men who have walked 800 miles from the interior of Persia to Bombay and taken the ship to Palestine. You will meet some one who came all the way from Shanghai, you will meet some one who came from Boston, some one who came from Winnipeg, who came from Roumania, who came from Italy. They come from all over—from the East and West. They cannot yet understand each other. They cannot yet speak the same language, but they all have the same feeling, the same thought: to do something to help Palestine.

Yet it was only yesterday, one might say, that the movement to unite Jewry was purely philanthropic and sentimental in aim, while as comparatively recently as in 1894 the position of Jews on the Continent of Europe was almost mediæval. Now, happily, by the Balfour Declaration, their emancipation in future ages is assured. That they will, in the words of the Palestine Mandate, "prove successful in placing the country under such political administration and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish National Home," is also assured, if the heartening messages of eminent Jews to their Shanghai brethren are to be believed. "The Jews in China (Dr. B. Feiwel writes) though few in number, are deeply conscious of their fellowship." That they are as eager as those in other parts of the world to colonize successfully the Jewish Homeland is demonstrated by the opening of a fund in Shanghai to establish a garden city in Palestine. To this fund Mr. F. S. Eadoorie, President of the Zionist Organization in China, has undertaken to give a monthly subscription of $500 until a considerable sum has been accumulated, while nine other local Jews have each donated the same handsome sum.

The Death Ray

Even without the statement issued by the Air Department, one had suspected that there was a good deal more in the story of Mr. Grindell Matthews and the "death ray" than had yet transpired. In the Far East it is only a fortnight or so since the cables first told us of his invention and the claims made for it. But by newspapers now arriving it was being boomed at Home very much farther back than that. The story too of his hurry to get away to France and of the injunction which arrived at Croydon just an hour too late is curious. Why did he have to go by aeroplane instead of the ordinary train? Finally the statement by an official of the Air Department that there are inventors claiming to control similar rays is not devoid of probablity. With electrical knowledge what it has become in the past few years, and with the new problem of aerial invasion to set all wits at work, it would be strange if Mr. Grindell Matthews were the only inventor of a "death ray," assuming that his invention is what it is said to be. And all we know is that, after one trial in the laboratory, the Government's experts wanted a simpler and more conclusive test: by to-day's telegrams their wish seems to have been fully justified. Far be it from us to defend any Government official, least of all those of the British Government, who, almost traditionally, are supposed to take a delight in discouraging native talent and allowing it to be snapped up by more enlightened competitors abroad. But one has heard of these inventors before, on whom the pejuntry and narrowness of Government departments has declined to spend the national money despite all the warnings of the sensational Press, and the ways of the latter do not leave one without misgiving that perhaps after all the departments know a thing or two.

Wheelbarrows

The latest number of "Punch" to hand contains a humourous reference to the naming of various commodities in the British Army. An extract from Army Orders is given in which it is stated that "the War Stock of 'Soap, scouring' will be accounted for in bars instead of by weight, and will be designated 'Soap, scouring, bars (reputed 1 lb)'". There is no doubt that the British Army has adopted, or inherited, a most fearsome nomenclature for the description of the most commonplace, every-day items, and the mere tyro on Army matters, on encountering such a nomenclature for the first time, is apt to ponder, to marvel, and then to give it up as hopeless. For instance, the ordinary scrubbing brush is not called a scrubbing brush, but "brushes, scrubbing, hand, one" to distinguish it from the long-handled variety, it is to be supposed. And so with each and every item which claims official recognition by the War Office; the name invariably being many times more lengthy than the one it is commonly known by. This reminds us of the perfectly true incident that happened to an Infantry subaltern (now in Shanghai) who, immediately after the armistice, was sent in charge of an advance party to Catterick Camp to take over barracks and barrack stores preparatory to his regiment entering into occupation. Having been forced to check, to the minutest detail, the barrack (A.S.C.) stores, he proceeded to take over what are known as Engineer stores. He previously had noticed a very dilapidated wheelbarrow near the pioneer store, obviously impossible of being used. It was in such a condition that any normal person would have deemed it a useless task to apply a correct description to it. The Army had solved the problem, however, for on checking the list on the "boards, inventory (Engineer stores), one" he came across the following priceless description:—

"Barrows, wheel (without wheel), one."

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

THE BANDIT OUTRAGE IN FUKIEN

Scene of the Attack on Mr. Dinsmore and Mr. MacKay One of the Worst Districts in China: Foreigners Hitherto Untouched: Suggested Result of the Failure to Avenge Lincheng

Reuter last Friday devoted eight lines to the news of the capture of one British subject and the death of another at the hands of brigands at Shahsien (Fukien). This is but one more outrage to add to a long list of similar incidents, and so common are they becoming that we are apt to forget their significance.

The victims in this case were Mr. Jay Dinsmore and Mr. MacKay, both of whom were employed with the China Import & Export Co., whose head offices are at Shanghai. Mr. Dinsmore escaped from the bandits, but died of his wounds. Mr. MacKay was captured and held, and the state of his health is unknown.

The party, consisting of the two Europeans and a Chinese interpreter (also captured), were travelling up and down the Min River and its tributary, the Shachiho, engaged in the work of felling trees and superintending the despatch of the lumber to its destination. Their work was of a highly dangerous character, for the country around is one of the worst bandit-infested areas in China, and has been so for many years past. The Chinese people there are terrified and cowed, but until this present incident no foreigner had been molested. It is a well-known fact that the majority of the timber companies working in this district have been in the habi. of paying the bandit chiefs some regular indemnity as a guarantee for the safety of their employees. Now, apparently, the immunity enjoyed by foreigners in this province is at an end, and it has been suggested to us by a well-known Shanghai authority on Chinese affairs that news of the Lincheng outrage, glorified and embellished to the discredit of the foreigners concerned, was the means of encouraging this last incident.

Troops Afraid to Act.

Many districts in this part of the country have been completely ruined by the activities of the bandits and soldiers, coupled with the wicked misgovernment of the Chinese officials. In the Yuki district, which lies to the east of the Shachiho the bandits are so bad, and their reign of terror so complete, that for the last two years troops have not dared to enter the country. When some time back two companies of soldiers were sent to the scene, they were ambushed and the soldiers massacred.

The authorities, as already stated, are largely responsible for this state of affairs. Negotiations are continually in progress between them and the bandit chiefs, in which the latter have invariably been promised protection provided they cease their depredations. Weak though such action was, it might yet have been successful had the officials kept their words. Instead, however, they broke faith with the bandits and executed their leaders, making matters even worse than before.

The Making of Outlaws.

An interesting story attaches to one of the most famous of these bandit chiefs—a man who is one of the most feared in the province. Originally he was a peaceful and respected merchant in the city of Yenpingfu. For some reason or other—principally his wealth—he incurred the displeasure of the military authorities. He was subjected to every kind of persecution, false charges were trumped up against him, and his life was made generally miserable. Weary and disgusted, he left his city to settle elsewhere and no sooner had he done so than the military seized his family and put them to death. Enraged and grief-stricken he took to banditry to revenge himself, and incidentally has been extraordinarily successful. His headquarters are now in Yuki Valley, and his stronghold is practically impregnable.

We understand that Mr. Dinsmore leaves a widowed mother, who was entirely dependent upon him. Mr. Dinsmore had been with the lumber company for many years, and was one of their most trusted members. Aged somewhere between 35 and 40 years, he was of a kindly disposition and well liked by all with whom he came in contact. Danger never made him swerve from the path of duty. We have been able to obtain no further news of Mr. MacKay.

Mr. Dinsmore's Funeral

Foochow, May 24.

The funeral of Mr. Dinsmore, who died as the result of a pistol wound inflicted by bandits, took place yesterday. The ceremony was an impressive one. The Civil Governor escorted the remains from the Bund to the grave.

Mr. Mackay and the Chinese are still in captivity in spite of the pressure brought to bear by the British and American Consulates.

The Yenping military have apparently not yet been instructed by the Tuli to act in the matter.

May 25.

The whereabouts and welfare of the captives are unknown. Mr. Carroll, of the China Import & Export Lumber Co., left Yenping to-day with a military escort for Shahsien. A representative of the Tuli also left Foochow to-day for Shahsien. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

May 27.

There is no news of Mr. Mackay and the three Chinese who were captured by bandits. The representative of the Tuli has joined Mr. Carroll's party at Yenping and will proceed to Shahsien.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

American Legation's Note to Waichiaopu Requesting Full Inquiry

Peking, May 26.

The American Legation sent a Note to the Waichiaopu on Saturday calling attention to the report of the murder of Mr. Dinsmore and expressing hope that a full inquiry would be held and that if the circumstances proved as reported, the murderers would be suitably punished. The Note added that the Legation hoped that Americans in future would be properly protected.

The British Legation has sent a Note to the Waichiaopu concerning the captivity of Mr. Mackay and asking the Chinese Government to take immediate steps for his release.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Mr. Mackay's Cruel Plight

Foochow, May 29.

Mr. Carroll, at Shashien, received a letter from Mr. Mackay dated May 26 in which he said that he was weak and that he hoped that early relief would be forthcoming. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINESE CHARGE AGAINST MR. WEATHERBE

Peking, May 20.

The Waichiaopu has sent to the British Legation the deposition of the Octroi official, in connexion with the Weatherbe case, with a request that the matter be brought to the attention of the British Consul and that the Waichiaopu be notified of the date on which the case will be heard, so that a Chinese official observer can attend.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

BOMB OUTRAGE AT FOOCHOW

Foochow, May 27.

Two bombs were thrown at the Military Governor last evening. He was unhurt, but the Chief of Staff and also Gen. Lu Hsian-ting were wounded, and his chauffeur, two soldiers and a non-commissioned officer killed.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

An Association has been formed in Paris to urge the remission of the French share of the Boxer Indemnity.

FIVE MISSIONARIES CAPTURED

Fresh Outrage in Kuangsi: Party Sent to Relieve Colleagues in Kueilin

Peking, May 21.

The British missionaries, Mr. R. A. Jaffray and Mr. E. H. Caine, and the American missionaries, Messrs. Rex and Ray and Dr. Miller, travelling from Wuchow to Pinglo on board the American hospital-ship Roanoke, were captured by bandits at Taiwan, ten miles from Pienlo. The whole party were carried off into the hills.

This is the party, that was mentioned as proceeding to Kueilin with the object of succouring the missionaries in that beleaguered city with the approval of the local Chinese authorities, reports having reached Wuchow that two missionaries had been killed at Kueilin.

The American Vice-Consul, Mr. Chamberlain, has been sent to Wuchow from Canton to try to effect the release of the captured missionaries and to see what can be done for the missionaries at Kueilin.

The British and American Legations have drawn the attention of the Chinese Government to this latest outrage, requesting immediate steps towards the release of the captives.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE WUSIH SILK HARVEST

Averaging One Third of Normal Year: Farmers Holding out for Big Prices

From Our Own Correspondent

Wusih, May 28.

Mr. Carpenter, the well-known American writer of books of travel, spent a day in Wusih last week, where he was much interested in his observations of the silk industry.

The silk worm harvest this year averages only 30 per cent. Last Saturday the Cocoon Merchants Guild held a meeting and agreed to open 125 hongs. It was also agreed that no buying could be done from the farmers until a certain day fixed by the Guild. This is with a view to stabilizing the price. The first price to be offered the farmers will be $45 a picul. There is no likelihood, however, that the farmers will accept this price, in view of the scarcity of cocoons, and the price is likely to reach between $60 and $70.

Execution of Robbers.

Four robbers were executed on Sunday on the execution grounds just inside the South Gate. Twenty-four robberies have taken place within a mile of Wusih in the last three weeks, and it is believed that these four men were involved in all the robberies. The robberies had been commited among small shops of the poorer class, but emboldened by success the robbers were planning an attempt on the silk hongs. A unique feature which contributed to the success of the robberies was the judicious use of large fire-crackers, which were set off singly, in order to give the effect of pistol shots.

Rounding up the Beggars.

As is probably well-known to all old residents in China, there is a custom among beggars, which is actually upheld by the law, of levying a tax on all shops. This is collected by companies of beggars, and if the shopkeeper shows any reluctance about paying it, the beggars have a right to overturn or throw into the street all property in his shop. The Wusih Chief of Police is formulating a plan for collecting this tax and using it to establish a home for beggars, including industrial work, for those physically and mentally fit. If this plan receives the support of the gentry, as it doubtless will in so progressive a city as Wusih, it will almost certainly succeed, and will result in the removal of beggars from the streets. The proposed situation of the refuge is an unused rice store-house just outside the West Gate.

The Chinese Press announces with some flourish, that the Ministry of Interior in view of the influx of Russians is framing laws to prevent unemployed refugees from entering China. An excellent move, only rather late in the day.

THE CIVIL WAR IN KUANGTUNG

Fighting Prevented by Heavy Rainfall: Dispositions of Rival Forces

Canton, May 24.

Putting together the general trend of the situation in the region of the East River, the two contending forces under the command of Dr. Sun Yat-sen and Gen. Chen Chiung-ming, repectively, are not in a position to take the offensive against each other for the reason that because of the rainy season, every river in that district is swollen, although sectional skirmishes are taking place here and there. The combined troops under Dr. Sun Yat-sen, with the Hunan troops on the left wing and the Yunnan and Kuangsi troops on the right wing, are now holding their own against Gen. Chen Chiung-ming's troops with the troops under Gen. Lin Hu on the right wing and those under Gen. Yeh Chu on the left wing.

In the meantime, in the district of the West River, the troops under the command of Gen. Shen Hung-ying are still besieging Kueilin. Though rumour has it that Gen. Shen's troops have been defeated and retreated it appears to be groundless. The troops under Lu Fu-hsing belonging to Gen. Lu Yung-ting, reinforced by friendly troops in Matsuhsien, have already reached Kueilin. It seems probable, therefore, that the attack on Kueilin by Gen. Shen Hung-ying's troops will hardly bear fruit.

In the southern part of the West River, it has been repeatedly reported that Gen. Lin Chung-ting has pledged allegiance to Dr. Sun Yat-sen, but this report appears to be untrue, for the attitude of Gen. Lin Chung-ting is still uncertain, and a portion of his troops is being stationed in the region of Chinchow. Accordingly, it is reported, Dr. Sun contemplates making the Kuangsi troops in Wuchow confront Gen. Lin's troops. It is said that the troops under Gen. Li, belonging to Gen. Lu Yung-ting, which are stationed in Yulin, have communicated with Gen. Lin Chun-ting's troops stationed in the district of Chinchow. Rumour is rife that a portion of Gen. Shu Tsung-chi's troops stationed in the region of the East River has surrendered to Gen. Chen Chiung-ming.

Marshal Wu's Programme.

Of late, Marshal Wu Pei-fu has caused the Peking Government to announce the appointments of General Lin Hu as Tuli of Military Affairs of Kuangtung and of other officials of the same province. Marshal Wu is, at the same time, alleged to have formulated the following items as a counter-measure against Canton:—

(1) To station Gen. Sun Chuan-fang on the border of Fukien and to make him communicate with General Chen Chiung-ming's troops;

(2) To station Gen. Hung Chao-lin's troops in Chaochow and Swatow with their headquartes at Hweichow;

(3) To appoint Gen. Yang Ken-ju and Gen. Yeh Chu Commanders-in-Chief of the Northern Army and Southern Army, respectively, with a view to making a general attack upon Dr. Sun's troops.

(4) To compromise the discord between Chang Yi and Yang Shu-chuang at Swatow, thereby strengthening the union of the forces belonging to the North and to despatch the Northern Fleet to the South.

By the foregoing plan, Marshal Wu Pei-fu is reported to have resolved to solve the whole Canton question within the next three months. Upon receipt of the above news, Dr. Sun's headquarters are now discussing what steps should be taken against the probable general attack by the troops from the North. In case Marshal Wu's plan is realized and if the time of opening hostilities on such a large scale should really come, it is inferred that Dr. Sun's troops will adopt strategy on the basis of the presumption that the Northern troops will appear in the district of Shekung, advancing along the Canton-Kowloon line.—Eastern News Agency.

THE BESSELL OUTRAGE

Colonel Chen to Be Retried: British Legation Chinese Secretary Watching

Peking, May 28.

The Waichiaopu has informed the British Legation that the re-trial of Colonel Chen will be held at the Ministry of War on June 30.

Mr. Eric Teichman, Chinese Secretary to the Legation, will attend as official observer.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ICHANG OLD RESIDENT

Farewell to Rev. T. R. Kearney Going Home After 30 Years' Residence

Ichang, May 19.

A garden-party was held to-day in the grounds of the British Consulate to bid farewell to the Rev. T. R. Kearney of the Church of Scotland Mission, who is about to return to Scotland after 30 years spent in Ichang. Mr. Kearney was presented by Mr. Eastes, the Consul, with a printed testimonial mounted on silk and a leather suit case as a parting gift from the foreign community.

The river above Ichang is likely to create a record for low water this year. The large ships which went up to Chungking on a temporary rise over five weeks ago are still perforce anchored there.

The Alice Dollar was reported to have touched rock on the way down, but cannot have been much damaged as she is now on her way up again.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MANCHU EX-EMPEROR AT SUMMER PALACE

His First Appearance Outside Peking City

Peking, May 24.

The Manchu Emperor and Empress paid a visit to the Summer Palace to-day. The Emperor left the Forbidden City in a motor-car soon after 11 a.m., accompanied by Mr. R. F. Johnston. The Empress and three daughters of Prince Ch'un (the ex-Regent) followed in another car, and in the remaining cars (about seven in number) were seated Mr. Chang Hsiao-hsu (Comptroller of the Household), Messrs. Shao-Ying and Ch'i Ling (Ministers of the Household) and other Palace officials and officers of the Guard.

This was not only the first time the Manchu Emperor had visited the Summer Palace, but the first time he had ever left the city of Peking.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

OSAKA LABOUR UNREST

Gasworks, Trams, Iron and Coal All Affected

Osaka, May 27.

There have recently been many labour troubles here. For instance, a strike of over 300 gas-workers has seriously interfered with the supply of fuel to households and works. Over 100 conductors and motormen of the Suburban Tramway have struck, while the operatives of a large spinning mill have also ceased work. Other strikes included over a thousand workers at the Osaka Ironworks and 1,500 workers at the Miike Coal Mine. These strikes are regarded as a counter-offensive by labour against possible reduction of wages and other unfavourable measures.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Mr. W. C. Woodfield, Rear-Commodore of the Shanghai Yacht Club, has received full proof of the necessity of giving precise details when ordering goods from Chinese. He designed a racing burgee for his new sailing sampan, the Wraith—a striking figure of a ghost on a black ground—and gave the sketch to a sailmaker with the verbal order for a silk burgee, "twelve by twelve." His surprise may be imagined when a few days later he untied a parcel and found a beautiful silk burgee 12 feet square! Mr. Woodfield now is thinking of buying one of the old Shamrocks on which to mount the burgee.

TIBETAN CRUELTY

Priest's Torture in a Lamasery in 1910 Recalled by Death of Fr. Davenas

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tachienlu, Sze., Apr. 29.

Père Davenas, one of the local French fathers, died this afternoon at two o'clock. His death, after a long illness, is the direct result of ill-treatment received many years ago during his residence in the interior when he was a martyr to Tibetan cruelty. During the year of Revolution he was stationed at Dawo, six days beyond Tachienlu and on the main north road to Lhasa. The change of government left the border in a very chaotic condition. Chinese troops were hurried from the frontier to defend the old dynasty. The sudden exodus of Chinese soldiers gave the Tibetans an opportunity to rebel and retaliate on the undermanned garrisons. This they were not slow to do and many a bloody deed enacted in Eastern Tibet at that time has passed on unrecorded in history. However, a day of reckoning came and the Tibetans paid dearly for the advantage they took of the depleted garrisons. Dawo was one of the places which suffered very severely. At that time it had a large lamasery with nearly 2,000 resident lamas. As soon as the Chinese soldiers had retired, Pére Davenas and the local Chinese magistrate were seized and hurried into the lamasery. For ten long weary days they suffered the most cruel and ignominious treatment—death, if lamaism had permitted it, would have been a kindness. In the temple courtyard they were stripped naked and securely fastened to two stakes. They suffered extremely from the sun by day and severely from the cold by night. The poor French father was insulted and suffered bodily injuries daily. Tied thus to a stake in the open temple courtyard, magistrate and Catholic priest were jeered at by the lamas. During 1910, the year before the Revolution, I remember seeing Père Davenas in Tachienlu. He was then a young man of about 26 with a long, full brown beard. He looked the very picture of health.

While tied to the wooden stake in the temple courtyard, the lamas, as they passed in and out of the temple, pulled one hair out of the French father's beard and slapped him on the face. After every hair had been pulled out, he and the Chinese official were dragged about the courtyard and finally to edge of the Yalong, presumably to be thrown into the river. For some reason they were dragged back again.

A Terrible Retribution.

A few days later several hundred Chinese soldiers came suddenly down on Dawo. The priest and magistrate were immediately released and the Chinese soldiers gave the lamas three days to think about their behaviour. About midnight a light appeared in the lamasery; the cause was unknown. Fearing the lamas should try to escape the soldiers surrounded the temple buildings and to them a quite justifiable carnage commenced. Hundreds of lamas were killed; the lamasery was looted and destroyed. Père Valentin and another Frenchman went up to Dawo and brought Père Davenas down to Tachienlu.

Since that dreadful experience the priest's health has never been the same. The awful uncertainty as to his final fate must have told severely on his nerves. Ever since, he has walked about a broken man, mentally and physically. And now the end has come and Père Davenas has gone to his rest. The Sisters in the French Hospital here have done all that nursing skill could do. Some weeks ago there was very little hope of the priest's recovery; the illness was too protracted and the nervous shock too severe to hold out any hope.

Never Desert Their Flocks.

The life lived by the French priests along the frontier here must be exceedingly lonely; apparently they don't adopt the policy of putting two in one place, simply for companionship. In eight different centres along the border here there are eight French priests located. Many of those centres are away among the mountains and in sometimes very isolated places. They all exert a good influence ever the people and by constantly living among them are able to see their work come to fruition. Along the Tibetan frontier here their work is specially well and widely known.

NORTHERN CHINA SUFFERING FROM DROUGHT

Serious Shortage of Wheat: How the Evil Might Have Been Averted if Advice of Famine Relief Association Had Been Taken

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kaifeng, Ho., May 20.

For many months prior to the beginning of May the whole of northern China, and especially was it so in Honan, suffered from an alarming drought. It began to look very serious for the wheat crop in this and the neighbouring provinces for the wheat straw was but six or seven inches long, and was rapidly yellowing, with a head not quite half the length of a head in the ordinary year. Early in the month very good rains fell in this district, but other districts have still to record the absence of rain, and word comes from Shansi that no rain has fallen there. From those who have travelled extensively it is inferred that the wheat will be from four-tenths to a half crop in Honan; about one-fifth of a crop in Northern Kiangsu; a half crop in Shantung; six-tenths crop in Chihli; and but four-tenths in Shansi. With the rains that have fallen over a considerable stretch of the north the ripening has been arrested and the heads will fill, so that generally speaking there will be half of a wheat crop in the north country. This will mean distress, but as the seeding for the later crops had been speeded by the rains there is a feeling of satisfaction that there will not be the dread threat of famine.

A Lost Opportunity.

Apropos of this whole problem of recurring crop failure and famine distress, it is interesting to note what an opportunity Honan has at the very present time of grappling with the question of prevention. The Honan International Famine Relief Association has been reorganized on lines approved by the Peking Commission. It has engaged permanent executive secretaries, both Chinese and foreign, and is pitiful to hear concurrent reports difficulties connoted in the words "Famine prevention."

The present opportunity arises from the willingness of the Commission to fully co-operate with the local forces both in the allocation of expert men and the appropriation of money to carry through an adequate survey of the Yellow River and to project plans for a comprehensive conservancy scheme.

From the reports one gets of the Association work, rather of their proposals for work, the public cannot but approve their schemes, which are wholly calculated to insure crops and to lessen or prevent the chances of future famines and their consequent distress. It is very pitiful to hear concurrent reports that the Honan authorities are not giving any active support to the schemes proposed by the Commission. Not only has no support been given but there seems to be a spirit of opposition manifested by Marshal Wu Pei-fu to this work that on the very face of it should commend itself to his better judgment.

The Yellow River.

When Mr. O. J. Todd was in Honan he made a report to the Association containing some most interesting features. His proposal was that the Yellow River control is at present the most important engineering problem in Honan. Properly to recommend any schemes for the solution of this problem, most careful studies should be made extending over a period of several months. Undoubtedly the schemes that would be approved on the basis of this field work would call for improvement along the river for a distance of about 250 miles, from the loes hills northwest of Loyang to the Chihli boundary. If these schemes could be carried through they would add approximately $50,000,000 to the wealth of the province in newly reclaimed farm lands besides preparing the way for extensive irrigation and refertilization works along the river.

In some parts that came under the chief engineer's notice the river is from five to 10 li wide, and in these parts the stream is but from one to two feet deep. It could be narrowed down to one and a half li and the stream deepened to 30 feet. If this were done there would be a million mow of land reclaimed undoubtedly, and the river banks so under such a scheme would be so built that there would not be the constant threat of overflow of the river waters in the time of heavy rainfall.

American Boxer Indemnity.

Just now it is interesting to speculate what might have been the possibilities of getting some of the refund of the American Boxer indemnity if Marshal Wu had given a sympathetic hearing to the representations that were made to him several months ago. The Association is still waiting for an answer to several letters asking for official sanction for the start of this engineering field work along the river. In the meantime the Association is sending a telegram to Washington asking that President Coolidge will consider this great work of Yellow River conservancy, when deciding what China should do with the refunded money.

PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE

Attempt to Rush it Through American Senate

Washington, May 28.

An attempt may be made this Session to secure affirmative action, either in the Senate or the House of Representatives, on a Bill providing for the future Independence of the Philippines. Two such Bills are now pending—one introduced by Senator Hiram W. Johnson, granting independence within 25 years, and the other, drafted by Representative L. W. Fairfield, fixing the period at 20 years. The Filipino Independence Mission, which is now here, told Mr. John W. Weeks, Secretary of War, that either Bill would be satisfactory.—Reuter's American Service.

According to the Chinese press the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has lodged a strong protest with the Soviet Delegation in Peking, and presented a bill for heavy indemnities, in connexion with several raids made by Russians in Siberia across the Chinese border where they are said to have shot a number of Chinese and looted their homes.

CAPT. DOLLAR'S TRIBUTE TO SHANGHAI

New York, May 3.

Shanghai, in arrivals and clearances, has become the second greatest port of the world, Captain Robert Dollar, veteran steamship owner and President of the Dollar Steamship Company, told a large group of business men at a luncheon given in his honour yesterday at India House. New York, said the Captain, held first place. Captain Dollar gave his observations everywhere on his recent trip round the world, but emphasized particularly the vast growth of China.—Reuter's American Service.

AEROPLANE FATALITY AT FOOCHOW

Foochow, May 27.

The airman, M. Savanoff, fell this morning and was drowned in Pagoda Anchorage.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The Dragon Festival has once again given rise to much anxiety and worry in official circles, says a Northern paper. Within the next two weeks there will be pressing demands for pay on all sides. It is generally estimated that the total amount required for the Festival is somewhere around $8,000,000.

CHINA'S NATIONAL DISGRACE AGAIN

Nationalism-cum-Bolshevism: Anti-foreign Fostered in Schools

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, May 16.

Although the anti-Japanese boycott has practically died out, a good deal of anti-Japanese, and in general anti-foreign, propaganda is still being carried on. A very poisonous type of so-called socialist (though really anti-social) views are being spread by some society or societies whose name is not revealed. The evidence lies in certain anonymous pamphlets, which arrive by post from time to time. These pamphlets are sent to schools, in envelopes addressed to the whole body of students. In missionary institutions, they probably find their way into the fire or the waste-paper basket before they ever reach the eyes of schoolboys; but there is no doubt that in government schools they are being widely circulated, and they possibly have a good deal of influence over some of the more ignorant and headstrong.

The kind of ideas which are thus circulating in some sections of the student-world are illustrated by a pamphlet which recently came into the hands of the writer. It is called Tract No. 57, "Kao Ch'ing Nien," or "Call to Youth;" and the only clue to its origin are some characters stamped in red, and meaning "Youth's Section's of the Socialist Club." It was issued specially in connexion with the recent celebration of May 7, and a full translation is as follows:—

Japan Not the Only Oppressor.

"Beloved Young Citizens of China! We all know that ten years ago from to-day the twenty-one demands were granted by Yuan Shih-kai, whose infamy has lasted after his death. The oppressors who forced China to grant the twenty-one demands were the barbarous Japanese. But, we must recognize clearly that the usurpers of China's rights are not only the Japanese; the betrayers of China's rights are more than Yuan Shih-kai; China's national disgrace is not limited to the seventh day of the fifth month.

"The humiliation of the seventh day of the fifth month was the first step in the betrayal which China has suffered at the hands of the militarists. The oppression of the twenty-one demands was the commencement of a system of usurpation on the part of imperialist nations. At the present time, the great powers abroad and the militarist party at home, are plotting together against China's government. We Chinese people are the victims of this double oppression. The powers which are usurping China's sovereign rights are England, France, America, Italy and others. Not one of them is innocent. Why stop at Japan? Those who are betraying China's sovereign rights are the whole party of northern militarists. Not one is innocent. Why stop at Yuan Shih-kai? China's national disgrace consists in the following facts: our Customs are controlled by England; foreign warship sail up our rivers; extraterritoriality is extended to all ports. Not one of these things is not an encroachment. Why stop at the twenty-one demands?

"Beloved youth of China! To-day we loathe the betrayal of Yuan Shih-kai; do not forget the betrayal of all the northern militarists! We hate the oppression of Japanese imperialism; let us not be unmindful of the oppression of all the imperialistic nations! We are determined to avenge the twenty-one demands; let us not forget to avenge all the other national disgraces!

The Call to Youth.

"Beloved young fellow-countrymen! To begin with, we must clearly recognize that to-day we are founding a great republican club, of which the terrible watchward is, "Down with All Imperialism." It is not the abortive movement against Japan! We hate, and swear to destroy all the northern militarist traitors. It is not the dead Yuan Shih-kai!

"Beloved group of young men! We want to sift to the bottom, and to search out a patriotic policy, with the object of avenging our national disgrace. We must choose the artifice of a people's revolution. Abroad, we must oppose all imperialism; at home we must overthrow the northern militarists. We send you greetings. Long live the revolution!"

A notice to mariners issued by the Coast Inspector states that a light-beacon has been established on the mud flats adjacent to Tatungkow, entrance to the Yalu River, and is situated 1.75 miles S. ¶ deg. E., magnetic, from Tatungkow Custom House. This light, which was first exhibited on May 20, is unwatched, and shows a flashing white light every three seconds, thus:—

Light	0.3 sec.
Eclipse	2.7 sec.

and should be visible in clear weather for a distance of ten miles. The light is not exhibited during the winter when the Yalu River is closed by ice.

THE JADE WATER TEMPLE

A Famous Shrine and the Deities Who Rule The Ways of Life

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Mienchow, Sze., May 1.

The Jade Water Temple stands by the River Fuh on the north bank not far from where the city of Mienchow stood in days before the river washed it away: but that is another story.

It is a pretty spot. The temple stands amongst the trees, rising three storeys high in the usual style of Chinese architecture. It stands some distance from the present city, and was chosen by a party of attacking generals last year as a place suitable for a conference. They ensconced themselves in the middle storey along with Chen Chiang Wang Ie (the god who controls the waters) and his two friends, the god of wealth and a gentleman with three eyes. While they were in the midst of their deliberations a shell fell so close to the temple that they fled precipitately.

This temple is an interesting example of a Chinese pantheon. Facing one as one enters is the Song-tsi niang-niang, or Tao'st equivalent of the Buddhist son-giving goddess of mercy. To her left is another shrine containing a large image of the god who delivers mothers from the blood-pool; the blood-pool is one of the darkest creeds in Chinese mythology. A man was worshipping here, doubtless on behalf of his wife. On this god's left and right were the sun-god and moon-goddess, the Yang and Yin, or male and female principles of nature: the three together indicating what a hash Chinese religious thought has made of the sacredness of sex.

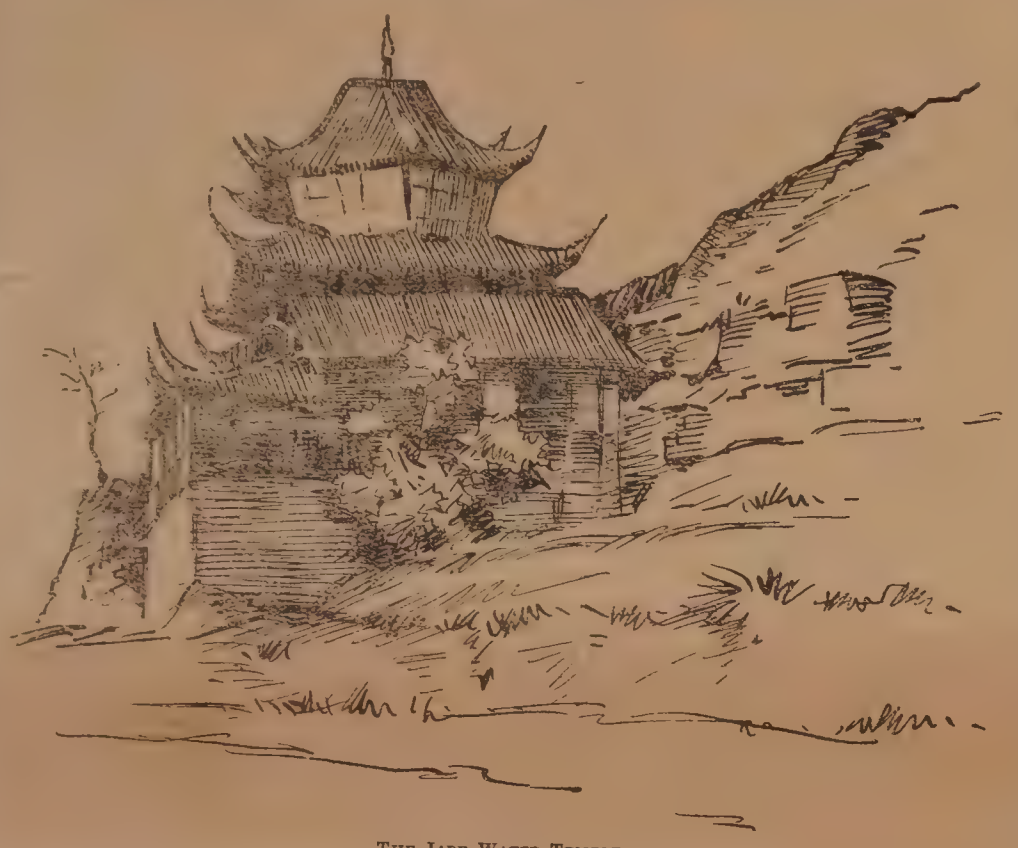
Potents of Marriage.

Within the temple to the right of the son-giver are the horse and cow-gods, both riding their respective animals. Some writers say that the horse and the cow are mutually antipathetic: e.g., a boy born under the horse must not marry a girl born under the cow. This would seem to be only partly true, for a necromancer seems to be able to decide that there may be exceptions to that rule, as also with the other antipathetic animals of the cycle.

Above the horse and cow gods are two shrines, the lower containing a Buddha, and the upper contains the thunder god, and his wife —Mrs. Lightning. On the ground floor to the extreme left of the temple is a spring where the Jade Water flows. In front of it is a large shrine containing the gods of war and literature. Kuan-yü, the god of war, was a famous general of the Three Kingdom period, a man as virtuous as he was brave and one to whom we need not deny hero-worship even though we begrudge him divine honours. Wen-chang, the god of literature, is said by Dr. Du Bose to be one of a triad with Kuan-yü and Confucius. The people up here say he was born at Tsitong, a city about 40 miles to the north of Mienchow. Above these two in a little shrine all to himself is Erlung, who causes Chen Chiang Wang Ie so much trouble as the turbulent inhabitant of the river. It is he, say the people about here, who makes the floods when he gets out of hand. Above him is a large pantheon of Buddhist gods and goddesses.

The People at Peace.

In the second storey, as we said above, are the god of the river, the god of wealth, and the dragon king (?). The inscription on their shrine ran:—"Erect a jade pivot and all things will be arranged and the people at peace."



THE JADE WATER TEMPLE

In the top storey, a single figure without a shrine is Kuei-sin, the star of literature. The temple, like many of the temples in Mienchow, is in a good state of preservation. The superficial observer may regard this as a bad omen in these days of transition, when China is supposed to be leaving the old paths. On the other hand we may argue that it is a sign of religious alertness on the part of the people. Mind is most certainly not so lethargic as it was 20 years ago. If the people are busy renovating their temples, it is also true that many are occupied in the search for something better. This temple stands for an old worn-out convention which will certainly pass before the impact of Christian civilization.

MONGOLIA A LAND OF PROMISE

Brides Leaving for U. S. A. before Bill Becomes Law

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tokio, May 14.

In the belief that the new immigration law will prevent the entry of brides who are married after July 1 to the United States, bridegrooms here are hustling the "middle men" and the prospective brides. Husbands-to-be are booking every vacant berth on vessels sailing for the United States between now and July 1.

The O. S. K. str. Africa Maru, which was to leave for America on June 26, has changed her sailing date to June 14 to permit Japanese newly-weds to get to their adopted homes before the doors are closed.

A census of the Japanese hotels in Tokio and Yokohama reveals that they are full. Telegraphic reservations are pouring in from the country districts. Most of the passengers are travelling steerage.

With the United States unwilling to take Japanese emigrants, Mongolia is now being boosted as the best place for Japanese fare-abroads. A "Mongolia Club" has been organized for the purpose, and colonization in Mongolia is to be done on a business basis. A French syndicate, it is rumoured, has offered to finance the business partially.

"A land of great promise," reads part of a statement, in brochure form, to interest Japanese in going there. "The country is fine for stock raising and for agriculture and has valuable gold, silver and coal mines."

There are at present 13 Llama priests studying in Tokio and to their leader is ascribed the statement that Mongolia will welcome the Japanese, and that it will not be difficult to reach a workable agreement with China who claims sovereignty over Inner Mongolia.

SIR R. MACLEAY'S DINNER FOR ADMIRAL LEVESON

Peking, May 23.

There was a brilliant gathering at a dinner given by Sir Ronald Macleay, the British Minister, in honour of Admiral Sir Arthur Leveson, the Commander-in-Chief of the China Station, yesterday evening, the guests including Mr. Sun Pao-chi, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Navy, Commerce and Communications, and General Wang Huai-ching, Sir Francis Aglen, Sir Ernest C. C. Wilton and other high officials.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

DR. SUN VERY MUCH ALIVE

Convincing Evidence from Capt. D'Oisy

Captain D'Oisy lent the "North-China Daily News" last Friday a postcard size photograph having a remarkable interest in view of the furious controversy raging still in Hongkong on the subject of whether Dr. Sun Yat-sen is or is not alive. The photograph shows the gallant aviator standing next to Dr. Sun Yat-sen at a reception given in Captain D'Oisy's honour in Canton on Sunday. The picture is unmistakably that of Dr. Sun and leaves no doubt in our mind as to his existence at the time the photograph was taken. There are a number of other Europeans also in the group, and standing on Dr. Sun's right hand side is a lady who looks very much like his wife. Captain D'Oisy stands on his left. The photograph was taken on the Sunday, but unfortunately is not good enough to re-print. This is the most conclusive evidence we have had in Shanghai regarding this point, and Dr. Sun's supporters and enemies alike may take it from us that on Sunday last the doctor was alive, and to all appearances quite able to all appearances quite able to stand unassisted.

THE GREAT ROAD IN CHEKIANG

Held for Want of Bridges: Soldiers Being Called off for Civil War

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Taichow, Chê, May 22.

For a time splendid work was done on the construction of the important provincial road, which is to run from Hangchow to Swatow. The portion between Taichowfu and Wong-ngaen was finished last year as far as the road itself was concerned. Nothing, however, has been done to build necessary bridges over intervening rivers or canals, so that the road for all practical purposes is useless. Only seasoned, well trained soldiers were put to work on making this road. When Chêkiang was threatened with attack a few months ago these old warriors were sent off to Ningpo and other important centres. Young soldiers took their place and as they needed so much time for drill the road was left without bridges. Whether it will be allowed to fall into such disrepair as to need remaking remains to be seen. Poor old China! What a pity it is her so-called patriots are unable to realize what harm they are doing their country by their threatenings of war and constant quarreling.

Two-headed Baby.

Quite a lot of excitement was caused a few weeks ago in the town and neighbourhood by the birth of a two-headed baby. The poor little monstrosity was quite healthy and well developed when it made its appearance to its astonished parents. They were so alarmed at the sight of it that the father promptly put it outside the house where it soon breathed its last. Speculation was rife as to what might have happened had it lived. Would both brains and hearts have worked in unison, or would one have wanted to sleep and the other have been equally desirous of going to a picture show? What a fortune he would have made, or they, had one throat developed a fine bass voice whilst the other possessed an equally beautiful tenor! The father unhappily was not gifted with a lively imagination, so the world has been deprived of one of its wonders. The people of Taichow came in crowds to see its two heads and necks, as it lay exposed in a box placed on a table outside the Mongtin-de hospital. Curiously enough a two-headed baby was born at Haemeng last year and met the same fate as befell its unfortunate brother near Taichow.

Russian Wanderers.

Had we not gazed upon the two-headed baby we might have been unduly startled at the sudden appearance amongst us of three travel-stained weary-looking Russians. They were walking from Shanghai to Canton hoping to get work at the latter city, having failed to find any at the former. They were asking help of foreigners as they came across them on their journey. Most of such foreigners being missionaries, I believe they will find ready and practical sympathy. The poor fellows were making a plucky effort and deserved help. Their appearance, however, raised a serious question. Is it wise for Europeans to be wandering about China destitutes and "begging their way?" A Chinese pastor who came across them and took them to a missionary, introduced them to him *as "Laen-gonga-koh tao vaen nying," i.e.* "three foreign baggars" I do not suppose the Chinese in Taichow had ever seen "foreign beggars" in their city before. As these men go from place to place their appearance and circumstances under which they travel are likely very materially to lower foreign prestige. One cannot but feel that it is worth while making more determined efforts to help these men in Shanghai where they become stranded, than to allow them to feel forced to undertake such difficult and trying expeditions as that upon which these three men had embarked. To render more effective help in Shanghai would be better for the men and for all concerned, though probably Shanghai people feel they have done more than their share already.

WANTED, A BILL OF RIGHTS FOR SZECHUAN

Peace Society on the Szechuan "War that was to End China's Civil Wars"

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Luchow, Sze., May 3.

Perhaps one direct result of the conference of war lords here was the allotting of various generals and their troops to various places. Thus we have at last been relieved of some of our superfluous soldiery On my way home from a trip into the country the other day I sat by the roadside and waited for what seemed a very long time, but in reality was perhaps not more than 20 minutes, while Yuan Tsu-ming's Kueichow division passed by in a continuous stream. My chairmen said there were more than 10,000 of them; I doubted if there were quite so many as that. There are still many left here.

Plain Speaking at Peace Meeting

This week we were invited to a peace meeting at the government middle school. We went with some hopes that perhaps the common people were at last going to rouse themselves and try to do something, but alas! the personnel and character of the meeting did not bear out our hopes. There seemed to be scarcely any one of any importance present, and all that transpired was an effusion of unprepared speechs with no special point to them. One speaker, a divisional commander, said that it was a case of "like people like soldiers," or in other words that the character of the soldiery was determined by the character of the people from amongst whom they came. The people did not like to hear that, but one cannot but feel that there is truth in it, and that every country gets what government it deserves. The aims of the society were set out on a printed sheet and were roughly as follows.

"The War to End Wars"

"AIMS OF THE PETITION OF RIGHT SOCIETY"—For the past ten years our province has seen almost daily fighting. The rich have been drained of their money, the poor of their strength. There are soldiers in every city and robbers on every road. We common people have suffered so greatly at their hands that we can scarcely bear it any longer. Our woe is unutterable. For the past two years we have hoped that the "war to unite our divided country," as carried on by the northern war lords, would bear fruit. When the northern party in Szechuan was defeated the year before last, they issued posters promising compensation for the losses of war. Since that there has been more than another year of war and the people have directly and indirectly suffered much more. So in seeking for a plan to save our lives, we are organizing a society with the purpose of petitioning our leaders to have pity on us. Chêngtu and Chungking are now free from war, but robbers still abound and we people still suffer at the hands of the soldiers as in time of war, and we have never received any of the promised compensation.

According to the constitution of the Republic, the people should rule. Now that there is no fighting we take this opportunity of presenting our "petition of rights." Our society has only this aim—to save the people from their plight and we hope that in the future there will be no such hardships as in the past. We ask for compensation for the sufferings of the past and guarantees for the future. As conditions are now, schools cannot carry on their classes and farmers cannot cultivate their land.

All this reminds one somewhat of the old story of how the mice all met in solemn conclave one night to discuss ways and means of saving themselves from the cat. After much discussion they decided to adopt the plan of one of the younger mice, namely to tie a bell around the cat's neck so that they could hear her coming and so escape. An older mouse, however, poured cold water on this plan by casually asking "who would bell the cat." One cannot help asking "who will bell the military cat." We can all heartily agree with the sentiment of this slight note of protest, but not yet have we seen a Pym or a Hampden come forward to champion the cause of the people.

Rumoured Plot Against North

There has just been another big conference of army chiefs and three at least of those who fought with the first army throughout the year were present, including no less a personage than the redoubtable Liu I-chiu, former dictator in Chêngtu, and perhaps the richest man in Szechuan before the last turn-over. How much of his wealth has melted away we cannot tell. The purpose and scope of this conference was, of course, not revealed, but there have been distinct whisperings that it was anti-Yang Sen in spirit, and the fear is prevalent that it is only a matter of time, and perhaps not a very long time, before more rivals arise to try their luck at chasing him out of the province. The alleged complaint is that he has handed out all the honours to his own men and has forgotten those numerous others who were less intimately connected with him perhaps but yet espoused his cause.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN CHINA

The Nucleus of a Central China University at Wuchang

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, May 19.

Last Saturday was the annual Speech-Day of Wesley College. In spite of bad weather, quite a number of guests braved the discomfort of Wuchang ricshas, and came to honour the prize-giving ceremony with their presence. The morning sermon in the college chapel was preached by the Rev. A. M. Sherman of Boone University. In the afternoon, the prizes and certificates were distributed by Mr. A. W. J. Watt, manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

In the course of his report, the Principal of Wesley, the Rev. G. M. Thomas, remarked that the number of boarders this term is 197—an advance on all previous records. With the completion of the new buildings which are now in process of erection there will be accommodation for 250 boys. This advance has, in large part, been made possible by the generous assistance which has been given to the institution by the Shanghai British Chamber of Commerce. Last December, six boys were successful in passing the Matriculation Examination of Hongkong University, one of whom obtained honours. One obtained distinction in European History, and all passed with distinction in Mandarin.

Reference was also made to a new development which will commence next September. This is, a Union College for higher education in which the three institutions, Boone University, Griffith John College and Wesley College will each take a share. By the generosity of the American Church Mission, a large part of the campus of Boone University will be set aside for the new college; and a part of the existent buildings will be adapted for use as a hostel by students sent by the Wesleyan Missionary Society and the London Missionary Society. The present Boone College, instead of being known as Boone University, will become the Boone College of the Central China University. It is confidently expected that, as the new enterprise grows, other missions will be eager to have a share in it, and will send students and appoint representatives on the faculty. Thus a real university will develop out of a somewhat modest beginning, and will supply a need which has long been felt by all who have been interested in the Christian education of Central China.

The scheme just outlined is the most important development which has taken place within the last decade in connexion with Christian education in this centre. It is not a new idea. As long ago as 1909, Lord William Gascoyne-Cecil visited China with the express purpose of surveying the field and finding out how the need for higher education of a Christian type could be best met in China. The result of his visit was the plan for a big University in Wuchang. The scheme was taken up enthusiastically both at Oxford and at Cambridge, and a fund was inaugurated to supply the necessary equipment. But unfortunately, the Great War broke into these schemes, and the whole project was left in abeyance.

Since the war, endeavours have been made to revivify the sceme; but for one reason and another it has been found impracticable to bring it to life again on its original large scale. But quite recently the way has opened for a beginning, upon a much more modest plan; and now, with the whole-hearted co-operation of the three missions concerned, and an assured backing from some of the leading merchants of Hankow, there seems every prospect of a commencement which will, in the course of time and by a natural growth, become what many have been hoping for and working for during many years.

MR. CYRUS WOOD'S RESIGNATION

Deeply Regretted by Japanese: Should He Stay to Ensure Peace in Pacific?

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Tokio, May 21.

A chorus of regrets from all over the Empire followed the public announcement of Mr. Cyrus E. Woods' resignation. Mr. Woods has made it clear that his resignation is not due to the immigration question, but because of the injury received by his mother-in-law, Mrs. Marchand, at the time of the earthquake. In a letter to Mr. Katsuji Inahara, managing editor of the English edition of the Tokio *"Nichi Nichi"* who pleaded with Mr. Woods in a striking editorial article, to stay in Japan "because of your responsibility to remain here and help in preventing the outburst of untoward occurrences which threaten the peace of the Pacific," the American Ambassador to Japan says:

> My dear Sir,—I have been much impressed with your editorial. . . I know that the Japanese people are my friends and the Japanese people know that I am their friend. We lived together through the memorable days of the disaster of last September and that has established a relationship between us stronger and more vital than many years of any other association could do.
>
> It is because of this friendship existing between us that I want the Japanese people to understand my position now. I am leaving here with the very deepest regret. If I were to follow my own inclination, I should remain. Unfortunately the injury received by my mother (Mr. Woods has always regarded Mrs. Woods' mother as his mother) at the time of the earthquake has affected her health to such an extent that I feel the duty incumbent on me to return home with her. She is quite old and I feel that her remaining days should be spent in our own home in the United States. This is the reason why I am resigning my position here, but I wish to assure the Japanese people that, even after my return home, I shall not lose my interest in Japan, but will do everything in my power to promote a right understanding between Japan and the United States.

This letter was the outcome of the ablest editorials on the immigration tangle that has yet appeared in the press here. Among other things, the editorial said "we sense a smouldering indignation in the bosom of the populace which will blaze forth like a volcanic eruption: the heat of the general election cools down and the general public is brought back to normal and made to realize the significance of the present (immigration) issue. . . We gather that your law-makers are bent on insulting us, and, if such be their intention, they have well achieved it, for at no time have we felt as insulted as at the present moment. This anger, this indignation, will not be quenched for years to come. . . We feel that the storm of public indignation is slowly, but steadily, gathering. . . When our people come to realize fully the significance and the far-reaching effect which the new regulation will have on the status of the Japanese people, they may be depended on for voicing their resentment in a manner not strictly in conformity with the ideals of pacifists dreamers. . . There will be a combined effort on the part of the intelligent sections to prevent the excited populace from committing acts against the people under your protection in a fit of momentary outburst without waiting for the police and gendarmes. . . Stay and co-operate with us for the peace of the Pacific!"

Smouldering Fires.

Is it possible that the indignation of the nation will go to extremes, precipitating a terrible crisis? The admirable manner in which the people have suppressed their emotion has been excellent, but suppressed emotion, when let off, is liable to blaze all the fiercer. It is quite true that the general elections have engrossed the attention of the public, almost to the exclusion of the immigration question, especially that of the intelligentsia, and many thought, that, while the wound would rankle for years perhaps, anything like the populace getting out of hand is not probable. Impulses, however, whether of individuals or of collections of individuals, cannot easily be controlled.

Mr. Hanihara to Resign Too?

The Japanese regard the resignation of Mr. Woods as a sacrifice to duty, despite the Ambassador's statement that private considerations force him to resign. The Japanese have always demanded that a person, when he fails to do what he regards as his duty by the State, regardless of whether it is his fault or not, should sacrifice himself. In the olden days *hara-kiri* was resorted to. Nowadays it is resignation. Ambassador Wood's resignation is regarded as a species of *hara-kiri* and as the only correct thing for him to do. Despite denials Mr. Hanihara will undoubtedly resign too.

The devotion that he has shown to his mother-in-law, especially on that awful day in September last, when Mr. Woods carried Mrs. Marchand, wounded, commandeered a ricsha, and, in the absence of a kurmaya-san (ricsha puller) got between the shafts himself and pulled his aged mother-in-law to safety, has endeared him to the Japanese as much as his efforts for promoting friendship and amity between the two nations. This is but natural in a land where the family system and parental reverence is the basis of all life and what proceeds from life.

Mr. Woods has been the best known and most respected of all the representatives that Japan has had since the time of Townshend Harris. His name is known and revered throughout the Empire. His resignation is generally interpreted as meaning that the exclusion measure has gone beyond recall, especially as it synchronizes with the Senate's over-riding of the President's possible veto.

JAPANESE POLITICS

The Selection of a Premier

Kioto, May 26.

Owing to the presence of Prince Saionji, who is the Regent's Chief Adviser in the selection of the next Premier, the political centre has shifted here. Callers on the aged statesman include the Premier, Viscount Kiyoura, who had two hours' tête-à-tête yesterday.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LEPROSY IN INDIA

"Prejudice of Public Opinion"

BY A STUDENT IN A PHILADELPHIA SCHOOL

The annual report of the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine contains a chapter on leprosy research by Dr. E. Muir, who states that the most encouraging results in leprosy are those obtained in early cases.

"Our experience shows," he states, "that leprosy can almost always be diagnosed long before it has become infectious, that is to say, the disease may be recognized by clinical signs long before bacteriological examinations are positive. We have further found that most early cases lose all signs of active disease within a few months, if they remain regularly under treatment and comply with instructions given with regard to sanitation, diet and general habits.

"The most hopeful method of dealing with leprosy must, therefore, depend on early diagnosis and early treatment. To carry this out, dispensaries are essential, which must be situated within easy reach of the patients and conducted by medical men who are well qualified to diagnose and treat leprosy. One of the greatest difficulties, however, in carrying out this line of action is the long-standing prejudice of the people.

"A proposal was made to erect an institute in Calcutta for the treatment of early cases of leprosy, to be equipped with an adequate laboratory for research purposes. It was proposed to erect this institute on the opposite side of the street from the School of Tropical Medicine. But so great was the opposition raised by the local inhabitants that the scheme had to be abandoned. The inhabitants evidently preferred that the hundreds of early cases of leprosy in their midst should remain untreated till, they had reached the more advanced stages of the disease. It is evident that whatever remedies may be brought forward by research will be of little avail until the ignorance and superstition of the public has been enlightened."

The report also states that it is hoped that the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association, recently formed in London, will lend a helping hand in dealing with the great problem of leprosy in India. Thanks largely to the magnificent work of Sir Leonard Rogers, the control of the much dreaded scourage of leprosy had now become practicable.

MOST VAST CHINESE SPORTS MEETINGS

Are These Large Undertakings Really the Best Thing for Chinese Schoolboys

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, May 15.

The Wu Han athletic sports of a fortnight ago have been followed by the Central China Sports, which were held in Changsha last Friday and Saturday. These again, are to be followed by the National (All-China) sports, which will be held in Wuchang the week after next, May 22—24. The Central China Sports are open to competitors from the four provinces of Hupeh, Hunan, Anhui and Kiangsi; but naturally most of the competitors were from the two nearer provinces and the majority of the prizes were carried of by Hunanese and Hupehese. The National Sports will be open to athletes from all the 18 provinces; it will be a big gathering, and it will be interesting to see how many of the provinces will actually be represented.

It is open to question whether the holding of sports-meetings on such a large scale is really the best way to encourage athletics in China. The organizers of these big meetings are well-meaning men, and experts in their own line. Some of them come to China for the express purpose of organizing sports, and they put a very great deal of time and energy into their work. But it is a pity that they do not study conditions in inland China, and the needs of Chinese students, before they jump to the conclusion that American methods of holding sports competitions are the best suited for developing a love of athletics in the Chinese.

In the first place, it is demoralizing to schoolboys to have their studies broken into three times in two months by these big occasions. Naturally they all expect a holiday, and in government schools of course they get it. In mission schools, more discretion is used in granting holidays for such occasions; but even then, the competitors have to go, and the boy scouts must go to make a show or else the school gets the reputation of being a backwater. In this country, where schools find it necessary to observe a double set of public holidays, owing to the co-existence of the Chinese and foreign calendars, it is too much to expect that extra holidays of two or three days each shall be granted in addition so frequently.

Too Much "Corpore Sano"

But a much more serious objection is the fact that these big gatherings give to the youth of China quite a wrong idea of the proper place of athletics in school life. The impression is given that the only way to conduct sports is to hold committees for several weeks, to spend a great deal of money in organizing and advertising, and to collect great crowds and appoint a large number of sports officials to control the course. Instead of sports becoming a natural part of school life, they become an extra, to be indulged in on public occasions, the chief object being show and excitement. Instead of all the students being encouraged to take their part in these physical recreations, it is the select few who are sent in with a view to winning places, and the majority form part of the idle crowd of onlookers. Furthermore, these sports are very costly. It requires an army of coolies to prepare the ground; the expenses of the competitors who come from great distances must amount to a good deal; and much is also spent on printing, decorations and prizes. This does not matter much, because the expenses are usually covered by a lump sum donated by some big official. But the money might surely be put to a much better use. Most of the government schools have no athletic grounds of their own, or at best very small ones, and their sports equipment is very inadequate. Consequently there is no regular training done by way of preparation for public contests. If these big sums were devoted to enabling schools to give to sports and games a more adequate place in their ordinary curriculum, a much worthier end would be served.

THE CHINA PONY-CROSSBREED CONTROVERSY

A Contention That It Is Impossible to Keep out the New Type of Animal Now Coming

From a Correspondent.

In publishing the following article we are not to be taken as necessarily endorsing the arguments advanced.—Ed.

Tientsin, May 22.

One or two decades hence when the last of the pure China pony tribe is pensioned off by the last Municipal Council to make way for the latest motor water-sprinkler the evolution which finally spelled his well-earned retirement may be chronicled by a keenly observing historian as having commenced with the Tientsin Spring Meeting in 1924. It will be written that back in those good old days an attempt was made by amateur racing men to legislate against evolution, Darwin, Huxley, Drummond notwithstanding, in an effort to maintain a useful but worn-out strain of animal because the racing men of those times wished to indulge themselves in the Sport of Kings at the price of peasants. Nevertheless, the historian will continue, instead of absorbing the first products of cross-breeding and permitting the status of racing ponies to gradually to evolve into the remarkable animal we have today, even though it may have caused some temporary inconvenience, those transient treaty-port residents, concerned in the economic progress of China only in so far as it affected their "health," drew up racing laws against the cross-breed and segregated it into a separate class. However, it will be written, this segregation in itself was the most unfortunate act of a generally unfortunate series, for it at once established a contrast between the performances of so-called pure China ponies and the cross-breed, in which contrast the poor little "thoroughbred" suffered deeply. This, the first step in the evolution of our present racing animals, may be said to have dated from the Spring Meeting of the Tientsin Race Club back in 1924, when the segregated or B Class ponies astonished the racing fraternity of the Far East by smashing three all-China records. It was in this meeting that a thirteen-one hands crossbreed ran the mile for the first time in the history of Far Eastern racing in under two minutes.

In such a manner, we believe, will the racing historian discourse on the evolution of race ponies two decades hence.

Retarding Evolution.

If the foreign amateur race clubs retain the lead in racing in China no doubt the evolution will be retarded. They are composed of a majority of men who are anxious to obtain the thrills incident to racing at a cost within their generally moderate purses. With a few hundred taels the so-called "small" owner can purchase a China pony, of the pure Mongol type, and possibly win a race or two, with a few places. He undoubtedly gets his thrill and no amount of reasoning will convince him that it is not worth the money he wastes. To lead or ride his pony and his silken colours past an admiring and hand-clapping throng is worth to him all the excess gold he can accumulate between meetings. Transient public commendation, feminine admiration and masculine thumps on the back mean more to him than investing his money in solid securities. As for financial compensation, the small owner may or may not be impelled by the gain motive. He may or may not have visions of annexing large sums of money through the prowess of his Mongol steed, but he usually figures upon getting his money back.

This, of course, is the theory of amateur racing. In practice it is otherwise. The big owners—the Taipan class—make all the money there is to be made, and usually make it at the expense of the small owner. It cannot be otherwise with men who can afford to call in their head mafoos and say, "Mafoo, here's ten thousand dollars, go Kalgan side more far catchee me four five fast pony—see?" Pure China pony or crossbreed, it makes no difference, the rich amateur has the advantage all the time, except in rare and accidental cases. One of the exceptions that proves the rule is the famous "Old Bill" of Shanghai [illegible] the Morriss, Arnhold, Toegs, J.M.D., Major Nathan, Howell, Morling and the many "Ewo" taipan stables that provide the bulk of successful racing history.

What Chinese Clubs Will Do.

If, we will repeat, the foreign amateur race clubs retain the lead in China racing, the evolution of the China pony will be retarded, but signs are not wanting that they will not. The Chinese have only recently caught on to the idea of organized racing and, with the Kiangwan, Nankai and Nanyuan Clubs as examples, it will not be many years before every "fu" city in China has its Race Club. At present these clubs are largely influenced in their management and rules by the foreign race clubs, many of whose members have aided their establishment, but as they progress we think they will be the last to legislate against the improvement of their own country's horseflesh. The few hundred dollars difference in price between a Mongol pony and a crossbreed will mean nothing to rich Chinese owners, even though they should maintain racing on an amateur basis. If racing should become professionalized in China the crossbred will without doubt supersede the China pony almost immediately.

It has been argued that the crossbreed is coming down from the north at the present time because of the effect of the great war. It is said that before the war they used to be in demand as cavalry mounts in the Tsarist armies, but that the subsequent disorganization led to a falling off in the demand and that when the Russian armies are reorganized these crossbreeds will go north again into Russia. Such an argument reckons without the fact that horses are no longer considered of the first usefulness in modern warfare and that horseflesh was long ago largely superseded by motor-tractors tanks and other forms of mechanical transportation. If Trotsky's modern Soviet army cannot create a demand for crossbred cavalry mounts, we do not think any future Russian army will do any better. The gradual disappearance of the horse in peaceful pursuits will also contribute its effect on the demand for horses in Russia as elsewhere.

No Progressing Backwards.

It has been rumoured that the Tientsin Race Club will abolish the "B" Class, or crossbreed, events in the Autumn meeting, thus creating further futile legislation against evolution. Such an act will be not only unprogressive but will also be a step backwards, and no retrograde movement ever yet met with success. If the owners had control of breeding of ponies, they might be able to ensure a constant supply of "thoroughbreds," but they do not, and it is a good thing for the country that they cannot control breeding. Racing, as the sport of Kings and gentlemen the world over, has ever been for the development of horseflesh; in fact, in all sports and athletics the betterment of the game and its contributory factors is paramount with all true sportsmen.

We writs this with the knowledge that the majority of amateur racing men in China will disapprove our contentions, but we still believe, that when they can be convinced that their attitude is contrary to the dictates of sportsmanship and common sense; and that when they begin to see it in this light they will be the first to stand up, even at a pecuniary loss, for the development of horseflesh. We have too much faith in their sporting natures to believe otherwise.

In a note to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the German Legation states that the previous charge that a certain German firm of Shanghai was trafficking in arms is not based upon facts. The note says that the Legation does not know of any German firm in China which is dealing now or will deal in arms in future.

CHINESE CHRISTIANS

Where Missionary Education Fails in the View of a Chinese Critic

The following is a translation of a remarkable article written by one Tseng Yu-hao, and published in the "*Shihshih Hsingpao*" Shanghai on the May 16 and 17.

"Recently the Turkish Government closed all the missionary schools there. The Educational Commissioner at Mukden also approached the Japanese Government urging that all schools in South Manchuria should be controlled by one authority so as to avoid overlapping, and establish a standard system. Since these reports were published in the newspapers there has been much discussion as to the Christian Missionary Schools in China generally. I have myself written many articles in both Chinese and foreign newspapers on this subject, and I again take this opportunity of drawing attention to a very important matter.

"In the beginning Christian Schools were only used to make converts, and train missionaries. About 1858 the Chinese Government in treaties with England and France recognized the preaching and propoganda of Christianity in China. In the treaty of 1860 with France, it was laid down that Roman Catholics were to be allowed to rent and own land and also build houses. This clause however was only in the Chinese version, and it is well known that the Catholics bribed a high Chinese offical to add this clause after the Treaty was agreed to. From that time the Christians have opened many schools and colleges, and their numbers are still increasing. According to reports issued by the Christian missionaries there were in 1920, 580 elementary schools, 256 secondary schools, and 27 special schools and universities, and the total number of students was 2,000,000 which is about a fifth of all the Chinese students in the Republic.

Registration of Mission Schools.

"There has been a great deal of discussion about these Christian schools, and it is evident that there is a general consensus of opinion that they should be some understanding between the missionaries and the Government. Many men connected with these schools hold that opinion. For instance, Dr. P. W. Kuo, Principal of the National Southeastern University at Nanking has urged the Christian missionaries to register their schools with the Chinese Government. Also the Hwa Tung Missionary Association has appointed a committee to report on the subject of registration.

"Formerly the Chinese Government took up an attitude of non-interference with these Christian schools, but when Fan Yuan-lien was Minister of Education he studied the question, and on December 16, 1921, issued an order that all Christian schools should be registered. The registration was to be effected by the local educational commissioners. He also appointed a commission, headed by Jen Hung chien, to investigaate and report on the Christian universities. But it was laid down as a condition of registration that the religious education should be amended to suit Chinese susceptibilities, and that non-converts should not be forced to attend Sunday services. As a result very few missionary schools registered.

At the time of the issue of this order a certain Christian educationalist told me that if the Chinese Government pressed for the abolition of Christian propoganda in the schools, all the missionary schools would be closed because all the money subscribed abroad was given on the condition that Christianity should be taught. If they did not do this they could not get any money.

Its Westernizing Influence

"There are two more questions connected with these Christian schools; the teaching of the language, and the position of Chinese teachers. A year before last Fen Hung-chun, Dr. P. W. Kuo and Lin Po-ming examined forms of instruction at the Nanking University, and in their report to the Minister of Education, stated that the students knowledge of Chinese was still as unsatisfactory as ever. The Minister of Education (Fan Yuan-lien) has frequently urged the mission schools to give more time to the teaching of Chinese, and such men as the late Dr. Timothy Richards and Dr. Hawkes Potts, have also spoken in favour of this. Recently the Yen Ching University, the Shanghai College, and the St. John's University have offered higher pay for good Chinese teachers, to remedy the mistakes made in the past. A Dr. Moroe (? Monroe) who came to China two years ago, told the missionaries that if they wanted to exert a good influence in China they must have efficient Chinese teachers. But still the results in these Christian schools are very unsatisfactory as the Chinese students simply confine themselves to imitating foreign habits and style, and are easily satisfied with a small smattering of English. After finishing a course at these schools the Chinese girls are quite unfit for Chinese social conditions. The result is unrest and disorder. These evils could be removed by these schools employing more and better Chinese teachers.

LIVING BUDDHA DEAD?

Announcements have been received by the Bureau for Thibetan and Mongolian Affairs, Peking, of the death of the Living Buddha, states the "Eastern Times."

ANGLO-AMERICAN CO-OPERATION

Interesting Speech by Admiral Leveson at Complimentary Tiffin in Peking: Friendliness Between the Navies and Civilian Hospitality

Peking, May 23.

Admiral Sir Arthur Leveson, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of the British China Station, was the guest of honour at the Anglo-American Association's tiffin at the Grand Hotel des Wagon-Lits to-day. Sir Francis Aglen presided over a big attendance, amongst those present being His Ex. the British Minister (Sir Ronald Macleay) and Mr. W. R. Peck, Chinese Secretary of the American Legation.

After he had been briefly introduced by the Chairman, Admiral Leveson said he should like to say first of all that he felt amongst friends and that was a point he wished to bring out very much. Dwelling with emphasis upon the traditional friendship between the British and the Americans, he said he would like to mention that he was a "Pilgrim." He was not a poet, he hastened to assure the gathering amidst laughter, but he was a "Pilgrim" and the "Pilgrims" were an Anglo-American organization which had a similar object to this Association in Peking—the fostering of friendship between the two countries. During the war, the Admiral continued, he was very closely associated with American naval squadrons and wherever they went British naval officers and American naval officeres fraternized and worked together. They not only worked together, but they played together and that was one of the reasons for the co-operation which always existed wherever the Americans and British were found side by side. The general work which went on here in China was largely due to the close co-operation of the two Navies.

Another form of friendship to which Admiral Leveson wanted to allude was the friendship and hospitality that the Navies of both nations received from the civilians with whom they came into contact. Wherever they had gone they had met with the utmost friendliness and co-operation on all sides and that was one of the things which had struck him most since he had been out here. He should like moreover to congratulate the civilians on what he had seen out here in the way of the advancement of civilization and the significant work that all the various civil elements were carrying out in difficult circumstances all over the Far East.

Significance of Shipping

There were one or two other impressions he had received in coming out to the East for the first time. One of them was the significant shipping—the size of the vessels of all sorts and of all nations and their great numbers. Wherever one went there he saw numbers of these great vessels and in no other ports of the world were so many ships of such size and efficiency to be seen. Admiral Leveson said he would like to see the statesmen of every country coming here to see what is going on in the East and he thought the people who maintained these ships were beyond all praise for the way they were advancing civilization here. Trade and development must, he thought, go on and increase while they had such fine vessels to carry on the work, and, incidentally, that brought out the usefulness of the Navies, which were out to be helpful and to look after things.

Another thing which Admiral Leveson said had impressed him a good deal was the way in which tropical races out here were being administered by the more civilized peoples, as in the case of the Dutch in Java, the French in Annam, the British in Malaya, the Americans in the Philippines. He thought it was "perfectly wonderful" to see all these different nationalities handling the situation in the way they were handling it, all over the Far East. There was an old nautical adage that "different ships have different long splices, but the splice holds nevertheless." He thought that was true of the way in which all these different places were being governed—there were different ideas and different methods but there was good in them all.

China's Possibilities.

The Admiral confessed that he found the subject of China a very difficult one to pass any remarks upon. He had always heard that this country had retained her ancient civilization. It was to be hoped that, with the aid of her friends, and of the United States and Great Britain in particular, her civilization would gradually be brought more into accord with modern developments. He had been very fortunate in going up the Yangtze to see the province of Szechuan and he was enormously struck with the possibilities of that part of the country, with its wonderful river, down which merchant ships and Navies could move. He thought the future of these parts up there in the head waters of the Yangtze lay in the lap of the Gods, but that it was going to be a magnificent future.

"To those of you who are interested in river steamers," Admiral Leveson declared, "I can only say—push your ships up. There is stuff to get there and the steamers are taking the place of the junks and are doing an enormous deal of good work." Sir Arthur said that he would conclude with the words which were so often in the mouth of Stonewall Jackson—"Press forward." "And I would add," he said, "press forward with energy, discipline and civilization." (Applause).

On behalf of the Committee and members of the Association, Sir Francis Aglen tendered cordial thanks to Admiral Leveson for his interesting address.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN NOW NEGOTIATING

Satisfactory Results Hoped for, Moscow Having Apologized for Nikolaievsk

Riga, May 23.

A message from Moscow states that official Russo-Japanese negotiations have begun.—Reuter.

Tokio, May 24.

An official message from Vladivostok says that the Japanese prisoners were released on May 23.

Reports from Peking of satisfactory progress of the negotiations are confirmed here in the form of a Russian apology for the Nikolaievsk tragedy which was the only outstanding issue. Officials admit that a satisfactory end to the negotiations is approaching though they are not prepared to endorse a report that they will be concluded within the current month.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

According to the "*Shunpao*" the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has addressed a Note to M. Karakhan, the Soviet representative, protesting against the action of a large number of Soviet soldiers and citizens who are alleged to have crossed the Sino-Siberian border and shot and wounded a number of Chinese residents and pillaged their homes.

EMPIRE DAY AT NINGPO

Another Reversion to Home Custom: Big Children's Party at Consulate

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Ningpo, May 26.

Notwithstanding that the day before Empire Day was unusually wet and dismal, giving little hope for the festivities of the morrow, the day itself dawned in unclouded splendour. A committee of Britons had been called together earlier in the week by H. M. Consul, Mr. H. F. Handley Derry, to make arrangements to celebrate the day.

The plan adopted gave us Ningpo's most successful Empire Day. The whole foreign community was invited to a garden party in the beautiful grounds of the Consulate and the committee had provided a programme of games and sports which proved wonderfully attractive to youngsters and grown-up alike.

The attendance was exceedingly good, almost every Briton in the Port being present, while the Americans and the French were well represented. It was not difficult to break off all coldness and formality in the company of so many children (who by the way were specially catered for on this occasion), and under the genial cordiality of the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Handley Derry, everybody immediately felt at home.

Before tea the juniors had their sports and ran for prizes and glory under the direction of their seniors (though every child got a prize and a good one too). After tea, older ones became young again and vied with one another in diving after sundry well placed tubers (in a potato race) or jazz-stepping on flower pots in another kind of race without a name—for glory and prizes as well. Among the ladies the most redoubtable champions were Mrs. Bates, Miss Bethel, Mrs. Delight and Mrs. Scott, all of whom showed skill above their fellows in these arts or possibly in deck-tennis (on the green).

The male champions in the same line of action were Dr. Thomas, Mr. Scott—but why make distinctions when every man had a particular brilliance of his own?

At the close of the more hilarious part of the proceedings the guests were summoned indoors. There the Consul dwelt on the origin and significance of Empire Day and the ideals for which the British peoples all over the globe and were striving.

Mrs. Molony then distributed the prizes and "God save the King" was sung with great zest, all the guests (whatever their nationality) joining in. A round of cheers was then raised, for the host and hostess, for Mrs. Molony, and for those who by contribution of money, refreshments or services had helped to make the day so very enjoyable.

Popular New Customs Official.

Later.

There have been several arrivals and departures among the foreign residents of the port. The departure of Mr. F. W. Carey to be Commissioner of Customs at Swatow has already been reported. His removal has been greatly regretted by foreigners and Chinese alike, yet the welcome accorded to his successor in office, Mr. A. G. Bethell, who comes from Mengtze, has been none the less hearty.

Mr. Bethell comes into the Port accompanied by Mrs. Bethell and three daughters, the two sons of the family being at present at school in England. Already it is felt that in sport and good fellowship a notable acquisition has been made to the social life of the community and at the Empire Day festivities the two charming elder daughters of the Commissioner showed great proficiency in the outdoor games.

Other recent arrivals are Mr. and Mrs. Denniston, of Butterfield & Swire's, Mr. and Mrs. Bewick, of the Asiatic Petroleum Co., and Mr. and Mrs. Daniels, of the Standard Oil Co.

ZAHKOU'S CELEBRATION

FROM OUR HANGCHOW CORRESPONDENT

May 26.

Empire Day was quietly celebrated at Zahkou. Mr. and Mrs. Molony and the A.P.C. staff were "At Home" to the British, and representatives of Allied and friendly Powers. The Americans were there in great numbers to rejoice with us because the heritage of the British flag is the heritage of all English-speaking people throughout the world.

It was a glorious day, after a Friday of downpour and depression. We saluted the flag as we walked up the path to the house where tea and other refeshments were served in abundance. There were quite a number of pretty smart spring frocks in keeping with the weather.

Coming home from the station Mrs. Gaunt was thrown out of her ricsha. Her head was badly cut on the rough stone payment. She was taken to the C. M. S. Hospital, where the wound was sewn up under an anaesthetic. Her friends will be glad to know she is getting on very well.

TERRIBLE CRIME IN SHANSI

Eight People Murdered by One Man for Sake of Wife of One of the Victims

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Taiku, Sha., May 20.

One of the most revolting crimes ever committed in Shansi took place near Kihsien, Sha., a short time ago. A party of beggars from Honan took up their abode in an old temple in the south suburb of that city. The party consisted of a man named Li Wen, his mother and his niece, two brothers named Su Erh and Su San and their wives, five children and two dogs. While living in this temple Li Wen began to have illicit relations with the wife of Su Erh. Suddenly the entire party disappeared, but no thought was given to their disappearance until one day one of the two dogs accompanying the party came out of the temple with the limb of a child in its jaws. That led to the gruesome discovery of the bodies of the five children and Su San and his wife hidden in the earthen "k'angs" (platform beds) of the temple. Through the clever work of a member of the Kihsien police the murderer was apprehended and he confessed the crime. The details were as follow:—

On the night before the party disappeared from the temple Li Wen having had some fears of Su Erh when his illicit relations with the latter's wife were discovered, lured Su Erh to a desolate spot near the northwest corner of the city and there beat him to death with a club. The body was thrown into an unused well near by. Returning to the temple in the south suburb Li Wen then brained Su San and his wife and the five children and one of the dogs, using the same bludgeon. The clothing was stripped from their corpses and with the dead body of the dog was thrown into a well in the temple compound. The bodies of the seven victims were then hidden in the earthen platforms used as beds. With Su Erh's wife and his mother and niece the murderer then moved off down the great post-road toward the southwest. His job was not quite complete in that one of the two dogs escaped him, and this aftewards led to the discovery of the crime, as above related.

Naturally, the whole countryside was considerably aroused when the news of this crime was spread abroad. A member of the Kihsien police force had been visiting his home in Pingyao, Sha. Returning to Kihsien he met on the road a party of beggars and noticed from their speech that they were Honanese. After returning to Kihsien he reported the incident and the party was followed and taken into custody.

THE Tientsin Police Bureau has received instructions from the Civil Governor of Chihli, Marshal Wang Cheng-ping, for ever to suppress processions in honour of the many gods that the Chinese people worship. Processions of gods have been held in China from time immemorial and the order will doubtless arouse much opposition. Readers will remember a most entertaining account which appeared in the "North-China Daily News" recently of a gods procession that was held in Tientsin, the first that had been seen in that port for many years. Evidently the governor has determined that it shall also be the last.

ALL-CHINA SPORTS

East China Victorious on First Day of Wuchang Meet

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Wuchang, May 22.

This morning, for the first time in history, the inhabitants of Wuchang have seen an aeroplane actually flying in the sky. It is said that two of them are to be on view in the Sports Ground, where the China National Sports open to-day. One of these has been giving an exhibition of flying this morning, circling around the environs of the city. It is a curious sight to see a whole cityful of people looking up into the sky. Coolies, who have possibly never dreamed of seeing such a thing, are shouting with laughter, and portly shopkeepers, who for years have neglected to do any morning exercises, are rushing out into the streets and craning their necks to see this new portent. There will be some stiff necks in Wuchang to-morrow!

Contestants from Far and Near.

The All-China Sports, for which preparations have been going on for so many weeks, open to-day. Competitors have been streaming in during the past weeks, and troops of boy scouts from the schools have been meeting trains and steamers to conduct the new arrivals to the places where they will be entertained. Some of them come from distant provinces of China, and there are even some from as far afield as Manila, come to take part in the contests. In order to prevent overcrowding the number of contestants has been limited to about 500.

May 23.

Yesterday, the first day of the China National Sports, passed off quite successfully. In the morning, the parade of athletes and boy scouts made an imposing ceremony.

In the afternoon, preliminary heats for the flat events, tennis, foot-ball, basket-ball, etc. all went off in order and without a hitch. The general orderliness of the proceedings, and the excellent behaviour of the large crowd, were in striking contrast to the farcical Wu-Han Sports of last month.

So far as results can yet be given, it looks as if East China are going to carry off most of the honours; their representatives have won all the first four places in the shot put, first, second and fourth in the broad jump, and the first three places in the 1,500 metre race. In the basket-ball contest between North and Central China, the latter (representated by the team of Boone University) were defeated after a hard struggle.

Splendid Arrangements.

Something like 20,000 people were present on the field. The success with which such a large crowd was handled and kept in order was no doubt due to the great precautions which had been taken beforehand in preparing the field. The running track is now completely surrounded by a wire fence, erected at a distance of about two feet from the inner edge of the track. Outside this, and at a distance of five or six feet, is a wooden barricade, also running the whole way round the track; and beyond this again, at a further short distance, is a sloped platform, extending most of the way round the field, upon which spectators can stand one behind the other to a depth of six ranks. None but competitors and officials are allowed to enter inside the track. The wire fence is strongly guarded everywhere by police, soldiers and scouts. Upon the wooden stand, in companies, are the students from the various schools which are taking part in the competitions. Each of these companies has its flag, with the name of the school upon it in Chinese characters, and most of the schools have their uniforms, khaki or white. The effect of this long circle of uniformed onlookers, with the flags waving above them, red, blue, yellow and other colours, gives quite a brave aspect to the field.

Swimming Bath.

Other additions have been made to the equipment of the grounds. At the west end eight tennis-courts have been laid out, surrounded by wire-netting. Beyond these, is the new swimming bath. It is made of cement, 25 yards in length, the shallow end being about four feet in depth and at the deep end 15. The water is supplied by two high tanks, which are filled by specially installed pumping machinery. On the straight running-track, a field telephone has been set up for communication between the officials at the starting and finishing posts. The whole field is surrounded by an electric wire carrying coloured lamps. Altogether, if shear expenditure of money on a lavish display of machinery is calculated to instil a love of sport into Young China—then nothing has been omitted which could possibly have been thought of.

SHANSI FOR SHANSI MEN

Provincial Assembly's Ban on Mining by Outside Undertakings

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Taiku, Sha., May 20.

The Provincial Assembly has just adjourned after a month's session. The main items of business taken care of were the examination of the provincial budget for the current year and the drawing up of a set of mining regulations for the province. One important item in the regulations so drawn up is that no outside interests will be allowed to obtain a controlling interest in Shansi mining projects. There is, of course, a Provincial Bureau of Mines, with salaried officers.

One would be glad to see a little constructive effort in the direction of opening the coal resources of Shansi, instead of mere paper regulations and an obstructive attitude. In the meantime the price of coal has advanced to the highest figure ever known and many cannot get it at any price.

The weather continues dry in this part of Shansi, and in a day or two more there will be no hope of sowing what the Chinese call the "large grains," that is, sorghum and millet. Furthermore, much of the winter wheat is perishing from drought. Summer rains may enable the farmers to sow "small grains" and vegetables, but without the main autumn and summer crops hard times are ahead. From certain districts in the southwest of the province rains are reported,—it is hoped in sufficient amount to save the crops in that region.

TSINGTAO GOLF CLUB

Annual General Meeting: War Embargoes Now Removed

The annual general meeting of the Club took place at the Grand Hotel on Friday the 23rd instant at 6 p.m. when a good attendance of members were present—Mr. T. Adams being in the chair.

The accounts for 1923, which showed a satisfactory profit for the year, were approved, and the following office bearers for 1924 were duly elected:—

President:—Mr T. Adams.
Executive Committee:—
Messrs. T. Shimidzu, G. C. F. Russell, T. Yamamoto, R. A. Russell (Hon. Treas.), C. R. Rice (Hon. Sec.), P. Jernigan.
Balloting Committee:—Messrs. J. W. Richardson, A. L. Shaw, F. Momotani.

A discussion took place as to the desirability of removing the embargo placed in 1920 on then enemy subjects as regards their joining the Club—and it was unanimously resolved that Germans now be admitted to full membership of the Club subject to the usual rule as to balloting for election.

The meeting terminated with the usual votes of thanks to the Chairman (Mr. T. Adams), the retiring President (Mr. T. Shimidzu), the Hon. Auditor (Mr. C. R. Rice) and to the proprietors of the Grand Hotels and to Mr. Herlihy for kindly placing a room at the disposal of the Meeting.

GEN. Sun Chuan-fang, Director of Kuangtung-Fukien Border Defences (and former Tuli of Fukien), has, states the Chinese press, issued bonds of $50,000 denominations and under for the purpose of raising funds for his army. Gen. Sun has ordered the Chambers of Commerce to dispose of these bonds, which he promises to redeem in three instalments.—When, where and how?

THE TRUTH ABOUT DR. SUN YAT-SEN

Tyrannous Treatment of Hin Wong: Railway Reopening: Strikes against Taxes

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Canton, May 21.

The most outstanding feature of the last week was the falsely reported death of Dr. Sun Yat-sen. This was reported from several sources, and caused a great deal of apprehension but it turned out that the rumours were without any foundation. It is true that Dr. Sun was slightly indisposed as a result of his exertions, but after a short rest he is now completely restored to health.

Strong action was taken by the authorities to stop the spreading of false rumours, and Mr. Hin Wong, the well-known editor and leader of the Boy Scout Movement in Canton, was arrested and charged with spreading rumours. He was at first sentenced to banishment for ten years, but this was later altered to imprisonment for ten years. Representations on his behalf were made by several people to the Generalissimo, and evidence was produced to prove his innocence of the charge so that it is to be hoped that he will be released shortly.

On Sunday, the 17th instant d'Oisy arrived on his flight from Paris, having flown from Hanoi in six hours. He landed at Tai Sha T'au Aerodrome and was received and welcomed by a large number of Chinese officials and foreigners. He was later received and congratulated by Dr. and Mrs. Sun Yat-sen. He left again on the 20th, for Shanghai.

The New Cantonese C.-in-C.

There is little change in the military situation on the East River and the threatened attack on Waichow has not yet been made, although it is still announced that it will be made shortly. Gen. Hsu Tsung-chih has decided to accept the post of C.-in-C. to the Cantonese forces but has not taken up the post yet. He was to have assumed office yesterday, but all preparations for the ceremony not being completed it was postponed until the 22nd. He intends to reorganize the whole of the Cantonese troops.

It is announced by the Commander of the Railway Guards and the Railway Administration that the Canton-Kowloon Railway will run a through train to Shumchun to-day, and it is hoped that the regular traffic will be continued.

Gen. Hu Han-min has now returned from Shanghai and will assist at the Generalissimo's Headquarters taking the place of Gen. Tan Yen-k'ai, who has been acting as general secretary, thus releasing the latter who will proceed to the Eastern Front to direct operations.

Taxes Broken by Strikes.

Owing to the Government's announcing its intention of taxing them there have been strikes threatened by the jadestone merchants and pawnbrokers, but these have been settled when the Government announced its intention of discontinuing the proposed taxes. The strike of the junk trade has also been entirely settled, the merchants having received sufficient guarantee that the tax on shipping would be discontinued for ever.

Owing to the large numbers of soldiers who have not yet moved out of the City boundaries, there are still daily reports of robberies of civilians anad even of officers having committed them. The Police are doing their best to deal with the matter but it is not an easy problem, as in most cases they are outnumbered by the delinquents.

Reports have been received of the appointment of many of Gen. Chen Chiung-ming's adherents to posts in the province, by Peking. Lin Fu has been appointed Tuli of Kuangtung, Yeh Chu, has been appointed Civil Governor, and Hung Chao-lun has beeen appointed Chao-Mei Defence Commissioner.

PEKING, May 24.—Later information, says Reuter, shows that Mr. Hubbard will be joint Agent of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank at Peking, as Mr. Hillier was. Mr. R. C. Allen will remain Joint Agent, as heretofore, managing the bank's loan business.

A CLEANING-UP IN TSINGTAO

Russian Refugees a Troublesome Element: Work or Deportation: Efficiency of the Police Force: Expected Visit of Marshal Wu

Tsingtao, May 24.

The Police Department has issued [illegible] refugees that they must either obtain [illegible] or be banished from the city. The police have frowned upon the constantly increasing Russian colony here, as they say that it contains troublesome elements which are a source of annoyance and worse.

The police say that the Russians flock to Tsingtao, labouring under the misapprehension that they can find employment here. When they arrive, there are no positions for them and they either become objects of charity on the part of generous countrymen or resort to thievery, from the proceeds of which they purchase food for their subsistence. The police declare that scores are roaming the streets and they are resolved to drive them out of the city. If this step is not effective, they will be deported to Siberia.

Thefts in several homes and shops recently are laid at the door of indigent Russians. The other day $400 worth of silk goods, which disappeared from a silk shop, was found in the home of several Russian women, who were arrested.

The Russians, of course, are being dealt with in the same way as the Chinese, as they are not protected by extraterritorial rights.

It is reported that Marshal Wu Pei-fu intends coming here in the near future to get an accurate line on the true strength of Admiral Wen Shu-teh's squadron. He is said to be concerned about the naval and military strength of Shantung Province, which, he believes, would be a strategic centre if Marshal Chang Tso-lin's Manchurian Army were to attempt another drive on Peking.

Marshal Wu is reported to have expressed the hope that the Pei-Hai Squadron, the official designation of Admiral Wen's force, could be made at least as strong as Marshal Chang's steadily growing fleet.

The 5th Brigade of 10th Division, which has been quartered at the old Bismarck Barracks in the outskirts of the city for the past two months, was transferred yesterday to Weihsien. There were 1,000 men in the command and their departure means that Tsingtao will take on much less of a military appearance.

New Instructions to Police.

The Chief of Police, Mr. Chang Tien-wa, who is a stickler for discipline, has promulgated more orders for his policemen to observe. The force, which is considered one of the most efficient in China, will find it somewhat difficult to carry out the new instructions, but Mr. Chang has declared that punishment will be meted out to offenders and that he will tolerate no violation of the new regulations. His latest edict is calculated to inculcate in policemen a proper sense of dignity and reserve, for officers are strictly ordered not to indulge in needless conversation with passers-by. The police head believes that an officer's [illegible] by indiscriminate tongue-wagging and and he is resolved to stamp out the "evil."

Another prohibition along the same line is the declaration that the practice of certain officers of playing with children must cease. Moreover, policemen are ordered not to eat, drink or smoke while on duty, meaning that the habit of the corner traffic officer of stealing over to the street vendor ever and anon for a "snack" of this and that must cease.

Railway Agents and Bribery

Railway officials are exercised over reports that certain railway agents are habitually accepting bribes from shippers for preferential treatment in the matter of filing car orders. Two were found guilty and were summarily discharged. The officials have promulgated strict orders that all shippers are to be treated alike and that no favours are to be shown. The instructions have been printed in the local vernacular papers and in them is a warning to shippers, the railway asserting that it will be necessary to take steps against shippers who tempt its employees.

Summer Holiday Campaign

Tsingtao is undergoing a thorough cleaning-up, the Public Health Department having instituted the campaign. All merchants and manufacturers and the general public have been given instructions to make a thorough house-cleaning and destroy all rubbish and *debris*. Inspectors are busy seeing that the orders are carried out. The administration is doing its part by putting the streets and sewerage system in first-class shape, and the city is commencing to take on a spick and span appearance.

The vanguard of the summer colony has started to arrive and all indications are for a rumper season. There never were so many hotels and pensions before and the holiday-maker, apparently, will have little difficulty in finding accommodation. Several new establishments have started up and the wants of the summer visitor will be amply taken care of.

Summer weather has made its appearance, but it is of the mild variety that makes the climate here so delightful. Straw-hats and flannels are beginning to make their appearance and launch and motorboat are being tuned up for the summer's enjoyment, while the more hardy of the bathers have started to take dips in the surf.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPANESE PREMIER CARRIES ON

Viscount Kiyoura Convinced the Opposition Have No Policy Worth Consideration

From Our Own Correspondent

Tokio, May 21.

"I will not hesitate to dissolve the Diet as often as I think fit—once, twice, three times, four times—if this is the best and only way of serving the interests of the country at large."

It was the aged Viscount Kiyoura, Premier of Japan, just defeated at the election polls, speaking to press men and, while his voice trembled with emotion, determination showed strongly in his face.

"I cannot regard the Opposition as one single party. Each of the different Opposition parties stands for different political ideals, and anything like a real fusion amongst them is utterly impossible. This Government is determined to remain in the saddle until political stability is assured. To resign now would be to invite chaos in a domestic political situation which is, already, bad enough. To resign now would be to register infidelity to the Imperial command."

Viscount Kiyoura talked to press men immediately after a Cabinet meeting convened for the purpose of deciding what policy the Government would pursue as a result of the general elections. The policy of refusing to make way for the Opposition had already been settled at this Cabinet meeting which reached the following important conclusions:

A Common Hate.

1. The three Opposition parties, the Kenseikai, the Seiyukai and the Kakushin Club, hold different political principles. Their disunity is obvious. Whatever unity and co-operation they have achieved during the elections was realized merely for the purpose of overthrowing the Kiyoura Ministry. As a common hate united them, their unity will be short-lived and is doomed to failure. The majority held by the Opposition in the Lower House is, for these reasons, devoid of great significance.

2. Despite the apparent unity, plots against each other are already brewing in the Opposition camp. The Kiyoura Ministry believes that, to resign now, would be a heartless betrayal of the nation's interests, for it is convinced that a sudden political change cannot restore political stability.

3. The Government policy will be, in the main, one of watchful waiting, and every effort will be made to strengthen the hands of the Seiyuhonto, the Government party in the House of Representatives.

Patching Up Differences.

The Opposition leaders are taking every possible opportunity to patch up the differences that have sundered them. Viscount Kato, leader of the Kenseikai, numerically the strongest party to-day and regarded as possible premier if party government is permitted, and Mr. Inukai, leader of the Kakushin Club and one of the ablest orators in the Empire, have been on bad terms for years. The urge of politics has reconciled them. Then, the Kenseikai and the Seiyukai have never basked in the sunshine of each other's friendship. Fistic fights, both on the floor of the Diet and out of it, between their members and adherents have been very frequent in the past. Steps are being taken now to whittle down the respective political platforms of these two parties to enable them to co-operate. One of the deepest gulfs separating them was the question of universal manhood suffrage. The Kenseikai vigorously championed giving the franchise to all Japanese males. The Seiyukai has vigorously opposed it. A compromise is said to have just been reached on the point that the Seiyukai will not oppose universal manhood suffrage if it were to come into operation four years from now, that is to say during the next general elections, should no dissolution of the Diet occur in the meantime.

Geisha Aid to Reconciliation.

The reconciliation of the Opposition parties and the attempt to work out a compromise that will be satisfactory to all concerned was brought about in a geisha house, according to a section of the Japanese press, the Kokumin newspaper declaring that hundreds of yen were spent on eating drinking and presentable geisha "to facilitate love and reconciliation.

"When politics and secrecy associate and impure habits commingle with these," the paper says in a trenchant editorial, "it is simply intolerable." The Kokumin is an anti-Kiyoura daily and its remarks are, therefore, all the more significant.

The press is united in favour of the Opposition and demands the immediate resignation of Viscount Kiyoura.

BRITISH TELEPHONES FOR TOKIO

Orders for Reconstruction of System Placed in London and Liverpool

London, May 29.

It is announced that the whole of the equipment for the reconstruction of the Tokio telephone system will be manufactured in London and Liverpool. The first portion of the contract, amounting to £750,000, has been placed.—Reuter.

THE death occurred at Tientsin on the 20th instant of Sgt. L. G. Shepherd, (22) R.A.S.C., from heart failure and pneumonia. The military funeral took place on Thursday last at Canton Road Cemetery.

A correspondent who had just eaten a tender steak in the wilds of Mokanshan, writes that he found out that it had been cut from a wild bull. The beast was shot on Sunday by a Chinese gentleman, Mr. Yoh Kuei-ling, at Seouchiaosan, distant about four li from the health resort. One has heard of wild pig, deer and even leopard in the mountains of Mokanshan, but of wild bull never.

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Mr. Frank S[illegible], world-famous War Correspondent, writing from [illegible] St., London W.C., Eng[illegible]—"A simple scratch [illegible] into chronic blood-p[illegible] In spite of medical tr[illegible] inflammation and swel[illegible] in and my left leg was [illegible] of ulcerated sores. Within [illegible] week Zam-Buk dispelled all pain and inflammation, purified the sores and started the skin-renewal process. After a [illegible] night's plentiful use of Zam-Buk I was a sound man a[illegible]"

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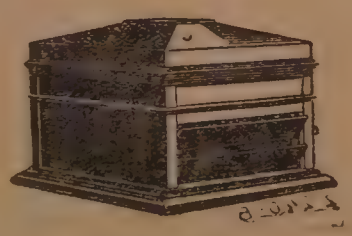

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SHANGHAI NEWS

EMPIRE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Splendid Weather and a Delightful Day: The Service at the Cathedral: Reception at Shanghai Club: The Children's Festival on Race Club Grounds

Traditionally, the British are not a demonstrative race and it is difficult to arouse them *en masse* to any pitch of enthusiasm for anything, outside of sporting events. As a rule patriotic displays and "flag wagging" leave us cold, but the celebration of Empire Day on Saturday saw us excel ourselves. The enthusiasm displayed was real and heartfelt, and of the best description, lacking anything aggressive or calculated to give offence to our neighbours. The service at the Cathedral in the morning was well attended, and was of the simplest description. The breaking of the flag, in which Shanghai's Boy Scouts took part in the British Consulate grounds at 8 o'clock in the morning was marked by keen enthusiasm on the part of the boys, and was observed with a solemnity fitting the occasion. In the afternoon the jamboree at the Race Club under the auspices of the Boy Scouts' Association in Shanghai proved the most successful ever held. The crowd, both of grown-ups and children alike, was terrific, and the kiddies were obviously having a right royal time.

Cathedral Service.

The service at the Cathedral in the morning was attended by a large number of people, and was conducted by the Dean, assisted by the Rev. A.C.S. Trivett. A prayer for the King's Majesty was recited by the Dean, followed by a prayer for the High Court of Parliament.

A very brief sermon was delivered by Mr. Trivett, who took as his text "All these men of war that could keep rank came with a perfect heart to Hebron to make David king over all Israel," First Book of Chronicles, Chapter 12, verse 38. He spoke of the significance of the phrase "keep rank," and urged the necessity for every one of us to "keep rank" as Christians. He spoke, also, of the danger of losing step, instead of keeping in time and pulling together for the Empire, and for religion. The service concluded with the National Anthem.

At the Shanghai Club.

Since the Earl of Meath founded Empire Day, never, whatever the facts at the time, has there been a more enthusiastic gathering than that at the Shanghai Club this year. The British members were "at home" to fellow nationals and those of allied and friendly Powers from shortly after noon and even the large upper salon of the club scarcely sufficed to accommodate all those who visited the club. The subsequent proceedings were most inspiring and there is no doubt the reasons for this were three-fold—first, the striking speeches delivered by Mr. Barton, H. M. Consul-General, Mr. Stirling Fessenden and Mr. A. du Pac de Marsoulies; secondly, the presence of Capt. d'Oisy, the gallant French aviator; and, possibly even more than all, the enthusiasm aroused by the singing of Mr. William Heughan. The toast of His Majesty was honoured with the usual patriotic enthusiasm.

Mr. Barton, after a brief but cordial welcome to the visitors, extended by Mr. R. G. Macdonald, Chairman of the club, said that in Shanghai we were able to celebrate Empire Day under particularly charming conditions, because we did so in conjunction with so many friends of other nationalities, with whom we lived in a state of the most cordial relationship and co-operation. Looking back over the past year, we might perhaps ask ourselves whether our Empire was worthy of the share others were taking in our celebrations, and he thought that, without undue boasting, we had little ground for lack of confidence. In the heart of the Empire there had been witnessed an event which, all political questions apart, persons of all parties must agree was without parallel in British history. He referred to the advent of a Labour Government. It might justly be said that something in the nature of a revolution had taken place, but without a violent upheaval of any sort and it was regarded by most thinking people as something more in the nature of natural evolution. It showed that our Empire, gloriously old, still was capable of adapting itself to the requirements of new and changed times. This change had taken place not only without any upheaval in our own family circle, but it had not lost us any of our friends or allies throughout the world, nor had any of them had cause to reproach us.

If we were justified in this belief, surely it was a good omen for us in Shanghai, where so much depended on two things—solidarity amongst ourselves, our friends and allies and the capacity for change, because in Shanghai we were no more immune from the law of evolution and change than our own country and its Dominions. We could look around us to all the boundaries of Shanghai and we could not fail to see that all was well, and never better, with ourselves and our friends. If one doubted it, he had only to think of the unveiling of the Shanghai War Memorial, which would convey a good idea of what solidarity was capable of achieving. In such circumstances it was a great privilege to have the opportunity of thanking all our friends for coming to the club and joining in the celebration of Empire Day.

American Sympathy.

Mr. Stirling Fessenden spoke under difficulties, for his address coincided with the release of a long string of tram cars and motor cars on the Bund, but judging by the great cheer from those nearest to him, he spoke in his usual happy vein. He was heard to say that American history and ideals and American life enabled Americans thoroughly to appreciate the British people without any diminution of their admiration for their own country. They realized, too, that the great heritage of the British people also was the heritage of English-speaking people throughout the world, which made for the peace and union of all mankind. It was because of that, on behalf of Americans in Shanghai, he extended to Britons the heartiest congratulations and good wishes on their Empire Day.

Mr. du Pac de Marsoulies voiced the congratulations of the French and then Mr. Heughan sang "Land of Hope and Glory," his powerful voice so thrilling the company that they sang the refrain as it can seldom have been sung in Shanghai. Yet there was even greater enthusiasm when he followed with that immortal song, "A man's a man for a' that," which seemed to be so well suited to the occasion—and, as Mr. Barton had said, the changed times. The song drew a great burst of applause and demands for more, but of course the occasion could not be turned into a concert.

Tout le Monde Parle Francais.

After this there were loud calls for Capt. d'Oisy, whose health was pledged and finally he was persuaded to mount the platform. Speaking in French after a united "Oui!" had signified that every one of the hundreds present was perfectly acquainted with the language, he thanked them all for their kindness to him, acknowledged the assistance he had received from British people along his route, particularly members of the flying services, and concluded with an expression of his hopes for the continued unity and success of the British and French flying corps.

Again there was a most enthusiastic outburst and if Capt. d'Oisy had not before heard "For he's a Jolly Good Fellow" he knows now what a great song it can be made when sung in the right spirit. In one's enthusiasm for people of wider fame, omission has been made of the fact that earlier in the proceedings Mr. G. F. Dumbarton led the company in the singing of the National Anthem. He was in fine voice and did not falter even though in the presence of a singer of renown like Mr. Heughan.

The Jamboree.

The brilliance of the day, especially following on the gloom and wet with which we were afflicted during all last week, made greatly for the success of the Jamboree. The Race Club enclosure was crammed with happy children with their parents and friends, and Boy Scouts of all nationalities. Never in any past year has there been such a scene in Shanghai, resembling somewhat a kiddies' Hampstead Heath. There were chutes for the children to slide down (on mats), helped forward by sailors from the British naval ships in port, there was an aerial flight, a Chinese Punch and Judy show, an energetic band, and exhibitions given by Chinese firemen with a length of hose, also—great institution—there were donkey rides for the youngsters. Indeed, all that was needed to complete a very homely scene was a stretch of beach and a bandstand.

The programme commenced with a grand rally, in which Rovers, Scouts and Wolf Cubs all took part. This was followed by the ceremony of saluting the Flag and the Stars and Stripes. The boys were then inspected by Mr. Barton, H. M. Consul-General, the Presidents of the various Patriotic Societies and of the Rotary Club, and members of the Scout Executive Committee. The smartness of the turn-out was something on which Shanghai's scouts can congratulate themselves.

Rotary and Fraser Shields.

At the conclusion of the inspection came the most interesting part of the afternoon, the displays by the various troops in competition for the Rotary Club Shield (Scouts) and the Fraser Shield (Wolf Cubs). These were judged on the work of scouts and scoutmasters, originality of display, amount of training shown, timing, spirit and energy, etc., and the enthusiasm shown by the spectators. The contests were won by the Jewish lads, both scouts and cubs, the order of merit of the various troops being as follows:

Jewish Troop, 88.5.
American troop, 86.7.
Cathedral Troop, 84.8.
Public School, 82.5.
French Troop, 69.8.
Wolf Cub.—
Jewish pack, 93.6.
Cathedral (girls) 92.5.
Cathedral (boys) 88.8.
Thomas Hanbury, 87.3.
Public School, 85.3.
French pack, 74.3.

At the conclusion of the programme, Mr. Barton presented the troop awards, including the Fraser Shield. He congratulated those responsible for the success of the jamboree, which, he said, was undoubtedly the best that had ever been held in Shanghai. He wished to thank the public, also, in his capacity as President of the Association in Shanghai, for their support that day, and the Race Club for so kindly lending their enclosure. In presenting the Jewish Pack with the Fraser Shield he offered them his congratulations, and at the same time commiserated with the Cathedral (girls) pack on the narrow margin by which they had been beaten. The Jewish Pack had shown their superiority in training, however, the Cathedral Pack not being so long established.

Mr. T. C. Britton then presented the Jewish Pack with the Rotary Club Shield, and the afternoon concluded with the saluting of the Flag and the singing of the national anthem.

The officials were:—Patron and President, Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G.; Vice-Presidents, Sir Edward Pearce, Sir Skinner Turner; Commissioner, Mr. F. C. Millington; Executive Committee, Sir Edward Pearce, Mr. Percy Fowler, Mr. Eric Moller, Mr. I. Tuxford; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Noel Jacobs; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Harold Holgate; District Scoutmaster, Mr. J. P. Jones; Recorders, Mr. Eric Moller, Mr. H. S. Bartley; Time Keepers, Sir Skinner Turner, Mr. I. Tuxford; Stewards, Scoutmaster Noel Jacobs, Senior Rover Mate D. Wagstaff; Scout Stall, Rover Mate Eric Shekury; Bugler, Patrol Leader Lindsay Moller.

Judges:—For Work in Camp and Clubroom, The Commissioner; For The Jamboree (Scouts), Mr. T. C. Britton, President, Rotary Club, and the Commissioner; (Cubs), Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., H. B. M. Consul-General, and the Commissioner.

Stewards not previously mentioned were:—Messrs. F. C. Millington, H. Holgate, A. S. Campbell, L. P. Ridgway, R. L. S. Webb, I. H. C. Godfrey and W. H. Trenchard Davis.

Saluting the Flag.

At 8 o'clock in the morning some 400 boy scouts, rovers, girl guides and wolf cubs paraded at the British Consulate to salute the Flag. The troops represented were the Shanghai Public School Troop, the French School Troop, the Cathedral School Troop and the Catholic troop, in addition to the wolf cubs and girl guides. The parade formed up facing the flag staff, and after the saluting, was inspected by the Consul General, Sir Sidney Barton, C.M.G.

The Consul General addressed them on Empire Day and its significance, and concluded by offering prizes to Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and Wolf Cubs for the best essay on Shanghai's monuments.

ADVT. HOARDINGS ROUND SHANGHAI

Intruders into the Countryside that Spoil the Scenery and Annoy those in Search of Change and Refreshment

Some few weeks ago, at the request of one of our readers, we drew attention to the advertisement hoarding then being put up at the corner of the Hungjao, Warren and Great Western Roads, with the suggestion that objects of this kind are not an improvement to the countryside and might well be withdrawn. Since then we have been asked by other readers to go further into the whole question of advertisement hoardings, which undoubtedly threaten to become a serious blemish to the surroundings of Shanghai. Accordingly, the present writer took a run round Avenue Joffre, Avenue Haig, Hungjao, Warren and Brenan Roads yesterday morning to see what hoardings there are.

Let it be emphasized that the following is in no sense whatever an attack on advertisement hoardings generally, still less upon the firms who are using them. We fully recognize that the latter are entitled to buy the available space for advertising and that if they had not taken it, their competitors would have done so. As regards hoardings generally, the question is one of comparison. In the business quarters we all accept many things which we may not altogether like as being necessary to business. But when we go out into the country it is expressly to get away from business associations and the reminders thereof provided by huge advertisements of soaps and pills are a disfigurement to the surroundings and an irritant.

The Hoardings Described.

"Blydenburgh's Turn," on Avenue Haig, opposite the end of Avenue Joffre, is so-named from a long-departed resident who bought a plot of land here to have room on which to turn the tandem that he drove, the road at that time going no farther. A few years ago the Council embellished the turn with bushes and a grass plot. But these have made way for three hoardings, advertising a local newspaper, Bourneville Cocoa and Gossage's Primrose Soap. There has been an attempt to make the hoardings as ornamental as possible by building them in the shape of Chinese pailous. But situated where they are, in one of the pleasantest residential quarters, nothing can really redeem them.

The next point for notice is the junction of Hungjao, Warren and Great Western Roads. Here in addition to the big hoarding of Lactogen previously mentioned, there are, on other sides of the space, posters announcing Texaco Oils and Nestle's Cocoa.

From here one went by Warren and Brenan Roads to the southern gate of Jessfield Park. The space fronting this gate has been laid out with the greatest care, with flower beds, lawns, trees and stone images. It should surely be kept free from advertisements. But on one side of the road, in the grounds of an otherwise rather ornamental looking cafe, are boards announcing Germol, Flyosan, Chesterfield cigarettes and Texaco oils; and right alongside the very carefully designed entrance to the park, another board advertising Wrigley's Gum and Black and White whiskey.

Lastly, at the Jessfield patch, along the creek side, are hoardings of Asahi beer, Minimax, Glaxo and 555 Cigarettes. The Bubbling Well tram terminus is flanked by big hoardings: but to these we do not think exception can be taken, because, if they are not really almost in the business quarter now, they certainly cannot be called in the country

The Council Powerless.

The Municipal Council has no power over these hoardings. In 1914 it passed a resolution through the ratepayers' meeting to tax hoardings in the Settlement at rates from 5 to 50 tael cents per square foot. And it is interesting to recall that the chief reason for so doing was, not to get revenue, but to control the amazingly unsightly posters then prevalent. But the hoardings we have mentioned are outside the Settlement.

The Chinese could do something and, if they think of doing so, we would specially draw their attention to the hideous hoardings along the banks of the lower Huangpu.

In this connexion we are informed that the Chinese authorities of Hangchow absolutely forbid hoardings round their beautiful city. All honour to them.

Voluntary Abstention.

In recent years there has been a campaign in England against hoardings in the country, in response to which the Shell Motor Spirit announced, last year we think, that it would take down all its country advertisements.

In China too, it may be mentioned, one of the most prolific advertising firms, the B. A. T. Co., has been scrupulous as regards the country and, in particular, allows none of its posters to be pasted on the walls of temples, as some of its rivals regrettably do.

From the advertiser's point of view, one cannot but wonder whether these outlying hoardings really pay. In the town their advertisements catch the eye of thousands daily. On the country roads they are scarcely seen by as many hundreds in a week. But those hundreds are precisely the people who, having gone out for exercise, change of surroundings and such beauty of nature as the Shanghai countryside affords, feel the intrusion of the hoardings most keenly. There are many places for hoardings in the Settlement. As regards the outside we appeal to advertisers to exercise a [illegible] pay them to do so.

THE STORY OF SHANGHAI

The republic of Shanghai, for that was the description of it by the lecturer, was Mr. Sokolsky's subject at last Friday's meeting of the Literary Department of the American's Women's Club. A self-governing body responsible to no other country, controlled by a group of men of different nationalities, he said, it was a veritable league of nations.

When Marco Polo visited China Shanghai seems to have been too small to notice, although the Lunghua Pagoda had been built more than a thousand years according to historians. Ningpo, on the other hand, was a much larger and more important city.

The Gutzlaff expedition of 1832 was the first occasion on which foreigners came to Shanghai for the purpose of making a settlement, and the first concession granted to them was an area bounded by Honan Road, the Yangkingpang and the Soochow Creek. It was mere swamp then. This was a British concession, Captain Balfour being the first consul. The foreigners in those days had great difficulties to contend against; one of these was the milk question, it being discovered by them that the milk they were being supplied with was merely the juice from water chestnuts.

In 1848 Bishop Boone laid out an American Concession, which was what is now called Hongkew, several of the roads there, Boone and Seward, being named after prominent Americans. Shortly after came the gold rush to California, and seekers after fortune who found themselves stranded in San Francisco were frequently shipped off to Shanghai by force or guile, from which originated the term "Shanghaied." They frequently deserted the ship in Shanghai and had no reason for returning home. The Taiping rebellion was going on also at this time, and in 1853 the Chinese Custom House was burnt down by the Taipings at Shanghai, resulting in the establishment of the Chinese Maritime Customs under foreign control. The first three controllers were French, British and American, but not long afterwards the French and American representatives withdrew and the Inspectorship has been held by British representatives ever since.

It was in 1854 that the Battle of Muddy Flats occurred, after which the foreigners got together and formed the first municipal council. The Chinese crowded into the Settlement for protection in those days and the value of land soared high, much money changing hands in real estate.

It was at this time that Frederick Ward appeared on the scene and created the Ever-Victorious Army with which he took Sungkiang. From Ward's time Mr. Sokolsky traced the history of Shanghai down to present day memories with which most of us are more or less familiar.

WORLD'S EXHIBITION FOR SHANGHAI

Mr. G. A. Bena's Proposal Discussed at a Preliminary Meeting: No Definite Scheme Submitted: The Vision of Greater Shanghai

Mr. G. A. Bena's suggestion that a great World's Exhibition be held in Shanghai was discussed at a preliminary meeting held on Thursday in the rooms of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce, "North-China Daily News" building. There was an attendance of about 50, and among those present were representatives of the British, American, Italian, Russian, German, and Japanese Chambers of Commerce, the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce, the China Association, Pan-Pacific Association, and various business houses. The representative of the French Chamber of Commerce was unable to attend, but wrote expressing sympathy with the proposal as did also the Italian Consul-General. Mr. Herbert Chatley was voted to the chair.

In presenting his idea to the meeting, Mr. Bena said: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—This meeting has been called, not to discuss a definite plan for a World Exhibition, but to consider the advisability of such an Exhibition and for the purpose of appointing a Commitee, representing the different interests of this city, the duty of which would be to prepare a final technical and financial project.

It has been suggested that we should have come before you with concrete proposals for discussion, but we have decided to come rather with the suggestion for the undertaking. The compilation of such a great project cannot be the work of a few men, but the collaboration of all parties interested.

It is primarily the great moral benefit, issuing from a disinterested and cordial collaboration between foreigners and Chinese, that prompted us to make the suggestion, besides the conviction that the execution of this great project will mark the end of all misunderstanding and jealousies amongst the different nationalities here and amongst the Chinese themselves. The unification of all factions in China and a better understanding between foreigners and Chinese must be the vision that should guide us through the difficult, but not impossible, task of materializing our scheme.

We have not called you here in order to ask for your financial support, but for your moral support, for your advice and for your free collaboration with the work of the Committee that you are going to appoint.

A broad vision of to-day's economic situation will clearly show us what an immense rôle China will play in the future economic readjustment of the world, when a mutual undertanding and loyal collaboration will permit the development of the enormous resource of this great country.

A Vision of Greater Shanghai.

Shanghai, because of her geographical position and importance in Eastern trade, is destined to develop more rapidly than any other city in the world. Why not prepare the plan for a greater Shanghai, concentrating on the function of this city during the next 25 years? It would be possible to embody in it the plan for the World Exhibition, for the erection of permanent buildings and for public work indispensable to the gradual expansion of the city.

I wish to dispel from the mind of our Chinese friends the idea that our suggestion is a trap in order to make them agree to the extension of the Settlement. It will not be the task of the Committee to discuss the future status of Shanghai, but to prepare a plan for the extention of the city without any preoccupation as to her future political standing.

The hearty collaboration and reconciliation of different interests will make possible political agreements of everlasting duration. We are confident that you are convinced that the moral result obtainable from this undertaking will be fully justified.

We have been told that a World Exhibition in Shanghai would be a financial failure, "because all other World Exhibitions were financial failures." We do not wish to go into detail, because the task of preparing the technical and financial plans must be left entirely to the Committtee you will appoint to-day for this purpose, but we wish to point out to those who are in doubt that no other city in the world has the favourable characteristics that Shanghai has for a World Exhibition.

Shanghai's geographical position is unique. The watershed served by Shanghai Harbour represents well over one-tenth of the population of the world. This population by its unflagging energies manages to maintain an economic standard far superior to that of many other parts of the world; an intelligent population open to everything new and interesting and consequently a certain supporter of the Exhibition.

It is not necessary to have lived long in Shanghai to know how rapidly the value of land increases. Any large plot of land, embodied in the plan of Greater Shanghai, improved for the use of the Exhibition, is bound to increase in value and pay a great part of the cost.

Mr. Charles C. Moore, President of the San Francisco Exhibition, has kindly sent us all the records of that great Exhibition and after perusal of those interesting documents the Committee will be easily convinced how Shanghai can make her Exhibition pay.

We suggest that each one present pledge himself to give the Committee his moral support and his promise to render any help in the form of advice and information in order to facilitate its work.

We are perfectly aware of the grave task facing the Committee, but we are also confident that the enthusiasm of its members and the cordial support they will receive from all those far-sighted men who see before them the great future of Shanghai and the great moral and material benefits that such an Exhibition will bring to China and the rest of the World, will pave the way to a solution meeting unanimous approval (applause).

Mr. A. de C. Sowerby opened a general discussion by warmly supporting the proposal, dwelling upon Shanghai's favourable geographical position and its growing commercial importance, and saying that it must prove of great benefit to importers and exporters, and shipping, insurance, engineering and building interests. He thought that Shanghai would benefit commercially, even if by any chance actual cost of the scheme exceeded actual receipts, while on the intellectual side also there must be great gain both to East and West.

Financing the Exhibition.

Mr. A. Brooke Smith said he thought most people in Shanghai would like to see an Exhibition here, but the enterprise would be a most difficult one to carry out in a community such as that of Shanghai, a city of many nationalities. He had hoped that Mr. Bena would have placed before the meeting some idea of how the scheme was to be financed, but he had given no figures and only proposed that a Committee be appointed to go into the *pros* and *cons* of the matter. It seemed to the speaker that such a committee would be faced with a very great difficulty in the question of finance. An exhibition of the magnitude proposed by Mr. Bena would involve an expenditure of many millions before any revenue was to hand. How that revenue was to be forthcoming he did not know, and he would like Mr. Bena to give the meeting some ideas on the question.

Mr. Bena, in reply, admitted that he had no financial plan ready. Considering the financial potentialities of Shanghai, he thought it should be possible to form a syndicate to advance the necessary money during the five or six years which would be required in preparing the exhibition. A big asset would be that land needed for the exhibition would be developed for the use of greater Shanghai, and this must be done in conjunction with the Settlement authorities and the Chinese, while when the ground was ready the various nationalities participating would, of course, finance their own exhibits and erection of pavilions, as was done in other great exhibitions. In his opinion, the financial question would be the easiest to solve. As he viewed the position, the greater difficulty would be to secure complete international co-operation. Mr. Bena added that there was a suggestion that an exhibition be held in Peking, and the Chêkiang Government was also considering a similar proposition, but he had been informed that the latter would be prepared to co-operate with Shanghai. Reverting to the question of funds, Mr. Bena suggested that the amusement section of the exhibition might be turned over to a syndicate and become a permanent "Coney Island."

In answer to a question by the Chairman, Mr. Bena said that the Nanking Exhibition was financially disastrous, the reason being that $2,000,000 could not be accounted for!

Questioned as to land for the exhibition, Mr. Bena said possibly an area of 5,000 mow would be required, and his idea was that an option be obtained in two or three localities.

Mr. Chang Nieh-yun (Chinese Chamber of Commerce), speaking unofficially, said he thought that all the support that could be hoped for from the Chinese Government would possibly be a grant of land for the exhibition. If Shanghai business men organized and financed the scheme and took everything upon their shoulders, it might be a success, and he suggested that the various Chambers of Commerce should get together and thresh the matter out before taking any steps to get the Chinese authorities to move. Mr. Chang added that he was not present officially as representing the Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

Major Hilton Johnson, speaking on behalf of the China Association, said he thought the more prudent course would be to appoint a committee simply to explore the possibilities of such a scheme rather than appoint a committee to make arrangements as indicated. The financial side of the matter presented bigger difficulties than Mr. Bena appeared to think, and there were other troubles ahead, land, provincial rivalries, and so on.

Mr. E. M. Gull, speaking on behalf of the Committee of the British Chamber of Commerce, endorsed Major Hilton Johnson's view. By appointing a committee he thought they would be jumping a stage. It would be more advisable for those who conceived the idea, and believed in it, to put forward something a little more definite; but to appoint a committee would give an impression that the meeting approved of the idea of the exhibition, and he was not sure that things had really reached that stage. They should first have some concrete proposal, and on that decide whether or not to appoint a committee to go further into the scheme.

Mr. Sowerby.—That is precisely the idea of appointing this preliminary committee—to prepare a more definite scheme for consideration by the various Chambers of Commerce and the Chinese.

Mr. Bena emphasized that the appointment of a Committee would not imply that they were bound to anything, or even that the meeting approved of the idea. It would not be an executive committee, and would simply be appointed to study the question.

Mr. Brooke Smith then proposed that Mr. Bena write to the national Chambers of Commerce and ask them to appoint one representative to form a committee and consider the matter as a whole.

Mr. Chang Nieh-yun seconded, and the resolution was carried with the addition that foreign and Chinese representation on the committee be equal, and that, in addition to inviting a representative of the Chinese Chamber, the latter body be asked to name suitable representatives of the leading Chinese financial and industrial concerns.

LOCAL Japanese residents will celebrate the marriage of their popular Crown Prince on June 1 next.

THE Chinese press states that the Japanese authorities in Shanghai have been asked to investigate the source of supply of counterfeit coins which are finding their way to Japan in bulk. It is said that recently 50 cent. silver pieces of the face value of Y.100,000 were recently shipped to Moji from Shanghai, and that the coins are of such excellent manufacture as to deceive all but an expert. Recently also, two Chinese were arrested at Moji in possession of counterfeit bank-notes printed in Shanghai.

CHINESE CATHOLIC PRELATES

Native Priests Raised to Rank of Monsignori with Seats in General Council

The Catholic Church excludes no nationality from the ranks of its priesthood, or even of the prelacy, provided the men come up to the intellectual, moral and general standard of efficiency required by Canon Law. The Church having at present 2,208,000 converts in China, dispersed over the 18 Provinces and Outlying Dependencies, and an ordained native clergy numbering 1,701, it was deemed advisable at the close of 1923, to raise a select few of these Chinese clergymen to the dignity of prelates. Trained for about 15 years in their native literature, in mathematical and physical science, in general history, in Latin, philosophy and theology, in Scripture, apologetics and Canon Law, they are thoroughly equipped for the duties of their ministry. Two among them have been recently selected by Rome, the Supreme Centre of authority over the whole Church, and raised to the dignity of Prefects Apostolic. Though not bishops, they have the rank of prelates, and may wear the mitre and ring, but are not allowed the use of the crozier or of the throne.

Names of the Two Prelates.

The first appointed is the Rev. Father Odoric Cheng, a member of the Franciscan Order, founded by the great and popular Saint of Assisi, A.D. 1209. Father Cheng was born in 1873, and joined the Franciscan Order in 1894, making his religious profession in 1898. He is therefore at the present day 51 years of age. Before being raised to the dignity of prelate, he was sometime professor in the Central Seminary of Kiangchowfu, Hupeh.

Their Missionary Field.

The other prelate is the Rev. Father Melchior Sun, of the Congregation of the Vincentians or Lazarists. Father Sun is a native of Peking, where he was born in 1869. He joined the Vincentian Fathers in 1897, and became a professed member of the Congregation in 1901. He is a little more advanced in age than the first prelate, being at present 55 years. In his previous lifetime, he laboured both as a missionary and a professor in the Preparatory Seminary, in Peking. He has had thus much experience both in the field and in teaching.

The Procession at Siccawei.

Monsignor Cheng, for such is the title to be henceforth given him, controls the whole region in the province of Hupeh south and southeast of the Yangtze River, down to the borders of Kiangsi. This comprises the district cities of Puki, Kiayü, Tsungyang and Tungcheng.

Monsignor Sun's sphere of work is in the province of Chihli, east of Paotingfu. The centre of the mission is Lihsien, with five other towns to the east and southeast, Shuhe, Ankuoh, Poyeh, Kaoyung and Shenchai. The congregation which he controls numbers 25,000 converts.

Preceding the bishops, both of these newly elected prelates walked in the procession, which took place in Siccawei at the opening of the General Council on May 15. Besides them was the Venerable Abbot Brun, Superior of the Trappist Monstery, near Peking. All three were highly conspicuous, and the object of peculiar attention on the part of the crowd. The natives were especially pleased in seeing two of their race among the highest dignitaries of that Church, which extends the world over, and reckons within her fold 325,000,000 members (Whitaker's Almanack, 1924, p. 263).

Seats in the General Council.

In the afternoon preceding the opening of the Council, five Commissions were established, each having a bishop presiding over it, and assisted by other bishops, theological consultors and secretaries. The two Chinese prelates are members of the 4th Commission, over which presides Bishop Geurts of Eastern Chihli. Among the consultors are the Very Rev. J. Verdier, S.J., superior-general of the Shanghai Mission; the Superior of the Dominicans, Foochow Mission; Rev. Father Espelage, of the Order of St. Francis, Wuchang, and Rev. Father Ford, representing the American Foreign Mission, Kuangtung. The presence of the Chinese prelates at the opening procession and as members of the above Commission, displays the wonderful progress of Catholic life in China, and the healthy expansion, which, as a result of the present Council, is expected to follow in the near future.

MEMORIAL TABLET TO SIR E. FRASER

Unveiled at the Consulate by Mr. Barton in Presence of Many Friends

The little ceremony which accompanied the unveiling of the Sir Everard Fraser memorial at the Consulate on Saturday was especially appropriate to the memory of the late Consul-General in being without ostentation in word or deed. There was a representative gathering of officials and friends, among those present being: Mr. G. S. Moss, M.B.E., Consul, Mr. W. S. Toller, Vice-Consul, Mr. A. J. Martin, Vice-Consul, Mr. C. E. Whitamore, Vice-Consul, Mr. H. J. Brett, Commercial Counsellor of Legation, Mr. H. N. Steptoe, Vice-Consul, Commander Green, Sir Skinner and Lady Turner and Miss Turner, Sir Edward Pearce, M. Wilden, Consul-General for France, Mr. V. Grosse, Assistant Commissioner of Russian Affars, Dean Symons and Mrs. Symons, Mr. Peter Grain, Mr. R. F. le Mesurier, Mr. A. Brooke-Smith, Mr. John Prentice, Mr. C. M. Bain, Mr. E. S. Benbow Rowe, Lieut. Col. T. E. Trueman, Major Hilton Johnson, Mr. Alister Campbell, Mr. M. Reader Harris, Mr. L. M. Beytagh, Mr. P. W. Massey, Mr. L. E. Canning, Mr. O. M. Green, Mr. A. C. Clear, Captain Hillman, Superintendent T. Vaughan and Mr. L. J. Cubitt.

A guard of honour, under command of Sgt. Fanthorpe, was furnished by "A" Co. British, S.V.C., (Sir Everard Fraser's old company) and presented arms before the memorial upon the arrival of Mr. Barton, H. M. Consul-General. In a brief speech Mr. Barton said:

In the past, the memorials upon the walls of this building have not been unveiled with any ceremony. The men whom they commemroate are not men who were very well known in Shanghai, and their memorials were placed here without any ceremony at all. In the case of the tablet I am about to unveil to the memory of Sir Everard Fraser, we thought a departure from that custom would be fitting in the case of a man who served so long at this post and who was so well loved in the place where he died. I do not propose to say anything in the nature of a eulogy of Sir Everard Fraser. It is unnecessary. Shanghai has already honoured him by placng a memorial tablet in the Cathedral. This small memorial placed here to-day thinks of him rather as the Consul, and merely records the fact of his service for 42 years and his death here at his post, and it is placed here by members of his own Service in China in testimony of their regard for him and of their desire to preserve his memory, and that this table may serve to keep his memory green and be an incentive to those who shall follow in his footsteps. On behalf of the Consular Service in China, I unveil this tablet.

The unveiling concluded the ceremony.

MOST of the Chinese newspapers on Monday contained reference to recent cases of abduction said to have taken place in Shanghai. It is suggested that these have been very numerous but that little can be known about them owing to threats held out to relatives of the victims. Special reference is made to the case of the wife of a piece goods broker, kidnapped from a theatre about a week ago, and held for a $50,000 ransom; one report states that $15,000 has been paid and that the woman has returned home. So many versions of the affair are given, however, that all must be accepted with the usual caution. One highly coloured story describes how the abductors decorated the lady's headdress with flowers and worshipped her as the goddess of wealth. Another report states that a special proclamation on the subject of these crimes has been issued by the Chief of the Chinese Constabulary, and that rewards are to be offered for information leading to the arrest of the gang believed to be at work. A leader writer points out that if these crimes are not checked, Shanghai will be unsafe for any wealthy person, either Chinese or foreign.

CAPT. D'OISY REACHES PEKING

Shanghai to the Capital in Nine Flying Hours: Most Difficult Stage

Departing from Lunghua at 5 a.m. on Thursday, Capt. d'Oisy reached Nanyuan Aerodrome, Peking, at 5.45 last evening. He covered the distance of 700 odd miles in nine flying hours, in what he described in an interview at Peking, as his "most difficult flight so far."

He made two two-hour stops at Hsuchowfu and Tsinanfu where he met with an ovation.

The start was made at the Lunghua field in the presence of M. Wilden, the French Consul-General, Dr. E. L. Tartois, Mme. Beudin and a surprisingly large group from the French colony, who had remained up all night to wish their countrymen "*bon voyage*."

The motor was started and the 'plane ran down the field and then rose gracefully into the air. In the early light, the tri-colour identification circlees on the lower side and similar colours on the tail which showed the 'plane to be French shone clearly.

The start was made under most favourable weather conditions. Only under such conditions and an engine working as near perfect as possible Capt. d'Oisy felt he could make the distance. In case of failure there was the threat of Marshal Chih Shi-yuan to seize the 'plane if it landed at Nanking.

Triumphant passage past this obstacle was announced in a telegram received by M. Wilden shortly before noon. Signed by Capt. d'Oisy, it stated that the aviators passed above Nanking at 6.45 a.m., and made a successful landing at Hsuchowfu.

The "North-China Daily News" Correspondent at Hsuchowfu wired yesterday afternoon that the machine, with both men in good condition, had arrived there at 8.50. They were greeted with a splendid reception by the foreign community and the Chinese authorities, every facility being afforded them for the remainder of the journey. Gen. Chen Tiao-yuan, Commissioner of Defence, who assisted so materially in the release of the Lincheng captives, gave personal attention to details which might be of assistance to the aviators. The landing and take-off were made perfectly. By 11 a.m. they were off again for Tsinan.

Tsinanfu, May 29.

Capt. d'Oisy arrived here at 1.15 p.m. and left two hours afterwards.—Reuter's Pacific Service

Peking, May 29.

Capt. d'Oisy arrived at Nanyuan at 5.45 p.m.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

"Most Difficult Flight."

Capt d'Oisy, interviewed by Reuter's correspondent, said that the Chinese authorities *en route* were helpful, but it was his most difficult flight so far.

As he was landing at Suchowfu a tyre burst, causing breakage of a shock absorber strut which the fliers repaired. While flying the magneto burnt out and a valve had to be replaced.

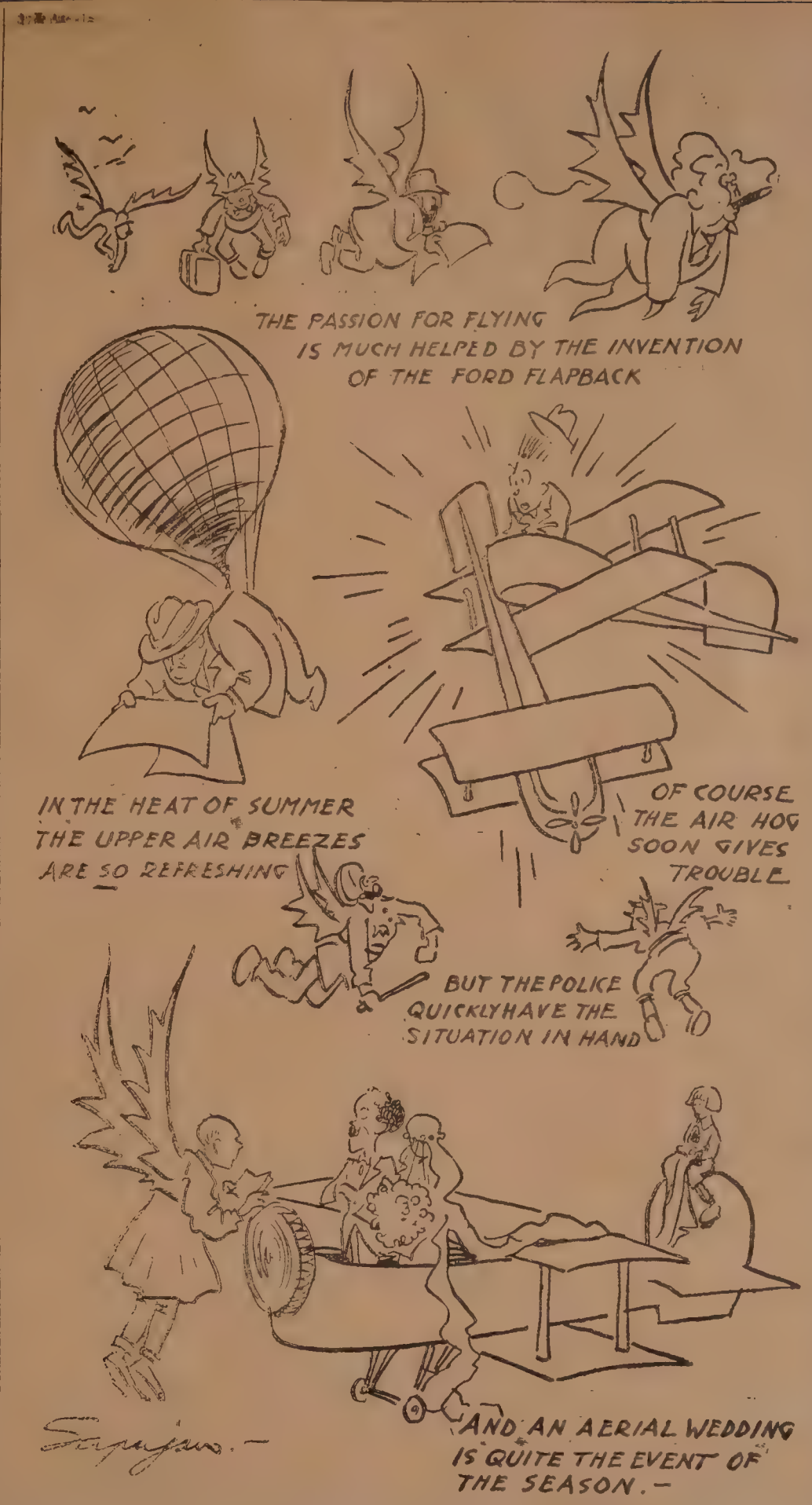
He made a perfect landing at Nanyuan escorted by a Chinese plane which went out to meet him.

Thousands of people were present including the French Minister, most of the French community, representatives of the Legations and numerous high Chinese officials. A feature of the reception was presentations to Capt. d'Oisy and his mechanic of commemorative medals and certificates from the President and the Aviation Department, and also handsome curios. The Aviation Director read an address of welcome to which Capt. d'Oisy replied, thanking the Aviation Department for the Assistance it had given throughout.

Three-day Stay in Peking.

Capt. d'Oisy expects to remain in Peking for two or perhaps three days. The French Minister is entertaining him to a banquet tonight. A Presidential and other receptions are arranged for to-morrow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

It is announced that the Chinese Students' International Union will hold their annual conference at Shanghai in August.



THE ARRIVAL, ACTUAL AND PROSPECTIVE, OF FAMOUS AVIATORS, NATURALLY STARTS SHANGHAI ON A NEW CRAZE

GOODS TRAINS IN COLLISION

Serious Accident on Tientsin-Pukou Line, but No Lives Lost

Two goods trains crashed together on the Tientsin-Pukou line on Sunday night. A number of freight vans were completely wrecked, but as far as can be ascertained no one was killed or injured.

Miscellaneous freight is lined up alongside both lines. The track is covered with coaches smashed to splinters along the better part of a hundred yards. Portions of boxes, crates and general freight were hurled over an area of nearly an acre.

The crash which, it is reported, was caused by the failure of one engine driver to obey the signals, is a attributed entirely to his negligence. Passengers coming through to Shanghai say that the general opinion of railway men in the vicinity was that the driver ran right past the red light into the other engine, which had the right of way. It is reported that this driver, seeing the impending collision, jumped from the foot plate, without first throwing over the regulator. He has not been seen since, although officials and the military searched the country.

The scene of the accident is about 55 miles north of Pukou, not far from the ninth stop above the terminus, a small town called Changpaling.

Passengers reaching Shanghai from northern cities on the Blue Express stated that they were forced to go round the piled-up wreckage and walk until they met the up train, a portion of which then put back to the river with them and their baggage, which the coolies carried from the upper side of the wreckage. They arrived in Pukou several hours late, but according to the local railway officials, the Nanking express came in at the North Station but 40 minutes late.

Information received by Mr. G. L. Turner, assistant to the traffic manager, was very meagre merely to the effect that the trains had crashed and that coolies had carried the baggage round. One of the local specialists proceeded to the spot on Monday night. Passenger services are being maintained regularly, though in order to prevent delay, an extra siding is being constructed until the main line is cleared. This may take several days more.

WEDDING

Eustace—Hickson

A very pretty wedding took place on Thursday of last week in Holy Trinity Cathedral, which was effectively decorated for the occasion, when Miss Edna Hickson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hickson, of Maghull, Liverpool, was married to Mr. Harold Curtis Eustace, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Eustace, of Croydon, Surrey, and Yokohama, Japan. The Very Rev. Dean Symons performed the ceremony.

The bride, who was given away by Mr. G. A. Haley, wore a charming costume of white marocain crêpe, elaborately trimmed with pearls, and carried pink carnations. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. H. G. Allen as best man and Mr. W. B. Hughes acted as usher. After the ceremony, a reception was held at 81 Yu Yuen Road, the residence of Mr. H. G. Allen.

CHAPEI VOLUNTEERS PROHIBITED

Military Governor of Shanghai Wholly Opposed: Existing Forces Quite Enough

Gen. Ho Feng-ling, Military Governor of Shanghai and Sungkiang, has refused to give his approval to the scheme of a number of local merchants to reorganize the Chapei and Shanghai City Volunteer corps.

It will be remembered that the merchants requested the Chinese General and City Chambers of Commerce to bring the matter to the attention of Gen. Ho and to persuade him to approve of the scheme, as it was very essential, they said, that the Volunteers should be reorganized in order that the members might give the local military and police authorities their support in coping with the armed robber menace and for the protection of Shanghai.

Gen. Ho, in a reply to the Chambers, said that he had seen their letter and a copy of the proposed regulations which would govern the Volunteer Corps and was much interested. He stated that he greatly approved of their spirit and greatly respected them for showing so much concern in maintaining peace and order within his territory, but—"Since the third year of the Republic," he writes, "you know that, although we have passed through many crises and troubles, we have managed to maintain peace and order and nothing untoward has happened. You will see, therefore, that our force of militia and police have been sufficient to carry out their multifarious duties properly and that there is no necessity of establishing once more the Volunteer Corps.

"Of course, we cannot compare Shanghai with the interior where there is constant trouble. Here I assume responsibility in maintaining peace and order, and I guarantee that my troops and police will maintain peace and order and will protect the people and their interests, including their lives and their properties. I might say conscientiously that we have been, are, and will continue to do our best to make them happy and peaceful.

"Please notify all concerned that I have ordered my subordinates, the troops and the police, to take stricter precautions in maintaining peace and order and that there is no need for them to worry about protection for that they will surely receive."

Merchants' Desire Justified

Commenting on Gen. Ho's letter, the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" says that the merchants, in attempting to restore the Volunteers, have been striving hard for a long time to reach their object in order that they may themselves assist the police and the troops in maintaining peace and order, but now their hopes appeared to be shattered.

"The merchants, prompted by patriotic and protective motives, have been following a safe and a proper course," it adds. "They are respectable men, their aims are honourable and without reproach, and their actions are faithful and honest, not to say straightforward. They have tried to strengthen the troops and the police and to establish further the confidence of the people in the merchants. They wanted to protect the people's interests and their lives and property. The troops and police are insufficient in number. Absolutely no suspicion rests upon the aims of the merchants, who, as we have stated, are honourable and respectable. The Chambers of Commerce have gone over the regulations and found them in order, hence we hold that permission should be granted by the Military Governor for the reorganization of the Volunteers. Gen. Ho's contentions are based on firm grounds, but still we think that the Volunteers should be part of the merchants' equipment as they can do much to help the troops and the police to maintain peace and order for the benefit of their people. We have much to thank the police and the troops for, the efficient manner in which they have given us peace and protection in past years, but the robber menace is increasing."

THE World's Christian Students' Federation will meet in London from August 7 to August 21. China will be represented by Dr. Y. Y. Tsu, Mr. T. Z. Koo and Miss Yang Shih-tsen.

ATTACK ON RACING AT KIANGWAN

Chapei Merchants Protest to Paoshan Assembly against Evils of Gambling

Is Kiangwan Race Course a gamble? If so, should it come under the Chinese gambling laws? —These are questions that are being asked in Chinese circles as the result of a letter which, according to the Chinese Press, has just been addressed by a number of Chapei residents to the members of the District Assembly of Paoshan.

The merchants say that the strength of a country depends upon the strength of its citizens. When people who are strong physically, spiritually and mentally, the country is sure to be strong. But if the people lack in these three things it is only natural that the country should be very weak.

The Kiangwan Race Club, they say, does not in any way tend to strengthen China in this respect; on the contrary it is encouraging the gambling spirit. The opening of such a big place is simply for race meetings, and not, as the Chinese name suggests, an athletic club.

Simply a Cover.

It has been stated that racing has come from the West and that there should be race meetings for the benefit of foreigners as well as the Chinese. As a matter of fact racing is simply a cover, for in reality the race course is opened for gambling purposes. The issue of parimutuel and sweep tickets is nothing less than a lottery, the writers say.

Before racing was introduced in Shanghai, gambling was openly permitted, but the authorities refused to permit it further because it did not look nice, but now there is no difference at all between gambling and racing. Lotteries on a small scale injure the people's lives and property, but on a big scale they damage the financial market.

"Laws have been made by the Government forbidding lotteries," the writers continue, "and the Civil Governer has issued an order forbidding gambling as well as for the carrying out of the Government's law concerning lotteries. Everybody said that such acts on the part of the authorities were praiseworthy, but still we have permitted racing and gambling and the issue of race tickets without even taking any notice of them. Is this because racing is a part of western civilization that we welcome the practice and do nothing to suppress it—even going so far as to give it our support?

Foreign Countries' Example.

"Two years ago the Japanese Consul-General forbade his nationals to purchase race tickets, and America is now refusing to issue permits for the opening of race courses. Why? Because they know that such are a danger to society and injure their people.

"We learn that the Kiangwan Race Course was established because the Shanghai Race Club held but two meetings each year in spring and autumn. The promoters of the Kiangwan Race Course knew that the people were greedy for money and wanted to take chances at their luck, so they opened the Kiangwan Race Course and hoisted a new flag. Meetings are held whenever the weather is good, in spring, autumn and winter. On the days when they are expected to rest, the people are led to gamble in this place. The Shanghai Race Club has also increased the number of its racing days, and the two have since been competing. Altogether the two clubs hold 10 race meetings each year.

"Because of restrictions, the Shanghai Race Club has to limit its activities and the number of racing days each year. In Kiangwan, however, the number of days and meetings are limitless.

"Now, we understand, the two clubs are proposing to unite their activities. This year, the Kiangwan Race Course has been making improvements and extending its space in preparation for the entry of the Shanghai Race Club.

A Free-Gambling Place.

"All nationalities use Chinese territory as a free gambling place, and thus make Chinese territory a base for the menace to the lives and property of the people.

"Therefore, we are appealing to you members of the District Assembly, as representatives of the people of Paoshan District, in which the Kiangwan Race Course is situated, carefully to consider this question. You gentleman have to be responsible for the suppression of the Kiangwan Race Course. This is an important matter. The Kiangwan Course is a danger to the individual, to society, to the public in general and to the nation as a whole. We have, therefore, to ask you to discuss this matter to see whether or not we should in future grant permission for the continuance of the Kiangwan Race Course, to see whether it and its tickets are a gamble, to punish those concerned for conducting a gamble contrary to the law (should they come under Chinese law), or to limit the number of racing days, so that the source of the poison might be cut off."

THAT CADASTRAL LOT

Scene: A Court in Shanghai

Attorney: What is this?
Witness: A cadastral plan.
Judge: A what?
Witness: A cadastral plan.
Judge: What's that?
Attorney: A cadastral plan is . . . . er . . . Tell his Honour what a cadastral plan is
Witness: A cadastral plan is a cada....that is to say, it is a plan issued by the Municipal Council.
Judge: But "*cadastral!*" What does that mean?
Witness: I am afraid I cannot tell you precisely.
Judge: Does anyone know what a *cadastral* plan is?

The Marshal looked at the clerk of the court, the clerk of the court looked at the court stenographer, the court stenographer looked at the reporter; the reporter looked at the judge and the judge looked at counsel, and nobody knew what a cadastral plan was.

It appears not a little surprising that so learned body of gentlemen found themselves unable to describe correctly so simple a thing as a cadastral plan. The situation is all the more astonishing when one considers that Shanghai is simply full of cadastral lots, and that every little lot has a plan of its own, so that people really should know a lot about the word.

The word cadastral is derived from *cadastre*, from the late Latin *capitastrum*, a register of the poll tax, and is a register of the real estate of a country, with details of area, names of owners, and value. A cadastral survey, therefore, properly is one which gives such information as the Domesday Book, but the term came into general use as a name for the Ordinance Survey of the United Kingdom, which is on a sufficiently large scale to give the area of every field or piece of ground. Thus the Encyclopædia Britannica.

In Shanghai the word is of course used in precisely the same sense. Here we have Consular lots and Cadastral lots. The "Consular lot" is the number given to a piece of ground upon registration at the Consulate to whose jurisdiction the owner is subject. The cadastral plan of the lot is the Municipal Council survey, giving exact details of the land and any property which may be upon it, area, name of owner, and assessible value. The cadastral plan is thus a complete and exact official record of land in the Settlement.

BRILLIANT Chang, a Chinese restaurant keeper who was sentenced at the Old Bailey on April 10 to 11 months in the second division for being in possession of cocaine, has a particularly livid record, according to the London police. Socially and educationally Chang is far removed from the ordinary Chinese. He is the son of a wealthy Chinese merchant who acts as contractor to the British Admiralty at Shanghai and Hongkong. Evidence was given that the cocaine was found at Chang's restaurant when the police searched it following the arrest of a woman who was convicted and admitted that she had been a drug-taker. Chang denied supplying the woman, and said he did not deal in drugs. He was not aware that the packet of cocaine was in a recess in his cupboard, and did not know how it got there.

OBITUARY

Mr. R. Utz.

Shanghai art circles will learn with deep regret of the death of Mr. R. Utz, the well-known Russian artist, which occurred at his residence in Shanghai on May 22, from tuberculosis.

The artist was chiefly remarkable for his impressionistic style, having a penchant for bold outstanding effects with plenty of colour. Like most artists and journalists he was never rich, and the news that one of his pictures, entitled "A canal scene," had sold for the sum of $160 caused him a great deal of pleasure, shortly before his death. He has held exhibitions of his work from time to time, the most recent being that at the Wintergarden Café. He exhibited some of his work at the exhibition held in the offices of the "North-China Daily News" a few days ago, and only ill-health prevented his serving on the committee. His loss will be a blow to Shanghai's artistic community.

Mr. Chun Fai-ting

The death is announced at his home, 13 Haining Road, at 5.30 p.m. on Sunday, of Mr. Chun Fai-ting, a director of the China Merchants' S. N. Co., and one of the leading Cantonese merchants in Shanghai.

Mr. Chun Fai-ting, who was a native of Sunwui, Kuangtung, and 76 years of age at the time of his death, came to Shanghai 45 years ago and immediately became connected with the infant China Merchants S. N. Co. Largely due to his indefatigable efforts, the company rose from small beginnings to what it is to-day, China's premier shipping concern. In spite of his advancing age, Mr. Chun attended office every day and was to be seen at his desk practically up to the time of his death. Many who passed the China Merchants' office in the Bund were no doubt familiar with the little, elderly figure of a Chinese gentleman who stepped out from his carriage and with the assistance of a servant walk into the office. This was Mr. Chun. He stuck to this carriage always, this being the only means of conveyance which he liked. Motor-cars he ignored.

Apart from his interests in the China Merchants' S. N. Co., Mr. Chun devoted a great part of his time to such organizations as the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, the Cantonese Guild, the Cantonese Merchants' Association, the New York Life Insurance Co., and the Sun Life Insurance Co., of all of which he was a director. He also associated himself with many other organizations and activites and gave freely to deserving charities.

Mr. Chun was married and had 11 children, six sons and five daughters. Two daughters have already preceded him in death and the other three are married. His six sons are still alive and are well-known in Chinese circles. These are Mr. Chun Wing Kee of the China Merchants' Co., Mr. J. Wing-chun Chun (a district engineer in the Shanghai-Nanking Railway), Dr. J. Wing-hon Chun M. B., B. CH., (senior medical officer of the North Manchurian Plague Prevention Service), Mr. T. Wing-kue Chun, B. COMM. (assistant chief accountant of the Shanghai-Nanking and Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo Railways), Mr. Chun Wing-lai (of the China Merchants' Co.), and Mr. Chun Wing-ching.

Mr. A. A. Claxton

Shanghai cricketers and sportsmen in general were deeply grieved yesterday to learn of the death of Mr. A. A. Claxton. Mr. Claxton, who was in the Far East as the representative of a Manchester firm, had spent some time in Singapore and Hongkong and came to Shanghai last year. He had recently been down to Hongkong and only returned to the Settlement a few days ago. He succumbed to typhus.

Mr. Claxton was one of the finest cricketers seen here for many years and as a wicket-keeper he stood out even amongst the several very clever men the Settlement has had in that position in recent years. Some said of him that he was inclined to take liberties behind the wicket, yet it was seldom that he gave anything away through so doing. He was equally accomplished with the bat, being both a stylist and a fast and prolific scorer. He had the unique honour of having played Interport cricket for Singapore, Hongkong and Shanghai, which is believed to be a record. Mr. Claxton, who was a son of the Rev. A. E. Claxton, leaves a widow, with whom the greatest sympathy will be felt.

The funeral took place at Bubbling Well Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon, and many members of the Shanghai Cricket Club and other friends attended to pay a last tribute of respect to one whose sudden passing is so greatly regretted. The service in the Chapel and at the graveside was conducted by the Rev. A. N. Rowland, Pastor of Union Church. Among those present to express their sympathy with the chief mourner, Mrs. Claxton, were: the Rev. E. Box and Mrs. Box, Dr. J. Davenport, Captain E. I. M. Barrett, Dr. W. E. O'Hara, W. C. G. Clifford, D. W. Leach, A. E. Lanning, J. R. Weeks, E. S. Elliston, A. H. Leslie, A. Badeley, J. Tippin, G. F. Forshaw, R. Grimshaw, W. J. Monk, T. Rawsthorne, and W. Martin.

Many beautiful wreaths were sent.

GEN. FREDERICK WARD MEMORIAL

Dedication by U. S. Consul-General at Sungkiang: Chinese Join in Recognition

A large number of Americans, including Mr. E. S. Cunningham (Consul-General) and Mr. M. D. Purdy (Judge of the U. S. Court of China) and representatives of the Frederick Ward Post of the American Legion went to Sungkiang on Sunday to dedicate a memorial to Frederick Ward, the founder of the Ever-Victorious Army. When the foreigners arrived at the shrine, they found many Sungkiang officials there to welcome them, as well as a large number of Chinese. Red candles had been placed before the family tablets of General Ward by the Chinese, who apparently have come to regard the shrine as sacred to the memory of one who helped their country in the hour of distress.

The dedication programme was very simple. Rev. C. L. Boynton, of the American School, opened with a prayer, Mr. Gardner Crane, Commander of the Frederick Ward Post, then introduced Mr. Cunningham, who delivered a dedicatory address, in the course of which he said:—

It is altogether fitting that Frederick Ward should be honoured to-day by the American Legion, whose members are of those adventuresome Americans who crossed the Atlantic as Ward crossed the Pacific, and who fought in foreign lands for principles which they believed to be right and just and in defence of countries other than their own. But this memorial must be only a beginning of honours to be paid to this great-hearted American. This tablet that we unveil to-day is the first memorial erected exclusively by Americans in China to the memory of its distinguished citizen. It must not be the last, for on the American grounds in Shanghai, surrounded by Government buildings and under the flag of his country, should a monument be erected in commemoration of his services. The American Legion would do a great work if it accepts the responsibility for this monument. It will be a reminder to the Chinese people that it was erected to an American who helped their country in an hour of distress. His life typifies the great friendship that Americans and the American Government have always shown towards China. He brought that which China needed at that time, and many contributions has America made since to China of the things she needs, such as missions, schools, hospitals, etc.

Mr. S. K. Chen followed. He said that he had been requested to represent the provincial and other Chinese officials and to do honour to General Frederick Ward for the distinguished services which he rendered to China during the Taiping Rebellion. It was through General Ward's valuable assistance that the rebellion was finally quelled, thus enabling the people of Sungkiang and Shanghai to enjoy peace and order. Local Chinese joined with Americans in coming to the tomb during this part of the year to make a sacrificial offering to the memory of the General.

Mr. Chen placed a wreath upon the tomb on behalf of General Ho Feng-lin and Mr. Hsu Yuan.

After Rev. J. Bushey, pastor of Grace Church, Sungkiang, had pronounced the Benediction, a detachment of sailors from the American men-of-war in harbour and the Boy Scouts from the American School fired a volley to "Taps."

The inscription on the memorial is: "In Memory of the Organizer of the Ever-Victorious Army, erected by the Frederick Ward Post, American Legion."

ANOTHER SNAKE STORY

Hairs Transformed into Reptiles which Steal the Human Heart Away!

An up-to-date fairy tale, which has led the authorities to take steps to suppress it, has appeared in the Chinese press.

We are told that a 16-year old Chinese girl, taking a nap after tiffin several days ago, suddenly died. Her parents then sat on the front door-steps and began the usual Chinese weeping for the dead girl. A beggar, passing by, inquired what was the reason for the sadness, and upon being told, said that he would explain the reason for the girl's death.

If the parents, he said, would take the trouble to look at the four corners of the blanket of the bed on which the girl was lying they would find that in each was a human hair. The spirits of these had transformed themselves into poisonous snakes, and had worked their way into the girls' heart, which was all eaten up.

Upon saying this, the beggar disappeared from sight. The parents immediately took his advice and went to inspect the bed clothes. There they found, exactly located as the beggar had stated, the human hairs. They tapped the girl's bosom and found also that she was "heartless!"

The story was circulated, and of course the Chinese press took it up. One of the more enterprising reporters went to the house and lo! he too saw the hairs! After that many people looked at their blankets and found that these also had the hairs. They were immediately taken out and burned, so that the poisonous reptiles were also burnt to death and many human lives were saved.

The matter has now been brought to the ears of the authorities, who have issued an order forbidding the absurd story to be circulated further. They state that Shanghai is such an important commercial port and many people are not as enlightened as one might expect.

Remedy Clean Blankets

"Of late," states the proclamation, "a rumour has been circulated to the effect that human hairs in four corners of blankets have turned into poisonous snakes and have eaten the hearts of various people. This is a foolish rumour but ignorant men and women believe that it is true and have become greatly alarmed. It a menace to the public peace and order of Shanghai and has a great bearing on the minds of the people. No matter how many hairs blankets contain, it is foolish to think that they can be transformed into snakes. There evidently are some bad people in Shanghai who are attempting to stir up the minds of the people, hence all concerned are ordered to put an end to it at once. The police are ordered to take the necessary steps to suppress rumours of this nature and to arrest rumour-mongers. It is hoped that people will clean their blankets and not believe such stories, as during the winter the people neglect to change their bed sheets and blankets with the result that they are dirty and rumours of this nature are circulated. All concerned hereby take note."

OWING to lack of funds, the Chinese press understands, the National Southeastern University, Nanking, has decided to abolish its engineering department. This institution is considered to be one of the best administered in China.

CORRESPONDENCE

MIRAGE IN CHINA

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—It would be difficult to find a subject that has not been discussed in your correspondence columns, by the wire and sometimes otherwise.

I think though I am introducing a new subject, and that is mirage. Any sunny day after 10 o'clock a.m. on the sandy plains of China one sees with exact distinctness the clear water of beautiful lakes. Trees are seen growing in the lake and people carrying their burdens through it. To one not versed in mirage appearances it is difficult to believe the lake is phantom. Change your height, either by kneeling, or by ascending to a higher level and the mirage is proved.

On Sunday at noon after a severe blow of wind, and when the heavens were filled with all varieties of clouds for reflexion, we saw from our porch, several hundreds of yards distant, a native thatched house, and a pai-fang, a widow's monument. These were so distinct that at the time we did not realize we were viewing a mirage. We wondered that they could have been built so near us, and that we did not notice the workmen. When they disappeared, then we realized we had seen a mirage.

I want to ask if others have seen objects in mirage, not in the sky, but as though built upon the earth. There were two of us and we discussed it together, so there is no doubting the facts in the case.

I am, etc.,
ONE WHO PRACTISES PROHIBITION.

May 21, 1924. Tenghsien, Shantung.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In reference to the letter on the above subject which appears in to-day's issue, I beg to call attention to a passage in the "China Sea Pilot," Vol. V. p. 490, referring to the coast from Litsinho to Ninghai (*near* mouth of Yellow River).

"*Mirage.*—This shore in hazy weather presents a very peculiar appearance from seaward, all objects being ridiculously magnified. The small villages start out of the mist like huge towns, and men loom like towers, whilst the shores vanish on either hand in long, finely tapering points."

I have often seen "pools" of mist in Chihli province and Mr. Barcus of "hollow-earth" fame was led to his illusion largely by the mirage effects at the mouth of the Huangpu.

All these phenomena arise from a low lying layer of dense vapour which distorts the light passing through it.

I am, etc.,
HERBERT CHATLEY.

Shanhai, May 24, 1924.

ARE FISH SOMNAMBULISTIC?

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Say! Can any of your paper perusers enlighten yours truly, Fisher T. Fish, on a dashed perplexing problem *i.e.*, are fish ever dormant? As a gold fish enthusiast I guess I have frequently dashed from my couch way back during the small hours of the night in the hope of getting wise as to whether the boys indulge in a little nap but I have sure met with little success.

As a wind up I may say that I have been no more fortunate in my nocturnal expeditions with sampan and lantern at this sea-side resort commonly known as the "Los Angeles" of China.

I am, None Other Dear Sir,
Than,
Yours as ever and a day,
FISHER T. FISH.

Ningpo, May 21, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Referring to the letter appearing in last Saturday's issue of the "North-China Daily News" under this heading, it would appear that our friend, Mr. Fisher T. Fish (I doubt whether this is his correct name—it sounds a bit "fishy"), has forgotten his Esperanto otherwise he would remember that the word fish is a redivation of the verb Fishanto—to sleep.

I must confess, however, that I have never yet seen a fish in a dormant state and would be very interested to hear whether any of your fish-loving readers can throw any light on the matter.

I am, etc.,
INTERESTED.

Nanking, May 28, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Referring to the article appearing in the correspondence columns of last Saturday's "N.-C. D. N." I should be very pleased if Mr. Fisher T. Fish would be so good as to do me the honour of entertaining him one evening at my country place. "The Rockery," Ningpo, (standing as it does in its own grounds and possessing magnificent portals it is an ideal place for fish) when I shall have much pleasure in showing him my aquarium which is considered to be one of the finest in the world and will also have the satisfaction of convincing him that fish do sleep. They do not, or cannot, however, close their eyes, hence the familiar expression "poor fish." I may say that I have made a life-long study of aquatic oviparous animals and can therefore speak with some authority on the subject.

I have not the pleasure of knowing Mr. Fish's real name but if he will drop a line to the undersigned intimating when he proposes availing himself of my invitation I will make suitable arrangements for receiving him.

Enclosing my card,

I am, etc.,
PROFESSOR BROWN.

"The Rockery,"
Ningpo, May 28, 1924.

TWO RACING QUESTIONS

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—There are two matters more or less controversial upon which I venture to address you.

The first is the question of declaration to win at Race Meetings here. I enclose a cutting from the last received copy of the "Weekly Times," which you might, if you think fit, reproduce. I have no doubt in my own mind that whenever a stable has more than one starter in a race, it is only fair to the public to make a declaration. I can call to mind many instances during the past few years in which there has been no such declaration and the public has been disagreeably surprised.

The question is further complicated by the fact that in some cases an owner has ponies running in his own name whilst owning shares on joint account with others in ponies running in the same race.

Should there be any declaration in such cases?

The second question is that over which so much controversy now rages—what is a China Pony?

On this, I feel that most of us are missing the point.

The pony raced here and on most, if not all, of the courses in China is, or was, a Mongolian-bred animal.

I have travelled fairly extensively in China and have, except in the north, found the China pony to be a small animal rarely exceeding 12.3 and usually much under even that height but with many characteristics in shape and manners.

I speak of Kuangtung, Kuangsi, Yunnan and Kueichow in particular.

I am told that in Szechuan the same small hardy breed is to be found and that the Burmese pony is of much the same type.

At the close of the Russo-Japanese War the Mongel breeders got hold of a number of Cossack horses and mares and commenced to interbreed, obviously with a view to improvement.

This has resulted in some of the "Smashers" that are now in the "lime-light" of racing circles to-day.

When I first arrived in the East early in 1901 "Walers" were raced in Hongkong and elsewhere. There can be little doubt but that a lot of "Waler" blood, through them, filtered into Mongolia.

It should not be difficult to discriminate between the Mongolian pony and half-breeds but the China pony is very much more like an Arab than any pony such as we imported exclusively from Mongolia and raced in the old days.

Mr. Morriss is right in his contention that the Mongol horse breeders only wanted to improve the breed by importing fresh strains; and that this has been done is abundantly proved by recent results.

The real "China Pony" is not Mongolian. Let us agree to race Mongolian-bred ponies and leave it at that.

They may improve their breed as much as they like. Why not? We have done the same in Britain, since the days of "Eclipse."

I am, etc.,
PHILIP W. GOLDING.

Shanghai, May 27, 1924.

P. S. The above was written before I had seen the letter from your Tientsin correspondent in this morning's issue of your paper.

*The cutting enclosed by our correspondent is as follows.—

H. H. THE AGA KHAN AND MR. DAWSON.

Question of a Declaration

During the flat-racing season of last year we (the "Times") published some articles by our Racing Correspondent commenting upon the practice of owners running two horses in the same race without making a declaration as to the one with which he intends to win. One of the races under review was the Coronation Stakes, where the two horses in question were Paola and Teresina, owned by his Highness the Aga Khan and trained by Mr. R. C. Dawson. In this race Teresina carried the Aga Khan's first colours and Paola his second colours; Teresina was first favourite, but Paola won, and Teresina finished second.

Our Correspondent expressed the opinion that the owner would have been well advised from the public point of view to have run only one of the horses, but he had no desire to suggest that the result was anything but unfortunate. The Aga Khan and Mr. Dawson, however, thought that the articles impugned their good faith and integrity. We desire to correct that impression. The Aga Khan is a very good friend of England, and a welcome and honoured patron of the Turf in this country. The success of Mr. Dawson's career as a trainer is sufficient testimony to the trust which is reposed in him by the racing community.

We trust that this explanation will remove any misunderstanding which may have arisen in the minds of any of our readers. We, however, adhere to the view that where an owner runs two horses in the same race he should, in the interests of the public, make a declaration.

PLAYING THE GAME

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Although I have absolutely no connexion with the Jewish Boy Scouts and Cubs and although I attended neither the Jamboree held on Thursday nor the one on Saturday, I hope you will permit me to answer Ricardo's letter, as I happen to be of the same race as the boys who won.

Those of us who are acquainted with the parents of some—not all—of the boys, who are extremely orthodox, will understand that they would never permit their sons to take part in the competition on their Sabbath—the day of rest—especially in the fire-lighting event. I am sure not all the Jewish boys whose parents respect the Sabbath and who were there went there with the knowledge of their parents.

I can assure Ricardo that it was not very many years ago that—when still a boy—I used to sneak away on a Saturday afternoon to go and watch the football matches or some other sporting event and, upon returning home, used to receive a good scolding—and sometimes a hiding from my father for not having attended the Synagogue Services.

Would Ricardo have wished rather to see the whole troop turn out on Thursday or only part of the troop on Saturday under such a condition?

Thanking you for the space you allow me, and enclosing my card.

I am, etc.,
A YOUNG JEW.

Shanghai, May 27, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—"Ricardo's" letter referring to the conditions under which the Jewish Scouts and Cubs won the two shields is most opportune.

There is no doubt that the conditions under which the Jewish lads performed their stunts were all in their favour, especially so in the case of the very little boys, the Cubs, as they were immune from the natural nervousness and excitement usually engendered both in men and boys when performing in public under the scrutiny of a thousand eyes.

Yet again, the Girls School Cubs and other packs had to perform in the face of a crowd *after* they had been enjoying themselves at the sideshows and after they were tired little boys through waiting in those surging and tiresome queues.

The Jewish Cubs were taken to a beautiful garden, fresh and tuned up to the minute and there went through their stunts under entirely different and more favourable conditions to all the other little boys.

Of course, the Scout Council is responsible for having allowed this to take place for although the Council will naturally consider the religious susceptibilities of the various packs it must also be remembered they are also the guardians of *all* the packs, and the fair thing to have done was to insist upon equal stunts under equal conditions, *coute que coute*, which in this case they have quite failed to do.

The scoring between the Jewish Cubs and the Cathedral Girls School Cubs was very close—totals of 93.6 per cent. as against 92.5 per cent.—and, if I remember rightly, the Girls School Cubs beat the Jewish Cubs in all the detailed items marked on the blackboard and only lost to them on the "general" marking for their camp effects.

As "Ricardo" points out, the Jewish leaders had no religious qualms about allowing their lads to put on their war-paint and to receive their Shields in public, nor also, in allowing the lads to enjoy themselves on a Saturday afternoon as all boys like to and ought to do—but some explanation is awaited from the Jewish Elders controlling the packs as to why religion prevented the boys doing their stunts with their companion Scouts and Cubs?

If their boys must needs perform in quietness and privacy—so, by the same token, should their boys have received their Shields in seclusion and privacy and not in the full glare of publicity—on their Sabbath.

What were the Jewish Elders doing to allow their little boys to have a glorious Jamboree on their Sabbath if no exception could be made, for once in a way, to performing their stunts—for the two things are synonymous and the spirit precisely the same.

The essence of the Scout Movement is fair play and "fair does," and in this matter all the other packs of Scouts and Cubs have been penalized in favour of the Jewish packs—and, in face of the presence of the latter on Saturday afternoon taking full part in all of the Jamboree except their business—penalized unfairly.

I am, etc.,
ENGLISHMAN.

Shanghai, May 27, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—First I must thank you for your kind defence of the Jewish Scouts and Wolf Cubs in your Notes and Comments on Tuesday. What "Ricardo" had at the back of his head when he wrote his letter, which appeared the same day in your columns, on the subject of the Jewish Scouts and Cubs and the Empire Day Jamboree, is not quite clear to me. Is he upset because the Jewish boys carried off both shields or does he wish to start a religious argument?

If I am to reply to the former, I would point out that the judges were the same for all Troops and Packs and that they were gentlemen who could be relied upon to give fair decisions.

Some months before the date of the Jamboree, when it was first realized that Empire Day would fall on a Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath, the Jewish Troop, then holders of the Rotary Club Shield, decided that they could not compete this year, and it was the suggestion of the Scoutmasters of the other Troops that they should give their exhibition on a different day, and though realizing the disadvantage this might be to them they fell in with it.

It might also interest "Ricardo" to know that the Jewish Scouts did not attend on Saturday "with drums beating and colours flying." They use something a little more "woodcrafty" than a drum, they have a tom-tom, which, at the time of the Jamboree, reposed peacefully on the second shelf of the cupboard in their clubroom in North Szechuen Road. As for the flying colours, they do not possess a Troop flag, but they hope shortly to have a totem-pole. They attended in uniform but without staves, band instruments or colours. There is surely no sin in that!

"Ricardo" should also understand that the points for the Jamboree represented only 30 per cent., 70 per cent. being awarded for the method of carrying out the training during the year. In the case of both the Troop and the Pack it was the points for the latter which gave them the lead. It is difficult to declare a Troop or Pack efficient on a 20 or 10 minutes' display and it is the work of the year that should count.

As for the religious question, I regret that I am not an authority on this subject, but I did take the trouble to inquire before the Jamboree if it would be in order for the Jewish boys to attend and ride the chutes, etc. To one who understands the Jewish religion there is a big difference between driving a tent peg and sliding down a chute.

Let "Ricardo" look at the circumstances as they would appear if reversed. Supposing the Jewish Troop invited one of the Christian Troops to take part in a competition on a Sunday, the Scoutmaster of the Christian Troop, if he knew his job, and a number of the boys' parents would decline, but would that prevent those same Christian boys having a romp round the garden on Sunday?

The Jewish Scouts and Cubs sincerely hope that "Ricardo" is in no way connected with any of the other Troops or Packs as they would not like to feel that there is any unfriendly feeling between their brother Scouts and themselves.

I am, etc.,
NOEL JACOBS,
Scoutmaster and Cubmaster,
Jewish School Troop and Pack.

Shanghai, May 28, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In reply to your Note and Comment whether Jews can participate in the rejoicings of their fellow-citizens on a Sabbath day or not, I believe there is nothing in the Bible to prevent them from doing so, so long as they do not engage themselves in manual work.

If there were some Jewish patrol leaders on the course on Saturday last, they were there as spectators to watch the work done by their competitors and anxious to know the result of the day, which is not unnatural and does not in the very least degree desecrate their Sabbath.

I am, etc.,
M. MYERS.

Shanghai, May 27, 1924.

ST. DUNSTAN'S

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The following is a copy of a letter just received from the St. Dunstan's Society:—

Mrs. E. M. Gull, c/o The British Women's Association, Shanghai.

I am in receipt of your letter of February 28, enclosing cheque value £386.8.9, being the result of a lecture given by Mr. W. E. Cowen.

Would you please accept and convey to the Societies of St. Andrew, St. Patrick, St. George, St. David, The Shanghai Race Club, the "North-China Daily News" and the British Women's Association, the most grateful thanks of our Chairman and Council for the very generous and practical way in which you have helped us.

Will you please accept the expression of gratitude which I am conveying, as coming not from the organization alone, but from our Blinded men, who from the benefits received by their training at St. Dunstan's and with the aid of our After Care organization, are able to take their places as happy and useful citizens again.

It is by such support that we are able to carry out the promise made on behalf of the Nation by the late Sir Arthur Pearson, our Founder and Chief, that no war-blinded men should ever want for help and comfort.

I enclose herewith official receipts, and should like once more to assure you of our warmest thanks.

Yours very truly,
(Sgd.) E. KESSELL.
Treasurer.

April 8, 1924.

I am, etc.,
B. M. GULL.
Hon. Secretary to
St. Dunstan's Local Society.

May 26, 1924.

GERMAN POINTERS

To the Editor to the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In view of the forthcoming Dog Show I would be greatly obliged if any of your readers could tell me the characteristics of a German pointer.

I am, etc.,
CANIS.

Shanghai, May 24. 1924.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Mr. Canis asks for the characteristics of the "German pointer," and I take it that he wants to know the points of the dog, as we say in canine circles.

The pointer dog goes back in dog history as far as about 1600 A.D. when it was known as a dog with which you can kill "when on the wing." It was about this period when it was imported into England, but prior to this, it was well known in France, Germany and Italy. I have several of the best books on dogs, but cannot find any individual points relative to the "German pointer." I believe, (but am willing to be corrected) that the only differences that characterize the German pointer from the English are its size and colours. The German pointer is larger than either the English or French pointer and is generally of white coat with liver ticks, or liver patches, and liver ticked. I have had all kinds of pointers but prefer the "German pointer" to the others. Why? Well, I cannot tell you unless it is that it is larger and I love large dogs. For shooting purposes I really do not think there is any difference in the breeds; everything counts in his training and general management. I offer the following points for Mr. Canis's consideration, but again I am willing to learn or be corrected.

HEAD:—Wide from ear to ear, long and slanting from top of skull to the setting on of the nose; cheek bones prominent, ears set low and thin in texture, soft and velvety. Nose broad at base, mouth larger and jaws level.

NECK:—The neck should be strong, but long and slightly arched, meeting the shoulders well knit into the back which should be straight and joining a wide loin. Great depth of heart room, deep brisked, narrow chest, if possible, shoulders long and slanting.

LEGS AND FEET:—Legs straight, knees big, and bones of good size down to the toes, the feet should be cat-shaped and very round.

HIND QUARTERS:—It cannot be too long in the haunch, or strong in the stiffle, which should be well bent, and the muscles in the second thigh of a good pointer are always remarkable. The hocks may be straighter than in a foxhound, for in pulling up sharp on the "point" it in a great measure throws its weight on to them. The shank bones below the hock should be short.

COLOUR:—The colours of pointers are multi-coloured, some black and white, others liver and white, but most of the pointers only show two colours, white being the ground and liver the colouring or *vice versa*. The full liver-coloured English pointer is, I think, the most popular in the Far East, of all pointers but not of sporting dogs.

HEIGHT:—The height of a dog is about 24-26 inches and a bitch 23-25 inches.

WEIGHTS—64 lbs. for a dog and 54 lbs. for a bitch is about the right weight.

The above I sincerely trust will help our friend Canis, and I sincerely hope to see his dog in the show on the 14th. May I quote where the ordinary owner is incapable of judging his own dog? A miner sent his dog to the show giving his son half-a-crown entrance fee. His final instructions were, "You tell the bloomin' Judge he's not much to look at; but he is a 'danged' good ratter." Papa came at the closing time and found his dog had won first place. Go ahead Mr. Canis, and may you do likewise.

Apologizing, Sir, for taking so much space,

I am, etc.,
P. H. H.

Shanghai, May 28, 1924

POPULATION OF SHANGHAI

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I observed in your issue of May 16 ("Shanghai—the Wonder City of all Asia") the statement that, according to one report, Shanghai is to-day the largest city in Asia. In Whitaker's Almanack the following figures are given for the population of the largest cities in Asia—Tokio 2,173,000, Osaka 1,633,000, Peking 1,300,000, Calcutta 1,263,292, Canton 1,250,00, Bombay 1,172,953, Shanghai 639 000. Even allowing, then, for the partial depopulation of Tokio as a result of the earthquake and granting that the figures for Peking and Canton may be slightly too large, Shanghai, it would seem, still has a long way to go before being able to claim pride of place among the cities of Asia.

I am, etc.,
X. O. X.

Shanghai, May 22, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Your correspondent "X.-O.X." quotes Whitaker's Almanac as an authority on the population of Shanghai. Why this is taken in preference to the Annual Reports of the Shanghai Municipal Council is hard to discover.

The S.M.C. Annual Report for 1920, on page 271a, states that the population of the Foreign, French and Chinese districts of Shanghai was 1,687,967 (Whitaker gives 639,000 according to "X.O.X."). It further states that in the five years preceding 1920 the population had increased 22.48 per cent.

Even if the same ratio of increase has continued, and most authorities judge that later increases have been in even greater proportion, the population to-day will be well over 2,000,000. The latest reports from Tokio estimate the population there to-day to be not more than 1,500,000, so that if "X.O.X.'s" other figures are correct Shanghai leads Tokio, Osaka, Peking, Calcutta, Bombay and Canton by about 20 or 25 per cent. in its population figures.

I am, etc.,
S. M. D.

Shanghai, May 29, 1924.

THE "*Shunpao*" says that the British Government has notified the Legation in Peking that until the likin stations are abolished and the illegal cigar and cigarette taxes revoked no steps should be taken by the British authorities in connexion with the calling of the special tariff conference.

BRIEF messages sent to us by Mr. Harry Morriss in the course of his journey Home *vid* Siberia are all in appreciative terms, the railway service excellent and the journey picturseque and interesting. He mentions that the only money in use in the "Chevonitz" note, worth about £1, with which the traveller has no trouble at all. "I am glad I came this way," Mr. Morriss writes, "as it is not only interesting but extremely pleasant. There is one Wagon Lit car run by the Soviet Government, on the train. The dining car and food are very good."

READERS will remember reading in these columns last week a breezy tale by the Tientsin News Service of the recalcitrant students of Peiyang University who surrounded the Ministry of Education to enforce their demands for the immediate dismissal of their University President, (*non persona grata* to them) and were only persuaded to leave by a subterfuge. The Chinese Press on Sunday followed up the story by reporting that 167 students had "tendered their resignations" rather than study under a President who refused to be dismissed. Meanwhile the Minister of Interior has sent a secret message to the Civil Governor of Chihli at Tientsin saying that, latterly, students have been refusing to study and have been accepting Bolshevism and spreading Bolshevistic propaganda, such as the nationalization of women, "much to the danger of the peace and order of the country," and will the Civil Governor, please, take steps to place them under proper control?

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary, Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury, S., Rhodesia.

The giving of advice to prospective settlers will be facilitated if applicants will advise the Board in detail of their circumstances and the amount of capital they would be prepared to invest in a suitable venture

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COMMERCE AND FINANCE

MONEY AND EXCHANGE

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, May 30.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/3⅜=Tls. 6.06 at 71.65=$8.46

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 71⅛=Tls. 140.35 at 71.65=$195.88

Mex. Dollars, market rate	71.8875
Native Interest	22
Copper Cash	272,500
Bar Silver	34⅜
Bank rate of Discount	4 per cent.
Paris on London	Frs. 81.75
New York on London	G.$4.31⅛

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/3⅛
Demand	3/3⅜
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	71
Demand	71⅛
PARIS—	
Demand	1363
INDIA—	
Demand	232⅜
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73⅛
JAPAN—	
Demand	57
BATAVIA—	
Demand	197⅛
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	71

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/4⅛
4 m/s. credits	3/5⅛
4 m/s. Docs.	3/5⅜
6 m/s. credits	3/5⅜
6 m/s. Docs.	3/6⅛
NEW YORK—	
Demand	72
4 m/s. credits	74⅛
4 m/s. Docs.	75
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1430
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/3⅞
New York T.T.	71⅜

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR MAY.

Hk. Tls. 5.60 at 3/2⅛	£1
" 1 at 1148	Frs. 12.79
" 1.29 at 69⅛	Gold $1
" 1 at 58⅜	Yen 1.90
" 1 at 228⅜	Rupees 2.54
" 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.59
" 1 at 15.575	It. Lire 17.35
Marks and Roubles	no quotation

AMERICAN-ORIENTAL BANK

Closing Rates

Selling Demand Draft.

U.S. G.$100.00	=	S'hai. $195.06
Stg. £1.0.0	=	S'hai. $8.45
Frs. 100.00	=	S'hai. $10.26
Yen 100.00	=	S'hai. $78.63

Buying Demand Draft.

U.S. G.$100.00	=	S'hai. $191.97
Stg. £1.0.0	=	S'hai. $8.30
Frs. 100.00	=	S'hai. $9.98
Yen 100.00	=	S'hai. $76.80

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates, May 30:—

It. Lire 16.15	Tls. 1
Swiss Frs. 4.03	Tls. 1
It. Lire 9.05	Yen. 1

WEEK'S EXCHANGE NOTES

May 31.

At the close of business yesterday the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls.36,480,000 and $35,330,000. These figures include Tls. 5,320,000 and $18,530,000 in Chinese banks in which there were 2751 bars.

Bar Silver.

No movements of Bar Silver during the week.

Sycee.

Arrivals were:—
Tls. 50,000 from Chefoo.
Shipments were:—
Tls. 60,000 to Anhui.

Dollars.

Arrivals were:—

$400,000	to Tientsin.
150,000	" Ningpo.
100,000	" Chinkiang.
50,000	" Dairen.
20,000	" Chefoo.
$720,000	

Shipments were:—

$3,100,000	to Cocoon districts.
1,800,000	" Wusih.
1,000,000	" Kashing.
500,000	" Hangchow.
450,000	" Soochow.
150,000	" Nanking.
$7,000,000	

Silver.

The price came yesterday at 34⅝d. ready and 34⅞d. forward, against 34⅞ ready and 34⅛d. forward a week ago, showing a rise of ⅛d. in ready and a fall of ⅛d. on forward compared with last week. The lowest prices during the week were 34⅛d. ready and 34⅛d. forward on Tuesday and Wednesday. India and China are reported as sellers during the week and the Continent as a buyer.

Bars in stock, 5,180, including Silver Yen 10 lakhs. Stocks of Sycee and Dollars amount to Tls. 364⅔ lakhs and $353⅓ lakhs, against Tls. 365 lakhs and $416 lakhs last week, and Tls. 197⅓ lakhs and $241⅓ lakhs on May 29, 1923. During the week $69⅓ lakhs have been shipped to the Cocoon Districts.

Exchange.

Exchange left off last week with the official quotation for T.T. at 3/3⅛d., where it remained until Tuesday afternoon. The market closed that afternoon quite weak, with very few sellers at that rate. On Wednesday, the rate dropped to 3/3d., but went up again yesterday to 3/3⅛d. With silver up yesterday morning ⅛d. ready and forward the official quotation rose to 3/3⅛d. The market opened firm yesterday and closed at tiffin time steady with sellers of T.T. at 3/3⅛d. May/June, 3/3⅜d. July forward, with very little merchant business doing and no bills offering whatever.

Speculators are reported oversold Yen 5,000,000 and £1,300,000.

THE SILVER MARKET

Quiet and Inactive: Senators Anxious to Allocate Outstanding Amount of 14,000,000 Ounces

Reporting from London on April 23, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The market has been quiet and inactive, China and India doing but little. The former has been a small seller and the latter a very moderate buyer. Until Monday the price remained steady, but a strong improvement in sterling exchange with America caused freer sales from that quarter, and quotations have dropped. Though still better exchange rates would make purchases easier from the United States, the tone of the market is fairly steady.

It is reported that Senator Pittman will soon place before the Banking and Currency Committee of the Senate all data pertaining to his bill recently introduced for the completion of purchases of silver under the Pittman Act of 1918. The Senator will endeavour to have such action recommended to Congress, as will make it mandatory for the Treasury to allocate the outstanding fourteen million ounces of silver. Both his arguments and the arguments of the Treasury officials will be included in the testimony before the committee.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and two months' delivery are each ⅛d. below those fixed a week ago.

A Good Undertone.

Messrs. Mocatta & Goldsmid, reporting from London on April 17, state:—

The silver market has been very steady during the past week and the price, which has been on a slightly higher level, has only varied between 33⅛d. and 33⅜d. India has shown more disposition to buy, whilst China has both bought and sold, but the chief support of the market has been the buying on Continental account, which has been in evidence on most days. As this buying has been mostly for forward delivery, whilst a good deal of the selling has been for spot, the two quotations since the 12th instant have until to-day been identical. In view of the Easter Holidays the market at present is quiet and apathetic, but the undertone seems good and we do not look for any important change at present.

April 24.—Owing to the Easter Holidays, business in the silver market has been very restricted during the past week and there is little to report. There has been very little buying, either for India or China, and the market has again been chiefly supported by Continental buying, against which there has been a little China selling. The price, which a week ago was 33⅜d., is to-day 33d., the rise in the American exchange having encouraged sales from that quarter and caused a weaker feeling in the market, but the undertone is fairly steady.

THE GOLD MARKET

The Accumulations in America and the Suggestion of State Loans: The Present Impasse

Reporting from London on April 23, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on the 16th instant, amounted to £126,287,835, as compared with £126,286,745 on the previous Wednesday.

Only a small proportion of the fair amount of gold on offer this week was taken for the Far East. Whilst the American exchange is moving in such a way as to reduce the price of gold, the Indian bazaars are likely to hold off in the hope of obtaining gold at a still lower figure. It is reported from Bombay that the slackening of demand for bullion, particularly for gold, that was felt at the beginning of the month was attributed by bullion dealers in the bazaars to the prevalence of plague in the Punjab.

Details regarding India's foreign trade during March have been telegraphed as follows:—

	Laths of Rupees.
Imports, private merchandise	19,31
Exports, private merchandise (including re-exports)	41,35
Net imports of private treasure	4,03

The balance of trade, including enfaced rupee paper, etc., is Rs. 17,52 lakhs in favour of India, as compared with Rs. 13,61 in favour of India in February.

Gold valued at $4,435,000 has arrived in New York from London.

American Accumulations.

The always interesting circular of the National City Bank of New York thus comments upon a speech of the Chairman of the Westminster Bank, at a meeting under the auspices of the Institute of Bankers, in which he alluded to the huge gold accumulations in the United States of America:—

"Dr. Leaf's theory seems to be that this gold should be used as the means of making loans or industrial investments in other countries, thus counteracting the influence of the people investments here. Who is to make such investments? Is not customary for Governments to make loans, and the Government of the United States is not the owner of these gold reserves, except as a trustee. It is not customary for banking institutions, either here or in London, to buy securities, either of foreign or domestic origin, except to sell, and they buy only what they are confident they can sell. We come, therefore, to a conclusion with which we are sure Dr. Leaf will agree, that if this gold is to be transferred to Europe by means of investments it must be done through the voluntary action and choice of private investors. The people who are able to make such investments probably have had no part in bringing the gold to this country, and most likely feel no responsibility for its being here. They will be governed in their decisions about investments by about the same considerations as would govern an Englishman, a Frenchman, or a German. They have bought in the aggregate quite a sum of foreign securities in recent years, in view of the fact, with which Dr. Leaf is familiar, that the United States itself affords many and excellent opportunities."

The above does not allude to the fact that the United States—as a State—made loans to other countries in connexion with the Great War, and that this very circumstance is an important factor in the gold impasse that confronts that country. Great Britain's annual payment of debt and interest induces a flow of gold into U.S. reserves, and any payments by other countries on account of similar debt—should they be made—would have a like result, unless the policy of the United States of America in its corporate capacity be modified. The United States did not leave the finance of the war to private initiative, and any financial difficulties accruing from Governmental financial action during the war would also appear to lie within the function of he State.

Indeed, the above extract does not conflict with this view, for it contains this sentence: "The people who are able to make such investments probably have had no part in bringing the gold to this country, and most likely feel no responsibility for its being here." When, therefore, a suitable moment occurs, such as, for instance, the loan suggested for the purpose of restoring stability to the currency system of Germany, an opportunity would seem to be afforded for judicious action on the part of the United States in its capacity as a State.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

Very Little Business on Account of Approaching Settlement: Auctions Quite Brisk

May 31.

It is one of the features of a general holiday in Shanghai that its effects on business always are felt for several days both before and after the actual celebration and that has been the case this week. Next week there will be a cessation of piece goods auctions and most other business on account of the Dragon Festival and the Whitsun holidays and in preparation therefore very little business has been done this week, most of the Chinese being too busy over the settlement, which it is anticipated will pass off quite smoothly. The piece goods auctions were the one exception, business in the salesrooms being really brisk.

Piece Goods.

So far as indent firms were concerned the week has been as quiet as any for a very long time, dealers reporting less inquiry all round. There was nothing doing in Greys or Whites and only a little business in Fancies for shipment towards the end of the year.

Cotton, Yarn, Etc.

China Cotton.—The market has been very quiet throughout the week, with very little doing, but it remains steady at practically the same quotations as last week. The Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange was closed yesterday afternoon. The latest spot quotations are: — Tungchow, 48½-49; Shensi 46-47; Hankow 45.

Yarn.—Though there was a somewhat easier tendency early in the week, few sales resulted and the tone now is steady to firm.

Produce.

All markets continue lifeless and there is nothing of interest to report. A few inquiries are coming forward from America for egg products, but at prices which render business impossible. There is nothing to indicate any improvement in the near future.

1923 SHANGHAI SILK MARKET

The Chinese Economic Bulletin gives the following table as showing silk quotations on the Shanghai market and the number of pieces exported by Shanghai filatures during 1923:

	Quotations Highest	Quotations Lowest	No. of Pieces Exported
	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.
January	1,580	1,410	3,924
February	1,640	1,250	2,650
March	1,650	1,425	3,098
April	1,680	1,370	3,153
May	1,735	1,570	3,206
June	1,830	1,490	4,234
July	1,475	1,400	7,527
August	1,700	1,300	8,052
September	2,000	1,390	11,536
October	1,820	1,550	9,467
November			2,641
December	1,585	1,400	2,461
Total			61,949

AUSTRALIAN LOAN FILLED

London, May 23.

The lists of the Australian Commonwealth five per cent. loan of £10,000,000, at par and redeemable in 1935/45, closed to-day in accordance with the terms of the Prospectus.—Reuter.

GLASGOW FIRM'S BIG ORDER FOR SINGAPORE

London, May 24.

The "Industrial Daily News" learns that a well-known Glasgow manufacturing firm has secured an order for 13 miles of welded steel pipes, averaging three feet in diameter, in connexion with the new water-supply scheme of Singapore, in which connexion further important orders are expected to be placed in Britain soon.—Reuter.

SHELL OIL CO.'S SALE OF HOLDINGS IN AMERICA

New York, May 22.

The Shell Union Oil Corporation has sold the interest it possessed in one of its Californian holdings, but it has not relinquished all its interests there.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

DUTCH-LLOYD STEAMSHIP CO.

The Hague, May 29.

The Second Chamber last night by 48 votes to 28 passed a bill granting the Royal Dutch Lloyd Steamship Company a credit of 5,250,000 florins.—Reuter.

NEW SALVAGE COMPANY FOR SHANGHAI

Two Tugs and Fleet of Cargo Lighters to be Purchased: No Success, no Payment

A British company, to be registered under the Hongkong Ordinances, is in the course of formation by Messrs. Bowern & Co., ship brokers and general shipping agents, of Shanghai, as managers and agents, for the purchase of two large and powerful salvage tug-boats, on which an option has been secured, and several large new cargo lighters for operating on the China Coast, for towing, cargo transportation and salvage purposes. The salvage boats are fitted with wireless and all the latest appliances for this class of work and will carry expert engineers and divers well experienced in wrecking operations. Salvage operations will be conducted on the principle of "no success, no payment."

Support has been promised to the promotters by ship owners, insurance companies, dock companies, etc., who are interested. It is anticipated that the company will be formed and floated as soon as the prospectus and full details are issued to those who have agreed to take shares in the company. A few shares will be placed on the market for sale.

EXHIBITION OF CHINESE TRADE MARKS

In view of the importance of trade-marked Chinese goods and with the dea of making registered marks known to the public, the Shanghai Chinese General Chamber of Commerce will devote its fourth annual exhibition of goods to trade-marking. The chamber has recently been devoting one year each to a group of allied industries or subjects, and taking up trade marks at this time bears out this programme. The exhibition will be at the commercial museum of the Chamber, North Honan Road, on October 10. It will succeed a display of products of the Chinese chemical industry. This followed a display of silk goods collected and displayed last year from all parts of China. A considerable portion of the silk display then was sent to America for an exhibition held in New York.

It is announced that the purpose of this trade mark exhibition will be to fix the attention of the public on the importance of trade marks and the necessity for adequate control to prevent duplication and infringement. The attention now being centred on the subject is partly the result of a trade mark law promulgated by the Chinese Government last year.

The exhibition held at the museum will contain only products manufactured by Chinese labour and capital. It is expected that firms from all parts of China will be represented, although most will, of course, come from Shanghai. Besides the actual goods in package or wrapped form, if thus sold, there will be put on display in another section copies only of marks used. The chamber of commerce is providing a local advisory committee for arbitration, if duplication is found. Certificates of merit will be awarded.

A BIG STEAM TURBINE FOR JAPAN

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tokio, Apr. 14.

Mitsui & Co., have just ordered from the International General Electric Company a G. E. Curtis impulse turbine, developing about 50,000 shaft horse-power, with a generator rated 43750 k.v.a., 11,100 volts, 60 cycles, an dsaid to be the largest steam turbine generator ever sold by any manufacturer in the world for export. The total cost, including all accessories, is reported to be $1,000,000 and the machinery will be installed in Nagoya for the Toho Electric Power Company is capitalized at $70,000,000 and is one of the most important electric power organizations in Japan. The Toho Company carried to completion the first "White Way" street lighting system in Japan, which was done in Nagoya last year.

COAL OUTPUT

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending May 17 amounted to 92,939 tons and the sales during the same period to 80,207 tons.

COMPANIES' NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Weeks & Co., Ltd.—The 24th Ordinary General Meeting will be held at No. 37 Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Friday, May 30, 1924, at 4.30 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 24 to 31, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ltd.—The 25th Annual Ordinary General Meeting will be held at No. 24A and 24B Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Monday, June 2, 1924, at 4 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 24 to June 2, 1924, both days inclusive.

The S. Moutrie & Co., Ltd.—The 25th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 37 Nanking Road, Shanghai, on Friday, June 6, 1924, at 12 noon.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 28 to June 6, 1924, both days inclusive.

Share Report for Week Ending May 30, 1924.

No. 24/21

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Codes in use A1 Code
A.B.C. 4th, 5th and 6th Editions
R. Re cognized Universal Combination Code
Bentley's Complete Phrase Code.
Telephone Cent. 171 & 172.

Members of Shanghai Stock Exchange.
Land, Estate & Insurance Agents.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building,
12 The Bund.
Post Office Box No. 244, Shanghai

The local share market continues very depressed and the turnover for the past week shows a still further decline in business. "Rubbers" did not maintain the interest shown in them at the end of last week and the price of rubber has again declined a point or two in London and Singapore. Langkat, Shanghai Loan & Shanghai Exploration, separately or combined, have been a dull market with sellers holding in the hope of better prices before the June Settlement. "Cottons" continue flat with a few buyers quoting bargain prices for "Ewos" and "Shanghai Cottons." Demand for local investment stocks and shares has declined somewhat due no doubt to the recent upward movement in the rate of exchange on London. It is reported by cable from London to-day that the Shanghai Electric Construction Co. new issue of shares will be offered to shareholders at £2 per share.

London market quotations show a little improvement and the following are the last prices offered [illegible] this week:

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Loan 1913, B.I.	$ 73. 10. 0	(Middle Price)
" " " " " " F.I.	71. 10. 0	" ex B.I.R.S.
" " " " " " Belg.	72. 5. 0	(Sellers) cum "
" " " " " " F.I.	69. 0. 0	(Buyers) " "
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"	3. 12. 6	(Middle Price)
Outa Calinapong Rubber Estates, Ltd.	1. 7. 0	"
Shanghai Electric Const. Co., "B"	3. 3. 6	"
Singapore Electric Tramways, Ltd.	0. 4. 4½	"
" " " 5% Debentures	82. 10. 0	(Sellers)
Shell Transport & Trading Co., "B"	4. 9. 9	(Sellers)
British-American Tobacco Co., "B"	5. 6. 11	(Middle Price)
Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.	19. 13. 9	(Buyers)
Indo-China Steam Navg. Co., Defd. Ord.	13. 7. 6	"

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/3½.

Shanghai, May 30, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

MAY	24th		26th		27th		28th		29th		30th	
	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June
RUBBERS												
Seuawang Rub. Est., Ld. .. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.70	..	0.65	..	..	..
Karan Rub. Est. Co., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..
Kota Bahroe R. E., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.50	..	..	..	..	..
Anglo-Dutch Plant. Ld .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.80	..	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam R. E., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.65	..	..	..	..	..
Anglo-Java Est., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4.40	..	..	..
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
Lanekats (combined) .. .. Tls.	..	..	23½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Yangtsze Insce Asso., Ld. .. $	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23½	..	23½	..
S'hai Land Invest. Co., Ld. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	118	..	..	..
Culty Dairy Co., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	..	..
H. & S. Bank .. .. .. $	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1135	..
Chinese 5% Reorg. Loan F.I. £	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	x.d.
COTTONS												
Oriental C. P. & W. Co., Ld. Tls.	4.20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
DEBENTURES												

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, MAY 30, 1924.

STOCK	Last business done.	Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc:	Finan. year ended	Last Dividend etc:	Paid or Due
BANKS.									
London	£ 1324								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Cor.	$ 1145	1125		61) 400,000	H $125	(a H $3,379,314	Dec.	Final $3 & Bonus $2 (mkg. $8 1922) less I/T	25-2-24
						(c H $64,494,394			
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. ..London	£ 19.0.0	£19[illegible]		600,000	£5	(a £229,201	Dec.	Final 7s. & Bonus 6s; 3d. (mkg. £1 0s; 3d.)	
						(c £3,800,000		free of I/T, 1923	9-4-24
INSURANCE.									
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	H $ 223			55) 200,000	d £10	(au £457,648		Final 16s. (mkg. 40s.) ex 1922 Work. a/c.	
						(b 269,500	Dec.	Interim 24s. & Bonus to Contributors, 20%	
North-China Insurance Co., Ld.	T 138			10,000	e £5	(c £3,888,195		ex 1922 Work a/c	17-5-24
						(ar T610,687	Dec.	Final 15s. (mkg. 30s.) ex 1921 Work a/c. and	
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld. ..	$ 275			21) 250,000	$10	(c T4,752,885		Interim 15s. ex 1922 Works. a/c.	30-6-24
						(as $2,213,327			
						(au $2,713,115	Dec.	$2½ (22½%) ex 1923 Work; a/c. payable in	
						(c $4,759,700		Taels at Exchg. 73	28-5-24
Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld.	T 22			1) 50,000	T20	(as T16,884			
						(au T731,944	Dec.	T1.40 ex 1923 Work. a/c.	28-5-24
Canton Insurance Office, Ld.	H $ 729			10,000	f H $250	(au H $1,940,924	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $40) ex 1922 Work. a/c.	
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld. ..	H $ 550	545		8,000	g H $50	(c H $7,149,847		Interim H $18 ex 1923 Work. a/c. ..	21-5-24
						(au H $715,196	Dec.	H $75 ex 1922 Working a/c:	27-3-24
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	H $ 135			20,000	h H $20	(au H $1,328,926			
						(c H $5,524,650	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $3 ex 1921 Work. a/c. ..	25-5-23
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	F 500			14,000	F500	(a F101,368			
						(c F3,784,330	Dec.	None, Floated 1918	....
SHIPPING.									
Indo-China S.N. Co., Ld.. (6% cum. pref.	H $ 38	37½		2) 120,000	£5				
(def. ord. ..	H $ 140			2) 120,000	£5				
						(a £1,179			
						(c	Dec.	Pref. 6s. at Exchg. H $2/4½ London Warrants	
						£1,582,956		less I/T. Def. Ord., nil	6-5-24
Shell T'sport & Trading (ord.	'B'	£4:9:9		56) 30,000,000	£1				
Co., Ld. (5% cum. pref.	£			21) 300,000	£10	(a* £2,029,050	Dec.	Interim 2s., free of I/T, Coupon 42	5-1-24
(7% cum. 2nd pref.	£			57) 10,000,000	£1	(c £5,000,000			
S'hai Tug & Lig'ter Co., Ld. (ord.	T	90	88	20,000	T25	(a T23,575	Dec.	Final Ord. T4.50 (mkg. T7, 1923)	11-3-2
(7% pref.	T	51½		10,000	T50	(c T410,000		Final Pref. T1.75 (mkg. T3.50, 1923) — ..	11-3-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.									
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld. ..	T 95			47) 55,700	T75	(a T102,535	Apr.	T7.50, 1922-23	27-7-2
						(c T1,968,000			
Hongkong & W'poo Dock Co., Ld.. ..	H $ 143			60,000	H $50	(a H $319,796	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkg. H $9, 1923)	21-3-24
						(c H $4,051,695			
New Eng. and Shipbuilding (ord.	T	6.10		42) 500,000	T5	(a T59,500		Ord. T0.25, 1923	
Works, Ld. .. .. .. (8% pref.	T	4.95		65) 500,000	T5	(b T300,000	Dec.	Pref. T0.40 1923..	10-2-24
						(c T1,511,045			10-2-24
						(a T3 480			
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co., Ld.. ..	T 192½	191		‡31) 40,000	T100	(b T200,000			
						(c T1,055,261	Dec.	Final T10 (mkg. T13, 1923	4-3-24
						(a H $290,819			
H'kong & K'loon W. & G. Co., Ld. ..	H $ 170			30,000	H $50	(b H $300,000	Dec.	H. $6 & Bonus H. $3, 1923	26-2-24
						(c H $59,240			
MINING.									
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ld. ..	£ 12/-			24) 500,000	G. $10				
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ld. (Bearer).	T £ 21½	20½	£3:10:6	£3:13:6	7[illegible]4) 2,000,000	£1	(a	June	Int. 2% free of I/T, 1923-1924 (Coupon	
London							(c	June	No. 24)	26-7-23
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ld. ..	H $ 5			200,000	£1	(a £23,613	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	1-5-24
						(c £4,873			21-5-10
LANDS AND HOTELS.									
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld. ..	T 118½	117		‡) 78,000	T50	(a T34,410			
						(c T275,000	Dec.	Final T3 & Bonus T2 (mkg. T8. 1923)	21-3-24
						(c T2,289,317			
H'kong Land Invest. & Agcy. Co., Ld. ..	H $ 105		108	240,000	H $25	(a H $157,886	Dec.	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares	
(New Reg.)						(b H $250,000		(mkg. H $5, 1923) H $2.50 on 40,000 new shs.	28-1-24
						(c H $6,000,000			
						(a H $178,299			
Humphrey's Est. & Finance Co., Ld. ..	H $ 24	21½		150,000	H $10	(b H $50,000	Dec	H $0.80 and Bonus H $0.80, 1923	11-2-24
						(c H $421,488			
Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld.	T			3,674	T20	(a T2,946	Dec.	T1.20, 1923	13-2-24
						(c T7,000			
						(a T9,269			
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld. ..	T 115½	115		‡23) 18,000	T100	(b T20,000	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg. T8, 1923-24)	3-4-24
						(c T375,000			
						(a H $85,238			
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld. ..	H $ 19 old 12½ new	19 15		33) 500,000	H $10		Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000	
						(c H $5,203,767		shares (mkg. H $2 (old)	24-3-24
Carlton, Ld.	T 53			14) 10,000	T50		Mar.	Floated April 1 1922	
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	G $ 100			118) 10,000	G $100		Dec.	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware	
								1922, 7%	4-1-23
Raven Trust Co., Inc. — .. (ord.	G $ 10	12½		**100,000	G $10	(			
(pref.	G $ 10	10			G $10			Ord. Pref. 1st gr. 1923, 1½%	4-1-23
PLANTATIONS.									
Alma Estates, Ld.	T 5½			70,000	£1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23 — — — — — — — —	19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld.	T 0.25			‡62) 500,000	T1		Oct:		
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld. ..	T 1.30			12) 400,000	10s.	a T30,242	Dec.	T0.20, 1923	....
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T 4.40			4) 500,000	10s.	(a T12,442			1-4-24
						(c T372,167	Dec.	Final T0.30 (mkg. T0.55, 1923..	
						(a T16,223			15-4-24
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld.	T 21			27) 30,000	T10	(c T22,000	Sept.	Final T2.00, (mkg. T2½) 1922-23	
						T69,960			28-12-23
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld. ..	T 0.65			400,000	T1	(a T22,777	Dec.	T0.05, 1923	
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T 1.12½			500,000	T1	(a T20,402	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	11-4-24
Bute Plantation (1913), Ld.	T 0.75			28) 500,000	T1	(a T3,595	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	25-7-17
Chemor United Rubber Co., Ld.	T 0.75			400,000	T0.90	(a T17,973	Dec.		29-3-17
						(c T12,000			
Chempedak Rub. & G'bier Est., Ld. ..	T 4½			39) 35,000	£1	(a (Loss) T13,435	Oct.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)..	3-4-24
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ld.	T 1			675,000	T1	(a T4,129	June	2nd Interim, T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17)	16-10-17
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ld..	T 2.12½			25) 500,000	2s.—T0.75	(a T16,988	Dec.	T0.20,1916-17	1-11-17
						(c T60,000			
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T 1½	1½		19) 350,000	T1	(a T2,777	Dec.	Final T0.15 (mkg. T0.21, 1923)..	9-4-24
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T 3½	7½		‡484) 750,000	(21,450,000	(a		T0.10, 1923	16-4-24
					(5s. 200,000	(c			
Java-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee								2s. less I/T 4s. 7½d in $ (Coupon 21) .. — ..	15-4-24
Est., Ld.	T 8					(a T17,215			
Kali Gludik Coffee Estates, Ld.	T 0.10			8) 85,000	£1 at 2/3½	(c T2,685	Dec.	Final T0.75 (mkg. T1.25, 1923)..	
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld. ..	T 9.40			70,000	25		....	Incorporated 1923	15-4-24
				35) 15,000	T10	(a T6,977		T0.50, 1923	
Karan Rubber Estate Co., Ld. — ..	T			25,000	T10	(c T4,023	Dec.	(Interim 1923, T0.50	19-4-24
						(a T5,000			17-7-23
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Ld..	T 2.50			20) **80,000	T1	(c T40,000	Mar.	T0.60, 1922-23 — — — — — — — —	
Kuawook Java Plantations, Ltd.	T 1½				20)	(Loss) T17,000	Dec.		1-6-23

FORWARD SETTLEMENTS FOR 1924.

June 24, Tuesday. July 29, Tuesday. August 26, Tuesday.

RUBBER AUCTIONS.

The following telegraphic advices have been received :—
Singapore, May 28, 1924.

Spot or May	... ...	34¼ cents
June	... ...	34⅝ ,,
July/Sept.	... ...	35¼ ,,
Oct./Dec.	... ...	37 ,,

Market easier.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int. %	Payable
S'hai Municipal Council	1905	6 to 20	5-4-24	T87	320,000	6 June-Dec.
	1907	do.	19-5-24	T97	500,000	6 do.
	1908	do.	9-5-24	T98	650,000	6 do.
	1909	do.	15-3-23	T98	500,000	6 do.
	1910	do.	15-5-24	T97	350,000	6 do.
	1911	10 to 30	9-5-24	T97½	250,000	6 do.
	1912	do.	3-1-24	T84	250,000	6 do.
	1913	do.	3-5-23	T100	750,000	6 do.
	..	10 to 50	19-5-24	T88	500,000	5½ do.
	1914	10 to 30	14-5-24	T99	900,000	5½ do.
	1915	do.	19-5-23	T93	500,000	5½ do.
	1916	do.	23-5-24	T97	1,400,000	6 do.
	1918	10	14-10-22	T103	500,000	7 do.
	1919	10	8-5-23	T102	1,793,500	7 do.
	1920	10	1-5-24	T105	2,745,500	7 do.
	..	10 to 30	29-3-24	£104	5,750,000	6 do.
	1921	do.	18-2-24	$110	$1,000,000	8 do.
	1921	do.	12-5-24	T109	T5,000,000	8 do.
	1922	do.	29-5-24	T104½	T8,000,000	8 do.
	1923	do.	29-5-24	T97½	T500,000	6 do.
French Municipal Council	1924	do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6 May-Nov.
	1914	do.	17-2-23	T88	500,000	5½ June-Dec.
	1915	do.	5-5-24	T90	350,000	5½ do.
	1921	do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8 do.
	1923	do.	17-12-23	T95	1,000,000	6 May-Nov.
	1921	10 to 30	9-5-24	T107	2,000,000	8 June-Dec.
S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	1922	do.	8-6-22	T108	4,500,000	8 do.
S'hai Gas Co., Ltd.	1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,500,000	7 do.
	1908	do.	2-4-23	T94	800,000	6 do.

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued: b—Tls.65,100; c—Tls.51,100; d—Tls.34,100; e—Tls.68,500; f—Tls.262,400; g—Tls.139,800; h—Tls.12,300; i—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1924: Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Total output this finyr. to date.
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Alma	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	246,645	8.87d.	68,000	22,000	18,000	17,000	19,000	144,000
Amherst (New)	,, 500,000	Oct.	72,442	80,592	90,751	*4.89d.	19,020	8,214	8,475	14,662	14,670	65,041
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	650,000	540,000	600,000	8.45d.	..	64,000	60,000	65,000	62,500	241,500
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,543,711	1,066,500	..	6.70d.	..	184,000	164,100	187,000	173,000	708,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 300,000	Sept.	759,412	58,042	380,000	†0.24.41	..	..	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam	,, 400,000	Dec.	250,110	217,232	185,793	9.01d.	..	12,500	11,500	15,000	15,300	54,300
Bukit Toh Alang	,, 500,000	Mar.	310,445	248,182	345,000	7.54d.	..	..	..	..	23,000	23,000
Bute	,, 500,000	Dec.	230,067	177,590	159,516	11.11d.	..	17,500	16,600	13,600	Nil	47,700
Chemor United	,, 350,000	Dec.	316,701	267,132	..	8.40d.	..	27,200	23,300	9,500	16,900	76,900
Chempedak	,, £45,000	Oct.	114,760	102,063	..	175.42d.	30,700	14,000	4,400	1,000	13,200	63,300
Cheng	Tls. 675,000	June	143,933	145,238	..	11.09d.	102,014	10,500	9,700	11,800	11,400	145,414
Consolidated (1914)	,, 250,000	Dec.	169,709	614,774	761,500	7.47d.	..	53,000	55,779	44,437	43,523	192,739
Dominion	,, 300,000	Dec.	221,110	224,118	306,867	9.63d.	..	28,022	27,654	15,798	19,359	91,034
Gula-Kalumpang	£400,000	Dec.	1,213,000	932,000	1,215,000	10.4d.	..	88,000	78,000	66,000	83,000	315,000
Java Consolidated	£80,000	Dec.	111,221	62,000	..	6.2.6d.	..	68,300	60,900	72,300	72,900	274,400
Kapayang	Tls. 150,000	Dec.	143,222	116,110	..	126.90	..	10,592	8,315	7,636	5,908	32,451
Karan	,, 250,000	Mar.	101,153	79,556	84,000	84d.	..	..	..	..	6,050	6,050
Kota Fabroe (1921)	,, 300,000	June	1,000,000	349,050	..	..	160,915	29,156	26,944	19,180	19,640	255,743
Kroewoek	£75,000	Dec.	419,606	411,681	540,000	0.7 24d.	..	59,000	55,000	59,000	56,000	229,000
Langkat	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	1,000,000	941,000	975,000	Gild-0.28	179,300	92,500	71,500	70,000	64,000	477,300
Padang	Tls. 500,000	April	..	171,000	..	10.4d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Penggalan (1921)	,, 1,500,000	Mar.	132,000	9,000	176,088	$40.19	..	..	..	..	..	..
Permata	,, 250,000	Dec.	..	50,000	..	0.7.84d.	17,585	8,000	6,033	3,867	..	37,625
Repah	,, 200,000	Dec.	21,000	21,087	..	..	..	17,400	8,700	15,900	11,000	53,000
Salanggang	,, 600,000	May-Nov.	204,000	204,513	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
See Kee (1918)	Tls. 100,000	June	170,000	142,000	115,184	11.37d.	120,309	3,500	11,000	10,500	8,200	153,709
Semambu	,, 300,000	do.	160,000	210,000	158,261	0.9.45d.	..	14,000	13,000	7,600	15,000	50,000
Senawang	,, 300,000	Dec.	227,000	211,100	..	*1.3.3d.	..	14,500	14,500	16,400	17,200	43,100
Sungawang (1921)	,, 300,000	Dec.	241,111	216,133	..	8.42d.	67,625	24,496	17,259	17,024	23,007	148,411
Shanghai Kedah	,, 100,000	Dec.	120,000	100,000	..	11.36d.	..	2,700	8,000	..	..	10,700
S'hai-Klebang	Tls. 500,000	Dec.	500,000	500,000	..	..	..	22,782	21,424	16,254	7,983	68,493
S'hai-Padang	,, 200,000	Dec.	200,000	200,000	400,000	..	100,973	16,432	14,475	14,846	11,400	158,126
S'hai-Seremban	,, 100,000	Dec.	111,111	111,111	..	9.3.d.	..	14,400	13,500	7,400	7,400	42,700
S'hai-Sumatra	,, 500,000	Dec.	650,000	650,000	650,000	6.4d.	111,341	61,110	51,170	43,537	39,079	306,237
Soo-Mangelis	,, 100,000	Dec.	100,000	100,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungei	,, 150,000	Dec.	150,000	150,000	..	7.20	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungei Duri	,, 500,000	Dec.	229,000	229,000	229,000	11.61d.	126,409	23,000	22,272	10,044	10,769	192,196
Taiping (1912)	Tls. 500,000	Dec.	99,000	99,000	99,000	*1.30	..	..	6,572	6,561	..	20,317
Tanah Merah	,, 100,000	Dec.	..	..	..	7.52d.	..	..	..	..	25,000	25,000
Tebong	,, 500,000	Dec.	500,000	500,000	717,792	0.7.66d.	..	64,000	66,000	59,000	59,000	59,000
Ziangbe	£150,000	Dec.	1,000,000	600,000	600,000	7.24d.	..	67,500	58,200	62,000	63,300	247,000

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expenses † Straits Cents.

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COMPANY MEETINGS

YANGTSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LD.

Japan Earthquake: Risks Excluded from Land Policies: Satisfactory Year

The annual general meeting of the Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld., was held at the Association's offices on the Bund on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. John Prentice (Chairman) presided, supported by Mr. B. A. Clarke, Mr. A. W. Burkill and Mr. C. J. Scott (directors). There were 46,037 shares represented.

The notice convening the meeting and auditors' report having been read, the Chairman said: Our working account for 1922 and former years shows a balance at credit of $2,213,327.14. Second year payments on account of 1922 were heavy, but payments on account of former years were lighter than usual. We propose to carry the balance of the account forward.

As regards the working account for 1923, net premia amount to $4,399,964.43, a decrease of about $68,000 from the figures of the previous year. Interest, dividends and rents at $504,684.56 are less by $24,000. Claims paid amount to $1,919,655.26 as compared with $2,320,069.26 last year. Agency commissions show a decrease of $50,000 and charges an increase of $24,000.

Dividend of 22½ Per Cent.

Your directors recommend that a dividend of 22½ per cent. be paid out of the balance of this account and, if you adopt this proposal, there will be a balance of $2,375,638.15 to carry forward. In view of the unfavourable Underwriting position this proposed increase in our dividend calls for an explanation. For several years past the interest, etc., earned by the association's funds has been considerably more than the dividend paid to shareholders. The principal reason for this conservation of our resources was to assist us to provide for depreciation of certain mortgages to which I referred at last year's annual meeting. Adequate provision has now been made and your directors feel that shareholders are entitled to a larger share in our interest earnings.

Turning to the balance sheet you will notice that investment and exchange fluctuation account stands at $482,613.31 as compared with $900,000 a year ago. The decrease is accounted for principally by the decreased value in silver of our gold investments by reason of the rise in exchange from 3s. 6d. at December 31, 1922, to 3s. 3½d. at December 31, 1923, and partly to writing down our Yokohama property to Tls. 1 in our books after the destruction of our building in the earthquake of September 1, 1923.

On the assets side of the balance sheet loans and mortgages at $1,280,266.39 are less by $1,177,000 and cash at bankers on fixed deposit and current account stands at $1,583,401.78, as compared with $897,839.59 a year ago. Municipal and other debentures stand at $519,504.79 as against $187,530.15 last year. Sunday debtors show a satisfactory decrease from $539,699.02 to $292,251.76.

Investments are shown at their market values as at December 31 and our gold investments and funds have been converted into silver at the rates of exchange current on December 31, 1923. Our Gold Investments are set out in detail. A list of our silver investments is on the table for the inspection of any shareholder desirous of seeing it.

The terrible disaster which overtook the cities of Tokio and Yokohama and the surrounding districts on September 1, 1923, is fresh in the minds of all of us. All nations sympathize with the people of Japan in their great calamity and admire the courage and energy with which they are facing the problems of rehabilitation.

Yokohama: No Serious Losses.

It will doubtless be of interest to shareholders to know how our business was affected by the disaster. No losses were sustained under our policies of fire insurance as the risks of earthquake and its consequences were expressly excluded. No such exclusion, however, was stipulated for in our marine policies. Large quantities of cargo in course of shipment or discharge and at risk under marine policies were destroyed or damaged during or subsequent to the earthquake. Our losses in this direction though considerable are not of such magnitude as to cause us any anxiety. Our branch manager and his family were absent from Yokohama at the time of the disaster. Our acting manager and his wife escaped unhurt. Our entire local staff, however, of eight Japanese were killed in the fall of our office building. The sympathy of the shareholders and your directors has already been expressed in tangible form to those in our employ or their dependents for the losses sustained and I feel sure that our action has your unqualified approval. We have not re-opened our Yokohama branch and we have not yet made any definite plans in this respect.

Definite Plans in this Respect.

As regards business generally the long looked for trade revival is not yet in sight and insurance business suffers accordingly from the reduced premiums offering and the increased competition for these premiums. The cycle of lean years cannot, however, be continuous and we must look forward to better times.

The services of the staff have not been overlooked by your directors who have voted to them a bonus not exceeding 15 per cent. of their salaries in 1923, to be paid partly in cash and partly to the credit of their provident fund. We are confident that this vote has your approval.

There were no questions.

The following resolutions were passed: That the report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1923, be accepted—Proposed by the chairman, seconded by Mr. Brodie A. Clarke.

That a dividend at the rate of 22½ per cent. (equal to $2.25 per share) on the paid up capital of the association be declared payable in tael at exchange 73 on and after May 28, 1924, at the Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China or the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation to shareholders on record on May 17, 1924.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. A. W. Burkill.

That Messrs. Brodie A. Clarke and C. J. Scott be re-elected directors.—Proposed by Mr. B. Firth, seconded by Mr. H. J. Clark.

That Messrs. Thomson & Company be re-elected auditors to serve until the next ordinary general meeting of shareholders and that their remuneration be Tls. 1,000 per annum.—Proposed by Mr. Thomas Cock, seconded by Mr. D. M. Gubbay.

Extraordinary General Meeting.

The Chairman—You have all doubtless studied the circular letter dated March 31, 1924, issued to the shareholders, in which you were advised of the directors' reasons for advocating an addition to the memorandum of the association so as to permit the association to act as a trustee, executor, administrator and agent, and otherwise in a *fiduciary* capacity. I do not think that there is anything which I can usefully add to the information contained in the circular. I may mention however that our proposals have been well received and we have reason to think that, if the resolution is approved by shareholders and the sanction of H. M. Supreme Court at Shanghai is later obtained for the proposed alteration of our memorandum, the facilities offered by us will be duly utilized.

Clause 2 of our existing memorandum provides that the registered office of the association shall be situated in Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong. The association, however, being a "China Company" within the meaning of the Companies' Ordinance of 1915, is required to have its registered office within the limits of the China (Companies) Order in Council 1915. This opportunity, therefore, has been taken to obtain the alteration of clause 2 of the memorandum so as to make it conform to the present law.

The re-lettering of sub-paragraphs (H) to (S) inclusive of the present memorandum is necessitated by the insertion of the new sub-paragraph (H).

With these explanations, gentlemen, I now propose and Mr. Brodie A. Clarke seconds: That the company's memorandum of association be altered by substituting for the present clause 2 thereof a new clause to read as follows:—2.—The registered office of the association shall be situate at Shanghai in China.

And by adding to clause 3 thereof immediately after sub-paragraph (G) of the said clause a new sub-paragraph to be lettered (H) and to read as follows, that is to say:—

(H)—To undertake and execute any trusts the undertaking whereof may seem desirable and also to undertake the office of and act as trustee, executor, administration, guardian committee, agent, custodian, receiver, treasurer, registrar or auditor and to keep for any company, government, authority or body any register relating to any stocks, funds, shares or securities or to undertake any duties in relation to the registration of transfers, issue of certificates or otherwise and generally to transact all kinds of *fiduciary* business and either with or without remuneration and by re-lettering the present sub-paragraphs (H) to (S) inclusive of the said clause (I) (J) (K) (L) (M) (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) (S) and (T) respectively."

Resolution Carried Unanimously

The Chairman:—It will now be submitted for confirmation as a special resolution to a further extraordinary general meeting to be held on June 10.

Mr. H. J. Clark proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Directors for the success of their efforts during the year, and wished them equal success in the coming year.

Mr. D. M. Gubbay seconded and the resolution was carried with acclamation.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

FAR EASTERN INSURANCE CO., LD.

Trade Depression Reflected in Insurance Business: Fewer Claims Paid

The 8th ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld., was held at 26 The Bund on Tuesday. Mr. E. T. Byrne presided, supported by Mr. J. Harold Dollar, Mr. H. M. Tibbey and Mr. P. H. Nye (directors). The attendance represented 34,844 shares.

The notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report were read.

Proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, the Chairman said:—The working account for 1922 and former years shows a balance at credit of Tls. 169,844.59 and your directors recommend that this balance be carried forward.

In the working accounts for 1923 net premia are shown as Tls. 1,289,820.82, a decrease of about Tls. 60,000 as compared with the previous year. Rents and interest account at Tls. 79,958.38 shows an advance of Tls. 16,000 over last year's figures. Claims paid amount to Tls. 588,072.82 as against Tls. 725,872.34 last year. Commission at Tls. 190,949.09 are less by Tls. 21,000, and charges show a trifling increase.

The balance at credit of this account is Tls. 731,344.25. Although the underwriting position does not warrant any increase in the dividend your directors feel that shareholders are entitled to a fuller participation in the interest earnings of the company. They therefore recommend the distribution of a dividend of 7 per cent. (Tls. 1.40 per share) as compared with 6 per cnet. last year. If this recommendation is approved there will be a balance of Tls. 680,944.25 to carry forward.

Turning to the balance sheet, sundry creditors show a reduction from Tls. 219,745.88 to Tls. 34,039. Our holding in British Government National War Bonds stand at Tls. 223,152.45 as compared with Tls. 137,530. The increase is due to our purchase of a further £15,300 of this stock during the year. You will also notice a new investment of Tls. 33,086.79 in Chinese Government Reorganization Gold Loan (French Issue). This represents a holding of £8,000 face value.

Trade generally remains stagnant and the business of insurance is no exception to the general order of things. We must look forward for better days to come.

I now propose and Mr. Harold Dollar seconds the resolution: That the report of the directors and statement of accounts for the 12 months ended December 31, 1923, as presented, be accepted and passed.

I now propose and Mr. H. M. Tibbey seconds: That a Dividend at the rate of 7 per cent., being one tael and 40 cents per share, on the paid up capital of the company, he declared payable on and after May 28, 1924, at the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation or the Russo-Asiatic Bank, Shanghai, to shareholders of record on May 17, 1924.

It is proposed by Mr. J. Prentice and seconded Mr. G. E. Griffin: That Messrs. E. T. Byrne, V. Meyer, H. E. Arnhold, J. Harold Dollar, H. M. Tibbey, P. H. Nye and C. Bleuler be re-elected directors to serve until the next ordinary general meeting of shareholders.

It is proposed by Mr. J. Prentice and seconded by Mr. S. A. Sleap: That Messrs. Thomson & Co., be re-elected auditors to serve until the next ordinary general meeting of shareholders and that their remuneration be Tls. 300 per annum.

The resolutions were carried.

CLUB AND SOCIETIES

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S ASSN.

Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers

The annual meeting of the Shanghai branch of the American Association of University Women was held on Tuesday afternoon at Dr. Anne Walter Fearn's residence, 30 Route Pichon, and largely attended. After a delicious tea the business session was held, the Secretary, Mrs. Eveleth, presenting the report for the year, and the Treasurer, Mrs. Corbett, giving the financial statement, which showed among the other disbursements the sums of $400 for the bursary offered to a girl graduating from the American School, $100 to a Chinese girl graduating from a Mission School, and $150 for domestic science work in the American School. The secretary's analysis of the membership showed that the largest number of members (11) came from Wellesley College, while Smith, Mount Holyoke, and the University of California were represented each by eight members. Chinese classical selections rendered by Chinese girls from the McTyeire School were an interesting feature of the afternoon, the first selection being a historical ballad with flute accompaniment, the second a flute duet, and the third the ballad of "The Four Elders," also with flute accompaniment.

The annual election of officers was then held, the President, Mrs. Carleton Lacy, and the secretary, Mrs. Eveleth, being re-elected, and other officers being elected as follows: Vice-President, Miss M. Frances Cross; Treasurer, Miss Laura Lenhart; First Director and Chairman of Hospitality Committee, Mrs. N. F. Allman; Second Director, Miss Grace Yang; Third Director, Mrs. C. M. Drury, Member of International Relations Committee, Mrs. J. B. Hipps.

THE Red Cross Society of China has informed Mr. Hsu Yuan, the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, that they are prepared to lend their quarantine station at Pootung for the accommodation of 80 Russian refugees from the four vessels at Woosung.

Municipal Gazette News

Volunteer Corps.

Headquarters. — Lieutenant J. M. ff Beytagh is transferred from "B" Company, British, and is appointed Corps Lewis Gun Officer.

Engineer Company.—Captain C. D. Pearson resigns his Commission and is granted the Honorary rank of Captain with permission to wear the prescribed uniform.

"B" Company British.—Captain F. J. W. Melville is transferred to the Reserve of Officers.

Mixed Court Report for April.

Assessors.—During the absence on Home Leave of Mr. O. C. Gad, Swedish Assessor, Mr. J. P. d'Hondt, Belgian Vice-Consul, has been appointed to sit as Assessor in cases involving Swedish interests.

Court Accommodation. — The pressing need of extended accommodation to enable the routine business of the Court to be properly handled has been referred to in these reports. As a temporary expedient a room hitherto used by the Assessors is now being converted into a Court room for foreign civil cases.

Mixed Court Fees.—On account of the difficulty experienced in collecting hearing fees, and in order to facilitate the keeping of accounts, it has been decided that henceforward both filing and hearing fees must be paid at the time a petition is filed. If the action is withdrawn or does not come on for hearing, the amount of the hearing fee will be returned on application to the Registrar.

Chilean Citizens and Jurisdiction.—The following decision was given by the Consular Body on the question of the status of Chilean citizens:—

"While the Consular Body is unable to express an opinion in regard to the claim of any particular individual to any particular nationality, it considers that when Chilean citizenship has been established, the person possessing such nationality should be handed over to the Chilean authorities to be dealt with."

Criminal Cases and Inquests.—In addition to 8135 Criminal Cases the Court was called upon to deal with 18 inquests, while 15 special hearings were held in criminal cases of a serious nature.

24 Unrepresented foreigners were tried for criminal offences during the month.

Chinese Civil Cases.—245 Cases were dealt with during the month as against 136 new petitions filed leaving 32 part heard cases and 226 cases awaiting a first hearing, an increase of 17 over the previous month.

Much delay was caused by the postponement at the last moment of 38 cases at the request of counsel concerned and the Court have decided to enforce the rule that either side who may desire an adjournment of a case must notify the Registrar within 48 hours of the receipt of hearing notice.

In refusing an application for a rehearing of a Chinese Civil Case the Court stated that any party having failed to satisfy a Court Order and thus being in contempt of Court were not entitled to ask for a rehearing or for any other relief from Court.

CHINA Journal of Science & Arts, edited by Mr. A. de C. Sowerby and Dr. J. C. Ferguson, is a bi-monthly, profusely illustrated magazine. It contains authentic articles written by experts on the Arts, Literature and Science of China. The annual subscription is $10.00 Shanghai currency, or $6.00 gold for U.S.A. and Canada. Office:—Room 102, the Ben Building, Shanghai. Central 3247.

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SPORTS AND PASTIMES

CRICKET IN ENGLAND

South Africans Draw with Gloucestershire: The County Championship

London, May 22.

The match between Gloucestershire and the South Africans at Bristol was started to-day. The weather was unsettled, and there was an attendance of 3,000. The South Africans batted first on a soft wicket and made a total of 162, to which Nourse contributed 58. Parker, for Gloucester, captured four wickets for 41 runs. Gloucestershire then went to the wicket and at the close of the day's play had scored 79 for the loss of eight wickets.—Reuter.

London, May 23.

The match at Bristol between Glouecestershire and the South Africans was continued today. In their first innings the South Africans scored 162, to which Gloucester replied with 79 for eight wickets. Gloucester continued their innings to-day and were all out for 92. The South Africans then went in a second time and scored 126 for eight, when they declared. Gloucester had scored 19 for the loss of one wicket when rain interfered wth further play and the match was drawn. In Gloucester's first innings Blanckenberg took four wickets for 29 runs, while in the South Africans' second innings Susskind scored 69, not out.

In the County Championship at Lord's Middlesex beat Lancashire on the first innings. Hearne (Middlesex) made 84, and for Lancashire Parkin took eight wickets for 65 runs.

At Northampton, Yorkshire defeated Northamptonshiree by five wickets. For Yorkshire Macaulay took six wickets for 26 runs in the first innings and four for 42 in the second, while Kilner took five for 34 in Northampton's second innings.

Sussex beat Worcestershire on the first innings at Worcester. Tate, for Sussex, captured six wickets for 24 runs.

At Ilford, Somerset beat Essex by 371 runs. White (Somerset) took six wickets for 39 and seven for 22.

Surrey beat Derbyshire at Derby by six wickets.

At Oxford, Oxford University beat Kent by six wickets. The Oxonian, Hewetson, took five wickets for 16 runs and five for 26. For Kent Woolley took six wickets for 40 runs.

Notts beat Glamorgan at Nottingham by an innings and 57 runs. For Notts Carr made 111 and Whysall 93.—Reuter.

Middlesex	4	3	0	1	0	18
Yorkshire	3	3	0	0	0	15
Surrey	3	2	0	1	0	13
Somerset	3	2	0	0	1	11
Sussex	4	1	1	2	0	11
Lancashire	3	1	0	1	1	9
Leicestershire	3	1	0	1	1	9
Glamorgan	6	1	4	1	0	8
Kent	3	1	0	0	2	7
Notts	2	1	0	0	1	6
Warwickshire	2	1	1	0	0	5
Worcestershire	3	0	0	1	2	5
Derbyshire	4	0	2	1	1	4
Essex	3	0	2	1	0	3
Hampshire	3	0	2	0	1	1
Northamptonshire	2	0	2	0	0	0
Gloucestershire	3	0	3	0	0	0

—Reuter.

South Africans *v.* M. C. C.

London, May 26.

The match between the M. C. C. and the South Africans opened at Lords to-day before an attendance of 6,000. The weather was fine, and the wicket was a drying one. The M. C. C. batted first and made a total of 145, to which Hearne contributed 59. Pegler, for South Africa, took eight wickets for 54 runs. The South Africans then went in and at the close of the day's play had scored 113 for the loss of four wickets.—Reuter.

London, May 27.

The match between the M. C. C. and the South Africans at Lord's was drawn. The M. C. C. scored 145 yesterday. This morning the South Africans carried their unfinished innings to 192 (Commaille 39 not out). Douglas took 6 wickets for 65. The M. C. C. followed and declared with a score of 191 for 1 wickets (Russell 45, Hearne 45, Hendren 44 not out). At the close of play the South Africans had scored 90 for 1 wicket, Taylor having made an unfinished 50.

At Swansea, Surrey beat Glamorgan by 298 runs. For Surrey Shepherd scored 88 and 105 and Jennings took 5 Glamorgan wickets in the first innings for 17 and 5 in the second for 22.

At Chesterfield, Lancashire beat Derbyshire by an innings and one run. Derbyshire made 146 in their first innings, Parkin taking 7 wickets for 59, and 40 in their second innings, Parkin taking 5 wickets for 6 and R. Tyldesley 5 for 30. Lancashire made 187 runs.

At Bradford, Yorkshire beat Notts by 3 wickets. Rhodes took 5 wickets for 30 in Notts's second innings and Staples took 5 Yorkshire wickets for 22 in the second innings.

At Leicester, Leicestershire beat Hampshire by 4 wickets.

At Ilford, Sussex beat Essex by 3 wickets. In Essex's first innings the Sussex bowler, Tate, took 7 wickets for 45.

At Birmingham, Worcestershire beat Warwickshire on the first innings. Warwick made 84 in the first innings, Root taking 7 wickets for 33. In their second innings they made 254 for 8 wickets and declared. Worcester made 165 and 48 for 8 wickets.

At Blackheath, Kent and Somerset tied on the first innings. Somerset scored 188 and 188 for 9 wickets declared. Kent made 188 and 12 for 0 wicket. They score two points each.—Reuter.

RACING IN ENGLAND

Payne Stakes

London, May 22.

The following is the result of the Payne Stakes, run at Newmarket to-day:—

Santorb	1
Great Barrier	2
Silverford	3

There were seven starters. Won by half a length; three lengths between second and third.

Betting:—4 to 1 against Santorb, evens Great Barrier; 20 to 1, Silverford.

Bedford Stakes.

The result of the Bedford Stakes was:—

Dignity	1
Cool Caress	2
Linkman	3

There were 13 starters. Won by a length; a head between second and third.

Betting:—7 to 4 against Dignity; 6 to 1 Cool Caress; 6 to 1 Linkman. —"North-China Daily News" Special Service.

Haydock Park Handicap

London, May 24.

The following is the result of the Haydock Park Handicap, run to-day:—

Lighthouse	1
Highbrow	2
Shippon	3
Norseman	3

There were 12 starters. Won by three-quarters of a length; a length and a half; dead heat for third place.

Betting:—6 to 1 against Lighthouse; 7 to 4 Highbrow, 8 to 1 Shippon, 10 to 1 Norseman.—"North-China Daily News" Special Service.

Great Northern Handicap

The following is the result of the Great Northern Handicap (1½ miles), run at York to-day:—

Jazz Band	1
Sierra Leone	2
Forerunner	3

There were seven starters. Won by a short head; four lengths between second and third.

Betting:—100 to 30 against Jazz Band; 5 to 4 Sierra Leone; 10 to 1 Forerunner.—"North-China Daily News" Special Service.

OLYMPIC GAMES

Association Football

Paris, May 28.

In the second round of the Olympic Association Football Ireland beat Bulgaria by one goal to nil, while Switzerland tied with Czecho-Slovakia 1-1. The latter match will be re-played on Friday. —Reuter.

BRITISH AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Easy Victories for Mr. Tolley and Mr. Wethered: A Hole-out in One

London, May 26.

Seventy-three matches in the first found of the British Amateur Golf Championship, for which there are 201 entered, were played off to-day at St. Andrew's. The weather was fine, and there was a thronged course.

The holder of the Championship, R. H. Wethered, and C. J. Tolley, who are the most favoured players for the final, scored comfortable victories, the former defeating the 1908 champion, A. E. Lassen, by eight up and seven to play. The surprise of the day was the defeat of the English captain, Bernard Darwin, 5 and 3, by Harry Braid, who is a son of the famous professional.

Noel Layton (St. Andrew's), in defeating Segar Pugh of Romilly, 5 and 4, achieved the rare Championship distinction of holing out in one.—Reuter.

Wethered in Brilliant From

London, May 27.

Play for the British Amateur Golf Championship was resumed in glorious weather to-day at St. Andrew's. Features of the day were Wethered's brilliance in defeating the ex-Oxonian, D. Cox, by 7 and 6 and the splendid fight of the schoolboy champion, Mathieson, against the Cambridge captain and English international, Storey, the latter winning by 2 and 1. W. Kellayton beat Hilton by 6 and 5, depriving the latter of the distinction of winning his hundredth amateur championship match. Tolley beat the Bradfordian, Clough, by 4 and 3, and Braid beat Bell (Inverleven) by 7 and 6. The only American competitor, Brown of Honolulu, beat Graham (Liverpool) by 2 and 1 in the first round.

All the other matches were second round contests.—Reuter.

A Tragic Incident

London, May 28.

The resumption of play for the British Amateur Golf Championship at St. Andrews to-day took place in a drizzling rain, which fell almost throughout the day.

A tragic incident occurred this morning when a spectator following the American match dropped dead on a green.

To-day's play reduced the field to 32 competitors.

J. Birnie (Inverness) defeated Brown, the only American player, 2 up and 1 to play, in the second round.

In the third round, Wethered, playing poorly, defeated Martin Schunk of Hale, 3 and 2; Tolley, in an excellent display, beat last year's semi-finalist, Douglas Grant (St. George's), 2 and 1. In a clashing of internationals, the Scot, John Caven, who has been brilliant since the start of the Championship, defeated the Englishman, Noel Layton, 5 and 4. Braid defeated G. Humphries (Stourbridge) by one hole; the 1922 Champion, Holderness, beat Mahor Clarke, of Nairn, 6 and 4, while Robert Harris (Royal and Ancient) won from J. Board (Home Park), 2 and 1.—Reuter.

GOLF AT HOME

England Defeat Scotland in Annual Match

London, May 24.

England beat Scotland in the annual Golf International by a total of 9 matches to 6 at St. Andrew's to-day.—Reuter.

BRITISH LADIES' GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Miss Wethered's Easy Victory

London, May 22.

In the British Ladies' Golf Championship final, which was played at Portrush to-day, Miss Joyce Wethered beat Mrs. Cautle by 7 up and 6 to play.—Reuter.

LAWN TENNIS

Davis Cup Competition

Prague, May 24.

Czecho-Slovakia beat New Zealand by four matches to nil in the first round of the Davis Cup competition.—Reuter.

LAW REPORTS

DRAMATIC TRIAL AT WEIHAIWEI

Foreign Woman Charged with Murder of Chinese Husband: Found Not Guilty

In H. M. High Court at Weihaiwei last week, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Judge of the Court, and a jury of which Mr. H. L. Beer was foreman, were occupied for two days in hearing a charge of murder against a Russian woman named Eugene Feodorova, alleged to have murdered her Chinese husband, Kao Shih-hsin, by stabbing him. The tragedy took place at the village of Sungchiat'an on April 17.

Mr. A. G. Mossop conducted the prosecution, and Mr. J. G. Priestwood defended the accused.

According to the story of the prosecution, in April of last year deceased returned to his native village after 20 years absence in Manchuria and brought the Russian woman to live with him. They were very unhappy together, and neighbours spoke of quarrels frequently occurring. Deceased spent the afternoon of April 17 at a theatre in a neighbouring village, returning at dusk with Sung Wen-hsin, a neighbour. The latter had been in his house half an hour when he heard sounds of violent quarrelling and, accordingly, with another man also named Sung, he looked in to see what was going on. They saw husband and wife struggling, and separated them. They then saw the deceased strike the woman with his fist and afterwards kick her twice. They remonstrated with him, and he retired to another room, but returned and the quarrel was resumed and again he kicked the woman. Finding they were unable to restore peace, the two Sungs left, but they got only as far as an outer room when they heard a heavy fall and then a groan and, rushing back into the room and taking a lamp down from the wall, saw the deceased lying on the floor, fatally wounded. One of the Sungs ran off in fright, while the other shouted at the top his voice and summoned the villagers. Neighbours arrived in force, and their first act was to secure the accused woman, which they did by tying her up to a tree. The village headman next appeared on the scene and, searching for a weapon, found a dagger on the floor near the body of the deceased. A messenger was sent to the nearest police station, four miles distant, and at mid-night returned with the constable. The woman was then released from the tree, and then handcuffed, and just as day was breaking she was put into a cart and began the long journey of 17 miles to Port Edward, the deceased's body being taken with her in another cart.

Dr. M. C. Cooper gave evidence that death was due to a knife wound which had reached the heart, and he expressed the opinion that the wound might have been self-inflicted.

Accused's Bodily Injuries.

Surgeon-Commande McCloy, who examined the unfortunate woman at the Island prison, said that she had a black eye and abrasions on the face, and that her limbs were covered with severe bruises of recent origin, while she had handcuff marks on both wrists.

The accused woman, a fragile little person of 32 years but looking much older, told an unhappy story of her life with the deceased, a heavily built, muscular man of 6ft. She said that she had known him for four years, and by the name of "Nicolai," being unacquainted with his Chinese name, and that until their arrival in Weihaiwei he had treated her well. There, however, she had to work in the fields, while he did little work, and she never at any time had possession of more than 50 cents. They lived in a house belonging to deceased's brother. Here also lived his sister-in-law, and it was on account of this woman that quarrelling began. Deceased assaulted witness nearly every day. About China New Year the sister-in-law attempted to commit suicide, fearing disclosures that might be made on the return of her husband. Deceased continued to ill-treat her, tying her hands together and beating her, and he said he would beat her to death if she said a word about his relations with the sister-in-law. He added that he would kill her and then himself. He always carried a knife in a cloth round his waist. Witness had a little son, and on one occasion the sister in law said to him: "You will both die, you and your mother." Witness wrote to deceased's two brothers complaining of his conduct with the other woman and, when the husband announced he was about to return, both deceased and the woman said it would be bad for them if he came back, and that if anything happened they would die together. "If I do not kill you I will kill myself," said 'Nicolai'."

Speaking of the night of the tragedy, witness said it was dark when "Nicolai" returned home and she unbarred the door for him and set his dinner. He was angry and began to beat her, and she ran out into the road. There she met the two Sungs and they returned together into the house, "Nicolai" kicking her, so that she sat down and cried. She became terror-stricken and did not know what happened afterwards, except that she noticed deceased standing with his back to her and his hands fiddling with his belt. Becoming unconscious, she did not see a knife and did not know who stabbed the deceased, only regaining consciousness when nearing Port Edward in the Chinese cart.

The Judge Sums Up.

In his summing up, Judge Wilkinson said the real question before the jury was whether the deceased had killed himself or whether the accused killed him. The medical evidence was that it was possible the wound was self-inflicted. His Honour pointed out that the Sungs had not seen the deceased fall, nor did they see the accused with a knife in her hand. The jury would have to decide whether it was likely the deceased killed himself. There was evidence that he had lost "face," and that complaints about his conduct had been made to his elder brother in Manchuria; also that that brother had sent him a serious warning to mend his ways, and had intimated that he might return to Weihaiwei." In view of the serious assaults committed on the accused by deceased just before he fell, and in view of the fact that there was no evidence at all of premeditation, he must direct the jury that they need not consider the question of murder. The question for them was: who held the knife at the time deceased was struck? If they found that the woman held it, they would return a verdict of manslaughter. If the deceased, they would find the woman not guilty.

Not Guilty.

The jury retired for some time, and returned to ask whether they could return a verdict of "not proven," the Judge instructing them that such a verdict could not be received. He pointed out that in case of disagreement, juries on a criminal trial in Weihaiwei, where the issue was other than one involving the death penalty, were entitled to return a majority verdict.

The jury again retired, and later gave a unanimous verdict of not guilty, in respect both to the charge of murder and that of manslaughter, and the accused was discharged.

Subscription for Prisoner.

In view of the unhappy plight in which Mrs. Feodorova found herself at the conclusion of the trial, being in a destitute state, a collection was organized on her behalf and sufficient funds were gathered to enable her to proceed to Shanghai.

Mr. C. Mansel Reece was summoned at H. M. Police Court last Friday for failing to obey a police signal in Bubbling Well Road. He sent an apology for his absence and an admission of a technical offence due to a misunderstanding, and Mr. Peter Grain imposed a fine of $2.

For discharging oil into the Huangpu from his ship, Capt. A. Ahlin, of the Dollar str. President Harrison, has been fined G.$10 and warned against future infringements of the law. Defendant was before Mr. N. E. Lurton at U. S. Commissioner's Court on May 22. Mr. H. D. Rodger, acting District Attorney, prosecuted and Major C. P. Holcomb defended.

THE TLS. 50,000 CLAIM AGAINST DRUG CO.

Druggists' Dual Liability Plea: Judgment Next Week

Further medical evidence was heard by Judge Purdy at the U.S. Court last Friday in the claim for Tls. 50,000 damages brought by Magdalena Guignard against the American Drug Co. Plaintiff alleges that by the use of an ointment supplied by defendants who negligently substituted it for another ordered, she has sustained internal injuries.

Dr. F. Reiss stated that he was called in consultation with Drs. Marsh, Petit, and Marcovici during December, 1923, to examine the plaintiff. Witness found nothing wrong with her except a little palpitation, her organs were absolutely normal, she had no internal growths and she showed no marked nervousness. He did not consider the ointment likely to cause the growths alleged nor did he think it a strong and dangerous compound.

Dr. J. Marcovici said he found no injuries and no scars, and the heart was normal. His opinion was that one application of the ointment would not have caused serious injury and that many preparations contained a larger proportion of salicylic acid than did this.

Dr. S. A. Ransom, who said he spoke from no personal knowledge of the case, but from his own general experience, gave it as his opinion that there was only a "remote possibility" that the ointment would have caused the injuries described. Such a condition might have existed previous to the use of the ointment, as indicated by plaintiff's feeling an itching for which she used the ointment.

Dr. Thomas Dunn stated that in his opinion the ointment used as described would have caused a burning sensation lasting for a half or three-quarters of an hour. It would hardly have produced growths, or extreme nervousness, though it might cause acute dermatitis.

No Plea of Contributory Negligence

Mr. R. T. Bryan, in his final speech for plaintiff, said that the defendants were bound to exercise extra care if they were engaged in that trade, that they had failed to use safeguards, and that no defence of contributory negligence could be set up, as it had not been set forth in the answer. The only question before the court was the amount of damages, which should be sufficient to compensate for the suffering, nervous shock and impaired health of plaintiff.

Mr. W. W. Worthington, for defendants, submitted that the evidence of Mr. Guignard was contradicted by that of Mr. Miller, an employee of the American Drug Co., that the defendants were not guilty of negligence, inasmuch as the compound delivered by them was not dangerous. Therefore plaintiff had no cause of action against defendants. With respect to damages, medical evidence had shown that the injury was slight and easily cured and that a simple operation would remove the growths which, it was claimed, were a result of the use of the ointment; moreover that it had not been proved that this condition was a result of the use of the ointment.

The matter of the druggist's "dual liability" was the pivotal point in the defence, counsel continued. A druggist was only bound to use extra precautions when dealing with drugs which were actually dangerous to human life.

The Judge here interposed that if a druggist sent a wrong prescription that would, in his opinion, constitute negligence, if the prescription did no harm, or even did good, there could be no claim for damages, nevertheless the negligence would exist. He had never heard the doctrine of dual liability advanced before.

Judge's Summing-up.

The Judge, in his summing-up, said Dr. Reiss prescribed for the plaintiff a harmless compound. She used it until it was used up and then [illegible] some more, asking defendant if they could give him the ointment. They said yes, but sent a stronger ointment which he supposed was the same and his wife supposed was the same. "Is that actionable negligence," asked the Judge. "Whose fault was it?" Defendants tried to fill the prescription and made a mistake." The Judge added that he had expected to give judgment in this case, but since the legal point of dual liability had been raised, and various cases cited he would reserve judgment.

POSER FOR ARCHITECT

Judge Purdy Asks What Is a Cadastral Lot: Council Chairman also at Sea

What is a cadastral plan? Judge Purdy asked the question on Tuesday at the U. S. Court and no one present was able to give a correct answer—not even the Chairman of the Municipal Council, who was engaged in the case, nor an architect who was in the witness box.

The matter was one in which Messrs. Dowdall, Read & Tulasne brought an action against the Shanghai Building Co. Inc., and the Shanghai Building Co. (Federal), Inc. in respect of the construction of the new Carlton Café. Plaintiffs' case was that in December, 1921, the first-named defendant company employed them to make sketch plans for the Carlton, and these were accepted in February of the following year, while in March an agreement was entered into whereby plaintiffs were to receive Tls. 14,000 commission instead of the usual 5 per cent. on the cost of construction. Plans were duly completed and calculations made as required, and they were submitted to the Municipal Council and approved. The whole arrangement was adopted and agreed to by the second-named company, but only Tls. 9,416.61 of the amount due under the agreement had been paid, and plaintiffs therefore claimed the balance of Tls. 4,583.33, together with Tls. 2,000 for extra work done. Defendants counter-claimed for Tls. 6,769, costs incurred through alleged defects in plaintiffs' plans.

Mr. S. A. Moss appeared for plaintiffs and Mr. S. Fessenden for defendants.

The morning was occupied in hearing the evidence of Mr. Read in support of plaintiffs claim. He stated that the plans were prepared, approved, and handed over to the contractor to proceed with the work. Part of the additional work consisted in redrafting the plans for the theatre, upon defendants discovering that there were 3ft. of additional land available.

A Tls. 7,000 to Tls. 2,000 Bet.

In answer to Mr. Fessenden, witness denied that excessive time was occupied in preparing the plans There was no delay for which plaintiffs were responsible. The building was, in fact, put up with extraordinary speed, and they claimed it as a record. Some people were astounded that the building, dining room, dance hall, and theatre, was got ready for use by the Christmas holiday, and there were actually bets made—one of Tls. 7,000 against Tls. 2,000—that the work could not possibly by done before the new year.

Mr. Fessenden questioned witness at length with regard to plans for the roof of the theatre and dance hall which showed a certain amount of wood construction, and asked if they were not against the Municipal Regulations.

Mr. Moss—We submitted a complete set of plans to the council, and they were approved.

Mr. Fessenden—Yes, and you gave us a different set of plans to build by, as a result of which the council refused to pass a lot of the work and we had to re-build in accordance with the plans which you submitted to them.

Mr. Moss—If they went ahead and built on plans which had not been approved, that is not our fault, providing we fulfilled the terms of the agreement.

Mr Fessenden, comparing plans submitted to the Council and to the plaintiffs, pointed out differences in detail, particularly as to the use of wood in roof construction, and he asked if witness knew defendants had been compelled by the Council to rebuild in accordance with their requirement?

Mr. Read answered that he had heard of that, but the builders never informed him. He agreed with counsel that the plans for "extra work" were drawn up prior to the complete plans being passed as final by the Council. There was a good deal of extra work done, but he did not recall having actually said to plaintiffs, "This is extra work."

Mr. Fessenden—The contract states that you must supply detailed plans approved by the Council, and therefore that is all part of the work under the agreement.

Mr. A. A. Toone, assistant surveyor in the Public Work Department, stated that a complete set of plans was submitted to the Department by plaintiffs, and they were satisfactory and were approveed.

In answer to Mr. Fessenden, witness said that the plans did not show any wood construction. Theatre roofs should be fire resisting, but the use of wood might be allowed if protected by a reinforced concrete ceiling. The Carlton was inspected several times during building operations, and these were stopped on three occasions: first, because of defective steel; second, because of defective pouring of concrete down the dining room columns, and for alterations to the exit levels.

"Work Delayed for Six Weeks."

For the defence, Mr. Edward Bell, defendants' secretary and manager, stated that they were not claiming on account of delay in the work, but for loss sustained through mistakes in the plans. Plaintiffs gave them plans which provided for wooden construction in some parts of the building instead of reinforced concrete, and these were given as detailed working plans. Witness understood the plans had been passed by the Council. He supposed the architects had to pass the plans through the Council and then hand them over to the builder to go on with the work. They did go on with the work, but the Council's inspectors came and told them the regulations did not permit the use of wood of any kind in a theatre roof. Further, they produced plans which bore the Council's stamp, and these showed no wood at all. Mr. Bidgood told witness that if plans containing wood construction had been submitted they would never have passed. The result was they had to stop the work, take down part of the structure, and replace it with steel roofing, this involving six weeks' delay and considerable expenditure in material and labour. The fire escapes, also, did not comply with the Council's regulations, the landings not being wide enough, and two had to be taken down and replaced by a single one. The main staircase to the theatre was also objected to, by the lessees, it being said that it was more like the back stairs of an ordinary residence.

The hearing was adjourned.

CONFESSED AFTER BEING BEATEN

Armed Robber's Unfounded Accusation against the S. M. Police

A Chinese who pleaded guilty at the Mixed Court on Monday to three out of four charges of armed robbery, complained that he had been severely beaten by the police before he consented to sign a confession of his guilt. The statement was put in as evidence.

Prisoner rolled up his sleeves in front of Mr. Whitamore and Magistrate Li, exhibiting black and blue bruises on the forearm. He asserted that they had been inflicted by detectives at west Hongkew police-station.

Addressing the Bench, Insp. Mackenzie denied that the injuries had been inflicted at the police-station. Witness had been present in the inquiry room while prisoner was under examination. On two other occasions the officer said he was in charge of the Chinese detectives with accused. A foreign sergeant had made an examination of the man's body. Witness therefore was quite certain that the injuries were not inflicted at the station.

Turning to the dock the Inspector ordered accused to say where he really got the beating. After some hesitation and faltering the latter replied that he received them while in custody of the City Police, who had held him temporarily.

The Assessor declared with some heat that he was tired of such assertions by men accused of armed robbery, for upon investigation it was found that this sort of thing was mere fabrication. The Magistrate concurred in the exoneration of the Settlement police.

Accused, Loh Pau-Laung, was stated to be the perpetrator of a number of armed robberies.

In sending accused to the Arsenal with a recommendation that he be shot, the Bench first ordered that he be handed over to the Ching Ch'a T'ing (City Court) where he is also wanted on a similar charge.

"CHINA PRESS" AND "EVENING NEWS"

Defendants' Motion for Bill of Particulars in the Mixed Court

Motion was made by the defence in the case of the "China Press" v. the "Evening News" at the Mixed Court on Tuesday morning for a bill of particulars. The former publication brought action several weeks ago for $14,607, alleging that sum due for printing bills from November, 1922, until September, 1923. Mr. W. J. Schoenfeld presented the motion and Mr. H. R. Snyder opposed.

It was asked that the Court direct plaintiff to set forth the agreement or arrangement, if any existed, under which they were engaged to do the printing, as it had been alleged in paragraph 4 of their petition. It was also asked, if such an agreement existed, whether it was in writing, that a copy be produced. The defence required them to make a proper and adequate presentation of their case to the Court.

Mr. Snyder stated to the Court that defendant admitted in their answer that they had knowledge of the agreement, but he was willing to give any and all information he could to Mr. Schoenfeld.

The latter then stated that if they under Court order admitted the answer as correct he would be satisfied, to which Mr. Snyder retorted that if it was not correct he would soon point out its defects.

Judgment was reserved.

LAWYER CRITIC OF THE GAOL

Mr. Goldring's Alleged "Wild" Statements on Treatment of Oscar Mathias

Mr. E. T. Maitland, Police Prosecutor, moved the Mixed Court on Wednesday to direct Mr. P. W. Goldring, solicitor for Oscar Mathias, who has been detained in connexion with civil proceedings, to retract a statement he made to the Court recently regarding defendant's alleged ill-treatment while in custody.

Mr. Maitland informed Mr. Martin and Magistrate Kuan that Mr. Goldring had stated in open court that his client had been confined under conditions that were little short of torture. Goldring had said that the prisoner's room was small, that he had no books, that his food was bad and he had no exercise whatever. He had further said that the man might go out of his mind shortly if he were detained any longer in such quarters.

The police prosecutor went on to say that he had visited the cells. While not large, they were certainly not small. Mathias had a comfortable bed, magazines, and could have any newspapers he wanted. "I can only describe Mr. Goldring's statements as wild, irresponsible and untrue, and tending to bring the Model Settlement into disrepute," Mr. Maitland added. "I make an application that a time be set when you and Magistrate Yui can go to the Municipal Gaol with a view to making Mr. Goldring retract his statements made in open court."

Not Kept with Convicts.

An official stated that Mathias was not lodged with the convicts, but in a special place set aside for civil prisoners.

In answer to a question by the Assessor, Chief Insp. Wheeler said civil prisoners were kept in the House of Detention as a rule, though a number of foreigners had previously been detained at the various police stations. Now, however, part of the Gaol was reserved for them. This was the first complaint he had ever received.

The Assessor undertook to visit the cell in question, accompanied by the Magistrate, and the matter was accordingly adjourned.

It is reported that the Great Asiatic Association, which has been in existence in Shanghai for two years and has strong Indian, Filipino and Chinese support, is about to establish a college for Asiatics in Shanghai, and that the institution will specialize in art and commerce.

TWO CWT. OF CAFFEIN SEIZED IN RAID

Also Large Quantities of Cocaine and Morphine: Five Arrests

A police raid which resulted in the seizure of eight [illegible] of caffein, a large number of [illegible] each containing 25 oz. of cocaine, a quantity of morphine and strychnine, besides several pounds of opium, was described at the Mixed Court on Wednesday. Five Chinese were charged under the Presidential Narcotic Measure of 1920 with being in possession of drugs. Mr. A. Covey defended.

Following evidence of arrest, a week's remand was granted.

It is understood that the raid, which was in charge of Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mr. Springfield, is regarded as one of the most important yet made by the police in their efforts to suppress the drug traffic. In addition to the narcotics found on the premises, a shop in North Soochow Road, the police seized over 50 containers for putting up various drugs. Some idea of the magnitude of the trafficking, which, the police allege, was being carried on, may be had from the fact that the caffein, which was found in 28 lb.-tins, is sold wholesale at $200 per litre.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST CHEFOO MERCHANT

A Chinese merchant, of Chefoo, charged with having fraudulently received G. $9,750 came before the Mixed Court on Monday morning. Mr. W. J. Schoenfeld prosecuted on behalf of a New York firm, Messrs. Finkelstein & Co., while Dr. Mei defended.

It was alleged that defendant received the money for a cargo of hair nets to be shipped from Chefoo to New York in 1922, but that the cargo had been never received. A warrant was issued in September 1923, but the arrest was not made until Saturday, when accused was taken into custody at 68 Route Baron Gros by Det.—Sgt. Tinkler, who accompanied the French Police to the premises.

Dr. Mei submitted that there was no jurisdiction but it was decided to remand accused for a special hearing, at which time this question would be gone into. Accused was admitted to bail in $3.000.

THE inquest concerning the death of Leading Stoker James A. Treagus, who was drowned in the Huangpu while returning to H.M.S. Despatch from shore leave on the night of the 12th instant, was concluded by Mr. Peter Grain last Friday. Deceased was one of several men who were thrown into the water when a sampan capsized, and unfortunately he was never seen again. Dr. Burton certified that there were no traces of violence on the body, which was recovered from the river on the morning of the 18th, and that death was due to drowning, and a verdict of "accidentally drowned" was accordingly returned.

Cuticura Talcum To Powder And Perfume

To soothe and cool the skin and overcome heavy perspiration, dust lightly with this pleasingly scented powder. It imparts a delicate lasting fragrance and leaves the skin refreshed and cool.

Soap 1s., Talcum 1s. 2d., Ointment 1s. 2d. and 2s. 6d. Sold throughout the Empire. British Depot: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27, Charterhouse Sq., London, E.C.1.

Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

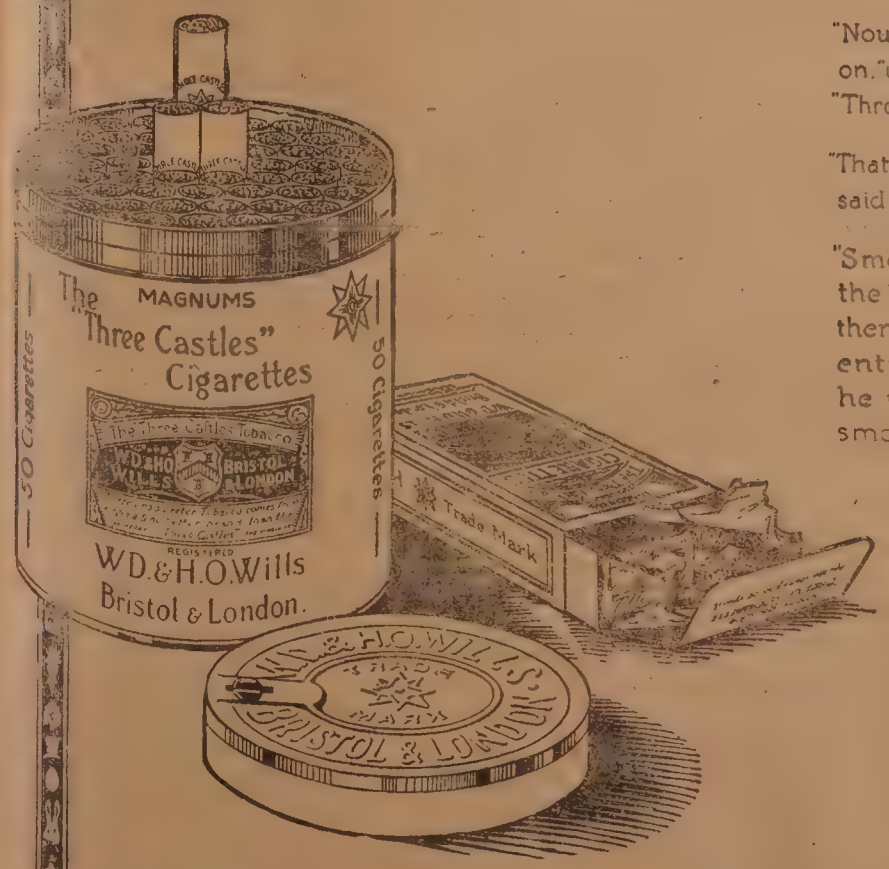
Through the Looking Glass-

"WHAT does it matter where my body happens to be?" said the Knight as Alice dragged him out by the feet, my mind goes on working just the same. In fact the more head-downwards I am the more I keep on inventing things."

"Now the cleverest thing I ever did," he went on, "was to originate the idea of smoking a "Three Castles" between the soup and the fish."

"That was a good thing to invent, certainly," said Alice. "What else did you invent?"

"Smoking 'em between the fish and the entree" chuckled the Knight, "and then smoking 'em again between the entree and the pudding." "In fact," he went on, "I invent an excuse for smoking a "Three Castles" whenever I can."



"Three Castles" CIGARETTES

A-48

This advertisement is issued by the British-American Tobacco Co., (China) Ltd.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

EMPIRE DAY OBSERVANCE IN LONDON

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald on the Elizabethan Spirit Still High in Britain's Sons: A Still Small Voice from Australia on Deeds and Not Words

London, May 24.

The Empire Day celebrations in London were held on an unparalleled scale. Eight thousand members of juvenile organizations took part in them at the Stadium at Wembley. The Pageant of Youth, organized by the League of the Empire, marched past the Duke of Connaught in the Royal Box to music played alternately by massed pipe bands from Scottish regiments, 100 strong, and a drum and fife band of 300 strong. The processionists, assisted by a choir of 1,600 Boy Scouts, later sang "Hearts of Oak" and "Auld Lang Syne," accompanied by a massed band of 600 drawn from all units of the British Army.

Rain poured throughout the night and morning, but the sun shone at 3 o'clock this afternoon, when the proceedings began. Special trains brought spectators from all parts of the country. The Stadium was packed, children predominating.

The cheering was vociferous when the Duke of Connaught walked to the dais and megaphoned that he had sent a loyal telegram to the King, who had replied expressing thanks. The proceedings were broadcast by wireless. Messages from Empire statesmen were read at intervals in the evening. There was a special Commonwealth performance at the broadcasting station, including Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, who said, *inter alia*, that "the parent tree is still green. The sap of high endeavour still swells its branches. Our days of voyaging are not over. The world of mind and idea lies around us in vast unexplored tracts. The commonwealth of nations centring in this Motherland still hears the call to go out in the Elizabethan spirit of gallantry and doughtiness to search for liberty, justice and peace."

A United Empire for Ever

May 23.

"A united Empire" was the theme of the speeches at an Empire Day dinner to-night under the auspices of the Colonial Institute. The Duke of Connaught presided over a distinguished company of 400 guests, including the Duke of York, Sir Joseph Cook, the High Commissioner for Australia, Sir Hugh Clifford, Governor of Nigeria, Sir James Allen, High Commissioner for New Zealand, and Sir Gordon Guggisberg, Governor of the Gold Coast.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, proposing the principal toast, appealed for the dropping of miserable class warfare and class talk (cheers). "Let all," he added, "no matter of what class or creed, unite in making the Empire worthy of the sacrifices of those of all classes who defended the Empire during the war."

Sir Thomas Mackenzie, the former Prime Minister of New Zealand, replying, voiced a warning that the Government must change their procedure if oversea representatives were to continue to attend Imperial conferences, as the latter would be bitterly disappointed if they did not see that effect was given to the recommendations of the conferences. Referring to the Singapore scheme, he said that if ever Australasia fell away from the Empire, it would be through responsible people in Britain not providing proper protection.

The proceedings were very enthusiastic.

The King and Queen at Wembley

May 25.

Their Majesties the King and Queen attended an Empire Thanksgiving service at the stadium this afternoon when bands, comprising a thousand instruments, and a choir of two thousand which sang at the opening ceremony, reinforced by a Boy Scouts' choir, participated in the impressive ceremonies. The day procession, which was symbolical of the Builders of the Empire carrying Colonial flags and emblems, entered the Stadium first, followed by the Ecclesiastical procession, which including archbishops, Bishops, representatives of the religious bodies, and the choir. The Archbishop of Canterbury delivered an address, and a collection was taken on behalf of the British Empire Cancer Campaign.

Throughout the Country

Empire Day was celebrated throughout the country by the flying of flags and patriotic demonstrations, the most notable of the latter being at Belfast where, in spite of the bad weather, ten thousand school-children assembled in Ormeau Park and were presented with Commemoration medals and there was a parade of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides which was inspected by the Duke of Abercorn. —Reuter.

Thanksgiving Service Attended by the King and Queen and Cabinet Ministers

London, May 25.

The Empire Thanksgiving Service at Wembley was marred by unsettled weather, there being a cold, boisterous wind accompanied by showers, with occasional thunder. The sun shone brilliantly when Their Majesties actually arrived at the Stadium, but rain descended later. Nevertheless the attendance is estimated at nearly 100,000. Mr. J. R. Clynes (Lord Privy Seal), Mr. Arthur Henderson (Home Secretary), Mr. J. H. Thomas (Colonial Secretary), Mr. Noel Buxton (Minister of Agriculture), and Mr. F. W. Jowett (First Commissioner of Works) represented the Cabinet.

In spite of the cold and showery weather, the British Empire Exhibition again attracted throngs of visitors last week, culminating in an attendance of over 150,000 on Saturday alone. The week's visitors included various Royalties, overseas Governors, Foreign Ambassadors and other prominent people from various countries, thus aiding in the cosmopolitan note which is a feature of Wembley.

The King and Queen, who have already seen the Show several times, will pay another visit to it on Wednesday, accompanied by the King and Queen of Italy. The Royal party will visit the various buildings, after which there will be an official reception and a luncheon at the British Government Pavilion.

All parts of the Exhibition are attracting attention. The Hongkong market is in full swing, and the pavements of its miniature street are daily crowded with sightseers. The philosophic detachment of the Chinese shopkeepers heightens the illusion of the street, which is not merely a part of the Exhibition but part of Hongkong itself.

The beautiful Malaya Pavilion, with well-arranged rubber, basketwork and other exhibits, completes the picture of the East.—Reuter.

GREAT BRITAIN'S BUDGET

Further Economies Forecast to Finance a Scheme of Social Reform

London, May 27.

The Finance Bill was read for a second time, without a division, in the House of Commons to-day.

Mr. Philip Snowden, Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to the debate, said he hoped that he would be able next year, by further economies, to finance the Government's social reform programme without, at any rate, a heavy increase in taxation. He believed that the present Budget provided a sound economic basis, on which next year the Government would be able to build an even more satisfactory structure. (Ministerial cheers).—Reuter.

THE ANGLO-ITALIAN ENTENTE

Visit of King and Queen of Italy to England: Hearty Reception in London

London, May 24.

In view of the forthcoming visit of the Italian sovereigns to England satisfaction is expressed in both countries at the official announcement of the decision to conclude an agreement with regard to the vexed question of Jubaland, whereby part of the Jubaland province in Kenya colony will be added to Italian Somaliland on the lines laid down by Viscount Milner at Scialoja in 1920. The details will be settled in London by British and Italian experts immediately.

Reuter's correspondment in Rome states that Italy is pleased with the agreement, because it re-establishes close Anglo-Italian friendship and constitutes a friendly compromise auguring well for a prompt agreement by the experts —Reuter.

London, May 26.

The King and Queen of Italy arrived in London to-day.

There were striking scenes at Victoria Station on the arrival of their Italian Majesties, whom the Prince of Piedmont and Princess Mafalda accompany. King George and Queen Mary, the latter wearing an exquisite ostrich feather cloak, were on the platform, accompanied by the Duke of York, Prince Henry, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and other members of the Royal Family. The distinguished assembly included the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, and the Home Secretary, Mr. Arthur Henderson. The Prince of Wales accompanied the Royal visitors from Dover.

Huge crowds cheered as the Royal party came in view. The King of Italy and King George inspected the guard of honour of the Guards and also 50 blackshirted Fascisti from various parts of Britain, who gave the Roman salute. Crowds *en route* gave ovations to the party as they drove to Buckingham Palace.

It is King Victor Emmanuel's first visit to England for 21 years.

Later.

The King and Queen gave a brilliant State banquet to-night in honour of the King and Queen of Italy. One hundred and fifty guests were present, including the Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of York, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Miss MacDonald, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd George, and Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin. The King, toasting the guests, referred to the lasting and unbroken friendship between Britain and Italy. King Victor Emmanuel, replying, expressed the hope that the traditional ties would be strengthened.—Reuter.

Visit to the Cenotaph and Tomb of the Unknown Warrior

London, May 27.

Their Italian Majesties and the Crown Prince and Princess Mafalda this morning visited Westminster Abbey and the Cenotaph. King Victor Emanuel laid a wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Warrior and also placed a wreath at the base of the Cenotaph in the presence of representatives of the Navy, Army and Air Force. A large crowd cheered the Royal visitors as they drove back to the Palace.

Later.

The Italian Sovereigns, the Prince of Piedmont and Princess Mafalda received an enthusiastic welcome in the City to-day, when they were presented with a golden casket at a luncheon at the Guildhall, where the scene was brilliant. Twelve members of the British Royal Family, the Premier and members of the Cabinet, distinguished soldiers and sailors and other prominent personages, including the Maharajah of Kapurthala, were present. The banqueting hall was profusely decorated with pink roses and British and Italian flags.

Replying to the Lord Mayor's toast, King Victor Emanuel expressed his warm thanks, specially to the Prince of Wales for attending the ceremony. He declared that the Italians would warmly appreciate the Lord Mayor's tribute to Italian co-operation in the war. Italy desired to proceed, united to the noble British nation, along the paths of progress and civilization. —Reuter.

Italian Press Comment

Rome, May 27.

The visit of their Italian Majesties to England has been made the occasion for copious articles by the press.

The "*Idea Nazionale*" attributes credit to Signor Mussolini for solution of the Jubaland question which, it says, has been poisoning relations between Britain and Italy.

The Fascist organ, the "*Impero*," declares that the happy solution to the Jubaland problem will doubtless be the starting point for more complete understanding between Britain and Italy. The journal adds that Italy is anxious to reconquer an Empire and is looking with faith to Signor Mussolini, who began with Jubaland. Italians must persevere in Africa and Asia.

The "*Tribuna*" says that Italy greeted joyfully the advent of Labour into power in Britain because continuance of Marquess Curzon's foreign policy would have rendered an agreement with regard to Jubaland impossible, while the enlightened mind of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald has found a settlement. —Reuter.

THIS PICTURE AND THAT IN RUSSIA

M. Zinovieff's Optimistic Views on the Domestic and Foreign Situation: M. Kameneff's Satisfaction with the Progress of Proletariat

Moscow, May 25.

M. Zinovieff, addressing the Congress of the Russian Communist Party, said that he was justified in viewing the domestic and foreign situation of the Soviet optimistically. Recognition by a number of countries had undoubtedly consolidated the international position, but the problem of debts and claims was difficult. The Soviet earnestly desired to cultivate lasting ties with Britain. The chief aims of the Government were to regularize the home market and promote co-operation. There was no question of limiting the new economic policy or of abolishing private trade. Strengthening of co-operative societies was the only means of combatting private capital. Private capital now controlled 64 per cent. of home trade and the State 36 per cent. Russia during the present trade year had only exported 200,000,000 poods of grain, but in the coming year would export 400,000,000, as compared with 2,000,000,000 before the war.—Reuter.

Riga, May 25.

In a speech discussing the tasks of the Congress of the Russian Communist Party, M. Kameneff said that the party was in no danger from the activities of the intelligentsia and the spreading of their ideals. The party's proletarizing campaign was making such sweeping progress that it was unnecessary to institute any special clearing measures against the intelligentsia. Moreover, the non-Communist elements had already been removed.

The latest reports from Petrograd state that the Soviet authorities are not only depriving the intelligentsia of facilities for securing higher education by forbidding them to attend higher schools, but are expelling proletarian students who exhibit initial signs of a tendency towards non-Communist ideas, hoping thus to prevent anti-Communist intelligence from developing.

Alleged Economic Espionage

It is announced from Moscow that a mine-manager and engineer named Jacobson has been sentenced to death at Omsk on a charge of economic espionage. He had informed the former owners of the mine, residing in England, of the condition of their property.

Seventeen persons, including two women, have been sentenced to death at Jitomir.—Reuter.

Moscow, May 27.

M. Trotsky, in a subdued speech at the Communist Party Conference, affirmed his solidarity with the rest of the party. He said that he regarded himself as a private soldier, and discipline was necessary in the stand against their enemies. His former attitude was dictated by the bureaucracy's threat to enter the Communist party and separate it from the workers.

M. Uglanoff fiercely attacked M. Trotsky and said that he did not regard him as a private but as a commander. He declared that they looked to him for leadership and they could not have confidence in him if he only brought confusion in their ranks.

The Conference unanimously passed a resolution approving the policy of the Central Committee.—Reuter.

Bureaucracy's Threat to Communist Party

Riga, May 28.

A telegram from Moscow states that the only supporter of M. Trotsky's defence of the opposition at the Communist Congress was M. Preobrazhensky, who protested against the purging of the party, which, he said, should have come after the Congress. He said that the struggle with private capital, which had begun, was demanded by the opposition.—Reuter.

Kameneff on Russian Internal Commerce

Moscow, May 28.

M. Kameneff's report on internal commerce says that the crisis in 1923 has been succeeded by a period of development of commercial transactions. Thanks to the reform of the currency, the Government would no longer have recourse to inflation. The Government's main aim in internal commerce was consolidation of the co-operative societies, regulation of State markets and supply of articles cheaply to the peasants, thus combating the domination of the retail trade by private capital, the rights of which would remain unchanged.—Reuter.

THE ANGLO-SOVIET CONFERENCE

Wide Differences of Opinion as to Settlement of Pre-War Debts and Property Chaims: Britain Intending to Present Counter-Proposals: Russia's Plea of Crippled Finances

London, May 27.

A divergence of views with regard to the satisfaction of claims against Russia is revealed in the communiqué of to-day's proceedings of the Anglo-Soviet Conference. The British delegation declared that it was unable to accept the statement made by the Soviet delegates at the meeting on June 20 to the effect that Russia could not undertake to pay the pre-war debts in full, with back interest. The British delegates at the same time disclaimed any desire to be unreasonable and did not propose that the debts should be paid fully and immediately.

The Soviet delegates, emphasizing the crippled state of the finances of Russia, pointed out Russia's great efforts in the Great War and her subsequent trials, including famine, Respecting the money claims by private persons, the Soviet delegates suggested that both Governments should determine a lump sum for the settlement thereof, and that simultaneously Article 10 of the Trade Agreement of 1921 should be repealed and the property rights of the Soviet in Great Britain come into force.

Private Property Holders.

The Soviet delegates further proposed the postponement of the question of the claims arising from the nationalization of private property, in view of the belief that the negotiations proceeding with the former owners with regard to granting them concessions of the property would materialize satisfactorily.

The British delegates said that, although progress had been made towards a settlement of various questions, it could not be ignored that there were still rather wide differences of opinion on the subject of pre-war debts and property claims.

The British delegates would present counter-proposals to the Soviet for incorporation as articles in the proposed Treaty. It was insisted that the British Government was not adopting an uncompromising attitude, but was anxious to consider reasonable modifications. The present Government still entertained the goodwill to the Soviet Union, which was expressed on its assumption of power by the act of recognition of the Soviet.

The Soviet must remember that the British Government was not in a position to carry through extravagant measures. The British delegates believe that the Soviet Government would consult its own interests in endeavouring to meet the British view.

The Soviet representatives deprecated the pessimism with which it had been attempted to surround the Conference in some quarters, and insisted on Russia's inability to accept burdens which were incompatible with her resources.—Reuter.

Moscow, May 27.

M. Zinovieff, in a speech at the Communist Congress, declared that the payment of debts was an impossibility. Referring to the recent agitation within the party, he said that iron solidarity was a thousand times more urgently needed, while freedom of grouping was inadmissible.—Reuter.

Motion in the House of Lords to Conclude Negotiations as Soon as Possible

London, May 28.

The Earl of Mayo, moving for the immediate discontinuance of the Anglo-Soviet Conference in the House of Lords to-day, said that he considered that flirting with Bolshevism did not commend itself to the Empire.

Lord Parmoor, the Lord President of the Council, said that the Government hoped that the Conference would continue until an arrangement satisfactory to both countries was reached. He thought that there was no reason why this result should not be obtained, if outside partisans abstained from interference. The Government were endeavouring to speed up the negotiations, but there were a very large number of issues involved, several of which were of great importance. The Government regarded the attainment of agreement as most important to Europe.

Marquess Curzon declared that the Conference *communiqués* had been negative, ambiguous and obscure. He did not wish to be unfriendly and harsh, and therefore suggested a modification of the motion, expressing the opinion that the Conference should be brought to as early a conclusion as possible..

The House agreed to this modification.—Reuter.

RESIGNATION OF GERMAN CABINET

Due to Failure of Negotiations as to Coalition Between Nationalist and Middle Parties: Herr Marx Reconstructing the Ministry

Berlin, May 22.

Negotiations between the middle parties and the German National People's Party with regard to the formation of the Government have failed owing to the latter's insistence on their right to appoint the septuagenarian, Admiral von Tirpitz, the new Chancellor. The other parties refused to discuss a personal question of this nature until the policy of the future Government were settled, whereupon the negotiations broke down.—Reuter.

Berlin, May 26.

The Government has resigned.

Later.

President Ebert has accepted the resignation of the Government and has requested the Chancellor, Herr Marx, provisionally to carry on.

Later.

Obviously referring to the experts' report, the German Nationalists' reply to the Middle Parties admitted that a certain continuity of the policy of the resigning Government must be maintained, but "the Party cannot place German negotiators with tied hands in front of foreign countries." The Middle Parties responded by adhering to the policy of accepting the report as a whole, with reservations which the experts themselves made regarding the execution of the same.

May 27.

The resignation of the German Cabinet was due to the breakdown of the negotiations between the National and Middle parties for the formation of a coalition Government. The Nationalists to-day unexpectedly put forward Admiral von Tirpitz as their candidate for the Chancellorship, declaring that they would afterwards be prepared to discuss the prospective Government's home and foreign policy. Thereupon the leaders of the Middle parties promptly called upon President Ebert and tendered the resignation of the Government. There is reason to believe, however, that the resignation is only formal and it is expected that Herr Marx will reconstruct the Ministry with few changes and then submit its policy, especially with regard to the experts' report, to the new Reichstag, leaving the House to approve or reject it.

Extreme Nationalists' Programme

Later.

The Extreme Nationalists, who number 32 members in the new Reichstag, at a meeting last night formulated their programme, which demands, inter alia, the immediate election of a new President of the Republic, repeal of the law for the protection of the Republic, an amnesty for all who took part in the Munich and Kustrin revolts, the trial on a charge of treason of all who took part in the revolution of November 1918, the expulsion of all Jews who have entered the country since 1914 with partial confiscation of their property, and special legislation for the Jews.—Reuter.

An Uproar in the Reichstag

Berlin, May 27.

Entrance to the Reichstag was only possible by means of permits when the Reichstag re-assembled to-day, but this did not prevent tumultuous scenes within. The 50 Communist Deputies created pandemonium by clamouring for the release of their colleagues in gaol. When the uproar quieted down, a roll call was taken, but the din broke out again when General Von Ludendorff's name was reached. The General's supporters responded with cheers and shook their fists at their opponents. The General himself, who evidently expected the onslaught, merely leaned back in his seat and smiled at the Communists.

At the conclusion of the roll call the Communists submitted a motion demanding the release of the prisoners, in the course of which there was another outburst, coupled with the singing of the "Internationale," to which the other parties responded with "*Deutschland Uber Alles.*" The noise was so great that the President of the Reichstag put on his hat and walked out.—Reuter.

Berlin, May 28.

Herr Marx has agreed to form a Cabinet.—Reuter.

SOVIETS' BREACH WITH GERMANY

Warsaw, May 22.

The Soviet Legation here has ordered the local Soviet Trade Delegation to refrain from purchasing German goods. It appears that a similar order, doubtless due to the recent incident in Berlin, has been given to all other Soviet trade delegations.—Reuter.

Moscow, May 27.

Speaking at the Communist Congress to-day, M. Krassin urged that decisive measures should be taken in regard to the recent incident in Berlin. Commercial relations with Germany, he said, could not be resumed until satisfaction had been obtained.—Reuter.

AMERICA'S EXCLUSION OF JAPANESE

New Immigration Bill Signed by President Coolidge for Political Reasons Despite His Disapproval of Failure of Congress to Postpone Effective Date

Washington, May 26.

President Coolidge has signed the new Immigration Bill.

Despite the provision in the Bill making the exclusion of Japanese effective as from July 1, which was inserted in spite of the President's vigorous opposition, he decided to give his executive approval because of certain other considerations of which the chief was that, as the present Immigration Law expires on June 30, his veto might have made it necessary to rush through an emergency measure during the closing hours of the session of Congress. Such a step, the President felt, would not be practicable in view of the tangled legislative situation and the certainty that any emergency provision would be met by many attempts at amendment and would possibly be blocked altogether. As soon as he signed the Bill, however, the President began to prepare a statement expressing his disapproval at the failure of Congress to provide a longer delay in the date for making Japanese exclusion effective.

Later.

President Coolidge has issued a statement in which he says that, in signing the Immigration Bill, he heartily approves of its main features, put regrets the impossibility of severing therefrom the exclusion provision affecting Japanese. The President gladly recognizes that the enactment provision does not imply any change in the American sentiment of admiration and cordial friendship for the Japanese people, which will continue to have abundant manifestation, and says that the Bill rather expresses the determination of Congress to exercise its prerogative of controlling immigration by legislation instead of leaving it to international arrangements.

The President points out that the Bill makes many exceptions. But he is of opinion that it would have been much better and more effective if they had continued to invite the co-operation which Japan was ready to give and thus have avoided ground for misapprehension by unnecessary statutory enactment. In conclusion, he says that, if the exclusion provision had stood alone, he would have disapproved of it unhesitatingly, but the Bill was comprehensive and therefore he was compelled to consider it in its entirety and the imperative need of general legislation.—Reuter's American Service.

Special Deliberation by Japanese Cabinet

Tokio, May 27.

The Cabinet will sit in extraordinary session to-morrow to discuss final action with regard to the Immigration Bill, which it is generally believed, will take the form of a formal protest against the Bill on the ground of violation of the America-Japan Treaty of Commerce and Navigation.

It is expected here that Mr. Hanihara, the Japanese Ambassador in Washington, will now ask permission to resign.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Formal Protest Lodged by Cabinet

Tokio, May 27.

In an interview with press representatives to-day, Baron Matsui, Minister of Foreign Affairs, with reference to the passage of the U. S. Immigration Bill, said, in part:—

That the new Immigration Bill of the United States is about to be put in force as from July 1 as a result of the President's signature is to be greatly regretted. The Imperial Government of Japan has decided to hold an extraordinary Cabinet meeting to-morrow, when some concrete counter-measures will be decided upon. It is the intention of the Japanese Government on the one hand to ask for the American Government's reflexion, and to point out the unreasonableness of such a law in view of the Japanese-American treaty of commerce and navigation, and on the other hand to study measures to be taken in connexion with the Gentlemen's Agreement. The Japanese Government will, as soon as some concrete counter-measures have been decided upon, give telegraphic instructions to Mr. Hanihara, Japanese Ambassador in Washington, requesting him to lodge a strong protest with the American Government. It is expected that the Japanese Ambassador will return home when all his other business has been settled.—"Eastern News Agency.

Tokio, May 28.

The Cabinet to-day decided to file a protest against the immigration legislation on the ground that it was in violation of the "Gentlemen's Agreement" as well as the America-Japanese Treaty.

It was further decided to allow Mr. Hanihara, Japanese Ambassador in Washington, to return home.

The President's signature to the Immigration Bill evoked again a storm of criticism not only against America but also against the Government's alleged diplomatic failure. Though signature was generally considered inevitable in view of America's domestic political situation, the news that it had been done was received with very deep disappointment.

The "*Jiji*" voices alarm as to possible grave consequences unless prudence and sincerity characterise the efforts of both nations for wise adjustment and counsels for Japan "patience and ceaseless appeal to the American conscience."

On the other hand, other papers declare that lodging protests is sheer waste of time. Thus the "*Nichi Nichi*," while appreciating President Coolidge's efforts for Japan, asserts that it is no use resorting to arguments and that it is time for Japan to do something and act with very firm resolution if she thinks she has any honour to protect.

The "*Yamato*," in a more bellicose vein, declares that the inevitable impression of Japan must be that America does not regard the feelings of others seeing that she could have reached the same ends without hurting anyone. The journal declares that Japan has never been faced with a more serious crisis in her history, justifying her protecting her prestige at all costs.

Later.

Japan's protest against the Immigration Law, mentioned earlier, has been sent to America.

The Japanese Government deeply regretted the enactment of the exclusion provision in the Immigration Law in spite of its frequent representations since the introduction of the Bill into the House last December and in spite of "vigorous repeated endeavours on the part of the President and Secretary of State Hughes to prevent inclusion of the discriminatory provision," says Baron Matsui, the Foreign Minister, in his official statement. "The Japanese Government remain unshaken in their opposition against the discriminatory legislation against Japanese and have instructed their Ambassador in Washington to lodge a solemn protest with the American Government in that connexion."

Representatives of the two Houses and the Diet to-day passed a resolution strongly protesting against the exclusion legislation and pledging their best effort for restoration of amity of the two nations by effecting withdrawal of the measure which, it is believed, would clearly represent the wishes of the general body of public opinion in America.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

EFFECT OF THE NEW ACT

* It would be unwise yet to comment on the effect of the passing of the Immigration Bill, for the best informed people out here cannot give a definite statement regarding its provisions. It has been considerably altered since first brought up, and, so far as can be ascertained, a draft as finally amended is not available here. It is proverbial that a coach and four can be driven through any Act and the President, according to one of the messages above, draws attention to the fact that many exceptions are made.

So far as can be ascertained the Act bars the immigration of all people not qualified to take out American naturalization papers, which means any coloured people except those native to the country. Thus, many other races are affected besides the Japanese, but it is understood that practically all others already are covered by other laws or agreements. The Japanese, therefore, will be the only ones particularly affected by this new Act. As no law of the United States is retro-active, Japanese already domiciled in the United States will not be required to leave, but no others will be admitted, unless, as presumably is the case, exceptions are made for privileged sections, such as students, authorized delegations, etc. The Act will come into force on July 1, at the end of the fiscal year.

The Gentlemen's Agreement, which has been so freely referred to in the debates over the new Act, was a mystery to the man in the street until quite lately, as its terms had been kept secret. It appears to have been a sort of compromise in the matter, Japan undertaking not to permit the immigration of large forces of labourers, not only into the United States, but also all the adjacent countries, such as the Philippines and Canada, and also to impose limitations upon the number of passports issued to any class of Japanese for travel to the United States. There was, however, nothing to enforce such restriction. —Ed.

THE ANGLO-TURKISH NEGOTIATIONS

Deadlock as to Mosul: Turks' Demand for Unmodified Frontier Line

Constantinople, May 26.

The Anglo-Turkish negotiations, proceeding here since May 20 relative to the disputed territory of Mosul which is at present incorporated in Iraq, have reached a deadlock.

Fethi Bey, on behalf of Turkey, demands the rendition of the whole district, while Sir Percy Scott, on behalf of Britain, insists on the present frontier with slight modifications. The speeches at the four meetings held were practically a repetition of the old arguments exhausted at Lausanne, and, in spite of the friendly atmosphere prevailing, no progress has been made, as shown by the fact that a map handed to Sir Percy Scott yesterday morning merely established the frontier-line which the Turks claim in an unmodified form.

It is understood that Sir Percy Cox has asked the Government for instructions and meanwhile no fresh meeting has been arranged. Failure to agree will mean reference to the Council of the League of Nations, as provided in the Lausanne Treaty, which, it is believed, the Turks are anxious to avoid.—Reuter.

LAUSANNE BLUNDERS

Canada Objecting to Sign Treaty With Turks When Not Asked to Conference

London, May 27.

A singular Imperial problem is revealed by the publication of the much-discussed correspondence between the Colonial Office and the Canadian Government relative to the Treaty of Lausanne.

It shows that, in contrast to the treaties with Germany, Austria and Bulgaria, which were signed by the representatives of the Dominions, Canada objected to appending her signature to this treaty, contending that the procedure adopted at Lausanne differed from that adopted in negotiating the treaties abovementioned, and, as no invitation had been extended to Canada to participate in the Lausanne Conference, she could not have been believed to have as direct and immediate interest in the negotiations with Turkey as she had in the Conferences at Versailles and Washington.

It was then agreed that the Treaty of Lausanne should be signed only by the British plenipotentiaries, to which Australia, New Zealand and South Africa agreed. Canada was subsequently asked to concur in ratification of the Treaty. She replied on March 24 that, on the foregoing grounds, she could not recommend the Canadian Parliament to approve the Treaty and, without Parliamentary approval, she was not warranted in concurring in ratification. Her Ministers, however, "will not take exception to such course as His Majesty's Government may deem advisable to recommend."—Reuter.

FLIGHT OVER NORTH PACIFIC

American Aviators' Description of the Terrible Battle with Snow and Wind: Groping Through Dark: Hopes of Now Making up Lost Times

Tokio, May 22.

With their longest day's flight of their journey thus far behind them the American aviators are resting at Kasumigaura to-night. Between dawn and dusk they covered 720 miles, only stopping briefly at Minato for fuel.

Leaving the sub-Arctic chill of the Kuriles in the grey of dawn, late this afternoon their pontoons broke the placid surface of the beautiful lagoon in the gracious sunshine of Japan's May-time. Thousands of watchers along the waterfront raised cheers when the planes appeared as tiny specks in the distant afternoon haze. The landing was perfect. Japanese planes overhead, day rockets and other fireworks added to the picture.

The men and the planes are in excellent condition, although the flyers are weary and showing the strain of the last week's battle with the elements. They are remaining at Kasumigaura for a week, changing the engines and overhauling. The men are coming on Saturday to Tokio, where a series of festivities is scheduled.

To-day's flight was made under good weather conditions. They twice encountered fogs, which, however, were not serious.

Among those present to greet the flyers were Lieut. Gen. Yasumitsu, Chief of Army Aviation, who congratulated them in the name of the Army. The American Military and Naval Attachés were also present.

Since their start the aviators have made 6,575 miles in 90 hours flying time.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, May 24.

"We knew that the trans-Pacific leg of our flight would be the worst part of our journey, but it was 10 times worse than we had expected, with its unceasing battle against the most terrible weather and continuous effort to preserve the planes from damage."

Thus the airman, Lieutenant Lowell Smith, briefly summed up the trip so far accomplished. He explained that the direction from east to west was more difficult, because it was contrary to the direction of the storms which, he said, had handicapped the planes by an average of 300 miles a day.

Lieutenant Smith declared that Squadron-Leader MacLaren would have an advantage in this respect, but, still, for all that, he did not envy him his experiences across the Pacific.

No Route for Commerce.

The leader of the American aviators said that he did not believe that the Northern Pacific route was practicable for commercial flying with the present type of machines, though he paid a tribute to the Douglas planes, which have arrived in splendid condition, as well as the Liberty motors, which he declared were "the finest in the world."

Lieutenant Smith described the jump to Sitkase as the worst section of the flight. They had had to battle against snow and wind throughout and had been unable to see the water, guiding their planes by following the line of breakers. Attu he declared to be the bleakest place of all, with the worst weather.

"From the air this section of the world presents a weird picture; all white and blue snow-covered islands and deep blue sea." He did not see any icebergs but passed over many large glaciers.

The Bolshevik Boor.

Lieutenant Smith narrated how when riding out a snow storm on May 16 on the waters off Rehring Island, the Russian authorities put out from the shore and informed the airmen that they were not allowed to land and must leave Russian territorial waters immediately, because, presumably, they were not welcome as Russia and America had no treaty relations. Lieutenant Smith replied that he was not there for pleasure and that he would be mighty glad to leave as soon as possible. That night the airmen rode out the storm in darkness. They were six hours on board their planes, and hopped off at eight o'clock the next day for Paramushiru, which, with the U. S. S. Ford, was one of the most welcome sights he had ever seen.

The leader paid a very generous tribute to the "splendid courage and fortitude of his companions, each of whom has given everything he had in this enterprise, in which all are brothers." He deplored the accident which had robbed them of Major Martin's leadership.

Warm Welcome in Japan.

He expressed very warm appreciation of the aviators' reception in Japan and the co-operation of the military and naval authorities as a great contributing factor to their success, as well as the lavish hospitality and accommodation at Kasumigaura, where everything had been sidetracked for their convenience. He described the joy of flying down the Japanese coast with its scenic beauties.

Lieutenant Smith expressed confidence that they would succeed in circling the world for, after the experience they had already gone through, "the rest of the trip should by comparison be easy sailing."

This morning the American airmen, who are curtailing their stay here in order to attempt to make up time, had left Kasumigaura for Tokio, where for the next two days they will be busily occupied in a series of congratulatory receptions and entertainments. To-day, after paying offical calls, the aviators will be the guests of the War Minister, General Ugaki, at luncheon. This evening they will attend a reception and ball, while to-morrow they will be the guests at a function at the University and a dinner by the Chief of the Aviation Section of the War Office. After the dinner, they will return to Kasumigaura. While they are here, they will be the recipients of commemorative tokens of their achievement in first crossing the Pacific by air.

Present Plans Uncertain

The airmen's future plans are uncertain until the new motors are tried out, but it is expected that they will hop off for Kushimoto on Wednesday or Thursday.

Later.

The luncheon, given in honour of the airmen by the War Minister, was a brilliant affair and was attended by Members of the Cabinet, the highest naval and military officers, and other prominent personages. General Ugaki and the American Ambassador, Mr. Woods, paid tributes to the courage and endurance of the airmen. General Ugaki said that their feat was unparalleled in history, and by it Japan had greatly benefitted in the stimulation of her own aeronautic enterprise. The visit further strengthened the ties forged by Commander Perry 70 years previously.

Mr. Woods declared that the bridging of the Pacific by air was instinct with hope for the future. The airmen in overcoming the most formidable obstacles has set an example to those who were at present attempting to conquer the difficulties now besetting America and Japan.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, May 29.

The American airmen are expecting, weather permitting, to hop off from Kasumigaura on Saturday, making Kagoshima the same day, only stopping at Kushimoto to refuel.

They are at present busy testing out new engines and effecting necessary repairs.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MACLAREN'S BAD LUCK

Crash in Akyab Harbour: Machine Badly Injured

Rangoon, May 24.

A telegram from Akyab states that Squadron-Leader MacLaren started for Rangoon this morning but was forced to land in the harbour. His machine was not seriously damaged.

Later.

A later message from Akyab reports that Squadron-Leader MacLaren crashed in the Harbour and that his machine is badly damaged.—Reuter.

Rangoon, May 25.

A telegram from Akyab states that none of the aviators were injured when Squadron-Leader MacLaren crashed.—Reuter.

U. S. Navy's Offer of Help to Convey New Plane

Tokio, May 26.

Pending more complete details of the damage done to the British plane at Akyab, Colonel Broome has arranged tentative plans to rush a complete break-down plane from Hakodate to Akyab. It was first intended to assemble the plane at Hakodate and fly to Akyab, but this was disregarded when Commander Abbott of the 43rd United States Destroyer Division, on learning of MacLaren's mishap, offered to Colonel Broome the use of an American destroyer to transport the plane from Hakodate at full speed as far as Hongkong. The offer is contingent on the approval of the Admiral of the Asiatic Fleet, which is probable.

Colonel Broome accepted the offer gratefully and communicated the details to the British Admiral and is now awaiting a reply. Approximately two weeks are required for the plane to reach Akyab. Colonel Broome told Reuter's representative that Commander Abbott's offer exemplifies sportsmanship of the highest type. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

Machine Waterlogged Owing to Heavy Rain

Akyab, May 26.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren says that the mishap to his machine was due to its being water-logged owing to the heavy rains at Akyab. The machine, refusing to stay in the air, dropped and was completely wrecked. It will be abandoned. His plans are uncertain, but he has cabled to England asking that a spare machine should be sent from Tokio. Meanwhile, he will probably remain at Akyab.—Reuter.

U. S. Navy's Offer Accepted

Tokio, May 27.

Colonel Broome has accepted the American offer to transport an aeroplane to Akyab for the use of Squadron-Leader MacLaren. The destroyer John Paul Jones will leave for Hakodate immediately to pick up the aeroplane. The destroyer will proceed to Hongkong, where the aeroplane will be trans-shipped to another destroyer for Akyab or any other designated place. It is expected that the fliers will have the aeroplane in 15 days. Mr. Davis, of Messrs. Vickers Ld., who is now in Hakodate, will accompany the machine.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, May 29.

It is reported from Hakodate that the American destroyer with the British plane for Squadron-Leader MacLaren will leave for Hongkong to-night. The destroyer will arrive at Hongkong on Monday morning.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ALL-INDIA MOSLEM LEAGUE REVIVED

Demand for Provincial Autonomy: Need for Hindu and Moslem Co-operation

Lahore, May 25.

The All-India Moslem League, which had suspended its activities for the last few years, has been revived. Mr. Jinnah, a Bombay barrister, presiding at a large meeting of the League here to-day, deplored the dissension between Hindus and Moslems in India, especially in the Punjab. He declared that, if Hindus and Moslems only co-operated wholeheartedly, India would be able to force the British Parliament to grant her a responsible Government.

Mr. Jinnah dissociated herself from the Swarajist policy of wanton destruction, but declared that, if the British Government did not respond satisfactorily to the national demand, they must as a last resort make government through the elected Councils impossible. He urged the scrapping of the existing Constitution and the immediate grant of provincial autonomy, otherwise the results would be dangerous.—Reuter.

Framing a Constitution

Lahore, May 26.

The Moslem League has concluded its session after passing a resolution urging the continuance of communal representation to overhaul the Government of India Act with a view to early attainment of Swaraj. The League has appointed a committee to frame a constitution in consultation with other communities and has appealed to Hindus and Moslems to take steps to settle communal differences and abstain from aggressive activities. —Reuter.

THROWING AWAY INDIA

Disruption of Civil Service by Elimination of British Now Advocated

London, May 27.

A big step forward in the direction of the Indianization of the superior Civil Services in India is recommended in the report of the Royal Commission, presided over by Viscount Lee, which has been touring India. The Commission urges that the Indian Civil Service should comprise 60 per cent. of Indians, compared with 39 per cent. as at present, the Police Service 50 per cent. instead of 33 per cent., the Forest Service 75 per cent. and the Engineers 60 per cent. The Commission also recommends improvements in pay, pensions and concessions in regard to passages home for officers and wives.

The Commission further recommends that the educational, agricultural and other services shall henceforth be recruited and controlled by the local Governments instead of by the Secretary of State.—Reuter.

Condemned Unanimously by Native Press

Simla, May 28.

Service circles and the Anglo-Indian press express the opinion that the report of the Royal Commission, presided over by Viscount Lee, favouring the Indianisation of the superior Civil Service in India, offers a satisfactory solution of the question of the position of the Services, but doubt the success of the experiment of recruiting for the Services in the provinces by Indian Ministers and their rapid Indianisation.

The Indian press unanimously condemns the report on the ground that it gives overwhelming and uncalled for concessions to the Services. Indian Members of the Legislative Assembly are also hostile. They propose to move a resolution in this connexion.—Reuter.

ITALY FOR PEACE WITH DIGNITY

King's Opening of Parliament: Arms not to be Laid Aside While Europe is Armed

Rome, May 24.

The King, accompanied by the Queen and the Royal Family, today opened Parliament in the presence of Signor Mussolini and the members of his Cabinet, Senators and Deputies and members of the Diplomatic Body.

In the speech from the Throne, His Majesty said that the tasks begun by the Government must be continued determinedly. Juridical and administrative reforms were necessary. Military problems must be solved according to the economic situation of the country and the demands of foreign policy.

Italy was unable to remain unarmed among armed nations. She was unable to run the great risk of being taken unawares.

Italy's foreign policy must be peace with dignity. Italy was ready to direct all her energies towards reaching an equitable solution of the reparations questions, which would eliminate threatening dangers, and she was ready to make sacrifices in order that peace might be guaranteed provided that her legitimate fundamental interests were safeguarded.—Reuter.

SIMLA, May 24.—The Government announces the appointment of a committee of officials and non-officials to conduct an inquiry into working reforms.—Reuter.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST M. MILLERAND

Extremists in French Chamber Clamouring for President to Resign Office

Paris, May 27.

The campaign against President Millerand, which was at first considered an after-the-elections cliff, is now regarded very seriously.

Not only the Socialists but all the more extreme followers of the respective Premier, M. Herriot, are clamouring for the resignation of the President. The four principal Radical-Socialist organs are daily imperiously calling for a change at the Elysée, though there is reason to believe that M. Herriot and the more moderate Radicals deprecate the campaign, seeing that a Presidential crisis, following upon the Ministerial crisis, would be calculated not only to produce political disruption at Home but to delay the settlement of the Reparations question and prolong the state of uncertainty in Europe.—Reuter.

M. Poincare's Rallying Call

Paris, May 28.

A problem of the first magnitude which is at present transcending that of the personnel of the new Ministry itself, is the fate of President Millerand, whose resignation is demanded by the Left parties. They urge that the President's abdication should be forced by the refusal of any Left leader to accept the Premiership from his hands, while the Right and Centre parties are equally insistent that the President's consitutional duty is to remain at his post.

Meanwhile the last has by no means been heard of M. Poincaré, whose recent speeches have been in the nature of a rallying call to his supporters to close their ranks and form an Opposition phalanx which he intends to lead.—Reuter.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH ENTENTE

Publication of Correspondence Between M. Poincare and British Premier

London, May 28.

The Foreign Office to-day issued the correspondence which was exchanged between Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and M. Poincaré at the middle of the month with reference to the proposed visit of the French Premier to Chequers, which was later cancelled in consequence of French political circumstances.

The letters were framed in exceedingly cordial terms.

Mr. MacDonald in his first letter, dated May 14, asked if, in view of the uncertain political situation then existing, it were not possible to pursue an exploration of the problems arising from the Dawes Report, at least tentatively for the time being, his object being to save time.

M. Poincaré's reply, dated May 15, definitely declared the impending resignation of his Cabinet, but expressed the opinion that the conversations could quite well continue in a preliminary form.

In the meantime, the French Premier had written a long letter on May 14, which crossed Mr. MacDonald's, expressing his belief, from the accounts he had received from the Belgian Ministers of their conversations with Mr. MacDonald, that there was every ground for hoping that a final agreement could be reached without difficulty. M. Poincaré also recapitulated his Government's attitude in respect of the Dawes Report, as already known. "You were good enough to tell MM. Theunis and Hymans that in the event of a breach of the undertakings contracted by her, Germany would find herself confronted by England, Belgium and France inflexibly united as they were during the war. It seemed to you to be difficult, however, to foresee at the present moment the nature of the guarantees which in such an eventuality we might be led to take by common agreement." The letter added that there did not seem to be any doubt that Germany was deliberately violating the stipulations of the Treaty of Versailles and reconstituting her war material and military formations.—Reuter.

FRENCH PREMIER'S "SWAN SONG"

M. Poincare's Defence of his Foreign Policy and the Ruhr Occupation

Paris, May 26.

'ouncils-General, which are ...istrative councils of the ...ents, met throughout ... to-day. The Prime Minis... Poincaré, presiding over the ...-General of the department Meuse, delivered an address ...can be regarded as the ...ng of his Premiership.

...incaré said that the recent ... were an expression of dis... with the dearness of living ... no way a disavowal of his ... policy, which his successors ... bound to continue. M. Poin...aré called on his supporters to give ... Government fair play, but ...zealously to watch for the mainten...ce of essential national interests ...reparations, security, budgetary ...alance and individual liberties). ...e defended the occupation of the ...Ruhr, saying that he would have ...much preferred a joint Allied in...stead of a Franco-Belgian seizure ...of guarantees, but Viscount Hard...inge, the then British Ambassador ...in Paris, wrote him on December ...20, 1922, that British opinion did ...not allow the British Government ...to adopt such a solution.

...question of security was ... more important to France ...than the question of reparations. ...The situation to-day was very ...grave. Germany undoubtedly was ...deliberately violating the Treaty ...and rebuilding war material and ...military formations. M. Poincaré ...had communicated this information ...to the Allies. France must remain ...on her guard. He would fight any ...Government showing weakness in ...this respect.—Reuter.

NEW CANDIDATE FOR U. S. PRESIDENCY

Senator La Follette Willing to be Nominated Independently of Other Parties

Washington, May 28.

Senator La Follette has announced his willingness to run independently for the Presidency, if neither of the two great parties at the coming Conventions shows ability and willingness to purge itself of the long domination of evil influences. At the same time he denounces the Communists, whom he charges with seeking to obtain control of the Farmer and Labour Progressive Convention meeting at St. Paul on June 27.—Reuter's American Service.

* The Senator from Wisconsin has always been a big factor in American politics, not because he was elected from one of the populous States like New York, Pennsylvania or California, but by reason of his unadulterated support of measures which to his mind should help the common people, rather than the corporations. As a proponent of the rights of the populace in his own State as far back as 1900, he gave the ordinary voter such a feeling of confidence by his initiation of bills designed to negate what seemed rash measures by the railroads, that they elected him Governor after he had served many terms in the State Legislature. This office he filled for over five years, being re-elected twice and then resigned upon going to Washington as U. S. Senator in 1905. His constituents, the farmers and workers (solid) in the cities, have returned him to that office three times since and now he is in his 19th year in that body. Even his pro-German attitude before America entered the War could not kill his popularity in Wisconsin.

La Follette has had presidential aspirations before and in 1908, the year in which William Howard Taft received the Republican nomination and was later elected to the Chair, La Follette was given 25 votes in the Republican Convention. This year he was nominated in the Wisconsin primaries, but telegraphic reports fail to state that he has further support in other parts of the country. In view of the assertion by the Coolidge managers that the President now has the definite support of 825 delegates (Republican) at the Cleveland Convention to be held next month (but 556 are necessary for the nomination) La Follette comes out with the above announcement.

Many politicians at Home consider this but a threat to force the Republicans to incorporate into their official platform under which Coolidge (almost certainly) will run in November, planks the purpose of which will be to give farmers further relief in the nature of credits, or assistance in general to the Middle States.—Ed.

"THE DEATH RAY"

Briton's Invention Probably Open to Purchase by Foreign Powers

London, May 22.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. W. Leach, the Under-Secretary of State for Air, told questioners that his attention had been called to claims made for an invention which was known as "the death ray" and that the Air Ministry was in touch with the inventor, Mr. Grindell Matthews, but it was not advisable at present to make a full statement concerning this. He could not answer an inquiry if the invention was first offered to the British Government.

May 23.

Considerable significance is attached to Mr. W. Leach's reply in the House of Commons yesterday with regard to the "death ray," because Mr. Grindell Matthews is at present in France, being civically welcomed by Lyons, where a French company has placed a laboratory at his disposal. It is stated that the company has offered to purchase all Mr. Matthews's inventions, including the death-ray, which is reputed to kill people, explode ammunition, and disable an aeroplane motor at a distance of several miles. He has also invented means of controlling submarines by wireless, which were successfully demonstrated during the war. Mr. Matthews's journey to France provoked an outcry in the British press against allowing possibly valuable warlike inventions to go abroad.

Later.

Mr. Grindell Matthews, the inventor of "the death ray," is returning to London for a further interview with a Government agent.—Reuter.

Demonstration Witnessed by Government Officials

London, May 26.

Representatives of the Government to-day witnessed a private demonstration of Mr. Grindell Matthews's so-called "death-ray" in the latter's laboratory. A representative of Mr. Matthews told a pressman that they had delivered what was tantamount to an ultimatum. If a satisfactory reply were not received to-morrow, Mr. Matthews on Wednesday would fly to Paris, where a contract was awaiting his signature.

Later.

It was stated at the Air Ministry to-night that Mr. Grindell Matthews gave certain demonstrations to representatives of the Admiralty, the War Office and the Air Ministry to-day and that as a result proposals for a simple but more conclusive test of the apparatus had been made to Mr. Matthews.

Going to France

May 27.

Mr. Grindell Mattews declared in an interview that he had no alternative but reluctantly to reject the offer of the Air Ministry. He said that he could not wait longer, and was going to Paris to-day.—Reuter.

Claim by Other Parties to a Controlling Interest in Invention

London, May 27.

As the aeroplane which was taking Mr. Grindell Matthews, the inventor of the so-called "death ray," to France was departing, the solicitor and one of the parties to an action in the High Court dashed up to the Croydon Aerodrome in a motor-car just too late to inform Mr. Matthews of an interim injunction, which Mr. Justice Greer had granted one hour previously, preventing him from selling or contracting to sell his invention without the consent of three parties, who claim that they are entitled to a 52 per cent. ownership in the invention.

Failing an undertaking from the French company which is negotiating to purchase the invention, to await the result of the proceedings, action will be taken in the French Courts to protect the invention till a new or revised offer has been made by the British Government to Mr. Matthews.

An official at the Air Ministry stated that numerous inventors are making claims to similar rays.

Demonstration not Decisive

Later.

The Air Ministry in a statement says that it had offered Mr. Grindell Matthews a number of opportunities since last February to give a demonstration of his apparatus, but he did not make arrangements until interviewed by Air Vice-Marshal Sir Geoffrey Salmond, Director-General of Supply and Research at the Air Ministry, on Saturday last. The demonstration, actually proposed by the inventor and shown yesterday, consisted of lighting an electric lamp and stopping a small motor-cycle engine by a ray from a distance of 15 yards. The inventor provided and arranged all the apparatus. The representatives of the Department were shown nothing to bear out the press statements with regard to the possibilities of the invention and it was impossible to form any definite opinion with regard to the value of the device.

Mr. Matthews was, accordingly, offered an immediate opportunity to demonstrate stopping a small petrol motor provided by the Government. He was not asked to disclose any information regarding the rays and he was to be paid £1,000 immediately if the test were successful, the only condition being that he should allow the Government a fortnight in which to consider a basis for further financial negotiations for the purchase and development of the invention. The statement says in conclusion that Mr. Matthews refused the offer.—Reuter.

More Questions in the House of Commons

London, May 28.

The question of the so-called "death ray" was raised in the House of Commons to-day. Replying to Commander J. M. Kenworthy, Liberal Member for Kingston-upon-Hull, Mr. W. Leach, Under-Secretary of State for Air, emphasized that Mr. Grindell Matthews had been offered and had refused the opportunity to demonstrate his invention under conditions which would satisfy a scientist or business men. Every facility had been offered to him to give a demonstration which would be satisfactory to himself and to the Services.

The Departments had been placed in a difficult position in dealing with Mr. Matthews, partly owing to the vigorous press campaign which was being conducted on his behalf (Opposition cheers) and because it was not the first occasion on which he had submitted schemes for which extravagant claims had been made. Consequently, the Departments had been unable to accept Mr. Matthews's statement in regard to his invention without a scrutiny which, apparently, he was not prepared to face.—Reuter.

GERMAN MILITARY ACTIVITIES

Question in House of Commons as to Alarmist Reports

London, May 26.

Alarmist reports of German military activities were mentioned in the House of Commons to-day, when Sir Frederick Hall, Conservative Member for Camberwell, asked whether the German military forces now exceeded the strength allowed by the Treaty of Versailles.

Mr. J. R. Clynes, the Lord Privy Seal, replied that to the best of his information the answer was in the negative, as far as regular German military forces were concerned, but the Government were far from satisfied concerning this.—Reuter.

WASHINGTON, May 26.—The House of Representatives has adopted the Tax Bill.—Reuter's American Service.

LONDON, May 23.—Major-Gen. Sir T. Fraser has been appointed General Officer Commanding in Malaya.—Reuter.

BY-ELECTIONS IN ENGLAND

Labour Gain at Liverpool: Conservative Again Returned at Glasgow

London, May 22.

The West Toxteth (Liverpool) by-election, caused by the resignation of Sir R. P. Houston (Conservative), has resulted in a Labour, gain, the voting being as follows:—

Mr. Gibbins (Labour)..... 15,505
Mr. White (Conservative).. 13,034
—Reuter.

London, May 24.

The by-election at Kelvingrove (Glasgow), owing to the death of the sitting Member, Mr. W. Hutchison (Conservative), resulted as follows:—

Captain W. E. Elliot (Conservative) 15,483
Sir J. W. Pratt (Liberal) .. 1,372
Mr. A. Ferguson (Labour).. 11,167
—Reuter.

THE LENINGRAD TRIAL

Seventeen of the Accused Sentenced to Death: Others to Imprisonment

Moscow, May 25.

The sensational trial has concluded of a number of Judges, Examining Magistrates and members of the Revolutionary Tribunal, by the Supreme Court at Leningrad, on charges of accepting bribes from keepers of houses of ill-fame, blackmail, extortion, and illegal release of prisoners. Seventeen have been sentenced to death, seven to 10 years' imprisonment, two to five years' and eight to three years' imprisonment, while two have been exiled to the Narim Province.—Reuter.

Death Sentences Suspended

Moscow, May 27.

The Central Executive of the Soviet has telegraphed to Leningrad ordering the suspension of the death sentences passed on June 25 on seventeen Judges and others for accepting bribes from keepers of houses of ill-fame, blackmail, extortion and illegal release of prisoners.—Reuter.

THE BODY OF KARL MARX

Soviet Anxious to Remove It to Moscow: Marx's Anti-Bolshevik Progeny

London, May 24.

According to the "Daily Express," the Soviet Delegation in London has petitioned the Home Office for permission to remove to Moscow the body of Karl Marx in Highgate Cemetery, London.

It is doubtful, however, whether the Home Office has power to grant the request since the grave is the property of descendants of Marx the principal of whom incidentally is a French Socialist who is an anti-Bolshevik.—Reuter.

SOVIET BUDGET DEFICIT

Gold Rls. 400,000,000: Remunerative Expenditure Cut Down But Not the Military

Riga, May 23.

M. Rykoff, in a report on the financial position, says that the Budget deficit has increased to 400,000,000 gold roubles.

The Government has decided radically to reduce agricultural and industrial credits, but further reduction of military expenditure would be impossible.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party has issued an appeal to everybody to assist to promote the new society of chemical defence founded by M. Trotzky.—Reuter.

ANNUAL FAIR AT BAKU

Moscow, May 25.

The annual Fair at Baku opened to-day. Five thousand tons of goods have arrived, as compared with 400 last year. Numbers of Persian and Turkish merchants are attending the Fair.—Reuter.

AIRSHIPS FOR BRITAIN

Additional Expenditure: Scheme of Three Years' Building Programme Forecast

May 23.

A supplementary estimate of £350,000 in connexion with the Government's airship scheme has been issued of which £150,000 are for airships and £200,000 as an initial provision for a programme of airship development extending to three years.

The total expenditure for the three years has been provisionally estimated at not to exceed £1,350,000 gross and £1,200,000 net.—Reuter.

British Government's Contract with Airship Guarantee Company

London, May 27.

The draft contract with the Airship Guarantee Co., in connexion with the Government's intention to initiate a comprehensive programme of lighter-than-air research and experiment, provides for the construction of an airship conforming to the requirements of the Air Ministry on the principles of airworthiness laid down by the Aeronautical Research Committee. The prescribed trials will include tests in Britain and a voyage to India.

The price of the airship will be £300,000, of which £100,000 will be payable immediately the contract is signed. A further initial payment of £50,000 will be made towards the contractors' capital expenditure. The sum £250,000 will be repaid if the ship, before the flight trials are held, fails to satisfy certain vital conditions. Should, however, the ship satisfy these, but not carry out the flight trials successfully, the remaining £50,000 will be withheld wholly or partly, according as the performance approximates the requirements. The company may subsequently repurchase the airship for use on an approved British airship transport service at £150,000.—Reuter.

Government Estimates Passed in Commons

London, May 28.

In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Wm. Leach, Under-Secretary for Air, moving the Committee Stage of the supplementary estimate of £350,000 in connexion with the Government's airship scheme, said that the prospect of reaching India in five days and Australia in 10 to 12 days justified the taking of a few risks (cheers). If the scheme were successful, he was confident that it would have tremendous possibilities. Three years was the outside period expected to elapse before they would be able to make the journey to India, but he was confident that it would be less.

The Government proposed to begin research at Cardington and to proceed at the earliest possible moment with the building of an airship of five million cubic feet capacity. He was not authorized to say that the Government intended to run a passenger service to India, but they purposed first giving contractors the option of doing it themselves.

The vote was agreed to.—Reuter.

OBITUARY

Mr. Bower Ismay

London, May 26.

The death of the shipping magnate and racehorse owner, Mr. Bower Ismay, from encephalitis lethargica, commonly called sleeping sickness, has freshly drawn attention to the recent alarming spread of this disease in Great Britain.

There have been 280 cases reported weekly this month, and 2,500 cases since January 1 last, compared with an annual average of 839. The mortality is between 12 and 21 per cent. Official and other researches have so far failed to discover the cause of the disease.—Reuter.

Mr. Victor Herbert

New York, May 26.

Mr. Victor Herbert, the conductor and composer, died to-day at the age of 65.

Mr. Herbert was born in Dublin and was a grandson of Samuel Lover, the creator of "Handy

Andy." He received his musical education in Germany and first came to prominence as principal violencellist in the Court Orchestra at Stuttcart. Before coming to the United States he was well-known throughout Europe as a concert performer. He has been connected in the United States with many orchestras as soloist and conductor. At the time of his death he was conducting "Victor Herbert's New York Orchestra." Amongst his compositions are a number of comic operas, compositions for orchestra, and songs.—Reuter's American Service.

M. Paul Cambon

Paris, May 29.

The death is announced of M. Paul Cambon at the age of 81.—Reuter.

The late M. Cambon was French Ambassador to the Court of St. James from 1898 to 1920.

Born in 1843 and entering upon a legal career, the late Pierre Paul Cambon became successively secretary of a prefecture and prefect. In 1882 he exchanged into the diplomatic service, his first appointment being at Tunis as French plenipotentiary. He next served at Madrid and Constantinople, coming to London to represent France at the Court of St. James's in 1898. He was a popular figure in London, a tried friend of King Edward's and had a most distinguished diplomatic career. He received the Grand Cross of the Legion d'Honneur, and was a D.C.L., LL.D. Camb., Oxon., Edin.

TAXATION OF FOREIGN IMPORTS IN CHINA

Breach of Treaty Obligations: Need for Prompt and Effective Action

London, May 26.

The "Times" City Correspondent in notes dealing with the serious concern of British houses trading in the East at the provincial taxation of foreign imports to China in defiance of treaty obligations, declares that the evil calls for redress.

Referring to the suggestion that the Legations should assist the Peking Government to maintain the treaties by recognizing Chêkiang's declaration of independence as a justification for indulging in fiscal retaliation against her, the "Times" remarks that action of this sort proved effectual a few years ago at Canton when that province attempted to flout the authority of the Central Government, but, whatever course is adopted, the need for prompt and effective action cannot be gainsaid. There are more than enough artificial barriers to trade already.—Reuter.

TELEPHONING ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

New Communication Expected to Be Available Soon for Ordinary Subscribers

London, May 24.

An official statement by the Post Office reveals the fact that experiments were conducted during the past year whereby American telephone subscribers successfully conversed with ordinary subscribers in England.

The latter were unable to reply but a Government committee watching the tests, it is reported, is advising the establishment of a 200 kilowatt transmitting plant at Rugby to enable extensive two-way communication for telephone renters in both countries during favourable conditions.—Reuter.

THE INDUSTRIAL STRIKE IN NORWAY

Work to be Resumed at Once After Two Months of Idleness

Christiania, May 24.

After two months' idleness the 60,000 workers involved in the industrial dispute between the National Association of Trades Unions and the National Association of Employers will resume immediately on terms fixed by the public mediator. The dispute arose out of a dockers' strike against reduction of wages and finally involved other industries. The employers proclaimed a lock-out on February 13.—Reuter.

SHIPPING PRIVILEGES

Equal Treatment Desired

The Hague, May 23.

The Baltic and White Sea Conference, which is meeting here, today unanimously adopted a resolution urging shipowners to approach their respective Governments with a view to their accepting unreservedly the principle of equal treatment of shipping irrespective of flag in peace time.—Reuter.

ILLNESS OF SECRETARY OF STATE

Mr. J. H. Thomas Suffering from Pleurisy

London, May 26.

That Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, was suddenly indisposed was announced to-day when for this reason his meeting with the India and Colonies Committee, to consider the latter's report on Kenya immigration, was postponed.

Later.

Mr. J. H. Thomas is suffering from pleurisy. He is under the care of a specialist.—Reuter.

London, May 27.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who is suffering from pleurisy, is somewhat better.—Reuter.

ANGLO-AMERICAN LIQUOR TREATY

First Seizure Under New Regulations

Galveston, Tex., May 25.

What is probably the first seizure under the new Anglo-American Treaty was made yesterday by a coast-guard cutter, which brought in the British motor-vessel Panama, carrying a cargo of liquor estimated at 1,000 cases. She is alleged to have been captured within an hour's steaming of the coast.—Reuter's American Service.

RUM-RUNNERS' DAMAGE TO CABLES

Strong Protest by Western Union and French Cable Companies

New York, May 28.

The Western Union and French Cable Company are vigorously protesting to the authorities at the damage caused to their cables by the rum fleets anchored off the New Jersey and Long Island coasts. An estimate of the damage is several hundred thousands of dollars annually. It is alleged to have been caused by rum-runners, while riding out heavy seas, dragging anchor and breaking the cables.—Reuter's American Service.

$9,368,000 DEFICIT

Canadian Govt. Merchant Marine's Huge Loss on Year's Working

Ottawa, May 28.

It was announced in the Dominion House of Commons to-day that the Government Merchant Marine showed a deficit for the past year, after meeting interest and other charges, of $9,368,000.—Reuter's American Service.

DISASTROUS STORMS IN MISSISSIPPI

Serious Damage and Several Casualties

Jackson, Miss., May 27.

A series of heavy storms have swept over sections of Southern Mississipi. Hitherto 11 persons have been killed and 24 injured. Serious damage has been done.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, May 27.

Reports from Mississippi and the neighbouring States show that the storms which swept over the country have severely damaged seven towns and villages. Two families were wiped out while asleep in their homes, which were demolished. It is estimated that from 35 to 70 persons have been killed and injured.—Reuter's American Service.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN

Triangular Debate in House of Commons: Conservative Motion—Practically a Vote of Censure—Defeated: Liberals' and Mr. Asquith's Indecision

London, May 29.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, and not the Minister of Labour, Mr. Tom Shaw, took charge of to-night's debate in the House of Commons on unemployment, when Sir William Joynson-Hicks (Conservative) re-introduced his motion to reduce the salary of the Minister of Labour by £100.

It had been a day of intense political excitement, with talk of a possibility of a dissolution and the Ministerialists were urgently whipped up for the division.

Mr. Asquith presided at a meeting of the Liberal party this afternoon to discuss tactics, an inconclusive result showing that the Liberals are still acutely divided on the question of supporting the Government.

Door Mat or Horizon.

Sir Robert Horne (Conservative) opened the debate. He declared that the country's patience was exhausted. The Government's record was one of hypocrisy and dismal failure. Mr. MacDonald's gaze was so fixed on the foreign horizon that he had stumbled over his own door-mat (Opposition cheers).

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, who was given an ovation by the Ministerialists, expressed regret at Sir Robert Horne's tub-thumping. He agreed that the opinion of the country was changing, but it was against the Opposition and in favour of Labour. The Prime Minister concluded by declaring that Sir William Joynson-Hicks's motion was a vote of censure. If it were passed, he assured the Opposition that he would do his best to meet them on the platforms of the country (prolonged Ministerial cheers).

The Premier's Remedies.

Mr. MacDonald declared that the last Government had left the present one with bare cupboards in the solution of the problem. He stated that unemployment schemes were inextricably involved with the problem of local rating and Imperial taxation. The Government was proceeding with certain large arterial roads, payable out of central funds, on which, he hoped, men would be shortly employed. He insisted that haste must not be unduly applied to intricate problems. The Prime Minister dwelt on the importance of developing national schemes, such as hydro-electric production and afforestation, but preliminary investigations and the acquisition of the necessary powers took time. He asserted that afforestation was bound up with the land settlement scheme, and expressed the opinion that the Government ought to plant at least 30,000 acres a year.

At the conclusion of Mr. MacDonald's speech, the Liberals trooped out of the House to hold a party meeting with regard to what attitude to adopt on the vote.

Consequently exceptional interest was attached to the speech of Mr. Asquith a little later, when he indicated at an early stage that the Liberals were prepared to give the Government a little more time to turn round.

Mr. Asquith's Willingness to Wait and See

Mr. Asquith said that his willingness to give the Government time was contingent on the understanding that the vote under discussion should be kept open in order that the Liberals should be fully enabled to obtain a perfectly independent scrutiny of the results of the Government's proposals. He regarded the Premier's statement as a considerable addition to the House's previous knowledge of the Government's programme. He was for fair play to the inexperienced new Government. (Ministerial cheers). He had no reason to love the Labour Party, but was not so anxious to pay off old scores as to contribute whatever was possible towards a settlement of the unemployment problem.

Mr. Baldwin said that the Government's suggested schemes would not prove a positive remedy for unemployment, with regard to which the Labour Party were as far off as when they assumed office.

Later.

In view of Mr. Asquith's speech, it is generally accepted in the lobby that the Government is safe to-night.

Later.

Mr. Baldwin declared that the Conservatives were ready to meet Mr. MacDonald's challenge in the country whenever the Government threw it down.

Sir William Joynson-Hicks's motion was rejected by 300 votes to 252.

One hundred Liberals voted against Sir W. Joynson-Hicks's motion, and 30 abstained in response to Mr. Asquith's appeal to non-supporters of the Government policy, while eight voted with the Opposition. The debate on the main estimate has been adjourned *sine die*.—Reuter.

THE AMERICAN NAVAL MANOEUVRES

Deep rooted Mistrust of Japan the Prevailing Motive in Washington

London, May 30.

The Naval Correspondent of the "Daily News" says that the fact that the combined American Fleets next year will rendezvous at Hawaii and carry out joint manœuvres in mid-Pacific clearly indicates the objective of the latest naval agitation in the United States.

There is a deep-rooted suspicion of Japan underlying all uneasiness in Washington. The disturbed state ofo Americo-Japanese relations was the factor of chief importance in securing the adoption of the Naval Construction Bill.—Reuter.

RESTORATION OF RHEIMS CATHEDRAL

Munificent Donation from Mr. J. D. Rockefeller

Paris, May 29.

Mr. John D. Rockefeller has informed M. Poincaré that he is placing $1,000,000 at the disposal of a Franco-American Committee for the reconstruction of the roof of Rheims Cathedral, the restoration of the Palace of Versailles and the fountains and urgent repairs in Fontainebleau Castle and Park.—Reuter.

DISASTROUS FIRE IN BUCHAREST

Arsenal Entirely Destroyed by Explosions: Immense Conflagration

Paris, May 29.

A telegram from Bucharest says that the explosions, reported yesterday, which were caused by a spark from a locomotive, entirely destroyed the Arsenal. Twelve thousand large calibre shells stored in a magazine were blown up, while several barracks and other military establishments, and also a girls' school were destroyed in the ensuing conflagration. The loss of life is at present unknown.

The King and the Royal Family moved from the Palace owing to the danger. The King visited the scene of the disaster, together with the Ministers, taking the risks of the constantly exploding shells.—Reuter.

London, May 30.

An official telegram from Bucharest says that the damage done by the explosion is very heavy but there are no fatalities. There is no indication as to the cause of the disaster.—Reuter.

RUSSIAN ISSUE OF 1913 LOAN

Bondholders' Interests in Danger from Chinese Embargo

London, May 30.

The "Times" says that the Chinese Government's ruling that the Russian portion of the bonds of the Chinese 1913 Reorganization Loan will be exchanged for new bonds only where the holders furnish a statement of the history of the bonds from 1917 has placed the holders in a very unfortunate position. The ruling, if rigidly maintained, will mean that a number of bondholders will totally lose their investment. The Chinese Government's attitude certainly seems to call for reconsideration.

Meanwhile, it is understood that the bondholders whose interests are jeopardized will make an organized effort to obtain modification of the conditions.—Reuter.

IRISH REPUBLICAN FUNDS IN AMERICA

Messrs. De Valera and O'Mara Entitled to a Reasonable Proportion

New York, May 29.

The State Supreme Court has decided that Messrs. De Valera and O'Mara are entitled to a reasonable part of £2,500,000 of Irish Republican funds deposited here, for use in defence of the suit brought by the Irish Free State for possession of this money. A Commissioner has been appointed to determine what constitutes a reasonable part.—Reuter's American Service.

U. S. IMMIGRATION BILL

Difficulty in Decoding Japanese Protest

Washington, May 29.

Owing to its great length some time will be required to decode the Japanese protest to the American Government in connexion with the passage of the Immigration Bill, which was received here by cable. Officials at the Japanese Embassy here are doubtful whether the communication can be put into shape for presentation to Secretary of State Hughes to-day.—Reuter's American Service.

MINERS' WAGES DISPUTE

Compromise Terms Accepted

London, May 29.

A conference of miners' delegates to-day decided by 473 votes to 311 to accept the compromise terms, which were worked out recently by a conference of representatives of coal-owners and miners.—Reuter.

KING AND QUEEN OF ITALY LEAVE LONDON

London, May 29.

The King and Queen of Italy have left for home. They were seen off by King George and Queen Mary and the Prince of Wales.—Reuter.

RUSSIA WANTS NO GERMAN GOODS NOW

Moscow, May 30.

As a sequel to the recent incident at the Russian Trade Delegation's offices in Berlin, licences for importation of 11,000,000 roubles worth of German goods have been cancelled and the orders for them placed in Britain, Italy, Czecho-Slovakia and Austria. Russian goods destined for export to Germany have been directed elsewhere.—Reuter.

PARIS, May 28.—In the second round of the Association Football competition at the Olympic Games Holland beat Rumania by 6 goals to 0. France beat Latvia by 7 goals to 0.—Reuter.

LONDON, May 30.—The House of Lords has allowed Mrs. Russell's appeal against the decision of the Divorce Court early in 1923 granting her husband, the Hon. Hugo Russell, a decree nisi on the ground of his wife's misconduct with a man unknown which was subsequently upheld by the Court of Appeal.—Reuter.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

LIANG SHIH-YI SPEAKS IN LONDON

A Scholar of the Old School on China's Lack of Power and the Responsibilities of Her Young Men

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

London, April 25.

This week the Central Union of Chinese Students in Great Britain and Ireland gave a banquet at the Connaught Rooms in honour of Mr. Liang Shih-yi, ex-Premier of the Chinese Republic. It was also hoped that Sir Robert Ho Tung would be present but he had to absent himself at the last moment on account of a royal invitation.

There was, however, a very good attendance which included the Japanese Minister, Baron Hayashi, Sir Charles and Lady Addis, Sir James William Jamieson, Viscount and Viscountess Kano, Mr. Fred Bramley, Secretary to the Trade Union Congress, and Mrs. Bramley, Mr. and Mrs. Hallifax, Sir Gregory Foster, Provost of University College, and Lady Foster, Professor Gutteridge, Mr. and Mrs. Malone, Dr. L. Giles, Mr. and Mrs. F. Ashton-Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. S. Doyle Penrose, Mr. T. Tajima, the Japanese ex-Secretary and Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. K. Nishida, and Mr. Chu Chao-hsin. Mr. T. K. Lee presided.

In proposing the toast to the guests, Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires in London, spoke in part as follows:—

"It is hardly necessary to recommend to any gathering of Chinese or of British with Far Eastern experience the claims to respect and admiration of His Excellency Liang Shih-yi, who is now on a visit to this country. Mr. Liang Shih-yi has been over 30 years in Government service, being a high official under the old *régime* as well as under the Republic. He has acquired experience in so many branches of life that it is very difficult to recapitulate them all. Perhaps his chief claim to our gratitude and admiration in China is in connexion with public finances and means of communications. In fact, the construction of the railways in the northern provinces has been largely due to his efforts.

"He has been Minister of Finance and Minister of Communications. He was ex-President Yuan Shih-kai's right hand man in the capacity of Chief Secretary for a number of years. He once held the highest office as Prime Minister.

Scholar and Financier.

"His early literary ability indeed marked him out for a distinguished career. During his early days he passed the highest literary examination in China, and secured the most distinguished degree we have, namely of Hanlin. This is a very much harder degree to obtain than any of the degrees our modern students secure abroad, and those who know our old examination system will realize both the strenuous efforts he must have made and his brilliant ability in performing such a task.

"He is a man well known as possessing both old and modern knowledge, while I have already alluded to his wide experience in the different departments of Government Administration. His achievements both in financial and economic enterprises have won for him great fame, and he has among our countrymen acquired the nickname of 'God of Wealth.' Let me, however, in saying this, make it perfectly clear that he himself is not a wealthy man. He acquired his nickname by his ability, and by the distinguished services which he has ever rendered to the country. In short, his successes are to be sought not in his own personal position to-day but in the records of a grateful nation. We should be proud of him and China is fortunate in possessing him. It is specially fortunate because our country possesses unlimited resources which are awaiting development. Such development may need capital, but it also needs men of ability to use it, and in Mr. Liang you find an ideal statesman.

Diplomat and Business Man.

"There are with us a number of financiers and business men who are interested in China. I came into this country as a diplomatist, but I am rapidly beginning to believe that I am more properly a business man, for I am always preaching the commercial potentialities of China in a way which perhaps will make some people regard me as a sort of Publicity Agent in Advance. Still, I have always felt on very safe ground. I have met many people who lament the temporary unrest in our country owing to its effect on trade, but I have never yet met anyone who did not realize that, given suitable conditions, there was an immense field for commercial and economic development in my native land."

In responding, Mr. Liang Shih-yi delivered the following address; though as he does not speak English it was read for him and it was very well received and considerably applauded:—

"Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. and my young friends who are to guide the destiny of our country. I have always been most attached to the younger element, especially those who are cultivated and educated like yourselves; therefore it has given me very great pleasure to receive on the very first day of my arrival in England an invitation to dinner from your Union.

Knowledge is Power.

"You asked me to give you some advice as to your studies and future careers. I was educated in an old school and I must confess I have never had a modern training, therefore I cannot presume to give you any advice on your individual studies. But during the 30 odd years of my public life, I have learnt to realize that knowledge plays a very important part in every walk of life and it is upon knowledge, not luck, that our success depends. Our ancients had the same idea when they considered that to learn how to govern a state one must start from the investigation of things. I am not trying to give a lecture on education tonight. but only wish to express an opinion which I have formed after my own experience.

"How is it that we with a population of 400,000,000 people, larger than any other country has, have not yet been able to keep pace with other great Powers? The answer is, I think, that we are still somewhat behind in scientific knowledge. 'Efficiency rather than numbers' was a military maxim among our Ancients, and is in my opinion a maxim that my country and students should remember, the present world being only a large battlefield.

Combine the Two.

"What is the most desirable kind of education? seems to be a question which affects the whole world after the War. Before the war, there seemed to have been two great schools of thought with regard to education: one was to develop individualism like the French, and the other co-operativeness like the Germans. Experience in the last war seems to show, however, that both were one-sided, and the present tendency is to favour a combination of the two, *i.e.* to develop individual character as well as the spirit of co-operation, because every person is a private individual and at the same time cannot stand aloof from others. It is perhaps due to the natural influences or tradition of the country, that our culture has been more for the development of individual character, and that has formed the civilization of the East for 5,000 years. But when intercourse between the different parts of the world is so easy like the present, when the civilization of the East may soon be blended with that of the West to form a new civilization for the whole World, we cannot but follow the tide and modify our own culture. My opinion is that in Ethics we can teach others and our students need not go abroad for that. But in Science and democratic ideas, we have much to learn from the more advanced nations of the West, and it is to these subjects that our students should devote themselves, because our most urgent need is to develop our industries and to advance our democracy.

Breadth of Mind.

"A general knowledge is as important, because whatever profession one is in, one's business is not confined to those of his own profession. For example, if one wishes to start a factory, the technical knowledge of a mere engineer is not enough: he must have a knowledge of finance in order to be able to make use of his capital to the best advantage; he should also know something about natural sciences in the selection of raw materials, and he should also have a knowledge of commercial geography as well as of human nature to find out the needs and the best market for his goods. In a word, the factory could not hope for much success without due regard for all such things. General knowledge is particularly desirable in our country at present, because we have not yet enough men for a full distribution of labour, and returned students have had to take up several appointments at the same time, or to be put in positions in which they cannot do full justice to their training. It is, of course, not a happy situation, but these are facts and are not yet avoidable.

"I don't think there is any need for me to make further remarks on other educational questions, such as 'how to look after your health,' etc., which must be only too familiar to you all.

China's Old Civilization.

"I have only one more remark to make, that is, while you are taking in the civilization of the West, you should try to give out a little of our own, because there is much in our own civilization which surpasses that of other nations, and even among the modern inventions which constitute modern civilization, there are things which were known to our forefathers. That such facts are not realized by other nations is perhaps due to our natural reluctance in boasting of our merits. Nor have we ever tried to force our civilization on others. We have, it seems, gained a better position in the world after the great war, and when other nations are having more respect for, and are more interested in, our country, we need not hesitate to make our old civilization better known to the world, and that is a duty which devolves on you students."

CHRISTMAS ISLAND TRAGEDY

Suicide of Phosphate Co.'s Officer

It is only now that the facts have become generally known of a tragic occurrence that took place on Christmas Island early in March, says the "Straits Times." For some time reports were current here that a tragedy had happened on the island but details were not available and it was impossiblee to publish the facts earlier.

It appears that Mr. Howard, who had a fine war record, came out about three years ago to join the service of the Phosphate Company, which, as is well known, have extensive works on Christmas Island, and, at the time of his death, was foreman in charge of No. 3 quarry. The deceased, on the morning of the tragedy, was in the engine room at the quarry—it was about 7.30—and as soon as the coolies had left for their meal, he shot himself through the head with his own revolver, the act it is said having been committed as the result of some private trouble.

Mrs. Howard, missing him, went out in search of the deceased, whom she discovered lying dead in the engine room. The gloom caused by the affair was naturally intensified among the community by the smallness and comparative loneliness of the island.

The deceased was very popular there, and every European assembled at the funeral, the service at which was read by Mr. W. E. Rigby, District Officer.

The widow of the late Mr. Howard, passed through Singapore recently, homeward bound.

An inquiry was conducted by the District Officer and the proceedings, as is usual in matters of this nature, are reviewed by the Government of the Colony.

NEW TYPE OF BRITISH HOLIDAY

Exit Paterfamilias and Sand Castles: The Modern Craze for Rushing About

BY OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT

About 1914 there died the last Paterfamilias who maintained that he had always taken his family to the same sea resort, stayed at the same boarding-house, frequented the same beach and vegetated in the same fashion as in the past year when he paid his initial visit with one child—he finished with ten. He has had no imitators. Probably a public advertisement would not bring out more than a score of people who had ever in six successive years frequented with their families the same seaside resort. Blackpool may perhaps be excluded and doubtless there are single men who regularly prefer certain centres for their unattended diversions.

It is not so much nowadays that the parents "hustle" as that the children are restless. The cinema inspires an addiction to "something new," as often as possible. Parents, it is true, share this feeling. It may be most unfairly styled "a craze" but there is nothing reprehensible in it. Variety puts a keen edge on experience and travel broadens judgment. Possibly if the tendency in holiday taste had not much to recommend it, the seaside resorts would none the less cater for it, but as it is they can make of necessity a supervirtue. Hence none of them expect the visitor to their homes to sit daily on the seashore in soporific and inactive indolence. They facilitate contrariwise his movements in all the entire round-about-lying districts, with centralization on their own town.

The charabanc industry, in its latest development of comfortable travel and perfect reliability, is the greatest asset any corporation ever possessed. In some districts such, for instance, as Hastings, which is exceptionally endowed with surroundings replete with romance and picturesqueness, it is possible to assert that for an entire fortnight the charabanc traveller will never for long take the same route, never visit the same place twice. Other seaside towns put forward somewhat similar claims; there is not one which does nothing in this respect. Moreover all visitors of any status use the up-to-date charabanc. The time has passed when the guest in any fashionable hotel felt it incumbent on him to apologize to his friends for recourse to those vehicles. Why need he? He uses a bus in town.

But this development has killed the self-contained seaside holiday and it will never come back again unless for the very young and the very old. Still there need be no regrets. In the United States there are universally displayed advertisements "See your own country first." The British public is beginning to take this maxim to heart, though hitherto it has been a little uncertain as to whether there was anything special to see. Nowadays the seaside holiday is largely used as a jumping-off ground.

OFFICERS AND NAVAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES

A Lower Deck Grievance

Orders have been given by the Commander-in-Chief, Plymouth, to the Commodore, R. N. Barracks, Devonport, to detail Naval officers to attend the private meetings of petty officers and men at the port, known as Lower Deck Benefit Societies.

The management of such organizations by the men of the Navy on their own behalf is in accord with the policy of the Board of Admiralty, who have intimated that they fully recognize the great advantages that have accrued to petty officers and men by the formation of the societies, which have the full support and approval of the Admiralty so long as they confine themselves to their original and legitimate objects.

The present Orders, no doubt, arise out of a memorial recently drawn up at Portsmouth and circulated in the Press. There is reason to believe that this memorial was not discussed at Devonport, and that the distribution to the Press had not the consent of the societies at Devonport.

The societies at the port have not controvened the spirit of the Fleet Order, under which they act; the business usually carried on is strictly private; and several are registered under the Friendly Societies Act. The action taken by the Naval Commander-in-Chief is entirely without precedent or justification. Further, similar action is not being taken at the other Home ports.

Under present circumstances, petty officers and men may not show their confidence and respect for their officers by inviting them to social functions on shore, but are ordered to receive them at their business meetings. The officers are said to be present in an "advisory capacity," but as it is generally impossible for them to "advise" upon the subjects discussed, their presence cannot be helpful.

There is a strong feeling locally that the Orders given in this connexion should be annulled, and the societies put upon their honour with regard to breaches of Admiralty instructions as to the limits within which discussions are to be confined.

A CARRIER RAY FOR ELECTRIC POWER

Mr. Matthews on Principle of His Invention: "To Make War Impossible"?

The principle of the new electric ray, which he said had been described as a terrible engine of destruction, was explained by its inventor, Mr. Grindell Matthews, speaking on April 15 at a Foreign Press Association luncheon at the Trocadero, London.

Mr. Matthews said:—After many months of work I have produced a new form of vibration which has many similar properties to that familiar form of vibration which we call light. In the same way as light, for instance, it can be refracted and reflected. But the outstanding property for which I have searched is that this ray must be a partial conductor. My aim was to produce a link along which I could project electrical energy to any point, which would be confined within it, and also to be always under control.

What I have now is a means of actual transmission of power from one point to another, either or both of which may be rapidly moving. I am glad to say that my work has been so far successful, and I feel confident that in the near future I shall be transmitting power over considerable distances. I hope to be able to make arrangements for continuing my experiments on a large scale in the open country, where conditions will be more suitable for carrying out long-distance trials in secrecy and safety.

It has been said that with such a terrible engine of destruction armies would be wiped out in a few seconds. I do not know, and I am not going to argue about the possibilities for ill of my invention. Indeed, I am more tempted to hope that this power will make war impossible. Then would I feel that I have accomplished something for the greater glory of my country and of mankind if ever the days come when we and members of all nations go hand-in-hand in the fields of progress towards a happier world.

Mr. Van der Veer, the president of the Association, had, in introducing Mr. Matthews, said that some time ago the Germans tried to scare us with the news that they had invented a ray which would stop the motors of engines high up in the air. If he understood correctly, Mr. Matthews had invented something more powerful—a ray which could stop human engines and so prevent us from being worried by an unseen enemy high in the clouds.

Mr. J. de Maysiac, who also spoke, referred to the work of Mr. Matthews during the war, and said that he had succeeded in developing instruments for the location of submarines up to 9,000 yards with considerable accuracy, and had invented mines which could be exploded by wireless. Since the Armistice he had produced a speaking film which was unique in its way, and his last invention had seemed to the speaker unbelievable. When he saw it in operation first he looked for hidden wires. He need not have worried, however, for Mr. Matthews had never faked. Furthermore, Mr. Matthews would never advertise or come forward in any way.

OUR AUSTRALIAN LETTER

The Country Party's Opportunity: British Naval Squadron's Visit: Boards of Sugar Cane Refuse: Robbery under Arms: New Silver Mine in Queensland

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Melbourne, April 24.

Mr. S. M. Bruce, Prime Minister, is supposed to have been seeking a *modus vivendi* as between himself, the Nationalists, and the Country party, which holds the balance of power in the House of Representatives. In actual fact the Country party can claim 44 votes in a House of 76, while the Nationalists can count some 26. The Country party therefore holds the balance of power, which it appears determined to use for wringing advantages for the primary producers. Indeed it has been declared that, like the Labour party of old, it has announced itself as up for sale, prepared to give its support to those who will bid the most in concessions. Speeches made by the Prime Minister at the Sydney luncheon in connexion with the R. A. S. Show, and subsequently at some functions in Victoria, have made it quite clear that the Country party has been made a bid for its support. It is offered railway and shipping subsidies, export bonuses, and other help, all of which is to be paid for out of surplus import revenues. In other words unless the primary producers cease their railing against protection they cannot expect any assistance from the Government. The offer has been made now for over a week, but it is remarkable that no newspaper has taken the matter up, either to approve or condemn, and that what seems a clear-cut issue is treated with no greater consideration than the vapourings of a soap-box orator.

The New Policy.

Mr. Bruce's policy it to produce more and find increased markets. He sees in protection a method of increasing the home markets for primary products. He has in this an argument that even Chamberlain, 30 years ago, could not reasonably apply to the position then existent in Great Britain. The American figures are, however, strongly to the point. The Australian Prime Minister sees in the enormous customs receipts grounds for assuming that the primary industries are suffering as a consequence of the tariff, and therefore he tries to balance the position by using the revenues under the protective tariff for the purpose of helping by shipping subsidies and the exploitation of new markets such primary industries as are producing more than sufficient to meet local consumption. A section of the press is declaring that the policy is merely one of propitiation, while already there are those who say that the proposed expenditure will stand in the way of a reduction in taxation. Mr. Bruce may therefore satisfy himself with the reflexion that, in a democracy, there is no desire for economy or reduction in taxation, and the fiercest quarrels will rage round the issue, not of how much but of how the public money shall be spent. But Mr. Bruce has added another and unexpected squib to his policy. He insists that Government help, whether fiscally or by bounties or subsidies, will not be given where inefficiency is shown. In other words he claims for the administration the right to differentiate between industries and businesses which are carried on according to the official idea of efficiency or according to that of private enterprise. One can recall a thousand instances of cheap and inefficient production, where the acuteness of the management has counterbalanced these deficiencies. Mr. Bruce does not tell us how he will overcome this difficulty. For the moment there is a calm in relation to the Government's policy. We must await the breaking of the inevitable storm.

Special Squadron Visit.

The visit of the section of the British navy to the Australian coast is over, and the ships are now on their way to New Zealand. Despite the stupid and rather mean attempts of a section of organised labour to belittle the visitors and the visit, the whole business was a conspicuous success. Judging by the descriptions of the personel it was an excellent immigration stunt, and it may be frankly said that the speeches by the chiefs of the squadron, Vice-Admiral Sir Percy Field, and Rear-Admiral Sir Hubert Brand, only mildly reprobated the idea of immediate desertions, while advocating migration to Australia as soon as ever the crews were discharged. One of the last acts of the visitors was to attend the funeral service of the armed cruiser Australia. To the ordinary person it is by no means clear how it came about that the Washington conference seized upon Australia's one ewe lamb, or ram, and insisted that it must put *hors de combat*, while other nations with a whole flock of arms were permitted to keep the lot. There were many protests in the newspapers, but all were met by the official statement that the cruiser must be rendered harmless in accordance with the dictates of the Washington Conference. The Australia was only ten years old. She took an active part in maintaining the freedom of the Pacific during the early days of the war, and in helping to corner the Germans off the Falkland Islands. Later on she was in the North Sea, but unfortunately an accident involving her sister-ship, the New Zealand, kept her in dock at the moment of the historic battle which settled the fate of the German navy. The dismantled hulk of the Australia was towed to a point some 22 miles east of Sydney Heads. There she was duly scuttled before a distinguished assembly, British and Australian warships firing salutes, aeroplanes wheeling overhead, and swooping down to deposit wreaths upon the doomed ship. The passing of the Australia was made a sermon rather than an incident, and the subsequent cinema versions in on way detracted from the impression caused by the actual event.

Two Labour Conferences.

The Labour party is sub-divided into State organizations, and those of the two chief States—New South Wales and Victoria—may be reasonably said to dominate the whole. In Queensland there is a good deal of "red" talk but the Labour government has the extremists well in hand, while in the other three small States Labour has to sing very small and be very astute if it hopes to obtain office. Victoria, however, has a section of the Labour party which talks "red," and the most conservative of the newspaprs find room to report the "high falutin" which they do not fail to denounce. In Sydney the Communists actually have a footing, and it is there that labour is fighting them *á L'outrance*. The annual meetings of the party in the two States have just been held, and a feature is made of the fact that at each convention the Communist or propaganda crowd failed to have its own way. There is, however, another aspect of the apparent success of the moderates. We have seen them before agree upon matters one year and calmly reverse them the next. Indeed their whole programme as embodied in the platform approved by the interstate conferences is a negation of the moderation of which they now boast. They are now shouting "hurroo" because both in Melbourne and Sydney, the immoderates have been defeated, not upon questions of policy, but merely upon those of internal organization. But it is further noticeable that the majorities obtained against the Communists have been in no way discouraging to the latter. In Sydney the annual meeting of the State Australian Labour party has provided a majority of about 15 in a gathering of 300 against the intrigues of the Communists, while in Victoria the margin was rather greater. There is not much in this for the political moderates of Labour to boast about. The serious disputes in the Labour ranks of New South Wales have been easily obliterated. It is admitted that there has been much trickery and corruption, but entirely within the ranks of the party, and the all-powerful conference has condemned those reported by the executive as responsible. There the matter ends, unless the accused try to carry the matter further, but meanwhile Labour as a political party has benefited by the washing of its dirty linen in public. Its chief constituents amongst the working classes have no special objection to this form of publicity. Possibly it recalls experiences of the east end of London, or of Woolloomoolloo, Sydney, and reminds them of home.

New Silver Find.

There is naturally great interest in the apparent discovery of a new and extensive silver field in Northern Queensland. Mount Isa, as it is called, is about 80 miles from Cloncurry, and the presence of silver has been known for two or three years. More recently expert examinations have been made and to use an old digger's phrase the present statements are taken not from the prospectus but from the warden's report. Indeed the caution one usually finds in the latter document is very evident in all the reports, but the existence of many loads, running parallel over an area about five square miles in extent, with outcrops of exceeding richness, induce the Government Geologist to describe the find as "wonderful." It is asserted that it will make another Broken Hill, and some say that if the lodes will only go down the find will result in several Broken Hills. Already the Queensland Government is having inquiries made as to railway construction to Mount Isa. There is talk of using aeroplanes to have a topographical map made of the locality, and the air service from Charleville, west of Brisbane, is to be extended from Cloncurry to the new field. As matters stand at present there is every appearance that Mount Isa will be rapidly developed along the most modern and efficient lines, very different from the old slow and wearisome struggle which marked the birth of other mining centres.

The Dead Heart.

In 1906 Professor J. W. Gregory published a book on central Australia which he entitled "The Dead Heart of Australia." Apparently he could not have done the country a greater disservice. The phrase passed into an axiom, and doubtless did much to make South Australia stop her railway northwards amongst the inhospitable sand dunes of Odnadatta. It certainly has provided an army of arguments against the building of the north-south railway from Darwin to Odnadatta as embodied in the terms upon which the Commonwealth took over the Northern Territory from South Australia. But others have travelled through central Australia, and adventurous journeys with motor cars and cameras have made the MacDonnell range almost as well known as any part of Australia. For some years past small lots of mica have been sent away, but the heavy cost of camel-carriage to and from Odnadatta has made the business barely profitable. The other day it was announced that the United States would take all the mica offering, and that the Australian mineral was considered exceptionally good. It is clear that the present government is determined to continue the railway from Odnadatta to Alice Springs, a distance of about 1,000 miles. Gold has been found in the mountains of central Australia, but the conditions have been such that no exhaustive prospecting has been possible. Professor Gregory probably only saw "the dead heart" in a time of drought, but since then the reports from travellers are almost invariably of knee-high grass, and flowing rivers through gorges in the ranges which might readily be dammed for irrigation purposes. It is asserted that the Public Works Committee has recommended the building of the railway so quite possibly the matter will come before parliament during the present session. At present the Minister for Works and Railways, Mr. Stewart, is on a tour of inspection of the proposed route of the line, and cabinet will reach a final decision after it has received his report.

Industrial Legislation.

Now that the Labour ministries have been installed in South Australia and Western Australia the Country party is likely to realize what it has accomplished in its selfish pursuit of political power and the gains thereof. If there is one thing that party wishes to accomplish it is the abolition of legal interference in the wages and conditions of work on farms. In others words they object to compulsory arbitration and the making of awards, with the power of enforcement behind them. More particularly do they object to the Commonwealth Arbitration Court having jurisdiction, which the workers' unions play off against their own State industrial courts or wages boards, squeezing each body in turn for better terms. Practically all the States, except Queensland, were at one in trying to meet the views of the primary producers, and various proposals were afoot to simplify the position without altering the constitution. It was to be a matter of mutual arrangement between the Commonwealth and the States, and finality almost appeared to be in sight. Then the Country party with entire oblivion of consequences, due to its political inexperience, pursued a policy of antagonism towards the governments which were trying to give them as much as possible of what they wanted, and placed Labour in power. It is hardly necessary to say that the two new Labour governments will cooperate with Queensland in maintaining the present position, so entirely satisfactory to the rural works. Representative Hill, a leading member of the Victorian Farmers' Union, declared in parliament that the industrial legislation was a baby left on the doorstep of the farmer for him to take care of, and he protested vigorously. Doubtless he re-echoed the feelings of many farmers, but none the less he is quite prepared to repeat in the Federal constituencies the same folly that has destroyed all hope of the baby being taken off the doorstep in South and Western Australia.

Celotex Factory.

It is now definitely settled that a celotex factory is to be erected in one of the sugar districts of Queensland at a cost of £250,000. There is only one factory of the sort in the world, and that is on the banks of the Mississippi. This was started a year or more ago and strange to relate was highly successful and profitable from the outset. Celotex is the trade name given to a thin board, something like what is known as three-ply veneer, and is made out of the megass or bagasse, which is the fibrous part of the sugar cane remaining over after the juices have been pressed out. It is claimed by the Celotex people that the first material shipped to Japan, after the quake, was one million feet of celotex. It is practically fire-proof, and makes excellent lining where a low temperature has to be maintained. The megass is conveyed to the factory in bales, and then pulped and treated very much the same as ordinary timber used for making paper pulp. The American business is sufficiently profitable to make the owners think of importing megass from Cuba, and a second £250,000 is now being sunk in plant. In Queensland the output of megass is about 30,000 tons a year, which would of course make an immense amount of the lumber. If the whole of it could be worked up many thousands of pounds would go into the pockets of the cane producers, while an additional income will soon be obtained by the distillation of the molasses, now wasted, which would yield about 4,000,000 galloes of power alcohol. It is possible that this would be used as a fuel to take the place of the megass, which at present chiefly supplies the sugar will furnaces. Throughout the sugar districts along the Queensland eastern coast the regular monsoonal rains have fallen, and such districts as Bundaberg and Mackay, which for two years have had dry weather and poor crops, at last have cheerful prospects to raise the drooping hearts of the growers.

The Hanging Cure.

The Victorian State government adhered to its determination despite the fiercest of attacks in a section of the press, and the protests of the Trades and Labour Council, and hanged Angus Murray for murder. The case was very simple. A bank manager was making one of his periodical visits to the head office carrying a bag or suit-case in which was a quantity of notes. On the ramp of the suburban station a man met him and demanded the bag. The banker started to draw his revolver when his assailant promptly shot him full in the chest, grabbed the bag and made off up the ramp and to a waiting motor-car. The alarm was quickly raised and pursuit started before the man had reached the car. It was then that Murray appeared and with a revolver threatened the pursuers and held them back, eventually getting away in the car with a driver and the man who had done the shooting. This last man went into "smoke" or concealment, and has not yet been found. The police raised a house where they believed he was and caught Murray instead, and held him as an escaped criminal. After much delay, always in the expectation of getting the other man, Murray was charged with murder, and convicted as being accessory to the fact, and in short a conspirator with the other man to rob with violence if necessary. Because he did not do the actual shooting it was thought that he would not have to suffer the extreme penalty, but he was a notorious criminal, and was actually under sentence for robbery under arms, and had escaped from gaol. The missing man is alleged to have escaped from the country and to have reached the Pacific coast of America, but this may be merely a story put about to induce him to put his nose outside his hiding place. In Sydney the State government has definitely decided to hang the man Williams who cut the throats of his three children in order that they might go to heaven and not develop the taint of insanity which was in their mother. The two cases, as will be seen, are very different in character, and one can hardly believe that the cure should be the same in each.

DANGER IN THE FOUL PIPE

"Tobacco Eye" Unknown To Cigarette Smokers

One of the foremost British opthalmic surgeons, commenting on the reported increase of cases of "tobacco eye," stated that while the complaint might be spreading in local areas, the experience of Harley Street and other specialists was that there was now a considerably smaller number of cases than a few years ago.

Women Who Suffer.

In an interview, he said: "The cause of the disease is undoubtedly the heavy consumption of strong pipe and cigar tobaccos, and the worst and most frequent cases are among habitual foul pipe smokers. There is not a case on record of a cigarette smoker having been affected, and it is significant that the malady is unknown to the Turks.

"Quite a number of instances have been reported from eye institutions and by surgeons of women contracting this form of blindness, and a particularly severe case became known only last week, when the wife of a North of England industrialist came to London to be treated for failing vision.

Red and Green Confused.

"She concealed the fact that she had been a pipe smoker for nearly 30 years, but when tests revealed that her colour perception had become confused and it was impossible for her to recognize red and green, she admitted the life-time addiction to nicotine."

"Tobacco amblyopia," the scientific name of the disease, the specialist added, was invariably distinguishable by loss of eye power followed by a blurring effect when bright objects were looked at, and ultimately by an inability to separate one colour from another, red and green particularly being difficult to discern.

The trouble was very rare among young smokers, but the excessive use of strong tobacco before the age of 30 would make easy victims before middle age was reached.

Complete recovery was possible if the disease was diagnosed and dealt with in its early stages, but the sufferer had to abstain totally from the future use of tobacco. If the affection was allowed to run the effects were serious and permanent, and in a chronic case the victim was scarcely able to find his way in an open roadway.

ESPERANTO scores a victory. Geisha are learning the language at Beppu Hot Springs, hoping that it may help them to converse with visitors from abroad. This is at least an inducement to the visitors to see what the international language is like, remarks the "Japan Chronicle."

BLEACHING THE RED FLAG

I. L. P. Conference at York

BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.

Manchester, May 1.

The news value of the 32nd Annual Conference of the Independent Labour Party, held in York last week, was somewhat overshadowed by the more interesting accounts of the opening of the Wembley Exhibition. This diminished advertisement of the party's activities was not unwelcome to some of its leaders. For 31 years they have been denouncing the older political parties' "pettifogging attempts to bolster up a corrupt and oppressive capitalist system," and now, after four months of office, they are somewhat conscious of the notable gap there is betwixt their large professions and their small performances. During the last few months their mocking critics have derived no little amusement from the party leaders' desperate attempts to deflate the high hopes of the rank and file. The once imminent millennium now proves to be as far off as ever. Mr. MacDonald, the idol of the pacifists, has increased the navy instead of disbanding it. The unemployed, who were to be employed on work of national importance, are still on the "dole." Industrial strife is as rife as ever.

The Diet of Words.

As the Government has a predominantly Independent Labour Party complexion, most of its members belonging to that unlovely organization, there has been much curiosity as to the outcome of this year's conference. Would the rank and file tamely accept their leader's apologies for following in the beaten track of history and Coalition predecessors, or would they revolt? Happily for MacDonald a 31 years diet of words has made his followers incapable of expecting anything else. They missed the usual opportunity of passing the usual resolutions, asking the government to do this, that, and the other. Their orators also missed the opportunity of making the customary denunciatory speeches. Unfortunately, the delegates found that when the conference was bereft of its hot air there was very little left. It used to be the seasoning which made the annual hotch-potch palatable. Lacking it, the conference was as tame as a Dorcas meeting.

There were 481 delegates. To the uninitiated this might seem to indicate that the I.L.P. is a numerically vast political organization. As a matter of fact there are only 20,000 paying members, although there are more than 30,000 names on the books. From these figures it will be seen that there are not many more than 40 members for each delegate. If all these members were energetic Socialist propagandists, the I.L.P. might still be a very formidable political organization. They are not. For every worker in a branch there are three hangers-on, who belong to it because it is registered as a club and supplies intoxicating liquors during otherwise prohibited hours. Here they can get beer in congenial company of the "down with everything," variety. The average I. L. Peer is characterized by no passionate love for his fellow man. The bond of brother-hood is a common hatred for the man who is materially a little better off.

A Visit to a Branch.

A fortnight ago we had occasion to visit one of these branches. We desired to purchase one of the invaluable research publications of the Labour Party. It was a flourishing branch boasting more than 300 members, and their club house was a doublefronted shop in the main road of a Manchester industrial area. The windows were painted over, and the shop premises had been converted into a small meeting room at the back of which was a squalid drinking bar. The room above had been converted into a billiard hall.

Asked for the publication we required the potman pointed to a locked glass case containing Socialistic literature, and informed up that the key was in the possession of the "literature secretary," who was not in. The case, it was explained, was kept locked because when it was left open the "comrades pinched the books." Asked for a copy of the "New Leader," the well-known I.L.P. weekly, the same comrade said he hadn't one, and wouldn't give twopence for a dozen of them; a somewhat rancorous criticism of a Socialist periodical that could easily be much worse. We inferred that it was lacking in the "down with it" element. Inquiring about conditions of membership we were informed we could join by signing a short statement of agreement with I.L.P. aims and paying a monthly subscription of a few coppers. A member of the branch informed us that the propagandist activities consisted of one out-door and one indoor meeting every week, open to all comers. The time of the committee, he told us, was more taken up with devising a scheme to prevent the steward and barman embezzling money received for beer, than in planning schemes to convert Manchester to Socialism.

Drunk on Beer and Words.

We attended a meeting the same evening addressed by a local Labour Councillor. The audience numbered about a couple of dozen, and twice during the address stewards were sent upstairs to quiet the clamour of billiard players in the room above, whose quarrels made the speaker inaudible to the stoics who sat through his address. Gloomy as this picture of political squalor may be, it is comparatively bright when contrasted with the rival political clubs in the district. All of them are drinking dens haunted by woolly minded individuals who vary their usual custom of getting drunk on beer by occasionally getting drunk on catch phrases. The only difference between them is the circumstance that the Socialist pays for his billiard tables and chairs out of his own pocket, while the Liberal and Conservative get better ones for nothing from wealthy politicians nursing the constituency.

To get back to the stucco front of the Labour movement and away from its cellars and back entries. Mr. Clifford Allen, the President of the Conference, in his opening address recalled how, a few years ago, Mr. MacDonald was the most hated man in Great Britain and many of his followers were in prison. He doubted if any party had ever progressed so quickly from exile to office. It should, he said, be an encouragement to them and a warning to their opponents. They must, however, now realize that they had entered a new stage. They must adopt a realist outlook. They must realize the limitations imposed on every Government.

Things to Be Passed over.

Not content with pouring this cold douche of water on the delegate's hopes he went on to characterize the Liberals as a party of pacifists, who believed in making war with inadcquate armaments. He discreetly omitted to mention that for the first 31 years of its existence the I.L.P. had been in favour of abolishing the Army and Navy altogether, and had only relinquished that iconoclastic ideal on arrival at Downing Street.

He continued by urging his audience not to become suspicious of the Labour Party because it was taking a few months to prepare the application of its principles to the problem of unemployment. They were engaged in thinking the matter out scientifically, instead of attempting to appease the multitude by hollow pretences. This must have been very discouraging to the Socialist enthusiasts, for it was generally understood that the best minds of the Party had been grappling with the problem since the end of the war.

Yet Labour in office, Mr. Allen said, must not be timid, or its enemies will gain confidence. It had the world at its feet as no other party ever had. National machinery, composed of all the interests concerned, was wanted to watch over and anticipate wage problems and safeguard our national resources. A new morality was required established on a love for scientific truth. To think scientifically and act accordingly was the new morality of the future. The Labour Government could not tackle any of the problems of poverty and unemployment unless they attacked the system that caused them. If anyone were to reap the disaster of attempting unreal temporary measures of alleviation let it be the other people. Their policy was the application of Socialist principles to the reorganization of industry and our economic life.

Contradictions Swallowed.

That the delegates accepted these contradictory statements without protest is sufficient commentary on their limited intelligences, for it is obvious that if the Government is to be realistic it cannot be Socialistic—the other political parties will not permit it. And if it is not to initiate temporary measures of alleviation, it will leave undone the one thing it is able to do. As a matter of fact it is doing this as fast as it can, despite Mr. Allen's warning that it will mean disaster. The whole speech was a clumsy attempt to play up to both the out-and-out Socialists in the I.L.P. and the practical opportunists. As there is no section of the community more adept through long practice at shutting its ears to unpleasant facts than the doctrinaire Socialists of the I.L.P. and their pacifist confreres, it was quite successful.

Mr. MacDonald's contribution to the Conference was an extraordinary statement to the effect that he saw no reason why Labour should not remain in office for two or three years.

Delegates from Birmingham protested against Germany being forced to rebuild the devastated districts in France. That it should have to do so "bolstered up the pretence of Germany's sole guilt for the war," said the mover of the resolution. He received considerable support, despite the fact that it was pointed out to him and his seconder that the German Socialists were against him on this point.

A Pretty Hypocrisy.

The only other debate of interest took place on the problem of disarmament. The motion was that, "the Labour Members in Parliament should oppose all votes of supply for Army, Navy, and Air forces." The I.L.P. have made this a main plank in their political programme for years. Seven years ago, when their own skins were in danger, their unanimity on it was wonderful to witness. All armies were bands of legalized murderers and ought to be disbanded. Now all is different. Conscription is forgotten. Fighting is a job for the other man. To refuse supplies would put the first Labour Government in jeopardy. After a long discussion they soothed their consciences by resolving, "that the I.L.P. should press its disarmament policy on the Government, but allow freedom of action to all members of the Party."

After this pretty piece of hypocrisy the delegates spent the rest of their time in handing bouquets to each other. The only jarring note was struck at the conclusion of the long speech of Mr. Oswald Mosley M.P., the son-in-law of Lord Curzon, and the newest recruit to Labour. The ambitious proletarian element in the Socialist Party is beginning to feel peeved at the way jobs are found for recruits from the Liberal and Conservative parties, while the genuine horny-handed go empty away. Instead of the thunderous applause Mr. Mosley anticipated at the conclusion of his 'testimony' there were cries that this wasn't a lecture room. This exhibition of base ingratitude marked the finish of the tamest I.L.P. Conference that has ever been held. The stalwarts who hoped to see Mr. Ramsey MacDonald stick a red flag out of the first floor window of number 11 Downing Street showed a due appreciation of changed circumstances. They tried to sing the "Red Flag" but the old gusto was gone. If Labour is still in power the 1925 I.L.P. Conference will conclude with "Rule Britannia."

WALK ACROSS CONTINENT AT 74

Detroit, May 2.—John William Walter, 74 years old, was a "guest" of Detroit charitable institutions, after walking from San Francisco to "see Henry Ford about a job." Penniless and without relations in this country, Walter said he had heard of the wonderful possibilities in Detroit and came here.

When asked as to what kind of a job he sought, he replied that he wanted to "talk that over with Henry Ford." Walter said automobilists helped him along the journey. He began his hike Feb. 25 and arrived here yesterday.

Walter was born in Germany and was in San Francisco at the time of the earthquake, when, he says four of his children were killed.

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

Jock Tamson's Bairns: "Cost of Living Still 12s. 6d. a Bottle": A Chinese Picketed at Wembley

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Edinburgh, Apr. 16.

One of the pleasant things about the Scottish members of Parliament is the spirit of friendship that exists between them, although in their politics they may be widely separated. This, says Parliamentary gossip, is particularly manifested when they find themselves discussing matters relating to Scotland or the Scottish people. On these occasions, as a rule, they are all Jock Tamson's bairns, Scottish debates in the House of Commons usually drive English members out of the Chamber. Only a very few of them seem to be interested in Scottish problems, or else, realizing how successfully the Scotsmen exert their influence on general questions, are fully content to believe they can look after their own affairs. If ever a Southerner does attempt to intervene in a Scottish debate he hears about it.

Members of the Clyde contingent are often among the first, when an M.P. springs a latin or French quotation on the House, to demand a translation, but when they themselves indulge in braid Scots they look with scorn and disdain on anyone who fails to understand. Some of the Scotsmen seem to delight in exaggerating the Doric, greatly to the confusion of the official reporters, and even sometimes to the Speaker, who has more than once admitted his inability to follow some Northern M.P.'s.

The Grippie Aberdonian.

A new literary venture has been made in Scotland, "The Scots Magazine," and it promises well. It aims at meeting the "clamant need for a high-class literary periodical devited entirely to Scotland and things Scottish." Many distinguished Scottish writers figure in the list of contributors, and the contents are pleasingly varied in nature—serious and humorous, historical and fictional. It contains an article by A. M. Williams on the Aberdonian, which contains some titbits which are far too good to be left in the retirement of a mere magazine. We therefore take the liberty of "lifting" some extracts.

The fondness of Glasgow for reflexions on Aberdeen grippiness is explained by a little incident in the history of the city as to which its historians are strangely silent. The contractor for Glasgow Bridge was an Aberdonian, and, after the contract has been completed, the Corporation decided to have a bridge twice as broad. When the contractor was asked how this would affect the cost, he said "Well, naturally a bridge twice as broad will cost twice as much;" and only after the Corporation had agreed to this did it dawn upon them that the wily contractor had done them. Nor was this the end. The bridge was completed well ahead of scheduled time, and the contractor said, "What about it?" The Corporation proposed to take over the bridge right away, but the contractor declined to part with it before the appointed time, and he erected barriers and took tolls!

It has been remarked that we bear with great fortitude the misfortunes of others, and that our own are lightened when others share them. Thus the Aberdonian in Glasgow finds himself in the same condemnation with Fifers and Paisley buddies, and is solaced by the common burden of Glasgow "gagging." He hears Paisley, for instance, chaffed in this way. A man dreamed that he was in a vast wood, where all the trees were bare, when there descended on him a terrible tempest of wind and rain. Sorely buffeted and drenched to the skin, he at last found shelter in a hollow tree, and there quite exhausted fell asleep. When he awoke the storm was past, the sun was shining, the birds were singing, but to his horror he could not get out. Faced with death, he reviewed his bygone life, and in memory went back till he saw himself once again a little boy in Paisley, and, when he recalled that he had been born in Paisley, he felt so small he got out quite easily!

At a funeral as the mourners followed the coffin, the local blacksmith lingered behind and there and then proposed to the buxom widow. "Eh, Tam," she said, "ye're ower late; the jiner spak afore they lifted."

Such events are treated in the North in a matter-of-fact way. One bitter winter day two mourners were in conversation in the kirkyard after a funeral, and one said, "Did ye nottis Mains? He's lookin' afa ill." "Ill!" exclaimed the other, "the man's deein'; the fac is, a winner he thinks it worth his while to gae hame."

The Calumniated Haggis.

The haggis is regarded as fair game for Sassenach humour. The English pretend to believe it is an animal, if not an item of costume, and yet if they were familiar with the classic novels they would have an inventory of its contents at their finger ends. I have just been dipping into the 18th century Smollett, and find that one of his characters—a Welsh squire— described the haggis in detail. "A mess of minced lights, livers, suet, oatmeal, onions, and pepper, enclosed in a sheep's stomach, had a very sudden effect upon mine, and the delicate Mrs. Tabby changed colour; when the cause of our disgust was instantaneously removed at the nod of our entertainer." So writes Smollett's Squire Bramble of the chief of puddings.

Innocent Chinese Blackleg.

Not least, surely among the wonders told us about the building of the new city at Wembley is an incident which is related to me from the history of the strike. When "down tools" was sounded a Chinese was perched high on some scaffolding, engaged in painting the beauties of his land on something larger than a fan. As the rest of the labourers were deserting their work, a great party of them spied this ignorant Celestial busily daubing, and went over to bid him come down at once. He turned round, saw below him a fast and menacing throng of foreign devils who shouted at him in strange words; and, without waiting to satisfy himself about details, he slid down a ladder and made for the East. He was last seen (from Wembley) rapidly disappearing over the oriental horizon.

By the Way.

It was a debate on the index figures of the Board of Trade, and a Scot present closed the matter with the remark, "Official figures or no official figures, the cost of living remains at 12s. 6d. a bottle."

Sir Robert Horne lectured on one occasion from his father's pulpit. A lady expressed the opinion to his sister that "if he had his father's brains and his mither's tongue he widna be last." This remark has remained in Sir Robert's mind—so he told some friends the other night. For Scottish economy in praise and carefulness of statement it would, he thinks, be hard to beat.

Speaking at a recent dinner, a well-known Sheriff, in referring to modern tendencies, said he had heard of one man who had caught the habit of saying, "I am getting younger and younger." He said this so often that at last he turned into a brewery.

An Aberdonian told me this story the other day. A golfer from the Granite City had arranged for a day's golf away from home. On arriving at his destination the Aberdonian found that owing to weather conditions golf was impossible. He, therefore, determined to take a look round the town, but did not like the idea of carrying his golf clubs about with him. He was much perturbed at the idea of leaving his clubs in the left-luggage office at the railway station, because of the large charge of 3d. A bright idea struck him. He went to the pawnshop across the road, pledged his clubs for half-a-crown, returned in the evening, paid the extra halfpenny and redeemed them, and thus saved 2½d.

SUBMARINE K 26, the biggest submarine in the world, with a tonnage of 2,300, recently arrived in Bombay harbour on a testing cruise under tropical conditions. While on her outward voyage in the Red Sea she encountered the pilgrim ship Frangestan, which was then burning furiously. After standing by 24 hours, Commander Thomson received orders to sink her, as she was a danger to navigation.

OUR PARIS LETTER

Rumanian Royal Visit: Nation Encircled by Foes: a Map of Columbus's Day

From Our Own Correspondent.

Paris, April 30.

It was [illegible] Queen of Rumania, who arrived in Paris to-day on the first official visit they have paid to any foreign capital since the war, should have a very cordial reception. Parisians have not forgotten that the King, though a Hohenzollern, refused to join in the great conspiracy of 1914, and that the Queen, in addition to being a beautiful woman, rendered any amount of personal service during the war. At the present moment, too, France and Rumania are drawn closer than ever by the unfriendly attitude which two other Latin States, Italy and Spain, have taken up towards Rumania. This attitude has led to the abandonment of the visits which the King and Queen were to have paid to Rome and Madrid, and ostensibly Rumania remains on good terms with only France, England and Belgium. She needs both financial and political support, in view of her relations with Russia.

The maintenance of the treaties signed after the war is of vital importance to her. She is surrounded by enemies all on the look-out to recover what they were obliged to surrender to her. Hungary had to give her Transylvania, Austria ceded Bukovina, Bulgaria made restitution of the Dobrudscha, and finally Bessarabia was separated from Russia and given to Rumania. Though the province is chiefly populated by Rumanians, the Soviets have never agreed to the cession. Chicherin made a vehement protest when the French Parliament ratified the convention. He uses the Bessarabia question as a permanent grievance and a means of putting his word into international debates. It is very likely that, for the sake of peace, Rumania would pass over the behaviour of the Bolsheviks in keeping the gold and jewels, worth £40,000,000, which King Ferdinand sent to Moscow, for safety as he thought, at the time of the invasion of his country by the Germans and Austrians. The Soviets can pick a quarrel with Rumania whenever they please over the Bessarabia question, and there can be no security for Rumania without some definite pledges from her Western allies, in addition to such reliance as she may be able to place on the other members of the Little Entente. As M. Duka, the Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs, is accompanying his sovereign, it may be taken for granted that, in the intervals between public appearances and official festivities, the situation will be very thoroughly discussed and decisions taken which may have great influence on the future of Europe.

The General Election.

Large boards placed outside the town-halls and other public buildings in France give the first warning of the general election, which is to take place in the middle of next month. These boards are intended for the coloured posters on which candidates of all shades of opinion announce the great reforms they will strive to bring about if they are elected, and indulge in withering sarcasms against their adversaries. Once upon a time the bill-stickers were allowed to plaster these proclamations over every bit of wall from which they were not specifically warned off by *"Defense d'afficher"* painted in big letters and followed by a threatening allusion to the law which would be invoked in case of need. Even the Louvre and the historic churches of Paris shared in their disfigurement, and as it was nobody's business to remove the posters when they had served their purpose, they hung in a torn and bedraggled condition for months after the election was over. A special Act of Parliament had to be passed before the nuisance could be stopped, and election placards are now confined to the boards provided for them at the expense of the taxpayers. The law still requires them to be printed on coloured paper, white being reserved for official announcements. The practice of leaving placards exposed much too long is by no means confined to the election period. In the "tube" stations one frequently sees theatre and concert posters that are weeks out of date.

A Map of Columbus.

A map of the world, apparently recording Christopher Columbus's notions of geography on the eve of the discovery of the American continent, has been accidentally discovered in the National Library in Paris by M. de La Roncière, which [illegible] the King of Egypt [illegible] to Africa [illegible] Middle Ages. [illegible] classified as a Portuguese document of the 16th century when he happened to notice that, though the outline of the African coast as far as the Cape of Good Hope, discovered in 1488, was shown, there was no mention of the results of Columbus's voyage in 1492, which would certainly have been included if the map had been drawn in the sixteenth century. M de La Roncière further observed that the name of the Cape Verde islands was written not in Portuguese but in Italian. A note on the map mentioned that these islands were first located by a Genoese. The place of Genoa on the map was marked by an excellent sketch of the harbour, and Seville was indicated by a drawing of the Giralda. M. de La Roncière concludes that the map must have been the work of a Genoese who knew Spain. The handwriting strongly resembles that of notes signed by Christopher Columbus. Though there is no such thing as certainty in these matters, it seems reasonable to suppose that the map was the work either of Columbus himself or of his brother Bartolomew.

Exit the Bare Arm.

"No more bare arms" is the latest ukase of the Paris fashion dictators, who have made up their minds that, for the time being, only evening frocks are to be worn without sleeves. This was clearly demonstrated on Sunday, when Longchamp began another spring racing season and gave an opportunity for a remarkable display of the latest dress novelties. The mannequins' parade showed that the really chic walking costume is characterized by simple lines and elaborate embroidery. A dress which stood out as the most prominent specimen of the new style was in black. With closely fitting sleeves down to the wrist and frills hanging over the hand, and with its plainly pleated skirt, it would have been almost too severe but for its tunic of many colours. The tunic, which was white, was embroidered almost like a tapestry with a floral design in red, gold and purple.

With different colour combinations, this kind of frock was certainly in the majority, but all, without exception, had long sleeves. The hats were all of the small cloche type. They were mostly of fine woven straw and of the brightest of hues. The scarlet hat so fashionable two years ago was to be seen on all sides. Red is certainly one of the colours most favoured for scarves, ribbons and all forms of dress ornament. Many of the straw hats seen at Longchamp were gay with flower trimmings, such as pink roses and marigolds, and there were others with long ribbon streamers, some weighted with roses like those on the hat—a pretty novelty, very becoming when used with discretion but probably destined to be overdone.

LEGAL LIGHT ON SOLOMON

One has long suspected that some of the most famous legal decisions of history, or fiction, or drama would not stand the test of the modern Court of Appeal; and here is Judge Parry, in his introduction to a book of famous trials, ("The Drama of the Law") not merely confirming that suspicion, but questioning even the most famous judgment of Solomon himself.

It was the case about a baby, claimed by two mothers; and Solomon, you will remember, settled it, at least to his own satisfaction, by calling for a sword and proposing to divide the baby equally between the suitors. It was the willingness of the real mother to be non-suited if "he would in no wise slay it" that enabled Solomon to arrive at his decision as to the real ownship of the infant.

To-day "these Grand Guignol effects are frowned upon in the highest judicial circles." But at the time the effect of the case was to gain for Solomon a great reputation. Israel Judge Parry remarks liked the sporting character of the judgment; "but in fairness to our own judges, many of whom are probably at least as good as Solomon, we should remember that under the modern rules and procedure of our Courts any such judgment to-day would be reversed in the Court of Appeal on the ground that the alleged mother's last statement was [illegible] evidence."

From a strictly legal as well as [illegible] point of view, Judge Parry [illegible] more interested for the Trial Scene in "The Merchant of Venice" [illegible] does so on the [illegible] that legally Antonio is a contemptible character; "for what can be more insignificant than a judgment debtor who who has run his head into bankruptcy by signing a deed without the advice of his solicitor? You cannot make a hero of such a one."

And, discussing the Trial Scene, Judge Parry declares that the Duke, as acted by Henry Howe, is "a judge after the Chancellor's own heart," though:—

> At one moment he puts your heart into your mouth and you think the whole trial may suddenly collapse when he tries to settle the case and asks Shylock, "How shalt thou hope for mercy, rendering none?" Had Shylock jumped at this idea, and taken the opportunity to withdrawn a juror there would have been no trial. . . . The audience breathe freely when they hear Shylock, a typical obstinate plaintiff, decide to go on with the case, sure of victory, and determined to ask for costs on the higher scale.

As for those who have blamed Shakespeare for allowing Portia—a brilliant young "special" from the Padua bar—to talk bad law, and the judge to act upon it, Judge Parry declares it was just what would have happened.

> Here we have a judge of first instance: the court itself I take to be some kind of Quarter Sessions Court, and very likely the Duke is the unpaid chairman. Had the counsel been a member of the local bar he would have advised the court that Shylock was in right. But down comes this brilliant young "special" from Padua, backed with a letter from old Bellario—the battonnier of the Italian joint authority. What, I ask you, could the Duke do but listen to it with grave outward respect?

None of the many famous cases in real life recalled by Judge Parry—interesting as they all are as examples of drama—is more interesting than his reconstruction of the famous case of Shylock *v.* Antonio.

K. K.

GREAT MATHEMATICAL GENIUS

A Mental Marvel and a Vegetarian

Mr. Somesh Chandra Bose, the great Hindu ascetic and 'Mental Wizard' whose genius and mental marvel created a sensation in England, America and France returned after 22 months, to Calcutta, recently. The "Pioneer" admitted the Hindu genius as a 'human calculating machine.'

In one of his exhibitions in New York, Mr. Bose multiplied two numbers of 60 digits each in 45 minutes. The answer proved to be correct, although those who worked out the problem on paper laughed but turned out to be in error. Some of his records go to prove that he worked out a cube root of 18 digits in 2 sec., 5th root of 16 digits in 2 sec. and 7th roof of 35 digits in 3 sec.

In Paris Mr. Bose was asked by a Professor of Mathematics to find out the total number of seconds from December 24, 1873, up to 10 a.m. of February 26, 1924, the answer of which he declared, to the surprise of all present, only in 27 sec.

He astonished the doctors by living only on milk and occasionally on pea-nuts and grapes and thereby gaining in weight and he had no sickness for the last 22 months.

Mr. Lloyd George, while sailing from U. S. was, we were informed, 'mysteriously followed by an Indian' and this man as has been admitted by the "World" was Mr. Somesh Ch. Bose the Hindu 'Mathematical marvel.' He was not allowed to sail on the same ship with Mr. Lloyd George as he was alleged to have chased Mr. Lloyd George throughout his American trip and was regarded as a 'dangerous person' to travel in the same ship with Mr. Lloyd George.—"Servant."

A RELIC OF 1874

First British Locomotive

"It is announced that the first locomotive ever made in England is to be sold," says the "Daily Telegraph." "This is the steam carriage which William Murdock built, about 1784, at Redruth. What it was like the curious may see from the copy at South Kensington. The original now for sale was long exhibited in the Birmingham Art Gallery. It is a little thing, driven by what was called a grasshopper engine, because its beam action was supposed to resemble the kick of the insect.

"Murdock and his friends were much impressed when it would 'travel a mile or two' and he could 'make it carry the fire-shovel, poker, and tongs.' He tried it by night on a smooth path leading to Redruth church, and it shot away from him, and the vicar and his wife coming home in the dark were much alarmed to see 'some mysterious object snorting and zigzagging' in front of them.

"This was not indeed, the first locomotive ever built. Isaac Newton had a notion of one in the 17th century. Cugnot, a French military engineer, built one in 1763. Murdock had the advantage of the work of Watt in developing the steam engine, for he was in the service of the great Boulton and Watt firm, and it was while looking after the many pumping engines which the Soho works built for the Cornish mines that he made his locomotive. It might have been supposed that holding an important post in the employ of men who were eminent for inventive genius and practical ability, Murdock would have the best opportunities for making the most of his invention.

"We cannot accuse either Boulton or Watt of prejudices against new ideas. It seems almost incredible that the men who had had so large a share in the transformation of industry by the application of steam power should have been blind to the possibilities of applying their steam engines to locomotion. There is hardly a more striking instance of the limitations within which even far-sighted and able minds are bound.

"For Boulton and Watt did everything in their power to discourage Murdock. It was not that the employer wished to have the profit of the employee's inventions, or that the employer resented the employee giving his time to private affairs. For they made no difficulty about assisting him in his other great invention, the use of coal gas for light. They were simply unable to believe there was any future for steam carriages. Watt is found wishing Murdock 'could be brought to do as we do, to mind the business in hand, and let such as Symington and Sadler throw away their time and money hunting shadows."

SIR AUCKLAND GEDDES

From Diplomacy to Business

Sir Auckland Geddes, who early this year resigned his post as Ambassador to the United States, which he had held for three years, has entered business life, having become a director of the Liverpool, London, & Globe Insurance Company. Sir Auckland, whose tenure of office at Washington covered the Washington Conference and the Anglo-American debt settlement, suffered from ill-health during his last year in America, his eyesight being seriously affected. When he returned to England he said that he would have a few months' rest before taking up any new work, and his health is now fully restored.

Sir Auckland was one of the War Ministers. He was Professor of Anatomy at McGill University, Montreal, when the War broke out, entered the army (he had held a commission in the Highland Light Infantry in the South African War), and rose to be Brigadier General in charge of recruiting, 1916-17. He then joined the Government as Minister of National Service, became successively President of the Local Government Board, Minister of Reconstruction in 1919, and President of the Board of Trade. In 1920 he was appointed Principal of McGill University, and the same year went to Washington as Ambassador.

His brother, Sir Eric Geddes, also left politics for business after the fall of the Coalition Government.

THE TRUTH ABOUT BORES

I have for long suspected, and I now am satisfied, that the bore [illegible] with guilty knowledge, that [illegible] accepted here well knows himself to be such, and, indeed, derives [illegible] perverted form of pleasure [illegible] witnessing the havoc which his [illegible] pearance creates.

I was watching, from an armchair in the smoking-room at the Eleet to-day, the entry of our recognized bore, and I realized that as he swam into the room, slowly turning his head from right to left in search of a victim, there was definite blood lust in his eyes. The havoc he caused was no more than normal, but undoubtedly he was enjoying every moment of it.

Major-Gen. Blunderbuss, whose eyes were momentarily disengaged in the act of raising his glass of sherry, crashed the glass down untasted, and hid himself behind a copy of the "Architectural Gazette" that lay handy. Old Sir Ferdinand Tawny, who has not set his left foot to the ground for three decades, abandoned his stick and favourite armchair and covered the distance to the door in level time. Lord Broadacres realizing too late his isolated and vulnerable position, had no time to make a plan, and it was instinct which prompted him in the nick of time to seize a Bradshaw and call loudly to a passing waiter for a telegraph form. Its arrival enabled him to break away.

The Egoist

A bore is, of course, nothing but an egoist, one who believes that his affairs, his views, his voice are supremely and universally worth hearing. He is not of necessity without brains.

A wrangler, an inventor, an explorer of forbidden Tibet may be, and often is, a bore. A man who has a story to tell becomes a bore if in the telling he cannot divorce his own ego from the fact or news-item he has to relate. That is why we are all of us capable of boring our friends—because in moments of self-pity (following influenza) our ego swells and dwarfs our cosmos. The recognized or throttling bore is one whose ego looks down, a menacing, permanent Albert Memorial, on a square no bigger than a backyard.

Golf is a selfish game; success depends very largely on your own efforts. That is why golf shop is always boring. Roulette shop, on the other hand, may be quite the reverse. On the whole the crown of boredom is reserved for those sportsmen who tell you about the lions they have shot and those snobs who tell you about the lions they have met.

After dinner speakers are bores, almost to a man. The reason, I think, is that after dinner speeches appear to demand anecdotes, and anecdotes are gone out of fashion. Gone, too, is the patient endurance that enabled human beings to sit for long periods on a hard dining-room chair. The race of listeners is indeed emasculated. Gone are the heroes of old who listened to Macaulay and applauded Sydney Smith, or even Chauncey Depew. The American expert public diner is beginning to find his best market closing to him.

Guilty Knowledge

People are apt to class stupid or uninspired persons as bores This is wrong. The bore is invariably active, the test being the existence of guilty knowledge. Whether or not stupidity, which is largely preventable, should be punished with imprisonment, I am not prepared to say. About 80 per cent. of the population of these islands are criminally stupid. The bore, however, should unquestionably be punished with death, and the bodies of the criminals should be handed over to hospitals for scientific research. These would yield on dissection (in addition to the abnormally enlarged egos) a great quantity of the thickest hide, which could be put to a variety of useful commercial purposes.

It is a bitter reflection that sufficient vitality and driving force to ensure life success to half-a-dozen normal persons must go to the making of every bore. If the bore were not an incurable criminal, some form of Borstal treatment for young offenders might be attempted. I well remember such an attempt. . . but I fear I bore you.

BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION OPENING

Wonderful Spectacle: The Scene at the Stadium: Radio Triumph: King's Speech Heard by Millions: Truly British Ceremony

By Hugh Martin in the "Daily News."

There are various ways of saying "How British!" and we heard them all at Wembley.

There is the way foreign visitors were saying it when they saw for the first time the restraint and solidity—what we are pleased to call the dignity—of much of the architecture. It was said with a kind smile. There is the way they said it when they had had time to appreciate the marvellous variety and astonishing richness of the contents of this Empire Store—the way in which you speak about a very able business man.

Magnificent Setting.

And there is the way they said "How British!" at the Stadium when, towards the close of an hour's pageantry, they had begun to glimpse, through the perfection and gravity of great ceremonial, that spirit of self-confident reserve, of purposeful endeavour, of instinctive selection and omission which is of the essence of the national character.

This opening in the Stadium stuck me as wonderful, largely because of what it left out. Like the Exhibition itself, it was scornful of mere drama.

It said what it had to say plainly, powerfully, cleanly. Power was the keynote. Anyone is entitled to prefer style to power, but nobody is entitled to demand that power shall also be "stylish," Beautiful it can be through control, and here we had the very perfection of that beauty.

The concrete Stadium might have been designed to demonstrate power, and the Army, which had charge of the arrangements, made exactly the right use of its theatre.

Climbing to my seat just before half-past ten, I looked down upon an oval of green lawn so smooth, and, even under the grey sky, so brilliant, that it might have been a stage backcloth. Round it a broad, spotless cinder-track, with amphitheatre seats and terraces sloping up from the outer edge.

Scarlet, Purple and Gold.

Already many tens of thousands must have been present. To the right, at the far end of the oval, facing the Royal Dais, a prodigious bank of white surplices, enclosing a lake of scarlet, was evidently the massed choirs, with their accompanying military band. The conductor had a tall red pulpit down on the cinder track.

The canopied dais itself, severe in outline, struck one as incredibly brilliant considering the lack of sunshine. Just scarlet, purple and gold; no flummery of ornament, but a massive crown above the centre. Two thrones below the crown, vacant as yet, and the gilt chairs around rapidly filling with all sorts of important personages, top-hatted, turbanned, uniformed, frock-coated, even lounge-suited.

Yeomen of the Guard, in scarlet and gold—portentous, mediæval—were on a sort of apron stage. Gentlemen-at-Arms, in plumed hats, stood beside the thrones. Then to right and left of the dais soldiers and police, in all colourings of skin, from the Dominions and Colonies. Dim memories of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, when the Empire, as we know it, was still almost a novelty, came floating, a trifle pathetic, curiously questioning. . .

And from the high ranges of the amphitheatre another questioning—the starling-chatter of thousands of school children who will live to help write another chapter of Empire history which we elders should very much like to read.

The youngsters had a great time all the morning. Their cheering was a tonic. Nothing mechanical about it, but the sheer joy of delight in a jolly spectacle.

At half-past ten to the second the programme opened, and thrillingly, too. Say what you like about the bagpipes, they do stir the blood. Just as their white-spatted feet touched the track the kilted pipers of the Scots and Irish Guards loosed wailing music on the air and swung off playing round the arena. Immediately behind came the massed bands of the Brigade of Guards —Scots, Irish, Welsh, Coldstream, and Grenadier—in scarlet coats and mountainous busbies.

Back to Childhood.

Forming up across the greensward, six lines deep facing the dais, they began to play when the pipers had ceased, and they played all that vast multitude back into childhood and beyond. Surely they played tears into more eyes than mine with their "Voice of the Guns" and their "On to Victory." "Thank God," you felt sure a great many from every corner of the Empire were saying to themselves, this is just a show; we'll never hear them play like that again for the boys marching away. . . ."

Presently they played—in the Guards of Honour—the Navy with "Hearts of Oak," the Marines with "Life on the Ocean Wave," the Army with "British Grenadiers," the Air Force with "The Royal Air Force March."

Five drum-majors stood before them as they played, and the trombones—in and out! in and out!—were a front line right across the Stadium, and the men marched just as stiffly as toy soldiers ought to, and the conductor conducted by nodding his bearskin like abaton, and the children danced with delight, and all of us would have liked to do the same. What a lark! If this is Empire let's have more and more of it! Come and play at soldiers, you Britishers, from all the ends of the earth!

A mulberry-coloured motor-car, driving slowly round the track at ten minutes past eleven, brings us back from the land where there are no internal combustion engines.

The Prince of Wales is in the car, so it raises a wind of cheering as it half-circles and comes to a halt before the still-empty thrones. All the wooden soldiers and sailors, line upon line along the emerald turf, spring to life for a moment, saluting; then are wood again.

THE KING'S ARRIVAL

Roar of Welcome from Vast Gathering.

Next, seven golden-coated trumpeters on seven tall horses, entering abreast, take up the tale, blowing a ringing fanfare on seven silver trumpets. They are announcing the approach of the King and Queen. Everything moves like clockwork; the outriders are in the Stadium at 11.25 precisely.

Three State coaches drawn by four chestnuts apiece come first; then a dozen Horse Guards caracoling on black chargers, and—to a roar that goes round and across the amphitheatre—King George and Queen Mary, with the Duke of York and Prince Henry, all in a great pink-satin-lined coach, swaying behind a team of six postillioned bays.

The flutter of handkerchiefs is like foam on the crest of a great wave rolling with leisured stateliness along the Stadium cliff, booming as it goes.

Though they are mere midgets in this stupendous setting we can just see that the King is in Admiral's uniform and the Queen in silver grey, with her gloved hand on a grey rolled-up parasol. What a picture if the sun had been shining; but still, what a picture!

King and Queen pass to their Thrones. The Commonwealth of Nations stands at attention. The Royal Standard bellows heavily out from the masthead.

President's Greeting.

Welcome to the King in the name of the Exhibition has been extended by the Prince of Wales, its President, and now we hear the Prince's voice, prodigiously magnified by the five megaphones in the turret above his head, but unmistakably his down to the smallest detail of enunciation.

He points out to the King that here at Wembley is to be found "a complete and vivid picture of all your Empire," which should suggest to the world that "the most powerful agency of civilisation has its heart set upon peaceful aims and the good of mankind."

The King's voice in reply is louder still, and every word must be as clearly heard by each one of the multitude as though the two were together in a small room.

Again, there is not the smallest distortion in the vocalisation, nor is there any appreciable echo, at any rate at my point of hearing.

A characteristic passage runs:

> Co-operation between brothers for the better development of the family estate can hardly fail to promote family affection, and we hope further that the success of the Exhibition may bring lasting benefits not to the Empire only but to mankind in general.

While he reads, the King emphasises each noteworthy phrase with a vigorous beat of hand and arm, tiny gestures seen from far off that contrast quaintly with the giant voice.

Bishop's Prayer.

The Bishop of London prays:

> *As we have mastered nature that we might gain wealth, help us to master the social relations of mankind that we may gain justice and a world of brothers. Make us determined to live by truth, and to found our common life on the eternal foundations of righteousness and love.*

He then says the Lord's Prayer, audible to all with the help of this mastery of nature about which he has just spoken.

The singing by the massed church choirs of Blake's "Jerusalem" is most beautiful, and remarkably near vocal perfection, considering the physical difficulties. You can even catch, across the arena's huge space, the words:

> *I will not cease from mental fight,*
> *Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,*
> *Till we have built Jerusalem*
> *In England's green and pleasant land.*

Salute of the Guns.

Afterwards the King, with no word that is audible, opens the Exhibition. A fanfare of trumpets, the first thunder of a salute of 21 guns, fired outside, the breaking of the Union Jack and the Dominion and Colonial flags from 300 flagstaffs, and the enterprise is launched upon its career.

On the greensward the massed bands of the Guards are executing stately manœuvres, with mathematical precision, to their own music, first "trooping" the Colours slowly, then quickly—a fascinating stage show.

Messenger Boy Who Delighted the Crowd.

While they march and play there is an incident that delights the crowd.

A uniformed telegraph messenger enters the Stadium and walks across the arena to where the King is seated, 200 yards away. A trying ordeal, but the lad goes through with it bravely and delivers his message to the King in person. There is great laughter and clapping as he returns, and near the great doors he breaks into a run, to everyone's delight.

The message was a cable sent round the world by the King himself, and it girdled the globe in 1 minute 20 seconds!

The wording simply ran: "I have this moment opened the British Empire Exhibition," and it had been handed in by an equerry at the Stadium Post Office.

Now we can see a figure in green —Miss Thomas, daughter of the Colonial Secretary—advance to the Queen and present her with a bouquet, following which the King is presented with a gold model of the globe. Then there are presentations on the dais, among them those of four workmen (Messrs. Mortimer, Lowth, Sheddon, and Meale) who have done fine service in getting the exhibition ready.

There follows more good music—Elgar's "Imperial" march by the massed bands; the same composer's "Land of Hope and Glory," by the massed choirs; and finally, "Rule, Britannia," as the King and Queen drive out.

A finely conceived and finely executed ceremony, British through and through, and proud of it!

NIGHT SCENES

Amusement Park First Favourite: Flood Light

The Canada building stands out to-night in a glory of flood light—a massive and noble building seen from across the lake. It is the only building which is lighted by the flood light, which later will illuminate the principal palaces in the grounds.

The avenues are lighted by pale blue arc lamps, but it would be untrue to say that to-night the grounds are brilliant.

In the Amusement Park some of the side shows are carrying on without lights at all, and there are dark roads and corners where you pick your way warily over uneven ground.

Far From Crowded.

There are several thousand people in the grounds to-night, but the Exhibition was far from being crowded. It is not possible to give exact figures, but I understand that up to 4 o'clock this afternoon only 75,000 people had paid to come through the turnstiles.

The crowd in the Stadium this morning is estimated at 50,000 most of whom probably passed through the gate and not the turnstiles. To this should be added a few more thousand visitors this evening, bringing the total to well over 100,000.

This is far from breaking a record, but the explanation may be found in the fact that most people know that the exhibition is hardly ready and prefer to arrange their visit for a later date, when things are rather more under way.

A amusement Park has been the best patronized section tonight.

The dance hall opened at 7 o'clock and was well filled by 9 o'clock. The only spectacular amusement in full swing was a roundabout.

Electric Car Tour.

I boarded an electric car, driven by a very polite young man, who took an obvious delight in his new job, and drove through the Amusement Park. There were many promenaders, but little to amuse them.

The crowds in the Palace of Engineering and the Palace of Industry were rather disappointed. There were too many empty spaces. But we can afford to overlook that; it will all be remedied in a day or two.

The crowds themselves were full of interest. Here and there you met Indians and obvious Colonials.

No one need fear any difficulty in the matter of transport. The railways and bus companies dealt with to-day's crowds with ease; and although Messrs. Lyons have not opened all their numerous restaurants they were able to-day to serve over 80,000 meals.

NIGHT TURNED INTO DAY

What Selenium May Accomplish in the Near Future

"If anyone were to strike a match on the moon, we could discover the fact on earth by means of selenium, even with out a telescope. And that feat could be accomplished in one second."

That is one of the many extraordinary powers of selenium revealed by Dr. E. E. Fournier D'Albe, an international authority on the subject, in The Moon Element: An Introduction to the wonders of Selenium.

Dr. Fournier d'Albe thinks that an instrument may be devised on the basis of the properties of selenium, which will, in effect, turn the night into day so far as visibility is concerned.

During the war, the author, in conjunction with Mr. Grindell Matthews, constructed a motor-boat which was controlled by means of a searchlight.

Before Lord Fisher, Mr. (now Lord) Balfour and leading experts this motor-boat was manœuvred on the Penn Pond, in Richmond Park, in December, 1915. For the first time the author tells how, obedient to the beam of light, the boat careered about the pond.

The day after the test Mr. Grindell Matthews received a deposit of £25.000 from the Government.

STATUE OF WILLIAM BLACKSTONE

American Gift to London

It is announced that a statue of William Blackstone, whose famous "Commentaries on the Laws of England" is still a standard legal work, is to be erected in London.

Blackstone was born in London in 1723. and the statue is the gift of America, whose laws have been founded on his "Commentaries." The design and execution of the statue have been entrusted to Mr. Paul W. Bartlett, the well-known American sculptor, who is now engaged upon the work in his Paris studio. The statue is to be in bronze, and, including the base of plinth, will be eight feet in height, the figure of Blackstone being life size.

So far no decision has been reached in regard to the site of the statue, which it is hoped will be publicly unveiled next July, when the conference of American, Canadian, and English lawyers will be held in London.

The American Committee responsible for the scheme comprises all the living ex-Presidents of the American Bar Association, with the Chief Justice of the United States, Mr. William Howard Taft, as Chairman.

MISS HO TUNG IN LONDON

Her Gown That Is Summer: A Girl of Modern China

Miss Mary Ho Tung, a slender and fascinating representative of China's modern young womanhood, has come to London with her parents, Sir Robert and Lady Ho Tung, for the opening of the Empire Exhibition, writes a London correspondent.

Sir Robert's title was conferred in 1915 in recognition of his educational and patriotic work in Hongkong.

Sir Robert is the son of Ho Si-man, and has been described as one of the greatest and most generous of merchant princes.

Miss Ho Tung powders her pretty nose just as we do. She wears drop earrings, jade beads, and French heels. But she prefers the somewhat austere Chinese national costume to our London and Paris fashions.

Under Lady Ho Tung's advice, however, Miss Mary bought a hat, her first—in Hongkong—"to 'do as Rome does' when I arrived in London," she laughingly explained to me.

"It hurts my head, so I do not intend to wear it any more.

"Father likes me to wear Chinese costumes," Miss Ho Tung added, in her nicely-pronounced English.

"The Very Latest."

Presently this almond-eyed maid of the Orient came tripping down the stairs of the very Occidental house that Sir Robert has taken at Northwood, carrying the tray of her quite 1924 travelling trunk.

"That one I should wear to a dinner party, perhaps," she said, fingering an exquisite satin in soft deep blue, lightly patterned.

"But this," she exclaimed, "is the very latest"—showing a wonderful Chinese silk patterned and coloured like an English flower-garden in midsummer, even including the butterflies and blue sky.

"Shall I put it on for you?" was the next rather surprising question.

Miss Ho Tung took exactly 20 minutes to change into the "function frock" of China.

With it went black high-heeled slippers and fine silk stocking, and I noticed that pearl earrings and a little fresh powder had been added to complete the effect.

"At My Wedding."

The costume (like the half-dozen others) was made in the regulation jacket style, with an inch-and-a-half collar-band and a three-quarter-length kimono sleeve.

The (separate) skirt was 1¾ yards round the hem.

"We do not wear low neck and sleeveless dresses in China," said Miss Ho Tung.

"But some of our young women have bobbed their hair, some smoke cigarettes, and most of us love modern dancing."

Miss Ho Tung wears a beautiful solitaire diamond engagement ring.

"I want to wear white on my wedding day—like London girls," she said.

"Of course our mothers-in-law prefer scarlet or pink for brides, because white is worn at funerals in our country.

"My fiancé studied engineering and architecture in London University, and"—this shyly—"he proposed in the European way——

"Yes, I shall wear white for my wedding!" she decided.

WARSAW, May 24.—The Japanese Military Mission headed by General Izurata will arrive here to-morrow to study the Polish military organization. Afterwards the Mission will proceed to Britain and America.—Reuter.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

THE GREAT DECISION

Sermon Preached to the S.V.C. in Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. A. N. Rowland, on May 18, 1924

"Choose ye this day Whom ye will serve." Josh. 24. 15.

There is nothing that searches a man more closely than the appeal for moral decision, and nothing that satisfies him better when he has made his answer. But can it be [illegible] made up his mind in religion seeing there are so many conflicting claims, so many churches and doctrines, such a variety of standards and standpoints? What can a man do with all these. Why should he not wait until the churches are agreed, and the controversies settled and all Christians perfect. And meantime *drift*? There is a better answer than that. Let a man put all these questions on one side, and concentrate on the one issue that really matters. "Choose *Whom* ye will serve." It is a personal loyalty that makes religion a reality.

In the Cambridge Boat that broke the spell of Oxford's victories just before the war half the crew were keen Christian men, and one of them was Kenneth Gordon Garnett. Mountaineer and mathematician, a man of unusual gifts and charm, he won the M.C. and the Croix de Guerre and fell in 1917. In a brief memoir of him it is written "He hero-worshipped his Lord and had no doubts or difficulties about doc- [illegible] sonal loyalty and your particular learning may settle themselves.

[illegible] there may be a hundred standpoints on the rim of a wheel, but all on one axis, and so the old waggon moves on. That is just how the world advances. Its future rests on [illegible] various standpoints but are all related to Christ by faith and obedience, loyalty and service, which may be called the spokes of the wheel. Decision for Christ fixes your life on its true centre, makes you part of the wheel that can carry the burden, and makes you capable of bearing the strain. Whether God gives you much or little to carry, whether your load be one of responsibility or obedience, opposition, loss or success, life cannot buckle or break if it rests on Christ. "Choose *Whom* ye will serve."

II

I suppose in the long run we all admit this. There is not a man who would say it is not true, but many act as if it were not urgent, and plan for a "good time" first. But who told us our life would be long, or if it were that we should retain our present powers of weighing things? The passing of time does not leave us unchanged, and we have to pay out for all experience. [illegible] "Choose *Whom* ye will serve." It is a personal loyalty that makes religion a reality.

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A brilliant French book published just before the war tells of a young officer who was sick of the "good time" he had extracted for himself from the pleasures of Paris, and he took up a command in the French provinces of North Africa, where he was confronted with Mohammedanism and its mark on social life. The thought pursued and at last captured him that he, as an officer of the French army, was representative of a Christian flag and a Christian standard, and he must change his heart and his ways and he was to fulfil his trust. It is a burning thought for us who have come from Christian homes to a non-Christian land.

III

One glance at the last word before I have done. "Choose Whom ye will *serve*. God's will is a service. Salvation in the Christian sense is not securing a berth for heaven, but as John Masefield put it, it means "to brother all the souls on earth." I leave the distinction sharp because it is a heresy to put the gospel selfishly. Whatever we are rescued from—and only God knows that, our mind is to be on things above as a power for things in front, that we may serve our day and generation with all that

Did you read of the cadets that were recently put on board a ship by the Chinese Government, that they might learn good seamanship under foreign direction and become of service to their country? They refused to keep time in their rowing or to haul up the boat until they had had their chow. "We came on board to be "captain,'" replied those young men, "not to take orders but to give them," and they went on in their contemptible way. And by contrast we think of "His Majesty's Service" with its traditions and discipline and responsibility which are the pride of our race. We think again of the feudal motto under which our monarchy has come to its place of security and honour—"Ich dien"—I serve. That secret of our public life came from Christ, whose programme never was to please Himself or be waited on, but to "minister to others and to give His life a ransom for many." "Therefore God hath highly exalted Him that in the name of Jesus every knee should bow." "Choose ye this day Whom ye will serve."

OF BALLET DANCERS AND WISE MEN

By Nora Toeg.

The three Children were waiting their turn in the drawing room of the Theatre. They were Ballet Dancers and all were fair and very beautiful.

[illegible] are born, not made. They live in a world of their own, and although at times they condescend to come into ours and are always very welcome, still they make no secret of the fact that [illegible] theirs. Its whereabouts is not exactly known, and they themselves are very silent on the subject, but it is believed to be in the clouds.

A Ballet has a Soul, no Ballet is complete without it, for the Soul of the Ballet is in the Music, in the deep slumbering magic of its Sound.

And now having introduced the Children we would introduce to you the Wise Man, the man from Our World.

He enters the little drawing room and bows gravely to the Children.

"How do you do?" said the First Child. "How do you do?" replied the Man. He wore glasses [illegible] his very mild beard and hair, and his voice was very nice and kind, so that the Second Child [illegible] and said, though somewhat breathlessly: "Won't you sit down?" "Thank you" said the Man, and made himself comfortable in a big arm chair.

[illegible] the Man thought he should start a conversation with the Children though he was at a complete loss as to what he should say, it having been many years since he was himself a child. And while he was still ruminating the First Child spoke. "Do you like dancing"? she asked

"Well—er to be frank" he replied, "I do not. I made an attempt at it some time ago, but was obliged to abandon it. It gave me palpitations. I cannot say that I am particularly interested in this kind of—er pantomine, nor in the more serious form of Classical Dancing I believe you call it, it may be that I have no 'artistic sense,' but the execution of such—er acrobatic evolutions appears to me merely ridiculous."

"He is a Cynic" said the First Child.

"What is a Cynic"? inquired the Youngest.

"A man who has lost his sense of humour."

"How do you know?" asked the Second Child.

"Daddy said so."

That seemed to settle the question. So they said "Oh" and looked at him pityingly. They did not quite understand what it was he had lost, but he had lost something and they were sorry for him.

The "Cynic" however continued the conversation, ignoring their remarks. "From earliest times, in every land, the world over, dancing has existed and will never cease to exist. The barbaric instinct of giving expression to the feelings by the performance of certain antics, according to the national characteristics of races and people, is natural, but carefully trained movements produce far more pleasing results."

"He is a very Superior Man" spoke the Second Child.

"What is Superior?" asked the Youngest who was of an inquiring turn of mind.

"Conceited" said the First Child sweetly.

"For example," continued the Superior One, who had become fascinated with his subject, "We shall find that among the Ostyak tribes, the Kinnowits, the Gonds, the Kamchadales, the Coast Negroes, the Bushmen, the Hottentots and the Zulus, the object is to imitate the gambols of wild beasts, hunting scenes, fights and war dances. Religious dances are also a great feature among the savages. Among the civilized nations there are the traditional folk dances and ball room dances. The Ballet is more or less modern but was first produced in Italy and later became popular at all the European Courts. It is the representation of Classical Mythology, by dancing, gesture and pose."

The Children were completely bewildered, and had ceased even to appear gravely interested. Then stealthily and mysteriously there penetrated into the room the dreamy strains of a violin, and obeying an impulse, the Youngest Child began to dance, sublimely indifferent to her surroundings, with the calm assurance of the perfect artist.

She believed in Fairies and Witches and Things. She heard their voices in the music, calling to her in soft silvery accents, but she knew that she could not go, so she held out her arms to them, soft shapely arms, and smiled at them, displaying dimples. She entreated them to leave her, and now she danced after them, and now she danced away from them, but they returned and this time their voices rang louder, more insistently, and once she thought she heard a sob . . . it was only a chord really. And if you were watching you would have noticed something indescribably sad in the wistful brown eyes, in the pose of the slender baby form that swayed with all the delicate grace of an exquisite flower. But the end was always sad, for she had played with the fairies and now she could only hear their voices faintly in the distance. . . . would that she too had been a fairy and could play with them for ever. . . .

The Children looked round for the customary applause, but there was none, the Man was asleep.

They crept up noiselessly and peered at him, they were very very Young Things after all, and the Man from Our World was no doubt bored.

"He is asleep," they said. "He was certainly a very nice man but he was too wise to understand." And then they were called away and complete forget about him.

IMPRESSIONS OF CHINA

An Act of Friendship

By George E. Sokolsky.

A picture was missing from the Exhibit. One name was omitted from among the exhibitors. One person was not there to enjoy the praises of his friends. Hit by a beam when the earth was trembling, far from his friends, dead in a moment, he whose future was so brilliant, who saw so much to do and did everything so well. Jules Madsen would have been enthusiastic over the exhibit of pictures by the China Society of Sciences and Arts. But Madsen could not be present. Not even one of his many pictures was hung. Perhaps his name was not even mentioned. Yet, Madsen in his way did much to enliven an interest in art in Shanghai. His own little exhibits surely reminded us that men live not by bread alone, even in this city. Perhaps another exhibition might be held one day to which some kind soul will send a picture signed, Jules Madsen.

Frederick Ward

A seaman, an adventurer, a fighter, an organizer, he saved the China of his day. "Chinese" Gordon put the finishing touches to the mad Taipings. Ward put a period to their onward march. Thenceforth it was retrocession for them. What makes a man like Ward? Why will such people wander the world in search of romance and adventure? Many a sailor boy in Yankee Massachusetts in those days of the whaling ships, when Martha's Vineyard was a place and Salem counted on the map, looked seaward to bringing Spanish dollars to China and returning to Boston Harbour or New York with tea and silk. And many a youth in search of gold in California found himself drunk and stupid in a miserable vessel, shanghaied for China. Here they joined the imps and the Taipings, whichever would pay, and fought until the life blood flowed no more. Ward's little mound in Sungkiang is but one; there should be more for gallant foreign boys who gave their lives that China might not be ravaged by fanatical madmen. They fought because they loved the fight: but China gained the victory.

Sun Chung-ying

When the Emperor Yu stopped the floods he engraved his name upon the grateful memory of 30 centuries. He brought to suffering peoples, comfort and prosperity. But China's floods continue. The Yellow River, scourge of a nation, moves its erratic way, leaving in its wake hunger and death. The Huai inundates a countryside and some say keeps a quarter of the entire nation in poverty. What better work can any man do than to devote the grey years of prosperity to the control of this reckless stream, to bringing millions of piculs of rice out of the soil, to lessening poverty for a nation. A native of the Huai country, scion of the merchant princes of Yangchow, where once Marco Polo governed and art and literature flourished, Sun Chung-ying does not accept the ease his age and wealth allow him. He gives to China what strength remains. Of him it will some day be said: "His heart was like unto that of Yu. He loved his people and he laboured for them."

Humiliation Day

The aged one was tending to his affairs. Entered Student enthusiastic, fountain pen prominent, white hat *à la* Beatty, fire in his eye.

"And are you not celebrating Humiliation Day?" he asked of the aged one.

The sire scratched his head. He looked this way and that. He sought a calendar which had not been brought up-to-date. He looked into his hat.

"Ai-i," he said. "I put it inside my hat-band last year, so I remembered to celebrate. But I sold the hat and bought a new one. It is forgotten, both the hat and humiliation day. It is too bad."

Sun Wen

To kill Sun Yat-sen by press cables is not to make him dead. Nor yet can parliament make him a saint and enroll his name in the history of the republic, and make him dead. Assassination is the tool of fools, for one springs up where one goes down. Tyrants and good men, wise men and fools, statesmen and dunces, are always with us, like the rich and the poor. Is Sun Wen alive or dead? He says he is [illegible] others say he is dead. Alive or dead, it matters little, for the work will go on. And therein lies the only strength he ever had. For Sun Yat-sen represents not a man but a practice of government. The man may disappear, he may blunder like a child guiding a dreadnought, he may show genius in statecraft like a Talleyrand. Whichever it is, the result will be the same: the result is that China having once sought a Western hue requires but the time to make the garb fit the person. Is Sun dead or alive? Ask Tsao Kun and Wu Pei-fu. Ask Tuan Chih-jui and Chang Tso-lin?

An Act of Friendship

The return of the remainder of the Boxer Indemnity to China by the United States, is, according to the preamble of the Bill passed by Congress, *an act of friendship*. The original bill contained the same phrase in its preamble. Friendship, however, is reciprocal. A friend must be a friend to someone. He must accept friendship from someone. A stylite cannot be a friend. A hermit cannot have a friend. A grouch does not encourage friendship. A slap in the face does not develop great friendship. The United States has returned these funds which are hers by treaty as an act of friendship. The United States has not adhered to the letter of her rights in the matter. Because she wanted to be China's friend, because she wanted China to be her friend, she disregarded her rights. Yet, at this moment many questions pend between China and the United States which involve a possible lessening of that friendship. The illegal tax on American goods cannot make for friendship. It sort of indicates that China does not want to be the friend of the United States. It is a negation of friendship. The sticking to the letter of agreements where the spirit, the intention, is so much bigger, the road around the Settlement, the refusal even to discuss the Trade Mark question, the petty difficulties American traders and missionaries meet in the interior, are not indicatons of a desire to be friendly. They indicate, in a way, that perhaps the friendship is slightly one-sided, that the American people love, admire and respect the people of China, but that the officials of China only utilize this affection to annoy the lover. This is of course not true of the Chinese people. But how can those who do not live in China, who cannot distinguish between the will of the people and the doings of the officials, know they they are not one in spirit?

A SONG OF MAY

Oh, may I sport my new felt hat,
My latest suit of tender grey?
I think—the sun is shining—that
I may.

Oh, may my gloves of pearly kid
And new white spats now see the light?
I thought just now—indeed, I did—
They might.

But sunny moments quickly pass
The rain pours down, the skies are grey—
For you're a fickle month, alas!
O May!

Leslie M. Oyler
("Windsor Magazine.")

Tokio Municipal statisticians estimate that although Tokio inhabitants, who sought refuge out of the city after the September earthquake, have been rapidly returning, the population is still about 900,000 less than before the disaster. The present population is said to be about 1,600,000. According to an investigation made last November the population was 1,520,000. The next count will be made in October. The authorities expect the population will be increased to 1,750,000 by that time.

Mr. J. Hedley Drummond writes to a Home paper: "For the second or third time within a brief period the cablegrams report an attempt by Chinese pirates disguised as passengers on a British ship. The game is as familiar as the confidence trick, and much older. When will our Board of Trade take a leaf from the book of the Portuguese Government of Macao? Portuguese ships in the Far East only carry Chinese passengers below decks, and such passengers are, to all intents and purposes, in a cage. Further, all Portuguese crews are armed, while Chinese are searched for arms on embarkation. No [illegible] is ever attempted in a Portuguese ship." Before rushing to print Mr Drummond should have familiarized himself with his subject.

SHANGHAI—THE WONDER CITY OF ALL ASIA

I.—Export Trade at a Glance; Produce Man Knight of China Commerce; Shanghai's Principal Exporting Activities; Figures for Recent Decades; Tremendously Fascinating Topic.

By "Scrutator."

To my way of thinking, the export man in China is able to sense real romance in his work. He who sells manufactured goods from Home countries cannot conjure up many romantic visions—he has to sell, and when his goods are sold and he has collected his bills, well, he has to do the same thing over again and keep on doing it. But the export man has a very different mission. He makes the far confines of China Far West, Kansu, Mongolia, Yunnan and all the Eighteen Provinces his field of vision, and may still claim to be a pioneer. He takes his silk, his seeds and beans, his skins and furs, his oils and fats, his braids and grasses, his hair and wool, his ores and sundries, his dry cargo and wet cargo, and can follow them, from regions where the story of the world's youth is still being sung, over the seas to the industries of the West where so many of our kind spend their lives in pulling the same old levers. The export man can look out from his desk and visualize the collecting of his cargoes: he sells and ships: collects his taels: and then these same commodities are to a great extent brought back again to be sold to the Chinese in manufactured form in due course of time by his colleague the importer. Yes, the real export man is the Knight of China Trade.

And, indeed, true export men, those who sense the pleasure of their trade, are in a class by themselves.

Over 200 Commodities

I find on refernce to the "Far Eastern Products Manual" that some 200 miscellaneous commodities find their way to foreign countries from the port of Shanghai, which handles practically all China products. This does not by any means imply, however, that the successful export man gives any attention to a majority of them. Perhaps he does not handle more than five per cent. of them, perhaps not that percentage, for the true exporter touches only that which he knows. In the old days an export man was a one-commodity being. The tea man was a tea man all his life, and his is a class that has not changed much. Similarly, the silk man knew nothing about anything else, and he lived, slept and had his being in silk. The same with hides and skins and furs, and some of the other staple lines. The old export man was of that type who put his best years into China. He studied maps, knew the geography of the country—an art no longer worshipped—and he had to know and did know a very great deal regarding usages and practices of buying and selling in various parts of the interior, of adulterations and malpractices, and was worth his weight in gold every season to the hong happy enough to retain him. But in this trade, too, changes have come over the scene. Many firms nowadays try to handle everything, and as a consequence have to face claims that were unheard of in the old days, due of course to ignorance—for the Chinese is not the paragon of virtue some misguided persons believe, and if there is a possibility of "putting one over" (as our American friends say), then that "one" will be put over.

What Shanghai Handles

Briefly the commodites that are handled in Shanghai may be briefly grouped as follows:

For Manufacturing.—Raw silk cotton, hemp, jute, furs, copper, platinum and other metals, skins, gums and greases,

For Food Purposes.—Vegetable oils of all kinds, tea, eggs and egg products, and many other agricultural and animal products.

Manufactured Articles.—Silk textiles, laces, embroideries, carpets and rugs, hairnets, bagging and matting, and a great list of other articles of this character.

Perhaps I can do no better than to quote figures of Shanghai's total export trade. The comparison is spread over a long period, with the view to showing the advance that the port has made:

	To Foreign Countries	To Chinese Ports	Total
1844—	20,137	17,062	37,199
1874—	25,541	29,946	57,488
1894—	26,603	32,576	59,179
1904—	45,440	47,092	92,432
1914—	80,187	107,966	188,153
1924—	84,763	148,039	232,803

General View of Trade

I fear that the person who expects to get anything further in this article than a cursory view of Shanghai's export trade will be disappointed, for if I were merely to quote full statistical tables space at my disposal would be insufficient. I propose to show, however, certain groups of commodities, dealing with them as intelligibly as I can, and hope that my efforts will induce those who take some interest in the present transitional state of China as a whole really to study her export trade. There are several reliable guides published, and it may also lead the student on to making money. I have known several cases during the last 10 of 15 years of men building up quite respectable fortunes who can base their success on their first studies.

In what follows I deal with the latest figures available—for 1922—and the amounts quoted include re-exported values.

Metals and Minerals.—Pig iron claims 1½ million haikwan taels in this class. Antimony (crude, oxide ore and regulus combined) come close to the million mark. Lead, manganese, zinc and other ores amounted to about 750,000 taels, and there is a large list of general metals which rarely go beyond 50,000 taels.

Cotton Yarn and Cotton Goods.—Nearly 87 million taels' worth of yarn went through Shanghai in 1922, representing nearly two million piculs, 1.8 million of which went to various ports in China and 26,000 to Hongkong. About 13⅓ million taels' worth (2,323,598 pieces) of sheetings and 3.3 million taels' worth of drills passed through the Maritime Customs. Also 7 million worth of nankeens. The whole group accounted for nearly 114 million haikwan taels.

Tea.—The year 1922 figures showed a good advance over the previous year, particularly in black teas (146,000 piculs as against 48,000 in 1921). The export of black amounted to 3.7 million taels, green to nearly 10 million, scented getting on to the million, leaf three-quarters of a million, and smaller amounts for brick, tablet, dust and stalk. Production of tea is still far below the per-war average.

Eggs and Egg Products.—I take it that the counting is correct, but whoever did it made the number of preserved eggs passing through the port as 12,970,130, and they were worth a paltry 154,710 taels. But when we come to the fresh, the staggering picture of 383,846,000 eggs in one pile awaits us—just imagine the hens too—and they cost something like 4.1 million taels. The port sent out frozen and salted eggs to the tune of 870,000 odd taels. Shanghai also sent out 4 million taels worth of albumen and 4.7 million worth of yolk (moist and dried). So this trade is booming.

Hides.—This is a staple trade, of course. 1922 showed a good increase of four million taels value over the previous year. Exports include cow (Hk. Tls. 5 million), buffalo (three quarters of a million), ass and horse hides.

Oils.—This group includes bean, camphor, castor, cottonseed, groundnut, linseed, rapeseed, sesamum, shrimp, tea, wood and dross. Wood oil is a grand leader. How one who konws China can imagine the movement of this wood oil, which accounted for over 10 million taels—from far away in Kweichow and Yunnan and the south-western provinces, down the Upper Yangtzse to Hankow and the seaboard. Groundnut followed in point of value with nearly two million, bean next (329,000 taels), camphor and castor (110,000 taels each), cotton seed (71,000), and the others in much smaller quantities. Of wood oil 683,378 piculs were brought in and no less than 683,244 piculs re-exported.

Cigarettes.—A gigantic trade. Hk. Tls. 70 million in 1922, 60 million of which went out of Shanghai to Chinese ports and the remainder principally to the Straits and Java and down that way.

Silk.—Everybody knows the importance of China's silk trade. I have no space to deal with it statistically. The difficulties besetting the path of the foreign exporter, however, are getting more and more complex, as he has to buy ahead in a highly speculative market.

Seeds.—Shanghai exports apricot seeds, cotton, lilyflower, linseed, melon, olive, rape, sesamum, soap and tea. I was surprised to find that all seeds exported only amounted to about eight million taels.

Million Tael Value Commodities

There are scores of other commodities of quite considerable importance, yet they find themselves relegated unceremoniously to "sundries." It may appear a very astute thing to be able to do, but I find that I am in the position of imparting information regarding most of these, and set forth below a list of those taken out in ships' bottoms in 1922 to the tune of one million haikwan taels and over. This is the list—there are many that run over half a million:

Beancake (1.1), beans (black, broad, green, red, white, yellow—4½), printed books (1.7), bran (1.7), bristles (3.8), carpets (1.4), cereal (5), raw cotton (10.6), hemp (1), ramie (3), flour (10½), grasscloth (5.7), groundnuts (kernels—6.1), hairnets (2.8), intestines (1.4), lace (4.1), cow leather (1.9), mats (straw and rush—1.2), medicines (3.4), paper all kinds (4½), seed cake (cotton—1.2), goat skins (untanned—5.2), strawbraid (1.4), tobacco (4.4), varnish (1.6), wool (sheep's 3.4).

What of the Future?

A very strong case can be put up to show that in the future China will become the world's principal producing centre for the supply of commodities for industrial countries. Certain it is that she is now occupying a very significant economic position, but if China only had any decent communications there would literally be no limit to output thereby enabling her to increase her national wealth to enormous proportions. China is not selling abroad a fiftieth part of what she could if she could get them down to seaboard in good condition and with no fear of molestation by the rabble now infesting inland parts of the country. It must be apparent to the casual onlooker that in some directions China's agricultural resources are without limit, for in agriculture she stands in some sense as a beacon light to the whole world. Foreign countries need increasing supplies of dozens of the products of China, and I feel that it is fairly safe to predict—no, one cannot predict! With certain modifications one would be able to make a statement; so it is better to say that one *does not know.*

I might close however, with the repetition of the truism that needs little proof that all the financial difficulties in which China finds herself to-day could be obviated and all obligations met if only the resources (hidden principally in the ground) could be properly tapped. When that time will come it is certainly not within the power of any man in China to-day to prophesy. It is well that life is built up on hope. Under decent conditions there would be hope for a great boom in China's fascinating export trade.

REMINISCENCES OF A TRAVELLER

Interior Travel in China and Its Fascinations: How I Laughed Myself Out of Danger: Moral of the Unexpected

By Scrutator.

I often wonder why foreigners so rarely go up the Yangtsze when their leave falls due instead of down, for then they have time to travel. When an old traveller is drawn out at a Bubbling Well dinner party to yarn of his experiences the ladies gasp, the men puff carelessly away at their smokes and say, "By Jove, that's the life. . . That's what I'd like to do"—and know they don't mean a word they say. On the morrow they go to their bank, or their hong, or wherever they have elected to spend half their lifetime in either ekeing out a living or making a pretty fortune, forgetting entirely their expressed wish of the night before that they would like to see China from within. And in due course, with their shekels in their bags, they retire with scant knowledge of the country and the people among whom they have lived, only regretful of the wasted days. It's good to be an Idler now and then, for an idler aften learns the art of life.

Of course, I am one of the fortunate. It was many years ago that I essayed, all unaware of hazards and audacious to a degree, to cross China from the Pacific, see Eastern Tibet, and come down to Bhamo (in British Burma) *en route* to the sea for Home. I did it. And you see, I am still in China! Those were the wonder years of my life; but that is another story.

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Whether I would do that again today, travelling several years in China's glorious Far West, often for months and once for 263 days without hearing a foreign voice and seeing no people other than the natives, I do not know; and if I personally would (being given still to some adventure), I would probably hesitate in advising others to try it should fear possess their hearts. For China is to-day a country of free-booting banditti, of disputatious soldiery and undisciplined military pillagers. One may be held for ransom, or undergo a dozen equally or more uncomfortable experience. In my day, however, all went well. I should literally have lost my life a dozen times, but my star was ever in the ascendant, and I came to no harm other than breaking my arm, suffering from dysentery, snow-blindness and a sunstroke—ills that only the experienced traveller avoids. In the course of time one settles down and learns the way of travel, and for ever after places upon such knowledge (bought dearly as it seems at time of purchase) a high esteem, for it ever directs one along a safer pathway. On one occasion, too after two kindly souls had befriended this weary traveller and feared his early dissolution, my coffin was made ready, and enterprising scribblers blazoned out before the world the highly exaggerated report that I had crossed the river, surprising me and paining others.

In inland travel in China, however, travel is easy if you toil on, endure as much as you meet and never turn back; and thus I was able to come to myself again under circumstances that I shall now relate.

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We had done a long day's tramping, and weary was my caravan. Tomorrow, then, should be an easy day. As we gazed over the river to the range, up whose slopes we were to strain our weather-beaten way, we caught a glimpse of the tiny haven which would house us men and horses at night. We had been in a Scotch mist for days—drenched through, bedding wet, horses fagged and lame, bearers churlish and malavolent. At midday on the morrow we had pulled up to rest all animals, bipeds drinking dirty tea and delivering foul invective, the quadrupeds picking at scrub and thinking hard. Suddenly a telegram messenger arrived, the message for me. I was to change my course, according to its reading, as the people in the village were planning our quick and final disposal. But I disregarded the advice and gave the fellow a few cash for bringing it to me. Instead I made my way up the hill, shouting back my wishes to my men to harness up and follow, which after considerable hulloballoo they deigned reluctantly to do. Then the toil began. There was no road, no pathway, and recent rains had made the going hard. Just at sundown, weary and very heavy-laden, I rounded a bend in the mountainside and happened upon the tiny haven in the hills above referred to.

But what a kettle of fish! As quick as a flash, several loutish male specimens of those wild hill folk pounched down upon me, waving huge bamboos and shouting "Da, da (strike),". . . this, then was the end.

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I had no weapon of any kind. Defenceless and by no means brave about the business (let me straightway confess it), I walked a foot or two on the flat "village green" that had been hacked out of the steep hillside, out of which also right-angles dug out at regular distances formed two walls of the dirty hovels in which the people lived.

Here I sat down on a big stone—and laughed in their faces.

Why I laughed I cannot tell to this day. Perhaps I was hilarious, or hysterical, or laughed in sheer fear. Anyhow, I laughed, suffering no interruption even when an old woman—an awful old hag with a four-inch skirt covering her tottering limbs—came upon the scene and exhorted her worthies to get on with their ill-natured business. Then she caught sight of me laughing.

"Hi," she shouted, waving her bony indicator towards me, "look, he's one of those lousy foreign devils. . . he's got a slate loose. . . rats in the upper story. . . a bee in his bonnet. He's a plain idiot."

Meantime I laughed, riveting my attention upon her.

Meantime also my men had arrived, with the loads and ponies—and how they lied! I hate to split on them, for they were decent souls. But they didn't know me, had only met me at the foothill and were merely carrying my things for me. We had travelled together for many days, however. I laughed on, my eye still on the old lady. But she would have none of it.

"To the business in hand," she roared to the man with the stoutest bamboo, and just as they raised their rods to execute her corybantic orders, a sprite of a girl about nine swept past them all, shouting defiance in the old hag's ear.

"No," cried Little Precious Pearl (that was her name literally translated), "it cannot be, it cannot be," and, pointing to me, showed clearly how a fellow with a spirit like mine would hang round there and invade them for ever. And she carried the point. The importance of this did not enter my consciousness, however, until the old lady, wiping her opthalmic-stricken eyes and nose with the back of her skinny paw, fell slightly hypnotized under the constancy of my gaze. Still I laughed. She condescended to smile so as to show the lonely prong that hung whence her teeth formerly belonged. Then it was that I knew that the day was won. She laughed at me. I laughed at her, the hypnotic influence being mutual.

"Yes, yes," she exclaimed, confirming her snap judgment of a moment before, "yes, he's mad: he's as mad as a March hair."

Still I laughed: still she laughed. The men dropped their bamboo death-hammers and laughed too. My men laughed. Women with babies on their backs swooped out of the huts and joined in and laughed. All laughing, we surely made a merry spectacle. Perhaps 30 people, all laughing one across the other. I wanted to speak, and would waltz up to a man to deliver my message, only to burst out again into helpless laughter, for my feigned laughter had now become real. They would do the same, and did it many times.

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Aha, aha,—it did not take longer perhaps to happen than it does in the telling. But when the tempest was overpast, the old lady came shufflingly forward to me, rivers of tears coursing down the real estate on her wizened cheeks, and sympathized thus—and it was music on the ear.

"Great Teacher, you must be very hungry. Come in and we will give you something to eat."

Then the floors were brushed up: the fires were kindled: buckwheat and honey, maize and dirty hot water were brought for the men, cut straw for the animals. And we had a royal evening.

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I have no space; neither would there be point in telling how the women put me to bed and roused me at dawn, and how all the village—men, women and children—escorted me on my way. Neither will I tell of a subsequent visit when, having been down to Rangoon and refitted my caravan, I was passing that way again and informed my men that I wanted to pay a call or two at that tiny haven in the hills.

"What, up there—no can! They are the wild men."

"But I have frieends among them" was my simple reply.

But not a single volunteer came forward until I, the potentate and paymaster, began to strap my *pulcai* over my own back. Then an old man in the caravan—God rest his soul—told me his life was nearly done, and it really did not matter so much so long as his family would be looked after by me. He would go. And so, with his bed on his back and my bed on mine, we climbed the hill to call upon my friends. And—ah, *such* a welcome was given me as would melt a heart of stone.

China received G. $1,354,942 towards medical education from the Rockefeller Foundation in 1923, according to an advance copy of the annual report which has been prepared by the President, Dr. George A. Vincent.

THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

A [illegible] Royal Navy, the Army, and the Royal Air Force, "The Fighting Forces" has just been published. The Editor is Lt.-Col. F. E. Whitton who wrote an admirable study of the campaign on the Marne.

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In a recent lecture, Mr. Lewis Chase made the interesting statement that Francis Thompson, the poet of mysticism, had an extraordinary faculty for retaining military books.

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Turkish enthusiasts have started a campaign with the object of securing the Nobel Prize for Literature for Abdul Hak Hamid, a distinguished national poet. Hamid served for some time in the Turkish Embassy in London.

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For a few leaves weighing less than half an ounce Dr. Rosenbach, an American, paid £2,700. But the leaves were Henry Constable's "Diana," in which he sang "The Praises of his mistress in certain sweet sonnets" in 1591, which were sold at the west door of St. Paul's. The occasion was the sale at Sotheby's, recently, of the Britwell Court Library, for [illegible] bought it £12,197 out of the total sales of £14,882. An insignificant little book, Francis Davison's "A Poetical Rapsodie" printed for Roger Jackson, dwelling in Fleet-street near the Great Conduit," 1602, went to Dr. Rosenbach for £860. "Foure Bookes of Noah's Arke," 1626, was a remarkable collection of prayers. It consists of only a few pages, yet it fetched £300. A copy of Dekker's "Villanies discovered by Lanthorne and Candlelight," printed in 1616, sold for £250.

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We hear every now and again about Maxim Gorki, sometimes in a political way, sometimes in a literary way. The latest news about him is of a literary sort, for Mr. Philip Allan is publishing a volume of fragments from his diary. Gorki has been in the habit of keeping diaries in which he has jotted down personal incidents of interest. He has elaborated many of them into little sketches and stories, all portraying the typical Russian life of peasant and autocrat.

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Every author one knows has the intention of writing something about the dandies of the world, men like Beau Nash and Brummel. It has fallen to Mr. Beresford Chancellor to undertake the writing, in six volumes, of "The Lives of the Rakes." We know him as an authority on the historical side of London, with a very special knowledge of the wonderful square mile which we call St. James's. His list of rakes is going to include, not only the "Merry Monarch," but my lords Buckingham, Rochester, and Sedley. There has recently been rather a boom in literature dealing with men who have known how to live merrily, and the chances are that Mr. Chancellor's volumes will do very well.

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Nowadays some people write their reminiscences while they are young, but not so General Sir Elliott Wood, for he was born as long ago as 1844, and he has only just done his autobiography. It will be an Arnold spring book and it will recall the days when there was nothing on the English road except horses. Sir Eliott saw much service as a soldier and he narrowly escaped at Khartoum for he was under orders to join his friend, General Gordon. He has been an ardent sportsman, as well as an ardent soldier, and especially he has made many voyages in canoes. And of these and other adventures he writes brightly and entertainingly.

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"Cricket Lore as a Classic" is a good title for a book by Sir Home Gordon. It deals exhaustively with almost every score made in first-class cricket in England. It gives the individual performances of every one who has batted and bowled in these scores, as well as the scores made for and against every first-class country with the aggregates of all sides. Then the Roll of Honour in cricket is set out, likewise the averages in Test matches all over the world, and, finally, there is an introduction by that excellent cricketer, Lord Hawke.

NEW BOOK ON CHINESE LAW

Another Valuable Work from the Scranton Press

MANUEL DU CODE CHINOIS (大清律例) by Le P. Guy Boulais, S.J. Roman Catholic Mission Press, Shanghai. $20 net.

In offering to the public for the first time in French, the Chinese code of laws (and in speaking of Chinese law we refer to the laws laid down during the Manchu Dynasty, for the Chinese name for Fr. Boulais's manual literally translated, means "A Manuel of the Code of Laws of the Great Ching Dynasty") a code which has been described as, "If not the most just and equitable, is at least the most comprehensive, uniform and suited to the genius of the people perhaps of any that ever existed," the author has again demonstrated the manner in which the Jesuit fathers, once they have undertaken a research task, are capable of completing it most efficiently. In making an attempt of this nature, the author has taken upon himself an enormous task and a heavy load of responsibility, for which we should all be thankful.

Most foreigners are completely in the dark as to what and how law exists in China. Some persons whose reputation for scholarship stands high still deny the claim of the Chinese to any law whatsoever—incredible but, nevertheless, a fact. Practically no epitome of Chinese Code has appeared since the days of Sir George Staunton—a century ago, and even that laborious work at its very publication was out of date. Some portions of the law have from time to time appeared—hidden away in magazines or delivered in lectures from time to time; but no complete detailed view has been presented, however blurred, of the complete Chinese Code. Several good articles have been translated and published on sections of the Code, such as Family Law, Criminal Law, Marriage Law, Property, Bankruptcy and sprinklings of the Commercial Law section.

The present translation, which is pre-eminently the work of a scholar, shows that it has taken up many hours of laborious work and a great amount of thought, but Fr. Boulais may well be satisfied with his labours, for he has completed a work—a most difficult work—in a most able manner.

Just as his brother Jesuits have added such excellent discourses on China and the Chinese in the past, to the literary world, Fr. Boulais has contributed in the present case a valuable addition to the very small list of Chinese legal bilbliography which we have and the value of his work cannot be overestimated. Fr. Boulais, has placed us all under a deep debt of gratitude by publishing this work, which, a masterpiece of research and learning, is so skilfully compiled and simply and clearly written that it compels attention by fascinating and absorbing the mind of the reader.

A man may live in a certain neighbourhood for years without having any clear idea of the topographical features of the surrounding country, until one day he goes up in a flying machine, when he sees the whole locality beneath him like a map, and he realizes the geographical characteristics of the place with vivid distinctness. Fr. Boulais has now done for us what the aviation pilot might do for the topographer, for he has produced a book which does much to overcome the very real difficulties which have hitherto beset the path of those who have been struggling to obtain a clear and intelligent idea of the Chinese law. He has conveniently divided his material into eight books these comprising one on the Grouping of Law, and the seven others on Law in General, Public Functionaries, Family Law, the Law of Rites, Military Law, Criminal Law and Mandarial Law. Apart from the preparatory, the preface, the introduction, there are several appendices, and explanatory notes, there are nearly 150 chapters. It is a book no lawyer or student of Chinese law or of China and the Chinese can afford to be without.

W. H. C.

THE POET.

POEMS: By Francis J. Bowen. Oxford: Basil Blackwell. 3/6 net.

A new book of poems has a lure which is to some of us irresistible. When one comes for review we seize on it to the neglect of whatever else may be to hand. But how rarely do we find what we seek therein! There are publishers in our hopeful band evidently. For books of poetry are printed and circulated with a regularity that cannot but strike the experienced as a grim [illegible] as strong as it is pathetic. Of course the publisher has another reason for seeking out poetry and another test of it than ours; or at any rate other than that which we flatter ourselves is ours. For he has to gauge the taste of the public. It must be a harassing work for an honest publisher, the constant endeavour to make "what the public wants" fit what the public ought to have. Who shall judge in poetry? Heaven knows the public cannot know what it wants. No new thing in poetry can ever have been demanded. Anything new in art cannot but be a surprise. Truth and Beauty we seek, blindly, unknowingly, something hitherto unseen caught up in the vision of the eyes of youth. For we come to that acknowledgement, that you alone can show us beauties. If we seek beauty in our own lives we look back to some imagined thing of our youth, something utterly unreal that we dreamed in the gone days, bigger and truer than anything which life has since vouchsafed. All our accumulated knowledge cannot give us back the trick of it, the fashioning of beauty out of the ignorance of life.

If that is granted then one has to say that Colonel Bowen has retained his youth and, if not youth's ignorance, at all events a very happy capability of ignoring the unpleasantness of life's grim realities. In one poem he consciously pushes them aside. It is called "Shadow Land" and is one of the best in this little book of 40 pages.

"Why dost thou bid me glance adown the pages
Of history, through labyrinths of time,
In the still down of immemorial ages
To seek for wisdom for my mournful rhyme?
Small comfort is't to say to those who mourn:
"To labour and to sorrow man is born."

Yet so it is and all joy must be fleeting:
Scarce have I clasped a dear friend's hand in mine,
And hearts have glowed with warmth at friendship's greeting;
Ere we must part: scarce is the cup of wine
Raised to the lips all bright with ruby gladness
Ere suddenly it turns the heart to sadness.

* * *

Such is life's law—what is its hidden meaning?
I cannot tell to-night nor care to know,
Nor why men are forever toiling, gleaming,
Only to gather sheaves of grief and woe.
I know life is a struggle, but to-night
I feel I cannot nerve me to the fight.

Leave me alone; for music, soft, entrancing,
Though weary-weighted with a load of sorrow,—
In its wild beauty all the more enhancing
Life's bitterness from which it loves to borrow
Its Spirit-stirring notes,—has touched me deep:
I can no more; I only long to sleep.

Leave me alone; I'm weary of life's passion,
Its fruitless striving and its vain endeavour:
To Life's grim law I can but feebly fashion
This poor weak soul which longs to rest forever.
Come gentle sleep to take me by the hand
And lead me forth into the shadow-land.

That is five of the 16 charming verses. They should be enough to show that Colonel Bowen has the gift. A delightful little book.

JOHN LOFTING.

A BOOK OF KINGS.

THIS KING BUSINESS: Intimate Accounts of Royalty as a Going Concern. By Frederick L. Collins. T. Werner Laurie, Ld. 10/6 net.

Whether the word "going" in the subtitle is intended to mean prosperous or moribund is not clear after reading the book. In fact very little, if any, light is thrown upon the "business" in any way. Under such a title one expected a humorous, breezy view of monarchic role from the standpoint of one enjoying the democratic freedom of the United States of America. Instead of which the book is apparently, surprisingly, intended to be a serious review of the survival of monarchy in Europe and the near East. The "intimate accounts" referred to in the title consist in the outcome of a few of the usual, rather distressing, "buttings-in" of the ordinary American "interviewer." And they are not amusing; that is what annoys so much. It is very distressing to pick up a book with a comic title and sit comfortably at the fire expecting an amusing evening, and then to find oneself treated to a heavy, labouring, earnest discussion of matters which are not even interesting to us who have been used for centuries to being ground under the heels of princes. A very disappointing exhibition of the proverbial American love of kings and such.

J. L.

THE MAKING OF TIENTSIN AND OTHER CARPETS

Combining practical utility with historical interest the magnificant publication, "Chinese Carpets and Rugs," by Adolf Hackmack, seems destined not only to find a wide reading public but also to greatly stimulate the growing trade of Tientsin in one of North China's principal products. The book, which will shortly be placed on sale by its publishers, La Librairie Francaise, is printed on thick art paper, 12 by eight and a half inches, contains 63 illustrations and a map, including 26 coloured plates, and 40 pages of large and clearly printed text describing the development designs, colours and weaving of Chinese carpets. The text is translated from the original by Miss L. Arnold.

The arrangement of the book, the lucid presentation of it contents, the clarity of its symbolism and the beauty of its illustrations make it invaluable to all who have any interest in carpets, whether they be merchants, students or private individuals. The merchant, of course, has his own information gathered in the routine of business, but in this book he will find his scattered information presented in concise and accurate form. The student will find valuable information on the history, origins and development of carpets, while the private individual, who in a sense represents the ultimate consumer, will discover the decorative values and symbolical significance of an article with which he furnishes his home.

After tracing origins of the industry, from its early introduction to Northern China from Central Asia, through Tibet and Kansu, with references to their use as prayer-rugs, saddle-clothes and divan covers, the reader is told how the Emperor Kang Hsi (1662-1722) fostered the industry by inviting artists to Peking to enrich designs for Porcelain, Weaving and Carpet Industries. His grandson, the famous Ch'ien Lung, continued this patronage, by placing large orders with native weavers, beside purchasing the best obtainable from foreign countries. "Most of the carpets in the Peking Palaces," says the author, "date from his seign and even to-day they are magnificent examples of the art.

"Owing to the increasing export trade," continues the author, "the production of carpets has increased continuously in volume during recent years, especially during the years of the Great War, when American carpet traders, hitherto accustomed to drawing their supplies from Persia, turned their attention to China. Tientsin has now become the chief export centre for the Chinese carpet. Some 500 large and small factories now make carpets there. In 1913 the value of the export trade was about Tls. 133.000 as against Tls. 420,000 in 1919, Tls. 444,000 in 1920, Tls. 612,000 in 1911, Tls. 2,532,000 in 1922 and Tls. 3,795,000 in 1923."

Dealing with designs, the reader is taken through a very interesting chapter of geometrical, Taoistic, Buddhistic, miscellaneous and ancient Chinese traditional designs. This section, allied as its subject matter is to other forms of native art, is a vast study in itself. The author tells of the meaning and application of Dragon patterns, the Thunder Line, Cloud, Water, Fire and Lightning, Mountains. "Yin and Yang," the Eight Trigrams of Divination, the Sceptre, the Eight Genii, Pheonix, Bat, Lion and a host of other significant designs. "The Chinese," the author says, "have a marked preference for symbols and employ them extensively. They consist of two kinds, either of such objects as by their very nature give the sense required, as for instance, a coin to express wealth; or of sound rebuses in which the similar sound renders the sense that is to be conveyed, such as Ch'ing, the hanging musical stone of jade for Ch'ing which means blessing."

In connexion with the distribution of this book an advance prospectus has been mailed at great expense to all parts of the world. The name of every known dealer or merchant interested at all in this sort of article has been obtained from directories of many cities all over Europe, the United States, South Africa, South America, Australia, India and other countries. This propaganda in itself is bound to have its contributory effect upon the trade of Chinese Carpets, and should do much to stimulate the exports to higher figures.

The book, which will be on sale before the end of May, will be sold at $12.50 a copy, at which price a large part of the first edition has already been booked up.

O. D. R.

ROMANCE.

SPINSTER OF THIS PARISH. By W. B. Maxwell. Thornton, Butterworth, Ld. 3/6 net.

Here is another of the excellent reprints which this enterprising house is producing. One may assume that the publishers are choosing the works which they consider the best of the authors represented. In this instance the choice seems to bear out the contention put forward in the Book Page in an earlier review of Mr. Maxwell's work. It thercin argued that there is a misconception in the minds of many people as to the reason of the popularity of this author; that the more vocal of his admirers are in the habit of asserting that it is his truth to life, his realism, to use the cant word; but that, on the contrary, it is only when he idealizes life's happenings and his characters reactions to them that his work is satisfying. It is gratifying to note, therefore, the clear-sighted house of Thornton Butterworth evidently viewing it in the same light. For "Spinster of This Parish" is the least realistic of all Mr. Maxwell's books and it is, for that very reason, incomparably the best. The story of the love of Anthony Dyke, the explorer, and the spinster is carried forward on the romantic plane from start to finish, sheer idealism, satisfying and enjoyable in every page, with the exception, perhaps, of a few pages of the long drawn out descriptions of the country, on their great journey together. The author's enthusiasm for the grandeur of the mountain scenes has lured him here into so much description that it becomes at times the least bit tedious. It can hardly be called a fault and in another book would not be noticed. For apart from that, the novel is, as a whole and in detail, an excellent piece of work, the best Mr. Maxwell has given us so far.

JOHN LOFTING.

£100 PRIZE TRAVEL BOOK COMPETITION.

Messrs. Duckworth & Co., 3 Henrietta Street, London, who are the publishers of Ponting's "The Great White South," Mitchell-Hedges' "Battles With Giant Fish," Doughty's "Wanderings in Arabia," Lady Dorothy Mills' "The Road to Timbuktu" and other famous travel books, are offering a prize of £100 to the author of the best original manuscript of a book of travel-adventure submitted for this competition. Messrs. Duckworth & Co. will publish the winning book and pay the author, in addition to the £100 prize, a substantial royalty on each copy sold, as well as any sums received for serial, cinema or other rights. The competition has been organized in conjunction with Mr. Raymond Savage, the Literary Agent of 43 Aldwych, London, W.C.2 (cables: Raymosava London), to whom intending competitors should apply for the exact terms and details of the competition and for entry forms. The latest date on which Mr. Savage will receive MSS. for the competition will be December 31 of this year. The result of the competition will be announced not later than March 31, 1925, and the winning book will be published in the Autumn of 1925.

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

SHANGHAI MOTHER GOOSE

The Well Dressed Woman

By Elizabeth Pepys.

There was an old woman who wished to dress well;
She went to Paris her stocks for to sell;
She went to an opening, said:
"Here is the cash.
I must be in fashion no matter how rash."
The mannequins came and the mannequin went
She admired all she saw and her money she spent.
They dressed her up gaily and then sent her back
In the height of the style with no gewgaw to lack.
When the neighbours saw her, they said "Is it true
That these are your costumes and it's really you?"
She faced them all bravely, her friends and her foes:
"It's not my complexion, but these are my clothes."

ANNOYING NOISES

"Horrible Discords—Dire was the Noise"

By Elizabeth Pepys.

"All I want is a little peace and quiet," says the Modest Asker, little knowing that his requests could be more easily attended to were he to phrase a demand for wealth untold, scintillating brilliance, or all the virtues of the Perfect Man. Peace and quiet in Shanghai that is. We understand that there still remain peaceful nooks elsewhere, "Along the Potomac," for example. Or there is always rural quiet, celebrated too enthusiastically by the poets who seem to forget the little yapping birds that wake us up at *dawn*. Then there are the hallowed *quiets* of the past, proving all too sadly that being quiet is rapidly becoming one of the lost arts.

The average Shanghailander realizes keenly the truth of Byron's saying "quiet to quick bosoms is a hell," and takes every effort to preserve himself from being ensouled to ancient "quietness" as "A.E." puts it. No, let us have the honking motor horn, the tooting whistle, the blaring band, the loud-voiced clock, the unceasing chatter of the Chinese, the incessant quip and sally of our friends, and the cacophony of jazz. Quietness in Shanghai is synonymous with dullness, and so much to be shunned that an acquaintance of mine says she always saves her bits of news, whatever they may be, to be announced in public, so that the world at large shall infer that she is a successful conversationalist.

But there is one sport which does not depend upon encouraging bands, the plaudits of onlookers or the shouts of the players themselves for its pursuit. Indeed one may not even talk while wooing the speckled beauties of the brook to their fate. Since fishes do not have ears and presumably do not hear, it would seem that this precaution was unnecessary, but it is pleasant to think that an early fisherman first invented this soothing myth and imposed it upon his fellows, thus greatly adding to the peace and serenity of life and affording a refuge for "all that are lovers of virtue, and dare trust in his Providence, and be quiet and go a-angling." Let's fish.

THE SEVERING TRAM

Partings that are not Sweet Sorrows

By Elizabeth Pepys.

No, we do not mean that the trams have ever shown a disposition to sever our thumbs from the rest of us, or that we have ever been even jammed by the implacably closing gates. But we have seen some tragic family separations as we clung to the supports of the safety island, waiting for a tram not too impossibly full to board.

Take for example Father Chinese, with many bundles in both hands, closely followed by a small son, clinging frantically to his skirts. Also Mother Chinese, with her hands even fuller, and two small children clutching at her trousers. The family attempts to hurl itself upon the tram. Father gains a ledge of safety and pulls little son after him. Mother has not been so lucky. One of her troublesome offspring hasn't been able to make the step and how can Mother be expected to lift him up, when both her hands are full. Therefore, in spite of frantic expostulations the tram moves off without the second section of the family.

From the disconsolate demeanour of Mother Chinese and her temporarily orphaned offspring one infers that the occasion is grievous. Not understanding the voluble exclamations we fear the worst. Memories of Evangeline, float through our minds, when the Acadian peasants were deported from their homes and husbands were torn from wives and children from mothers. Evangeline was separated from her Gabriel and never did find him till he was on his death bed. Can it be that we are witnessing the initial scene of such a tragedy?

Does Mother know just where Father was going, and where he will eventually disembark? Has she the necessary coppers to board the next tram? Will he wait for her at the next station, or at least the next fare-section? All these and many other perplexities surround us, arousing our sympathetic interest to such an extent that we miss our own tram. Ah me, what an emotional strain it is to travel by tram!

TASTE AND ITS BLIND FOLLOWERS

The Selective Faculty or Copy-Catism

If Love is represented as sightless, it is simply because he has a habit of bringing very incongruous persons together. But Love's eyes and the eyes of his followers are really only bandaged, and they can always peep a little underneath, if they please. Taste, on the contrary,—the sort defined as "the power of perceiving and relishing excellence"—is supposed to be exceedingly far-sighted; yet, most of the people who follow taste do so with the blindness of bats and the meekness of sheep. This is conspicuous enough when illustrated by women and the fashions, for, let a mode once find favour in feminine fancy, and, at once, fat and thin, tall and short, dark and fair, old and young, assume it regardless of suitability, beauty, or common sense. And, when it comes to the building and furnishing of new houses or the altering and refurnishing of old ones, both men and women show a grand inability to recognize not only what they should have, but even what they want, unless the choice of some cultivated intelligence has already been popularized to meet public demand.

EMBROIDERIES ARE AS POPULAR AS EVER

The ups and downs of appreciative feeling in the matter of personal effects, too, are exceedingly interesting. Rising generations, especially in democratic countries did not a few years ago attach much importance to parents' belongings (if they had any), very little to those of grandparents, and only a little more to those of great-grandparents, because a few Antique Fanciers had lately come to think them romantically quaint or quaintly romantic, to throw out old things, no matter how charming, and buy new, no matter how ugly, about represented the general swing of sentiment in those days.

And then, suddenly, people began to throw out the new, no matter how graceful and appropriate, and replace them with the old, no matter

THE PLEATED SKIRT IN SOFT TILES

how hideous, and this about represents the general swing of the next movement. In neither case was discretion exhibited. Genuine backgrounds had been destroyed without any compunction. There had been no respect for the past as a past with associations, in the first place; and, in the second, there was no respect for the present as a present, nor any compunction about upsetting its belongings to create false backrounds—"artificial ancient," as they might be called—for newly collected old articles.

Live and Learn

Anybody may change with the times, and there is nothing despicable in having to learn or relearn the value of things. They may have beauty or interest of a kind not easily recognized or recognized for reasons that only an expert could explain. If they have been discarded from ignorance and can be reclaimed with knowledge, all the better; that is, all the better, if they fit properly into their new surroundings. But if they were discarded because they were really ugly or because their owners really disdained them, and if their equivalents are now sought because of some imagined fashion leading which the blind and the sheeplike are afraid not to follow, why then, all the worse.

There is something a little mean in the souls of persons who, at the supposed bidding of the mode, deliberately refill their rooms with pictures, ornaments, and furniture of a bygone sort which they do not admire. There is something staunch and fine in the souls of those who have never, at the dictates of any alien fancy, rejected possessions endeared by association and suitable to them and their lives. Character shows in amalgamated, more than acquired, backgrounds. No decade was all admirable or all abominable, and what makes true atmosphere is to bring tastefully together whatever was comfortable, beautiful, and agreeable to live with yesterday and whatever is comfortable, beautiful, and agreeable to live with to-day. The moment a householder starts to make a fixed period in a house not intended for a collector's palace or a museum, it becomes unhomelike. The more perfect the more unhomelike. We know of one gentleman who complained of feeling as if he should be stood, like an umbrella, in the corner of his own baronial hall when he entered it from the street, so foreign did he seem to its lofty 13th-century setting.

"Heirlooms" By Purchase.

Of course, collectors' houses or houses perfectly constructed and furnished to represent those of a former day hardly come into the list of those we are banning. The people who collect, the people who reconstruct are people who have studied, who have individual taste and knowledge, and the desire, very often, to leave the fruits of it to an unenlightened public. Moreover, the owners of wonderfully created or restored mansions are not really as uncomfortable as might at first sight appear. They are apt to have cozy modern apartments tucked away somewhere. No, the good ladies and gentlemen we have in our old books are the ones who sell inherited possessions without a grain of the feeling of the family old and are now, again at her orders, busily buying up those of others to replace them.

"Those's Mae," says mother (who vainly christened her child Margt), "saying she must have one of those early American rooms, and she fairly tired me out yesterday looking through the antique shops—at prices that would knock you down, too,—for a bed the moral of my grandmother's old maple one that she made me get rid of years ago. And now she's dragged two moth-eaten old hook rugs out of the garret and wants me to take up the good velvet carpet and let her spread them on the bare boards, because she says it's fashionable." Well, there it is; and this sheep-and bat-like following of what people see as "the mode" reflects a surprising lack of real character and taste. Surroundings collected gradually to suit one's habits, as well as one's fancies, are indicative of personality—not those obtained in one swoop by dauntless period-hopping. But well do the wiseacres of the material world understand their clients! They know that, if one sheep sleeps in a maple bed and one bat sips from a green glass goblet, every other will do the same.

"Vogue."

HOME HUMOURS

Music Hath Charms.

"Won't you sing something, Miss Johnson?"

"Oh, I daren't after such good music as we have been listening to."

"But I'd rather listen to your singing than to any amount of good music."

"Sounding" the Depths.

A critic went by request to hear a certain politician make a speech.

"Well," said the politician after he had finished. "How was it?"

"Sound—very sound," said the critic.

"Yes," said the politician, and then, hungry for more, he beamed and added: "Sound—and what else?"

"Nothing else," replied the critic.

A Call to Alms:

A street preacher in a Scottish town called a passing policeman,

AN EASILY CREATED FROCK

and complained of being annoyed by a certain portion of his audience. He asked to have the objectionable persons removed.

"Well, ye see," said the officer thoughtfully, "it would be deefficult for me tae spot them; but I'll tell ye what I'd dae if I were you."

"What?" asked the preacher eagerly.

"Just gang roun' wi' th' hat!"

Vanity! Vanity!

Husband: "You are the vainest woman I have ever met."

Wife: "What do you mean? Why, I don't think I am half so pretty as I really am!"

"The Little Less."

Fair Customer (in shoe-shop): "I think one of my feet must be a little larger than the other."

Polite Assistant: "Oh, no, madam, smaller if anything!"

"What's in a Name?"

Mrs. Smithson had just engaged a new gardener. One morning she went out into the garden and found him hard at work.

"How's my sweet-william this morning?"

"Nicely, thanks, ma'am," he answered. "But how did you know my name was William?"

"Spoony."

Young Larkin was boasting to his lady friend of the success he had achieved.

"Yes," he exclaimed with assurance. "I was born with a silver spoon in my mouth."

"Fancy that!" returned the girl. "And I always thought you spoke little that on purpose!"

Mixed Fare.

In an omnibus an old lady tendered two farthings and a halfpenny stamp for a penny fare.

The conductor sighed wearily and said: "Next time you come, ma'am, bring a few jam jars."

WISDOM

Now in the days of loving and wooing,
Young girl eluding, your boy pursuing
(I am remembering my own days),
Sweet the time of wooing and wedding,
But hist! the wings of Time ever speeding
(I am remembering my own days).

She shall feast her fill of his praises,
The kiss on her hair and the lover's gazes
(I am remembering my own days).
He shall attain his hour of possessing,
But all too brief is the lover's leasing
(I am remembering my own days).

Say to your girl the sands are running,
Tell her this of old wisdom and cunning
(I am remembering my own days).
That not one hour of her bliss be wasted,
No kiss ungiven, no joy untasted
(I am remembering my own days).

Tell your boy 't is his hour of plenty,
Only once is he golden and twenty
(I am remembering my own days).
Bid him build, since beyond recover
Hast the days of the loved and lover
(I am remembering my own days).

Tell them yet they shall sit and ponder
Dear delights of the lost land yonder
(I am remembering my own days).
Worlds and Time and gray Death yet threaten
The flying Youth and the head rose-wreathen.
(I am remembering my own days).
—Katharine Tynan, in "Observer."

A STENOGRAPHER-MOTHER'S PHILOSOPHY

All day I take their silly talk and make it into little signs,
And then I take the little signs and change them back to talk again.
And for this silly, silly task—and God knows why they want it done—
They pay me gold, dear precious gold, with which I buy you bread and milk.

And then you eat the bread and milk and make it into rosy cheeks.
And then I take the rosy cheeks and print a kiss on this and that.
And then you laugh and snuggle close and heaven is very near to us.
And that is why God lets men make their silly, silly endless talk.

Alysia, in "Life."

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia June 1
Per P. & O. S. Morea ..... „ 2
Per O.S.K.S. Africa Maru .... „ 3
Per R.D.S. Pres. Von Buren „ 3

OUTWARD

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON, ETC.—

Per B.F.S. Laomedon ..... June 3
Per N.D.L.S. Saarland ..... „ 4
Per M.M.S. Amboise ..... „ 5
Per R.D.S. Pres. Von Buren „ 5

FOR JAPAN, CANADA, U.S.A. & EUROPE:—

Per O.S.K.S. Manila Maru June 2
Per P.M.S. Pres. Wilson .... „ 7
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jackson .. „ 11
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia „ 16
Per T.K.K.S. Korea Maru .. „ 17

FOR MANILA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND VIA HONGKONG:—

Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia June 1
Per P.M.S. Pres. Lincoln .... „ 3
Per R.D.S. Von Buren .... „ 5

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per N.Y.K.S. Suwa Maru, May 22. From London, etc. Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Murdock, Mrs. I. Carree, Captain J. E. B. Gray, Dr. P. Schmidt, Dr. J. Strandgard, Mr. H. N. Wienberg, Mr. H. E. Ovesen, Mr. A. R. Bartlett, Mr. W. C. Logan, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Finis, Mr. M. [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. A. Nemes, Mrs. W. [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Morison, Mrs. E. Bernardos, Mrs. E. C. [illegible] and child, Mr. J. L. McPherson, Mr. M. Sen, Mr. T. Sakamoto, Mr. A. J. [illegible], Mrs. C. V. Barton, Mr. [illegible], Mrs. P. K. Moore and [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Keighley, Messrs. G. and H. Keighley, Mr. M. Glas, Mr. J. Mansen, Mr. A. Purmals, Mr. G. Frantz, Mr. Y. H. Lee, Mrs. A. Armstrong, Mr. L. E. Gray, Mr. T. Moffatt, Mrs. R. Packer and three children, Mr. and Mrs. E. Dessy and child, Mr. and Mrs. A. Desplat and child.

Per str. Hsin Ningshao, May 22. From Ningpo. Mr. E. A. Anderson.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 23. From Ningpo. Mr. [illegible] Bowding.

Per str. Luchow, May 23. From Tsingtao. Misses O'Neil, Dumphy, Mr. and Mrs. Hsee.

Per M.V. Glenapp, May 23. From London. Mrs. V. A. Fawcett, Miss J. M. Fawcett and Mr. A. W. Graham-Brown.

Per str. Hsinfung, May 24. From Tientsin and Chefoo. Mr. Geingefai.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, May 24. From Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs Pratt and two children, Mrs. H. D. Decker and two children, Captain A. Watson.

Per str. Kiangan, May 24. From River Ports. Mrs. O. Reinholdt and two children, Miss F. Burkhead, Mr. A. R. Standruy, Mr. and Mrs. Lee and child, Mr. P. Fickeveiles, Mr. P. J. Reilly.

Per str. Fausang, May 24. From Tientsin. Mr. P. Campbell. From Chefoo. Mr. G. H. Andrew, Mr. Nipps, Mr. and Mrs. Row and Miss Row.

Per str Yingchow, May 25. From Hongkong. Mr. Bolton.

Per std. Hsin Peking, May 25. From Ningpo. Mr. G. P. Hunts, Mr. J. Powell.

Per str. Suiwo, May 25. From River Ports. Mr. Walker, Mr. W. Osborn-Keats.

Per str. Ngankin, May 25. From River Ports. Miss M. Hamilin, Mr. Mudie, Mrs. P. Rextmigh.

Per str. Heinchi, May 25. From Foochow. Lady Walsham, Mr. and Mrs. H. W Livingstone and child, Mr. T. C. MacDonnell, Mr. Broves, Mr. W. Grand.

Per str. Shuntien, May 25. From Tientsin. Mrs. Davison and child, Mr. K. Ingersley, Mr. J. de Knoop, Mr. F. Jones, Mr. Leigh. From Chefoo. Mr. Webster. From Weihaiwei. Mr. J. C. Priestwood, Mr. and Mrs. Mossop, Mr. Chetceranko, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie.

Per str. Loongwo, May 25. From River Ports. Mr. C. Butehart, Mr. Grosse, Mr. H. W. Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hay.

Per str. A.O.L.S. President Jackson, May 25. From Seattle and Japan. Mr. T. Davis, Mr. W. J. Shanshan, Mr. F. Tully, Mr. K. Uyemoi, Sister Josephine, Sister St. Ann, Mother St. Paul, Dr. H. W. Luce, Mr. I. Silberlust, Sister Agnes, Sister Joan of God, Sister Marie Calvaire and Sister St. Rita.

Per str. Woosung, May 26. From River Ports. Rev. T. R. Kearney, Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Mayr, Mr. W. Wiley, Mr. H. J. Moysey, Four French Naval Ratings.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, May 27. From Ningpo. Mr. C. F. Rhovin, Mr. [illegible] Mrs. L. A Zakrison.

Per str. Kiangshan, May 27. From River Ports. Mrs. Sewdon and child. One Sister of Charity.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 28. From Ningpo. Mr. F. S. Souza.

Per str. Tungchow, May 28. From Tientsin. Mr. B. Henderson, Mr. J. Selverhome, Mr. M. C. Cook, Mr. C. H. Dodds, Mr. W. Champney, Sub. Lieut. Hankey.

Per str. Antwo, May 28. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Antoofieff, Mr. H. M. Sivingston, Dr. Togore, Mr. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Knock, Mr. Elinhirst, Mr. Wanstall, Mr. R. G. Ewait, Mr. W. Sward, Mr. D. Harris.

Per str. Atangyu, May 29. From River Ports. [illegible]

Per str. [illegible], May 29. From [illegible]

Per str. Kungwo, May 29. From [illegible] Mr. C. E. Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Shinn and two children, Mr. O. Frang, Mrs. [illegible]

Per str. [illegible], May 29. From [illegible] Mr. H. [illegible]

Per str. [illegible], May 29. From Foochow. Mr. Waverson, Mr. A. Rayward.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, May 29. From Ningpo. Mrs. M. Hurbert, Mrs. [illegible] child.

Per M.M.S. Chantilly, May 29. From Marseilles. [illegible]

and Mrs. de Rouge and child, Messrs. Pretot, Chauvel, Lefosse, Wiedemann, Glasser, Fischer, Mr. and Mrs. Noel, Mr. and Mrs. Assadowsky, Mrs. Giraud, Messrs. Bobillier, Bazet. From Port Said. Mr. D. Abraniovitch. From Singapore. Mr. Bacchus, Mrs. Ullmann. From Saigon. Mr. Legall, Mr. Bezaod. From Hongkong. Messrs. C. Nopper, E. Reffell, Mrs. G. L. Bailey, Mr. F. Laurence, Mr. F. Wood, Messrs. P. Noel, V. Dorssen, C. Economou, C. Schmoeker, Miollis, Miss Byrd. Mr. T. M. Lamb, Mr. I. Elias.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 21.—For Ningpo.—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Pratt and two children, Mr. J. C. Dowding, Miss Hôney.

Per str. Linan, May 22.—For Amoy.—Miss D. Lathan. For Hongkong.—Mrs. A. A. Jamieson, Mr. A. McKirdy.

Per R. D. S. President Harrison, May 23.—For Europe, etc.—Mr. de Vault, Mr. J. Hageman, Miss Coemes, Mr. E. J. Everall, Mr. C. A. Sprague, Mrs. Open-Palmer, Mrs. M. P. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. Murdock, Mr. A. Yezdi, Mr. C. V. Starr, Mr. G. Arnfield, Miss N. Fleat, Mrs. M. L. Aitken, Mr. M. Toch and daughter, Mr. W. H. Morrow, Mrs. R. A. Waters, Mr. M. C. Check, Mr. Kawamura, Mrs. T. S. Shelton, Mr. M. Sinkevich, Dr. B. N. Mellon.

Per str. Kaiping, May 23.—For Chinwangtao.—Mr. and Mrs. Dessy, Mr. and Mrs. Desplat and son, Master Dessy, Master H. Moffatt, Miss Stillwell, Mrs. Mooney, Mrs. J. de Prida, Dr. and Mrs. Pyke, Mr. and Mrs. Frohwitter, Mr. L. de Prida, Mr. F. M. Pyke.

Per str. Luenyi, May 23.—For River Ports.—Mr. H. J. Moysey, Mr. Y. J. Shaw, Mrs. Goolden and three children.

Per str. Luchow, May 24.—For Hongkong.—Capt. J. E. Chippendale.

Per str. Kanchow, May 24.—For Tsingtao.—Mrs. Hannings.

Per str. Fengtien, May 24.—For Weihaiwei.—Miss V. Child, Mr. P. D. Crawley. For Tientsin.—Mr. Sammreeq, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Day, Gen. Sir John Fowler, Major L. C. Trench.

Per str. Ichang, May 24.—For Newchwang.—Mr. and Mrs. Daldy, Mehewangee and child.

Per str. Kanchow, May 24.—For Tsingtao.—Mrs. Hannings, Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon.

Per str. Whangpu, May 24.—For River Ports.—Mr. Forbes.

Per P.M.S. President Pierce, May 25.—For San Francisco, etc.—Mrs. M. Sikafoose, Miss M. C. Markham, Mrs. R. L. Larson and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Roberts and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Carroll, Mr. A. M. Massie, Miss H. Crow, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Wright, Mrs. K. T. Emons, Mr. U. Streib, Mrs. Wm. Gande, Mr. F. G. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Stephenson and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Parker and family, Miss M. Wilson, Mrs. R. MacKie, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Drakeford and daughter, Mrs. J. S. Fearon.

Per str. Kiukiang, May 25.—For Swatow.—Mr. W. Ashmore.

Per str. Hsin Peking, May 26.—For Ningpo.—Rev. and Mrs. Hall, Mr. F. S. Souya, Mrs. Joly and Nurse, Mr. Picking.

Per str. Tatung, May 26.—For River Ports.—Mr. D. W. Hune.

Per A.O.L.S. President Jackson, May 27.—For Hongkong.—Mr. and Mrs. Keikhefer, Mrs. G. Rathsam and children, Mrs. W. Ford, Mr. Berzer, Mr. M. Ide, Mr. Baird, Mr. K. T. Koan, Mr. O. Lee, Mr. G. Zarxheim, Mr. J. Parsano, Mr. G. Ford, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Connell, Miss E. Ford, Mr. E. W. Dunn, Mr. S. N. Hechter, Mr. Howe and family, Mr. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Xavier, Miss A. Pokhomoff, Mr. L. Sia.—For Manila.—Mrs. A. Gillem, Misses Tormey, Mr. G. S. Forman, Miss E. Mitchell, Mrs. M. Morgan, Mrs. Harriman, Mrs. Cox, Miss Dunphy, Miss Jackson, Mrs. Whitmore and daughter, Mr. J. Herrero, Miss A. Gillem, Captain A. F. Engelhart, Mrs. R. O. Davis, Mrs. E. Bunting, Mr. Lickman, Miss O. O'Neill, Mr. C. A. Goldenberg, Miss Pestonjee, Mr. H. H. Wingurg.

Per P. & O. S. Khiva, May 27.—For Hongkong.—Col. C. R. Brown, Mr. J. L. Hunter, Mrs. A. Piankoff, Captain B. Pritchard, Mr. H. J. Stevenson, Mr. M. Sharp, Mr. T. V. Tilsley, Mr. C. Huisken.—For Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Brown, Mrs. Law, Mr. C. C. Shilton, Mr. F. G. Sterling.—For Colombo.—Mr. J. T. W. Brooke.—For Marseilles.—Mr. A. D. Bell, Miss E. G. Dexter, Rev. Father P. Maune, Dr. and Mrs. H. J. Mullet, Master Mullet, Rev. Father J. Skelly, Miss E. G. Stedman, Mr. E. S. Wilkinson.—For London.—Mrs. W. F. Bichard, Mr. G. Bowack, Mr. W. Cox, Miss E. Gilberstson, Mr. David Kerr, Rev. and Mrs. A. K. McPherson and child, Miss M. McPherson, Mrs. J. Oudney, Miss K. Oudney, Mr. and Mrs. G. Piggot, Mr. E. Squire, Mrs. Samson, Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Thompson, Miss N. Thompson, Master H. Thompson, Mrs. Whiteside, Mrs. B. Thompson.

Per str. Shantung, May 27.—For Hongkong.—Mr. P. Schicker.

Per str Shuntien, May 27.—For Tientsin.—Three Franciscan Sisters, Mrs. Crosby and child, Mr. J. B. Barclay, Mrs. Armstrong.

Per str. Woosung, May 28.—For River Ports.—Mr. B. L. Bunting, Mr. R. Schlee, Mrs. Ivanoff, Mrs. Snyder, Mr. Avebrod.

Per str. Yingchow, May 29.—For Amoy.—Mr. M. P. Petersen, Mr. H. V. Costenoble, Mr. C. K. Chaudanyuen.—For Canton.—Mr. G. Azedo.

Per str. Shengkung, May 29.—For River Ports.—Mr. A. M. McDonald.

Per str Chiakiang, May 30.—For [illegible] Mr. Jones.

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BIRTHS

CAMPOS.—On May 26, 1924, at 24 Scott Road, Shanghai, to Mr. & Mrs. M. P. de Campos, a son.

GULICK.—On May 27, 1924, at Dr. Fearn's Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. Horace Gulick, a son and a daughter.

JENSEN.—On May 29, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. F. V. Jensen, a son.

TAYLOR.—On May 26, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. R. Taylor, a son.

MARRIAGE

MITFORD—HUTTON.—On April 23, 1924, at St. Mary's, Fetcham, by the Rev. W. H. McK. Caldwell, John Bertram Mitford, Lieut., R.N., son of Mr. and Mrs. Bertram G. Mitford, of Fetcham, to Marjorie Hutton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Price of Peking.

DEATHS

CHUN—At 5.30 p.m. on May 25, 1924, at 13 Haining Road, Shanghai, Mr. Chun Fai-ting, Director of the China Merchants S. N. Co., aged 76 years.

CLAXTON.—On May 26, 1924, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, A. A. Claxton, dearly beloved husband of Cecele R. Claxton, and son of Rev. A. E. Claxton, aged 38 years. Hongkong and Singapore papers please copy.

OZORIO.—On May 26, 1924, at the Isolation Hospital, Shanghai, Amelia Maria Sequeira Ozorio, aged 37 years. Hongkong and Macao papers please copy.

ROGERS.—On May 28, 1924, at Seattle, U.S.A., William Henry, the beloved husband of Jane Rogers, in his 40th year.

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Sailings from DENMARK, NORWAY SWEDEN and BALTIC PORTS to CAPE TOWN, ALGOA BAY, EAST LONDON DURBAN, DELAGOA BAY and BEIRA
TO AUSTRALIA.
Sailings from DENMARK, NORWAY, SWEDEN, HAMBURG and LISBON to FREMANTLE, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, SYDNEY and BRISBANE.
TO NORTH PACIFIC.
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SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer 9 A.M.	Wind Att'ed Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
May 23	29.84	68 8	S S E	2	70.7	67.8	72.0	66.2	
„ 24	29.86	68.4	N W	1	72.5	64.0	82.6	59.0	C.
„ 25	29 84	69.3	S W	2	77.0	67.5	87.3	62.2	B.
„ 26	29.95	70.9	S E	0	76.8	67.5	88.7	63.1	C.
„ 27	30.00	70.9	E	2	73.6	60 8	80.4	61.7	.
„ 28	29.95	70.7	W N W	1	77.4	70.1	87.1	59.2	C.
„ 29	29.99	70.9	E S E	2	75.9	68.6	86.9	62.2	B.
									C.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Rainfall Inches 1923
May 23	69.0	64.0	72.0	73.8	0.65	0.43
„ 24	63.0	66.0	81.0	79.2	Nil.	0.79
„ 25	65.2	62.8	87.0	72.4	Nil.	Nil.
„ 26	67.8	61.0	87.0	87.8	Nil.	Nil.
„ 27	64.2	66.0	79.4	80.8	Nil.	0.51
„ 28	64.0	64.0	85.0	70.6	Nil.	0.07
„ 29	64.0	59.8	79.6	67.4	Nil.	Trace

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NEW LIGHT ON CERTAIN NATIONAL PERPLEXITIES

CHINA'S RECOGNITION OF RUSSIA

Restoration of Russian Property in China: Abolition of Russia's Extraterritorial Rights: C. E. R. Handed to Soviet: China's Claims to Outer Mongolia

FROM RODNEY GILBERT.

Peking, May 31.

China recognized Russia this morning.

The recognition was embodied in an agreement on general principles signed by Dr. Wellington Koo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and M. Karakhan, the Soviet Envoy. A Treaty, based on these principles, will be negotiated later.

I understand that the agreement is practically the same as that concluded between Dr. C. T. Wang and M. Karakhan.

The signature of the new agreement has come as a bolt from the blue.

Peking, May 31.

A *communiqué* states that the Sino-Russian Agreement and Declarations (signed by Dr. Wellington Koo and M. Karakhan), Envoy, this morning, embody the principles which will guide the future relations between China and the Soviet, and, in defining these principles, special care is taken to confine all the provisions to the rights and interests of the contracting parties. It is satisfactory to observe, the *communiqué* declares, that these agreements and declarations were worked out with entire freedom on both sides.

The exchange of views which has taken place between the Soviet Mission and the Waichiaopu extended for a month and has resulted in full agreement on all points discussed. After the affixing of the signatures, the Waichiaopu delivered a Note to M. Karakhan for the immediate re-establishment of normal relations.

Extraterritorial Rights Gone.

Dr. Koo and M. Karakhan signed, firstly, an agreement in principle; secondly, an agreement for the provisional management of the Chinese Eastern Railway, in which it is understood that the Soviet practically replaces the Russo-Asiatic Bank under the 1920 Agreement, the Soviet accepting responsibility for the Railway's debts; and also seven Declarations, (1) regarding the employment of Russians on the Chinese Eastern Railway; (2) cancellation of Russian extraterritoriality; (3) restoration of Russian Government property, such as the Legation and Consulates; (4) restoration to the Soviet of Russian Orthodox Church property; (5) appointment of a Commission to administer and allocate the Russian portion of the Boxer Indemnity, which is entirely appropriated to create a fund for the education of the Chinese people; (6) a joint declaration that China will not recognize the validity of any treaty concluded by Russia since the Tsarist *régime* with a third party affecting the sovereign rights or interests of China; (7) Russia renounces her concessions in China and undertakes not to transfer such in whole or in part to a third power.

The Indemnity declaration says that the Soviet renounces the Indemnity, which after the satisfaction of all prior obligations secured on it, will be entirely appropriated to create a fund for the promotion of education among the Chinese people. A special commission will be established to administer and allocate the fund, consisting of three persons, two appointed by China and one by the Soviet, the decisions of the commission to be taken by unanimous vote. The fund will be deposited as it accrues in the bank which is to be designated by the said commission.

China's Right to Mongolia.

The Soviet recognizes China's full sovereignty over Outer Mongolia. The question of the withdrawal of Soviet troops will be discussed in subsequent official negotiations, for which a time limit is set.

The agreement shows that Dr. Koo won three of the main points which were put forward in his last Note to M. Karakhan.

The full texts of the Note will be given out later.

The contracting parties declare that in the future neither will conclude any treaties or agreements which would prejudice the rights or interests of the other.

The Soviet recognizes that Outer Mongolia is an integral part of China's sovereignty therein.

The Soviet declares that as soon as the questions for the withdrawal of all Soviet troops from Mongolia, namely, the time limit and the measures to be adopted in the interests of safety of frontiers, have been agreed upon at the forthcoming conference the Soviet will effect such withdrawal.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking's Consternation

Peking, June 1.

The news of the signing of the Sino-Russian Agreement utterly surprised nearly the whole of Peking. A hint that the conclusion of the Agreement was imminent had been given to correspondents on Friday on condition the news was not used in China, but most of the Legations and the Chinese and foreign press and public were completely surprised.

The foreign papers to-day make no comment on the matter and the Chinese papers only briefly, but the latter only received the Chinese text at 10 o'clock yesterday evening.

Reuter's correspondent is informed that only 10 Chinese officials knew that the negotiations were proceeding until shortly before the signing.

The result is generally claimed as a diplomatic victory for Dr. Wellington Koo, the Foreign Minister.

The Agreement stipulates that the Soviet takes over the responsibilities for Chinese Eastern Railway debts prior to 1918 only.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Chinese Press Comment: Danger of Bolshevik Propaganda

Peking, June 1.

The Chinese Press makes very little comment upon the conclusion of the negotiations between China and Russia. The *"Ching Pao,"* which is very friendly to the Russians, congratulates the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the staff of the Waichiaopu on the early and satisfactory conclusion of the negotiations with Russia, which opens a new era in diplomacy by giving an example of frank and open dealing. It expresses satisfaction at the change of mind wrought upon Mr. Karakhan, as well as with the fact that the final agreement was based largely on the preliminary agreement reached by Dr. C. T. Wang who was the pioneer in this respect.

The *"Chen Pao"* takes advantage of the opportunity to give a warning to the Chinese Government that all the great capitalistic countries, since the establishment of the Soviet Government, have looked upon Bolshevism as a danger to mankind, and have been quick to take precautions against Bolshevik propaganda. But owing to the fact that Soviet Russia has proved its ability to stand upon its own feet, many of these great countries have seen fit to accord recognition to Soviet Russia. In opening these relations each country has stipulated that there must be no Russian propaganda carried on within its borders. This shows that they have not ceased to dislike and to fear the Soviet system. The paper then expresses the view that, if Socialism is not in the interests of mankind, no amount of propaganda will ever make it acceptable to the world, while, if it proves beneficial, no restrictions of propaganda will ever keep it out of the minds of men.

In attempting to draw a parallel the *"Chen Pao"* points out that since the establishment of the Republic, conditions in China have been as bad as in Russia. The Chinese militarists hold the power, and, if this goes on, the middle classes in China will soon be ruined. Thus militarism in China more than anything else is likely to turn the people to socialism. The paper hints that the Russian Legation in future may be the centre of Socialistic teachings. If the Chinese Government wishes to check Socialistic propaganda, it must take the matter in hand itself, but in any case Socialism cannot harm China. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

An Understanding of Grave Concern to the World

Hankow, June 2.

Commenting on the Sino-Russian Agreement, the "Central China Post" says that an understanding has been reached which is of grave concern to the world at large and to this locality. It will take a long time to get all the bearings of this portentous agreement, and, as neither China nor the Soviet are famed for their faithfulness in observing agreements, the journal adds, the future possibilities are unthinkable. Japan will probably be the next to link up with the Soviet in the opinion of the "Central China Post."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, June 2.

A Mandate issued at midnight yesterday says that a Sino-Russian agreement was signed on May 31 settling the problem of the Chinese Eastern Railway and other matters. Formal relations between China and Russia are thus restored.

The Mandate goes on:—"The Chinese and Russian territories meet. The two countries have hitherto been friendly, and the President is gratified that diplomatic re-

[illegible] been fully restored. Let the matter be made clear and far, be referred [illegible]

Peking is [illegible] with rumours to the effect that the Chinese and the Russian Missions will be raised to embassies, but it is officially stated that there is no ground for the same. There are also many rumours on the question as to who will represent Russia and China, but this has not been settled yet.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Moscow Much Pleased and Promising China All Sorts of Benefits

Moscow, June 3.

The official agency states that the news of the conclusion of the Russo-Chinese Agreement was received with great satisfaction.

According to the *"Pravda,"* M. Chicherin terms the establishment of normal relations with China an event of historic importance. He says that relations toward China cannot but be friendly.

The political correspondent of the *"Izvestia"* considers that the Agreement will strengthen China's international position and facilitate the stabilization of her domestic situation. A Russian commercial mission will leave for Peking and Russian shipping in the Pacific will be increased. The correspondent refers to the necessity of negotiating with Siam, Mexico and Argentina.

The Commissar of Transport, M. Rudzutak, in the course of an interview said that the Agreement would lead to an increase of Russo-Chinese traffic with a consequent rise in the receipts of the Chinese Eastern Railway. Goods from East China would henceforth be sent direct *viâ* Ussuri and Vladivostok, not Port Arthur.

It is announced that M. Litvinoff will leave for London to-morrow.—Reuter.

Russo-Asiatic Bank and C.-E. Railway

Peking, June 4.

M. Bleuler, representative of the Russo-Asiatic Bank, handed to the Waichiaopu on June 2 a formal protest on behalf of the shareholders and bondholders in the Chinese-Eastern Railway Company against the violation of their rights by the agreement between China and Soviet Russia, signed on May 31 without the knowledge of the said shareholders and bondholders.

Copies of the protest have been given to the Peking representatives of the eight Powers who were signatory to the Washington Treaty.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINA NEGOTIATING WITH GERMANY

Secret Transactions with Presidential Palace: The German Bonds which China Repudiated on Entering War: Big Profits Anticipated by Peking

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, May 28.

The Chinese papers which consistently attack the Minister of Finance, Mr. Wang K'o-min, the students, parliamentarians and others, who also assail him periodically, sometimes drop the Gold Franc issue as a weapon and charge him with conniving with the Germans to cheat China out of something in the redemption of the German bonds. It now develops that for some time past they have been bombarding the wrong target. Mr. Wang K'o-min has stated several times that he was conducting no negotiations with the Germans and that, so far as he was concerned, no settlement was in sight. In this he told the precise truth, for while negotiations are actually going on, the Germans are conducting them secretly with the President's office. The chief negotiator, whether with or without the President's knowledge, is the much abused Li An-ch'ing, once the President's number one boy, now his personal treasurer and business manager. Presumably for the sake of greater secrecy the conferences between the Germans and Li An-ch'ing's agents are now held in Tientsin, where it is said that an agreement will soon be reached. The Chinese involved in the transaction have been telling their friends in Tientsin that they will make from 10 to 15 millions out of the deal.

German Minister's Promise.

According to the Chinese involved, Mr. K. A. Balser, Secretary of Legation, went to Tientsin a week ago to enter into conference with Li An-ch'ing or his agents, and it is now said that a settlement awaits a decision from Germany which is expected by cable within a week to ten days. A Chinese who is interested in the negotiations has since then told the writer that when Dr. H. von Borch, Counsellor of Legation, left Peking for Germany about three weeks ago, he carried with him all the documents which have a bearing upon the German bond issue, that he proposed to shorten his journey by leaving the steamer in Italy and travelling overland to Berlin by rail and that he promised to get a decision from the German Government and cable it to the Chinese negotiators immediately after his arrival. It has so far been impossible to elicit from any local Chinese a statement of the character of the proposed agreement. The only safe guess is that the Chinese concerned are compromising upon the demands formerly put forward by the Ministry of Finance in the hope of getting ready money.

The Germans are by no means to be blamed for endeavouring to settle the case out of court as it were. Open negotiations, carried on through the proper Government organs, get the negotiator nowhere in this age, as the difficulties which have been put in the way of the Gold Franc settlement amply illustrate. The German case is particularly urgent moreover because much badly needed German property is held by the Chinese Government pending a settlement of the bond question. There has been less interest in this question in foreign circles in China than in the Gold Franc case because it is more involved and less clearly understood. The writer has heard so many persons confess their ignorance of the whole issue and ask for light upon it, that a brief review of the history of the German bonds and of China's attitude towards them probably will not be a waste of space, especially since some sort of a settlement seems imminent.

The Six Gold Loans.

From 1896 to 1913 Germany made, or participated in, six gold loans to China. None of these had been fully redeemed by China up to the time that she declared war upon Germany and Austria. Shortly after the declaration of war in 1917, the Chinese realized that if the Allies were victorious China might be in line for an indemnity from Germany and the Government felt the need of having something in hand with which to bargain when the time came. To this end it was publicly proclaimed that all Chinese bonds of the German issues were invalid. A little later, after a few reminders from the Legations, the Government came to the realization that all the German bonds were not held in Germany but were widely distributed and that the invalidation of those held in other countries would be ground for protest. They therefore notified the Legations that all bonds held in non-enemy countries could be validated prior to April, 1918, through the presentation of coupons for payment, after which date validation would depend upon documentary evidence proving that the bonds had not been purchased directly or indirectly from Germany after China's declaration of war. In July, 1925, the Chinese Government further notified the Powers that after November of the same year no bonds would be validated under any conditions. The legality of these measures has been questioned by every Power whose nationals are interested and has been the subject of a few formal protests on the ground that bearer bonds cannot be invalidated because of a lack of evidence to prove the date when they left Germany, but most of the Powers are content to await China's settlement with Germany and then protest if their nationals are not protected.

Valid and Invalid.

The position of the German loans at present is shown in the following table:—

Ch[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chinese 4½ per cent. gold loan of 1898	Total issue	3,000,000
	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tsin-Pu Railway Loan of 1908	Total issue	3,150,000
	Validated	404,500
	Not valid	2,745,500
Tsin-Pu Railway Supplementary loan of 1910	Total issue	1,890,000
	Validated	252,120
	Not valid	1,637,880
Hukuang Railways Loan of 1911	Total issue	1,500,000
	Validated	388,640
	Not valid	1,111,360
Chinese 5 per cent. Reorganization [illegible] of 1913	Total issue	6,000,000
	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]

It will be seen from this that China has pronounced invalid bonds of a total value of £10,398,795 (face value). In the Sino-German agreements of 1921 Germany agreed to pay China an indemnity and China agreed to accept invalidated bonds in part payment. China has since expressed her willingness to redeem the bonds herself, if the German Government prefers to pay a cash indemnity, or to adhere to the original agreement if the German Government prefers to buy up the bonds and turn them in for cancellation. By this manœuvre, it will be observed, China has made it clear that she is willing to accept the bonds at market value and not at face value. The Germans have hitherto contended that the bonds should be turned over to the Chinese Government at face value against their indemnity to China.

The Reparations Question.

The particular reason for this German stand, according to the local Consortium bankers, is that the German Government already holds the vast majority of the invalidated bonds, including the bulk of the Hukuang issue, which is popularly supposed to have been bought out by American bankers. It is said here that the German Government, immediately after the Armistice, bought these Chinese bonds in Germany and elsewhere when they were cheap with the idea of using them as tender in payment of reparations to France and the other Allies. When they discovered that they would have to pay something to tender in payment of reparations they withheld them, knowing that they could not be turned over to the Allies at face value but hoping that China might be induced to credit Germany on her indemnity account with full value. This point up to the present has been a subject of dispute. What the Powers are waiting to see is whether Germany will be pledged to take up and turn over all the invalidated bonds or only those actually held in Germany.

American Holding Recognized.

One of the most involved features of the whole case is the unadvertised feud that is going on in Germany between the German Foreign Office and the big private companies with interests in China. The writer does not pretend to understand this situation and most Germans confess that they do not, but it would appear that the Foreign Office, in its anxiety to close the whole issue, was recently prepared to compromise with China by paying a reduced indemnity in a lump sum, leaving it to China to take up the bonds and make what profit she could. This would not only have been an excellent time-saving measure but a good stroke of business because, since Germany is the major bond holder, she could have pushed up the price and turned over a fair profit on the paper which she bought when it was nearly worthless. Private interests, however, have held up the transaction because the present state of affairs is much more comfortable than a resumption of the normal responsibilities which would come with a complete adjustment. In the sight of the big companies the revived responsibilities would more than offset the revived advantages.

In banking circles it has been reported within the past few days that Germany had rejected the latest terms of settlement from China. In view of the fact that Dr. von Borch cannot yet have arrived in Berlin to confer with his superiors, this report must be taken with a grain of salt.

As the result of strenuous protest from America, the Chinese Government has agreed to honour all the German Hukuang bonds held in that country, whether validated or not when she has the money. The Danish Minister has recently protested that his nationals who are holders of Chinese bonds of German issue must be protected. The German share of the Reorganization Loan is secured on the salt revenues and the annual payments up to date have been transfered to London and held there pending the outcome of the Sino-German negotiations. More than £1,000,000 have now accumulated there upon which the Chinese look with hungry eyes.

This is the position in general. The present negotiations may alter it materially and will therefore be watched with great interest by financial folk, if by no others.

Premier Pandering to Parliamentary Opposition

Peking, June 1.

The House of Representatives has requested the Premier and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Finance to attend a special meeting of the House to-morrow and give statements regarding the progress of the Sino-German negotiations concerning the German bonds question. It is reported unofficially to-day that these Ministers will not be able to comply.

Peking, June 4.

The main cause of the recent resignation of Mr. Sun Pao-chi, the Premier, appears to be his pandering to the Parliamentary opposition against the proposed Sino-German agreement. Mr. Sun did not attend the regular meeting of the Cabinet yesterday, and his absence afforded an opportunity for a frank discussion of the position.

In the afternoon, members of the Cabinet called at the residence of Mr. Sun Pao-chi, when a full and frank talk took place, resulting in a complete re-union, after which the whole of the Cabinet interviewed the President, who approved the plans which were subsequently carried out, Mr. Sun Pao-chi withdrawing his resigniation.

Later in the evening the Cabinet requested special meetings of the two Houses of Parliament to-morrow, at which the Premier will make a full report on the Sino-German negotiations, and, if Parliament approves, the Sino-German agreement will probably be signed on Friday or Saturday.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Bonds Agreement Signed?

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, June 5.

There is a strong rumour that the German Bonds agreement has been signed. No confirmation, however, can be obtained from Tientsin whither, it has been stated, Herr K. A. Balser, Secretary of the German Legation, went to confer with Mr. Li An-ching, the President's chief negotiator.

*Apparently it has so far been impossible to elicit a statement as to the character of the proposed agreement. In 1921 Germany agreed to pay China an indemnity and China agreed to accept invalidated bonds as part payment. China has since expressed her willingness to redeem the bonds herself, if the German Government prefers to pay a cash indemnity.

The German case is particularly urgent because much badly needed German property is held by the Chinese Government pending a settlement of the bond question. There has been less interest in this question in foreign circles in China than in the Gold Franc case because it is more involved and less clearly understood.

SINO-SIAMESE TREATY

Peking, June 2.

Chinese press reports state state that a Sino-Siamese Commercial Treaty will shortly be signed.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Admiral Tu Shih-kuei, Commander-in-Chief of the Navy at Nanking, has telegraphed to Peking stating that a large majority of the men of the Shanghai Independent Navy in Shanghai under Admiral Lin Kien-chang, are desirous of returning again to the Northern fold. The Admiral suggests that $100,000 be sent to the ships as an additional inducement. Meanwhile President Tsao Kun has conferred upon Admiral Tu the highest possible naval honour—the Golden Sword with Three Lions' Heads.

A SOVIET ENVOY TO MONGOLIA

Vasilev's Visit to Peking: The Red Grip Firmer than Ever on the Mongols

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, M[illegible]

The Chinese, like many [illegible] observers, have never been able to persuade themselves that the Soviet's promises to evacuate Mongolia and acknowledge China's full sovereignty over that territory were sincere. They keep a suspicious eye on every Russian movement in or out of Mongolia and do some very effective sky work through the Mongol potentates who are pro-Chinese. Under these circumstances it is astonishing that there has been no report in either the Chinese or the local foreign press of the coming and going of Mr. A. N. Vasilev, Soviet Envoy Plenipotentiary to the Mongolian Soviet Republic for a period of two years.

Mr. Vasilev came to Peking some days ago, making no secret of the fact that he was a formally appointed envoy to the independent Mongols and has now left for Urga, after a series of conferences with Mr. Karakhan and his staff, taking no pains to conceal his identity or keep his movements secret. Foreigners who are familiar with the situation in Mongolia and who know Mr. Vasilev, say that the Soviet Government has not and never did have the slightest intention of abandoning the Red grip upon Outer Mongolia and that it is generally understood that the new diplomatic agent will; under the cover of diplomacy, actually exercise the administrative powers of a governor-general.

Why the Chinese have nothing to say about this is difficult to understand. If a British official were to arrive in Peking on his way to Tibet with anything like the credentials that this Soviet agent carries, or if a Japanese were to come and go as *Minister* to Manchuria, the student outcry would be deafening and the Chinese press would fairly boil over with vituperation.

Russia's Waiting Game.

It must be obvious to the Chinese authorities that Mr. Vasilev's position has a significant bearing upon the future of Sino-Russian negotiations. If Russia had any desire at the moment to resume conferences with the Waichiaopu she would not arouse Chinese suspicions by bringing a man here whose appointment was virtually a recognition of the independence of Outer Mongolia. Mr. Karakhan has just denied in a public statement that the resumption of negotiations with Japan stood in the way of further conferences with China, which is probably true because, whether or not Russia were negotiating with Japan, it is extremely unlikely that she would be negotiating with China under any other condition than that of unconditional recognition. There is little doubt in the minds of most observers here that Moscow severely disapproved of the terms of the Wang-Karakhan draft agreement and that Mr. Karakhan would not be permitted to sign it now, even if he were personally willing to do so. He could not hope to negotiate a new document with the Waichiaopu on terms more to Russia's taste and get the Chinese to sign it. So, from the Russian point of view, the only thing to do is to procrastinate and wait until Russia is in such a strong position internationally that China will recognize her unconditionally, after which, as the legal heir to the Tsar's credits and rights in China she will not have to negotiate her terms but will be in a position to dictate them.

Mr. Vasilev is an ex-lawyer, a man of good education and ability. His political history is unknown to the Russian diplomats of the old *régime* in Peking, but it is an established fact that he holds the same ambassadorial rank in Urga as Mr. Karakhan does here.

The Chinese press ran a story on Wednesday that Dr. Sun Yat-sen is attempting to borrow $2,000,000 "from British and Japanese capitalists, with the Canton Mint as security."

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THE TREATMENT OF CRIME

June 2.

IN the middle of April there was held in the City of Birmingham the great Copec Conference on Politics, Economics and Citizenship. It was an influential and enthusiastic gathering indicating that the movement feels certain of exerting a mighty influence for good in the future. Its President this year was Dr. Temple, the Bishop of Manchester—and a better or abler could not be found. The Vice-President was Dr. Garvie, Principal of New College, Hampstead, and a former chairman of the Congregational Union. The speakers were all able men, but if Copec has a weakness its Achilles heel is just here. Before it can come into its kingdom it must, without discarding the high-brows, capture the imagination of the common man. The problems it discusses most vitally concern him and cannot be settled without his active co-operation.

We choose for consideration one of the subjects presented at the conference and one, which though important in itself may yet be regarded as one of the least important of those that engaged the attention of the delegates. We refer to the question raised under the head of the "Cause of crime and its treatment." In no respect has civilization made more marked progress, in recent years, than in its treatment of the criminal. It is with a feeling of horror one reads the record of the savagery of our criminal courts, less than a hundred years ago, contained in, say, Mackenzie's "History of the Nineteenth Century." And even in our own day, though we have Children's Courts, Deferred Sentences and Probation Officers, it is plain that we are only at the beginning of the reform needed in our criminal law. We published on Tuesday last an article on "How criminals are made" which told of an old man, 63 years of age, who came up for sentence at the London Sessions and who, it was said, had spent two-thirds of his life in prison. Such an instance is a glaring proof of the failure of our present methods of dealing with those guilty of offences against the law. Indeed, this very sentence, "against the Law," contains in itself the germinant idea which has prejudiced the minds and warped that attitude of those entrusted with the task of administering justice. The law has been broken. The majesty of the law must be vindicated though in the process the majesty of the man may be lost sight of.

Lombroso taught that criminals were born. There was a "criminal type" and it was useless to attempt the reformation of those who were predestined to a life of crime. Now, we know that criminals are made and that we, in so far as we are members of the society responsible for producing them, help to make them. It has become fashionable for men to assume a kind of inverted hypocrisy. Moral men scoff at morals and advise the youth, commencing his business career, to "Be good to yourself, boy." Religious men are careful to conceal their interest in religion whereas the gambler and the rake wear their unenviable reputations like orders of merit. The lure of the primrose path is strong and its slope steep, but he who slips on it is inevitably broken. Fiction contains no more pathetic story than that we referred to a few days ago in the tale of the girl who as "The bobbed hair bandit" committed numerous robberies and was apprehended in the city where she went to await the arrival of her expected baby. Sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment someone whispered to her "Was it worth it?" She scribbled her response on a piece of paper. "Tell the girls who would like to do as I did and see their names in the papers, Don't try to do it. While I smile my heart is breaking." How many hardened criminals bide breaking hearts beneath a forbidding exterior? And this is why retributive sentences are discredited. They are easy to inflict and there is some satisfaction in thinking of a certain type of criminal safe behind prison bars for a term of years, but beyond this they accomplish nothing; they harden and degrade, but never reform. Oscar Wilde sang in his "Ballad of Reading Gaol" "T'is only what is vile in man will bloom and flourish there," and yet he had not been long released before he succumbed to the old temptations and the dram-glass. To reform a man is admittedly the hardest thing in the world, but if we devoted as much talent and energy to the task as we do now to convicting and punishing the criminal it is just possible that we should succeed beyond our expectations.

Shanghai is infested by as hard-bitten a brand of habitual criminals as any place on earth. We send them to prison and expel them and they are back again within a week of their expulsion. It would seem worth while to make an effort to discover the reason why these men choose the life of the law-breaker. Is there no other way of making a livelihood open to them? Is it not just possible that they are in the hands of others who, while themselves keeping clear of the meshes of the law, hound them on to steal? The subject needs investigation for we cannot here, anymore than elsewhere, continue a weary round of convictions leading to further convictions, like the path of a blind donkey turning a mill. The outcome of our penal proceedings should have another goal than this.

KING GEORGE

June 3.

HIS Majesty King George the Fifth is 59 years old to-day, having been born at Marlborough House on June 3, 1865, and millions upon millions of his subjects, scattered all over the earth, will join in wishing him many further years of health and happiness and in hoping that he will be spared to rule them for many years to be. It is something of a paradox that the British Empire, one of the oldest of existing monarchies, consists of one of the most democratic peoples in the world, governed and controlled on democratic principles. The basic reason for this is that the British constitution is founded on no fundamental law, but rests on three main administrative principles—self-government, self-support and self-defence, in all of which the voice and wishes of the people are paramount. Our King exists as a King and a Monarch, the pivot of the Empire's constitution and the head of its administration, and while abrogating none of his duties as such, is democratic in that he knows his people, is constantly in touch with them and, what is more important than all, understands them. His success and popularity as a monarch are due to his humanness, his lack of ostentation, his fine understanding, and his reliance on and co-operation with those whom his people have elected to form his Government. Worthy of mention is the fact that only a few weeks ago Mr. Ramsay Macdonald and his daughter spent a short holiday at Windsor Castle, where they were the personal guests of the King and Queen, and occupied apartments in the Royal suite, as distinct from those rooms in which State, diplomatic and formal guests are accommodated. It is significant that in these years of Bolshevism and Communism, of the overthrow of monarchies and the banishment of kings, our own King has retained the love, honour and respect of his people, and that even in the extremest sections of British politics, whatever may be the doctrines expounded, the name of His Majesty the King seldom is referred to except in terms of respect and allegiance. And so with His Majesty's direct heir, the Prince of Wales, who probably knows and understands the British people and the British Empire as no monarch in prospect has done in our history and who, when the time comes, will prove a worthy successor to the Crown of that great Empire of which all true Britons are justifiably so proud.

THE RUSSO-CHINESE AGREEMENT

June 3.

THE agreement concluded in Peking on Saturday whereby China recognizes the Soviet Government is indeed, as Mr. Rodney Gilbert described it yesterday, a bolt from the blue. When we remember the acid terms on which Dr. C. T. Wang and Mr. Karakhan parted barely two months ago, the Soviet's ultimatum, the secret intrigue by the Peking Cabinet to secure something even better than Dr. Wang had obtained, and the public loss of face to China when Mr. Karakhan flung off in a huff in order, as it seemed to everybody, to escape a bargain into which the wily Oriental had entrapped him, but which Moscow could hardly be expected to approve,—it seems incredible that Dr. Wellington Koo should have succeeded so soon in cajoling the Bolshevik into agreement with all the essentials that Dr. C. T. Wang so nearly secured. Soviet Russia has given up to China all the big things, extraterritoriality, her concessions in China, and the Boxer Indemnity: it is really almost another Brest-Litovsk. And in return she does not, so far as can be seen, get anything but a barren recognition. The Bolsheviks are clever men; nobody has ever denied that, and we may therefore presume that they have some *arrière pensée* in giving away so much without return. Possibly they think that their position in the future will be immeasurably improved by the very fact that they have given all for nothing. They will be able to tell China, so they say to themselves, that they are the real friends and thereby they will score off the other Powers as they please in the Far East. The weak point of this fond scheme is that an Oriental state like China knows no gratitude. Give her an inch and she will take, not an ell, but several yards. It is difficult to get out of China what she has promised to do under her signature: where there is no promise, expectation of any profitable result is futile.

It is impossible to judge the agreement accurately until the full text is received. But there is quite enough in the *communiqué* published yesterday to indicate that the agreement is fruitful of difficulties. It is one thing to sign such a contract, quite another to get it realized. Take, first of all, the question of the Chinese Eastern Railway, in which it is understood "that the Soviet practically replaces the Russo-Asiatic Bank under the 1920 agreement." That agreement, it may be recalled, was discussed at the Washington Conference, which ultimately accorded to it its recognition. The Chinese Eastern Railway was the subject of three resolutions at Washington, in the first of which we read:—

"that funds will be obtainable from bankers and other outside sources only if suitable conditions are established for the economical operation of the railway and if the funds provided are to be expended under adequate supervision."

Later on we find this:—

"The Powers other than China, in agreeing to the resolution regarding the Chinese Eastern Railway, reserve the right to insist hereafter upon the responsibility of China for performance or non-performance of the obligations towards the foreign stockholders, bondholders and creditors of the Chinese Eastern Railway."

Both clauses are palpably framed to cover the possibility of Soviet interference. The attention of China was drawn to these resolutions during the Wang-Karakhan negotiations, and inasmuch as France is chiefly interested in the Russo-Asiatic Bank, we do not suppose she will very readily acquiesce in the Bank's management being supplanted by the Soviet's. Then, as regards the Russian Boxer Indemnity, this is at present being used as security for the Eleventh Year Loan, which was arranged in the autumn of 1922 in order to tide Dr. Wang Chung-hui's Cabinet over until the tariff revision conference should meet. The Inspector-General of Customs was made responsible for the service of that loan and unless Peking can give him some security as good as what he has, it cannot play ducks and drakes with the Boxer Indemnity on the pretext of fancy education schemes. Lastly, there is the question of church property in China. The title deeds of the Russian church in Shanghai stand in the name of a private individual and are lodged in a foreign Consulate; and we have no doubt that similar precautions have been taken with Russian church property in Peking, Hankow and elsewhere. It will be interesting to see how China proposes to get hold of this property and give it over to the Soviet.

As regards Shanghai, what is to happen under the agreement is particularly interesting. Here it will be remembered. Mr. Grosse holds authority over the Russian community as joint Commissioner with the Chinese Commissioner, so as to get over the difficulty that Chinese officials cannot function in the Settlement. Mr. Grosse was of course well known to the Consular Body, of which he had been a member until China broke off relations with Prince Koudacheff, the former Russian Minister, and it very gladly accepted the arrangement. But the situation may be quite different when a Soviet Envoy comes in, whose Government is not yet recognized by three of the five great Powers, not to mention the smaller ones. Furthermore there are some thousands of Russians in and about Shanghai who are not registered with the Soviet authorities. What is to be their status? That of unrepresented foreigners presumably. But a little reflexion will show that the situation is not as simple as that phrase would, with people of other nationality, imply, and many hardships are likely to ensue. The agreement might have one useful side, that of enabling the repatriation of destitute Russians who have no reason for not returning to their homes. But it can hardly be regarded as a complete instrument yet. For one thing, the Soviet has still to evacuate Outer Mongolia. One imagines that a very long time will elapse before it does so.

CHINA AND RUSSIAN REFUGEES

June 4.

VERY unwelcome news reaches us with reference to the colony of Russian refugees in Chinese territory. It will be recalled that, last autumn, the League of Nations was led to interest itself in their case and appointed Dr. Greig of Kirin its delegate in the Far East to study the question of their repatriation. The first essential was, of course, that the League should obtain from the Soviet Government some guarantee of safe conduct for the refugees to their old homes: without that, they would never be induced to return to Russia. Negotiations were accordingly opened by the League, but, after several months, have come to nothing. The Soviet apparently is not interested in making any arrangement with the League. From Moscow's standpoint this is, perhaps, natural enough. Russia is not yet a member of the League; she is recognized by only two or three of the Powers composing it; and an application for safe conduct for the refugees may appear to her as an indirect insult, implying that without it they can only expect imprisonment or worse. Against this, the League's position is only that of a go-between. These exiled Russians fled from their country to a large extent through misguidance; there is no place for them in China, or anywhere else that can be seen; but being fugitives, they are naturally afraid to go back without some knowledge of what they are going to; it would very greatly improve Soviet Russia's prestige in the eyes of the world, which it would be idle to pretend is not in need of rehabilitation, if she extended to these unhappy and for the most part quite harmless people a helping hand.

Meanwhile the newly concluded agreement between China and Russia offers a possible way of escape. The situation as regards the Russian refugees remains much the same as ever it was, only to this extent worse, that it is increasingly difficult to support those who can find no work to do. There are certainly some who can never go back, until Bolshevism changes altogether: they fought hard against it and are proscribed. But these are the people who, having more education and initiative than the others, have managed to find employment. The great maority of refugees, we think it would be correct to say, blindly followed their leaders. There was no very great reason why they should fly from Russia and there is less why they should not return. But as it has been estimated that there are some 50,000 of them scattered about China, it is, as often pointed out, utterly beyond the power of any private organization to send them back. The Refugee Relief Committee of Shanghai has really done wonders. It has somehow managed to keep its soup kitchens going; it has repatriated some

and emigrated others. And we may be sure that the League of Nations will not relax its efforts, in spite of the rebuff it has received in Russia. Unluckily, there are a great many other people than Russians anxious to seek fortune in a new world and the countries which have room for immigrants are not at all anxious to admit them. In Russia there is room and it is obviously the proper place for Russian refugees.

Now we do urge that in this predicament the Chinese Government could and well might take advantage of the agreement with Soviet Russia. When approached by Dr. Greig in connexion with his work for the League of Nations, the authorities in Peking showed themselves very sympathetic: and further, there is no doubt that individual Chinese officials have helped the refugees: we know on excellent authority that Marshal Chang Tso-lin has contributed large sums for their support. There would be nothing unreasonable in the Chinese Government saying to Moscow: "We have in our territories a very large number of indigent citizens of yours for whom we cannot provide work: they never ought to have left Russia and unquestionably most of them did so under a misapprehension and might quite safely be allowed back. Can't you help them to their homes if we bring them to the frontier?" Were any further support thought advisable in making such representations to Moscow, it might possibly be lent by the British Legation, whose Government has recognized the Soviet as China has done. But the time to act is now, when summer is beginning, making it easier to transport the refugees towards their homes and easier for them to find work when they get to Russia.

STATE CONTROL

June 5.

It is more than probable that [illegible] compiled, with results, of all the world's state-controlled industries and undertakings, it would show that in the majority of cases [illegible] economic activity results in financial loss or reduced efficiency, or both, with an inevitable reaction on the prosperity of the industry or undertaking and [illegible] people generally. Experience has proved that with very few exceptions control by a State of any industry is not to be desired in the best interests of that State. It curtails private competition, stifles individual enterprise and discourages initative; it (usually) gives the State immunity from the consequences of defections, responsibilities, laws and liabilities to which private concerns are subject—as witness the State operation of ships—it nullifies, largely, that constant call for and need of economy and efficiency which constitute the [illegible] business; it lumbers itself and encumbers itself with bureaucratic and often redundant official appointments (invariably [illegible] over-paid); and it gives the workers the erroneous impression that behind them is a limitless pit of wealth into which they may delve as deeply and as frequently as opportunities occur [illegible] be manufactured, irrespective of commonsense, equity and the condition of the industry or undertaking.

We have especially in mind the case of the miners at Home, and appreciate, as well as any, that the miner follows a hazardous and unpleasant occupation and that in producing a commodity which, possibly more than any other, has contributed and still contributes to the Empire's greatness, he is worthy of every reasonable consideration and the most generous treatment the industry, as private enterprise, can afford. The miners never have made any secret of their ambition and desire for the nationalization of the coal industry. Whether it is that they imagine that the State can do any better than, or as well as private ownership, or that, urged and directed by their own executives, they think or are moulded into thinking that a Government Coal Department would be easier to extract concessions and advantages from than private employers, is not clear. An excellent indication of their attitude, or rather that of their officials, is furnished by the inquiry which, under the Presidency of Lord Buckmaster, recently investigated conditions and wages in the coal industry. Mr. Herbert Smith, who represented the miners, laid it down that if a colliery could not pay its workers that standard of wages which the Miners' Federation deemed imperative, it ought to shut down! His statement, analysed, means that where the miners are concerned, wages shall not bear any relation to the earning capacity of the undertaking, which would have to continue indefinitely without providing any return on the capital invested in it, or until all the capital had been eaten up, and dismissing its employees and shutting down.

It is an amazing doctrine, not even commendable in theory and one which, in practice, would result in either the speedy extinction of the industry or in the untold wealth that is sunk in the coal business being rendered utterly unproductive, with ultimate detriment to the State as a whole and to the mine-owners and the miners particularly. The Labour party, since it came into power, has shown a somewhat unexpected reasonableness in many matters where unreasonableness was feared, and it is to be hoped that in regard to the interminable howling for the nationalization of the coal industry an equal reasonableness will eventually prevail.

LIGHTER THAN AIR OR HEAVIER?

June 5.

The welcome extended to Captain d'Oisy is still fresh in memory when we have the pleasure of extending a similar cordial greeting to the American aviators, who in beautiful weather arrived yesterday afternoon. In d'Oisy's case bad luck attended him only when he reached Shanghai: provided with another machine he has since pursued a splendid course around north China, Manchuria and Korea and we earnestly hope that skill and good fortune will bring him safely to his journey's end in a few days' time. With the American [illegible] all the worst of [illegible] journey was at the beginning. It seems hardly conceivable that aeroplanes and aviators can have battled through such weather and [illegible] as they encountered in their flight across the northern Pacific. It was a magnificent achievement on which the American airmen are warmly to be complimented; and it may be hoped that in compensation for their endurance at the outset, the same sunny shies which have cheered them since they reached Japan will continue to smile upon them till they reach home again.

Meanwhile the success of these world flights adds new interest to the old controversy of "lighter or heavier than air." Is it the aeroplane or the airship which is destined to be the most popular form of conveyance? The failure of the Zeppelins during the war, as fighting machines, and the achievements of aeroplanes appeared at one time to have settled the question, and to-day it is possible in many parts of the world to take an aeroplane journey from one point to another as easily as to take a train. On the other hand even in war time the airship demonstrated its possibilities in the memorable flight of a Zeppelin from Constantinople to East Africa and return, without a landing. The advantages of airships over aeroplanes are in many particulars obvious: they carry more passengers, are less at the mercy of chance in respect of landing and remain afloat even if their engines break down. It is important to note that the British Government, though refusing to bind itself down to the Airship Guarantee Company for a line of airships, is about to spend considerable sums in lighter-than-air research and to construct a chain of airship stations between England and India. One hazards the suggestion that aeroplanes will come to play much the same part as is filled by motor-cars and charabancs, journeys in them being mostly confined to pleasure trips or where the highest speed is desirable; while the heavy work of transportation and long distance journeys will be performed by airships. But in either case one does not anticipate that the route across the northern Pacific will be much frequented.

THE LONDON CITY CHURCHES

June 6.

We have to thank the London Society for a most fascinating and instructive booklet on the London City Churches, published in answer to the recently opened campaign for the selling off of some of these buildings, of which more presently. No Englishman, certainly none who ever called himself a Londoner, can turn the pages of this little work, without a thrill. Forty-five churches are names and described and every name is instinct with romantic association. Some of them are household words in every corner of the Empire—St. Bartholomew the Great, part of the church of the priory of Austin Canons founded in 1123; All Hallows Barking, where William Penn was baptized and Archbishop Laud's headless body lay; St. Michael Cornhill, known to have existed in 1055 and probably much older; and St. Stephen Walbrook, one of the most perfect pieces of Wren's designing. But somehow it is the lesser known churches which stir the imagination most. St. Andrew Undershaft, for instance, so called because a maypole was put up annually in front of the south door, but this custom was discontinued a trifle over 400 years ago because of a riot. Another church dedicated to the fisherman Saint bears the curious name of St. Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe, because before the great fire the King's wardrobe was close by, as still commemorated in Wardrobe Place. St. James Garlickhithe, says Stow, is so-called because "in old time on the bank of the river of Thames, near to the church, garlick was sold;" and St. Katherine Cree, another odd name, appears to be a contraction of St. Katherine de Christchurch. The "Lion Sermon" has been preached in this church on every October 16 since 1647, to commemorate the escape from a lion of Sir John Gaymer, Lord Mayor of London, who also presented the church with a stone font in gratitude for the same deliverance. Fancy any Lord Mayor now being exposed to danger from a lion: though, if he were, we have sufficient belief in the respect of City dignitaries for the ancient relics and customs of London to be sure that he would make some presentation in thankfulness therefor.

Yet there must be people in the City—let us hope no Lord Mayor or Alderman past or present—who would have some of these old churches pulled down, the sites sold for offices and the proceeds, together with endowments, distributed among needy parishes elsewhere. The ground of attack is that the night population of the City of London numbers hardly as many thousands as that by day reckons hundreds of thousands; that, in consequence, Sunday services are most meagrely attended: and that City parsons enjoy fat incomes and do nothing for them. But as the Rev. Arthur West, rector of St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, shows in the London Society's booklet, much in these arguments is based on misconception. The average income of the clergy, he points out, including the four suffragan bishops, is £750 without a house. Over £100,000 is taken annually from the funds of City churches, without their having any say in the distribution, and given to poorer parishes elsewhere. And it is a vital mistake to assume that Sunday is the only day on which these churches can be or are used by worshippers, as records of special Lenten services clearly show. Mr. West frankly admits that Sunday services in some churches are poorly attended, and he makes the useful suggestion that the clergy of these buildings should be detailed for mission work in the suburbs where many City workers live and during the day follow their people to the City to conduct special services. The success of short week day services at convenient hours in many churches, from St. Paul's downwards, suggests that these might be greatly extended, given proper organization. Apart altogether from the religious side of the question, Mr. West argues well that:—

It is scandalous to assume that City merchants, clerks, women typists, young boys and girls and other workers, do not set a very high value on these oases of refreshment which brighten daily toil. The tiny gardens are frequently an additional joy. Even though many of the workers may not be attracted to services or music within the Churches, it is the case that the beauty of architecture, the sense of history and an atmosphere other than that of mere business, enriches and gives repose to their lives. The sites of the Churches would be of comparatively small value without the gardens, and the loss of these, merely as material breathing spaces, would be a real calamity. They are at present protected by law.

That last sentence gives comfort and certainly there are very few Englishmen abroad who will not pray that it may be long before the law is repealed. It is a characteristic of Englishmen whose lot is cast outside their native land that they specially resent the disappearance of old landmarks. They do not read history, perhaps, but they have none the less a strong historical sense; they revere an ancient custom, an ancient house, an ancient title, because it is ancient. It seems to them always to have been a part of their native land and they would have it so remain. Nor do we for one moment believe that in this they are at all different to the overwhelming majority of their brethren at Home. We do not believe that those who advocate pulling down City churches are more than a tiny minority, who have been taking advantage of the passing utilitarianism and restlessness of the times to press their so-called reforms. Bolshevism is not by any means only expressible in terms of red ties and labour unrest. The same spirit is visible in jazz music, futurist art, muckrake novels, the clamour for revision of the Prayer Book and the desire to destroy City churches in the sacred cause of business and for what may be given to the poor—like the proceeds of the suggested sale of a certain "box of ointment, of spikenard very precious." And because this spirit will pass, like all other evil spirits which from time to time have been permitted to buffet mankind, we ought to be the more strenuous in fighting it. To that end the London Society is rousing itself in defence of the City churches. It is a brave, stout-winded organization, which has already proved of immense value in saving old London from materialist and money grubber, and one wishes it success in its new championship.

FOREIGN CHILDREN IN CHINA

The physical care and [illegible]tion of foreign children in China must often occasion anxiety to their parents who may be sometimes inclined to think it would have been better if they had never left the homeland. Yet it is doubtful whether the children suffer much loss from residence in a foreign land. As to their physical health, circumstances have greatly changed since foreign families first came to China, when travel was difficult and the causation of most of the common diseases with the means of their prevention was not understood. In this part of China they are usually well and strong, not thin and pale like those who live in the tropics. Of course there are risks and disadvantages here as everywhere else and for the purpose of discussion these may as well be stated. The children spend much of their time with the Chinese servants and without the knowledge of their elders it is easy for them to obtain native comestibles, mysterious and delectable but not very digestible, and owing to the ignorance and carelessness of the Chinese the defences against infectious disease are sometimes broken through. Moreover, the children learn from the servants a great deal it would be better for them not to know, and require far too much personal service. As to their early education, the frequent vacations, furloughs and other family changes tend to make it discontinuous and uneven; and in the outports and inland places the children seldom receive the wholesome discipline which comes from the close companionship with numerous others of their own age and class.

On the other hand, boys and girls who live in the East have many unusual advantages. It is a pleasure to all normal children to travel and see the world. Healthy boys demand more; they long for perilous and sanguinary adventures—at least in imagination—so that nearly all pass through a stage when they wish to be pirates or Red Indians. Captain Evans, who took command of the Scott Antarctic Expedition after the death of its leader, has just told us the delightful tale—ever new and ever old—of how at the age of eight he and two other boys of the same age, who like himself were in disgrace at school, bought a stock of provisions on credit and made for Barking Creek intending to sail away for the Spanish Main. Sad to say, the police frustrated this daring enterprise, and the three diminutive buccaneers were taken to the police-station. Parenthetically, it may be remarked, it is this inborn love of adventure and of the sea which is one of the sources of England's colonizing power and of her maritime greatness. Indeed, some say that not a few missionaries are impelled by the same spirit

though they may not be aware of it. However, the point we wish to make is this: in England the children are unable to satisfy their adventurous longings except in a small way by visits to the cinema, whereas those who go to China actually see a good deal of the world and of the various peoples in it, and sometimes meet with a few real adventures. One or two boys in China have won imperishable fame among their companions by having been actually captured by brigands. Much more valuable, however, is the educative influence of travel and residence in foreign lands, as it enables the children to acquire an openness of mind, alert powers of observation and sensitiveness to new impressions which should more than compensate for educational irregularities; at any rate, when sent home to be educated, they appear well able to hold their own.

But there comes a time, after the children have entered their teens and are becoming "weedy" in more senses than one, when it is necessary, if possible, to send them home to finish their education, and to deepen their patriotism: for they cannot feel quite the same towards the old country as those born and brought up there. While it is true they do not know England who only England know, it is also true that they do not know England who never to England go. This separation between parents and children is the hardest trial of all, and is probably the cause of more foreigners leaving China than sickness, business failure or any other cause. It is a great problem. If the children are left in the care of strangers in England and do not see their parents for years, it is not fair to them and it weakens their filial affection. If the wife goes with them she becomes a "grace widow," and the husband suffers a double loss and reverts to bachelor existence. Perhaps the difficulty will be solved when it is possible to travel to England swiftly and at reasonable cost, either by railway or by aeroplane. In any case the young birds must leave the nest sooner or later. On the whole, we think that foreign children in China have a far better time than the children at home who seldom or never go abroad.

THE REVELATION

An idle poet, here and there,
Looks round him; but, for all the rest,
The world, unfathomably fair,
Is duller than a witling's jest.

Love wakes men, once a lifetime each;
They lift their heavy heads and look;
And, lo, what one sweet page can teach
They read with joy, then shut the book.

And some give thanks, and some blaspheme,
And most forget: but, either way,
That, and the Child's unheeded dream,
Is all the light of all their day.

"THE British Legion Album," compiled by Field-Marshal Earl Haig in connexion with his appeal for ex-Service men, will shortly be on sale in Shanghai, at Messrs. Kelly and Walsh's. According to the "Referee," this is the most wonderful five-shillingsworth ever offered, for here is something from every well-known man and woman in the Empire—Royalties, soldiers, sailors, churchmen, statesmen, authors, artists, oh! everybody you can think of. No such a collection of signatures, pictures, and quotations, all reproduced with the most scrupulous fidelity, has, I should think, ever been got together before or ever will be again. All the profit from the sale goes to help the ex-Service men, and five shillings seems little enough to spend in so good a cause.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

The Unemployment Debate

One would have liked rather more, in the telegraphic report of the debate on unemployment, of the grounds on which the Opposition based their attack on the Government's unemployment policy. For on the face of it, it seems rather hard to criticize the Government for not yet having realized the millennium which some of its supporters have been promising when Labour should get into power. Mr. MacDonald's schemes of State works are interesting, especially as regards afforestation, though that is hardly the sort of work on which to put untried hands with success. Meanwhile the only practical cure for unemployment is improvement of world conditions and harder work. For instance the way in which the bricklayers are sticking up the country undoubtedly reacts all round: a three-roomed cottage, we are told, cannot now be built for less than £500 whereas before the war it could certainly have been put up for £150. Cost of materials will not alone explain the difference. We do not think this paper can be accused of being unsympathetic to Labour, but there is a good deal of a very rotten spirit still prevalent for which Capital cannot altogether be blamed. Writing in the "Weekly Dispatch" on foreign competition, Mr. W. L. Hichens, chairman of Cammell, Laird & Co., says:—

> I am inclined to think that in some quarters there is an exaggerated idea of the degree to which other countries are becoming industrially self-dependent. No doubt this tendency was developed to some extent as a result of the war, but there are still plenty of potential markets for British goods, provided we can produce cheaply enough.
>
> It is a matter of common knowledge that prices in the export industries generally have been so cut as to yield little or no profit. No one can contend that to-day, at any rate, the capitalist is reaping an undue reward. His reward, in fact, is so inadequate that new capital will not be enticed into British industry. Industries are being carried on mainly in the interests of the worker, and he is the person who will suffer most if they are closed down through the loss of our foreign markets.
>
> Surely, therefore, Labour has everything to gain by joining with Capital in a full and frank inquiry as to the steps which are necessary in order to recover our foreign trade.
>
> If Labour can suggest a better way everyone would welcome it.

Passport Visas

An American contemporary makes the sensible suggestion that as the quota of immigrants admissible to the United States has been cut by one half, thereby depriving steamship companies of much of their revenue from steerage traffic, the time is opportune for the authorities to take steps to compensate the lines for this loss by facilitating tourist travel. The reference is particularly in regard to the abolition of the passport and visa nuisance. There is no doubt that during the war, when the control of passenger traffic was necessary and an accurate check on all people travelling was essential, passports and visas constituted a means of great assistance, but though the signing of the Peace Treaty meant that their usefulness and necessity had vanished to a great extent, they still remain, not in the United States alone, to harass those who travel and to prevent many from travelling who otherwise would. Although, since the termination of hostilities, a few of the very onerous restrictions have been removed, many still remain, and one of the chief considerations to those about to travel is in getting passport and having them visaed for those countries or ports at which they are going to land or at which they might land. There still is room for a great deal of improvement in this matter. Another aspect of the subject is the charges that are made for visas. In no case is a visa at all what one could consider cheap, or even reasonable, and in regard to some countries the charges are so high as to be little less than extortionate. Money is expensive in these days, and the average person who travels, either on leave or on business, can ill afford some of the charges that are made by Consular authorities for visas. Admitting that (even with the miserably inadequate salaries that are paid to Consular officials in most cases) Consulates are expensive institutions to be included on a nation's charge sheet, no real justification exists for mulcting the traveller in some of the sums he has to pay before he can enter a country. A visitor to any land almost proves an advantage to that land—perhaps indirectly—and to discourage travel, as the present scale of visas undoubtedly does to some extent, is a policy both mistaken and near-sighted.

The Shanghai Exhibition

Truly the ways of the Chinese frequently are most extraordinary. For months Mr. Bena has been freely advertising his idea of an International Exhibition for Shanghai and has been doing everything one man could be expected to do in order to find out what support he might expect and what opposition, if any. He was not so sanguine that he did not imagine there would not be a single drop of cold water poured upon the project and it was common knowledge that some foreigners of standing were inclined to be sceptical as to the possibilities of success, being principally impressed with the tightness of money at the moment and realizing that a very great deal of money would have to be expended before anything at all came in. However, Chinese support to the very fullest extent was counted upon, for, after all, the biggest advantage would be with the Chinese. Not a single word to reverse this opinion ever was heard, even at the joint meeting when the views of all parties were asked for. Now comes the extraordinary announcement that the Chinese Government long ago had decided upon a World Exhibition, to be run entirely by the Chinese and to be held at Shanghai, and an official notification has been published to the effect that, in view of this decision, no Chinese support can be given to Mr. Bena's scheme. That, presumably, puts an end to the whole business, but one cannot help wondering what sort of an exhibition it will be that is run by a Government that cannot find sufficient money with which regularly to pay any of its servants, from gatekeepers to Ambassadors. Mr. Bena and his associates very frankly admitted that they could not hope to run an exhibition without the fullest co-operation of the Chinese. The Chinese Government apparently believes that it is quite capable of managing an exhibition without any assistance whatsoever from foreigners: or perhaps it believes that the foreigners will be compelled to join in. At least it seems remarkable that this Government Exhibition has been decided upon and a committee appointed to draft details without a single hint of it becoming known to the outside world. The Government will have to appoint a more wideawake publicity agent if any overseas visitors are to be attracted to the Exhibition.

The Housing Scandal

Unless there is more to be heard which will put a different complexion on the scheme, the British Labour Government's method of solving the workmen's housing problem, reported in Reuter's telegrams, strikes one as being one of the most iniquitous pieces of unbusiness-like legislature one has seen for a long time. A 15-years' contract is to be made for two and a half million houses to cost £1,376,000,000, the State paying £926,000,000 and local authorities the rest. We believe we are right in saying that the houses are to contain only three rooms, and a simple division shows that they will cost over £550 apiece. No provision appears to be made for revising prices before the end of the contract, although it is a moral certainty that costs, even for Government work, must have dropped considerably before another 15 years are up, if normal conditions are allowed to prevail. But even as things are to-day excellent cottages can be built for much less than what the Government proposes to guarantee to the builders for 15 years. One such house has been put up at the Wembley Exhibition—we think we are right in saying the cost was under £200; and "Country Life," which organized a cheap cottage competition before the war, has lately published an article showing what can now be done for about that sum. In other words, just when the building trade, which has notoriously been the most rapacious, dilatory and profiteering since the war, is beginning to learn some sense and moderation, the government comes in and encourages it in stiff-neckedness, saddling the country for 50 years ahead with this preposterous bill. And it is a psychological certainty that work done under such conditions will be cheap and nasty work. One devoutly hopes that there are enough business men in the House of Commons to stop this conspicuous "hold-up" of the taxpayer.

The Cost of Building

Our correspondent "Unconverted Londoner" misses the logic of his own facts. If it cost £1,000 in 1920 to put up a four-roomed house, and the Government to-day is proposing to pay £550 for a three-roomed house, is it not reasonable to expect that two or three years hence prices will have fallen lower still? And the Government scheme is to make a contract for 15 years at £550, which, besides being most unbusiness-like as regards future probabilities ignores the fact (as shown by another correspondent) that even to-day several lots of houses have been built in different parts of the country for very much less. As for the assumption that "Labour can be trusted to build good and substantial houses for its own supporters," we are not at all sure. Our correspondent must remember that building is one of the so-called sheltered industries: it has no need to fear competition from abroad, has, therefore, no inducement to abate its demands, speed up its output or improve the quality of its work, and it has notoriously taken the fullest possible advantage of its immunity since the war. If a business government, which was prepared to fight, could get no more patriotic behaviour out of the building unions, what is a labour government likely to get, whose supporters' chief demand is that it shall cut down working hours and increase wages?

"K. of K."

Eight years ago on June 5 occurred what always will be considered by British people as one of the saddest tragedies of the war—the loss of H. M. S. Hampshire and with it the untimely death of one of the most famous of all British soldiers, Lord Kitchener. It is now ancient history how Kitchener, on the eve of his departure for Egypt, cancelled his journey and abandoned his position at the urgent request of the Government, backed by the press of the whole country. He assumed forthwith the onerous duties of Secretary of State for War, and while opinions as to his conduct of the War Department and the influence of his policy on the progress and success of operations still may differ considerably, none can question the lofty spirit of the man, his ability as a soldier and his genius as an organizer. The relentless attacks made on him by two great London newspapers, the manifestations of public anger at these attacks, and his famous personal explanation to members of Parliament on his war policy and plans will be comparatively fresh in memory. Mr. Asquith, with whom he was stated to be at considerable variance prior to his death, paid him a glowing tribute some two years ago in an American magazine, and one gathers that although, while he was at the War Office, there were many occasions when he did not see eye to eye with the members of the War Cabinet, none with whom he came in contact had any doubt as to his organizing ability and administrative genius. His one fault—if fault it be—appears to have been his singleness and isolation, and his forcefulness and determination, and whether or not these qualities had any appreciable effect on the conduct of the war, the name of Kitchener will go down to posterity as a great man and a great soldier, whose love of country transcended all other feelings.

My Lady's Fashions

Once again voices are raised against the liberty which the modern girl permits herself in the matter of dress. In this respect it is perhaps only fair to differentiate. A few years ago any girl seen riding on horseback astride would have been denounced as unsexed. Now not only is this way of riding almost universal, in fact certainly in the Far East, and in America, more women ride astride than side-saddle, but many women who ride constantly live almost all day in breeches. Again, a lady who puts on knickerbockers and sports stockings as an easy and suitable costume for a water picnic does not seem to us fair as a subject for criticism, that being the sort of dress that any number of women don for a sporting or athletic occasion; and whether she has two little girls to bring up or not need no more debar her from dressing in this style than it would be considered a reason for her not riding astride on horseback. In these matters custom is everything. Nobody objects to Chinese women wearing trousers. Indeed many people will think they look better in them than in skirts. Ten or twelve years ago the skirts of Western women came right down to the ground. When they first shortened them, in the old saying, "a little above two feet," it was a shock to many susceptibilities. The same might be said in respect of open-necked blouses. Yet if we go back 100 years we find that a lady's every-day dress was such as now would be considered sufficiently *décolleté* for a dance. That there may be girls who deliberately take advantage of "this freedom" so to speak, of "malice prepense," and in order to court attention, is another question, one that we prefer not to discuss. Of them and of liberty generally it may be said that because such-and-such a girl thinks a thing right, it by no means follows that she is right. There are bounds in all things.

The Punjab Martyr

Unfeigned satisfaction will be felt that at last a Judge of the High Court of England, who is above all political considerations and has for 25 days sifted all the facts with the aid of a special jury, has publicly vindicated the unfortunate General Dyer. We congratulate Sir Michael O'Dwyer on winning his libel action: it is a fine thought that there are courts of law to give him the satisfaction which it is to be feared the Secretary of State would never have given. But the sentence one reads with special pleasure is that "the Judge, summing up, expressed the opinion that General Dyer had acted rightly and had been wrongly punished by the Secretary of State for India." The circumstances of the Amritsar affair are sufficiently recalled in the report of the first day's proceedings, which we reproduce from the "Times." Admitting fully that General Dyer acted strongly, the crisis demanded it; and be it remembered, that he did not order the firing without the fullest warning being given beforehand that firing would be the consequence of disobedience to the proclamations against any assemblage of mobs. Be it further remembered that, while his case was pending, the Bishop of Calcutta himself wrote to the "Times" warning the British public what would be the consequences of unjustly punishing General Dyer—consequences for the prestige of British justice, for the safety of white men and women and for the whole cause of law and order in India. That was nearly five years ago. The warning was disregarded and who will say in the light of subsequent events that it was not amply justified? General Dyer was broken not because justice demanded it, but at the dictates of politicians pandering to the least respectable elements in India. It is said that General Dyer is dying. At least his last moments will be cheered by the public vindication of his honour by an impartial judge as against the politicians who threw him to the wolves.

THE Chinese press reports that a junk, laden with a large quantity of sugar, which left Nantao on May 22 for Wenchow, was attacked by a gang of pirates on the following day while passing through a place known as Datiaoko, on the border of Kiangsu and Chekiang. A member of the crew who resisted was killed, but the others were unharmed. The boat returned to Shanghai at once and the matter was reported to the authorities. It is rumoured, states the Chinese press, that a fishing boat at that place was also captured by pirates, and efforts are now being made to locate the craft.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

HOW MOSCOW GIVES ITSELF AWAY

The Budget Deficit of 400 Millions: Extraordinary Revelations of Financial Juggling: Object Lesson for Foreign Banks and Governments

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, May, 30.

Soviet speeches and manifestos always serve to remind us that persons who think they are particularly clever never fail to over-reach themselves. To describe them in Irish, a high Red functionary never opens his mouth without putting his foot in it. Our best evidence against the Soviet rulers has been supplied from the beginning by themselves in statements through which they hoped either to deceive or convert the world. They are the most industrious propagandists who have ever functioned, but to a careful reader every publication which comes out of Russia only proves in one way or another how unfit the big men in the Soviet *régime* are to rule Russia.

The inspiration for all this moralizing is to be found in two reports upon the Russian budget which have recently emanated from Moscow. A Reuter telegram, dated May 23, quoted Rykoff, Lenin's successor, to the effect that there would be a 400 million gold rouble deficit in the Soviet's 1924 budget. The writer remarked to a friend that details would be interesting and was informed that Kameneff had, at the end of March, issued a public statement which discussed the budget in great detail and had also suggested means of making up the deficit.This statement was republished in the Harbin "*Isvestia*," of April 14 and 15. The writer then prevailed upon a goodnatured Russia friend to find copies of this paper and translate Kameneff's dissertation. The document appears to be an extract only from a much fuller report, but it certainly gives enough information upon Russian financial methods to astonish the world. There can be no possible doubt that Kameneff speaks with authority. Rosenfeldt (his real name) stands next to Rykoff, as vice-chairman of the central executive committee, and is married to Trotsky's sister. He is therefore one of the inner circle and the statement published by the "*Isvestia*" is in every sense *ex cathedra*. Before indicating the significance of a number of statements which Kameneff makes, it is best to give the translated text, which is as follows:

Kameneff's Report

Reasons for monetary reforms:

(a) Peasants refuse to sell their produce against Soviet money.

(b) Workmen's wages could no more be satisfactorily fixed as the index figures were no more correct.

At the moment of the reform 300 million roubles were in circulation (February 1924). To the Autumn of this year it will be necessary to issue another 150 million Roubles; will it be sufficient and will the country be able to absorb them? Nobody can know.

"To arrive at a really stable monetary system three conditions are necessary:

The state budget must not show any deficit:

	1922 expenses were 90. million Rbls. a month			
December	1923	—	—	162
February	1924	—	—	157
[illegible]	—	—	—	[illegible]
April	—	—	—	estimated 151

The budget for 1924 is *1750* million Rubles not including the expenses for the gold budget, *i.e.*, expenses for the DBO (East Siberia) and the Transcaucasus. Against it are 1350 M. Rubles revenue maximum. This, if expenses are reduced to the utmost and kept down to a maximum of 145 M. Rubles a month. How shall the *minimum* deficit of 400 M. Rubles of this year be covered?

By issue of the 2nd lottery loan which is compulsory.

1st peasant loan 50 M. Rbls. which will give only 16 M. Rbls. effectively.

By issue of the guaranteed loan.. i.e. 60 per cent. of all the reserves accumulated in Industry must be paid into the State Bank against Bonds of such loan. This arouses strong opposition by Djerjinski Pistakoff (Minister of Industries).

New bank notes will be issued for the other half, or 200 million Rubles.

"With all the above we shall be still forced to take advantage of partisan measures, as follows: we shall retain 20 per cent. in April of the salary of our Soviet clerks. This is a very good measure, people get fixed salaries, we cut a part off to save 2 1/2 million but we remain nevertheless on a budget of 151 million Rubles for April

Bank note issue and credit for Industries:

The February issue was 20 million Rubles. In March we cut it down to 6 million Rubles but in April we allowed 14 million Rubles.

Remember that sacrifices are necessary!

This year's budget is 2.000 million Rubles, next year will be 2300-2400 million Rubles. The peasants taxations should give 285 million Rubles. To get the balance somebody must suffer. This is the first obstacle.

The second obstacle is the fixation and reduction of prices for goods necessary to the people. Where we have the full control prices went down, but prices on other products rose. Here we see that our institutions are not powerful enough to compete with private enterprises and if the private capital can beat us and prices rise, then our monetary reform will not be able to hold out.

Obstacles in the way of control of the markets.—Because of the policy of private capital as opposed to the inefficiency of technical weapons and the inability of state managers and managers of the cooperative societies, the prices for products can only be reduced when we control sufficient quantities to impress the markets.

Balance of Foreign Trade.

In August we exported 175 million pood of wheat and we are saved against a fall of our currency by a balance in our favour. Our plan was to export for 437 Mill. Rbls. and to import only for 300 Mill. Rbls. to which we have to add some 20 Mill. Rbls. for our representatives abroad. Taking into account some other items we still have about 60 Mill. Rbls. to the good This would allow some imports, for instance meat. The meat market is disorganised and no reserves are available.

Stabilization of Wages.

The salaries for workmen must be kept on the same scale as for March and that for three months. The result will show our success in keeping the prices for the lifes necessities on the same level. If we cannot do it, the increase in prices of such necessities will necessarily be followed by an increase in wages and that will be a heavy blow to the monetary reform.

How can the possibilities of issue be used? On May 1 the issue will be 20 Mill. Rbls. in silver coins, 90 Mill. Rbls. treasury notes and 305 Mill. Rbls. chervonetz banknotes, in all 415 Mill. Rbls. This leaves, if we take that on the crop increase we may issue up to 450 to 500 Mill. Rbls., a reserve of 35-85 Mill. Rbls. for 6 months to cover deficits to redeem Soviet notes and for credits to the Industries. It is not altogether possible that this amount will be sufficient.

Crisis in Small Money.

There should be small money and notes totalling at least 33 per cent. of the chervonetz banknote issue. Having issued 305 Mill. Rbls. in chervonetz and 110 Mill. Rbls. Treasury notes and silver coins, the last are only 25 per cent. of all the money in circulation. Before the war 40 per cent. small money was in circulation.

Deficit Greater Yet.

It will be seen that Kameneff, or Rosenfeldt, confirms Rykoff in his statement that the deficit will be G.R.400,000,000. His own figures are, however, in contradiction of this statement and indicate that the deficit will be very much greater. He says that the budget for the year is 1.750 million roubles but a little later he says that the 1924 budget is 2,000 millions. The average of expenses in February, March and April, according to his figures, was 151.66 millions. He suggests no means of reducing this except through a reduction of clerks' salaries in the month of April. While looking forward to this temporary reduction, he still estimates the April expenses at 151 millions. Working on the average of the three months given, the annual expenses would be approximately 1,820 million gold roubles. Local Russians explain that the account for the expenses of the gold budget in East Siberia and Transcaucasus covers the discrepancy between the 1,750 million budget and the 2,000 million budget in Kameneff's text. In other words to show a clean slate, Kameneff has to add another 250 million gold roubles to his budget and therefore to his deficit. This brings the deficit up to something like 720 millions. To cover this be proposes to make several questionable levies to the tune of 200 million roubles. He will issue paper for another 200 millions, but this is only another form of contracting a debt, so the real shortage is presumably something like 520 roubles.

It may be only a coincidence, but it is interesting to note that the loan for domestic use which the Soviet agents in London are trying to negotiate is £50,000,000. The total that they ask for is £150,000,000, of which £100,000,000 is to remain in Great Britain. This balance of £50,000,000 would just about cover a budget deficit of G.R.520,000,000. That the real purpose of the loan is to make good this deficit is, of course, nothing but surmise, but it is worth thinking about.

Red Juggling with Finance.

These questions of finance raised by Kameneff's report are after all unimportant abroad as compared with other revelations of Soviet methods embodied in the report. The way in which Kameneff proposes to raise G.R.200,000,000 against the deficit is astonishing to anyone who has not been steeped in the Red theory. The lottery loans and the peasant loans are compulsory assessments upon taxpayers levied in proportion to the taxes they pay. The bonds are printed in denominations as low as one rouble, and they sell to the taxpayers, who are forced to take them, up at 85. They are then legal tender and can be used at face value to pay taxes or other Government charges. The appropriation of 60 per cent. of the reserve capital of all industrial establishments, both state and private, in exchange for State Bank bonds is an even more startling procedure. It is amusing to find Djerjinski, the notorious Pole who was until recently head of the Cheka and the detested sponsor for countless crimes and outrages, protesting against this measure. Djerjinski, it would appear has made a few investments and accumulated some reserve capital.

The third measure suggested—the reduction in clerical salaries for April by 20 per cent.—is an arbitrary measure which would not be tolerated in any but an absolutely free country, where the people are the masters.

The Cost of Espionage.

The statement that the Soviet's foreign representatives cost the Soviet G.R.20,000,000 has been of no little interest here where it is known that Tsarist Russia's appropriation for diplomatic and consular representatives abroad never exceeded R.9,000,000, within which sum were included the expenses of the Petrograd Foreign Office as well. Kameneff's quotation, to judge from the context in the paragraph on balance of trade, does not include Foreign Office expenses. In spite of the fact that the Soviet Government maintains only a fraction of the number of legitimate agents abroad which the Tsarist Government supported, in spite of the fact that consular salaries have been materially reduced under the Red *régime*, the Soviet appropriation for representatives abroad was in 1923 more than double the entire cost of the whole Tsarist foreign service including home offices. This gives one some idea of what is being spent upon news agencies, propaganda, espionage and subversion of law and order in other countries. To mention only what we are locally familiar with, it accounts for the generous sums spent upon Korean malcontents, it explains how Rosta survives and it accounts for the tone of several procommunist papers in Peking.

Those who read Kameneff's statement carefully will find other points of interest which do not have to be expounded. It is a document which should be in the hands of every Occidental and Japanese statesman who shoulders any responsibility for negotiations with the Soviet. An unconditional recognition of Russia provides for no extraterritorial rights. The foreign merchants who go there to do business will be subject to precisely the same sort of levies and impositions as those which Kameneff proposes to inflict upon Russian industry and upon the Russian people to make up his budget deficit unless their treaties provide for special exemption. These same statesmen must also think twice before they accept a Russian promise to abstain from propaganda when they know from Kameneff that the Soviet's agents abroad cost Russia G.R.20,000,000 annually.

Weighted Scales.

While the Soviet is up for discussion it may be worth while to append to this article another example of the way in which the Reds persist in giving themselves a great deal of adverse advertising. In a general way those readers who can get access to Russian published documents are advised to read through the new Code for Criminal Procedure, approved by the 4th Congress of the High Executive Council, October 23, 1922. The following clause from this code will be of immediate interest to those who care to go no deeper into the subject of Red Russian law:

"Those tribunals whose decisions do not conform to the spirit of justice of the Russian Soviet Republic and to the interest of the masses of the workers will be given disciplinary punishment."

In other words the judge who interprets the law, rightly or wrongly, in a criminal case against the wishes of the Soviet, or in opposition to the sentiments of the holy riff-raff, is to be punished for it. In short it is Soviet bureacracy first, mob sentiment next and justice last. Nothing could so thoroughly epitomise the "spirit of justice of the Russian Soviet Republic" as this little clause in the new code.

AMERICAN ARSENAL IN CANTON

Said to Have Been Resold to Peking, Canton not Having Completed Payment

Hongkong, May 31.

A *communiqué* issued by the Canton Government says:—

"A protest has been lodged with the American Consul-General against the removal of the Rabbit Arsenal plant from Canton and its sale for the manufacture of arms in the North. The plant is Government property. It was sold to the Government for Gold $1,600,000, of which G.$1,200,000 have been paid, leaving an unpaid balance of G.$400,000. There had been an arrangement that pending the payment of the balance the plant should be stored at Canton in a godown. The vendors, who are of American nationality, are no longer willing to continue the arrangement and have entered into a contract to re-sell the plant through a Japanese intermediary without notifying this Government nor arranging for the re-payment of the G.$1,200,000.

"There is now a Japanese steamer at Canton with a specially recruited gang of labourers from Manila who have begun preparations to load the plant for shipment to the North.

"As the United States is a party to the so-called Arms Embargo Agreement, it is an interesting question whethher the removal of the plant from Canton and its re-sale to any othher party in China would not constitute an American breach of the agreement *vis-a-vis* of the other signatories. On the other hand, the retention of the plant by this Government could not be so construed since the United States was not a party to the Agreement when the plant was imported to Canton."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Explanation by U. S. Legation

Peking, June 2.

In connexion with the *communiqué* issued by the Canton Government stating that a protest has been lodged with the American Consul-General "against the removal of the Rabbit Arsenal plant from Canton and its sale for the manufacture of arms in the North," an explanation of the position was obtained from the American Legation to-day. It was pointed out that this machinery was exported from America in 1920, permission being given by the American authorities because they honestly believed that it was what it purported to be—commercial machinery which had nothing about it to indicate that it was to be used for warlike purposes. It was imported into Canton by the Davis Company, which is registered in Hongkong as a British firm, and it is at present lying in a Canton godown.

It was further pointed out that if the Canton authorities wished to prevent its removal, believing that they had an interest in the machinery, their proper course would be to sue the Davis Company in the British Consular Court at Canton. The only circumstances under which the American Legation is likely to become interested in the matter is if it transpires as a result of legal proceedings that, as has been rumoured, the Davis Company have parted with their interest in the property to an American concern.

Regarding the statement that the removal of the plant from Canton and its resale to another party in China "constitute an American breach of the Arms Embargo Agreement" it is emphasized that there is no such thing as an arms embargo treaty or agreement, the arms embargo being a self-denying ordinance with which the Chinese authorities have no concern.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FUKIEN BANDIT OUTRAGE

Chairman of Lumber Co.'s Sympathetic Reference to the Late Mr. Dinsmore

At last Friday's annual meeting of the China Import and Export Lumber Co., the Chairman, Mr. C. H. Arnold, gave additional information concerning the shooting of Mr. Jay Dinsmore by Fukien bandits and the capture of his colleague, Mr. MacKay, also making sympathetic reference to the company's deceased employee, whom he described as a loyal servant, one of nature's true gentlemen and one who loved China.

In addition to the late Mr. Dinsmore and Mr. MacKay, the party (the Chairman said) included a Chinese Yale graduate. They were attacked at a place called Nangia, a forest area ten miles from the village of Pichikou, 20 miles south of the town of Shahsien. Mr. Dinsmore, after being wounded, could have gone on to Yenpingfu, a day's journey down river, for medical attendance, but stayed at Shahsien with the heroice resolve to save his companions who had been taken prisoner. He wired from Shahsien that his wounds were not serious, but in this he was mistaken, for he died on the 21st.

Mr. James Carroll, the company's senior forest inspector in that area, the Chairman continued, "was working with the local officials for the release of the captives. The local officials seemed powerless or afraid to take active steps against the brigands.

Mr. Arnhold expressed the hope that in their negotiations along the customary lines, they would soon receive favourable news as to the prospects of release for Mr. MacKay, Mr. Paul Lee and the others. It could only be hoped that lives sacrificed, such as Mr. Dinsmore's, might bring to the attention of the British and American home governments and those of other nations, the necessity of enforcing steps whereby the protection of other foreign lives may in future be protected.

Hopes for Release of Mr. Mackay

Mr. J. J. Carroll, of the China Import & Export Lumber Co's. branch at Foochow, has written from Shahsien to a friend in Shanghai and states in the course of his letter:—

"You have probably seen in the papers of Dinsmore's death and the capture of Mackay and three Chinese employees of the company. The affair took place very close to the small village where we camped two years ago and hunted serow. The bandits came at night, looking for money, and Dinsmore shot his pistol a couple of times to frighten them away. They did not run, but came on and took the gun from him and shot him with it. The wound did not seem serious and he did not die for three days, at which time poisoning set in. I was not here, but came with all haste and have been trying to effect the release of the captives.

"We have been able to send in supplies and as we are not using soldiers we have reason to hope the captives are getting fairly good treatment. We are now negotiating with the bandits and expect to receive a definite offer inside a few days.

"This province is in very bad shape, what with sporadic fighting and almost continual troop movements. We all have our hands full, trying to conduct business with any degree of success."

Foochow, May 30.

Mr. Carroll is in communication with Mr. MacKay and his party. The bandits are demanding a high ransom. An early release is hopeful. The captives are receiving food and clothing and are being well treated. — Reuter's Pacific Service.

Rumoured Looting of Shaowu

Peking, May 30.

A consular report sent from Foochow yesterday states that, according to an unconfirmed rumour, bandits looted Shaowu. The missionaries there are reported to be safe.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHENGTU'S BOLSHEVIK YOUTH

Students' Hand in Labour Day Celebrations: When the Soldiery is of Use

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Chêngtu, Sze., May 10.

Last Monday, Labour Day, was celebrated by the local Labour Organizations, the affair, however, being chiefly engineered by the Student's Union.

The programme worked out for the day was quite elaborate, but not quite fully realized. The students had announced all over the district that the schools would be closed and that a monster mass meeting would be held in the Public Park, where there would be a Memorial Service for the great Soviet leader Lenin. After that, the programme announced, the students would parade the principal streets of the city and make speeches.

The mass meeting was held. Great crowds of students and others attended to listen to inflammatory speeches by would-up student leaders.

Then Gen. Yang Sen sent out a proclamation, and soldiers in plenty to enforce it, that no parading of the streets would be permitted. The students were allowed to make their speeches, but had to confine their oratory to the Public Park, a veritable Hyde Park of Chêngtu. This made the students extremely angry and many speeches were flavoured with choice invectives against Yang Sen and his soldiers, the students declaring that soldiers, anyway, were a lazy, good for nothing parcel of parasites and that the followers of Karl Marx would not tolerate them in their system.

Yang Sen's Firmness

The soldiers were very patient and forbearing and bore the insults with good grace because Yang Sen had warned them not to attack the students unless bodily harm were done. The students had flags in plenty vilifying England, America and Japan in the order named, for naval activities on the coast and on the lower river. No incidents were reported, however. Yang Sen's order was a most sensible action. It probably prevented the spreading of a lot of seditious propaganda. It is quite evident that Communism has taken a strong hold of the students, but so far has only manifested itself in the doctrinaire stage.

Perpetuating "National Shame"

To-day the students have organized another big, "stunt." It is the day of National Shame. A holiday was called again, the second this week, and great crowds turned out in the Public Park. This time several street meetings were held, but all speeches were directed to the burning topic of the infamous "21 Demands." Copies were spread everywhere, and wherever an audience of half-a-dozen could be gathered together some youthful follower of Karl Marx would be mounted on a soap box reading out the "Demands" and making running comments on their iniquity, saying that they directly attacked the sovereignty of China. The Chief of Police had extra men on duty, and the military police were doing double duty, but the day passed off in an orderly manner and without incident.

At night a great meeting of boy scouts was held in the Y.M.C.A. Gymnasium. It was the first time such a gathering had been held. Eight troops assembled in full uniform, with colours flying and fife and drum bands playing. It was quite an imposing spectacle. They sang the National Anthem with vim, saluted the rainbow flag and settled down to hear some good speeches on the rise of the movement in England through Gen. Baden Powell's discovery of boy power in the South African War, and how the movement quickly spread to over 40 countries. At one stage in the proceedings a Scout Master was called on to read the iniquitous "21 Demands"—even the Scouts were running true to form on this auspicious day.

Tuli's Praiseworthy Reforms

Gen. Yang Sen is still carrying out his reforms. The city is certainly becoming brighter and cleaner. The debris and extra stands are all cleared away from the streets now; we didn't know our streets were so wide. He prohibited the annual "Tung Yeh Hue"—Eastern Hell procession. The leader was quite incensed and tried to make trouble, but he was promptly taken in tow by the police.

THE TIENTSIN-PUKOU RAILWAY ACCIDENT

Pictures Reveal Results of Alleged Misconduct: Traffic Held Up and Much Cargo Destroyed

AFTER THE CRASH ONE ENGINE DEMOLISHED THE RAILWAY HOUSE. NOTE THE MECHANIC STANDING WITHIN THE BOILER OF THE RUINED ENGINE

THE OTHERS ENGINE, CARRYING WITH IT A WHOLE STRING OF VANS, PILED UP FREIGHT ALONGSIDE THE TRACKS AND HURLED CONTAINERS HERE AND THERE

TYPICAL POSITION OF VANS AT THE FORWARD END OF EITHER TRAIN FORTUNATELY THESE WERE NOT PASSENGER TRAINS AND NO ONE WAS INJURED

IDOL PROCESSION IN HANGCHOW

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Hangchow, May 29.

The "Chu Tien" Idol has had another "birthday." A procession carted it through the streets for three days.

The Assembly has asked the Civil Governor why he permits "such disturbances of the peace." The poor have replied for him. Poverty is given as one reason for the procession because it provides a livelihood for pedlars and down and outs generally. Another reason advanced in favour of the procession is that it pleases old women who have great faith in the idol, which seldom fails to give them all they pray for! It has, however, brought the price of fish down for the last days, which at least the poor have something to be thankful for.

Although the Provincial Assembly is sitting, there are not enough members present daily to accomplish much. It has now be decided that this body shall adjourn for the summer season. Members will reassemble when ordered to do so by the Civil Governor.

COMPETITIVE examinations have been introduced by Marshal Chang Tso-lin, who hopes thereby to secure the best brains of Manchuria for his civil service.

WHO SENT THE BOMB TO DR. KU'S HOUSE?

FROM RODNEY GILBERT.

Peking, May 27.

It is reported in local papers to-day that Dr. Wellington Koo believes that the persons who sent him the bomb which seriously injured his servants were Communists who disapproved of his attitude towards Soviet Russia.

In official gossip throughout the city Dr. Koo is credited with having come to a very different conclusion. It is said that he has advised the police, who have been exceptionally active in their search for the sender of the bomb, that they can abandon their efforts because he is convinced that the attempt on his life had no political significance, but was prompted by personal and private animosity. If this story is true, it is to be assumed that the sender has been identified and that he is someone whom Dr. Koo does not care to expose.

MR. HIN WONG FREED

Shanghai, May 30.

A brief telegram from Hongkong states that Mr. Hin Wong, Reuter's Correspondent at Canton, has been released and has arrived at Hongkong.—Reuter.

*It will be remembered that he was arrested on a charge of spreading false news in connexion with the rumour of Dr. Sun's death. The American Consul-General was active in pressing for his release.—Ed.

CHASE OF CROOKS OUT OF TSINGTAO

Plague of Shoplifters and Pickpockets Who Must Be Got Rid of

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Tsingtao, May 29.

In anticipation of an influx of visitors during the coming summer season, the Administration has issued a set of regulations governing the registration of citizens of non-treaty Powers. According to the Tsingtao authorities, these regulations are not a measure of red-tape at all, but in order to give full protection to those who are capable of giving a good account of themselves and to eliminate, as far as possible, the presence of unsuitable people.

Tsingtao, since last winter, has been invaded by a band of foreign crooks who have victimized residents and quite a number of shops. From Christmas and New Year, right up to the Easter holidays, shoplifters have succeeded in "getting away with it," to quote an Americanism, in an alarming manner. A number were caught red-handed but many have been too smart for the police. There are, in addition, a number of pickpockets whose fingers are so nimble that they are capable of removing your wallet from your hip-pocket without your noticing it. Only recently, a young foreigner had his gold watch removed from the chain to which it was attached.

Of the shoplifters, a young Rumanian woman, of very attractive appearance, has given more cause for exasperation than all the rest combined. Everytime she left a shop she had been visiting, something would be found missing. Of late she has been lying low, being aware, no doubt, that her movements were being watched.

The new regulations come under nine paragraphs, as follows:—

"All Russians and citizens of non-treaty nations who are going to stay in the Kiao-Au Commercial Port longer than three months are asked to obtain resident certificates, so that the necessary protection can be given to them.

"These resident certificates are valid only for one year. When the time of one year is up, visitors who continue to stay in this port are asked to obtain new certificates.

"Those who apply for resident certificates must have some proper profession or legitimate occupation, their passports or old resident certificates must be examined. Only when everything is found all right will new certificates be granted.

"In the resident certificate, each resident is asked to fill his name, age, nationality, religion, the date of entering this country, profession, present address, the number of the members of the family etc. in the blanks clearly. Each resident is also asked to bring three two-inch bust pictures. The children who are under age may be filled in the same certificate as that of their parents.

"A fine of more than $1 or less than $10 will be imposed on those who have stayed in this port longer than three months without applying for resident certificates or after one year without having obtained new certificates. Those who do not obey the regulations shall be deported.

"Each resident certificate is charged $4,—$1 for stamp and $3 for the certificate. The same amount will be charged upon changing an old certificate into a new certificate.

"In case the bearers of these certicates will travel in China and return to this port not later than three months of the date of issuance their certificates will still be valid. Those who have left this country or this port for more than three months no matter whether their certificates are for one year validity or not, the same shall be considered cancelled.

"Residents must carry passports issued by the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs in case of travelling in the interior of China, and also carry passports when entering this port.

"These resident certificates must be shown whenever required by the police."

FRENCH CHINA CONSULAR SERVICE

Paris, May 31.

M. Du Courthial has been appointed French Consul at Hongkong, M. Dufaure De La Prade has been appointed French Consul at Canton, and M. Teissier has been appointed French Consul at Foochow and Amoy.—Reuter.

THE plight of the soldiers of the old Manchu Banners upon which Mr. Rodney Gilbert recently dewelt, is set forth in a petition to the Government which was submitted by the Tutungs of the Yellow Bordered Banner last week. It is pointed out that the Bannermen have not been paid for a long time and they are practically destitute.

CANTON MERCHANTS ON STRIKE

A New Tax on Silk: Old Rights of Tenants: Uproar Over Proposed Abolition

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Canton, May 25.

During the last week there have been several interesting incidents, in the nature of merchants' strikes. In the first place there was a strike of the silk merchants in the Shuntak district, owing to their opposition to a new tax on cocoons which had been imposed. The silk trade was hindered for a week or so, and the strike has only just been settled. The second strike is that of the Chinese and foreign medicine shops, who are opposing the new Government tax on patent medicines. This strike started on the 26th, and is still on.

In addition to the above there has been talk of a general strike of all merchants, which was due to start on the 28th, but which has been postponed temporarily, owing to the Authorities meeting some of the demands of the Merchants, and owing to the intervention of several important persons including Gen. Hsu Hsiung-chih.

The cause of this strike, amongst other things was the proposal of the Government to do away with an old Chinese business custom, which is admittedly bad, but which it is very difficult to do away with without causing a good deal of hardship. This custom it is very difficult to name in English. Its effect is that it is very difficult for a landowner who has let his land to raise his rent or get rid of his tenant without paying a large sum of money to the tenant for improvements, goodwill, etc. Thus along some of the new streets the authorities wish the landlords to rebuild the houses, but the landlord cannot do this without the tenant's consent or without paying him a large sum of money. The authorities wish to cancel these rights of the tenants and thus naturally they have raised a storm of protest.

The matter is now under discussion but it is difficult to see how it can be settled. In connexion with the proposed strike there was a large meeting and parade of the Merchants' Volunteer Corps yesterday, which was attended by representatives from the other towns and villages in the Province.

The Civil Governor, Mr. Yang Shiu-k'am, who has just resigned, left Canton on Monday. He was given a good send-off at the Hongkong steamer by which he left en route for Shanghai. His successor to the post of Civil Governor has not yet been appointed. Several names have been mentioned as being likely candidates, Hu Ham-min, Liu Chung-oi, Tang Tsak-yu, Hsu Hsiung-chih, and Dr. C. C. Wu. At the present it is thought that the most likely appointment will be that of Dr. C. C. Wu.

H. M. S. Robin Fired On.

There has been practically no fighting on the East River owing to the height of the water hindering operations, but the other day H. M. S. Robin which was proceeding to Waichow was fired on for a considerable time from the banks by Yunnanese soldiers, and it is reported that the Commanding Officer Lt. Tudway, R. N. was slightly wounded by a bullet.

The reorganization of the Cantonese troops is proceeding under Gen. Hsu Hsiung-chih, who is establishing his Headquarters on the West River at Shiuhing. In Kwangsi Gen. Shum Hung-ying is continuing his campaign against Lu Yung-t'ing and is reported to have captured Kweilin.

The Canton Mint which was to have been reopened by a group of merchants is still idle. All arrangements were being made and the staff had been engaged when it was announced that owing to the depreciation of the subsidiary coins and the high cost of Hongkong banknotes the proposal would have to be dropped temporarily, and the staff were dismissed.

NAGASAKI, May 31.—Dr. Rabindranath Tagore arrived at Nagasaki this morning.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

GROWTH OF OPIUM IN KIANGSI

Provincial Guild's Effort with Wu Pei-fu and Chih Hsieh-yuan to Stop It

Peking, May 28.

A deputation representing the International Anti-Opium Association was recently invited to dinner with about 30 members of the Kiangsi Guild at their Club. The purpose of the gathering was to discuss the opium and opium monopoly questions of their province, and to receive the reports of the Kiangsi deputations sent to Marshal Wu Pei-fu and General Chih Hsieh-yuan. Senator Fu, President of the Guild, presided and was supported by other Senators, Members of the House of Representatives and many others interested in opium suppression.

The President made a very earnest and stimulating speech, which was responded to by the General Secretary of the International Anti-Opium Association, who gave a review of the whole situation in China and in Kiangsi in particular. The reports of the deputations were then made. The deputation that visited General Chih Hsieh-yuan, Inspector General of Kiangsu, Kiangsi and Anhui, was received by the General personally. General Chih made the following reply to the information laid before him:—

"Tsai's conduct indicates that he does not care a pin for the people's sufferings. I really feel excessively ashamed before the Kiangsi people that such things should be done by my subordinates. Although the Central Government has issued a chaban I am of opinion that Tsai must be pan (punished) immediately without further cha (investigation). It is fortunate that the President has devised effective measures to deal with this matter, otherwise I could relieve the Kiangsi people of this gall and wormwood.'

Supposed Abolition Denied

The deputation to Marshal Wu was also personally received, and the Marshal, before the deputation was permitted to make its statement, remarked: "Opium is the thing I hate most." Referring to the Kiangsi monopoly, Marshal Wu stated: "As Tuli Tsai has reported to me that he has abolished all his opium monopolies and that the promoters have been ousted, you will have to drop the subject. You must beware lest you be utilized as the tools of others."

Thereupon the deputation replied: "With reference to the abolition there is strong proof that it is not true. We are conscious that it is our duty to rise up against the opium monopoly and we, the patriotic people of Kiangsi, are working unselfishly without any private motive. We are not being used as tools."

To this Marshal Wu replied: "He (Tsai) has sent me a telegram, and I do not think he would deceive me. However, if his telegram has no force to remove the people's doubt, I will again send him a telegram."

Marshal Wu then dictated the following telegram: "Immediate arrest and punishment of the promoters and reply."

The International Anti-Opium Association records its very high appreciation of the determined efforts of the Kiangsi Guild to remedy the lamentable opium conditions in their province.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Appeal to the Spirits of Patriotic Ancestors in Peking

Peking, May 31.

Vow taken by the Kiangsi Anti-Opium Committee in Peking before Spirits of Patriotic Ancestors of Kiangsi:—

"To-day, May 25, of the 13th year of the Republic of China we, the Kiangsi Anti-Opium Committee, under the leadership of our most respectful and humble Ting Shan (Senator Fu) unite to make offerings with true hearts and determination, together with incense and libations, to the patriotic Spirits of our province of Kiangsi for the purpose of clearing the land of the pernicious persons who encourage opium evils, which harm the people of our province. We are conscious that your merits are brilliant and that you sacrificed your bodies for righteousness and that that is why you live with us as long as the mountains are in being. During this critical state of our country whilst there is much to be readjusted, it is much to be regretted that Tsai in our province has done little to help us, but has made extortions with a view to enriching himself. He has nothing in his mind but gold, which is everything to him. To the welfare of the people he has never given a thought. His subordinates likewise have this accursed appetite for gold. In our province soldiers as well as bandits prevail everywhere. In our province Tsai bribes the Members of the Provincial Assembly and extorts excessive taxes from the poor people. What is even more to be regretted is that an opium monopoly has recently been established by him. We are conscious of the fact that various sufferings are engendered by him and unless this chief culprit is removed there will be no hope for our province of Kiangsi. We feel it a duty to rise against this evil enemy of our province. We display our hearts before you and take oath to maintain righteousness with faithful hearts. We vow to fight to the end without neglecting this duty, and we vow not to receive bribes offered with the object of making us forsake our sacred cause. You who are above us will not fail to read our hearts and observe our every action."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LOWER YANGTZE VALLEY NOTES

A New Secret Society

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

A new secret society has been formed in almost all of the cities and towns from Nanking to Anking. It is called the Tong Shan Shae (同善社). Its members are sworn not to give away the secrets of the society to anyone, not even father or mother. No Christians are allowed to join and from all accounts it will need watching. It cost $1 to join and 200 cents the first time you worship the gods. This secret society started in Peking and it is spreading like wild fire in all directions.

We here in the lower Yangtze valley have had a cold wet May and for a time we thought that the rain would greatly damage the wheat, barley and rape harvest, but it cleared up in time and the grain quickly ripened. We are hearing from every city and town for hundreds of miles that the farmers are reaping an excellent harvest.

In many places the young rice plants have been transplanted and they look healthy and good coloured. It is most interesting to see from 50 to a 100 women ankle-deep in mud and water singing as they plant the fields.

The Bethel Mission in Hochow has been building a new mission home which is about finished. It will be occupied in the autumn by Rev. and Mrs. Z. Charles Beals. The Rev. and Mrs. Spaulding will occupy the present home.

A cyclone swept over Chaohsien recently and blew off the roof and north wall of the Advent Christian Mission's home, formerly occupied by the doctor. Luckily no one was in the house at the time. The storm wrecked things badly as the rain came down in torrents right after the roof was lifted off. It will take some hundreds of dollars to repair the damage.

ARMED BURGLARY IN HONGKONG

Attack on Dairy Employee Frustrated by a Neighbour and a Dog

Hongkong, June 4.

An armed Chinese burglar savagely attacked Mr. H. W. Page, of the Dairy Farm Company, in the house of the latter, which was entered by Chinese in the small hours of this morning.

Mr. Page grappled with his assailant, and there was a life and death struggle, in the course of which Mr. Page's terrier dog bit off the burglar's toe.

Attracted by Mr. Page's call for assistance, a Portuguese neighbour rushed into the house with two policemen, who found Mr. Page exhausted by loss of blood and an abdominal wound. The burglar, in attempting to escape, fell off the verandah and was killed instantaneously.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

EVERYONE VISITING SHANSI

Model Province Has Something of Interest for All Inquirers into China's State

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Taiku, Shan., May 27.

It is becoming the fashion nowadays for distinguished visitors to China to include this province, or at least Taiyuanfu, in their itinerary. The latest person of note to come up here was Dr. Rabindranath Tagore. He and his party arrived in Taiyuanfu on May 21. They were escorted all the way from Peking by representatives of the educational institutions in Taiyuanfu, and received a great ovation upon reaching Taiyuanfu. On the afternoon of the 22nd. Dr. Tagore addressed a great audience in the "Hall of Self-examination." The number present was reported to be about 5,000. Twenty-three different organizations co-operated in arranging for this meeting. The theme of Dr. Tagore on this occasion was village as contrasted with city life. He pleaded for the conservation of village habits, customs and standards of living, opposing the rush of population to the cities. The main speaker was followed by his English secretary, who has been spending some time in the study of village conditions in India. The party departed from Taiyuanfu on the morning of the 23rd.

A number of schools from outside this province have sent deputations of teachers and students to visit the capital of the province, paying particular attention to the schools and other institutions established there. One such party consisted of pupils from a normal school for girls in Japan, accompanied by two or three of their instructors. Recently over 30 members of the Agricultural College of Shantung Province have come up here on a similar visit.

Popular Foreign Wedding

A wedding of interest to people in Shansi took place in Peking on May 17, when Stanley Hoyte, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of the China Inland Mission, Pingyangfu, was married to Miss Grace H. Wilder, B. A., of the same Mission. The happy couple returned to Shansi on May 27. Dr. Hoyte was a former well-known leader of the Student Christian Movement of Great Britain, while Mrs. Hoyte is the daughter of Dr. Robert P. Wilder, one of the founders and prominent leaders of the Student Volunteer Movement of the United States and Canada, and is still identified with that Movement as a general secretary. Dr. and Mrs. Hoyte will make their home in Pingyangfu, where he is at the head of the C.I.M. hospital.

PRIMITIVE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Where Silver Is Unknown and Arcadian Simplicity Still Reigns.

Manila, May 25.

The most primitive people of the entire Philippine archipelago dwell on the Island of Babuyan, some 60 miles north of the Island of Luzon, according to members of Governor General Wood's party who visited that group recently. The total population of the Island is 77, composed of 14 married men, the same number of married women, 20 adult unmarried women, 25 children of both sexes and four old women.

Money is unknown among the people, with the exception of Bernardino Rosal, the head man, who treasures a few silver pesos as a reminder of his former life in Luzon. Rosal is priest, judge, legislator, and executive all in one. He officiates at funerals, marriages and births and adjusts all tribal differences.

Dr. Pacifico Laygo, an assistant in the Philippine Health Service, who was a member of the governor general's party, landed on Babuyan Island and explored the volcano which recently was in eruption.

"From the top of the mountain to the water's edge the once exuberant vegetation was burnt off and boulders, ashes and lava cover the mountain side," said Dr. Laygo. "A new crater appears to have formed from which steam is continuously rising. The advisability of transferring the inhabitants to the mainland of Luzon was discussed with the islanders but they decided that they preferred to remain on Babuyan, although most of their corn and camote fields were destroyed by the eruption. They were terrorized by the flow of rocks, ashes and steam from the volcano but they could not be persuaded to leave the island, their only desire being to get to the northern end of the island where they believed they would be safe from future eruptions."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SUN YAT-SEN GIVES AN INTERVIEW

Very Much Alive and as Hostile to Peking Government and Powers as Ever

Mr. Percy Noel, Far Eastern correspondent of the "Philadelphia Public Ledger" and the New York "Evening Post," interviewed Dr. Sun Yat-sen in Canton on May 20, being the first foreign correspondent to be allowed that privilege after the rumour of Dr. Dr. Sun's death had begun to appear in the press.

In describing Dr. Sun Yat-sen in his telegram to his newspapers, Mr. Noel wrote: "His replies were clear and gave good evidence of alert intelligence. He showed too much fire and purpose to be a disappointed leader, dying of a broken heart. His health is not good, but his followers feel that the past fortnight's forced rest has given him new strength. He complained that he was too often misquoted and he is smarting under the indignity of the report of his death which has a special significance to the Chinese mind."

Mr. Noel's interview which was given for the newspapers he represents cannot be reproduced here in full, but from Dr. Sun's statements to the correspondent it would appear that he is in no measure weakening in his attitude toward the Peking Government nor even to the Powers, who, he claims, are the only explanation of that Government's continued existence.

The "Public Ledger Service" in the Far East has recently been reorganized, Mr. Noel taking charge with headquarters in Tokio, while Mr. George E. Sokolsky will be in charge here. In addition to the "Philadelphia Public Ledger" and the New York "Evening Post," this news service appears in many prominent newspapers in the United States.

NEW HARBOUR MASTER FOR HONGKONG

The "Hongkong Telegraph" of May 30 announces that the Government has appointed Lieut.-Commander George S. Hole, R.N., now the Master Attendant of Colombo, to be Harbour Master of Hongkong, in succession to Commander C. W. Beckwith, R.N., who recently left for England on retirement.

There has been much speculation regarding Commander Beckwith's successor, but the matter is now put beyond all doubt, Lieut.-Com. Hole being expected to arrive here some time in July.

Lieut.-Com. Hole first joined the Navy as Midshipman in January 1904, serving in the cruiser Andromeda and the battleship Albemarle. He was made Sub-Lieutenant in 1907 and in 1909 was serving on the torpedo-boat-destroyer Ettrick. In October of that year he was made Lieutenant and served in the Albemarle and T.B.D. No 10, and later in the cruiser Argyle. In 1914, he was given the command of the destroyer Peteral and soon after the outbreak of war was wounded. Naval records show that he was still on the Active List early in 1915, but was not in employment, and he retired off the Active List in the same year, being granted a pension for wounds.

In March, 1916, he secured an appointment in the Colonial Office and proceeded to Ceylon, where he has served since that time. He was for a time on special duty as Mine Sweeping Officer, being raised to the rank of Lieut.-Commander on October 1, 1917.

Born in August, 1887, he will be 37 years of age this year.

WHEN THE YANGTZE WENT DOWN

Crowds of Steamers Held Up in Chungking by Abnormal Low Water

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Chungking, May 1.

President Harding's plea, or was it President Wilson's, was for a return to normalcy, but Chungking leads us such a chequered career that it would be difficult for us to recognize normalcy if we saw it. To the abnormal in politics we are by now thoroughly accustomed and we also thought that we were accustomed to the not infrequent abnormalities of our river, but the abnormality of the river this spring has broken all records.

During the second week in April it rose just sufficiently to allow the big steamers to come up. Having enticed the steamers up, it promptly began to fall and ever since April 23 it has remained stubbornly and tantalizingly low—just low enough not to permit steamers to leave again with a reasonable margin of safety. To those steamers content to risk its wrath outside the margin, it has shown its teeth by strewing its banks with their wrecks. The older and wiser skippers watching the antics of the younger have the melancholy satisfaction of saying, "I told you so."

To-day the steamers commence the fifth week of their detention: for a solid month their anchors and mooring wires have remained out undisturbed: did barnacles favour steel plating, doubtless their hulls would be covered with them. Day after day the Chungking Club has been crowded with the "men who go down to the sea in ships" bringing with them that indefinable air of restlessness indissolubly associated with the sea and those who plough thereon. Every day and in every way they get better and better at bridge, at tennis, at dancing, at riding and some even at patience. Some weeks ago the daily greeting used to be "Hullo, when are you going off?" and the answer a cheery "Oh! in a day or two when the water rises" but those days are long since gone. Nobody mentions such a subject now. Hope may spring eternal in the human breast, perhaps it still lingers in the breast of one or two captains. In Bubbling Well it may bubble perhaps, but in Chungking it must lie like truth at the bottom of the well, too feeble to send even a bubble to the surface to show it still survives. One skipper has declared that, like Mr. Balfour in connexion with traiff reform years ago, "He has sat so long on the fence that the iron has entered his soul." For iron in this instance read "Chungkingitis."

A New Wheeze

Several globe trotters were detained for a fortnight on one steamer and we had come to regard them as permanent residents but being wise in their generation they quietly folded their tents like the Arabs and silently vanished away by one of the winter steamers. They left us a fragrant memory and at least one new story. The story runs something like this.

"An international scientific body decided that the collected knowledge of the elephant and his ways was neither complete nor up to date and they requested their corresponding members in all countries to make good the deficiency. In due course the response was received from various countries. An English member contributed a book entitled "Elephant hunting in Upper Burma." From Poland came a monograph on "The Elephant and Poland" A German forwarded a learned essay on "The Elephant, the first Tank used in War" and a French savant sent a masterly analysis of "*L'Élephant et ses Amours.*"

PEKING is being invaded by ever-increasing numbers of Russian refugees. Most of them, state reports reaching Shanghai, are penniless and with little clothing or food. As usual Chinese officialdom says they are "a menace to peace and good order." Such is certainly far from the truth in Shanghai, which also suffers from periodical invasions of under-fed, badly clothed victims of Red Revolution. How many "violent crimes" are committed by them in a year? They can be counted on the fingers of one hand, while the petty offenders are usually arrested for begging.

THE WEIHAIWEI MURDER TRIAL

Tragic Story of Russian Woman and Chinese Husband: A Verdict of Not Guilty

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Although the main features of this case have already been reported, our own correspondent adds details of much interest in an unusually interesting story.

Weihaiwei, May 26.

The story begins 20 odd years ago when Kao, the youngest of four brothers, left his home in the Territory to seek a means of livelihood in Manchuria. It ends in the trial on Wednesday and Thursday last of one Eugene Feodor, a Russian subject, for the murder on April 17 of the said Kao, with whom she had been living as his wife. Judge Wilkinson presided over the local High Court: Messrs. Mossop and Priestwood represented the Crown and the accused, respectively: and the following residents formed the jury,—Messrs. Beer, Clark, Roberts, Sun and Whitelaw.

The evidence clearly showed that the deceased was a ne'er-do-weel: that he had returned to his native village over a year ago without any money: that with the Russian woman and her child he had occupied the house of an absent brother, whose land he had been cultivating in a perfunctory manner: and that he had lost face badly with his relatives with whom he was on unfriendly terms.

The Fatal Night

The chief witness for the Crown, a neighbour named Sung, testified that he had taken some interest in this unusual *ménage*—particularly in the Russian child; and that on occasions he had intervened in quarrels between accused and deceased. On the night of the tragedy he was having his evening meal when he heard sounds of an unusually violent quarrel, and he entered the house in the hope of restoring peace. Sung testified that in his presence Kao violently assaulted accused with hand and foot: that he remonstrated and urged Kao to treat the woman more kindly for the sake of the child, then lying on the brick bed in the room: and that finding Kao disinclined to take advice, he said he would go. He had barely passed the doorway of the sleeping compartment, when hearing the sound of a fall. He retraced his steps to find Kao on the floor in a dying condition. The woman was seated at the table in a state of collapse.

In answer to further questions this witness declared that the statement that he had been met on the road outside the house by accused who had begged him to come to her help, was untrue.

This witness and another of the same name who had entered the house together narrated subsequent events,—the summoning of the neighbours and the two eldest brothers of the deceased: the tying up of accused to a tree: the information carried to the police station some miles away: the hiring of two carts to take a party to Port Edward, in the first of which was placed the accused with the dead body: the handing over of both to the authorities.

Dr. Cooper, Medical Officer of Health, stated he had examined the body, which was that of a tall man of powerful physique: that death was due to a stab in the chest which had penetrated the heart: that the injury might easily have been caused by the knife produced in court: and that it might possibly have been self-inflicted.

Surgeon-Commander McCloy, R.N., stated he had examined accused after her admission to the prison on the Island: and that he found her covered with bruises, particularly in the lower parts of the body.

Mr. Priestwood called no witnesses for the defence but put Eugene Feodor in the witness-box, who, through a Russian interpreter, told a pitiful story of degradation and ill-usage. She was married to a Chinese eight years ago, but as the marriage was an unhappy one, there followed a legal separation. The father of her son was a Russian. She agreed to accompany Kao to his native village and his treatment of her was for a time reasonably kind and friendly. Quarrels arose when he began to pay improper attentions to his absent brother's wife. That the latter had attempted to commit suicide, when she heard that her husband proposed to return to his home for the New Year. On that occasion Kao had said he would kill himself if his sister-in-law died, and had also threatened to kill accused. On the night in question, Witness asserted, she was nursing her child and did not promptly open the door on deceased's return from the theatre. She was subjected to violent abuse and beating. Fearing for her life, she went to the houses of two neighbours, but was refused admission. On the road she met the two witnesses named Sung, and begged for their assistance as she feared her "Master" would kill her. They entered the house together. It was not true to say that while these witnesses were in the house she left the sleeping apartment to fetch the knife. She went to get an onion. On her return Kao said he wanted neither her nor the onion, kicked her and knocked her down. She took a seat at the table, weeping. Deceased carried the knife on his person—ostensibly, for the purpose of self-protection. As the Sungs were leaving, she noticed Kao fumbling with his waist-band where he carried the knife, or dagger. At this point she lost consciousness. She did not know that a dead body was taken with her in the cart. She did not know that Kao was dead till so informed in prison. She recollected asking for a drink of water on the journey.

A Dramatic Moment

There was one moment of dramatic interest. Apart from the fact that there were differences between the narrative of the accused and those of witnesses for the Crown, the latter had declared with remarkable unanimity that they had been unable to converse with accused at any time, for she did not know their language and they did not understand hers. She was therefore called upon to repeat to the Court, in Chinese, what she alleged she had said to the two Sungs on the road when she sought their help. This accused was able to do readily and correctly!

In his summing up Judge Wilkinson said that in the absence of any evidence of premeditation the jury would be justified in reducing the charge to one of manslaughter. A point they had to consider was the possibility that Kao had taken his own life. In this connexion he drew their attention to a letter found in deceased's house written by the absent brother, in which the latter stated he expected to return to his home in the village. If, as accused alleged, the relations between Kao and his sister-in-law had been immoral, the probability of further trouble with the brother who had befriended him might have furnished a motive for self-destruction.

After a brief retirement the jury brought in a verdict of "not guilty" either of murder, or manslaughter.

VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN THE PHILIPPINES

Manila, June 2.

A submarine volcano eruption is reported off the coast of Luzon, causing a strong quake and tidal wave at Agno Pangasin at 11.30 p.m. on May 29. Minor damage was done.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE Canton Government is stated to have spent $50,000 on repairing two gunboats, which are to be put on patrol duty—one on the West River and the other on the East River.

DISASTROUS HANKOW FIRE

Hankow, May 30.

In the early hours of this morning the godown of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha was completely gutted by fire. One hundred tons of wood oil were destroyed. The estimated loss is a hundred thousand taels and is fully covered by insurance.—Reuter's Pacific Service

THE Chinese press reports that the Han-Yeh-Ping Iron and Coal Co. are endeavouring to negotiate a loan for $45,000,000. It is stated that the Yokohama Specie Bank is handling the matter.

WUCHANG STUDENT LEADERS' FATE

Marshal W's Close Watch on Recent Bolshevist Agitation: Five Shot at Loyang

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, Hup., May 31

Apparently the authorities are getting very anxious about the amount of labour agitation that is going on in the city. Although ostensibly a workers' movement, its leaders appear to be mostly students and teachers in the schools. A few weeks ago, some of the biggest book-shops were searched by the police, and a large quantity of alleged pernicious Socialist literature was confiscated and destroyed.

Next, suspicion was directed against a teacher who is employed in two of the largest government schools, and orders were given for his arrest. The man in question wrote a public defence which was published in the local papers, stating that he is a teacher of social economics, but not a Socialist. This defence was accepted., and the teacher of economics was allowed to remain at liberty.

So far, the agitation has been more or less of a comedy. But the leaders of the movement have been arrested in Wuchang by agents of Wu Pei-fu, and taken to Loyang where five of them have already been executed. The sixth is a lawyer named Liu. The Hupeh Provincial Assembly sent a telegram to Loyang in which they guaranteed this man's innocence and requested that he might be spared.

A Road to Loyang.

Evidently the Loyang Warlord is keeping a close eye upon this centre, and he is taking means to make communications more convenient than they are at present. A main road is to be made northward from Hankow, and it is said that orders have already been issued that soldiers are to be employed in its construction. Hankow is also to be connected with Loyang by a long-distance telephone, for which the materials have already been ordered from abroad.

Girl Athletes at Sports.

One of the features of the recent National Athletic Sports was the number of girl competitors, some of whom came quite long distances. Before returning to their own provinces, some of these have shown enterprise in another way. On Monday night, the girl athletes from East China gave a theatrical entertainment in the Y. M. C. A. quarters in Hankow. Tickets were sold for admission, and the profits were to go towards their travelling expenses in coming to the sports. The girls of Central China gave a similar entertainment in Wuchang, with the same object.

Wuchang educational circles are shortly to see the instalment of the first lady principal of a school. She will be Miss Cheo Ming, who has been invited by the Educational Bureau to become Headmistress of the Girls' Normal School. Miss Cheo is a Peking graduate of some distinction. It is understood that it was only after some pressure had been exercised that she consented to fill the unique, and possibly rather onerous post that has been offered to her.

Yet another "University" has been added to Wuchang. This is the Medical School, which will in future be known as the Wuchang Medical University.

SZECHUAN CITY CLEARED OF BANDITS

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Mienchow, Sze., May 19.

A correspondent from Mienchuh writes that on Monday last, the 12th instant, soldiers of the 10th Division stationed there made a determined effort to clear the city of bandits. The bandit leader is a man named Heo Chi-pao. I am informed that all the bandits in the city were taken, and killed; but those in the suburbs largely escaped: among these latter were Heo and his son.

Large numbers of soldiers have come through here recently, said to be *en route* for the Lonyan district to clear up bandits.

MISSIONARY CAPTIVES IN KUEILIN

Two Released to Arrange Ransom for Others: a Beleaguered City

Welcome news was received in Shangahi on Sunday about two of the five missionaries who were captured by bandits at Taiwan while travelling from Wuchow to Pinglo on board the American hospital ship Roanoke.

We are informed by the China Inland Mission that they have received a telegram from Wuchow requesting them to inform the children at the Chefoo Mission Schools that Mr. R. A. Jaffray and Dr. Miller have returned home safe and well. Mr. Jaffray is one of the two British, and Dr. Miller of the three American, missionaries who were taken into captivity in the hills. No mention is made of the other three members of the party, Messrs. E. H. Carne (British) and Rex and Ray (American), and it may perhaps be assumed that they also have been freed, but have no children at the Chefoo schools who should be informed.

Peking, June 2.

Consular telegrams received from Canton to-day confirm the news that Mr. Jaffray and Dr. Miller, two of the missionary relief party who were captured *en route* from Wuchow to Kueilin, have returned to Wuchow, apparently to negotiate for the release of their colleagues, who are still in the hands of the bandits. Mr. Chamberlain, American Vice-Consul at Canton, who is now in Wuchow, states that Mr. Jaffray and Dr. Miller were released in order to arrange about a ransom for the others.

The British Consul-General at Canton has reported to the British Legation that, as far as can be ascertained, there are 10 British missionaries in the beleguered city of Kueilin. Their names are:—Bishop Molden and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Bland, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Bailey, Mrs. J. I. Deacon, Miss Santler, Miss A. Pim and Mr. Oldfield. There are also 10 American missionaries belonging to the Christian and Missionary Alliance and to the Southern Baptist Mission.

The American gunboat Pampanga, which has been stationed at Canton, was to have proceeded to Wuchow on Saturday.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHEKIANG SHUTS OUT SOUTHERN COINS

Modern Chinese College Girl Gymnasts

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Hangchow, June 2.

Canton and Fukien 20 cent pieces are now prohibited coming into the province except in small quantities.

On Thursday some 30 Japanese industrial students with their teacher from Shanghai visited the City to see the Industrial Schools and study the City industries.

The girls Union School gave a fine display of calesthenics on Friday in the open air much to the delight of the parents, onlookers and guests. It is simply wonderful what the schools are doing nowadays to promote bodily strength and graceful movement of the Chinese girls. Such training means much for the well-being of the country in the future.

Negotiations are still going on about the water works and those who are in the know of things assure as that water is really going to be "laid on." Let us hope there is no mistake this time because the water here is a very serious matter, the chief supply being from wells which are so easily contaminated by surface drainage. One seldom takes a cup of cold water without saying inwardly: is it safe? We envy those who have simply to turn a tap on and satisfy their thirst without a thought. Another exhibition is contemplated a few years hence and this time in Hangchow and a small committee has been appointed to arrange the time and place. The old parade ground near the Dzien dang has been mentioned as a suitable site.

The Y.M.C.A. National Conference of Secretaries have been in session for more than a week, but

PERILS OF COUNTRY LIFE IN CHINA

Rich Marked Down for Plunder: Outrage near Shaoshing: Seven Shot Down

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Shaohsing, Chê., May 30.

Those who live within China's larger walled cities or in the treaty ports know very little of the dangers that surround the people who live in more isolated country villages. Here is a case in point.

On May 6 Yiang Van-tsing, business man and banker, returned from Hankow to his ancestral home near the village of Motse in the Yuyao district. The occasion of his coming home was the approaching marriage of his son. Yiang, having prospered in his business ventures in Hupeh, was a marked man on his return. The day after his arrival a band of armed robbers called at his home with a request for a loan of $30,000. The secretary who met them said that he must consult his principal before making so large a loan and started to go and find Yiang Van-tsing. The bandits fearing a trap promptly shot the secretary in the back. A second secretary upon seeing this murder fled, but was likewise shot down.

Father and Son Killed

Upon hearing the shooting Yiang Van-tsing came out. The bandits immediately attempted to carry him away for ransom. A Hankow man who had accompanied him tried to prevent them from so doing and in the mêlée both men were shot dead. There remained only the son to deal with. Although only a boy he proved troublesome and in the end the bandits hamstrung him to prevent his running away. Bruised and bleeding the boy still continued his resistance by bitting the shoulder of the bandit who was carrying him. A farmer and mason on seeing the boy's pitiable condition remonstrated with the bandits and were promptly shot for their interference. The boy was also shot for having bitten his captor.

Culprits Reported Capture.

All this occurred within 20 li of the first station west of Yuyao on the Ningpo section of the Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo Railway. Two detachments of soldiers were promptly sent into the mountains and it is reported that the culprits have been captured.

Experts with Brown Automatics.

On May 18 the district city of Siaoshan was greatly agitated because of a bandit raid within the city. A wealthy man had been captured and through a clever ruse got away. In an effort to check further raids a man had been arrested. The source of the excitement was to be found in the fact that it was commonly believed on the street that the man who had been arrested had no connexion with the crime and that an innocent man was being made a scapegoat. Alike in Yuyao and Siaoshan the innocent bystander suffers while the country gentleman in his home among the hills is at the mercy of the hardened criminal who has learned too well the use of a Browning automatic.

SIR Artnur and Lady Leveson, Miss Pamela Leveson, Sir John and Lady Fowler and the two Misses Fowler, Lieutenant-Commander Miney and Mr. Hardy Jowett, visited the Forbidden City the other day. They were presented to the Manchu Emperor and Empress by Mr. R. F. Johnston, the Imperial Tutor. The visit lasted for two and a half hours and was thoroughly enjoyed by the visitors. To each of the five ladies of the party, the Emperor presented a Pekinese dog of the breed for which the Imperial palace has long been famous.

the fruit of their labours has not yet been published, Mr. Rugh preached at the monthly English service on Sunday a very practical sermon, the gist of which was that the only solution to the world's unrest is for every Christian to live Jesus Christ—a pure, fresh and sinless life. Conferences, theological arguments, and philosophical reasoning were of no avail. A consciousness of God in Jesus Christ was what was needed.

HONGKONG LETTER

Prayers for Water Answered by Deluge: Swimming Delights: Rate-Cutting to Canton

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hongkong, May 26.

The week has opened with cheerful weather after the five days' drenching last week. A section of the Colony's residents, particularly in the lower levels of Victoria were recently clamouring for water, protesting against the restrictions imposed on their supply. Their prayers were answered with a vengeance. From Monday to Friday a fall of 10.84 inches was registered at the Royal Hongkong Observatory, Of [illegible] recorded during the 24 hours from Thursday to Friday morning. The Colony was not exactly flooded, but it was certainly saturated and the five days' consistent rain provided a typical beginning of a tropical wet season. No serious landslide came to the notice of the P.W.D., though there were several minor collapses in the hill district. The races—an extra meeting—were held despite the swampy state of the course. Within an hour of the opening, the rain had steadily fallen yet the jockeys and ponies faced the bog and went through with the programme. Coolies were working most of Friday afternoon and Saturday morning clearing away the mud, with the result that when starting time came, the state of the course was declared to be better than it was at the annual meeting. Former Shanghai ponies again proved their stamina and good training.

Chinese householders in the lower levels of the island wrote indignant letters a few days ago to the newspapers about the restriction of their water supply, an expedient which is found necessary every summer here. They protested that even when the Water Department cut down their supply to two hours a day they were deprived of a certain portion of that period by enterprising tenants who monopolised the one tap or diverted the flow into their own pipes, stored up the water and later sold it. Shortly after their complaint was made, it was announced that a constant supply would be turned on in all [illegible] Eastern Street, the Chinese quarter, until further notice.

Is Shanghai Envious?

Bathing here is swinging into its seasonal popularity. The public beaches with the exception of the favourite — Stonecutters Island, were opened at the beginning of the month. Stonecutters, one of the most delightful spots near Hongkong, always attracts the bathers and since its opening a fortnight ago, there has been a happy crowd of swimmers, non-swimmers and paddlers dipping in the briny every day. One of the most popular of the private beaches, the Easma (Ex-Active Service Men's Association) drew a big crowd last week when it was formally opened. Hongkong residents are indeed fortunate in the possession of so many amenities for tolerating their long summer. Indeed, Shanghailanders must be envious. Those especially, who know Hongkong and its delightful natural beauty spots, cannot but give forth a sigh when they think of cool bathing in the summer among the Fragrant Isles and then look into the dirty depths of the Huangpu. To see the happy bathers, the kiddies playing on the sands on Hongkong beaches is like a breath from Home. There is a seaside, holiday atmosphere about it. Truly, Hongkong is for the residents Hongkong-by-the Sea just now.

Canton Fare Reductions

One of the most interesting events of the week has been the astonishing action of a steamboat company in reducing its steerage fare from Hongkong to Canton to ten cents. This drastic reduction from $1 to ten cents was described in the newspapers here as a rate war, but today the allegation is denied in a letter to the "Hongkong Telegraph" written by the owners for the steamship company concerned, the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd. Ten cents for a steamer trip of seven hours is probably a world record, but it was only in force for a single night, Saturday. According to a statement made by the secretary of the steamboat company, a company owning former French boats will not agree to a standard charge and are continually varying their charges. The French boat have been approached but have refused to come to terms and as a consequence, the company which cut the rate to ten cents on Saturday have decided to contest the opposition and in the words of the secretary, Mr. J. Arnold, will reduce the fares on all their boats and even take passengers for nothing if necessary. It is an interesting situation and the outcome of it is being eagerly watched.

It brings to mind almost a similar incident many will recall which happened several years ago. Royal steamship companies running boats between Scotland and Ireland suddenly began a rate war. One reduced the fare to eighteen-pence and for a time held the field. The other, nonplussed, retaliated very ingeniously by charging the same price, eighteen-pence, but adding as an attraction to their potential passengers, several bottles of beer. For a time war was waged until eventually a settlement was arrived at in a simple manner. The companies amalgamated and further reduced the fare to one shilling. Even locally, old residents remember a similar instance when competition was deadly keen. Years ago, the Hongkong Canton & Macao S. Co., reduced their fare to ten cents for steerage and maintained the rate for almost six months. Further back in the shipping history of the Colony musty records tell us that competition was so keen that touts used to be employed at Canton and Whampao to solicit passengers for Hongkong at 5 cents per person which included a meal on the boat of a pot of tea and two large cakes. Probably today's event is merely history repeating itself.

The Late Mr. Claxton

Hongkong sportsmen have shared with Shanghai the grief over the death of Mr. A. A. Claxton, the well known interport cricketer and all-round sportsman. It was indeed a shock to hear the sad news particularly so when it is hard to realize he was with us only a week or so [illegible] Col. Robertson, Secretary of the Hongkong Club, the flags were immediately lowered over the Club and the Hongkong Cricket Club. Cricketers here will always cherish his memory; he will be sorely missed and the Shanghai Cricket Team will be considerably weakened.

SHANSI'S NEWEST MOTOR-ROAD

Drought Again Threatening Crops

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kiangchow, May 29.

Rain, just in time, enabled farmers to sow cotton, but drought is again threatening all crops.

On watered land the wheat is good, but on the non-irrigable plateaux very small harvests must be expected.

The commencement of the motor bus service to Yuncheng is definitely promised for June 1.

Travellers by motor or ricsha see very little of the life of Shansi, as the road passes through no villages, skirts the outside of cities, frequently at some distance from the walls. Only wayside refreshment booths at long intervals break the peaceful monotony of the clean, quiet stretches of roadway.

Unfortunately the section from Yuncheng to the Yellow River at Maotsingtu, is not completed. This 100 *li* is about the biggest and most interesting bit of road construction, but for some reason work has been stopped. The ferry at Maotsingtu is opposite the new station on the Lunghai Railway. When the few remaining *li* are finished there will be 1700 *li* of road from the railway in the north at Tatungfu to the Honan line.

A re-organisation of the mail service will be instituted in connexion with the increased bus facilities.

This city is 30 *li* from the motor-road. The postal service is excellent, but for the fact that the ever increasing volume of postal business every now and then baffles the physical power of the staff to keep up with their work.

CHINA DELICACIES NOW BARRED

Governor of Tsingtao Extends His Economy Rules to Food and Feathers

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, May 30.

Those who recall what Dr. Tehyi Hsien had to say in reference to shark's fins will be interested to learn that, from now on, this delicacy, together with another Chinese dish famous the world over, will be eliminated from the menu in all future official functions given by the authorities of Tsingtao, in line with the idea of Governor Kao En-hung on the subject.

His Excellency declares that shark's fins and bird's nests are superfluous luxuries which should be eschewed. Half of the people partaking of them do so more for the sake of displaying their opulence than for anything else, whereas the other half have not the remotest appreciation of them other than an artificial one. It may be, although his Excellency does not say so, that he is in agreement with what Dr. Tehyi Hsien has said. According to the doctor, the first mentioned delicacy is neither shark nor fin. This statement has opened quite a good deal of discussion amongst connoisseurs of Chinese dishes and no less sensational is the doctor's affirmation that "if it weren't for Boston, Massachusetts, there would be no shark's fins in China for feasts." Occidentals are accustomed to thinking of shark's fins as merely an item in inexplicable Orientalia. So, therefore, when a Chinese expert proceeds to tell us that shark's fins as listed on Chinese menus are "neither shark nor fin," we ought to be forgiven for sitting up and taking notice of it. According to the doctor, "shark's fins" are "bits of sword-fish, delicate portions under the giant fins carefully scraped and fashioned dexterously by hand into the patterns of fins." But anyhow Mr. Kao is keen on giving it a wide berth, in company with bird's nests, when giving official functions.

Clothes Also too Costly

Then there is the matter of clothes. His Excellency is opposed to the process of wearing ultra-expensive clothes, as practised by people who in reality are financially incapable of affording them. More than that, the Governor thinks everybody, irrespective of social or financial standing, should be economical in the matter of clothes. Very often, backed by a show of finery, considerable credit is secured by the unthinking.

It is difficult to realize whether the Governor has only his own countrymen in mind, in his discussion of extravagancy, and more particularly in the matter of the use of automobiles by people who should be the last to think of them. He regrets that now-a-days about the first thing a so-called successful man would do is to purchase a costly machine before first purchasing a house. Instead of safeguarding himself against the proverbial rainy day, the average man thinks it his duty to society to possess an automobile for himself and his family. It would be interesting, comments the Governor, to know what benefit an automobile could afford the family should its owner suddenly discover himself on his beam-ends.

A Town-full of Bad Debts.

As I have said, it is difficult to realize whether Governor Kao has only his own countrymen in mind or whether he has spoken in reference to everybody in Tsingtao, irrespective of nationality. For many a tailor, dressmaker cafe-owner and garage have bundles of uncollectible chits, and the whole thing has gone so far that creditors here are seriously thinking of organizing a ring for the purpose of comparing notes and listing all the bad payers. The garages, however, are in the deepest part of the mire. They are, in the main, Chinese owned, and some of their chits bear the names of non-existent people. "Wellington Ford," "George Washington, Jr.," "Napoleon Wong" and "Papa Joffre" are some of the fictitious names attached to scraps of paper, and I have even seen a "Kakvipazjivaite," which in Russian means "How do you do!" It may be asked whether it would be impossible to trace the identity of the [illegible] these fictitious nomenclature but Tsingtao native tradesmen have not been stung on the same scale financially as their contemporaries in other treaty ports. Moreover, these unscrupulous people who think nothing of working against the prestige of the white race do not hire cars from the same garage twice. I asked one garage man whether he could not remember the faces of his pernicious creditors. His reply reminded me of the story of the wolf and the sheep. Said he: "Hai-yah! Foreign master all have got same face, first time look see no can remember!"

THE PEKING ASSAULT CASES

Preliminary Hearing in Case of Mr. Bessel: American Plaintiff Also Moving

Peking, May 30.

Officials of the War Office informed pressmen that they could not attend the proceedings against Col. Chen Kuei-yuan at the opening at 2 o'clock this afternoon, as it was only a preliminary hearing, but they could be present later when the actual re-trial takes place. The Court to-day consisted of Gen. Sung Yi-hsiang in the capacity of Judge, assisted by a colonel as aide-de-camp and secretary. Mr. Eric Teichman (Chinese Secretary to the Legation) was present as official observer, and also Mr. Bessel and a number of Chinese railway witnesses.

The trial of the soldier Li opens to-morrow, when the charge of assault, preferred by the American, Mr. Pomeroy, will be heard.

The British case will probably not come on until the middle of next week, owing to the absence of Mr. Campbell.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, May 31.

Owing to the absence of the foreign complainants, the trial of the soldier Li was this afternoon postponed indefinitely.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, June 2.

The re-trial of Colonel Chen will take place at the Ministry of har at 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, June 5.

The re-trial of Colonel Chen, who is accused of responsibility for the assault on Mr. Bessell, was concluded at 10 o'clock last night. Judgment was reserved.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHUNGKING MISSIONARY'S REPORTED SUICIDE

Tragedy at Methodist Church Conference at Springfield, Massachusetts

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, B. C., May 15.

Mr. Roger T. Rahn, aged 28, a lay delegate to the Methodist Church Conference from the West China Conference, committed suicide yesterday by taking poison, says a telegram from Springfield, Massachusetts, of to-day's date.

The message adds: Mr. Rahn is believed to have taken poison in his room at a local hotel and his body was found to-day. His act is attributed to ill-health, coupled with depression from which he had suffered since arriving in this country. Mr. Rahn was a teacher at a Christian school at Chungking. Friends of Mr. Rahn, whose Chinese name is Ran Du Dsi, said that he had thought he would die before the conference closed.

SMUGGLING OF ARMS IN TIENTSIN

Tientsin, June 4.

The Customs have detained 58 cases of wine from Genoa, which were destined for an Italian firm at Tientsin, owing to the discovery of 23 pistols and 5,000 rounds of ammunition in false bottoms.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

BRITAIN AND BOXER INDEMNITY

Suggested Holding Up of Bill to Counteract the Chinese Trade Marks Provisions

London, June 2

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Samuel Samuel (Conservative) suggested postponement of the second reading of the Chinese Indemnity Bill until the Chinese Government altered the conditions of their Trade Marks Bill so as to protect British manufacturers and traders against having trade marks, which they have been using for a number of years, fradulently taken away.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said that it was not desirable to connect the trade marks question with the very different matter of the China Indemnity Bill.

Mr. Samuel asked if the Prime Minister had any list of applications of Chinese, Japanese and German firms for registration of British trade marks, and if it were possible to suspend the Indemnity Bill in order to introduce a bill whereby the money could be applied to compensate British manufacturers and merchants whose trade marks were taken away.

The Premier replied that he thought it far more desirable that, in regard to the Trade Marks Law, we should conduct the negotiations on the merits of the case itself and not mix it up with another Act of ours, which, he hoped, would be accepted by China as an act of grace rather than as the result of a bargain.—Reuter.

WUCHANG ATHLETIC MEETING

East China Victorious After All: Last Day of All-China Sports

From Our Own Correspondent

Wuchang, May 25.

Yesterday was the third, and last day, of the National Athletic Sports. Naturally, the excitement was higher, and the crowds greater, than upon either of the previous days, but the same order prevailed as before, and was well maintained up to the end of the proceedings. The boy scouts and girl guides, who in relays were helping the police to keep the entry, had a little trouble now and again with some of the "roughnecks," who would have entered the grounds by force or fraud rather than by right. The result was a few fights, in which the would-be entrant usually got his way in the end. But these little scenes took place outside the grounds, and did not affect the general order in the arena itself.

As it was easy to foresee from the first, the competitors from East China were successful in carrying off nearly all the prizes. In the final game of the football competition, they easily defeated the Central China team who had been the victors of the day before against North China. They also obtained the first place in the 5,000 metres race. On total points, East China came out easily first, with North China in the second place and Central China in the third.

Owing to his continued indisposition, the Tuchun was unable to distribute the prizes in person; but this was done by a representative. No sooner was all over, tables were spread in the open upon what had been a football field. Electric lights were hung around on poles, and as darkness closed in the scene was lit up by many coloured lights. A cinema appartus and screen were also erected close by. Then all the competitors and officials who had taken part in the sports were entertained to a meal served in Western fashion, followed by a show of moving pictures in which athletic events were mostly shown on the screen.

REPORTED DEATH OF LIVING BUDDHA

Peking, May 30.

Mr. Li Chia-ao, the Chinese representative in Moscow, has telegraphed to the Government reporting the death of the Hutukhtu. Recent reports reaching Peking from Urga stated that the Living Buddha was ill.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE JEWISH COLONY OF HONAN

Personal Experiences of the Israelitish Remnant in Kaifengfu: Two Ancient Tables and the Story They Tell

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Kaifengfu, May 23.

In a recent issue you asked for more information on the Jewish colony in China, that forms the basis of the article written on the report of Adolph S. Oko, Librarian of the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati. In your appeal for information you suggest that this may be the colony that formerly existed in Honan. You may well be pardoned for not more readily recognizing the Honan community as the one about which Professor Oko wrote, for in one place the original article printed in the Jewish Exponent of March 24, as a Special, speaks of "London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews in China," which sent missionaries to that country for the first time in 1849. The manuscripts purchased by Mr. Oko were obtained by the missionaries of that Society in the "village of Kae-fung-foo." Accompanying these documents is a history of the experiences of the missionaries "in that village."

Undoubtedly this "village of Kae-fung-foo,' refers to the capital city of Honan, for on consulting the Encyclopaedia Sinica, one learns of no other colony of Jews in China apart from the Kaifengfu community. Quoting from the Encyclopaedia we read that the London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews ("in China" not being part of the Society's name), got a deputation of two natives to visit the colony, and the results were published the next year in a book by Dr. G. Smith, with translations by Dr. Medhurst of some inscriptions. From the same source we find that Dr. W. A. P. Martin visited Kaifengfu in 1866 and found seven left out of 70 original families, numbering from three to four hundred persons. The synagogue was then is a state of complete ruin. The remnants could not trace their tribal pedigree; they never met as a congregation, had no Sabbath and no circumcision, and seemed on the point of merging into the heathendom around them. So much for the past.

A Desolate Remnant.

When your correspondent first came into contact with the Jewish community some 12 years ago, there was no single vestige of the ancient synagogue left on the original site. As a matter of fact the very site itself was nothing but a pond hole, as for two generations the public at will had removed earth for one purpose or another. There were on the plot two stone tablets, which had originally stood in some honoured spot in the synagogue precincts, but at the time I first saw them one was all but buried in the mud and the other was half sunken in mud on the verge of the pond. This plot of land is just east of the mercantile street called the Earth Road, and south of the other big street known as the Great West road. Leading east from it to a large residential street is a narrow way called the "T'iao Ching Hu T'ung." "Plucking Sinue Lane" that is the "Lane leading to the Jewish Quarter."

In the neighbourhood of the plot of land that was purchased by the Canadian Church Mission some few years ago, there dwells a little old man by the name of Chao. He keeps a tiny tea shop, and in the old days had rubbings of the stones for sale. This Mr. Chao has one of the "Seven Families" names that remain of the original larger community. He is himself married to a Mohammedan wife, but in answer to a multitude of questions could only reveal that he knew next to nothing about his antecedents, and absolutely nothing about the peculiar tenets of the faith to which his fathers originally belonged.

He is typical of the 250 to 300 members of the seven tribal families that remain in this district. One would say of them that they are in all things like the ordinary Chinese families around them. They have less knowledge of "one God" than the Mohammedan members of this city, and in all matters of worship they follow the non-Mohammedan, non-Christian customs of the Chinese religions. Some have said that they can trace some of the distinctive facial characteristics of the Jew, as he appears in other parts of the world. Frankly the writer must confess that he has never been able to do so, and has always thought that imagination has been brought into play by those who have made the assertion. Incidentally this result in the life of the Jewish Community bears another testimony to the Chinese power of assimilation.

Two Tablets and a Laver.

A few years ago there was a very definite attempt made by the Chinese trustees of the Milton Stewart Evangelistic Fund to align the remnant of the Jewish tribes with Christianity. Through the medium of the Canadian Church Mission, who had acquired the Jewish property from a number of the leading members of the Families, and had been made custodians of the Tablets that commemorate the coming of the original Tribes and the rehabilitation of the Synagogue, this attempt was made. At that time a registration of the families was effected, and of old and young 250 were entered. There were many who had removed from this to other districts however, some living in T'ung Hsu and others in Suichow.

The two stones that were found on the Jewish plot of land, and were given into the custody of the Canadian Church Mission, stand at present under brick protecting covers, in front of the large church erected by that Mission near the old Imperial Travelling Palace in the very heart of the city of Kaifeng. In the church and at present used as a Baptismal font stands what in ancient days was one of the ceremonial lavers of the synagogue. This laver is chiselled from a block of stone in the form of a lotus lily, with a base in the same general design. It was purchased from one of the signatories (a leading man among them also named Chao) of the deed which transferred the property to the Canadian Church Mission, and Bishop White, head of that Mission, was assured by him that it was indeed from the ancient synagogue. So far as I have been able to find from inquiries no other relicts of the synagogue can be seen around this city.

Memorial Stones' Record.

There are two stones preserved. The main stone was chiselled according to the date it bears in 1489 A.D. The reverse of this stone was cut in the year 1512, and thus brings the history of the colony to that year. The other stone is in a very poor state of preservation and reveals very few facts: there is enough, however, to give some idea of later events till the year 1653. It was erected in the second year of Kang Hsi in 1663.

The first stone purports to have been erected"To commemorate the re-establishment of the 'Ch'ing, chen tsi' or the Temple of the pure and true religion." A running translation is as follows. "This stone is erected by Chin Ying of Ning Hsia in Kansu, and Chin Li of Kaifeng, Honan, in the second year of the Emperor, Hung Chih of the Ming Dynasty.

"The religion of 'I-tsi-loh-yeh' Israel, was founded by Abraham, the nineteenth generation from Adam. He received the doctrine from our ancestors. He followed their teaching without making idols, flattering gods or spirits, and having no faith in magic. He gave the doctrine to Moses, who was a man of wisdom and character.

"Moses got the Holy Books from the Hill of Sinai after fasting and praying for 40 days and nights. The Holy Book is divided into 53 volumes, containing a great body of the finest moral teaching.

"Moses gave the doctrine to Ezra. This doctrine was based on four fundamental principles, purity, truth, respect and worship. Worship should be observed three times a day, and before each time of worship those taking part should bathe the body and change the clothing.

Chinese Emperor's Favour.

"The Religion came from T'ien Chu, India. In the Sung Dynasty persons bearing 70 tribal names offered presents of cloth to the Chinese Emperor After examining their books, he professed himself as satisfied that they were true people and bade them live wherever they wished. In the first year of the Emperor Lung Hsing, 1163 A.D. the first temple was built. In the 16th year of the Emperor Tsi Yuan, 1279 A.D. the temple was restored.

"The first Emperor of the Ming Dynasty offered a safe and peaceful asylum to any who wished to become his subjects. At that time the members of the pure and true religion adopted Chinese clothing, customs and ceremonies.

"In the 19th year of the Emperor Yung Lo of the Ming Dynasty, 1421, permission was granted to Dr. An Ch'ing to rebuild the temple once again. It was in this temple that the members of the religion permitted a tablet to be placed inscribed, 'Long live the Emperors of Great Ming.'

"In the third year of T'ien Shun, 1461 A.D. the temple was destroyed by a great flood, but was again soon rebuilt. When the Emperor Cheng Hwa ruled China three members of the Kao family rebuilt the rear Hall with their own money and preserved three copies of the Holy Scriptures therein. In the second year of the Emperor Hung Chih a piece of land was purchased, foundations were prepared, the buildings were erected, and a momument was set up."

The Pure and True.

The stone puts the members of the community on record as professing that, "All the three religions have their own temples: in the same way the pure and true religion has its temple, in which God is worshipped. The true religion has many similarities with Confucianism. While the religion comes from God, it permits respect for the Emperors of China."

The reverse side of this stone claims to be "A monument for commemorating the Temple in which the Holy Scriptures are revered" It says that the "Religion of Israel came from India, but had Adam as its original founder. This religion has a Holy Bible divided into four series with 53 books. The founder of the religion in its present form was Abraham, and the revealer of the Bible was Moses. The original religion came into China in the Han Dynasty." (Then several dates are repeated similar to those on the front of the stone, and then) "This temple was built to give respect to the Holy Scriptures. Every member of the religion, no matter where he may live gives respect to the Scriptures.

"The doctrines in the Bible are nearly similar to those contained in the Confucian Classics. Any one who observes them will become a good man.

"This religion was passed on from generation to generation as follows: Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, The Twelve Tribes, Moses, Aaron, Joshua and Ezra."

The Temple Rebuilt.

From the third monument it is learned that the temple was destroyed and the scriptures lost in the 15th year of the Emperor Ts'ung Cheng of the Ming Dynasty, 1642 A.D. Afterwards the Scriptures were collected and rearranged by famous men who knew them well.

"In the 10th year of Shun Chih of the Ch'ing Dynasty, 1653 A.D. the temple was once again rebuilt."

The front face of the main tablet has been chipped in several places, especially where the list of names appears. It is said by those who profess to know that the chipping was done during the Boxer trouble to prevent the Boxers looking up the families. This may indeed be the fact as the surface there is white showing no signs of age, such as even the years from the Tai Pings would have given.

From several places in the record of the stones one can trace very early defections from Jewish tribal customs and from the old jealous guardianship of scriptures and temple worship. The present state of the remnant of the Jewish community might have been anticipated by prophets centuries ago, had there been such among them then.

ADMIRAL Leveson, who will shortly be relieved by Vice-Admiral Sir Allen F. Everett, has been Commander-in-Chief for two years in the Far East, although formerly the tenure of this command was three years. The fewer flag appointments now available are by this means distributed over a larger number of officers.

AMERICAN AVIATORS IN JAPAN

Arrival in Poetic Scenery Scarred with Battling in Arctic Gales

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Tokio, May 22.

The little town of Kasumigaura (Lagoon in the Mist) where the Japanese navy has its principal aerodrome and aeronautical training station was crowded with thousands on thousands of Japanese and foreigners this evening all straining their eyes and craning their necks to catch a glimpse of the American round-the-world aviators who were due some time before dark.

Suddenly three specks appeared against the setting sun. A loud shout from the assembled throngs greeted the sight. The specks grew bigger, took form, and three planes in triangular formation swept into view. American and Japanese flags, by the thousands, were waved frantically by school children, a detachment of blue-jackets stood at attention, the planes came nearer, the inmates waved greetings to the crowds waiting to do them honor. A few minutes later the landing was completed. Banzais rent the air, sailors threw their caps in much the same fashion that school boys the world over do, people pressed forward to see the aviators, cameras clicked. The conquest of the Pacific by air was completed.

A demure little Japanese lass, wearing a navy-blue serge skirt and sailor-fashion silk blouse, represented the Governor of Ibarai Prefecture in which is situated Kasumigaura and was amongst the first to welcome the intrepid American airmen to Japan. She tendered them a beautiful bouquet of chrysanthemums, the proudest of Japan's floral treasures. A pat on the head and thanks were uttered.

Airmen Worn Out.

The airmen looked completely worn out. There was not much enthusiasm visible in them. For weeks they had been battling with all the elements and some of these at their worst, battling with them while death was often staring them in the face. For weeks they had no bath; for weeks they had lived on tinned provisions; for weeks they had gone without a proper sleep; so that when Lieutenant Wade Smith jocosely told the little Japanese lady who, with her arms laden with flowers, bade the aviators welcome to the Land of the Rising Sun, that what they wanted more was "a wash, a bite and a bed," he was more than merely joking.

The little village of Kasumigaura, which depends for its existence on the Japanese aerodrome there, broke out into a perfect criss-cross of Rising Suns and Stars and Stripes. The entire population took a holiday; people coming in from all holitions of the country, from the muddy paddies and from the fashionable towns, swelled the tiny village's population to an extent it has never yet had, not even when has Japanese aerodrome was first publicly opened after Colonel the Master of Semphill, who instructed the Japanese in naval aviation, had completed the station.

Tokio is planning all manner of festivities in honor of the aviators who will come to the capital by motor to-morrow. They can not fly here because Tokio is within the fortified zones.

A chain of American destroyers is patrolling the Japanese coast and the sea between Nagasaki and Shanghai. The next lap on the world-girdling flight will be to Kagoshima where the planes will refuel and from thence they will make a bee-line for Shanghai. Kasumigaura will be left behind some time next week and the flying trio from across the Pacific are expected to reach Shanghai about the second week of June.

Despite the feeling over the exclusion bill, the press tenders a warm welcome to the American airmen whose courage and perseverance have evoked the warmest admiration of the Japanese, for the Japanese are a sporting peeople.

Newspaper Comment.

Typical of the newspaper comment are the two following extracts from two different journals:

The "*Yomiuri*," a nationalist organ, says: "We warmly congratulate the American aviators on the feat they have achieved in being the first to cross the Pacific by air, and the warmth of our congratulations is not in any way lessened by the recent action of Congress in humiliating us. We admire their courage and perseverance in facing the rigors of the inhospitable frigid zones through which they winged their way here. Their success shows how scientific Americans are and it also shows that the human faculty to govern natural force is steadily increasing. We pray that they will achieve final success and girdle the world."

The feat of the Americans is also regarded as a menace and as a lesson to Japan. One paper, after paying a tribute to the airmen, discusses why Japanese are so backward in aviation and assigns the following reasons: (1) lack of skill in operation of airplanes; (2) technical defects in the manufacture of planes; (3) the small budget appropriation. The military and naval authorities are urged to abridge other items of their huge budgets and to release more funds for aviation, and the Government is urged to give technical men better pay and to guarantee them a good living. "The superiority shown by the foreign fliers," this paper remarks, "is a menace as well as a lesson and Japan should profit by it as early as possible.

CHINESE BIOGRAPHERS

Absurd Fiction Perpetrated by Peking Papers on Supposed Death of Ku Hung-ming

FROM RODNEY GILBERT.

Peking, May 27.

The local Chinese press has contrived to kill off Mr. Ku Hung-ming, although the latter, as the writer's eyes have borne witness, is as active and well as ever.

Although Mr. Ku's obituary notices were very flattering and must give him no little satisfaction, the biographies published, no two of which were alike, have all been amazing examples of Chinese journalistic inaccuracy. Nothing like Eugene Chen stood in the way of confirming Mr. Ku's alleged demise in the first place and, in the second place, it would have been a simple matter to have got an accurate story of his life from his family or his intimate friends.

If the absurd fiction which the local papers published within 48 hours of Mr. Ku's supposed death is a criterion of Chinese biographical methods, it would be a good thing for all celebrities who want posterity to know who and what they really were to arrange for a premature death in print and then re-emerge and correct the published biographies.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA

Official Attitude Unchanged: Press Opinion on the Chinese Agreement

Tokio, June 2.

The conclusion of the Russo-Chinese Agreement has at present evoked little comment here. The official attitude towards the negotiations with Russia is unchanged, according to the "*Kokumin*," which is of opinion that Article 4 of the new agreement will inevitably lead to international compications. The "*Nichi Nichi*" thinks that China's success with regard to rights from Russia will encourage her to attempt to recover similar rights and interests from other Powers, and notes with interest M. Karakhan's apparent change of front in consenting to a fresh discussion of points which he declared were already settled.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPAN'S IMPERIAL WEDDING CELEBRATIONS

Tokio, May 31.

From this evening for the next six days Japan will publicly celebrate the Imperial Wedding. The series opens at the Palace this evening, with a State banquet at which the Empress, the Prince Regent and the Crown Princess and other members of the Imperial Family, officials and members of the Diplomatic Body will be present. In the city the celebrations will be held next week.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

HARAKIRI FOR EXCLUSION ACT

Suicide Near U. S. Embassy in Tokio: Letters of Appeal Found on the Body

Tokio, May 31.

Indignation at the American Exclusion Legislation is alleged to have led to a case of "Harakiri" this morning in the neighbourhood of the site of the American Embassy.

Three letters were found by the police on the body of a man who committed suicide, addressed respectively to Mr. Woods, U. S. Ambassador, the Japanese nation and the police. The first letter was addressed, "An appeal to the people of the U. S. A. through Mr. Woods, who understands and sympathizes with Japan," and was signed "A nameless subject of the Mikado."

The man has not yet been identified, though he appears, from the courteous tone and style of the letter, to be educated and a Christian.

He appeals "through death for a new Bill cancelling the exclusion clause, which is an affront to Japan: I am a Japanese: Japan has been humiliated by your country without justification: I would rather die than live to hate your people.

Views of America's Action.

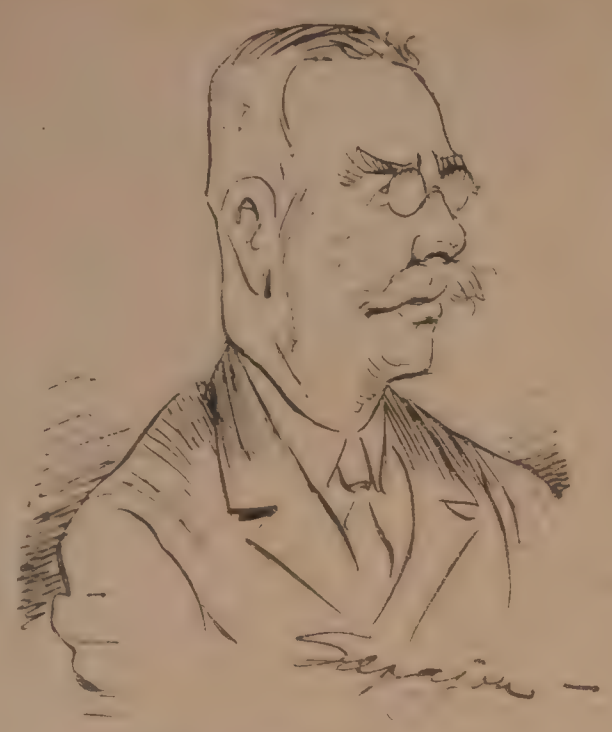
June 1.

The reaction at present manifesting itself in Japan against the American Exclusion Act covers a wide range. On one side may be placed the view that "the righting of the wrong" should be left to the good sense of the American people, "who are obviously disappointed at the turn of events," or that a solution should be found by appeal to the world and to international co-operation without thought of race prejudice or distinction, and also the introspective views of a certain section of intellectuals that Japan's internal helplessness is the chief cause of the present situation and that the remedy lies with herself in regaining confidence and purging her own body politic and economic.

On the other side is the call to the nation by reactionaries and others that Japan must throw over the West and turn again to the Orient. Thus the "*Hochi*" declares: "Japan has hitherto relied principally on America, but henceforth her diplomacy and economics must be conducted independently. She must settle her own problems, including immigration, for herself." This view is finding expression in the convening of a series of national meetings, some of which aim definitely at the formation of an Asiatic union, in a demand for the exclusion of American Christianity and the withdrawal of American missionaries, which would naturally find support from the Shinto and Buddhist priesthood, and in a resolution by certain women's societies, shops and others to boycott American-made toilet and fancy-goods. It is not because Japan does not appreciate American friendship, but because she wishes to convince America that she has acted unfairly that Japan is going to demonstrate her anti-American sentiments, is the explanation of one of the promoters of a national meeting which will be held on June 8.

Yesterday's suicide has created a profound impression on the public, and is freely commented on as a true reflection of the sentiments of the nation, though the act itself may not be commended nationally. Mr. Okada, the chief of the foreign section of the Metropolitan Police Bureau, interviewed, recorded his admiration of the act, which, he declares, bears no sign of insanity. He has instructed his subordinates to honour the remains as if they were those of a hero of battle. The man has not yet been identified. Steps are being taken by his admirers to arrange a national funeral.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Dr. Ku Hung-ming, who has lately been erroneously reported as having passed away, will shortly leave on a trip to Japan, in response to an invitation by his Japanese friends. Mr. S. Yeguchi, Director of the Mitsubishi firm, placed his villa at his disposal. Dr. Ku will break his journey to Tokio at Seoul where he will be the guest of Baron Saito, the Governor-General of Chosen.



THIRTY YEARS IN ICHANG

And still going strong: the Rev. Thomas R. Kearney says Goodbye

NANKING A CENTRE OF NEW LEARNING

Phenomenal Growth of Educational Institutions: School for Koreans Too

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanking, June 4.

For both geographical and political reasons, Nanking is rapidly a centre of learning and progress in China. Centrally located, at present free from political disturbances and with large areas of land available for building purposes, educational progress is encouraged and made possible. The universities and schools are more and more dominating the life and interests of the city.

The Southeastern University has a budget for the year 1923-1924 of $60,000 and it looks as though the full amount will be received before the end of the year. On June 25, the imposing new Library will be dedicated. At the same time, the corner-stone will be laid for the new science hall on the site of the burned buildings. The total cost will be about $200,000. The new Science Hall together with the recitation building which is going up will accommodate three times as many students as the building which was destroyed. The students of the University contributed an average of $20 toward these new buildings and each professor contributed a month's salary.

The Military Governor has recently donated a set of old Chinese coins of considerable value which are to be kept on exhibition at the new library of the Southeastern University. The library is receiving large additions of books to replace those burned. The Department of Geology and meteorology is now publishing a monthly weather Bulletin, with detailed reports of daily weather conditions.

A new Science Hall will soon be built at the University of Nanking. The Famine Fund Committee has voted $50,000 Mex. toward the erection of this building, in which the Agricultural, Forestry and Biological Departments of the University will be housed. The China Medical Board has recommended a grant of $25,000 and $30,000 for equipment. Plans for the new Dormitory at the Language School, to cost $50,000, are about complete.

New Wing of Hospital Opened

On May 22, the new wing of the University Hospital was opened. The building is thoroughly modern and wonderfully well equipped. It cost $60,000 and has 60 beds. The University Hospital now has a staff of eight foreign doctors and two foreign nurses, two Chinese doctors and 26 nurses in training. Last year, there were 48,000 treatments and 2,000 hospital patients. The summer of 1924 promises to be a busy one here.

National bodies will hold important gatherings in Nanking, and three summer schools will be in session. These conferences and schools will draw prominent educators and speakers from all parts of China. Liang Chi-chao, Tsai Yuan-pei, Fan Yuen-lien and other notables are expected.

There are now 107 Popular Education Schools here with an enrolment of 3,700 students. Already over a thousand people have been taught the 1,000 Chinese characters.

A unique educational adventure here is the establishment of a school for Koreans. Plans are under way for a 16-room school building. Already 42 pupils are in attendance.

Furbishing Up the Ming Tombs

Extensive renovations have been made in recent months at the Ming Tombs. Cement steps have been built in the Sun Chung Tai Tunnel. Much of the old débris has been cleared away. A new road has been built and there are plans for developing a park around the stone monuments. A school has been started for the beggar children who swarm round the Tombs and prey upon visitors. Plans are also being considered for a park in the Old Ming City. The Shiuhan Park, with its museums, coloured-tile buildings and gardens, the Drum Tower Park and the large reforested Park at the base of Purple Mountain are now favourite resorts of the populace.

The New Y.M.C.A. Building, to cost G.$60,000. will be begun this autumn. Land has been secured in the centre of the city. The Southeastern University Christian Association is now campaigning for building subscriptions. A fine piece of land has been secured adjoining the campus, and the building will be used as a social and religious centre. This will be the first such building in a Chinese government university.

MISSIONARIES EXPELLED FROM MONGOLIA

The Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society has just received a commmunication from their sub-agent in Mongolia stating that the Swedish missionaries have been expelled from Urga. The officials now in power in Urga are young Mongols said to be inspired by Russian Soviet sympathies and therefore anti-Christian.

About two months ago all the missionaries' books and correspondence were seized and confiscated. Among the books were 3,000 copies of the Gospels belonging to the Bible Society. Now comes the news that the missionaries themselves have been compelled to leave.

Missionary work among the Mongols has always been enormously difficult and only in very recent years have there been signs of response from the people to the Christian Message. It is therefore greatly regretted that the work in Urga has thus been interrupted.

WAS IT KATSU OR FAITH HEALING?

Mystery of Prince Matsukata's Miraculous Escape from Death

(By Alfred E. Pieres).

Was it Christian science, the mysterious *Katsu*, or merely wrong computations that made of Prince Matsukata, the aged Japanese elder statesman whose death was flashed around the world, a very live man. This question is engrossing Tokio to-day, for Prince Matsukata will have more of a say regarding the manner in which these islands of the Far East should be governed now that the Kiyoura Ministry has met defeat at the polls than any of the politicians who wrested victory at the general elections.

Those who believe that Christian science was responsible for rescuing the octogenarian Japanese public figure from the jaws of death say that, when he was in a critical condition and recovery was deemed impossible, one of his sons, Mr. Yorisuké Matsukata, had just returned from the United States with his wife. The younger Matsukata took an intense interest in Christian science and, according to reports, conveyed the first message of this faith to his dying father.

The Prince listened attentively to what his son had to say and, from then on, it is said, refused to have anything more to do with his physicians, putting his trust in God, as it were.

Very Much Alive To-day.

He is very much alive to-day, not merely existing, but with his strength and faculties so restored that he presides at important councils of State. On him will depend, in large measure, the nature of the next Ministry that will wield power in this Empire.

The Japanese generally believe that *Katsu* effected the cure. *Katsu*, resolved into ordinary terms understandable to the average layman, consists of a method of resuscitating the nerve centres in certain parts of the human body, and, by stimulating these nerves, bringing about a reaction of the heart.

According to those who believe that *Katsu* reclaimed Prince Matsukata, the Prince was not dead, to the well-known Japanese belief that death does not set in until actual decomposition.

Believers in *Katsu* do not accept the possibility of death by shock. The reported deaths by shock in the Great War have merely shocked them. This belief is also held by the Army and Navy, I am in a position to state that in neither Services is any provision made for death by shock. It is needless to add that this is not the result of any short-sightedness, for Japan has certainly taken care not to lose any of the lessons her wars and other wars have been able to teach.

The secret of *Katsu* is still jealously guarded, but is said to be applied with fair frequency in *jiu-jitsu* places and in *sumo* encounters where it not infrequently happens that persons are thrown down with such violence as to result in severe stunning, sometimes leading to a temporary cessation of cardiac action.

What brought Prince Matsukata back to vigour and activity from what his physicians regarded as a death bed? Was it Christian Science or was it *Katsu*? Tokio is puzzling its brains to find out, but has not yet been successful in reaching a definite conclusion.

As a result of the strike among the students in the Amoy University, which has arisen from demands of the students that the President, Dr. Lim Boon-keng, and a number of teachers, including the Dean, be dismissed forthwith, the Amoy Police have arrested several of the teachers in order to satisfy the demands of the students. Meanwhile, Dr. Lim is reported to have secured the assistance of the director of construction and some 500 labourers to subdue the students by beating them with canes, sticks and bamboos. The head of the Students' Union received bruises which have since resulted in his death, states the "Journal of Commerce," whilst a large number of other students have received more or less severe wounds.

HUNAN SOUTHERN AT HEART

Although Changsha is Occupied by Northern Forces: Foreigners Dealing in Arms

From Our Own Correspondent

Siangtan, Hu., May 21.

There is no doubt where Hunan stands politically now. The North has taken over the Government, but has left Gen. Chao Heng-ti in charge. It remains to be seen what effect this will have on the Provincial Assembly. It is still in session and it is reported that it refuses to disband itself. The North will probably think that through gaining control of Chao and Hunan it has taken a step towards reunification, but Hunan is strongly Southern in sympathy. There is no doubt that nine-tenths of the people, soldiers and all, are Southern in their sympathies and would rally round Dr. Sun more quickly than any other leader in China. The writer was impressed with this fact by a conversation recently with a Christian leader in Changsha, who spoke of a recent book that Dr. Sun has written. It seems to be a long dissertation about railways and motor-roads, and the possibility of these roads being built by soldiers. In passing, this leader said that Wu Pei-fu has nothing original or helpful to offer for the unification of China. I believe this is characteristic of the great majority of the thinking Hunanese.

Yochow and Changteh are in the hands of the North. Northern soldiers occupy both places. The railway and Changsha also are in the hands of the North. In a recent journey to Changteh one could see the importance that opium is taking in the business and political life of that area. Our boat was stopped at least five times to be searched for opium. Every launch seems to carry some of it among its cargo.

It was reported that four or five foreigners were living in Changteh dealing in arms and opium. It is not known who they are nor where the arms came from, but it is certain there is considerable arms smuggling continually going on.

Rice is still going out in large quantities. Rice merchants are losing money through the low prices. Some are having to sell rice below the purchase price, and have had it on hand for a long time. Money is easier than it has been for months, though the exchange does not change. Paper bills are now worth the same as silver dollars.

The river is very high and floods are feared, if rains do not cease soon.

Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's are building a large addition to their warehouse space on the waterfront.

Siangtan of late has been doing a big business in human hair, but there seems to be a slump just at present and local dealers say there is no price or demand for the goods.

The Siangtan-Hsinghsiang motor-road is nearing completion, though it is not likely to be ready for use before the latter part of June or July.

VACCINE IN SHANGHAI

U. S. Seamen's Charges of Poorness of Quality

Manila, June 2.

Shipping Board officials are investigating charges by seamen of the West Orowa and the West Keats that the Shanghai Public Health Department is using poor quality vacoine.

Nearly a dozen seamen, who had been vaccinated in Shanghai, have been confined in Manila Hospitals recently. One of them had five operations on his arm and another was laid up for 60 days. The men declare that the number of cases shows that there has not been infedtion from external sources.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

An attempt was made on Saturday evening to poison the Ex-Emperor Hsuan Tung, states the "*Sinwan-pao*." As a result several arrests have been made and some 70 members of the Imperial kitchen have been dismissed from the service.

TAGORE IN WUCHANG

Old-time Eastern Sage Addresses the Half-Westernized Ones in a Sports Field

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, May 30.

Dr. Rabindranath Tagore paid a brief visit during the week-end. He stayed in Hankow, where he addressed a large audience on Sunday morning; but in the afternoon he crossed the river in order to speak to the students of Wuchang.

There was no sign of the opposition which has manifested itself in some other places, and the expectation which Tagore's visit had aroused was shown by the large audience of between three and four-thousand students who, on a very hot afternoon, cheerfully waited in the open arena of the athletics ground to hear his address.

As in other places, the appearance and personality of Tagore made a great impression. With his flowing Indian robes, his erect spare figure and earnest, dignified bearing, he might have been some Hebrew prophet of old. His message, too, was worthy of a prophet. Even so might Amos have stood before the evil Jeroboam by the altar at Bethel, or Jeremiah upbraided the people for their sins in the streets of Jerusalem. In flowing, even English, he addressed us, and the vibrant tones of his clear voice reached even the outskirts of the audience, so that for those who understood very little was lost. When the English address was finished, it was very ably interpreted by Mr. Hsu Chih-meng, a Chinese scholar educated at Cambridge. Unfortunately, the interpretation was a mere summary, which lost much of the force and expression of the original. Nevertheless it was the man who spoke, and the circumstances of the time that made his address impressive. It was the Indian mystic speaking to the modern Chinese student. It was the old Oriental sage speaking to the Oriental of a transition period. Even so might Confucious, or still more Mencius, have stood and spoken to his countrymen.

Dr. Rabindranath Tagore warned his hearers that the new desire for the fruits of Western science and progess in material riches will not give lasting satisfaction. Rather, if it is divorced from moral aims and spiritual development, it will end in ruin. He did not condemn scientific inquiry, or the desire for physical well-being—here his sanity is above the mere fakir or devotee. But moral values are the only lasting wealth, and if these are neglected, all that is worth seeking will be lost in the end. The West, as well as the East, may well take heed and learn.

OBITUARY

The Hon. A. R. Lowe

Hongkong, May 31.

The death is announced from typhoid of the Hon. A. R. Lowe.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Mr. Lowe (who was head of the firm of Lowe, Bingham & Mattews, chartered accountants) was well-known both in Shanghai and Hongkong. He married the daughter of Mrs. P. de T. Evans.

Mr. Lowe, who had been ill for some time, succumbed to an attack of typhoid fever and pleurisy.

Dr. J. H. Pyke

We regret to announce the death, which took place at Chingwangtao on May 29 of Dr. J. H. Pyke, the veteran missionary.

The late Dr. Pyke came to China as a missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1873, and spent 50 years in evangelical work in this country, with the North China Mission. He was a most successful evangelist, and was untiring in this work, traveling far and wide in his visits to the country stations. The influence of his life will be deep and abiding. He was greatly beloved by all who knew him, both foreigners and Chinese alike, and his memory will long be cherished by a wide circle of friends.

Dr. Pyke leaves a widow, two sons, Arthur B. Pyke in America and the Rev. F. M. Pyke, of Tainan, Shantung, and five daughters, Mrs. F. K. Scott, Shanghai, Mrs. T. E. Breece, Peking, Mrs. R. W. Mooney, Chingwantao, Mrs. J. Ridlon, in America, and Mrs. N. A. Thompson, Harbin.

CAPT. D'OISY'S FLIGHT

Peking-Peitaiho-Mukden in Splendid Weather: Delay in Korea

Peking, May 31.

Captain d'Oisy will leave for Mukden *viâ* Peitaiho in the morning.

Later.

Captain d'Oisy has postponed his flight. The Chinese authorities desired to present him with a sword of honour this afternoon and the landing ground at Peitaiho is also not ready to-day. The airman will leave on Monday, morning.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, June 2.

Capt. D'Oisy left Peking for Peitaiho at 6 o'clock this morning.

Later.

Capt. D'Oisy arrived at Peitaiho in one hour and 50 minutes. He left for Mukden after an hour spent in breakfasting and re-fuelling. He was given an enthusiastic reception by Chinese and foreigners.

Later.

Captain D'Oisy left Peitaiho at 8-15 a.m., with a favourable wind. He was in high spirits, and expected to reach Mukden before noon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Mukden, June 2.

Captain d'Oisy effected a magnificent landing here at 11 this morning amidst tremendous applause and firecrackers. A military band played the Marseillaise.

The French airman received a great ovation from high Chinese officials and many thousands of Chinese and foreign spectators. The streets were decorated in his honour.

After official entertainments Captain d'Oisy will continue his journey. The time of his departure has not been settled yet.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

June 3.

Capt. d'Oisy departed this morning at five o'clock. In spite of the early hour, many Chinese and foreigners were present, including the Marshal's son, Gen. Chang, who accompanied Capt. d'Oisy part of the way in a separate aeroplane. A friend presented the airman with a very life-like black cat, which he took along as a mascot.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Pyongyang, June 3.

Captain d'Oisy arrived here at 8.30 this morning.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Taiku, June 4.

Captain d'Oisy arrived here at 8.45 this morning, having left Pingyang at 5.05.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Nagasaki, June 5.

Captain d'Oisy left Taiku early this morning for Japan, but owing to dense fog returned to Taiku. It is reported that he will make another attempt on Saturday.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Capt. d'Oisy and Nanking

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Nanking, June 2.

It is understood that the chief flounces or ruffles disposing of the reason for Marshal Chih's opposition to Capt. d'Oisy's landing here was not antagonism to Tupan Lu Yung-hsiang, but bad feeling against the French.

The French, the Tuchun thinks, have done nothing but harm to China. Therefore, he will not recognize or give them any assistance.

Tuchun's Reticence.

There is a dearth of political gossip in Nanking these days. Tuchun Chi is evidently keeping his plans secret.

Extensive plans are being discussed for the development of Nanking as a port. But in this connexion also, nothing has been disclosed.

A fairly attended meeting was held at the British Legation Theatre, Peking, last Friday to consider the establishment of a British School in Peking. The chair was taken by Mr. Alexander, Major Wearne acting as secretary to the meeting. The proposals were placed before the meeting by Major Wearne and after some discussion a Temporary Financial Committee was appointed to formulate more definite plans, to collect information, and to report.

U. S. EMBASSY IN JAPAN

Dr. Schurman Not Welcome as Successor to Mr. Woods

Tokio, June 1.

In an editorial article to-day the "*Nichi Nichi*" voices opposition to Dr. Schurman as a sucessor to Mr. Woods, not on personal grounds, but because, judging by his actions and statements while in China, the journal is of an opinion that another choice would be better "to patch up the break in the friendly relations with America."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MR. CYRUS WOODS' RESIGNATION

A Popular Minister: Hearty Send-off from Tokio: Many Entertainments

Tokio, June 5.

Mr. Woods, who since the announcement was made of his resigning the American Ambassadorship has been extensively entertained publicly and privately as a token of the Japanese appreciation of his sympathy and services at the time of the earthquake as well as in the more recent American-Japanese difficulties, left for Yokohama this morning with his family and will leave for the United States to-morrow by the President McKinley. His departure from Tokio was the occasion of a most enthusiastic ovation and demonstration of thanks by thousands of students of Universities and Colleges and the general public, who filled up the station plaza and platforms and gave vociferous "banzais," to the departing train. Mr. Woods was seen off by Baron Matsui, the Foreign Minister; Sir Charles Eliot, the British Ambassador; M. Paul Claudel, the French Ambassador; and other officials and members of the Diplomatic Corps.

In a message to the people, Mr. Woods expressed thanks for the friendliness and helpfulness of the people and press of Japan and pledged himself to the promotion of concord between America and Japan, which was vitally necessary for the welfare of the world.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Later.

Thousands of people assembled at the Station to-day to bid farewell to Mr. Woods, and his send-off was such as no foreigner has ever before received in the history of Japan.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPANESE SEAPLANE EXPLODES

Tragedy Near Yokosuka: Five out of Six Occupants Killed

Tokio, June 5.

The naval seaplane F. 5 exploded this morning and five of the occupants were killed, according to a report of a Japanese domestic news agency.

Later.

The seaplane fell from an altitude of 300 metres in the neighbourhood of Yokosuka, and exploded. Five of the six occupants, who were newly graduated from an aviation school, were killed instantaneously, while the sixth was seriously injured and his condition is considered to be hopeless. The disaster is attributed to seasonal adverse currents and fog. An Imperial messenger has been despatched to Yokosuka to make an inquiry into the matter.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The Eastern News Agency's Tokio correspondent says that a dirigible belonging to the Naval Air Force suddenly caught fire. Two sub-lieutenants, Maruyama and Hayami, and three marines were killed.

MONGOLIAN REPUBLIC?

Moscow, June 5.

A telegram from Urga states that the popular Government Party has decided to introduce a Republican *régime* in Mongolia.—Reuter.

PEKING DAY BY DAY

Sino-Russian Conference: The Negotiations with Germany

Peking, June 5.

The Premier, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Communications, the Minister of the Navy, and also Mr. W. W. Yen, attended a meeting, held *in camera*, of the House of Representatives at 3 o'clock this afternoon. The meeting closed at 5 o'clock. After that the members of the Cabinet went to the Senate.

A member of the Senate asked whether the restoration of the 64 villages in the Heilungkiang province, which were leased to Russia by treaty, would be negotiated at the forthcoming Sino-Russian conference. Dr. Wellington Koo replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Wu Yu-lin, the Minister of Communications, made a report regarding the Tientsin-Pukow and the Hukuang railways and also regarding the Anglo-German loan and bonds, adding that China would take over and destroy the bonds which she had cancelled during the war.

In reply to questions, the Premier, Mr. Sun Pao-chi, said that the Sino-German agreement had not been signed yet.

However, it would be submitted to Parliament after signing, as in accordance with the Constitution it could not come into effect otherwise, but there was no necessity to submit it to Parliament before it was signed.

The members were especially requested to maintain secrecy regarding the report on the German Reorganisation Loan and bonds and news in this connexion has not leaked out yet.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LT.-CDR. G. S. Hole, R.N., the present Master Attendant at the port of Colombo, has been appointed Harbourmaster of Hongkong, succeeding Cdr. C. W. Beckwith, R.N., who was recently invalided to England. Joining the Navy in 1904, Lt.-Cdr. Hole served as a midshipman in the Andromeda and the battleship Albemarle. In 1907 he was promoted to the rank of sub-Lieutenant and in 1909 he saw service in the torpedo boat destroyer Ettrick. The same year he was given the rank of Lieutenant. In 1914 he was given command of the destroyer Peteral and was wounded shortly after the outbreak of war. In 1915 he was placed on the retired list and was granted a pension for wounds. In the following year, 1916, he proceeded to Ceylon to take up an appointment under the Colonial Office. For a time he served at Colombo as mine sweeping officer and for this special duty was granted the special rank of Lieut. Commander in October, 1917.

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—JOHN HENRY LOFTING, F.S.I., in *"North-China Daily News"*
May 13, 1924.

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SHANGHAI NEWS

KING'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Early Morning Parade of the Navy and British S.V.C. Units: Consulate and Club

Tuesday was the King's birthday, his Majesty reaching the age of 59 years. The event was celebrated in Shanghai this year by a combined parade of a detachment from H. M. S. Titania and other naval vessels in port, British units of the S. V. C., and Sikh police, in the Consulate grounds at 8 a.m. Later in the morning, Mr. Barton, H. M. Consul-General, gave an at home for British residents at the Consulate.

The morning parade was impressive, though the British members of the S. V. C. were not nearly at full strength. The men formed up on the Bund opposite the Ewo Foreshore under the command of Major R. W. Davis and marched to the Consulate headed by the band. The sailors from the Titania and the Sikhs with their gaily coloured turbans added a picturesque touch to the scene.

The men formed up in the grounds and a *feu de joie* was fired to the accompaniment of a few bars of "God Save the King" played by the band.

The parade was then inspected by the Consul-General, after which Mr. Barton and his party mounted the saluting base, and took the salute. The attendance of the public was not so large as it might have been, which, in the circumstances was rather a pity, and members of the fair sex were the preponderating element. The parade marched past to the strains of "Rule Britannia." Col. W.F.L. Gordon was in command of the parade at the Consulate grounds.

The March Past

The parade marched past as follows: Naval detachment from H.M.S. Titania comprising some 40 officers and men.

Light Horse, three officers and 40 other ranks under the command of Maj. H.G.F. Robinson.

Field Artillery Battery, two officers and 30 other ranks, under the command of Capt. J. S. Hay.

Engineers, one officer and 14 other ranks under the command of Lt. J. R. Harder.

Machine Gun Company, three officers and 50 other ranks under the command of Capt. W. C. Bond.

"A" Company British, three officers and 20 other ranks under the command of Capt. M. Reader Harris.

"B" Company British, one officer and 13 other ranks, under the command of 2nd Lt. W. C. Divers.

Customs Company, two officers and 15 other ranks under the command of Capt. G. E. Marden.

Shanghai Scottish, two officers and 32 other ranks, under the command of Capt. A. S. Campbell.

Reserve Company, two officers and 22 other ranks under the command of Capt. A. W. Studd.

The band, under Bandmaster A. de Kryger, 27 other ranks.

Sikh Police, under Capt. E. I. M. Barrett, 225 men, including 20 mounted troopers.

Reception at the Consulate

The reception held at the British Consulate afterwards was attended by the foreign consuls in Shanghai, British consular officials, Mixed Court Magistrates and Assessors, Judge Sir Skinner Turner, Judge Grain, Dean Symons, Sir Edward Pearce, Gen. Ho Feng-lin and other Chinese officers and officials, naval officers and officers from the S.V.C., including Col. W.F.L. Gordon, C.M.G., D.S.O., and others, and all the principal members of the business community. There were no speeches but at noon the Consul-General proposed the King's health, which was drunk by all present.

During the morning Mr. McMeekin, President of the Association of Lancastrians in China, laid a wreath on the War Memorial in honour of the King's birthday, his Majesty being also Duke of Lancaster. The ships in port were dressed over-all in honour of the day, whilst all the British business houses were displaying the Union Jack.

Not the least enthusiastic gathering at noon by a long way was that at the Zero Club. Hidden away on the fifth floor of the "North-China Daily News" building, this very friendly club, governed more by good-fellowship and unwritten laws than anything else, escapes the notice of the man in the street. Its membership is limited and every man on the list is a veteran of the Great War. The accommodation also is limited, and the club staff as well, but there are various occasions during the year when the club is generous with its invitations and those who receive them are only too proud to avail themselves of the hospitality always displayed. The King's Birthday is one such day and there can be few occasions when so many people of note are gathered together in so small a room. High naval and military officers, Consuls, civic officials and all the best known people in Shanghai somehow managed to squeeze into the tiny club. Distinguished officers who remembered their days as junior subalterns mixed and dispensed wondrous refreshment and His Majesty's health was pledged many times over. There has been no such enthusiastically loyal organization in Shanghai as the Zero Club since the days of the Tiger Hunters' Club.

NEW CHINA MERCHANTS' GENERAL MANAGER

Mr. Fu Siao-en to Succeed the Late Mr. Chun Fai-ting

At a meeting of the board of directors of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, held during the week-end, a resolution was passed conveying to the family of the late Mr. Chun Fai-ting (former manager of the company) their deepest sympathy. It was further decided that the sum of Tls. 10,000 be presented to the family as a token of the high appreciation in which his services were held, and that his salary should be paid until the end of the current year.

The Board also passed a unanimous resolution appointing Mr. Fu Siao-en, one of their fellow-directors, general manager of the company.

Mr. Fu, who is a director of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, is one of the wealthiest Ningpo merchants in Shanghai. He is director and general manager of the Commercial Bank of China, director of the China Merchants' S. N. Co., Supervisor of the Bank of China, and has a seat on the boards of a score of other companies. He is also a shareholder in numerous other banking, commercial and shipping concerns.

A generous giver to charity, he also interests himself in various institutions, such as the Ningpo Association and the Chinese-Foreign Famine Relief Committee, of which he is one of the treasurers. Mr. Fu, who is one of the most respected members of the Chinese community, has been untiring in his efforts to bring about better relations between Chinese and foreign residents. He has been decorated by the Chinese Government on numerous occasions for his services for the public welfare.

BISHOP BIRNEY RETURNING TO SHANGHAI

The Methodist Episcopal Mission received a telegram on Monday, saying that Bishop L. J. Birney will be returned to the Shanghai Area.

The General Conference, which met during the month of May at Springfield, Massachusetts, elected two new Bishops for China: Dr. Wallace Brown, formerly Pastor of the University Place Methodist Church, Syracuse, and Bishop George R. Grose, formerly President of De Pauw University.

Bishop Grose has been appointed to reside in Peking and Bishop Brown has been appointed to Foochow. Bishop F. T. Keeney, who was the resident Bishop in Foochow during the past four years, has been assigned to the Omaha Area.

Ena, Bena, Bina, Boh.
You are late, Sir, don't you know!
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Mr. Bena is Quite Ready to Sacrifice his own Idea of an Exhibition to the one Peking has so Suddenly Discovered

BRITISH WOMEN'S ASSOC. GARDEN PARTY

Delightful Afternoon at Mrs. Percy Liddell's

Favoured by sunny skies and a most picturesque setting, the annual Garden Party of the BW.A., held on Tuesday afternoon in the beautiful house and grounds of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Liddell, was an altogether delightful occasion. The number of motors which lined Avenue Haig on both sides for a long distance was as convincing an indication of the number present as anything could be for, once inside, the spacious premises took care of the large number of guests without any crowding.

Mrs. E. M. Gull, Chairman, and Mrs. O. M. Green, Vice-Chairman of the Association, welcomed the guests at the door, the hospitable Entertainment Section provided an excellent tea and ice-cream, and the Sports Section kept games moving rapidly on the two tennis courts. The Russian Cadet Band played throughout the afternoon. Allied flags waved over the entrance arch, floated from standards set up on the lawn in front of the house or, strung on wires, outlined the tennis courts

Nature and the modiste collaborated successfully in a series of beautiful coloured pictures, changing as the models in the latest hues of the summer moved about over the grass, now posing effectively against the clumps of crimson ramblers which dotted the lawn, now grouping themselves into an entirely new *ensemble* as friend greeted friend. Crisp organdies gaily hued, effective costumes of white, ravishing lace creations, chic silk crochet outfits—in fact every novelty of the season's mode seemed reflected among the hundreds present. A very representative gathering of the membership it was, with a good sprinkling of men and some specially invited guests, among them Dr. A. W. Fearn, the President of the American Women's Club, Mr. Chang Nieh-yuen, of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, with his wife, and others.

Y. W. C. A. BUDGET CAMPAIGN CLOSED

Total Pledges and Moneys Received $39,339

At the closing rally of the Young Women's Christian Association Campaign to raise $130,000, held on Thursday of last week it was announced that cash and pledges received totalled $39,339.15. The Blue Team collected $9,848.04, the Red, $8,096.29 the Yellow, $7,885.76, the Black, $7,231.37, and the White, $6,277.69.

Mrs. S. M. Woo, president of the Shanghai Chinese Association, thanked the Association's many friends who had worked to collect these funds. She reminded them that this was the largest sum that Shanghai had ever contributed to the work of the Y. W. C. A., and considered that there was reason for encouragement in that fact, as evidence of the growing confidence of the community in the Association.

Mrs. Woo announced that the funds in hand would supply the amount estimated as necessary to be raised in Shanghai in order to bear the running expenses of the Chinese and Foreign Associations for 1924, and to provide Shanghai's proportion of the expenses of the National Y.W.C.A. Committee for this year. A balance, which had been given toward the purchase of the land, would be so applied.

IT is understood that, as a result of repeated requests that he should remain in office, Mr. Kuan Chun, senior Chinese Magistrate at the Mixed Court, has withdrawn his resignation and agreed to stay.

MR. BENA WILLING TO DROP HIS SCHEME

Chinese Chamber's Refusal of Support for World Exhibition

In a letter to Mr. G. A. Bena, reproduced below, the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce refuses to support his scheme for holding an international exhibition in Shanghai, on the ground that the Chinese Government already intends to hold a similar exhibition here in commemoration of the founding of the Republic.

Interviewed on Tuesday, Mr. Bena informed the "North-China Daily News" that if the Chinese Government has a real, practical scheme on foot he will fall into line with it. In fact, he will do all he can to assist in making the exhibition a success. "If the Chinese Government are really going to make a genuine attempt to hold an exhibition, I will willingly forego my own scheme," he concluded.

The text of the letter to Mr. Bena from the General Chamber of Commerce is as follows:—

Dear Sir,—Referring to the question of the formation of a committee in connexion with the project of holding an international exhibition in Shanghai, a question which was discussed at the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce as reported in the "North-China Daily News," in its issue of the 29th ultimo, we understand that the Chambers of Commerce of the various nationalities of this city will be called upon to appoint representatives to serve on this committee. With this phase of the matter in mind, we beg to make the following observations:—

The Chinese Government has been engaged in planning for the holding of an international exhibition in commemoration of the foundation of the Republic, and the plans are in the hands of a special delegation. Shanghai has been selected as the place where the exhibition is to take place.

This Chamber has received from the Civil Governor of Kiangsu the outline of the organization programme consisting of the fundamental features of the programme in ten articles. The outline is accompanied by a request for our support and co-operation.

On March 15, 1924, when the 6th Committee meeting of our Chamber was held, the matter of the request of the Civil Governor was brought up for discussion, resulting in a reply being sent to the Civil Governor pledging the support of the Chamber.

In view of what has taken place as mentioned above, this Chamber, finding that the exhibition you have in mind is identical in nature as compared with the exhibition which the Chinese Government has planned to hold, regrets its inability to support your scheme.

Trusting we have explained to you the whole situation quite clearly.

Yours faithfully,
SUNG HAN-CHANG.
Chairman.

THE VIENNESE SINGERS

Mr. Otto Beck and Miss Rosl Schack

Though the audience at the Lyceum Theatre on Saturday night was lamentably small it esthusiastically welcomed the Viennese operatta singers, Mr. Otto Beck and Miss Rosl Schack, to Shanghai.

Their appearance here was of especial interest to music-lovers and theatre-goers generally. Neither have had an opportunity of hearing Viennese artistes in musical comedy for possibly ten years, and the former would no doubt be willing to listen to the music of the present-day Lehars, Falls and Oskar Strausses, of which mention is constantly being made in the Home newspapers. There was only one item of the more familiar *genre* of Viennese light opera, the Serenade from "Frasquita" by the popular Lehar. The rest of the composers represented were Reinhardt, Bromme, Oskar Geiger and R. Benatzkl. Of their music, that which we heard unmistakeably shows the influence of jazz and as the evening progressed wore rather thin.

Miss Schack has a sweet and at times beautifully shaded soprano voice, but it does not aways attract by its quality so much as by her vivacious personality. She is full of life and brought many laughs in the sketch, "La Valse Soupe" and in her somewhat audacious "Erst kommt der Frühling, dann die Liebe" (Bromme). Mr. Beck sang the Serenade from "Frasquita" with much charm and perfect enunciation, which is pleasing characteristic of both singers. He is well equipped as a musical comedy artist, and like his partner, gave a number of different songs in different moods, successfully merging himself in the spirit of each.

AMERICAN AVIATORS IN SHANGHAI

A Great Welcome from Enthusiastic Crowds: Flight from Japan a Triumph of Organization: Piloted Across by Destroyers: A Landing without Incident

Two of the American round-the-world fliers came to a beautiful landing in the Huangpu, off Black Point alongside the Socony Installation at 3.10 p.m. on Wednesday after flying more than seven and a half hours, having left Kagoshima at 7.30 a.m. Shanghai time. This brought them into the harbour with a flying time of seven hours and 40 minutes. Lieuts. Nelson and Wade, commanding the two machines, with their assistants, Lieut. Arnold and Sergt. (now Lieut.) Ogden, were forced to leave their anchorage at Kagoshima without their comrade and commander, Lieut. Smith, who, it was reported in an official cable to Mr Yada, Consul-General for Japan, had engine trouble and could not get away. They hovered in the vicinity, flying but 45 miles in an hour and 40 minutes, without seeing their friend and then decided to come on without him. This naturally caused some delay in getting to Shanghai and a subsequent shortage of fuel.

The first glimpse of the planes was by a Chinese laodah on board the Scot I, who spotted them while they were still miles away. Cheers rang out over the river, whistles were blown and it almost seemed as if the airmen were aware of the reception, for they turned directly toward the big tender with the assembled Americans and their official guests who had waited so long for the arrival. This, however, was purely conjecture, for they were still miles away.

The specks became larger and the machines became boldly prominent in the blue sky with the sun beating from the west upon them. Then they turned directly toward Shanghai and as it seemed right over the Huangpu; they had been above the Yangtze all the while until this moment. From a formation which appeared to be side by side, the forward plane swung to the left and higher, the other appearing to drop behind and lower. Before reaching Woosung the pilots evidently sighted Shanghai and swung into position for the swoop down, from a point due south. As they neared Shanghai College in their approach to the anchorage, they turned into line. Down swooped the first plane until it seemed to be barely above the water. A coasting steamer on the way to the mouth of the river caused a sudden change and the machine went up again, passed the str. Laowedon deck high, flew halfway to Shanghai and then turned again. The two machines then descended, hit the water and ploughed roughly through the muddy swell of the incoming tide, throwing spray high on to the side of the passing vessel, which obscured the view.

The First Welcome.

Pandemonium broke loose from the official tender. Capt. Eisler, in charge of arrangements, pushed off from the Scot I in his launch, and drew alongside the pontoons, shouting, "Hello, from Shanghai!" The U.S. launch went alongside and Mr. E. S. Cunningham, American Consul-General, reached a hand over the side and drew Lieut. Wade over the rail, cameras operating furiously the while. The Consul-General redoubled his welcome when he got the aviator over the top and the crowd pushed up to have the opportunity of grasping their hero's hand. Introductions followed and a minute later Lieut. Nelson drew alongside and was likewise besieged.

One of the thoughtful ladies rushed for the improvised bar and filled two glasses with whiskey and soda, which the aviators gratefully quaffed, Lieut. Nelson saying, "This is just what a man likes after eight hours in the air!"

Assembled on the upper deck were the official guests, including Mr. Barton (H. M. Consul-General), Mr. Yada (Consul-General for Japan) and Mrs. Yada, Major Hilton Johnson, Mr. S. Fessenden (Chairman of the Municipal Council), Gen. Ho Feng-lin, Commander Sen of the Chinese Navy, Judge and Mrs. Purdy, Mr. J. P. Davis (Executive American Consul), Dr. W. T. Findley (acting Consul for Mexico and Brazil), Mr. Walter Chalaire, Mr. Gardner Crane (Commander of the American Legion), Mr. A. Bassett (American Relief Association) and Lieut. Maskovsky, a Polish aviator. Both banks of the river for a mile were thronged, and when the aviators went over to the Shanghai College the students and American faculty shouted acclamations at seeing them upon this momentous trip round the world. The Point was black with men, women and children who had motored to the spot and the river bunding from there to the big lumber mill above was a mass of spectators. On the east shore, Pootung, the Vacuum Co.'s Installation plant and the Socony platforms and landing stages accommodated crowds who had come to the scene on Socony launches, which, true to predictions, carefully kept to the shore and out of the way. Upstream, ships' crews ranged along the rails but one man was left to each whistle and the noise drowned

Photo. by the Star Photo. Co.

THE TWO PLANES IN THE HUANGPU JUST AFTER THE DESCENT.

the minor notes of welcome. Yangtszepoo Road for the better portion of a mile loomed black with motors of all descriptions, while the factories on both sides were thick with spectators who had brought stools and chairs to points of vantage on the roofs. An occasional small boat or sailing vessel completed the quota on the water. Chinese military guards stood at attention on Socony docks.

An Ideal Flight.

The inexperienced landsmen did not know, perhaps, that a perfect landing had been made, but both officers pronounced it as such. As a matter of fact; it was remarked that the flight from Kagoshima to Shanghai was the best one that they had undergone so far. The weather conditions were perfect, the wind was nominal, no unlooked-for events took place and the harbour was by far the easiest in which to come to a full stop, with no danger to the machines. A cordon of River Police, Customs launches and naval launches kept back traffic and as the first plane made fast the police drew alongside with the query, "Any arms aboard?" to which the reply came, "No, sir."

In the midst of the welcome Lieut. Nelson broke off for a moment and, turning to the Consul-General, insisted that the first need of the party was food for the two men who had stayed with the machines. Nourishment was sent off immediately. The aviators were high in their praise of the efficient work of the officials in charge here, complimenting Capt. Eisler and the patrol established by Captain H. E. Hillman, who was on the spot. What seemed a thousand junks were held up below the College until the airmen had made fast, when they streamed by in a mass.

The officers stated when interviewed that the arangements made for their flight across from Japan were a triumph of organization. Destroyers were strung out at intervals of 40 miles along the whole of the route, and at no time was it necessary for them even to use compasses, for the destroyers threw out heavy black smoke-screens and all that was necessary was to steer the machines from one guiding screen to the next. They flew in over Hangchow Bay and up from the south and, on account of the direction of the wind, landed in the opposite direction from that in which it was expected they would come down.

Shanghai Americans' Gift.

The party arrived at the Customs Jetty shortly before seven o'clock and were met by a military escort consisting of the Mounted Troop and the American Co., S.V.C., and were escorted to the Astor House. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham entertained them at dinner at the Consulate-General, after which the aviators were feted at the American Charity Ball at Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's home. On behalf of the American community, they were presented with a very handsome silver bowl, the Consul-General making the presentation.

An informal, yet nevertheless a most interesting ceremony took place at the Astor House during the evening. Sergt. Ogden had been informed that his commission as lieutenant was awaiting him and that he was to be sworn in immediately. Mr. Davis, Executive Consul, performed the ceremony, after which the officer received the best wishes of the spectators.

Some time ago Mr. T. H. Ince offered a prize of G.$10,000 for the first man who crossed the Pacific Ocean in an aeroplane. It is true that these men did not cross in mid-ocean but went to the north and took advantage of the Great Circle, which, by the way, increased their dangers, as the accident which befell Major Martin will prove, but nevertheless, now that they have accomplished the feat, it remains to be seen if the Los Angeles cinema magnate will keep to his offer.

Lieut. Smith, the Commander, Arrives Safely

The third American flying machine arrived in Shanghai on Thursday afternoon with Lieut. Lowell Smith, commander of the three, and Lieut. Arnold. The plane first hove into sight while yet several miles to the northeast. Swerving oveer the river in two big circles slowly and gracefully it was brought to the water and was moored at 12 mins. after noon. The big machine came from over the horizon on much the same course as did the others, but perceptibly lower. Following the Yangtze River, Lieut. Smith came on until he had a good view of the Huangpu, when he threw over the rudder and started directly for Shanghai. He passed directly over Captain W. I. Eisler's launch, Record I, and the two other planes nearby and veered to the inside of the Customs boat, Capt. Hillman in the bows, and the River Police boat with Superintendent Woodfield on the look-out. Continuing past the anchorage, the pilot made a short run to the centre of the harbour, going well beyond the factories on the outskirts of the limits and then banked sharply, turning his nose into the direction from which he had just come. Though he made another complete circuit of the river before nearing the water it was evident that Pilot Smith was rather affording the camera men a good opportunity to secure pictures instead of seeming to be afraid of the muddy Huangpu.

Just as the opinion of the first pair of fliers was that this was the best weather that they had experienced so far, since leaving California on their 7,000-mile journey, so did Lieut. Smith express himself in a similar manner upon arrival.

Round of Receptions.

Two of the airmen were officially designated by Lieut. Smith to attend the Chinese reception at the Yamên of the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hsu Yuan, where an enthusiastic throng attended; then they were entertained by Gen. Ho Feng-lin, and afterwards journeyed to the Columbia Country Club where the ladies and gentlemen of the community acted in the capacity of hosts.

Washington, June 3.

At Major Martin's request the official command of the American fliers has been transferred to Lieutenant Lowell Smith.—Reuter's American Service.

THE RACE CLUB'S CHARITY GRANTS

$157,000 for Distribution in Current Half-Year: Long List of Beneficiaries

The sporting public of Shanghai, no less than the many charitable institutions directly concerned, will be pleased to read the following record of the Shanghai Race Club's distribution of charity funds during the current half-year:—

To the Editor of the "North-China Daily News":—

Dear Sir,—Allow me, through the medium of your valued paper, to inform the public that race meetings on the Shanghai Race Course realized the sum of $157,000 for charities during this half-year. The Stewards have decided to distribute the above sum in the manner shown below:—

	$
Shanghai Charity Trust	60,000.00
Union Jack Club	8,000.00
Shanghai War Memorial (already paid)	8,000.00
King's Daughters' Society	1,500.00
King's Daughters' Society (already paid	8,000.00
Shantung Road Hospital	1,000.00
Shantung Road Hospital (already paid)	8,000.00
Shanghai General Hospital, Charity Ward	1,000.00
Institution for the Chinese Blind	2,000.00
St. Luke's Hospital	1,000.00
American Civil Relief Committee	1,000.00
Polish Committee, Shanghai	1,000.00
Chinese Red Cross Society	1,000.00
Shanghai Hebrew Relief Society & Shelter House and Jewish Ladies' Benevolent Society	2,000.00
Societa degli Italiani in Cina.	500.00
Norwegian Benevolent Society	500.00
Danish Benevolent Society	500.00
Swedish Benevolent Society	500.00
Fund for Russian Repatriation & Emigration	9,000.00
Maternity Fund for Indigent Russians	1,000.00
Union of Russian Army & Navy Men	1,000.00
Russian Benevolent Society	1,500.00
Russian Refugee Relief Advisory Com. (Soup Kitchen)	3,000.00
Russian Refugee Relief Advisory Com. (already paid)	800.00
Fund to provide Tools for Russian Workmen (already paid)	495.85
Maintenance of Russian Cadets (already paid)	1,000.00
Madame Dietrich's Orphanage.	500.00
Shanghai Ladies' Benevolent Society	1,500.00
Foreign Women's Home	1,500.00
British Women's Association, Social Service Board	1,500.00
American Women's Club, Civic Dept.	1,500.00
Portuguese Ladies' Benevolent Society	1,500.00
United Services Association	1,500.00
Amicale des Anciens Combattants de La G. Guerre	2,000.00
Association Nazionale Combattenti	500.00
Mission to Seamen, Shanghai.	2,000.00
St. Joseph's Catholic Assn. (Wayport Rooms)	2,000.00
Hanbury Institute	1,500.00
Mercantile Marine Masters & Officers' Relief Fund	500.00
St. Monica's Society	750.00
Shanghai Sikh Police Gurdwara	500.00
Shanghai Benevolent Hospital	500.00
Hospital Ste. Marie	750.00
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	750.00
Little Sisters of the Poor	750.00
Soeurs de Charite	750.00
Providence Orphanage, Institution de St. Joseph	500.00
St. Joseph's Benevolent Society	500.00
Shanghai Charity League	500.00
Zi-Kai-Wei Orphanage	500.00
Sisters of Zi-Ki-Wei Orphanage	500.00
Hospice St. Joseph, Nantao	500.00
St. Joseph's Asylum for the Poor, Nantao	500.00
Institution des Franciscains, Missionaires de Marie	250.00
Charing Cross Hospital	1,500.00
Dr. Barnardo's Homes	500.00
St. Dunstan's Fund for the Blind	1,000.00
Foreign Y.W.C.A.	500.00
Sundry Charities & Reserve for Urgent Appeals	3,704.15
Total	$157,000.00

Cheques will be sent to the Treasurers of the above funds without delay.

Yours faithfully,

A. W. BURKILL,
Chairman,
Shanghai Race Club.

June 2, 1924.

MR. A. H. GEORGE returned to Shanghai by the R.M.S. Empress of Australia and will take up his duties as H.M. Shipping Vice-Consul. It is understood that Mr. J. C. Hutchison, who is at present in the Shipping Office, will be transferred to the Passport Office when Mr. Steptoe goes on Home Leave at the end of this month.

JAPANESE REGENT'S WEDDING

Imperial Celebration Kept by Japanese Consul-General with a Banquet

Mr. Yada, the Japanese Consul-General, and Mrs. Yada gave a banquet on Thursday night at the Astor House Hotel, in honour of the celebration of the wedding of Their Imperial Highnesses the Prince and Princess Regent of Japan. The guests were as follows:—

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. A. Casanova and Miss E. Revuetta, Mr. N. Aall, Mr. and Mrs. J. van Haute, Mr. and Mrs. F. Thiel, Mr. S. Barton, C.M.G., Mr. J. Lilliehook, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. A. M. Daniels, Mr. and Mrs. J. de Palencia, Mr. Don A. Arce, Mr. and Mrs. Franz Winkler, Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Findley, Mr. F. Kaestli, Sir Skinner and Lady Turner, Judge and Mrs. M. D. Purdy, Mr. L. A. Lyall, Mr. and Mrs. Tollefsen, Sir Edward and Lady Pearce, Mr. S. Fessenden, Mr. W. P. Lambe, Mr. and Mrs. V. G. Lyman, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Mackay, Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Knight, Mr. P. W. Massey, Colonel and Mrs. W. F. L. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Fearn, Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Green, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Nottingham, Mr. W. J. Davey, General and Lady Ho Feng-lin, General and Mrs. C. C. Wang, Mr. and Mrs. Hsu Yuan, Chev. and Mrs. S. K. Chen, Chev. and Mrs. N. T. Yang, Mr. and Mrs. Yao Yu, Mr. and Mrs. Sung Han-chang, Mr. and Mrs. Fong Chu-pa, Mr. and Mrs. K. S. Zee, Admiral and Mrs. C. G. Lin, Mr. and Mrs. T. Kikuchi, Mr. and Mrs. T. Tanabe, Mr. and Mrs. M. Yonesato, Mr. and Mrs. M. Nodaira, Mr. and Mrs. M. Ichiki, Mr. and Mrs. I. Akiyama, Mr. and Mrs. S. Sakuragi, Mr. and Mrs. T. Sahara, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hashidzume, Captain and Mrs. K. Otani, Mr. and Mrs. M. Yasuhara, Mr. and Mrs. H. Kishimoto, Commander O. Inose and Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Y. Okamura.

After dinner Mr. Cunningham rose and proposed the toast of the Prince and Princess Regent, long life and prosperity to them and all their loyal subjects.

Mr. Yada in replying said:—

"Ladies and gentlemen,—I feel that a great honour has been conferred upon me in having the opportunity to reply to the toast proposed this evening by Mr. Cunningham, Consul-General for the United States of America, for the future happiness of Their Highnesses the Prince Regent and Princess Nagako and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan. You are probably aware that the wedding of the Imperial couple was, by their own request, very quietly solemnized in January this year, on account of the earthquake disaster which befell my country in September last. All public celebrations and other functions for the commemoration of the event were therefore postponed until this month.

"As senior representative of H. I. J. M. Government present here tonight, I can most assuredly voice the heartfelt thanks that the Imperial family, my Government and also the people of Japan would have me convey for the most gracious and kindly sentiments expressed by you all through my American colleague, and I am sure they will all be extremely grateful to learn of your good wishes. I do hope, although I am unable to thank you sufficiently by mere words for your kindness, that you will permit me to return the compliment on behalf of Japan by proposing the good health and happiness of your respective rulers. Ladies and Gentlemen, "Your Respective Rulers."

After this toast had been honoured, the party adjourned from the table and the evening was very pleasantly spent in dancing.

Municipal Celebration in Tokio

Tokio, June 5.

The weather was dull and overcast to-day, but Tokio was holiday-making and festively decorated on the occasion of the municipal celebration of the Imperial wedding. The principal feature was the reception tendered to the Regent and his Princess and other members of the Imperial Family by the Mayor, the Municipal Councillors and the leading citizens. They were received in audience by the Crown Prince and Princess and offered their felicitations. The Imperial party were enthusiastically greeted by huge crowds on their way to and from the reception. A monster lantern procession will be held this evening.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINESE BANK HELD UP FOR $11,000

In Broad Day: And Not a Man with Pluck to Inform Police Until 1½ Hrs. Later

A report was received at Central Station that the Yun Yue native bank had been robbed of $11,000 at 1.30 p.m. last Friday. It is stated that four men, one of whom was armed with a pistol, entered the premises at 497 Tientsin Road, and while one of them stood guard at the door, the other three stepped behind the counter. The pistol was presented at the employees who were lined up in typical "movie" fashion, and while the holder watched them, the two remaining men quickly opened a drawer in an accountant's desk and took the big sum stated in notes and, in addition, $28 in small silver.

They went out by the front door, which indeed is the only one in the building, and have not been seen since.

Although nine men were in the bank at the time of the affair, not one made a move to raise an alarm, nor did a single man go to the door to see in which direction the robbers went. Had a single whistle been blown, after they got out, anyone of a dozen watchmen in the immediate vicinity could have opened fire at the departing robbers. The police say that an armed guard stood within 12 yards of the door of the establishment. Furthermore it was not until an hour and a half later (3 p.m.) that some one came to Central Station to report the robbery, and he was a man who was not even in the bank at the time. That the police are disgusted is to put it mildly, for how can the guardians of the Settlement act efficiently if they are not informed of robberies until 90 minutes after all is over, and the only description they are given is that the robbers spoke the northern dialect. The robbers just appeared to disappear.

The bank is situated in a blind alleyway west of Honan Road, one of many similar courts on either side and has the one exit, the front door, which is the third from the corner of Tientsin Road. The watchman, who is characterized as being very efficient, was stationed on the main road. Although banks in the district have been requested time and again to have a system of giving an alarm, this one does not possess any signalling system, though most of the native banks have means of electric communication with one another; if one is molested, the others are informed, while the robbery is in progress and the police then have a fair chance to get at the malefactors.

Police Criticized.

The following letter has been addressed to the Commissioner of Police, Mr. K. J. McEuen, by the Shanghai Bankers' Guild:—

"Shanghai, being a large commercial port where Chinese and foreigners live together and engage in business, the population is a large one and the presence of bad characters is inevitable. However, there have not been any serious unfortunate happenings and the people have lived in peace, this being mostly due to your efforts in maintaining order, and the residents are really grateful to you. However, owing to the degeneration of public morality in recent years, cases of robbery have become daily occurrences and highway robberies have been frequently reported. A robbery occurred not long ago wherein a large amount of money in Government bonds was stolen, but the perpetrators of the crime were soon apprehended. Now a fresh robbery has occurred in the Yun Yue Native Bank, in broad daylight and in a business centre. If the activities of these criminals are not vigorously checked, it is to be feared that more robberies will be committed in future. The people have become greatly alarmed. If measures are not taken to prevent such occurrence the local business market will undoubtedly be seriously affected. As you are responsible for the peace and order of this place we would like to know what progress has been made into the solution of the present case and what precautionary measures have been devised. You are therefore kindly requested to make these facts known to the [illegible]."

If we are not mistaken this is the case in which the bank had installed no alarm bells and the men in the house were so terrified that they dared not so much as look out of doors to see which way the robbers went and did not notify the police until three hours after the crime. In these circumstances the letter quoted above strikes one as sheer impertinence.

THAT "ENCROACHMENT ROAD" AGAIN

One Result of "Good Roads Movement" Agitation for Road Round the Settlement

The Paoshan District Assembly has addressed petitions to the Military Governor of Shanghai and to the Civil Governor of this province in connexion with the famous road round the Settlement, to "prevent further encroachment by foreigners."

The petitions state that as a result of receipt of letters from the National Road Construction Association, all members of the Paoshan Assembly agree that the Shanghai Municipal Council is always encroaching on Chinese territory and constructing roads. The Council, when they want to make these roads, say that as communications are poor it is necessary to open new roads, but afterwards they impose water and electricity taxes, later collecting taxes and posting policemen on duty in Chinese territory.

"Therefore (says the petition) our sovereign rights are lost and even if we try to get them back, by redemption or otherwise, it is difficult, because the foreigners, once having them refuse to return them. Now the Road Construction Association advocates the road round the Settlement and the improvement of our own municipal affairs. This is a good as well as an important scheme. When we first heard that the foreigners were wanting a new extension of the Settlement, we telegraphed opposing the proposal so that they would not encroach on our rights. Now at the time of the rendition of the Mixed Court, the Legations demand an extension, and we must stop them by building a road round the settlement, if our rights are to be maintained. We hope, therefore, that you will instruct your subordinates to take steps in connexion with this immediately."

SHANGHAI'S UNOFFICIAL CABINET

Korean Provisional Government's Bankruptcy and Bombs

The approaching demise of the so-called "Korean Provisional Government" was announced last Friday in the Chinese press. The "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" reported that the "government" is rapidly losing the supporters whom it has constantly pressed for money and that desperate efforts have been made to raise funds. One scheme was the sending of a petition to the Soviet Government asking for a loan in return for mining concessions in the maritime provinces, but nothing, of course, came of this.

The same report states that the Japanese authorities in Shanghai have discovered that the leader of the Righteous Corps—the provisional government's bodyguard—has been attempting to despatch bombs and pistols to some of his supporters in Tokio for use against prominent officials on the occasion of the opening of the Imperial Diet.

At 10 a.m. on Saturday, in Lat. 31 N., Long. 141.46 E., the R.M.S. Empress of Australia sighted a water-logged Japanese junk and in response to signals of distress, the Captain stopped the ship, sent a boat away and brought off the crew consisting of two men, Heijiro Sonayama and Kaki Takemota. The junk was the Jinyoshi Maru, loaded with wood and a deck cargo of charcoal. The two men were handed over to the Japanese Consul at Shanghai and the Japanese wireless station was informed of the position of the wreck.

AMERICAN MEMORIAL DAY IN SHANGHAI

Service in Honour of the Dead: A People Who Always Have Been Adventurers

An impressive Memorial Day service, attended by a large number of Americans, was held in Bubbling Well Cemetery last Friday morning. Mr. E. S. Cunningham, U. S. Consul-General, acted as Master of Ceremonies, and standing with him on the steps of the chapel, in front of which the audience gathered, were representatives of the Settlement and American organizations, including Mr. Stirling Fessenden, Chairman of the Municipal Council; Col. W. F. L. Gordon, Commandant of the Volunteer Corps: Mr. M. D. Purdy, Judge of the U. S. Court for China; Cdr. W. Glassford, Cdr. W. A. Lee, Lt.-Cdr. Simpson and Lieut. Riefkohl, U. S. N. representatives; Mr. G. C. Crane, Commander of the American Legion; Mr. V. G. Lyman, American Chamber of Commerce; Mr. J. Harold Dollar, American Red Cross; Mr. A. Bassett, American Association, and Capt. W. I. Eisler, U. S. Shipping Board.

A landing force from the 38th U. S. Destroyer Division, U. S. S. Palos, in command of Lieut. Seabury Cook, was drawn up on one side the tree-shaded approach, while the American Co., S.V.C., commanded by Capt. V. Olsen, and the American Troop, S. V. C., under command of Lieut. H. D. Rodger, lined the other. Other American organizations represented were the American Women's Club (the president, Dr. A. W. Fearn, and a number of members being present) and the Shanghai American School, the pupils of which turned out in full force. Every detail of the service, from the inspiring moment when the Colours led the procession up the leafy walk to the chapel, to the last soft notes of "Taps," was dignified and significant.

Rev. C. L. Boynton, principal of the American School, in the opening prayer, gave thanks for the memories of the gallant dead and invoked divine assistance to make the lives of the living a gift to all the nations of the world. The Municipal Band then played an appropriate selection, and special praise should be accorded for the choice of music and the excellence of its rendering.

"To-day's Adventure."

The Rev. James M. Yard, General Secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Mission, then gave a spirited address on "To-day's Adventure," saying in introduction that there was something stirring about speaking to a band of adventurers, men and women who dared to leave home, to try something new, who had caught a glimpse of the beyond and felt the urge of pioneering. "America," continued Mr. Yard, "was born in the spirit of adventure, the 'instinct for unknown continents' burned within Columbus and something of that instinct survives in Americans to-day. We do not need to go back to the forthfaring pilgrim Fathers, the daring whalers, the pioneers of the prairie schooners, or the explorers of the Pacific Coast, we are still going on adventures.

"We remember to-day in particular those who went forth in the days of the Great War. We think of them with hushed hearts and give thanks for their noble sacrifice. Inspired by them we should dedicate ourselves to the great task of civilization which is still ahead of us. Certainly there is no spot in the world where men are more aware of the task that awaits us Americans than in this great land. Can we be as generous and as broad of vision as Lincoln and Hay? Can our men of commerce be as far-sighted as those of early days? Can our missionaries be equal to their sires in generous outlook?

"We in China should ask ourselves: 'What can we contribute to this almost eternal civilization what is worth while?' We are not living here merely to roll up a fortune, but we honestly wish to make some contribution to one of the greatest civilizations which has ever existed in the world. There can be no more difficult or delicate problem in the nations of the world than in China—a land without a government, and yet seeking to hold its relationship with the other nations of the world. Can we be patient in the midst of such reports as we get in the papers this morning? Can we be intelligent enough so that in the future, when peace again comes to China, in those great days beyond the present chaos—perhaps 50, perhaps 100 years from now—China will still think of America as her friend? That is our task, and no easy one."

After the Municipal Band played the National Anthem the Benediction was pronounced by Rev. C. M. Drury, volleys were fired by the American Co., S.V.C., over the graves of those who had died in their country's service, and "Taps" was sounded by a bugler of the U. S. Navy. Many among the audience remained to visit the graves, which had been profusely decorated with flowers and small American flags.

PLUCKY POLICEMAN

Robber's Attempted Revenge on Captor of Five Desperadoes: Shot that Missed

A dramatic story of a fight between a member of the Paoshan Police Force and an armed robber was published on Thursday in the Chinese press. It appears that on Tuesday afternoon a policeman named Tsang Tz-chiang, on patrol duty at the Pangpoo Motor 'Bus station, noticing the suspicious movements of five men, marched them off to the nearest police-station. There they were questioned and it was found that they had taken part in an armed robbery in the district some days before. After this preliminary examination the men were sent to the head station.

The policeman returned to his beat and was there only a few minutes when a member of the robber gang fired at him twice with a pistol, both shots of which, however, fortunately missed the plucky policeman, who returned fire with his rifle. The first shot caught the robber, killing him instantly. He fell and the policeman, thinking that the man was only wounded, grappled with him, but, upon finding that he was dead, let go. The body was removed to the station, and the policeman was highly commended.

GANDE, PRICE & CO. IN THEIR NEW HOME

For some reason that is not quite clear, the leading wine and spirit merchants at Home always have been associated with dilapidated and not always very clean, and certainly very untidy premises, Dirty Dick's being perhaps the most notorious, but withal one that could be thoroughly trusted for the quality of the beverages sold. One would not go so far as to suggest that any of the popular and substantial firms in the same line of business in Shanghai ever have encouraged the presence of dirt, but at least two of them have been housed for so long in buildings long past their best days that they seemed purposely to be keeping up a sort of Dirty Dick tradition, and one did not like them any the less for it. Messrs. Gande, Price & Co. had but little room in their old offices in which to swing a cat, had they possessed one, and not a great deal to spare when drawing a stiff cork, and now after long years they have moved to really commodious and handsome offices at 5 Peking Road. They had a full battalion of visitors in last Friday to wish them continued success and prosperity and one heard over and over again that the firm did not look half so cosy and hospitable in the new surroundings. However, that probably is just a prejudice born of long association and one can rest assured that the firm's beverages will not deteriorate because of the substantial walls that have replaced partitions and the handsome furniture and brass-railed counters installed in lieu of ancient tables and chairs belonging to the antique period. And without feeling that a sin is being committed, the wish may be expressed that the firm will enjoy continued and even greater prosperity than it has known for so long.

The Shanghai Chinese Bar Association has been dissolved by order of the Provincial Procurator, reports the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce."

SPRING FLOWER SHOW

Best Seen for Many Years: New Competitions: Many Entries: The Miniature Gardens

"The best show from a competitive point of view for five years," was the verdict passed by an official of the Shanghai Horticultural Society on its Spring Show held on Wednesday in the Town Hall. Certainly the number of entries was decidedly encouraging and a high standard of excellence was maintained, although Sunday's rain was responsible for much damage to Shanghai's gardens. The Horticultural Society has introduced several new features and has innovations in store for succeeding shows. The formation of a ladies' sub-committee has proved very useful in stimulating interest and the medals offered from the National Rose, Sweet Pea and Chrysanthemum Societies of England have further awakened interest.

Wednesday's show was certainly a delight to the eye and the good weather permitting wide open windows, a pleasing effect of airy openess was obtained. While the arrangement of the hall followed the lines of previous exhibitions, with the palms and the Yokohama Nursery Exhibition of dwarf trees near the door, rose arches, sweet william and potted plants banking the stage, vegetables and ferns to the left and pictures and miniature gardens, as well as cut flowers, the general effect seemed to be one of greater spaciousness and the individual exhibits stood out more distinctly than ever before.

The three miniature gardens exhibited excited much interest and their completeness of detail is remarkable, especially when one realizes that they were in every respect the exhibitors' own work. The first prize, won by Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Cornfoot, represented an English Manor House, complete to the dove-cote. A lily pond was one of the charms of this tiny domain. The second prize, won by Mrs. Ryde, showed a tennis court and a gold fish pond among its delights. The third prize, won by Mrs. Pardoe, was another of the gardens any one would love to possess, with its stepping stone walks, sun-dial and arbors. The garden paintings and photographs were delightful, but one is surprised at the small number of exhibits for it seems as if garden-lovers would surely wish to preserve the charms of their plots in lasting fashion. Decorated dinner tables drew many critics and admirers, and the opportunity of expressing an opinion by ballot was made good use of. As the tables supplied were six by four feet some of the decorations looked rather crowded in the small size, and the simple centre-piece of purple iris, with fronds of asparagus fern scored on account of its unpretentiousness. The sweet-pea exhibits were very appealing in their novel colourings. To enumerate the good points of the various classes would be too lengthy a task.

AN INVITATION TO B. E. E. VISITORS

There are pleasures and privileges awaiting visitors to the British Empire Exhibition, in addition to the extensive array of exhibits that will be staged for their inspection by British manufacturers.

The Palace of Engineering will be crammed with exhibits, representing world famous names, although in many cases the space is altogether inadquate to permit of a fully representative display. John I. Thornycroft and Co., Limited, for instance, find that they cannot possibly do justice to their wide range of engineering productions beyond the few examples they will have on view. Hence they cordially invite visitors interested in their productions to visit their engineering works at Basingstoke, and their boat-building yards at Hampton-on-Thames, both of which are one hour's journey from London.

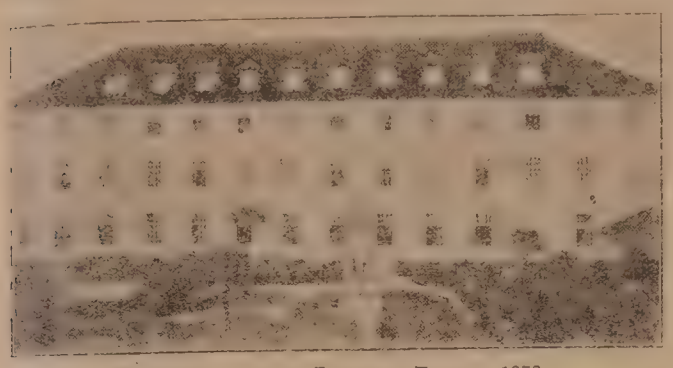
Any of our readers who contemplate visiting the British Empire Exhibition are asked to communicate with Thornycrofts before or after their arrival in London, at "Thornycroft House," Westminister, London, S.W.1.

The annual conference of National Associated Chambers of Commerce will be held in Tsinanfu, Shantung, in September next.

SICCAWEI COLLEGE (1850-1924)

Splendid Educational Record: 74 Years of Fruitful Work
A Sketch of Pioneer Days

The early days of many educational establishments in Shanghai were modest and unostentatious in the extreme. Siccawei College is no exception to the general rule. Commenced in 1850, the same year as the "North-China Herald," it has done work down to the present day, educating and training hundreds of young men, Christians and non-Christians, who have all laboured for the welfare, progress and best interests of their country. The original class-rooms were mere Chinese quarters accommodated to the needs of the moment. A single



THE FIRST COLLEGE BUILDING, ERECTED 1878.

teacher was deemed a luxury for the times. In 1860, the Taiping rebels, returning from Anhui, occupied the establishment, and the students had to be dispersed. In 1864, a typhoon swept away the roof of the building, and crushed in the fall some 20 young boys. In 1870, 20 years after its foundation, the average attendance reached to about 100. rich and well-to-do families holding to the principle of educating their children at home. In 1878, a new and more spacious building was erected, and did work till 1918, when the present day college was opened with an attendance of 417 students. Since that date, the above figures have swelled to 514, which is the actual number on the roll for the first half of 1924.

Full Records Since 1905.

Full annual records are available since 1905. On that date, the attendance numbered 268; in 1913, these figures reached 313; in 1915, the roll was 362; in 1919, it reached 417, and thence increased annually, until at the present day it attains 514. All these are full boarders, returning home and taking a holiday only twice a year. First, at Chinese New Year, when they are given about a month, and again during the warm season—July and August—when the holiday extends to these two months.

Results of the Work.

In the early days of the College, a programme suited to the needs of the country had to be wrawn up. Its general tenor was purely Chinese, the aim being to give a sound national and religious education to the mission converts, prepare intelligent helpers, teachers in village schools, and competent elders to control places too remote to be frequently visited by the missionary. Little by little the above aim was broadened, and young students were prepared for the B. A. degree, while others were trained for the native clergy, or even as members of the Jesuit Order. Rev. Father Sicca, S. J., annalist of those past days, sums up as follows the work done from 1851-1887:—Received the B. A. degree, 39 students; became teachers in mission schools 111; controlled parishes and churches, as Elders, 152; entered the seminary preparing for the priesthood, 92; joined the Jesuit Order, 17. Other statistics deal with the period from 1850-1900, or during a full half century, and give us the following results. As many as 1,650 students were registered on the rolls of the College, the number of graduates having increased to 70, while 500 became teachers and mission helpers, 117 entered the seminary, and 33 joined the Jesuit Fathers. The deceased for 50 years were reckoned at 330.

Programme and Teaching Staff.

The present day programme comprises a threefold department:—1 deg. A Higher Primary School, in which the Chinese language, literature and easy composition are taught; Chinese, and general history, geography, and the elements of Latin grammar. 2 deg. A full Secondary or High School Department comprising Chinese literature, modern style composition, the elements of philosophy, general history and geography, higher mathematics, physics and chemistry, modern languages (French and English), Latin grammar and easy extracts from Latin Authors, music, drawing, gymnastics. 3 deg. A Commercial Course for special students, wishing to engage in banking, railways, postal and telegraph work, Customs or general trading. English is principally taught in this branch of the College. In all three Departments, Catholic boys are instructed in Christian doctrine, apologetics, Bible and Church History, while non-Christians are given a course in Ethics and Natural Law.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAM, No. 1, 1923-24.

THE PRESENT COLLEGE, OPENED JUNE 20, 1918 (NORTHERN FRONT.)

Throughout the year, sports, games and inter-collegiate matches are a regular feature of the College. From September last down to the Easter holidays, football matches were played against the Shanghai Public School, the Chinese Municipal School, Hanbury School, St. Xavier's School, the Franco-Chinese School, Aurora University, Nanyang Institute of Technology, and other Institutions both from the Settlements and the City. In almost all contests the College came off an easy winner.

The present-day staff comprises a President or Rector, two Prefects of Studies, one for the Foreign and another for the Chinese Department, Foreign and Chinese teachers. Among the former are some 12 Jesuit Fathers, who teach in the higher branches; the latter are partly Chinese Jesuits and lay assistants, some of whom have studied abroad, or graduated from Government Schools; a few even were former students of the College, now deemed capable of teaching the young generation.

Old Boys Association.

At the close of their educational course, students disperse to various places, some remaining in Shanghai, others proceeding to their native provinces, Anhui, Chekiang, Kiangsi, Hupeh, Manchuria, the Outports on the Yangtze, or even the provinces of the Far West. Despite this dispersion, many returned from time to time to visit their *Alma Mater*, and meeting others, as well as the younger generation, the idea was started to initiate an "Old Boys Association," in which all would meet occasionally, discuss mutual interests, help one another, and enjoy the presence of their former teachers. In 1921, a Committee was called, and decided to adopt the scheme. At the same time, it was resolved to hold an annual meeting at the close of June, or thereabout, and bring together all former students, who could possibly attend. The meeting was to open by a religious service, and conclude by a banquet given in the large guest-hall of the College.

Apostolic Delegate Presides.

The 4th annual meeting, which was to take place at the end of June, has been advanced, in order to send an invitation to the Apostolic Delegate and Catholic bishops, sitting in council, to attend. On Sunday morning, May 18, His Excellency, the Delegate, celebrated divine service and addressed the meeting. The singing was performed by the combined choir of Siccawei and Tungkadoo, while a former college student accompanied on the organ. At noon, all the members, number about 400, met at a banquet, enlivened by the strains of the Tusewei Band, and at which the Delegate presided, accompanied by 47 bishops, and several officials of the Council. At the close of the entertainment, President of the Association, Mr. Nicholas Tsu, thanked His Excellency and the Bishops for accepting the invitation of the members, and assisting at their annual meeting; he thanked also the Jesuit Fathers, their teachers, who brought the Light of the Gospel and Western Science to the Chinese Nation. Another speaker, Mr. Stanislaus Sen, dwelt on the splendid work of the Church, the numerous mission schools and higher educational establishments developed in the Shanghai Catholic Mission; we are all proud of this work, said the speakers, and feel that the Catholic Church has a large and prominent share in the educational progress of our country.

The Delegate replied briefly, thanking for the kind invitation extended to himself and the assembled bishops. China owed much to Western Missionaries, especially to the indefatigable labour of the Jesuit Fathers, both in the past and at the present day. The Siccawei Observatory is known the world over, and has wonderfully helped China and the trading communities of the Far East. The native clergy should also assist in the good work, and united with their Western brethren, labour for the best interests of their country and the Church.

The meeting closed by the presentation of a life-like portrait of the Rector, Rev. E. Beauce, S. J., founder and promoter of the Association. A picture of the Delegate, assembled bishops, guests and members was then taken, after which all dispersed, strengthened and encouraged by the growing success of the Association, and buoyed up with glowing hopes for the prosperity of their country.

WEDDINGS

Meyer-Schroeder

A wedding of interest to many Shanghai people took place on Saturday, when Miss Gunvor (Gunnie) when Austin Schroeder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Schroeder, and Mr. Helge Fugl Meyer, son of Mrs. Valgerda Meyer of Copenhagen, were married, the civil ceremony being performed in the morning by H.D.M.'s Consul-General, Mr. T. Raaschou, and witnessed by Messrs. W. Bos and P. Jesperson; and the religious ceremony, solemnized by Pastor Reichelt, taking place quietly at home in the early afternoon. A large reception, attended by over a hundred friends of the popular young couple, was held at the residence of the bride's parents, 17 Rue Corneille, the house being beautifully decorated with bamboo and white flowers and the bridal couple receiving the congratulations of their friends under a floral wedding bell.

The bride looked charming in an artistic gown of white satin crêpe, covered with tulle and filmy silk lace, the tight-fitting bodice trimmed with a real lace berthe and tiny cap sleeves. A girdle of orange blossom tied in a love-knot at the side encircled the waist and the long train was trimmed with tulle love-knots and orange blossom. A becoming "bonnet" arrangement of the bridal veil, which was worn with a wreath of orange blossoms completed the costume. The bridesmaids, Miss Edith Henry and Miss Iris Boyd, were gowned in apricot taffeta, made with tight-fitting bodices and bouffant skirts trimmed with georgette frills of the same shade arranged in apron style. The neck was furnished with narrow frills of georgette and silver flowers formed the corsage bouquets. Miss Henry wore a bandeau of apricot georgette with silver ribbon. The bride's mother wore a handsome fawn-coloured gown embroidered with copper-coloured beads, and a brown lace and straw hat.

Dr. H. Chatley proposed the health of the bride in a very felicitous speech, to which Mr. Meyer responded suitably. Mr. Schroder then proposed the health of the bridesmaids. Many beautiful presents testified to the esteem in which the young couple are held. After the reception Mr. and Mrs. Meyer left for Peking where the honeymoon will be spent. The bride's going away dress was of grey crêpe de Chine, accordion pleated, with a coatee of grey French pressed silk trimmed with red stitching and beads. With this she wore shoes and stockings of grey and a red and black hat. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer will make their home in 16 Route Henri Riviere after return from Peking.

Forde-Hutchison

Union Church was the scene of a very pretty wedding on Tuesday afternoon when Miss Catherine Ferguson Arthur Hutchison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Hutchison, of Shanghai, and Mr. Frank H. Forde, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Forde, of Dublin, were married by Rev. A. N. Rowland, the bridal party moving up the aisle beneath arches of bamboo and white flowers. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a charming gown of white georgette, trimmed with wide silver lace which banded the bodice and slanted across the skirt. The costume was cut on severely simple lines, cleverly draped, with the side train caught at the hip with a cluster of orange blossoms, these also forming a lovers' knot at the hem of the train. With this was worn a veil of real Brussels rose point, caught into a cap with orange blossoms, and the sheaf bouquet was of lilies and orange blossoms, combined with asparagus fern and tied with long white ribbons.

The bridesmaid, Miss Jessie McGeachie, wore a becoming gown of salmon pink georgette, with a picture Leghorn hat trimmed with pink roses, and a bouquet of pink roses. Three little nephews of the bride, Lewis, David, and James Porter, made a picturesque trio of pages in attendance. The bride's mother wore a handsome costume of grey georgette, elaborately trimmed with matching silk braid, a small black hat, and carried sweet-peas and forget-me-not. The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. J. R. Weeks as best man, and the ushers were Messrs. C. W. Porter, B. W. Gale and A. E. Collins.

A reception, attended by many friends, was held following the ceremony at the residence of the bride's parents, 11 Jinkee Road, which was very tastefully decorated for the occasion, the colour scheme of green and white being carried out throughout the house. Mr. and Mrs. Forde received the congratulations of their many friends in a bower of bamboo and white roses, beneath a floral wedding bell. The wedding presents, which were many and beautiful, filled an adjoining room. The bridegroom's gift to the bride was an exquisite string of pearls and hers to him a gold wrist watch.

After the reception Mr. and Mrs. Forde left for their honeymoon, which will be spent in Manila. The bride's going-away costume was a smart orange crêpe de chine, trimmed with white, with which was worn a white crinoline hat, with small brim. trimmed with white grosgrain ribbon.

THE CHARITY BALL

America in Shanghai Entertains its Airmen

The American Charity Ball held at the Marble Hall on Wednesday was a great success. The arrival of the aviators was most opportune as the Ball was made an occasion for their reception. A large number of guests arrived early in the evening so that the halls, ball room and verandahs were well filled, when, about 11 o'clock, a reception line was formed in the Ball room and the aviators entered, preceded by young girls who scattered rose petals in their path. The band struck up "The Star Spangled Banner" and the guests were exceedingly enthusiastic in their welcome.

Every guest was given a dainty *boutonniere*. as he entered, for which there was no charge nor was any gift of money expected. The proceeds from the sale of tickets however, should ensure a very fine sum for charities and it was thought better to avoid the feeling that extortion was being used to raise money.

The ball struck an unusual note of informality—almost Bohemianism—that threw into even stronger relief the grandeur and spaciousness of Mr. Kadoorie's hall. The exterior of the hall was floodlighted with a battery of powerful reflectors set at intervals across the lawn, which made the terrace as bright as at full moon and attracted many of the guests by the promise of coolness so welcome on a June evening in the East

The terrace led on to a generous verandah which accommodated several hundred more guests, most of whom accepted the frequent invitation of the band to join in the dance. The ballroom is like no other in Shanghai. The floor is a perfect one, though it needs to be danced in; the walls rise to a nobly decorated ceiling far above, illuminated by three beautiful chandeliers. Rooms adjacent were set apart for mah jongg players, but were little sought after, though later in the evening the supper room adjoining was crowded.

Many prominent people and officials were guests of the American Association and American Woman's Club and acted as patrons and patronesses. These assisted in making the aviators welcome and entertaining them throughout the evening. A pleasant programme of various musical numbers was given —songs, violin and piano selections.

To Newspaper Printers

ONE Duplex Flat-Bed Web Printing Press for sale, complete with attachment for colour work, accessories and spare parts. The machine has been working since February last and is in perfect condition. A forced sale is imminent. Address inquiries to Lord & Co., P.O. Box 1055.

CORRESPONDENCE

DRESS AT HENLI

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Will you allow me a space in your paper?

At Henli Regatta on Saturday my sense of the fitness of things had a rude shock.

I am a woman, but not a prude, only I try to uphold the virtues for my sex. What are women coming to? And—what are men allowing them to become? Women in the past have been men's inspiration, and the poets' dreams. They associated them with everything beautiful, lovely, clean, good, and modest, with flowers, gardens, religion; motherhood, wifehood; scent, lace; peace and quiet.

A man threw away his smoke approaching a woman, and hid his drink before her, (proving by this, that smoke and drink belonged to his lowest nature!!). He was careful whom he introduced into his home—and to "her." He did not profane "it" or "her" with anything cheap, for she appealed to his idealism. What have women done? And what are they doing to-day to preserve this idealism—this God-given gift to men.

To-day men associate women with smoking, drinking, and with all the hundred and one *sensible feelings* of pleasure. Her qualifications to-day —are her figure, her walk, her skin and her dress. All artificial qualifications and nothing *real*.

Her mouth is dirty with smoke. Her stomach full of cocktails, or whisky—or both; her figure half naked, and her face painted.

Where is the beauty of her heart, her mind and her soul? Men do not respect her as their grandfathers did their grandmothers.

I saw an un-sexed woman at the Regatta wearing trousers. What was her object? The worst of it was, she was a mother, with two little girls to bring up, and example, they say, is the great teacher! If she could have seen herself, as others saw her, she would have hidden her charms beneath skirts. As she courted public opinion, appearing like that, the public—and I as one of them—are entitled to criticize in public. If she did not expect this, she should have worn the badge of her womanhood—skirts.

There were two other creatures there, rubbing shoulders with the natives going along the paths, with nothing on but their bathing suits. They had all the cheap notoriety they were out for.

Do women of this kind appeal to men?

Will any man be generous enough to say in writing, we don't mind looking at all we are shown, but we don't *marry* second-hand goods. I believe it would be doing a good act to let them know this, for I believe girls think this kind of thing appeals to men, and makes them attractive. And if you did mate with one of these unsexed creatures, what kind of offspring will they produce, and rear, under such depraved guidance?

It is up to the *men* to *insist* on decency of women in public places. and let them know it: or not to contaminate their own better natures by countenancing it: for to do so, is to pander to your lowest moral.

Even to say, you want all you can get, (it sounds manly you think), but it cheapens womanhood, and lowers man!

It is the men who must rebel, *and allow it to be seen*, that they object to this going back to nature. Nature is only beautiful under control.

Fine pioneers we are for our Chinese friends! I tell you, the Chinese women can learn nothing about morals from the European nations of to-day.

Even a ricsha coolie, in his childhood is more protected by his parents, than many of our children here to-day. Chinese men will do well to keep their women and children, and young men, away from the contaminating influence of foreign education and racial life *as it is to-day*.

I saw some other creatures at the Regatta, in boats, rowing and being rowed—their lanky limbs sprawling about in front of men rowing them, and the rest of their figures outlined in all its nudity—open to the public gaze.

Has modesty left our maids? Are they quite shameless? They are asking for all the trouble they get. If they are courting admiration, they are going the wrong way about it.

Men may like it, but they don't admire it. To tell you the truth: you are ugly and un-appetizing, dressed like that in a field, or a boat.

On a beach you are excused, and usually a towel coat is put on, when coming out of the water. You are what the Spanish call *asquerosa*, and had nothing to show, but your nakedness at Henli. (Perhaps some Spanish gentleman will be good enough to explain the word).

I enclose my card last, as I don't want my eyes scratched out,

I am, etc.,
An Old Correspondent.

Shanghai. June 2, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—It was a relief to see "An Old Correspondent's" letter in to-day's issue on the subject of "Unsexed Woman at Henli Regatta." I was there and saw the sights (!) "An Old Correspondent" has put into black and white the unanimous criticisms of the "sights" by the members of two houseboat parties consisting of married men, grass-widowers, and eligible bachelors. I have a mother, wife, and daughter and, while admitting myself to be far, very far, from perfect, can most truthfully say I am glad they were not at Henli.

I am, etc.,
Grass-Widower.

Shanghai, June 4, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—I think they were largely unthinking women and girls who so attired themselves at the Henli Regatta as to raise the torrent of indignation given expresion to in "An Old Correspondent's" letter. There may have been exceptions, but I prefer to believe that at least the large majority of those who exposed the "outline of their figures" did so with no shameful intent. I think that the resort to the comfortable bathing costume was dictated largely by a desire to rid themselves of the discomfort and inconvenience caused by the clothes they ordinarily have to wear. Really, the clothes we have to deck ourselves in are appalling and ridiculous, but seemingly we have to dress as everyone else does. What a pleasure it is to get out of them into a loose flowing garment, for instance. The Chinese certainly show more sense in the comfortable way they dress.

Perhaps the women complained of went too far by getting into tight fitting bathing costumes, but I think their motives were honest, being simply that they wished to be attired as comfortably as possible now that the restraint of town life was removed in the rural environment of Henli. But to these I would say that they should remember that these are not the days of Adam and Eve in their innate innocence, No, we now live in the age symbolized by the fig leaf. We all long for the day when that golden garden age of innocence will be restored as between man and man and man and woman—but it is not yet. And until that day dawns, we are told that appearances do count, that the appearance of evil must so far as possible be avoided and that we must abstain from meat (of itself unharmful) wherein our brother stumbles. We should try not to give occasion for quoting in defence of our actions *"Honi soit. . . ."*

The desire to live more simply and naturally at Henli, especially with those normally confined to a town, is sympathized with, but, women and girls, you must remember that for every one that finds honest pleasure in looking upon your graceful form, there are those men whose pleasure in these same graces is entirely dishonest and base.

To them the beauty of your outlined figure is a stumbling-block, and therefore it should be veiled from their gaze. When the day comes that the very springs of our thoughts are pure, then shall we take a true delight in your undraped human figure, but till then, to most men it is a snare and a deceiver unto evil and the *better selves* of us men would rather, women and girls, that you did not so appear before us.

I am, etc.,
Oarsman.

Shanghai, June 4, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North China Daily News"

Sir,—As a visitor to Henli (that narrow strip of water entirely surrounded by gin!) during the recent Regatta I would wish to support the views of your correspondent of June 4, "An old correspondent."

With his, or her, permission I will quote the particular paragraph which, in my opinion, goes straight to the point. "There were two other creatures there, rubbing shoulders with the natives, with nothing on but their bathing suits. They had all the cheap notoriety they were out for."

"Creatures" is good! Before the words "bathing suits' add "skin-tight.' "Cheap notoriety' is putting it mildly. My own epithet would preclude the publication of this letter!

To the skin-tight bathing suit add a pair or silk stockings and high heeled shoes, then tell me for what purpose that bathing suit was donned! Ask some well known medical scientist why young women parade the river in boats and canoes dressed in skin tight bathing suits.

It is said that many of these ladies are wives and mothers. Certainly many of them were physically very attractive but why parade their charms for the benefit of the Chinese countryman?

It seems to me time that the Shanghai Rowing Club Committee posted a notice in their enclosure at Henli "Inadequately clothed females not allowed in the Club enclosure."

Anything more damaging to foreign prestige than the crowd of half dressed men and maidens on view in the Rowing Club premises at Henli last week-end cannot well be imagined. Thank God they did not include *my* wife, or *my* sister, or *my* daughter.

Trusting you will find room for this protest in your esteemed paper.

I am, etc.,
Bonzo.

Shanghai, June 4, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North China Daily News"

Sir,—"An Old Correspondent" is certainly a creature with a most perverted idea of things, one of the type that still swears by red flannel and antimacassars and goes about the world virtuously spurning other people for not having the same tastes.

I admit there are girls at Henli who certainly merit some of "An Old Correspondent's" remarks; they appear every year in various and gaudy swimming costumes, but I am inclined to believe they have never been in water, save for the purpose of cleanliness, in their lives.

But fancy going into tantrums because one lady is seen wearing knickerbockers. I think the application in the letter is not only inappropriate but fundamentally absurd, it does not scan with the subject at all, for women in every age have worn men's garb when they fancied and it is certainly not new, by the least of means, to the *"decadent"* era of 1924.

Such a Stigginsy letter reminds me of another missive that appeared in your columns a long time ago, which I had sent to me when I was in England. This letter was a long, rambling piece of nonentity written by some lady who objected to ricsha coolies smoking cigarettes in their leisure moments, or words to that effect Till all these killjoys and dislikers of natural youth be exterminated it is good-bye to the "Brighter Shanghai" movement.

Enclosing my card.

I am etc.,
"Rus In Urbe" (*sic.*)

Shanghai, June 5, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Three rousing cheers for the fair-minded, gentlemanly Editor of the "North China" and his approach to the question of woman's attire. The old Biddies of both sexes are always picking on the fashion of fig leaves we wear. It is within the memory of women that they haled us before the bar of eternal censure for wearing corsets, high-heeled shoes, dresses that bit the dust, dropsical sleeves and *bustles!* All pointed the way to perdition whither we sanely consigned them. But still the sour critics devour us because, forsooth, beneath these disguises we are women still. Isn't it too bad they can't unsex us utterly and make us fit to live in a world of putrid purists!

Thank you, kind sir. It is good to know there are still sane folk in this muddled world, where women sometimes dare to be comfortable.

I am, etc.,
Betty Graeme.

P. S. The writer has never been at Henli in her life, wears her hair and skirts long, and only dons the family pants when she rides abroad with the one and only man who admires everything she does—the finest man in the world—her husband. B.G.

Shanghai, June 5, 1924.

THE JEWISH SCOUTS

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—At the largest meeting of Scouters (active officers of the Boy Scouts Association, Shanghai Branch) that has ever been held in Shanghai since the inauguration of the movement here, I was requested last night to write you to the effect that the meeting unanimously agreed with the sentiments expressed in your leaderette commenting on the letter signed by Ricardo, relating to the Jewish School Troop and Pack.

With regard to the attack made by Englishman upon the Scout Council, which in this case "quite failed to do the fair thing" I would like to say that first there is no Scout Council to-day, its functions being carried out by the Executive Committee; that second the whole matter was very carefully discussed before a decision was made; and third the Boy Scouts Association is eagerly desirous of enrolling amongst its members Englishmen who take an interest in Scouts and Cubs, more particularly those who know how to play the game.

On behalf of the Jewish School Scouts and Cubs I would like to say that they obeyed their scouting orders and played the game well, as did all the other Scouts and Cubs, throughout the whole Jamboree and the Scout authorities were all highly gratified with the results.

I am, etc.,
F. C. Millington.
Commissioner.

The Boy Scouts Association,
Shanghai, May 30, 1924.

THE COST OF HOUSES

To the Editor of the
North-China Daily News."

Sir,—In the issue of May 31 you stated that a three-roomed cottage could not be built for less than £500. Several lots of houses have been built recently for £350 to £400.

	Houses	Cost each
At Nuneaton	40	£403
„ Stockton	100	355
„ Chester	49	403
„ Bourne	4	403
„ Alnwich	24	380
„ Bridlington	20	398.9.2 (B. Class).

Last June a competition was held by the paper called the "Builder" on the cost of building.

The houses were designed by Professor A—F.R.I.B.A. Bedroom No. 1. was 15'-0" x 12'-0", bedroom No. 2, 11'-0" x 8'-5", bedroom No. 3, 11'-0" x 11'-0", also on this floor was a bathroom and linen cupboard. The living room was 15'-0" x 12'-0", sitting room 11'-0" x 12'-0", large scullery fitted with copper, stove, etc. Large hall, W.C., coal store and lobby. The price £1,197. 16. 8 per pair. The above houses are the type of houses which are being built in different parts of England and three years ago would have cost about £1.000 each.

I am, etc.,
Engineer.

Shanghai, June 2, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Your remarks in to-day's issue must raise queries on this all important question.

Leaving the political side alone surely Labour can be entrusted to build good and substantial houses for its own supporters (the ones most in need). In 1919-1921 a four-roomed house, well built, cost anything from £1,000 to £1,400 within 40 miles of London, despite a "business" government and a subsidy of £280 per house. Compared with this £500 (£550 under the government scheme) seems more reasonable especially as that will be such as to be within reach of the poorer classes (the post war poor too).

Perhaps we could move the Shanghai builders and house agents to give us better value and leave English, Scottish and Welsh ratepayers to look after their own affairs. Rents in Shanghai are ridiculously high. Why? Labour is six times cheaper than at home and the real cost of material compares favourably with that in the United Kingdom. What would, even now, be rented at £50 a year there costs in Shanghai, say Tls. 75 per month, or say £125 per year!

Could not the Council be induced to take some action against those house agents (one a well known firm), who make a practice of letting a house in a number of flats. One, to my knowledge (I am requiring a small house and so investigated this) in the western district, had a monthly rental of about Tls. 110. This house has now been let as three flats with a rent of Tls. 50 each! Not even "hot and cold" or any fittings! A flagrant case of profiteering. Are we to remain at the mercy of such agents?

Mr. Editor, you have cause ready to hand to start one of the most popular and just campaigns in Shanghai.

Enclosing my card,

I am, etc.,
Unconverted Londoner.

P.S. May I question your figure of £200 for a specimen house (understood to be substantially built) erected at the Wembley Exhibition?

U.L.

Shanghai, June 2, 1924.

"THE HWA JAH'S CADETS"

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Rather late I got hold of the various articles that appeared in your esteemed daily on the above subject. In connexion therewith I think it might be of some interest to quote a remark once made to the writer by a distinguished Chinese Naval Officer. He put the matter very tritely.

"Those of our young men, that possess the necessary education to master the theoretical end of the profession, will never soil their hands in acquiring the requisite practical experience that goes to make up the finished Sailor. On the other hand the men brought up at sea, such as quartermasters, bosuns and pilots, will in but the very rarest instances acquire the theoreteical knowledge necessary to make him a successful Bridge-Officer."

'Nuff said!

I am, etc.,
Blue Water

Shanghai, June 1, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North China Daily News"

Sir,—Noticing your leading article on May 21, re the cruise of this vessel, and the yarn her cadets have spun about the foreign officers:

May I as an old square—rigged sailor of 12 year's experience in sail from apprentice to chief officer, and 24 years in steamers from 2nd officer to master, express my views as to the conduct of the cadets of the Hwah Jah.

The first thing an apprentice in a sailing-ship was taught, in 1888, was *obedience to his superior officers* in all things, from sweeping decks to jumping overboard if ordered, and that without question. No cadet, if not amenable to orders, can expect to attain the rank of Captain.

Also, in my early apprenticeship days, we were taught that work was not lowering our dignity; to attain all the qualifications of a thoroughly practical seaman and navigator, one must commence at the lowest rung of the nautical ladder, and if there is the making of a sailor in him, when his apprenticeship is finished, he will soon attain his certificates and promotion accordingly.

The modern seaman, in the estimation of us ancient mariners, is not a seaman at all; the present day floating palaces, or even large cargo steamers, do not call for the resourcefulness which was required in the sailing-ship days. For instance, if a squall strikes a steamer, the officer on watch dodges behind a canvas screen, or gets into a wheel-house to keep out of the rain, but in my time an officer did not mind either fresh or salt water, being very often up to his neck for his four hours watch on deck, handling sheets, tacks, and braces, which he considered was all in the day's work.

Now as they say in China "Maskee,' the sailing ship is out of date, but as the cadets of the Hwah Jah expect some day to be commanders, my advice to them is, *obey orders always*.

Any further comment on this subject, the writer will be only too pleased to give any information whatever upon seamanship or navigation, for either sail or steam.

Enclosing my card.

I am, etc.,
Ancient and Modern.

Ichang, May 29, 1924.

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

MONEY AND EXCHANGE

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, June 5.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/3⅜=Tls. 6.06 at 71.20=$8.51

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 71.¼=Tls. 140.35 at 71.20=$197.12

Mex. Dollars, market rate	71.4625
Native Interest	15
Copper Cash	275,000
Bar Silver	34⅞
Bank rate of Discount	4 per cent.
Paris on London	Frs. 84.85
New York on London	G.$4.31¼

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/3½
Demand	3/3⅝
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	71
Demand	71¼
PARIS—	
Demand	1443
INDIA—	
Demand	233¼
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73
JAPAN—	
Demand	57
BATAVIA—	
Demand	197½
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	71

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/4⅛
4 m/s. Credits	3/5⅛
4 m/s. Docs.	3/5⅞
6 m/s. Credits	3/5⅞
6 m/s. Docs.	3/6⅛
NEW YORK—	
Demand	72¼
4 m/s. Credits	74½
4 m/s. Docs.	75
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1510
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/3⅜
New York T.T.	71⅝

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR JUNE.

Hk. Tls. 5.52 at 3/3	£1
„ 1 at 1218	Frs. 13.57
„ 1.27 at 70⅜	Gold $1
„ 1 at 57¼	Yen 1.95
„ 1 at 230⅜	Rupees 2.56
„ 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
„ 1 at 15.85	It. Lire 17.66
Marks and Roubles no quotation	

AMERICAN-ORIENTAL BANK

Closing Rates

June 5.

Selling Demand Draft.

U.S. G.$100.00	= S'hai.	$196.16
Stg. 1.0.0	= S'hai.	$8.49
Frs. 100.00	= S'hai.	$9.88
Yen. 100.00	= S'hai.	$79.77

Buying Demand Draft.

U.S. G.$100.00	= S'hai.	$193.04
Stg. 1.0.0	= S'hai.	$8.34
Frs. 100.00	= S'hai.	$9.55
Yen. 100.00	= S'hai.	$77.93

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates June 5.

It. Lire 16.35	Tls. 1
Swiss Frs. 4.03	Tls. 1
It. Lire 9.15	Yen 1

THE GOLD MARKET

The Spread of Infections Diseases by Banknotes

Reporting from London on April 30, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on the 23rd instant amounted to £12,6,291,-545, as compared with £126,287,835 on the previous Wednesday.

Only a small proportion of the fair supply of gold available this week has been taken on Indian and Continental account. Gold valued at $5,950,000 has arrived in New York from Holland.

The following is from the "Times of India," under date of 12th instant:—

"A return to the standard of 1s. 4d. gold is what the majority of public opinion demands, so that money may flow into and out of the country when trade requires a movement either way, and weight is given to this demand by the latest pronouncement of Lord Meston, an ex-Finance Member of the Government of India, who is reported to have said that the 1s. 4d. gold rupee should be restored at the earliest possible moment, so that Indian trade could go ahead free from grave uncertainties, and that the Secretary of State should divest himself of every function that could safely be shed in the shape of the control of the currency of the country. The issue of emergency currency of 12 crores has far from met the situation this year and such issues are considered but palliatives in the absence of automatic currency laws, and as the country's trade expands and the demand for currency grows the hardship of the present arrangements will be felt in an ever increasing measure. What the country wants is a free inflow and outflow of gold at the pre-war ratio of 1s. 4d. gold to protect not only its commerce but also its industries, and the weight of opinion in favour of this ratio is growing not only in India but also outside."

Currency.

According to the medical correspondent of "The Times," an investigation into the comparative hygienic merits of paper money and coin has recently been carried out in Berlin. The results are published in the *"Archiv fur Hygiene."* In commenting on them the "Lancet" states that "infectious diseases may be spread by paper money more frequently than by any other article in use among the people." It was found that coined money is innocuous, owing to the self-disinfecting action of the metal itself, and because its small, smooth surface prevents the development of germs. "The dirtiest piece of copper is, from the standpoint of a bacteriologist, better than newly-issued paper money." In post-war banknotes for some time in circulation up to 143,000 bacteria were found. In pre-war notes the highest find was 3,000 bacteria. The post-war note is, of course, much more frequently handled than were the notes of the pre-war period. The notes manufactured of "laid" paper were the worst offenders, as germs tend to stick to them.

It is reported that a novel style of coins shortly will be issued in Spain. The pieces are to be composed of copper and nickel alloy in the form of a square with rounded corners. The denominations are to be 5, 10 and 20 centimes.

THE MAY WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX NUMBER

The Treasury Department's Bureau of Markets states that the total index number for Shanghai for May is 154.3 which is 0.5 per cent. higher than in the previous month but is 2.7 per cent. down as compared with the corresponding month of last year. Different tendencies are seen among the prices of commodities. For instance, cereals, other food products and miscellaneous goods all show rises, whereas textiles and metals are on the contrary. Among miscellaneous goods, fuels and industrial materials have the sharpest rise, but building materials mark decided falls. As the Dragon Festival is at hand, during which business houses customarily close accounts, local market prices are not likely to increase in the next one or two weeks.

The monthly figures since May, 1923, are given below:

		MISCELLANEOUS									
Last Wed.		Cereals	Other Food Products	Textiles	Metals	Fuels	Building Materials	Industrial materials	Sundries	Averages	Total Averages
Feb.	1913	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
May	9123	154.1	159.8	154.9	162.4	169.5	162.3	177.7	134.3	160.9	158.4
June	1923	153.7	152.6	155.8	157.8	167.7	159.1	172.5	126.0	156.3	155.2
July	1923	152.8	154.4	155.9	155.5	168.1	160.9	170.8	132.8	158.1	155.4
Aug.	1923	150.0	148.5	153.8	156.8	154.2	162.4	162.9	132.4	155.5	153.1
Sept.	1923	153.2	150.3	154.8	166.9	165.2	165.7	173.0	131.7	158.9	156.8
Oct.	1923	146.1	152.9	160.3	160.8	166.0	166.3	180.5	129.5	169.6	156.1
Nov.	1923	141.5	157.4	165.8	157.9	166.4	167.2	193.0	129.7	164.1	157.3
Dec.	1923	141.2	155.8	165.7	161.0	172.2	162.9	189.6	129.7	163.6	157.5
Jan.	1924	139.1	154.9	165.7	157.9	169.9	163.8	183.5	128.8	161.5	155.8
Feb.	1924	145.6	159.8	167.9	166.6	159.5	160.5	179.0	130.5	157.4	159.5
Mar.	1924	141.2	154.9	165.8	172.0	157.9	155.9	170.6	130.5	153.7	157.5
Apr.	1924	131.9	156.9	158.7	167.4	159.3	155.4	166.9	132.9	153.6	153.7
May	1924	132.7	164.2	154.8	164.5	163.0	149.2	178.1	131.3	155.5	154.3

THE SILVER MAARKET

Prospects of Falling Prices

Reporting from London on April 30, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The silver market continues quiet and without resilience. Eastern demand is only slight, and there is little difficulty in obtaining silver from America and elsewhere. China has sold moderate quantities.

Though the undertone keeps fair, the level is above Eastern parities and therefore, should selling pressure arise, the price might be disposed to fall, as it did to-day.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and two months' delivery are each 1/16d. below those fixed a week ago.

LATEST CHINESE BOND QUOTATIONS

The following are the latest London quotations of Chinese Bonds received in Shanghai:—

Imperial Rly. 5 per cent. Gold Loan 74⅜.
5 per cent. Gold Loan, 1912 67½.
5 per cent. Reorg. Gold Loan, 1913 (London issue) 69⅛.
5 per cent. Reorg. Gold Loan, 1913 (French issue) 68.
Shanghai-Nanking Line 5 per cent. Stg. Bonds 67½
5 per cent. Tientsin-Pukou Sup. Ln., London issue 68⅛ x.d.
5 per cent. Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo Ln. 74⅛.
Honan Rly. 5 per cent. Gold Loan, 1905 70.
8 per cent. Treasury Bills 34.
8 per cent. Treasury Notes, 1925-9, Scrip, fully paid 34⅞.
4½ per cent. Gold Loan of 1908 65½.
5 per cent. Tientsin-Pukou Rly. Loan (London issue) 68½.

LOSS ON COPPER COIN

The "Chinese Economic Bulletin" states:—

Depreciation of copper coins in Shanghai, as based on the number required per dollar, is just now causing living conditions to become more acute for those who receive their wages in coppers. The extent of the depreciation may be judged from the fact that in April, 1923, 176-8/10 coppers were received as equal to $1 silver. The variation in 1923 extended from 158.5, the minimum in June, to 192.3, the maximum in April, 1924. A considerable percentage of those now in circulation are below weight. Public utilities, etc., do not distinguish, however, between coins of different weights. The Bureau of Currency, in June, 1914, established the official weight of copper pieces at 18 kuping candareens. The metal was to be 95 per cent. copper, 4 per cent. pewter and 1 per cent. lead.

The following table, showing variations at Shanghai in the copper coin exchange, as calculated to $1, silver, was supplied by the Shanghai Native Bankers' Association:

	Min.	Max.
January, 1923	158.5	176.3
February	160.7	176.1
March	175.6	178.4
April	176.8	190.5
May	179.1	181.3
June	175.3	181.3
July	177.4	179.4
August	179	180
September	180	181.7
October	181.1	182.5
November	180.1	182.3
December	180.3	182.2
January, 1924	169.4	181.9
February	179.4	184.7
March	183	187.4
April	187.5	192.3

NEW YORK MUNICIPAL LOAN

New York, June 2.

It is announced that bids will be opened on June 3 for the City of New York issue of $137,400,000 4½ per cent. 50-year Corporate Stock Notes and Short Term Serial Bonds, maturing in three to 50 years, to finance municipal improvements.—Reuter's American Service.

ANGLO-JAPANESE TREATY

Notice has been given by the Japanese Government of their wish to abrogate Article 8 of the Anglo-Japanese Commercial Treaty of April 3, 1911. H.M. Government have agreed that the Article and the schedule shall accordingly cease to operate on March 10, 1925.

TRADE MARKS IN JAPAN

It is considered advisable to remind British owners of patents, designs, and trade marks entered on the Japanese registers at the date of the earthquake that, if it is desired to preserve such rights, they must be re-registered before October 31, 1924. Application for re-registration must be made through a representative resident in Japan.

THE SHANGHAI WEEKLY MARKET REPORT

Owing to the Dragon Festival (which is a settlement time with the Chinese) and the Whitsun holidays falling together, there were no piece goods auctions this week. The exchanges were closed yesterday and practically no business has been done throughout the week, so that there is nothing to report.

THE LOCAL COTTON MARKET

Messrs. A. B. Rosenfeld & Son, in their weekly report, state:—

China Cotton.—Since our last report, the cotton trade has witnessed a succession of firm market, which, although due in a large measure to the attitude and operations of the local bull clique, have carried prices well over 50 points, while forward positions scored practically a corresponding advance. Whatever may be the ultimate object of these operations, their influence has been one of the controlling factors in the market and has brought about a moderate revival of bull speculation on the part of the outside public. At the close, however, Mid-Americans declined some 275 points for spot and 93 points for October, in consequence of which our market responded accordingly. The general undertone of the market has been fairly good, due to the firmness with which spots are still held by strong holders. From present indications, therefore, we see no reason to change our views that any recession in prices is unwarranted and we believe the progress of the crop will continue to be the chief basis for important price changes.

Extracts of Correspondence

Tungchow, June 1.—The weather has been ideal the last couple of days and farm work is well advanced.

Shanghai and Districts, June 2.—The general rains that prevailed during the past few days have proved very beneficial. Planting will be general next week.

Chêkiang Province, June 1.—During the past week, the weather has been ideal for crop preparations; planting will be general within the next week. Conditions in every way perfect.

Yangtze Valley, May 30.—Weather favourable; planting now under way.

Honan, Shensi and Shansi Provinces, May 29.—We are having ideal weather. Preparations for the new crop are advancing generally.

Yarn.—Since our last report, the market has been steady to firm and prices have advanced Tl. 1 to Tls. 2. In all some 3,000 to 4,000 bales of all counts were contracted for shipment to interior marts, whilst over 1,000 bales direct business with the mills have been recorded.

Messrs. J. Spunt & Co. report:—

China cotton.—Due to the continued unfavourable weather conditions for the newly planted cotton, prices on the local cotton exchanges for forward contracts showed a steady to firm tendency, which, however, relaxed somewhat at the close, apparently in sympathy with the decline in Mid-Americans, but on the whole the range of prices for distant deliveries registered higher than those recorded during the previous period. There has been but little activity in spot cotton during the past week, nevertheless prices were in no way affected and remain in a steady to firm position by reason of the value of equivalent foreign grades being higher than that available of the local staple. As to the trend of prices in the immediate future, there is nothing visible at the moment to support expectations of any recession in prices on available old crop stocks. However, modifications may ensue on better reports of the condition of the growing crop. Tone of the market, steady.

UNVULCANISED RUBBER

Government Notification No. 1372, dated February 28, 1924, prohibits the importation into the Federated Malay States of unvulcanised rubber. The prohibition does not apply to unvulcanised rubber in transit by sea or rail.

RUBBER OUTPUT

The output of rubber from the Taiping Estates for the month of April was 6,548 lb., the decrease being due to the wintering of trees.

DUTCH PETROLEUM CO.'S DIVIDENDS

The Hague, May 28.

The Royal Dutch Petroleum Company announce the payment of a final dividend of 15 per cent. for 1923, together with an exceptional payment in July of an interim dividend of 10 per cent. for 1924. This latter is being done in order to help shareholders to pay for shares in the forthcoming issue.—Reuter.

SHELL CO. DIVIDEND

The Asiatic Petroleum Co. (North China), Ld., announce that the Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ld., have declared a dividend at the rate of 2s. 6d. per share, free of income tax, payable on July 5. Bearer coupon to be presented, No. 43.

NEW KOREA SERVICE

The Chosen Yusen Kaisha (Korea Mail S. S. Co.) have opened a passenger service to run every three weeks between Fusan and Shanghai, calling at Tsingtao, Jinsen, Kunsan and Moppo. The first steamer, the Fusan Maru, to be berthed on this line is expected at Shanghai on June 9. The N.Y.K. are the acting agents.

SHIPPING IN THE SCHELDT

Antwerp, May 30.

The Belgian and Dutch pilotage directors have decided that vessels drawing 30 feet may again use the Bath channel of the Scheldt, providing they observe the precautionary measures prescribed.—Reuter.

N. Y. K. POOTUNG WHARF

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha now have opened new wharf and godown premises at Pootung under the name of the N. Y. K. Pootung Wharf and have appointed as compradore Mr. Dung Yu-nong, who has had considerable experience of godown business for many years at the company's mail wharf.

The premises are situated between the Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.'s Pootung Wharf and the China Merchants' S. N. Co.'s Eastern Wharf. The wharf consists of a reinforced concrete building with a frontage of 1,064 feet, breadth 50 feet and depth 28 feet at lowest low water in Shanghai, being available for berthing simultaneously two ocean-going steamers. There is a pontoon of 38.6 feet at the upper end of the wharf for delivery of cargo and berthing of launches, and also two cranes for heavy cargo.—one 10-ton portable crane and one 5-ton travelling locomotive crane. "A" shed, a reinforced concrete and fire brick wall building, stores 5,000 tons of general cargo or 30,000 bales of Indian cotton, and there are two godowns, reinforced concrete three-storied and fire-brick buildings, each storey separated into three compartments by strong fire-proof walls with a storage capacity of 15,000 tons general cargo or 100,000 B/s. Indian cotton and an open yard allowing for 30,000 tons coal, timber, etc. The steam launch Lunghwa Maru will ply every hour on all week-days to and from the Customs Jetty and the N. Y. K. Pootung Wharf.

COAL OUTPUT

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending May 24 amounted to 95,900 tons and the sales during the same period to 90,772 tons.

Messrs. George McBain have received a telegram from the manager of the Mentoukou Mine stating that the output of coal for the month of May was 16,533 tons.

GULA-KALUMPONG

Messrs. Ilbert & Co., Ld., the local secretaries of the Gula-Kalumpong Rubber Estates, Ld., are in receipt of the following telegram from their Penang agents:—

	lb.
Output of Dry Rubber for May 1924	82,600
Shipped	75,209
Coconuts	nuts 850,000
Rainfall	inches 5½

MAY RUBBER OUTPUT

	lb.
Kanyang	5,541
Maatschappij Tot Mijn Bosch en Landbouwexploitatie	66,772
Shanghai Kelantan	16,400
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ld.	48,117

COMPANIES' NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The S. Moutrie & Co., Ltd.—The 25th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 37 Nanking Road, Shanghai, on Friday, June 6, 1924, at 12 noon.

The Transfer Books will be closed from May 28 to June 6, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ltd.—A dividend at the rate of 2s. 6d. per share, free of income tax, has been declared, payable on July 5. Bearer Coupon No. 43.

Share Report for Week Ending June 6, 1924.

No. 24/22

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Codes in use A1 Code
A.B.C. 4th, 5th and 6th Editions
B. Broomhall's Imperial Combination Code
Bentley's Complete Phrase Code.
Telephone Cont. 171 & 174.

Members of Shanghai Stock Exchange.
Land, Estate & Insurance Agents.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building,
12 The Bund.
Post Office Box No. 244, Shanghai

There has been no life in the local share market during the past week and the volume of business reported too small to call for special comments. A cloud of depression shrouds business generally at the present time.

London market quotations show slight changes and the following are the last prices offered to us by cable this week:—

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Loan 1913, B.I.	£ 73. 0. 0	(Middle Price)
" " " " F.I.	70. 0. 0	(Buyers) ex B.I.R.S.
" " " " F.I.	72. 3. 9	(Sellers) cum "
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"	3. 11. 3	(Middle Price)
Onia Kalumpong Rubber Estates, Ltd. "B"	1. 6. 3	"
Shanghai Electric Cons. Co., "B"	3. 2. 6	(Sellers)
Shell Transport & Trading Co., "B"	4. 6. 11	(Middle Price)
Singapore Electric Tramways, Ltd.	0. 4. 2	"
Mexican Eagle (Ord)	0. 15. 7½	(Sellers)
Indo-China Steam Navg. Co., Defd. Ord.	13. 7. 6	(Buyers)
Oriental Consolidated Mining Co.	0. 12. 11	(Middle Price)

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/3½.

Shanghai, June 5, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

MAY	31st		June 2nd		3rd		4th		5th		6th	
	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June
RUBBERS												
Anglo-Java Est., Ld. .. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..		
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
Yangtsze Insce. Asso., Ld. .. $	28½	..	28½	..	..	..			..	..		
S'hai Exploration&D. Co.,Ld. Tls.	..	9	..	..	..	..			..	..		
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld. .. "	79	..	..	..	..	..			..	..		
S'hai Elec. Cons. Co., "B" "	..	..	..	..	18½	..			..	..		
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co. (Ord.) "	..	..	..	..	85	..			86½	..		
New Eng. & S. Wks. Co., (Ord.) "	..	..	..	..	6	..			..	..		
S. & H. Wharf Co., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..			191	..		
COTTONS												
Ewo Cotton Mills Ld. (Ord) Tls.	11.30	..	..	..	..	..			..	..		
DEBENTURES												

NO BUSINESS REPORTED

BANK HOLIDAY (DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL)

FORWARD SETTLEMENTS FOR 1924.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, JUNE 5, 1924.

STOCK	Last business done	Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc.	Finan. year ended	Last Dividend etc.	Paid or Due
BANKS.									
London	£ 132½								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Cor.	$ 1185	1135		61) 400,000	H $125	(a H $3,379,314	Dec.	Final $3 & Bonus $2 (mkg. $3 1923) less I/T	25-2-24
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. .. London	£ 19 3/16	£19 6/8		600,000	£5	(c H $64,494,894			
						(a £222,201	Dec.	Final 7s. & Bonus 6s. 3d. (mkg. £1 0s. 3d.) free of I/T, 1923	9-4-24
						(c £3,300,000			
INSURANCE.									
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	H $ 223	221		55) 200,000	d £10	(au £157,648			
						(b £69,500	Dec.	Final 16s. (mkg. 40s.) ex 1922 Work. a/c., Interim 24s. & Bonus to Contributors, 20%, ex 1923 Work a/c	17-5-2
North-China Insurance Co., Ld.	T 138			10,000	£5	(c $3,388,195			
						(au T610,687	Dec.	Final 15s. (mkg. 30s.) ex 1921 Work a/c. and Interim 15s. ex 1922 Works. a/c.	10-6-24
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld. ..	$ 28½	28		21) 250,000	$10	(c T4,792,985			
						(au $2,218,527			
						(au $2,713,138	Dec.	$2½ ($2½%) ex 1923 Work. a/c. payable in Taels at Exchg. 73	28-5-24
						(c $3,559,700			
Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld.	T 22			1) 50,000	T20	(au T109,845			
						(au T731,344	Dec.	T1.40 ex 1923 Work. a/c.	28-5-24
Canton Insurance Office, Ld.	H $ 720		680	10,000	f H $250	(au H $1,940,924	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $40) ex 1923 Work. a/c., Interim H $18 ex 1923 Work. a/c. ..	21-5-24
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld. ..	H $ 550	550		8,000	g H $50	(c H $4,307,811			
						(au H $515,163	Dec.	H $35 ex 1922 Working a/c.	27-3-24
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	H $ 135	136		20,000	h H $20	(av H $1,328,926	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $3 ex 1921 Work. a/c. ..	25-5-23
						(c H $5,523,650			
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	F 500			14,000	F500	(a F101,303	Dec.	None, Floated 1918	....
						(c F3,784,330			
SHIPPING.									
Indo-China S.N. Co., Ld... (8% cum. pref.	H $ 38	37½		2) 120,000	£5	(a £1,179			
(def. ord.	H $ 140			2) 120,000	£5	(c	Dec.	Pref. 6s. at Exchg. H $2/4½ London Warrants less I/T. Def. Ord., nil	6-5-24
Shell T'sport & Trading Co., Ld. ('B' ord.	£	£4:5:9	£4: 5:0	56) 30,000,000	£1	(c £1,362,956			
(5% cum. pref.	£			21) 390,000	£10	(a* £2,029,056	Dec.	Interim 2s., free of I/T, Coupon 42	5-1-24
(7% cum. 2nd pref.	£			57) 10,000,000	£1	(c £5,000,000			
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co., Ld. (ord.	T 36½			20,000	T25	(a T23,576	Dec.	Final Ord. T4.50 (mkg. T7, 1923)	11-3-2
(7% pref.	T 51½			10,000	T50	(c T410,000		Final Pref. T1.75 (mkg. T3.50, 1923) ..	11-3-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.									
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld. ..	T 95	91		47) 55,700	T75	(a T102,535	Apr.	T7.50, 1922-23	27-7-2
						(c T1,948,000			
Hongkong & W'pao Dock Co., Ld... ..	H $ 143		145	60,000	H $50	(a H $319,796	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkg. H $9, 1923)	21-3-24
						(c H $4,081,698			
New Eng. and Shipbuilding (ord.	T 6	6		42) 500,000	T5	(a T59,500		Ord. T0.25, 1923	10-2-24
Works, Ld. .. .. (8% pref.	T 4.95			05) 500,000	T5	(b T300,000	Dec.	Pref. T0.40 1923..	10-2-24
						(c T1,311,045			
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co., Ld... ..	T 191	190	193	‡31) 40,000	T100	(a T3,460			
						(b T200,000			
						(c T1,075,261	Dec.	Final T10 (mkg. T13, 1923	4-3-24
H'kong & K'loon W. & G. Co., Ld. ..	H $ 168	170		30,000	H $50	(a H $290,319			
						(b H $300,000	Dec.	H. $6 & Bonus H. $3, 1923	26-2-24
						(c H $59,240			
MINING.									
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ld. ..	£ 12/-	11/3	14/6	24) 500,000	C. $10	——	June	G $0.50, 1920-21	26-7-23
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ld. (Bearer),	£ 21½	20½		‡154) 2,000,000	£1	(a	June	Int. 2/- free of I/T. 1923-1924 (Coupon	
London		£3:9:9	£3:12:9			(c		No. 24)	1-6-24
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ld. ..	H $ 5			200,000	£1	(a £23,613	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	21-5-10
						(c £4,873			
LANDS AND HOTELS.									
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld. ..	T 118			‡) 78,000	T50	(a T34,410			
						(b T275,000	Dec.	Final T2 & Bonus T2 (mkg. T3 1923)	21-3-24
						(c T2,289,317			
H'kong Land Invest. & Agcy. Co., Ld. ..	H $ 105	110		240,000	H $25	(a H $157,898	Dec.	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares	
(New Reg.)						(b H $250,000		(mkg. H $5, 1923) H $2.50 on 40,000 new shs.	28-1-24
						(c H $6,000,000			
Humphreys Est. & Finance Co., Ld. ..	H $ 22½	21½		150,000	H $10	(a H $158,299			
						(b H $50,000	Dec	H $0.80 and Bonus H $0.30, 1923	11-2-24
						(c H $421,188			
Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld.	T 6			3,074	T20	(a T2,946	Dec.	T1.20, 1923	13-2-24
						(c T7,000			
						(a T9,209			
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld. ..	T 115½			‡23) 18,000	T100	(b T20,000	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg. T8, 1923-24)	3-4-24
						(c T375,000			
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld. ..	H $ 19 old 12½ new	19	13	33) 500,000	H $10	(a H $85,238	Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000	
						(c H $5,203,767		shares (mkg. H $2 (old))	24-2-24
Carlton, Ld.	T 53			14) 10,000	T50		Mar.	Floated April 1, 1922..	
Asia Realty Co., Inc...	G $ 100			‡19) 10,000	G $100		Dec.	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware	
								1922, 7%	4-1-23
Bavon Trust Co., Inc. .. .. (ord.	G $ 10	12½		**100,000	G $10	(			
(pref	G $ 10	10			G $10			Ord. Pref. 1st yr. 1923 1½%	4-1-23
PLANTATIONS.									
Alma Estates, Ld.	T 5½		4½	70,000	£1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23 .. .. —	19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld.	T 0.25			‡82) 500,000	T1				
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld. ..	T 1.80	1.60		12) 400,000	10s.	a T30,249	Oct.		
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T 4½	4.10		4) 500,000	10s.	(a T12,442	Dec.	T0.20, 1923	1-4-24
						(c T372,167			
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld.	T 21			27) 30,000	T10	(a T16,223	Dec.	Final T0.30 (mkg. T0.55, 1923..	15-4-24
						(b T22,000			
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld. ..	T 0.65	0.50		400,000	T1	(c T69,980	Sept.	Final T2.00, (mkg. T2½) 1922-23	29-12-23
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T 1.12½	0.75		500,000	T1	a T22,777	Dec.	T0.05, 1923	11-4-24
Bute Plantation (1913), Ld.	T 0.75			500,000	T1	a T20,402	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	25-7-17
Chemor United Rubber Co., Ld.	T 0.75			28) 500,000	T1	a T3,593	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	29-3-17
				400,000	T0.90	(a T17,473	Dec.		
Chempedak Rub. & G'bier Est., Ld. ..	T 4½			39) 35,000	£1	(c T12,000		Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)..	3-4-24
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ltd.	T 1			675,000	T1	a (Loss)T13,435	Oct.	2nd Interim, T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17)	16-10-17
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ld..	T 2.12½			25) 500,000	2s.—T0.75	a T4,120	June	T0.20,1916-17	1-11-17
						(a T16,983	Dec.		
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T 1½			19) 350,000	T1	(c T60,000		Final T0.15 (mkg. T0.21, 1923)..	9-4-24
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T 8½	7		‡48) 750,000	(21;450,000	a T2,775	Dec.	T0.10, 1923	16-4-24
					(5s;200,000	(a			
Java-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee Est., Ld.	T					(c T17,214		2s. less I/T 4s. 7½d in £ (Coupon 21) .. —	15-4-24
Kali Glidik Coffee Estates, Ld.	T 6.10	5		5) 85,000	£1 at 2/3½	(a T2,689	Dec.	Final T0.75 (mkg. T1.25, 1923)..	18-4-24
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld. ..	T 9.40			70,000	T5			Incorporated 1923	
				35) 15,000	T10	(a T6,977		(To.50, 1922	
Karan Rubber Estate Co., Ld.	T 3	2½		25,000	T10	(c T4,024	Dec.	(Interim 1923, T0.50	19-4-23
						(a T3,008			17-7-23
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Ld..	T 0.50	0.40		320,000	T1	(b T30,000	Mar.		
Kroewock Java Plantations, Ld.	T 12	9½		20) 70,000	£1 at T9.90	a (Loss)T38,203	June	T0.60, 1922-23	1-6-23
						(a T12,948			

RUBBER AUCTIONS.

The following telegraphic advices have been received :—

Singapore, June 4, 1924.

Spot or June	... ...	34¼ cents
July/Sept.	... ...	35½ ,,
July/Dec.	... ...	36⅛ ,,
Oct./Dec.	... ...	36¾ ,,

Market dull and steady.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
S'hai Municipal Council	1905 6 to 20	5-4-24	T97	d 320,000	6	June-Dec.
	1907 do.	19-5-24	T97	500,000	6	do.
	1908 do.	9-5-24	T98	650,000	6	do.
	1909 do.	15-3-23	T99	800,000	6	do.
	1910 do.	16-5-24	T97	313,800	6	do.
	1911 10 to 30	9-5-24	T97½	350,000	6	do.
	1912 do.	3-1-24	T99	340,000	6	do.
	1913 do.	3-5-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
	10 to 50	19-5-24	T89	500,000	5½	do.
	1914 10 to 30	19-5-24	T89	900,000	5½	do.
	1915 do.	19-5-24	T89	800,000	5½	do.
	1916 do.	28-5-24	T97	1,400,000	6	do.
	1918 10	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
	1919 10	9-5-23	T102	1,793,300	7	do.
	1920 10	1-5-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
	10 to 30	29-3-24	$104	£750,000	6	do.
	1921 do.	13-2-24	$110	$1,000,000	8	do.
	1921 do.	12-5-24	T109	T5,095,400	8	do.
	1922 do.	29-5-24	T104½	T8,000,000	8	do.
	1923 do.	29-5-24	T97	a T6,000,000	6	do.
	1924 do.	1-5-24	T97½	T500,000	6%	do.
French Municipal Council	1911 do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914 do.	12-2-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
	1915 do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
	1921 do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8	do.
	1923 do.	17-12-23	T95	a T800,000	6	May-Nov.
S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	1921 10 to 30	9-5-24	T107	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
S'hai Gas Co., Ltd.	1922 do.	6-6-22	T108	T500,000	8	do.
	1922 do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
	1909 do.	2-4-23	T94	₰ 800,000	6	do.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
	1905 5 to 20	31-8-22	T96½	T250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1909 do.	29-5-24	T97½	750,000	6	do.
	1911 do.	26-9-22	T92	250,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
	,, do.	28-3-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld.	1912 do.	29-5-24	T97½	250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1913 do.	3-4-23	T93	250,000	6	April-Oct.
	,, do.	11-1-24	T93	250,000	6	May-Nov.
	do.			250,000	6	April-Oct.
	1914 do.	22-3-23	T98	350 000	6	June-Dec.
	1916 5 to 25	3-4-23	T98	650,000	6½	do.
	1922 do.	12-2-23	T98	750,000	6	Mar.-Sep.
	1922 do.	10-1-24	T98	500,000	6	May-Nov.
S'hai Club	1907 20	1-2-24	T93	450,000	6	do
Country Club	1901 Perpetual	29-5-24	T91	139,000	6	June-Dec.
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	1914 5 to 20			130,000	6	May-Nov.
	1915 do.			110,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld.	1911 do.	7-6-23	T98	250,000	6	June-Dec.
				300,000	6	do.
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld.	1923 10 to 20	27-2-23	T95½	h 270,000	6	do.
S'hai Race Club	1923 25	14-4-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
Culty Dairy Co., Ltd.	1915 10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
Hall & Holtz Ld.	1914 5 to 20	14-10-22	T92	T250,000	7	Jan.-July
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	1922 5 to 20	..	..	T500,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—b—Tls.65,100; c—Tls.81,100; d—Tls.34,100; e—Tls.68,500; f—Tls.262,400; g—Tls.139,800; h—Tls.12,300; i—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1924: Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Total output this finyr. to date.
			lb.	b.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	b.	lb.	lb.
Aima	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	246,648	8.87d.	68,000	22,000	18,000	17,000	19,000	..	144,000
Amberst (New)	,, 500,000	Oct.	72,442	80,692	90,751	*4.89d.	19,020	8,214	8,475	14,662	14,670	..	65,041
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	650,000	540,000	600,000	8.45d.	..	64,000	50,000	65,000	62,500	50,000	291,500
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,524,711	1,663,450	..	6.70d.	..	184,000	164,100	187,000	173,000	140,000	848,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 300,000	Sept.	369,417	65,042	380,000	†0.24.41	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam	,, 400,000	Dec.	268,510	217,822	185,793	9.01d.	..	12,500	11,500	15,000	15,300	..	54,300
Bukit Toh Alang	,, 500,000	Mar.	305,645	248,182	345,000	7.54d.	..	..	..	..	23,000	..	23,000
Bute	,, 500,000	Dec.	230,067	177,850	159,516	11.11d.	..	17,500	16,600	13,600	Nil	..	47,700
Chemor United	,, 360,000	Dec.	310,794	267,627	..	8.40d.	..	27,200	23,300	9,500	16,300	..	76,900
Chempedak	£35,000	Oct.	145,750	163,063	..	1/5.42d.	30,700	14,000	4,400	1,000	13,200	..	63,300
Cheng	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.09d.	102,014	10,500	9,700	11,800	11,400	..	145,414
Consolidated (1914)	,, 375,000	Dec.	609,899	645,778	761,500	7.47d.	..	53,000	58,779	44,437	43,523	..	192,739
Dominion	,, 350,000	Dec.	271,150	324,646	300,887	9.63d.	..	28,032	27,654	16,999	19,569	..	91,054
Gula-Kalumpong	$500,000	Dec.	1,113,000	938,000	1,215,000	1/0.4d.	..	88,000	78,000	66,000	83,000	..	315,000
Java Consolidated	£85,000	Dec.	656,224	622,227	..	6.25d.	..	63,300	60,900	73,300	72,900	63,400	337,800
Kapayang	,, 150,000	Dec.	159,239	116,710	..	†26.90	..	10,592	8,315	7,636	5,902	5,541	37,992
Kuran	,, 250,000	Mar.	104,783	79,576	84,000	8½d.	..	..	..	..	6,050	..	6,050
Kota Bahroe (1921)	,, 300,000	June	138,330	339,970	..	..	100,818	29,156	26,048	19,186	19,640	..	253,743
Kroewoek	£70,000	Dec.	449,000	533,881	540,000	0/7.21d.	..	50,000	55,000	53,000	50,000	53,000	262,000
Langkat	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	842,539	943,000	975,000	Glds.0.28	179,300	92,500	71,500	70,000	64,000	..	477,300
Padang	Tls. 500,000	April	220,232	171,000	..	10.4d.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pengkalan (1921)	,, 150,000	Mar.	135,253	9,265	176,038	†40.19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Permata	,, 250,000	Oct.	98,303	86,299	..	0/8.4d.	17,585	8,030	6,003	5,867	..	..	37,555
Repah	,, 275,000	Dec.	68,554	217,057	..	..	..	17,100	8,700	15,900	11,600	..	53,000
Samegaga	,, 600,000	Sept.	361,816	250,813	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
See Kee (1918)	,, 100,000	June	179,665	142,000	115,183	11.37d.	120,509	8,500	11,000	10,500	8,200	..	158,709
Sematron	,, 300,000	Dec.	164,165	245,595	158,204	0/9.37d.	..	13,400	13,400	7,600	15,600	..	50,000
Senawang (1921)	,, 375,000	Jan.	272,500	275,100	..	*17.35d.	..	..	14,500	16,400	17,200	..	48,100
Shanghai Kedah	,, 400,000	Sept.	313,414	249,542	..	8.17d.	67,625	21,196	17,259	17,021	25,007	..	149,111
S'hai-Klebang	,, 315,000	Dec.	126,106	100,034	..	11.35d.	..	2,700	8,000	..	..	..	10,700
S'hai-Malay	,, 600,000	Dec.	373,111	288,816	408,961	..	..	22,482	21,474	16,254	7,983	..	68,193
S'hai Pahang	,, 200,000	June	209,881	188,016	..	9½d.	100,973	16,432	14,475	14,848	11,400	..	158,126
S'hai Seremban	,, 325,000	Dec.	171,213	147,112	..	9.52d.	..	11,400	13,300	7,100	7,400	..	42,500
S'hai-Sumatra	,, 600,000	Oct.	661,332	679,710	650,000	Glds.0.38	111,341	61,110	61,170	43,537	39,079	..	306,227
Sua-Manggis	,, 230,000	Dec.	184,000	157,100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungala	,, 100,000	Mar.	165,757	22,902	..	†7.20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungei Duri	£40,000	June	305,073	295,425	220,000	11.61d.	126,169	25,095	22,572	10,043	10,789	..	193,196
Taiping (1913)	Tls. 200,000	Dec.	107,012	103,689	99,000	*130	..	..	6,572	6,561	6,643	..	26,776
Tanah Merah	,, 750,000	Mar.	395,900	303,700	..	7.82d.	..	..	..	..	25,000	..	25,000
Tebong	,, 750,000	Jan.	630,538	722,000	714,735	0/7.66d.	..	..	61,000	66,000	59,000	..	59,000
Ziangbe	£150,000	Dec.	514,566	522,000	600,000	7.24d.	..	67,500	58,200	52,000	63,000	52,500	293,300

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expenses

† Straits Cents.

See Kee Rubber Estates (1918), Ld.	T	0.75				100,000		T1				
Semambu Rubber Ests., Ld.	T	0.85				500,000		T1				
Senawang Rubber Este. (ord. Co. (1921), Ld. (12% Cum. Pref	T	0.70			64)	300,000		T1				
Shanghai Kedah Plantations, Ld.	T	0.75	0.55		67)	140,000		T1				
S'hai Klebang Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.50			34)	400,000		T1				
S'ha Malay Rubber Estates, Ld. ord	T	3			18)	315,000		T1				
,, 8% cum. part. pref.	T	9				30,000		T10				
					22)	30,000		T10				
S'hai Pahang Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.75				200,000		T1				
S'hai Seremban Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.65				325,000		T1				
S'hai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ld.	T	105			7)	30,000		T20				
Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ld.	T	2.65			30	56,000		T5				
Sungala Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.80			‡5)	100,000		T1				
Sungei Duri Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	6	6			40,000	£1 at T8.50					
Taiping Rubber Estates (1913), Ld.	T	0.50				200,000		T1				
Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ld.	T	0.47½	0.45		32)	750,000		T1				
Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	1			‡54)	750,000		T1				
Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ld.	T	2½	2		32)	300,000		10s.				
COTTONS, ETC.												
Ewo Cotton Mills, Ld. (ord	T	11.30	11½		15	1,000,000		T5				
,, (8% cum. pref.	T	105	107		43)	10 000		T100				
Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ld.	T	8	6			80,000		T10				
Oriental C. S. & W. Co., Ld. ord.	T	4.20	3½		80)	500,000		T3				
pref.	T				3)	5,000		T100				
Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ld. (Shanghai Boshoku K.K.)	T	(61 old 36new)	30			80,000		T50				
					(	40,000		T50				
INDUSTRIAL.												
British-American Tobacco Co., Ld. (ord.	£		£5	£5 13	66)	18,000,000		£1				
,, (5% cum. pref.	£		..2	32		4,500,000		£1				
China Im. & Ex. Lumber Co., Ld.	T	350				5,000		T100				
China Sugar Refining Co., Ld.	H$	236	235			20,000		H$100				
Gordon & Co., Ltd.	T	25			37)	6,000		T25				
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.	H$	23 old	21.35old 5.65new	22		400,000		H$7.50				
Maatschappij, &c., In Langkat	T	8	5			250,000		Gs.10				
Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ld.	T	6	(comb T234)	(comb T.)	(cont. T	250,000		T5				
S'hai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.	T	11½	8			250,000		T5				
Major Brothers, Ld.	T	5			10)	6,000		T20				
John Richards & Co., Ld.	T	10			11)	25,000		T10				
Shanghai Gas Co., Ld.	T	40			‡)	24,000		T50				
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.	T	150	150		19)	50,000		£20				
STORES.												
Hall & Holtz, Ld.	$	6	5½		‡16)	28,000		$20				
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.	$	30				1,200		$50				
S. Moutrie & Co., Ld.	$	50			17)	10,000		$50				
Weeks & Co., Ld.	$	11			‡50)	30,000		$20				
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	$	97	98		‡)	2,500		$100				
MISCELLANEOUS.												
Culty Dairy Co., Ld.	T	11				10,000		T10				
S'hai Electric Construction Co., Ld., "B"	T	1½										
London	£1			£3-2-6		40,000		£1				
S'hai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ld.	T	50				5,400		T50				
Shanghai Mercury, Ld.	T	25				3 000		T50				
Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co. Ld.	T	7½			‡49)	40,000		T50				
Oriental Press (L'Imprimerie Française)	$	100				940		$100				

COMPANY MEETINGS

CHINA IMPORT & EXPORT LUMBER CO.

The Sad Death of Mr. Dinsmore: Chairman's Strong Words on Bandit Evil

The 22nd annual general meeting of the China Import & Export Lumber Co., Ld., was held last Friday at 6 Kiukiang Road, Mr. C. H. Arnhold presiding, supported by Mr. W. J. N. Dyer and Capt. R. E. Sassoon (Directors). There was an attendance representing 3,538 shares.

Mr. Arnhold said:

Gentlemen, before proceeding with my report on the accounts and the regular business of the meeting, I would refer to the very strong statement made at our annual general meeting last year, when the Chairman spoke of the unsatisfactory conditions of business in China resulting from the deplorable state of the Government of this country, as evidenced by the continued interference with ordinary trading by illegal taxation, civil war and bandit depredations. He mentioned that foreign members of the company's staff, travelling in the exercise of their duties, had repeatedly been fired upon by bandits in attempts to seize them for ransom.

Throughout the past year troubles of this nature have continued, and the courage, faithfulness and spirit of loyalty of our staff in meeting such problems has been deserving of the highest praise.

Every possible precaution to safeguard our staff when travelling in the interior has at all times been observed by providing them with fast motor-boats and by having them move, in bandit infested areas, in parties sufficiently strong in numbers to offer resistance in case of attack. Despite this and other precautions, we have this month had a deplorable incident take place when a party of our forestry inspectors, travelling in the regular course of duty, were attacked by brigands.

The Late Mr. Dinsmore's Heroism.

The party, according to the information so far received, consisted of Mr. Jay Dinsmore, an American Mr. Mackay, an Australian; and Mr. Paul Lee, a Chinese Yale graduate and two men of our Chinese forestry staff, besides the usual attendant coolies and servants.

They were attacked at a place called Nangia, a forest area about 10 miles from the village of Pichikou, which is 20 miles south of the town of Shahsien, in Fukien Province. During the fighting Mr. Dinsmore was shot is the abdomen and badly battered, but somehow made his escape, ultimately arriving at Shahsien. He could have gone on to Yenpingfu, a day's journey down the river, for medical attendance, but stayed at Shahsien in an heroic attempt to help save his companions in the party, who were being held prisoners by the brigands. He wired from Shahsien that his wounds were not serious, but nevertheless died on the 21st instant, due, apparently, to internal hemorrage.

Mr. James Carroll, our senior forest inspector for that area, is now working with local Chinese for the release of the captives. The local Chinese military officials seem powerless or afraid to take active steps against the brigands. The civil officials, however, are co-operating with Mr. Carroll, and through negotiations along customary Chinese lines we hope soon to receive favourable news as to the prospects of release of Mr. Mackay, Mr. Paul Lee and the others.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to the relatives of Mr. Jay Dinsmore. He had given many years of loyal, faithful service to the company. He was one of Nature's true gentlemen, a kindly but strong man, well, imbued with charity and courtesy to his fellow men. He loved China and its people; yet met death through their brutality.

It can only be hoped that lives sacrificed, such as this, may bring to the attention of our Home Government, the American Government, and other nations the necessity to enforce steps whereby other foreign lives in China may eventually be adequately protected.

Satisfactory Year.

Considering (continuing) the generally upset conditions of trade in China during the past year, results realized in our operations can be regarded as essentially satisfactory. Our profits as shown on operations last year would have been even better had lumber values remained steady. During February, however, a break in prices occurred, especially in Oregon pine, following the inflated values which had ruled during the latter part of last year, due to demand in Japan for the rebuilding of Tokio and Yokohama. As a consequence, stocks had to be written down to below actual cost in the valuations adopted for the closing of our annual accounts. We furthermore deducted from such reduced stock valuations the sum of Tls. 300,000, as margin to cover market fluctuation. After making such provision, the total valuation of our stocks is Tls. 915,276.83, as shown on the balance sheet.

The total sum at credit of profit and loss account is Tls. 393,406.47, which includes balance carried over from last year. Deducting dividend paid, directors' and auditors' fees, as well as depreciation, there remains at disposal a balance of Tls. 330,406.47, out of which it is proposed to pay a dividend of 8 per cent. absorbing Tls. 40,000, and to carry forward to new account the sum of Tls. 290,406.47.

Buildings stand in our books at a value of Tls. 583,154.36, as compared with Tls. 568,565.29 on Feburary 28, 1923. The increase is due to cost of completion of our sawmill at Shanghai and erection of a new staff quarters building on our property at Tsingtao, less sale of our office building at Tientsin, on which the company realized Tls. 11,890 over the book value, as shown in profit and loss account. A new office building, better adapted to our needs, is now in course of construction at Tientsin to replace the premises sold.

Investments.

Investments have been reduced from Tls. 228,808.13, on February 28, 1923, to Tls. 142,808.13 at the end of our last financial year, due to disposal of some of our holdings.

Values of machinery and mill Equipment have, during the past year, increased from Tls. 190,000 to Tls. 261,232.98, due to costs of additional machinery installed in our new sawmill at Shanghai.

General and floating equipment shows a reduction during the year from a value of Tls. 273,039 to Tls. 256,197, due principally to depreciation written off motor trucks and yard operation machinery.

Sundry debtors obligations, which at the end of our previous financial year stood at Tls. 1,009,652.62, were reduced at the end of the last year to Tls. 798,042.80.

This sum includes old Government accounts, which are gradually being paid off. All bad and doubtful debts have been written off.

Our cash balance in hand and with bankers at the end of last year was Tls. 104,002.90, and under sundry creditors our liabilities in bills payable, etc., are Tls. 2,209,639.59, which shows a market reduction from the sum of Tls. 2,571,729.28 due under this heading at the end of the previous financial year.

Speculation in Lumber Market.

Our reserves, amounting to Tls. 2,100,000, remain unchanged. In recommending to carry forward, at credit of profit and loss account, the comparatively large sum of Tls. 290,406.47, your directors have in mind the difficult conditions which are now being met in the fluctuation of lumber market values. So far we have done rather well in the new year's business, considering the problems which our staff have had to meet. Continued interference in the market by Chinese and foreign speculators in lumber may, however, make it necessary for us to submit to sacrifices in order to hold our prestige in the China trade. You may rest assured, however, that in exercising any such indulgence in the market the policy of the company will continue to be conservatively governed.

This, gentlemen, is all I have to say regarding the accounts, which I think you will agree with me, show careful handling of our interests by our executive staff.

I hope you will approve my recommendation, which will presently be submitted as a motion, that a bonus to our foreign staff be authorized.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions were then put to the meeting and passed unanimously:—

That the report and accounts for the year ended February 29, 1924, as presented, be passed, and that the balance at disposal under profit and loss account, of Tls. 330,406.47, be appropriated as follows:

To pay a dividend of 8 per cent. absorbing Tls. 40,000 and to carry forward to new account for the financial year 1924 the sum of Tls. 290,406.47—proposed by Mr. C. H. Arnhold and seconded by Mr. W. J. N. Dyer.

That Mr. W. J. N. Dyer be re-elected to the Board of Directors—proposed by Mr. C. H. Arnhold and seconded by Mr. C. L. Seitz.

That the appointment of Capt. R. E. Sassoon as a director of the company be hereby confirmed—proposed by Mr. W. J. N. Dyer and seconded by Mr. E. Evensen. The former voiced the regret of the board in losing the services Mr. R. M. E. Dalgleish on his retirement from China and welcomed the appointment of Capt. R. E. Sassoon.

That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year at a remuneration of Tls. 1,000—proposed by Capt. R. E. Sasson and seconded by Mr. Han Yung-keng.

That in addition to the annual bonuses customarily paid to the executive staff of the company, at discretion of the directors, as a charge in working account, the directors be, and are hereby authorized, according to their judgment in each case, to pay to the company's foreign staff a bonus equivalent to one month's salary—proposed by Mr. C H. Arnhold and seconded by Mr. J. S. S. Cooper.

WEEKS & CO., LD.

Business of the Year Affected by General Depression

The 24th ordinary general meeting of shareholders in Messrs. Weeks & Co., Ld. was held last Friday afternoon, Mr. H. M. Little presiding. The other directors present were Messrs. T. E. Trueman, L. J. Cubitt and R. H. Gaskin, and the attendance represented 6,243 shares.

The notice convening the meeting, and the auditor's report, having been read, the Chairman said: Gentlemen, the report and accounts for the year ended 29th February, 1924, have been circulated to shareholders, and with your permission we will take them as read.

There is a small typographical error in the printed balance sheet, the issued number of shares is stated as 21,811, whereas it should be 21,822. This number is correct on the outside of the report.

When we met last year we had to deal with a disappointing result, and your Directors regret that we have again to face a similar position.

The widespread general depression in commerce is primarily accountable for this, and not any inherent defect in working your business. That is shown by the proportion sold of various commodities representing necessities. luxuries and other things which can more easily be done without. In the first category our departments have shown larger sales and on a smaller margin of profit, than in the previous year. A curtailment of buying power in the community, is a natural and inevitable result of the depression in commerce, and in turn creates competitive prices which reduce the margin of profit, while the overhead expenses of the organization remain the same, and our high standard of quality and workmanship are maintained.

Our working expenses are lower than the previous year, and I can assure you, gentlemen, that every care is taken to economise where it is possible.

The balance sheet sets forth clearly the position of the Company's finances, but I wish to refer to a few points.

The extraordinary meeting held after the ordinary meeting last year, authorized your Directors to consolidate the total mortgage indebtedness of the company, by redeeming the whole issue of Tls. 100,000, 7 per cent. Second Mortgage Debentures of 1913, by an advance from the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation. The Debentures have, therefore, disappeared from our liabilities and the amount of Tls. 100,000 has been merged in the overdraft in current account with the Bank, which however, has been increased by only Tls. 54,608.59; or in other words, the combined liabilities of the Debentures and Bank overdraft have been reduced by Tls. 45,391.11 as at February 29, 1924:—

1923	Tls.	Tls.
Overdraft	579,551.57	
Debentures	100,000.00	679,551.57
1924		
Overdraft only		634,160.46
		45,391.11

You will be pleased to hear that to-day our overdraft is under the six lakhs.

The amount in Exchange Fluctuation account last year has been reduced by $3,858.77, caused by the difference in the rate of exchange, 73, at which the Debentures stood in our books, and the rate of 71 at which our books are kept. Sundry Creditors also show a reduction of $2,724.12 from last year.

Turning to the Assets. The value of your land and buildings has been reduced by $12,708.89 and furniture and fixtures by $3,750.00, by the sale of our Kuling property, which ceased to be a profitable investment, and your Directors considered it wise policy to accept an offer to purchase the land, buildings and furniture. The profit made on this transaction has been carried to profit and loss included in the balance from working accounts.

Our stocks have been reduced by $92,558.64, while sundry debtors have been increased by $4,261.62, due to some large contracts still outstanding.

Gentlemen, that is all I have to say, except a reference to the staff, who have worked well and given loyal support to the business during a very trying period, and although it is not possible to give a bonus, the Directors wish to express their appreciation of the work which has been done.

I will now propose the first resolution: "That the report and accounts as presented be passed." This is seconded by Mr. R. H. Gaskin, but before putting the resolution to the meeting it will be open for discussion, and I will do my best to answer any questions which may be put.

There were no questions and the resolution was carried, as also were the following:

That Mr. Leslie J. Cubitt be re-elected a Director: Proposed by Mr. A. K. Craddock, seconded by Mr. C. E. Shepherd.

That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors of the Company at an annual remuneration of $600 per annum. Proposed by Mr. C. E. Shepherd, seconded by Mr. A. K. Craddock.

This was all the business of the meeting.

SHANGHAI MUTUAL TELEPHONE CO., LD.

"Absolute Necessity of Increase in Subscribers' Rates:" Fall in Net Profits

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld., was held on Monday at the company's central offices in Kiangse Road. Sir Edward Pearce presided, in the absence of the Chairman, Mr. C. Holliday, and was supported by Messrs. C. M. Bain, W. P. Lambe and P. Le Bris. There were 4,091 shares represented.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the Chairman said:

Ladies and gentlemen:—Before commencing the business of the meeting I am sure we all think with regret of the absence of our Chairman, Mr. C. Holliday, who is still, I regret to say, in hospital. I am sure I voice the feelings of you all when I say we all wish him a safe recovery.

Continuing, the Chairman said: The report and accounts having been in your hands for some little time, I propose with your permission to take the report as read. With regard to the technical side of your business, the year under review has shown a marked increase in the demand for telephones—on last year's work there is an increase of 1,904 lines and 2,987 telephones. The total number of telephones, inclusive of exchange lines, private lines and extension lines, is 20,640. Our record of messages effected in one day amount to 199,352 calls, the average per subscriber per diem being 12.4. A telephone business is not placed in such a fortunate position as an ordinary commercial undertaking, inasmuch as an increase of a telephone system does not add proportionately to the profits of the undertaking. In spite of our growth our revenue per line has been steadily falling year by year, and we have consequently had to approach the two Municipal Councils with a view to an increase in our rates. In all big cities nowadays the message rate is adopted. This method it is hoped we will be able to commence as soon as we have installed the automatic system: Our east exchange—capable of carrying 700 lines—has now been completed on the automatic system and the experience to be gained with this small exchange will considerably help us with the large work to come. Tenders for a further 5,000 lines for the central exchange have been asked for.

Extension of Franchise

Attached to our report is a copy of the correspondence we have had with the Municipal Council which gives you the progress of our negotiations for an extension of our present franchise which expires in 1937. The progress we have made so far must, I think, be considered very satisfactory to all parties concerned, and will I hope meet with your approval. The matter is now in the hands of our legal adviser, and when the necessary documents are completed an extraordinary general meeting will be called to pass such alterations to our articles of association as will be needful, and to increase the capital of the Company.

Your directors intend inviting applications for the remaining 5,644 shares of the company's nominal capital at a price of about Tls. 75.00 per share. The applications will be confined to shareholders and subscribers and your directors would point out that these shares will participate in the issue of bonus shares in the proportion of one bonus share for every four shares so soon as the share capital of the company has been increased.

Inter-communication with Chinese Lines

The question of intercommunication with the Chinese Government Telephone Administration in the Native City and Chapei has again come to the front, but owing to certain conditions asked for by the Chinese authorities which neither the Municipal Council nor the company can agree to, there is not much hope at the moment that any agreement can be arrived at.

Working account—Turning to this account you will have noticed that our revenue account has increased by Tls. 125,082.92. This amount, however, has been very much reduced by the extra expenditure incurred in salaries and wages, our staff as you are aware having been very considerably augmented towards the end of last year. The net balance transferred to profit and loss account is Tls. 448,843.38, an improvement over the preceding 12 months of Tls. 38,601.11.

Profit and loss account—The decrease in rents of Tls. 7,043.42 is due to rooms in the central building being required for the company's use. Interest I am glad to say shows a credit of Tls. 7,698.93 against a debit last year of Tls. 1,812.43. There was a profit of Tls. 19,422.60 on the sterling bonds taken up by the company during the war, due to their sale and conversion into local currency.

On the debit side the principal increases have been in the Chinese provident fund of Tls. 8,118.99 and depreciation account of Tls. 48,855.34. The increase in the former is due to all Chinese employees being now placed on the fund instead of only those who had served two years as formerly. The latter of course is a natural increase due to the development of the company.

Reduction in Net Working Profit

The net profit shows an increase of Tls. 2,153.06, but this is after taking credit for Tls. 19,422.60 profit on the conversion of the sterling bonds. The net working profit is therefore considerably less than the previous year and goes to show the absolute necessity for an increase in the company's rates to subscribers.

Balance Sheet—There is nothing special to bring before the attention of the shareholders except that the entire cost of the material, etc., expended in connexion with the East Automatic Exchange is shown under "Automatic Exchange under Construction."

The foreign and Chinese employees' superannuation fund now amounts to Tls. 169,482.64, and it is probably that your board in the

future will have to invest a portion of this amount in a separate fund. I do not think there is anything further for me to add, but before moving the first resolution I shall be glad to answer to the best of my ability any questions the shareholders would like to ask.

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. C. M. Bain, the report and accounts were adopted.

The following resolutions were also carried:—

That the appropriation recommended by the Board be adopted.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. C. M. Bain.

That Messrs. C. Holliday and W. P. Lambe be re-elected as directors of the company.—Proposed by Mr. A. L. Anderson, seconded by Mr. J. T. Inch.

That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews be re-elected auditors of the company for the ensuing year at a remuneration of Tls. 1,000.—Proposed by Mr. R. E. Stewardson, seconded by Mr. W. A. Roberts.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CLUB AND SOCIETIES

LANCASTRIANS IN CHINA

Association's Annual Meeting: What is a Lancastrian? A Problem of Membership

"What is a Lancastrian," is a problem which worried the members of the Association of Lancastrian's in China for some time last Friday, at their annual meetting held at the offices of Maitland & Co., Ld. The question arose out of a proposal to make the rule of admittance to the association stricter than it is at present.

Mr. R. Grimshaw took the chair, supported by Messrs. H.W.P. McMeekin, R. W. Wells, E. G. Barnes, T M. Yates, H. H. Holgate and L. A. Harrap (hon. sec. and treas.).

The Chairman remarked that there had been a small profit on the year, which was quite satisfactory, but which might have been larger had some of the back subscriptions been paid. There had been a certain amount of apathy on the sporting side, and in reply to the letters he had sent out regarding tennis, only seven people had answered.

On the proposition of Mr. McMeekin, seconded by Mr. D. Kemp, the report and accounts were adopted.

In reply to a question regarding the association's benevolent fund, the Chairman said there had only been one call upon it during the year, and that was within the last two or three days, and meant paying out the sum of $40 only.

Mr. D. Kemp suggested that the fund might be more patronized if it were better known, to which the Chairman replied that if there were any deserving cases among Lancashire men in Shanghai the association would be only too pleased to give their aid, and if their funds were not sufficient, then he felt sure the members would not be backward in putting their hands in their pockets to help out a fellow countyman.—(Applause).

In reply to a question regarding the missing of the annual dinner during the year, the Chairman stated that this had only been done after due consideration on the part of the committee. They had felt that with so many people starving in Shanghai, people who could do with the price of a dinner, it would not be right to spend something like $800 or $900 on themselves for such a purpose.

Scotsmen Members.

Mr. P. Campbell raised the question of the membership rule, which stated that admittance would be granted to Lancashire-born people, or those who "had sufficiently identified themselves with the county by residence or otherwise." He thought that last phrase "or otherwise" much too loose. An association of this sort should be composed of Lancashire men only, whereas at present their list numbered Yorkshiremen and Scotsmen, of which latter, incidentally, he admitted he was one.

Similar views were expressed by members, and the general consensus of opinion appeared to be that the rule should be tightened up.

Mr. T. M. Yates remarked that the problem of what exactly was a Lancastrian was a difficult one. Take his own case. On his father's side his family was Lancastrian for generations back, but his mother was from the Isle of Man and had no connexion with Lancashire, except through marriage to his father. The problem remained, therefore, what was he, the son? He thought they could not be too strict owing to similar difficulties.

Mr. Kemp proposed that the rule be revised by the words "or otherwise" being struck out, and that the phrase "who had sufficiently identified himself with the county, either by birth or residence of not less than ten years" be put in. Mr. Barnes seconded this, but on the proposition of the Chairman the matter was left over for the incoming committee to deal with, that they might formulate a resolution to be brought up at the next annual meeting.

Proposed "Tea Fight."

Mr. McMeekin informed the meeting that Mr. Kearsley had very kindly offered to put his house and grounds at the committee's disposal if they should wish to hold some sort of social gathering during the year, and it was the speaker's suggestion that a "regular tea fight" to which they might all bring their wives, be arranged, at the price of, say, $2 per head.

The matter was left to the incoming committee.

The Chairman stated that it was intended to place a wreath on the War Memorial on June 3, the King's birthday, and he hoped there would be a good showing of members.

Officers for the coming year were elected as follows:

President: Mr. H.W.P. McMeekin.

Vice President: Mr. H. H. Holgate.

Hon. Sec. and Treas.: Mr. L. A. Harrap.

Committee: Messrs. E. G. Barnes, P. Carr, R. Grimshaw, R. W. Wells, T. M. Yates, and W. E. Dailey.

The meeting concluded with a very hearty vote of thanks, carried with acclamation, to Mr. Grimshaw for the work he had done during the past year as President of the Society.

SHANGHAI PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting: A Successful Year and Optimism for the Future

The annual general meeting of the Photographic Society of Shanghai was held at the Union Church Hall on Tuesday evening, Dr. Hay Bolton, President, taking the chair. There was a good attendance and the meeting was followed with enthusiasm.

The Chairman, presenting the annual report and accounts, said:

I think the first year's working of the resuscitated Society has been on the whole not unsatisfactory. We started off with an exhibition in order that members might see what work others were doing and also that the Committee might find out what talent there was lying dormant. And we finished off the year with another exhibition at which the quality of the work shown was maintained, but the proportion of members who did exhibit was somewhat small. The Committee is not certain that the competitive nature of our last exhibition was a wise thing, and the question will have to come up for discussion whether future exhibitions should be non-competitive,—the honour of having pictures hung being sufficient without awards. Numerous lectures and demonstrations have been held during the winter at which the attendance has been fairly good. Your Committee however feel that these meetings have been rather too formal and it is hoped that in future members will liven things up by taking more part in discussions of the various subjects. Considering our large membership of 130 the number who have turned out to the various expeditions has been disappointingly small, and I must confess that I have been remiss in that respect myself. Such excursions however are more in the nature of a holiday picnic than a search for serious photographic subjects as it is difficult to do good work in a crowd. To my mind the most flourishing branch of the Society is the Portfolio Section. Those members who have joined this section have been interested, amused, and—thanks to Mr. Mennie's able criticisms—instructed. And I am sure that no one who has contributed to the portfolio this season will wish to be left out of it in future.

On the proposition of the Chairman the report and accounts were adopted.

After a short discussion it was decided to alter the subscription rule in order to allow a member's wife to become a member on her husband's fee. The rule concerning the committee was also altered, so that instead of being limited to four the body can now be made as wide as desirable.

Officers were elected as follows:—

President: Dr. Hay Bolton.

Vice Presidents: Messrs. A.E.C. Hindson and F. Large.

Sec. and Treas.: Mr. Kendal Ward, in place of Mr. Vanderberg who intimated the impossibility of his carrying on.

Committee: Messrs B. T. Brideaux, (assistant secretary), Gutierrez (as lanternist) Dent, Hummel, Vanderberg, Chatel, Morita, Mishin, C. J. Westbrook and Godby.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the officers for their work during the past year.

SWIMMING BATH CLUB

Annual General Meeting

The 32nd annual meeting of the Swimming Bath Club was held on Monday at the Club house and was well attended by enthusiastic members. Mr. W. J. N. Dyer presided, supported by Messrs. F. B. Pitcairn, H. Martin, R. Grimshaw, Dr. Robinson, Mr. F. R. Ormston, Hon. Treas., and Mr. K. M. Cumming, Hon. Sec.

After the reading of the notice convening the meeting by the secretary, the Chairman stated that he was very much pleased with the successful season of this unique club, which was now holding its third meeting in the Club house, itself. They had a very enviable financial position, in that the reserve fund was added to, the expenses for last year were less than the season previous, while the subscriptions and ordinary revenue were much the same. He proposed the adoption of the report and accounts, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

He then stated that in future the water bill would amount to much more as the Waterworks company was raising the rates and he hoped, though he could not see how it could be avoided, that it would not be necessary to increase the subscription in 1925 to meet this large increase. He recommended that the incoming committee would consider the revision of the rules and regulations, for the present ones were considerably antiquated and the organization had outgrown them.

The following were elected to the general committee for the current year:—Messrs. W. J. N. Dyer, K. M. Cumming, H. Y. Irwine, H. Martin, R. P. Melhuish, F. R. Ormston, F. B. Pitcairm, R. E. Stewardson, H. V. Wilkinson and Dr. Robinson, while Messrs. R. W. Wingrove, J. J. Keegan, B. Firth, R. Grimshaw, L. A. Harrap and H. Morfey were elected on the balloting committee.

TELEGRAMS from Berlin to the Chinese press state that a Chinese in Germany attacked and injured Mr. Liang Shih-yi, a former Premier, who is the leader of the Chiaotung Party and better known in China as the "God of Wealth."

GEN. Chao Heng-ti, Governor of Hunan, has been ordered by Loyang to surrender to justice Gen. Chang Chin-yao (a former Tuchun of the province) whose apprehension has been demanded for years by the American Government in connexion with the murder of Mr. Reimerts, a missionary, during the Anfu trouble. Gen. Chao Heng-ti has not complied with Marshal Wu's request, but says he has ordered the fugitive general's arrest on quite another charge—attempting at Hankow to sell the public lands of the province.

CAPT. E. R. G. R. Evans, R.N., the Antarctic explorer, hero of the Dover Patrol Action in 1917, and of the China Sea, speaking in Weymouth, pleaded for the bad boy. He said:—"I am one of those unfortunate fellows. I was expelled from school at the age of eight because three of us went on a little expedition down Barking Creek. On the way we boarded an old barge with the idea of sailing to the Spanish Main. We laid in two guineas' worth of provisions, which I put down to my father's account, and then got arrested by two policemen."

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

CRICKET

Bad Day for the S.C.C.: Machine Gunners and S.R.C. Win by Wide Margins

Cricket commenced in earnest on Saturday afternoon, two first-class matches being played, and the Shanghai Recreation Club and the Machine Gunners claiming decisive victories over the S.C.C. "B" and "A" teams respectively. The cricket in both matches was interesting and though there was nothing startling in either game, the play augurs well for cricket for the remainder of our short season. Despite the fact that there had been extremely little opportunity of practice, there were both good bowling and batting performances and the fielding, on the whole, was keen and excellent.

The scores were as follows:—

S. C. C. "A" Team *v.* Machine Gun Co.

S.C.C. "A"

A. E. Lanning, l.b.w., b. Rawsthorne	4
R. D. Bell, c. Rogerson, b. Rawsthorne	5
D. Burn not out	42
C. R. W. Thompson, b. Rogerson	2
E. W. Stagg, b. Leach	14
A. H. Leslie, c. Rawsthorne, b. Leach	7
G. C. Beaumont, l.b.w., b. Rawsthorne	0
H. Langley, b. Leach	0
W. J. Monk, c. and b. Leach	0
J. J. Muller, b. Leach	0
W. G. R. Murphy, b. Leach	9
Extras	16
	99

BOWLING

	O.	M.	R.	W.
T. L. Rawsthorne	11	—	35	3
H. Rogerson	6	—	17	1
D. W. Leach	72	1	22	6
E. R. Duckitt	2	1	2	—
B. W. Duthoit	1	—	7	—

MACHINE GUN CO.

H. Rogerson, b. Murphy	3
E. R. Duckitt, retired	52
E. C. Baker, c. Bell, b. Thompson	62
D. W. Leach, c. Bell, b. Langley	61
A. E. Green, c. Lanning, b. Burn	26
T. L. Rawsthorne, c. Muller, b. Thomson	9
E. G. Barnes, b. Monk	0
C. Knight, c. Monk, b. Langley	2
G. E. Goolden, b. Thompson	1
B. W. Duthoit, c. Muller, b. Langley	0
G. C. Large, not out	0
Extras	20
	236

BOWLING

	O.	M.	R.	W.
G. C. Beaumont	13	—	58	—
W. G. R. Murphy	12	—	56	1
J. J. Muller	5	1	22	—
C. R. W. Thomson	5	—	30	2
H. Langley	7	—	28	3
W. J. Monk	2	—	17	1
D. Burn	2	—	5	1

Shanghai Recreation Club *v* S.C.C. "B."

The scores were are follows:—

S.R.C.

H. B. Ollerdessen, c. Bichard, b. Clifford	73
M. J. Divecha, c. Clifford, b. Morris	89
J. A. Quayle, b. Peck	0
A. J. Willis, c. Peck, b. Morris	39
C. H. Bhoora, not out	7
R. J. S. Brandt, T. W. R. Wilson, J. R. Johansson, C. E. Ollerdessen, W. T. Manley and R. F. Shroff did not bat.	
Extras	18
	226

BOWLING

	O.	M.	R.	W.
H. C. B. Peck	13	2	62	1
W. C. G. Clifford	12	—	54	1
P. S. Widdup	5	—	40	—
H. H. Morris	7.4	—	40	2
A. J. W. Evans	2	—	12	—

S.C.C. "B"

A. J. W. Evans, b. Divecha	47
H. H. Morris, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	11
J. Jupp, c. H. B. Ollerdessen, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	5
H. E. Muriel, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	4
W. C. G. Clifford, c. Johansson, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	3
C. E. M. Thomson, c. H. B. Ollerdessen, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	0
J. H. Raikes, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	6
G. F. H. Bichard, c. Johanssen, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	4
T. A. T. Begg, c. Manley, b. Ollerdessen	1 7
P. S. Widdup, b. T. W. R. Wilson	6
H. C. B. Peck, not out	0
Extras	17
	125

BOWLING

	O.	M.	R.	W.
C. E. Ollerdessen	22.2	7	53	8
T. W. R. Wilson	10	1	32	1
M. J. Divecha	12	4	23	1

MARATHON TRIAL RUN

London, May 31.

McCleod Wright (Scotland) won the Polytechnic London to Windsor Marathon (26 miles 385 yd.) in 2 hr. 53 min. 17-2/5 sec. Ferris (Air Force) came in second in 2 hr. 54 min. 3 sec., and Mills (Polytechnic) third in 3 hr. 2 min. 46-3/5 sec.

Eighty started in the race, which is recognized as the official Olympic trial.—Reuter.

BRITISH AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Tolley and Wethered Defeated: Holderness Amateur Champion

London, May 29.

In the fifth round of the British Amateur Golf Championship at St. Andrews to-day, the Scottish international, Denis Kyle, beat Tolley, 3 up and 2 to play.

Tolley's defeat was the more surprising as a feature of the fourth round this morning was the enormousness of his and Wethered's victories. Tolley beat Major Campbell, of Tantallon, 7 up and 5 to play, and Wethered beat C. Leese (Wilmslow), 7 and 5. On the other hand, Kyle beat Braid at the 21st hole after a terrific match.

In the fifth round, 2,000 people watched Tolley, who was excellent, but Kyle was in top form and his putting was deadly. The Scot was a hole up at the turn and after that seemed inspired.

Wethered beat Major Hezlet (Royal Portrush), 3 and 2, Caven defeated I. Sidebottom (Stockport) 2 and 1, Harris (Murcar) won from W. Tweedale, 3 and 2, and Holderness knocked out John Wilson (Prestwick), 3 and 2.—Reuter.

May 30.

The sixth round of the Championship was played at St. Andrew's in drizzling rain before a large number of spectators. The results were as follow:—

Storey beat John Caven 2 and 1.

Wethered (holder) beat the Irish champion, J. McCormack 3 and 1.

Murray beat Kyle 3 and 2.

Holderness beat Harris 2 and 1.

Wethered, who began the tournament brilliantly, fell away and played an indifferent game in defeating McCormack, and Storeys defeat of Caven, who was in wonderful form and was the chief Scottish hope, boded ill for the champion.

At St. Andrew's to-day, in the British Amateur Golf Championship semi-finals the Cambridge Captain and English International, E. F. Storey, beat the holder, Wethered, by 2 holes and E. Holderness, a former holder, beat W. Murray of Westhill, 3 up and 2 to play.

In the semi-final Wethered started well. Storey was one up at the fourth hole. Wethered won the fifth and halved the sixth, seventh and eighth. Storey got a brilliant three at the ninth holt, but Wethered at the eleventh and took the lead at the fourteenth. The fifteenth was halved, but Storey squared at the sixteenth and won the seventeenth and eigthteenth.

In the Holderness-Murray match the players were all-square at the turn. Then the ex-champion, by brilliant putting, took the lead at the twelfth, won the thirteenth and halved the next two holes. Murray was bunkered at the sixteenth, and Holderness did not have to hole out.

The Final Round.

London, May 31.

Mr. E. Holderness of Walton Heath, the 1922 Champion, beat Mr. E. Storey, the Cambridge University captain, by 3 up and 2 to play in the final of the Amateur Golf Championship at St. Andrews to-day.

The weather was bleak.

A sensational start was witnessed, Mr. Storey holding a 15-yard putt. He turned 3 up and was 4 up at the eleventh, where Mr. Holderness missed a yard putt. Then Story struck a bad patch. His driving was faulty.

Holderness on the other hand improved and finished the morning round 1 down.

Storey in the afternoon began badly and went from bunker to bunker. Holderness squared at the second and halved the third, the ex-Champion taking the lead at the fourth for the first time. The fifth and sixth were halved and Holderness won the seventh with a beautiful approach in three. He was then bunkered and lost the ninth and turned I up. Story squared at the eleventh, Holderness won the twelfth, was bunkered and halved the thirteenth, won the fourteenth and halved the fifteenth. Storey won the sixteenth and then pulled a drive amongst the spectators. Holderness running up to 10 feet

from the pin won the hole and match.

Professional Play.

May 31.

In the final of the Thousand Guineas Professional Golf Tournament, at Leeds to-day, Fred Robson (Cooden Beach) beat A. Compston (North Manchester) at the fortieth hole.—Reuter.

Leeds, May 30.

In the Thousand Guineas Professional Golf Tournament A. Compston (North Manchester) beat George Duncan (Hanger Hill), 4 up and 3 to play, and Fred Robson (Cooden Beach) beat J. Gaudin of Alwoodley, 3 and 2, in the semi-finals.—Reuter.

HOME CRICKET

Scotland v. South Africans: England and the Rest: County Championship

London, May 30.

The match between Scotland and the South Africans was continued [illegible] made 177 yesterday, to which the South Africans responded with 95 for three wickets. To-day the South Africans were all out for 186, Blanckenberg contributing 47. Scotland then went in a second time and made 163 for four wickets (Kerr 80 not out) and declared. In their second venture the South Africans made 59 for two wickets, and the match was drawn.

At Lord's, in the County Championship, Middlesex defeated Yorkshire by an innings and 152 runs. Yorkshire made 162 and 131, while [illegible] wickets (declared). For Middlesex, Dales scored 113, Stevens 114, Lee 70 and Mann 79.

England beat the Rest in the Test Trial match at Nottingham by three wickets. In the first innings the Rest made 295 (Holmes 86) and 199 in the second. England scored 270 in the first innings (Fender 81) and 226 for seven wickets in the second (Woolley 72). For England Tate took four wickets for 39 runs and Parkin four for 56.

Essex beat Notts at Leyton on the first innings. In the first innings of Essex, Douglas made 102 not out, while in the Notts' second innings Gunn made 112.

Gloucestershire won on the first innings in their match against Surrey at Bristol. Surrey scored 183 and 225, while Gloucester made 184 for nine (declared) and 93 for seven. Rain prevented further play.

In their match against Kent at Manchester, Lancashire won on the first innings. In Lancashire's second innings E. T. Tyldesley made 148 not out.

Somerset defeated Cambridge University at Cambridge by 115 runs.—Reuter.

1st Inn.

County	Fld	W	Lost	Won	Lost	Pts
Middlesex	5	4	0	1	0	23
Yorshire	5	4	1	0	0	20
Surrey	5	3	0	1	1	19
Lancashire	5	2	0	2	1	17
Sussex	5	2	1	2	0	16
Leicestershire	5	2	1	1	1	14
Somerset	4	2	0	1*	1	13
Glamorgan	8	2	5	1	0	13
Kent	5	1	0	1*	3	10
Worcestershire	4	0	0	2	2	8
Notts	4	1	1	0	2	7
Warwickshire	3	1	1	0	0	6
Essex	5	0	3	2	0	6
Derbyshire	5	0	3	1	1	4
Gloucestershire	4	0	3	1	0	3
[illegible]	[illegible]					

South Africans v. Scotland: Return Match

London, May 31.

[illegible] were all out for [illegible] South Africans. The South Africans, Meintjes took four wickets for 19 runs, [illegible] for the 14 and Dunne [illegible] for 16. The South Africans, at the close of play, were 261 for three wickets, Catterall [illegible] 116 and Nourse 78.—Reuter.

Glasgow, June 2.

The attendance was small and the cricket slow to-day for the continuation of the match between Scotland and the South Africans.

The South African total was 95 innings and 286 runs.

Following Scotland's phenomenal [illegible] innings, the South Africans made 389 for 5 wickets and declared. Hearne and Deane were both not out with 63 and 80 respectively. Scotland followed and were all out for 67, Dixon taking 6 wickets for 39.—Reuter.

The County Championship

London, June 3.

The matches between Middlesex and Notts at Lord's, Surrey and Essex at the Oval, Glamorgan and Northamptonshire at Cardiff, and Yorkshire and Kent at Hull, were all drawn owing to rain.

At Brighton, Sussex beat Somer[illegible]

At Manchester, Lancashire beat Warwickshire on the first innings. Warwick made 115, Parkin taking 6 wickets for 44 and R. Tyldesley 4 for 66, and 71 in the second innings, Parkin taking 4 wickets for 34 and Tyldesley 6 for 37. Lancashire declared with 132 runs for 3 wickets.

At Derby, Derbyshire beat Worcestershire on the first innings.

At Southampton, Gloucestershire beat Hampshire on the first innings. [illegible]

South Africans v. Yorkshire

Sheffield, June 4.

Rain interested with the play on the opening day of the match between Yorkshire and the South Africans. The weather was dull and the wicket sticky. The attendance was small. Yorkshire opened the game and when stumps were drawn had scored 187 for 5 wickets. Oldroyd made 67 and Rhodes 52—Reuter.

LAWN TENNIS

Davis Cup Competition

Arnhem, May 29.

In the second round of the Davis Cup competition, Mr. Jacob (India) beat M. Van Lennep (Holland), 0/6, 3/6, 6/2, 7/5, 9/7, and Mr. Sleem (India) beat M. Timmer (Holland), 6/1, 6/2, 6/2.

At the outset M. Van Lennep easily got the better of Mr. Jacob by means of better driving and beautiful drop-shots. Jacob was unsteady at the beginning, but gained the upper hand by steady base line play. Van Lennep became fatigued after leading 5-4 in the fourth set and 7-6 in the final set.

In the other game, Sleem was much superior to Timmer, who had no chance against Sleem's stonewall base-line play. Timmer was erratic in his smashes and volleys.—Reuter.

Arnhem, May 31.

MM. van Lennep and Timmer (Holland) beat Messrs Jacob and Hadi (India), 6/4, 4/6, 3/6, 6/2, 6/4, in the doubles match of the second round tie between Holland and India in the Davis Cup Competition.

It was a thrilling struggle. The Dutchmen were brilliant but somewhat erratic. They were leading 4/1 in the second set, when India won the next seven games successively. The Dutchmen recovered brilliantly in the fourth, but the deciding set was a desperate struggle, the sides dividing the first eight games equally. Then the Dutchmen produced another flash of brilliance and took the next two games and the match [illegible] matches to nil.

Arnhem, June 1.

In the second round of the Davis Cup Competition, India beat Holland [illegible] to one.

Mr. Jacob (India) beat M. Timmer (Holland), 6/2, 2/6, 6/2, 6/[illegible] —Reuter.

[illegible] him a keen match, as Timmer [illegible] and altogether too much for Lennep, returning the ball in spite of Lennep's hardest drives.—Reuter.

London, May 31.

In the second round of the Davis Cup Competition, Mr. J. Wheatley (Britain) beat Senor M. Alonzo (Spain), 6/3, 9/7, 3/6, 4/6, 6/4.

London, June 2.

At Edgbaston to-day, in the second round match between Britain and Spain in the Davis Cup Competition, Messrs. Godfree and Woosnam (Britain) beat Senors Alonzo and Flaquer (Spain), 6/1, 6/4, 6/8, 6/2.—Reuter.

London, June 3.

Britain beat Spain in the second round of the Davis Cup Competition by 3 matches to 2.

Senor Manuel Alonzo (Spain) beat Mr. Wheatley (Britain), 6/3, 9/7, 2/6, 6/0, while Mr. Gilbert (Britain) beat Senor J. Alonzo (Spain), 6/0, 6/4, 6/0.—Reuter.

Dublin, May 31.

In the second round tie between France and Ireland in the Davis Cup Competition, M. Coutieas (France) beat Mr. McCrea (Ireland), 6/3, 8/6, 3 6, 4/6, 7/5, and. M. Lacoste (France) beat Mr. Dillon (Ireland), 6/1, 6/2, 6/2.

Dublin, June 2.

In the Davis Cup doubles, played here to-day, MM. Lacoste and Couiteas (France) beat Messrs. Meldon and Dillon (Ireland), 8-6 6-1 6-2. France has thus won 3 matches to 0.—Reuter.

Dublin, June 3.

In the second round tie between France and Ireland, France won by 5 matches to 0.

M. Lacoste (France) beat Mr. McCrea (Ireland), 6/1, 6/3, 6/3, and M. Couiteas (France) beat Mr. Dillon (Ireland), 4/6, 1/6, 6/2, 11/9, 6/2.—Reuter.

BOXING

George Cook and Dick Smith Defeated at Albert Hall

London, May 29.

At the Albert Hall to-day, in two 15-round contests (heavyweights), the Londoner, Phil Scott, defeated the Australian, George Cook, on points, and Jack Bloomfield knocked out Dick Smith in the fourth round.—Reuter.

Flyweight Championship

New York, May 30.

In a match for the world's flyweight boxing championship to-night Pancho Villa, the holder, beat Frankie Ash decisively on points. Villa carried a relentless attack to Ash throughout the 15 rounds, winning each easily. Villa weighed 112 and Ash 110½ pounds.

Villa frantically tried for a knock-out in the closing rounds. In the 13th it appeared that he might succeed, but Ash pluckily survived, though several times he was staggering about. The Englishman often countered, but his blows carried no force. Villa was warned several times for using a back-hand punch and hitting after the bell. The spectators membered 10,000.—Reuter's American Service.

Carpentier Beaten

Michigan City, May 31.

Tom Gibbons beat Georges Carpentier to-day in a ten-round bout, before 30,000 spectators.

Carpentier repeatedly caught Gibbons's jaw with rights, but the American became ever more aggressive, butting the Frenchman into his corner and landing at close quarters. Carpentier sank to the floor in the ninth round, indicating that he had injured his right ankle, but struggled gamely to his feet and continued the contest, although limping badly. The match went the full 10 rounds. Gibbons was Carpentier's superior in every round, sometimes chasing him round the ring. The decision in favour of Gibbons was that of newspapermen at the ring-side as the law of Michigan does not permit a decision. Gibbons weighed 12 stone 9 pounds and Carpentier 12 stone 6 pounds.—Reuter's American Service.

Featherweight Championship: Leach Beaten by Mackenzie

London, June 3.

In a contest for the Featherweight Boxing Championship of Great Britain, at Holland Park Hall to-night, George Mackenzie, of Leith, beat Harry Leach, of Doncaster, on points.

Leach, who is only 18, outspeeded Mackenzie in the early rounds and got home several lightning right leads. For a time he outboxed his opponent, and at the half-way stage led well on points. After this, however, the Scotsman improved. Frequently landing left jabs and hooks to the head and body. In the last few rounds Leach tired, and Mackenzie, fighting hard to the end, won by a narrow margin.—Reuter.

Philadelphia, June 2.

In a ten-round bout here to-day Micky Walker successfully defended the world's welterweight boxing title, beating Lew Tendler on points.—Reuter's American Service.

THE DERBY RESULT

Sansovino's Win from St. Germans and Hurstwood

London, June 4.

Derby Result:—

Sansovino	1
St. Germans	2
Hurstwood	3

Won by six lengths; a neck. 27 ran.

Betting: 9-2 Sansovino; 100-7 St. Germans; 20-1 Hurstwood.

—Reuter.

[Lord Derby's Sansovino and Lord Astor's St. Germans were coupled in Tuesday's cabled betting as third favourites at 100—9 behind Diophon (6—1) and Tom Pinch (8—1). Mr. Somerville Tattersall's Hurstwood stood at 22—1 in the latest quotations received.]

Later.

In spite of a persistent rain and the heavy going enormous crowds gathered at Epsom to-day to witness the Derby. Their Majesties the King and Queen, the Prince of Wales and other members of the Royal family were present.

There was a false start, Grand Joy, Browside, Tom Pinch and Woodend going a furlong. Eventually the barrier ascended and a fair start was made, but Salmon Trout, Corolet and St. Germans were crowded out. Dawson City made the running from Arausio, Defiance, Polyphontes, Donzelon, Woodend, Skyflight, Tom Pinch, Hurstwood and Spalpeen, these quickly racing clear of Sansovino, Parmenio and Bright Knight. At the mile post Sansovino improved his position and joined Dawson City in descending the hill. Rounding Tattenham Corner, Dawson City was beaten, and Sansovino, entered the straight well clear of St. Germans, Hurstwood, Polyphontes and Parmenio. A quarter of a mile from home Lord Derby's colt increased his lead and won easily amid tremendous cheering. Parmenio was fourth, Polyphontes fifth and Salmon Trout sixth. The time was 2 min. 46⅘ sec.

The following were the starters:—

Sansovino (Weston), St. Germans (Frank Bullock), Hurstwood (V. Smyth), Arausio (R. Jones), Bright Knight (Lane), Browside (B. Lynch), Bucks Yeoman (Smirke), Canusa (Lister), Corolet (E. Morris), Dawson City (Jelliss), Defiance (Donoghue), Diophon (Hulme), Donzelon (Carslake), Grand Joy (Ingham), Great Barrier (J. Leach), Obliterate (T. Burns), Optimist II (McGee), Parmenio (Elliott), Polyphontes (McLachlan), Resinato (Archibald), Salmon Trout (Gardner), Skyflight (G. Richards), Spalpeen (O'Neill), Thunder Cloud II (Esling), Tippler (Childs), Tom Pinch (H. Beasley), Woodend (Beary).—Reuter.

The Woodcote Stakes

London, June 3.

The following is the result of the Woodcote Stakes, run at Epsom this afternoon:—

Iron Mask	1
Bravado	2
Dalmagarry	3

There were 11 starters. Won by two lengths; a length between second and third.

Betting:—5 to 1 against Iron Mask; 5 to 2 Bravado; 100 to 8 Dalmagarry.—"North-China Daily News" Special Service.

The Caterham Plate

London June 4.

The following is the result of the Caterham Plate, run at Epsom to-day:—

Bustle filly	1
Pommade Divine	2
David Garrick	3

There were 10 starters. Won by two lengths, four lengths between second and third.

Betting:—6 to 1 against Bustle filly; 5 to 2 Pommade; 10 to 1 David Garrick—"North-China Daily News" special Service.

PEKING, June 2.—A lawn tennis match between Peking and Tientsin was played here to-day and resulted in a win for Peking by one point.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

New Bisley Competition for Overseas Visitors with Record Entries

London, May 29.

Baron Cheylesmore, presiding at the annual meeting of the National Rifle Association, announced that a new Bisley competition, "The [illegible]seas," open to British [illegible]sects resident overseas, had been [illegible]duced in view of the [illegible] of visitors from the Dom[illegible]. The prize-list would amount to £100 not be charged.

The Baron went on to say that there would be a record number of competitors at Bisley this year, including representative teams from Canada, Australia, South Africa, India, Rhodesia, Natal, the Gold Coast and Malaya. He said that the Australians, the holders of the Empire trophy, had again waived their right to have the match competed for in Australia and were sportingly bringing the trophy to be contested for at Bisley. [illegible] announced that the Prince of [illegible] had consented to present the [illegible] at Bisley this year.—Reuter.

MAGISTRATES and police [illegible] in Chekiang have been in[illegible]ed by the Hangchow Commi[illegible] of Foreign Affairs to afford [illegible] to Mokanshan necessary protection and to see that no untoward incidents happen so far as they are concerned.

AN American visitor to Colombo from the President Garfield recently made a strange bequest to a police constable. The constable was on duty on the vessel referred to when the American approached him and handed him a small black bear in a box, subsequently writing on a slip of paper. "I . . . . . give and bequeath my honey bear to Police Constable. . . . ." The constable was somewhat embarassed by the unusual gift, but the American insisted upon his retaining it, and the result is that the police mess has acquired a queer pet. The Customs duty on the animal, which came from Singapore, was, incidentally, 20 cents.

IT is recorded that Nestorian missionaries from Persia entered China in the seventh century and translated some part of the Scriptures. But not a fragment of this ancient version has come down to the present day, states the "Bible in the World." A Mongolian version of the New Testament and Psalms was made some seven centuries later by a Franciscan monk, but this version has also disappeared. Jesuit missionaries, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, made a partial translation of the Scriptures into Chinese. Morrison copied a manuscript of this in the British Museum before leaving England and used it as the basis of his translation. There is no evidence that the Roman Catholic missionaries ever put their version into circulation among the people.

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MUNICIPAL GAZETTE NEWS

Volunteer Corps.

Long Service Medals.—Issue of the Long Service Medal to the following has been approved:—

Band Section.

	Active
Tpr. S. Brand Sorensen	1913-present date

Machine Gun Company.

2/Lt. W. J. Brown	1904-11 1915-16 1922-present date
Ger. E. G. Barnes	1911-18 1920 1922-present date

"B" Co., British.

Captain F. J. W. Melville	1916-present date Reserve 1910-15

American Company.

Supply Sgt. N. A. Viloudaki	1900-02 1916-present date

Shanghai Scottish Company.

Co. Sgt.-Major T. W. R. Wilson	1905-11 1915-16 1922-present date
Pte. C. L. Campbell	1903-07 1915-21 Reserve 1924

Excerpts from Minutes.

Proposed for Storied Parking Garage.—Works Department report with alternative plans for a building to accommodate from 200 to 400 cars has been circulated. From the figures submitted, it is noted that the approximate cost of a building to accommodate 208 cars is Tls. 220,000 based on the assumption that land can be acquired for the purpose at Tls. 50,000 per mow, which estimate, so far as regards the price of land, is considered low. In comment on the proposal the Acting Commissioner of Police suggests that the only means by which an exhaustive, impartial and authoritative survey of the whole traffic question could be made and a comprehensive policy formulated is by the appointment of a special Traffic Commission. Members favour this suggestion, and recommend that the matter be referred to the Watch Committee for its consideration.

Fire Brigade Report for April.

The total number of calls received was 35, of which 29 were genuine fires, 25 (including 2 chimney fires) occurring within the Settlement and 4 *outside*. The remaining 6 were *false* alarms.

The damage on assessed property within the Settlement was estimated at Tls. 31,850 (Foreign Tls. 1,000: Chinese Tls. 30,850), whilst the property at risk was estimated at Tls. 848,000 (Foreign Tls. 38,500: Chinese Tls. 809,500).

No lives were lost, but 3 firemen and 4 other persons were injured at fires within the Settlement. One woman was injured at a fire outside the Settlement.

Six premises were destroyed and 16 were damaged.

In dealing with these calls Brigade machines travelled approximately 324 miles, 30,030 feet of hose were used, and the time occupied was approximately 201¼ hours.

The fires of note attended by the Brigade are as follows:—

April 17, 7.54 a.m. P. & O. S. N. Co.'s S.S. Mirzapore, Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co.'s Pootung Wharf.

No. 3 lower hold containing about 3,800 bales of Indian press-packed cotton was well alight on arrival of the Brigade, under the Chief Officer, and the Customs Float. Owing to the dense fumes, difficulty was experienced in removing the lower portion of the cargo, and a large quantity of water had to be used to deal with the outbreak. The whole of the cargo in No. 3 hold was more or less affected by either fire or water, but the fire was confined to this hold. During the operations a number of Officers and Men were affected by carbon monoxide fumes and had to be revived by oxygen. Dr. Gauntlett crossed over and rendered valuable assistance.

April 18, 1.56 a.m. Tientsin and Shanse Roads. Shops, Restaurants, etc.

Central Division found no less than ten wooden-fronted shops, restaurants, etc., at the corner of Tientsin and Shanse Roads in flames. The fire was spreading rapidly, the flames sweeping the houses on the opposite sides of both roads, and Hongkew turned out to render assistance. The fire was practically confined to where it was found, but eleven premises were badly damaged.

The unusual rapidity with which the fire spread causes the outbreak to be regarded with a good deal of suspicion.

Return of Communicable Disease.

Reported during the weekending Saturday, midnight, May 31, 1924.

	Foreign Cases notified from within Settlement limits (Estimated population 21,400)	Deaths among Chinese (Estimated population 82,600)
Small-pox	0	1
Cholera	0	0
Typhoid Fever	1	3
Paratyphoid Fever	2	0
Diphtheria	1	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0
Tuberculosis	0	11
Plague	0	0
Amœbic Dysentery	0	2
Bacillary Dysentery	1	
Relapsing Fever	1	0
Measles	0	6
Total Deaths from all Causes	7	142

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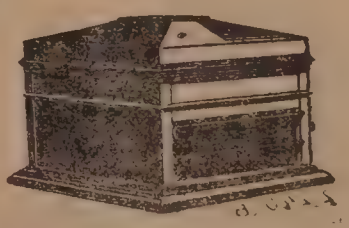

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LAW REPORTS

"A CAT AND DOG LIFE"

Husband's Allegations of Ill-Temper against Wife: Story of Insults and Ill-usage

At H. M. Supreme Court on Wednesday, before Judge Sir Skinner Turner, Mrs. Lena Brook prayed for a decree of restitution of conjugal rights. Mr. M. Reader Harris appeared for petitioner; Mr. R. G. McDonald for respondent.

Petitioner pleaded that her husband had refused to take up marital relationship with her since September, 1922, in spite of repeated pleas on her part that they should continue to live together. The answer filed was that though Mr. Brook had certainly refused conjugal rights, he was justified, inasmuch as his wife was possessed of a violent and uncontrollable temper, that she had assaulted him and made allegations of immorality against him in front of his guests, and that she had committed adultery with various persons since their marriage.

Mr. Reader Harris, outlining his case, stated that Mrs. Brook received a letter from her husband on August 17, 1923, definitely refusing to live with her any longer.

Mr. McDonald contended that petitioner should be put into the witness box in order that the letter be proved.

Mr. Harris said since the offence was virtually admitted in the answer filed by defendant this was unnecessary.

The Judge held that it was necessary to prove the letter and also that where a petition of this description was concerned it was also necessary formally to prove the marriage, and that would necessitate petitioner going into the witness box.

Mrs. Lena Brook, in evidence, said the marriage took place at H. M. Consulate in Shanghai on February 16, 1912. On August 17, 1923, her husband wrote to her stating his intention of living at the Shanghai Club and refusing to live with her any longer. He had carried out that intention and had not lived with her since.

Cross-examined by Mr. McDonald witness denied that there had been serious quarrels between herself and her husband four years after their marriage. There were no serious disagreements until September, 1921.

Mr. McDonald:—Is there any reason why your husband should refuse to live with you?—No.

Wife's Alleged Assaults on Husband.

Further cross-examined witness denied that she was of violent and quarrelsome disposition, or that she ever used abusive language to her husband, or shouted at him and accused him of immorality so that people passing their house in Weihaiwei Road could hear. She further denied locking him out of their house on three occasions in November, and once in October, 1922, so that he had to break in by the back way.

Mr. McDonald—Do you deny that on several occasions in April or May of 1922 you struck him with your clenched fists and open hand?—I do.

Mr. McDonald—Do you deny, also, that about November, 1922, you struck him with a chair, and on several occasions that month you threw various articles, such as books, coin, etc., at him—That is not true.

Asked whether it were not true that she had assaulted her husband in the presence of their child at Weihaiwei in September, 1922, witness said it was not true, and she could bring the child into Court to say so.

The Judge—How old is the child?

Witness—Seven years of age.

Threatened to Slap His Face.

Mr. McDonald—Have you ever used an angry word to your husband?

Witness—No.

Have you ever had a quarrel with him?—Only on one occasion.

And you never used an angry word to him then?—No.

Further questioned witness admitted that she did on one occasion threaten to slap her husband's face.

Mr. McDonald—Did you on one occasion threaten to go down and throw things at your husband through the window of the Shanghai Club?—No, never.

Mr. McDonald—Do you deny that in April and December of 1922 you called your husband a "damned liar," a "damned cad," a "damned thief" and a "damned cur"?—I did not call him those names.

Did you ever accuse him of being an associate of Russian harlots and a loose and immoral man generally?—No.

Mr. McDonald—Now Mrs. Brook we come to the last allegations. Do you deny admitting to your husband in September, 1922, after returning from a holiday at Tsingtao, that you had, at Tsingtao, committed adultery with various persons?—I never made such an admission.

Do you remember refusing to give your husband the names of the persons involved?—I do not because I never made the admissions.

Can you give any reason why your husband should be prepared to go into the witness box and swear that you did?—Yes I can give a reason.

Further questioned, Mrs. Brook admitted that if all these allegations were true no man could be expected to live with his wife, but, she added, they were not true.

Husband's Character

Mr. McDonald—I put it to you that your husband is a man of the highest moral character.

The Judge here pointed out to counsel that Mrs. Brook had not, in the petition to the Court, made any suggestions that he was otherwise. He would be putting such a question at his own risk, because he would have to accept the answer, whether in the affirmative or otherwise.

Counsel repeated the question, however, and after some hesitation witness returned a negative answer.

Mr. Reader Harris, (re-examining)—Why should your husband make these scandalous allegations against you?

Witness: Because he wants to get a divorce. I have seen him at his office several times, and also once at the General Hospital where my little son lay sick with typhoid, and when I asked why he was making these allegations he said he wanted to get a divorce, and unless I gave him one he would trump up every charge he could think of. He was determined to get a divorce at any price.

Further questioned Mrs. Brook said her husband had never accused her of committing adultery at all until they came into Court.

Racecourse Incident

Asked on what was the occasion she had had the one quarrel she admitted, Mrs. Brook said it occurred on the steps of the grandstand at the Race Course during the spring meeting. Her husband was standing with another lady and when she went past he looked straight at her and refused to recognize her. She spoke to him and he still refused to recognize her. She got him by himself later on, and then told him that if he ever repeated the offence she would slap his face in front of the general public.

Regarding the allegations her husband made against her at Tsingtao, witness stated that while she was at that resort her husband had been seen about quite a lot in Shanghai with a certain lady whose name she would not mention. He had lent her witness's car and it had been seen standing outside the lady's door on several occasions. She understood her husband had had relations with this lady.

Mr. Reader Harris—Did you commit adultery at Tsingtao?—No.

The Judge—When did you really cease living together?—Since September, 1922.

Petitioner's "Ungovernable Temper"

Mr. Brook, in evidence, said there had been constant friction between himself and his wife since 1916. She was possessed of an ungovernable temper and had frequently abused and insulted him. On one occasion he was going out to dinner and a friend called at his house at about 8 o'clock to go in his car. When they had both got to the car witness's wife came down the steps and called him various names, accusing him of immorality with Russian women and Japanese women, so that his friend could hear.

Witness went on to describe the incidents when he had to break into his house by the back entrance because Mrs. Brook had locked him out. One Christmas he had intimated his intention of going out to dinner. His wife threatened to cause trouble if he did, and so for the sake of peace and quiet he stopped in, but she went out to dinner. That night as he lay in bed reading she came back and started quarreling again. She got into a frenzy and threw his book at him and various other articles, including some coins he had left on the dressing table. She then picked up a $50 note, also lying on the dressing table, and tore it to shreds before his eyes, throwing the pieces into the fireplace. When she came back to Shanghai from her Tsingtao holiday they met to talk things over, and again she flew into a temper and told him that she had committed adultery there, not with one man but with a number of men. He asked her if she realized the seriousness of what she was saying and intimated that this was the finish as far as they were concerned. After that he had had nothing to do with her.

Cross-examined witness admitted that he had suggested a divorce as the best way out.

Mrs. Brook's Alleged Perjury

Mr. McDonald, for respondent, characterized petitioner's story as being totally untrue. With the exception of three statements she had made, her whole evidence amounted to perjury. The three exceptions were the statement as to her name, the statement as to the date of the marriage, and the statement that she had threatened to slap her husband's face. He submitted that the decree asked for in this case should in no wise be granted. The two people concerned had lived a cat and dog life, probably with as much friction as ever existed between any two people in Shanghai. Then they should look at the way in which the woman had given her evidence. She had made up her mind to go into the box and deny every statement made against her, absolutely regardless of the truth, but she had gone too far. Asked whether she had even used an angry word to him she had not the sense to say "yes," that she was just a human being and had angry words with her husband occasionally in the same way as everyone else. She went as far as definitely to deny even that. If they accepted her story there was not a woman in Shanghai who was such a model of virtue as she. There had been constant trouble between these two, and to send them back to live with each other would be wrong, and to show up the marriage laws as a mockery of the sanctity of married life.

The Tsingtao Incidents.

Mr. Reader Harris also addressed the court at some length. He reminded his lordship that Mrs. Brook had said in her evidence that the first intimations she had of these charges of adultery were when she saw them in the answer filed to her petition. He submitted that they were entirely untrue, and were put in the answer with a view to frightening the lady out of bringing her case. Since she had decided to proceed all the respondent could do was to brazen it out. They had heard that these adulteries had all taken place in Tsingtao, yet they had it in evidence that the husband had sent his wife to Tsingtao for a holiday the following year, and had paid her fare and supplied her with money, also leaving the children with her. It seemed rather a remarkable thing to do to send an adulterous wife back to the scene of her adulteries, pay her fare and give her charge of the children. He had supported his wife while she was there, also, but had sent her a letter to the effect that the $500 a month he was allowing her, he might not be able to keep up. And that was the real reason the petition had been brought. If the decree were granted and the husband refused to return, then alimony could be obtained and assured.

The Judge reserved his decsion.

THE Chinese Government has telegraphed to the Powers which participated in the Washington Disarmament Conference urging them to send representatives to China to investigate into China's judicial system and the question of extraterritoriality. China, the message states, has now adjusted her judicial system.—Reuter.

SEQUEL TO GRANTHIS' CASE

Civil Proceedings Now Brought against Sucha and Amar Singh

Sucha Singh and Amar Singh, the two granthis of the Sikh Gurdwara, North Szechuen Road, who were recently acquitted at H. M. Supreme Court on a charge of misappropriating $910 belonging to the ghee fund, appeared before Judge Grain on Monday to answer a civil claim for the same amount. Plaintiffs were the Sikh police, represented by Mr. E. T. Maitland.

The funds in question were in respect of a consignment of ghee sent out to the Gurdwara from India, and placed in charge of the defendants, who were granthis, or priests, of the Gurdwara, and by whom it was sold. The funds accruing from the sale, it is alleged, should have been returned to the police, who state in their petition that it was short by $910. Defendants pleaded in the criminal proceedings that a part of the money was spent on entertaining a delegation from Singapore, that some payments were outstanding, and the rest was given over to the police. They denied that they had misappropriated the money.

All of Monday morning was spent in hearing the evidence of Indar Singh, treasurer to the Gurdwara, who went through the books at some length, and the case wsa adjourned till the 10th instant.

SEAMAN'S WILD NIGHT

Charge at H. M. Police Court: Violence in Hongkew and at Police Station

A seaman's wild night ashore was described at H. M. Police Court on Saturday, when William Best, a member of the crew of the str. William Camkin, appeared before Mr. Peter Grain on charges of having been drunk and disorderly, assaulting the police, assaulting a Japanese woman, and doing damage in the police station charge room.

From the evidence of various witnesses, it appeared that Best first became troublesome outside the Isis Theatre, where he made a rush for several rischa men. He attempted to assault one who was drawing a ricsha in which a Japanese woman was riding, and in attempting to avoid him the coolie swerved and overturned the ricsha, the woman receiving an injury which had to be attended to at hospital. Two foreigners, Messrs. Berthet and Hinton, assisted the police to arrest the defendant and he was got to the police station. Here he used bad language, broke the guard rail, and threw a book at the head of the sergeant on duty, but was finally put in a cell, where he raved for about a quarter of an hour before falling asleep.

Mr. Berthet, who is a chemist, told the court that he noticed a strong smell of cocaine about the defendant, who spoke to him of having gone to a Russian house.

Defendant said that he remembered nothing about the affair.

The Magistrate—You said you had been to a Russian house.

Defendant—Yes, but when I am drunk I'll tell 'em anything.

In answer to further questions, Best denied that he had taken cocaine on Friday or any other day, but added that he had had plenty of drinks.

The Magistrate, observing that the case was a serious one, said defendant would be lucky in not being sent to prison, and he would not do this because it would leave him "on the beach" and without a ship when he came out in a month's time. He would have to pay a fine of $10, and $25 (to be deducted from his wages) for the damages and compensation. Mr. Grain furthered ordered that the police should escort Best back to his ship, which was sailing that day.

OBTAINING honours in the whole general examination, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, mechanics, mensuration, surveying, experimental science and geometrical drawing, F. H. Castro, of St. Xavier's College, has won the Engineering Society of China's Mathematical Bursary. The prize was awarded on best results in the Cambridge Junior Local Examinations.

INQUEST AT UNITED STATES COURT

Unemployed Seaman's Death Outside the Hanbury Institute

Before Mr. Nelson E. Lurton, U. S. Commissioner for China, and a jury composed of Messrs D. J. Lawson, G. R. McCoy, T. A. Magee, N. A. Viloudaki, and D. H. Wythe an inquest was held on Monday afternoon on a body presumed to be that of Milton A. McGillvrey, an unemployed American seaman, who was paid off the str. William Campion some days ago. Dr. T. B. Dunn stated that he was called to the General Hospital on Saturday afternoon and found the deceased unconscious, apparently suffering from a basal fracture of the skull and not likely to live long. To confirm the diagnosis he took a spinal puncture. The external marks of injury, he stated, were slight but he had known cases of fractured skulls with even less external evidence of injury. He found no evidence of intoxication, the patient did not regain consciousness while he was with him, and he was later informed of his death.

Police constable W. B. Curtis of Hongkew Station stated that when on duty on Friday, May 30, about 11.45 p.m. on Broadway near the Astor bar, a ricsha coolie spoke to him, saying "Have got foreign man." On finding the foreigner incapable of moving, and smelling of Chinese wine, he had him taken in the ricsha to Hongkew Station, carried him up the stairs, into the charge room, where he was charged with being drunk and incapable. He did not appear conscious and grunted like a drunken man, no marks of violence being apparent. Deceased was handled gently.

Sgt. C. Doyle, on duty at the Hongkew Station, stated that he assisted in taking the deceased into the charge room, that he staggered, and appeared drunk and incapable. Sgt. E. C. Stokes who relieved the previous witness said that he first saw deceased lying on the floor of the charge room, apparently drunk and incapable. He was taken to a cell as is customary in such cases, made as comfortable as possible and visited every half hour. Deceased behaved as a drunken man would do. No marks of violence were seen. When deceased showed no signs of sobering up after some hours, witness visited him more often and about 5 a.m. called the ambulance and had him taken to the General Hospital.

Chief Inspector O'Toole of Hongkew Station stated that about 2 o'clock on Monday afternoon two unemployed seamen had called at the Station to inquire about the deceased and one of them, Kelly, had stated that he saw the deceased at the Hanbury Institute on Friday afternoon about 2 o'clock and noticed his condition. The assistant manager of the Institute, Mr. Murphy, also noticed deceased's condition, said this was no place for him and pushed him out. Kelly told the Inspector that he believed the deceased was injured at that time. In view of the fact that Mr. Murphy resigned from the Institute on Friday the Inspector suggested that it would be well to secure his testimony, as well as that of Kelly, but that it had not been possible on account of the shortness of time to present them for this hearing. The Commissioner asked the Inspector to assist him in bringing the two men, who are both British, to the adjourned hearing at 9 o'clock next morning, and also to find the Chinese girl whose picture was found among the deceased papers, to ascertain from her when she had last seen the deceased.

Further evidence was given on Tuesday, Mr. E. T. Maitland, Police Prosector, conducting the examination.

Maurice Kelly, an oiler, said that he saw McGillvery put out, althangh he was not making a disturbance.

A. F. Adams, another seaman, stated that deceased was dragged across the floor by his collar and thrown down three or four stairs, so that he fell on the pavement, striking his head.

The No. 2 coolie at the Institute said that the man fell down; he was not pushed.

Nicholas Rusesky, manager of the Astor Bar, said that the deceased went to sleep at a table and remained there until the bar was about to close. Witness was unable to waken the deceased, so he carried

him outside and left him on the pavement with a Sikh and a Chinese policeman.

Chinese Policeman No. 261 stated that he did not think the man was injured when he was put out.

Charles D. Murphy stated that he was formerly manager of the Hanbury Institute, but he resigned at 9 o'clock on the morning of May 30. On the afternoon of May 30 he saw deceased sitting at a table, with another man, Kelly, shaking him. There was a film coming out of his mouth. Witness told him to leave and deceased got out of his chair, made a swing at witness and said, "I'll punch your head." Witness took hold of his arm and walked him along with a Chinese boy on the other side. At the top of the stairs deceased swung round to strike the boy, overbalanced, and fell in the street.

The jury remained in consultation for about an hour, finally returning the verdict that McGillvery died from a fracture of the skull caused by a fall down the front steps of the Hanbury Institute while being evicted therefrom by C. D. Murphy.

HUANGPU TRAGEDY

Fireman Returning to the Roman Prince Drowned on Sunday Night

An inquest was held by Mr. R. F. le Mesurier at H. M. Police Court on Wednesday on John Alphonse Rigby, a fireman on board the str. Roman Prince, who was drowned in the Huangpu on Sunday night.

Deceased had been ashore with a man named Durrand, who stated that they returned in a sampan at about 11.30 p.m. to where the ship was lying, off No. 10 section of the river. It was a dark night, but witness got on to the gangway safely expecting deceased to follow. He heard a splash and on looking round saw deceased's head disappearing under the water. The watchman threw a couple of life-belts to him, and they searched for an hour, but failed to find the body. They were both sober.

Evidence was given by Pol.-Sgt. F. Visser, Water Police, as to finding the body close to the New Point *Hotel* on the foreshore at 2.30 p.m. *on* Saturday.

Mr. Wm. L. Duncan, master of the Roman Prince, and Mr. Wm. Evans, Chief Officer of the vessel, described deceased as a steady and reliable man.

The proceedings were adjourned for medical evidence to be procured, the Coroner intimating that subject to this evidence a verdict of accidental death by drowning would be returned.

JUDGE PURDY AND HIS COMPRADORE

Breezy Comment in Compradore's Action to Recover $2,397.91

Evidence was heard by Judge Purdy at the U. S. Court on Tuesday in the action of Tong Jack-hing *v.* Andreas Teodoro (trading as the Philippine American Import & Export Co.). Plaintiff alleges he entered the services of defendant as compradore. During the two months he acted in that capacity he paid chits worth $2,397.91 upon request of Teodoro; further he estimated his services during that period at Tls. 300. The defence was a general denial. There was a counter-claim for Tls. 5,000, alleging that plaintiff did not abide by the terms of his agreement to serve for one year and that he did not advance the agreed amount of Tls. 10,000.

Plaintiff stated that he had advanced the sums, though in cross-examination he said he did not always know for what purpose the funds were used.

The Judge—I guess that is right. My compradore advances me funds daily and does not know why or where it goes.

To another question regarding the relations between the company and compradore, Judge Purdy commented that it was not necessary for a compradore to advance all sums required, if so there might not be many compradores. He himself would like to get one or two wealthy compradores, were such the usual procedure.

Judgment was given in favour of plaintiff for $2,397.91 and one month's claim for salary—Tls. 150.

WEBB v. "CHINA PRESS"

Question of Particulars not Furnished by Defendants: Judge Purdy's Logic

Judge Milton D. Purdy of the United States Court for China on Wednesday stated that facts in the case of C. Herbert Webb *v.* The China Press, Inc., which were not stipulated definitely in the bill of particulars of the defendants might be ruled out at the hearing if they proved inimical to the interests of the plaintiff.

Two weeks ago, Judge Purdy ruled that the defendant's counsel should provide a bill of particulars covering certain affirmative allegations in defendant's answer to the original complaint. Yesterday, he was informed that defendant's counsel had given a vague bill of particulars to counsel for the attorneys for Mr. Webb. Mr. H. D. Rodger, of Rodger & Husar, and Mr. C. S. Franklin appeared for Mr. Webb. Defendant was not represented at the hearing.

Mr. Franklin told the Court that defendant alleged certain actions on the part of the plaintiff without specifiying the dates or giving the names. Counsel for defendant stated that plaintiff charged the defendant with assigning under-employees of the "China Press" to do certain work for which they were unfitted and then cancelling these orders; of failing to write sufficient editorial matter for the "China Press;" of entertaining in the "China Press" office persons who had nothing to do with that publication; and several similar allegations, none of which, they said, were accompanied with names, dates and circumstances.

Plaintiff's counsel wanted an order to issue from the Court directing them to be more explicit with their charges in order that plaintiff's counsel might meet the allegations in the trial, which opens to-morrow morning.

Judge Purdy said he did not fancy the idea of giving an order when counsel for both sides were not represented in Court; that he very much feared if an order were to issue it could not be complied with by the time the case is to be opened; but that he would give counsel for plaintiff time in which to meet the issues after the case begins and that he would see that no facts are allowed to be brought out for which plaintiff's counsel had refused detailed mention in the bill of particulars and which had not been given.

"Back home, lawyers make a lot about bills of particulars, but when these are provided they generally put them on the side of their desk and go ahead to try the case," said Judge Purdy. "I know, because I've had many of them furnished to me when I was a practising lawyer."

THE BAIKAL ROAD MURDER

Man and Two Women Charged at Mixed Court: A Gruesome Story

A gruesome tale of the finding of the hacked body of a Chinese was described to Messrs. Whitamore (British Assessor) and Li (Chinese Magistrate) at the Mixed Court on Monday when two women (Ziang Wo-sz and Ching Zia-sz) and a man (Moo Ching-yoong), natives of Shaohsing, were charged with the murder of one Tsang Tsung-foo at 1364 Baikal Road on the morning of May 13.

Sub-Inspector MacDermott stated that the police had received information regarding the affair from a woman who lived downstairs (accused renting the upper section of the house) who said that blood was dripping downstairs through the ceiling from the floor above. Witness, accompained by several Chinese detectives, went to the spot, where they found exactly what the woman had told the police. They went upstairs and arrested the three accused who were there at the time. A careful search was then made of the room and an automatic pistol and 76 rounds of ammunition as well as some bloodstained rags were found under the bed. Further search revealed that blood was leaking from a Chinese white pig-skin trunk which, the woman stated, she had seen being brought into the house by the male accused earlier in the day. The trunk was at once broken open and the police were confronted with the mutilated body. Closer inspection showed that the body bore a bullet wound in the right temple and a stab wound below the left ear. The man had evidently died two hours before the discovery was made. The bullet taken from the head, however, was a .32 and did not correspond with the others that were seized. The accused, when questioned, stated that another man had committed the crime and he had now absconded. They had taken no part whatever.

Other evidence was given by police witnesses and the case was again adjourned.

MR. GOLDRING'S REPLY

Explanation that by Mathias's "Torture" He Meant Effect of Solitary Confinement

Last week, Mr. E. T. Maitland, Police Prosecutor, appeared at the Mixed Court and made an application to Mr. Martin, British Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan, that Mr. P.W. Goldring, solicitor, be called upon to retract a statement he made to the court recently regarding alleged ill-treatment of Oscar Mathias, who is detained in custody for debt. He characterized Mr. Goldring's statement as "wild, irresponsible, and untrue, and tending to bring the Model Settlement into disrepute."

Mr. Goldring appeared at the court last Friday and made his answer. He began by saying that he considered it to be absolutely wrong that anyone attached to the court should have been allowed to make an *ex-parte* statement about another practioner without his being present to answer, and that a motion should have been brought without his receiving notice of it as it reflected upon him as a member of the Bar. He entirely denied that there was anything untrue, wild or irresponsible in the statement made regarding Mathias. What he attacked was not the methods of the so-called Model Settlement, or of the police, but the system of imprisonment for debt.

The Assessor—You did say that the conditions of imprisonment amounted to little less than torture.

Worse than the Fleet Prison

Mr. Goldring—What I did say was that I had had a letter from Mathias saying that solitary confinement was so preying upon his mind that he had thought of committing suicide, and that this amounted to little less than torture, and I repeat, it is torture for him or for anybody else to be locked up in that place without any human intercourse. Counsel repeated his description of the small room in which the prisoner was lodged, containing a bed and a chair but no table, and having primitive sanitary arrangements, and insisted that nothing he had said was untrue. Even in such places as the old Marshalsea and Fleet Prison, the inmates did have some human intercourse, but this man was absolutely alone.

The Assessor—It does amount to solitary confinement because, unfortunately for Mr. Mathias, he is the only foreigner there.

Mr. Goldring—I have always argued, and always shall argue, that unless a creditor can prove that a debtor has means to pay it is nothing short of cruelty to put a man in gaol for debt. In this case there was utter failure to prove that Mathias was able to pay, and that being so, he should not be kept in custody. In no civilized country is it done. That was all I was arguing, and I do not think I said one untruthful word; certainly my statements were not wild or irresponsible. I spoke with a full sense of responsibility, and in view of the publicity given to Mr. Maitland's remarks, I take this opportunity of refuting them.

Friends Allowed to Visit Him

The Assessor said the court would accept Mr. Goldring's statement that the torture he referred to was solitary confinement, which probably did amount to torture. It would have been advisable to notify him that Mr. Maitland proposed to make a statement to the court. His honour had visited the prison, and it seemed to him that nothing more could be done for Mathias. He had a small, simply furnished room, entirely separate from the place where convicts were kept, and his friends were allowed to visit him. In the ordinary course he would have prison fare, but it was open to his friends to provide him with food, periodicals, writing paper, cigarettes, and everything he wanted.

Mr. Goldring—That was not my argument. I do not say that the prison authorities were not doing their best for him.

The Assessor—As regards imprisonment for debt, that is the system of this court and we must follow it. I should point out that Mathias incurred these liabilities without having the means to meet them. He is not a criminal detained under punishment, but detention is the only means by which the court could secure his future attendance here. He obtained security, but that was withdrawn, his guarantor being afraid that he would abscond.

Mr. Goldring—The principal cause of his difficulties is that a partner of his absconded with several thousands of dollars, more than sufficient to pay all he owed.

Mr. Maitland was present in court during this discussion, but took no part in it.

CHARGE OF PERJURY

Wealthy Cantonese Involved: Non-Appearance of Accused: Fined $25

An elderly Chinese, charged with perjury, was fined $25 on Monday morning by Messrs. Martin and Kuan, British Assessor and senior Chinese Magistrate, for failing to put in an appearance when his case was called for hearing.

The defendant, a wealthy Cantonese named Liang Zung-chien, was charged as follows:—

1. That on May 20, in the International Mixed Court, Shanghai, during the hearing of a criminal case wherein one Yu Wan-sai was charged with forgery, you did give false evidence by stating that you did not write a certain document, whereas, in truth and in fact, the document was written by you, Liang Zung-chien;

2. That you made a false complaint and did charge one Yu Wan-sai with attempting to obtain property by means of a false document in order to cause the complainant to be punished; and

3. That, being called as a witness, you made a false statement that a certain receipt dated the 19th day of the 5th moon of the 10th year of the Republic of China, acknowledging receipt of Tls. 5,000 from the said Yu Wan-sai, was not written by you.

The case, which arose from a recommendation of the Court, was remanded for special hearing.

Mr. W. S. Fleming (for the defence) stated that this case was remanded from the previous Monday and was set for last Monday morning in order that the case for the defence might be heard, and the accused pleaded not guilty. Counsel would ask the Court to set the case for special hearing. Owing to a misunderstanding his client was not present at the hearing: counsel had telephoned but could not reach him. Mr. Fleming therefore thought that accused must have come under the wrong impression that if he pleaded not guilty there would be no need for him to be present.

Mr. M. B. Brown (prosecuting) had no objection to the case being set for special hearing, but he expressed surprise at accused's non-appearance.

Mr. Fleming stated that he was largely to blame.

The Assessor said that the Court could not understand why the accused did not know that he was to appear as the charge sheet was very clearly marked "Remand one week on bail $2,000." It was perfectly clear. By not appearing accused was taking the risk of having his bail forfeited and a warrant issued for his arrest. The case would be remanded for special hearing, but accused would be fined $25 for not appearing.

"We think that it is a very serious offence," concluded the Court. "He was remanded and it was his duty to appear unless he received information that the case was not going to be heard."

DAIRYKEEPER FINED FOR ADULTERATION

Fined $100: 77 per cent. Fat Extracted: Court's Severe Remarks

"It seems in these cases that the fines are not sufficient. This dairy has been fined four times, and the Court thinks that the Council should withdraw its licence," remarked Mr. A. J. Martin (British Assessor) and Mr. Kuan Chun (senior Chinese Magistrate), in fining a 53-year-old Chinese woman, the licensee of the Yui Chong Dairy, $100 for furnishing milk which, upon analysis, was found to be of a poor quality.

Health Officer Bloom stated that at 1.20 p.m. on May 16 he took a sample bottle from a delivery coolie and sent it to be analysed. The bottles bore the seal of the Yui Chong Dairy, that of accused.

Health Inspector Burton stated that the analysis showed that 77 per cent. of the fat was extracted from the milk.

Cross-examined by Mr. H. D. Rodger (representing accused), Mr. Burton denied that he had told the Yih Ping Shang Hotel not to buy milk from the accused's dairy farm. He went there regarding this case, and also in connexion with another case. Witness could not say whether any criminal proceedings were instituted against the accused in 1921, nor did he know that the dairy had been open for 24 years, or that accused's husband was 73 years of age, but he knew that accused had supplied the Yih Ping Shang for the past 10 years.

The accused, Yau Z-kya, was called. She stated that her husband was in the country and that they had been in the dairy business for 24 years. The Yih Ping Shang was one of the dairy's best customers. She had learned that a foreigner and a Chinese had gone to the Yih Ping Shang and told them not to buy milk from her dairy, but she did not know their names. Since she had been charged witness had told her employees, who worked under her daughter-in-law, to be more careful.

Health Inspector Burton said that he had been to the Yih Ping Shang because he had considered it to be his duty as the hotel was paying the full market price for the milk.

The Court found accused guilty and, in fining her $100, made the above remarks.

Health Inspector Burton informed the Court that the question of withdrawing accused's licence was being considered.

CHINESE PRINTER'S LABEL SAMPLES

Prosecution's Allegations in Charge of Imitating Sun Maid Labels

Tsang Soong-nyoen, manager of the Wo Sung Printing Co., 321 Shantung Road, was charged on remand before Mr. Jabobs (American Assessor) and Magistrate Kuan at the Mixed Court on Tuesday, on a complaint by the Sun Maid Raisin Co., that "on various dates, at its address, he did print large quantities of labels in imitation of the label of complainants."

Mr. J. W. Schoenfeld prosecuted and Mr. L. K. Kentwell appeared for the defence.

Det.-Sgt. Papp stated that he visited defendant's premises and there found a lithographing slab on which were impressions similar to those on the labels of the complainant firm. There were also a large number of printed labels, exactly like those used by the complainants. (The slab and the labels were produced in Court).

Mr. W. J. Brehm, of the complainant company, stated that the label was exactly the same as that used by his company. The characters were the same. The colour of the background differed in not a single respect, but the sun was of a lighter yellow hue than that on their own labels. The labels were flooding the market. Spoiled, inferior and damaged raisins were being sold in the packages and these were liable to have a dangerous effect on the health of the public.

Cross-examined, witness admitted that he could not produce any of the

inferior paints in the cartons printed by the defendant.

10,000 Sample Labels Printed.

The defendant then stated that he was manager of the defendant company. In the 11th moon of last year he had visited the complainant company to apply for printing business. There he met the compradores and accountants, including a man named Tsang Ming-liang. He was given a sample of the label with instructions to have some samples printed before a contract could be settled. These witness printed and used up about half a ream of paper in doing so. He then [illegible] office, but was told that the price was too high and that the colours were not exactly the same as the original sample. He did not get the business, and took the samples back to his shop, where, instead of destroying them, he put them under the bed of one of his assistants, hoping later to secure complainant's business and that the samples might come in useful. The lithograph stone was also left undestroyed. Witness had not sold any of the sample labels, nor, to his knowledge, had any of his employees. In all 10,000 samples were printed, and when found by the police, they were covered with dust, so there was no question of their being sold.

Mr. Schoenfeld—Do you usually print labels for your friends?—Witness—No.

This was all the evidence, and the hearing was adjourned.

LONG SENTENCES FOR ROBBERS

Chinese Desperadoes Convicted at Mixed Court: Leader's Lurid Record

Tsha Ah-ling, Tan Zang-nyoeh and Van Z-yoong were again brought before Mr. H. Bucknell (American Assessor) and Magistrate Li, on Tuesday, charged with entering No. 1565 Avenue Road on May 9 and, after using violence, taking away money, jewellery and clothing, valued at $7,000. Very severe sentences were imposed in each case.

Evidence was given by Chief Det.-Insp. Eek who stated that the first-named was an old offender and a master mind. After making arrangements with his accomplices to rob the house in question, he went there and tied a piece of rope round a brick and threw it up to the drying stage. Climbing up, he walked into the house and removed a bowl which he took away with him. He then went to a foodshop near by and met his companions. Together, they went back to the house, the door of which had meanwhile been opened by the first man, and were intercepted by a watchman, who demanded to know where they were going and what they were doing in that part of the Settlement at four o'clock in the morning. Instantly came the reply from the first man, that they had been playing mahjong and had just been out for something to eat. This explanation [illegible] watchman, who allowed them to go. The men then entered the house, where the first man distributed among the [illegible] with which to intimidate the inmates if they raised an alarm. The result was that they got away with the booty named. The Police were notified and efforts were at once made to apprehend the robbers.

Seized at Ningpo

It appears that the first accused disposed of all the booty himself and distributed only $50 to each of his accomplices, arranging to meet them at Hangchow later on. However, he did not go to Hangchow but went to his native home at Shaoxing. His [illegible] went to Hangchow as arranged, but there learned that warrants had been issued for their arrest. They immediately returned to Shanghai and passed the night at the house of two members of the Shanghai Municipal Police. They left [illegible] the latter to escape before it was too late. [illegible] make any attempt to run away. He gave them each another $70.

The two accomplices were shortly afterwards arrested and the Police got the first accused arrested immediately afterwards in Ningpo. Records would show, stated Inspector Eek, that the first accused was an old offender and had escaped from the French Municipal Goal on February 8.

The Court found the accused guilty and sentenced the second two to ten years' imprisonment each, to be followed by expulsion from the Settlement. The first accused received 15 years and re-expulsion, the Court adding a rider that accused might be sent to the French Police for imprisonment relative to his escape.

A Wild Career

The first accused escaped from the French Municipal Gaol by scaling a 25 ft. wall after telling his fellow prisoners two days beforehand that he was going to [illegible]. He refused to march in the street to the Mixed Court with other prisoners, saying that he was their superior and required the motor van to escort him. However, his desires were not met and he was handcuffed to two policemen, who had to drag him through the streets to the Mixed Court. When questioned outside the Court room, he refused to make any comment other than that he would escape within five years or commit suicide. His record shows that he had a dozen convictions.

ILLICIT TRADING IN DRUGS

Large Seizures and Exemplary Sentence in Mixed Court: Bench's Strong Comment

"The Court takes a very serious view of cases of this nature. The enormous quantity of drugs seized shows the extent of the business which has been carried on by the accused. Fines are quite inadequate to meet these cases, especially in cases on such a large scale," said Mr. C. E. Whitamore (British Assessor) at the Mixed Court on Wednesday when five men were charged with dealing in drugs at 836 North Soochow Road on May 27. Magistrate Lee concurrred.

Questioned by Mr. E. T. Maitland (Prosecuting Soliciter), Mr. M. O. Springfield (Assistant Commissioner of Police), Inspector J. P. Coghlan and Sub.-Inspector G. Hermitage gave evidence to the effect that, acting on information received, they went to the place, raided it and arrested the five men in the dock. They found a large quantity of drugs, including a parcel and 12 tins of caffein, a tin of chinchomine hydrochlorate, a package of morphia, six bottles of novocaine, 21 bottles of powdered tragacanth, a bottle of strychnine, two tins of saccharine, two tins of [illegible], a number of packages [illegible] of morphia and other pills, a quantity of raw opium, and [illegible] of cocaine.

The accused were called by Mr. A. Cavey (for the defence). The first man admitted that the goods were found in his place, but denied being engaged in the drug business. He sold his goods to the chemists, but he had never sold any to unauthorized persons. The opium, which was Turkish, was underneath the bed. The drugs were left there by a friend.

The second man stated that he came to Shanghai only three months ago and went into the first man's employ on the same day on the strength of a letter of introduction from a friend. Arrangements were made to pay him $6 per month, but he had not received his salary up to the present. He had never handled any money, nor had he any capital in the business. In fact, he had nothing whatever to do with the business.

The third man stated that he knew nothing about the drugs. He was the tenant of another section of the house and did not know in what business [illegible] were engaged. The fourth and fifth prisoners denied any knowledge of the drugs or the sales. They had [illegible] premises.

The Bench sent the first man to prison for four years and the [illegible] months. The [illegible] men were [illegible] Magistrate adding that the Bench had taken into consideration his youth and the fact that he was [illegible] evidence. He was [illegible]

Missing Witnesses.

Inspector J. MacKenzie stated that, after a *subpœna* had been issued by the Court, on Mr. Covey's application, for two witnesses for the defence, the police had great difficulty in serving them. After service, which was done in person on both men, one of them had failed to put in an appearance in Court. He (Inspector MacKenzie) would ask that a warrant be issued for his arrest so that the man would in some way be punished. The orders of the Court must be obeyed, otherwise it could be held in contempt at random, and the police would be faced with great difficulties in executing the Court's orders in future.

Mr. Covey stated that he would assume responsibility in the matter. As they were his own witnesses he had told them not to come because he would not require their evidence. He would apologize to the Bench because the misunderstanding was his.

The Assessor warned Mr. Covey of the seriousness of the matter and told him to see that it did not happen again, no matter who made the application. The Court's orders must be obeyed.

$10,000 FORGED ORDER ON CHINESE BANK

Police Discovery of Many Other Spurious Blanks: Jewellery Disappears in Court

A story of the defrauding of the Bank of Communications was related on Wednesday morning to Mr. A. J. Martin (British Assessor) and Magistrate Kuan in the Mixed Court when three men and two women were charged with being concerned in obtaining $10,000 by means of a forged native bank order.

Mr. E. T. Maitland, assisted by Chief Det.-Insp. Cruickshank, prosecuted on behalf of the police; Mr. C. Mansel Reece and appeared for the Bank of Communications; Mr. A. M. Preston watched the proceedings on behalf of the An Yue Native Bank; Mr. W. W. Worthington (who later retired from the case), Mr. T. Z. Zung, Dr. O. Fischer and Mme. F. Rosemberg defended.

It was stated that on May 8 two of the men went to the Bank of Communications and presented a native bank order bearing the chop of the An Yue native Bank for the sum of $10,000. The order was accepted and the amount paid out. Later a forgery was discovered and the police traced the accused to a house in Yunnan Road. In their possession were found other forged blank native orders. One of the men made a full confession, to the effect that he obtained the money from the bank and handed $2,000 to one of the women. He also stated that he purchased jewellery, clothing and furniture for one of the other men and that he lent the balance of the money to his friends. The police were able to recover $18 and also obtained jewellery to the value of approximately $3,000.

The Court found Chien Tsoo-lien, an unemployed native bank clerk, and Kao Kien-sang, a Chinese doctor, guilty and sent them to prison for a year each. The other three were discharged, the Court holding that they were in no way implicated in the affair.

Mr. Mansel Reece, on behalf of the Bank of Communications, made an application for the return of the articles which had been purchased, and the Court ordered that the furniture in the house, as well as the clothing and jewellery, be confiscated and the proceeds handed over to the Bank of Communications.

Not a little consternation reigned after the case had been concluded when it was found that the jewellery was missing.

AN armed robbery occurred at No. 200 Rangoon Road in the early hours of on Thursday morning. Four men, two armed with long knives and two with iron bars, broke into the house from the back, and after intimidating the householder and his family, stole $300 in money and jewellery. Another robbery under arms took place at 497 Medhurst Road on Wednesday early in the morning. Three armed men broke into the house, and demanded the sum of Tls. 5,000, otherwise they intended to kidnap the householder's son. He handed over all the money he had, about $197, and the robbers departed without carrying out their threat.

ANOTHER STOCK EXCHANGE CASE

Cotton Goods Exchange and Brokers Jointly Sued for Tls. 53,771

An important stock exchange case was heard at the Mixed Court on Thursday morning by Mr. Martin (British Assessor) and Magistrate Yui, when Fong Yao-kee claimed from the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange and the Heng Yue Hong the sum of Tls. 53,771 with interest.

Plaintiff's petition stated that the first defendant was a stock exchange registered at the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce and the second was a hong of brokers admitted and registered as the first defendant's broker numbered 54. Between October 29 and November 2, 1923, plaintiff bought of the first defendant from the second 4,050 bales of cotton yarn and 2,600 piculs of cotton in 21 different contracts. For the goods plaintiff claimed to have paid the first defendant, through the second defendant, a total margin of Tls. 32,100, besides leaving a credit balance with the defendants amounting to Tls. 2,671. On November 6, 1923, the petition states, plaintiff instructed the defendants to sell his holdings at the close quotation of that day, which would have meant a profit of Tls. 19,000, but the defendants refused to pay to plaintiff this profit, together with the margin money of Tls. 34,771, in violation of law and of the exchange's regulations, to plaintiff's damage of Tls. 53,771 or more. The second defendant, the petition continued, had disappeared, but had deposited with the first defendant a cash guarantee of Tls. 15,000, which the latter has refused to hand over to plaintiff as payment, *pendente lite*. Repeated demands had been unavailing. Whereas, plaintiff claimed for these items.

Alleged Gambling Transaction.

The Cotton Goods Exchange (the first defendant) denied these items, and alleged that all transactions entered into by the second defendant and recorded by them, the first defendants, have been duly carried out and settled by the second defendant. The second defendant, the Heng Yue Hong, denied also the plaintiff's allegations and stated that it was intended by the parties that the 4,050 bales of cotton yarn and the 2,600 piculs of cotton referred to was not to be delivered by the first defendant to plaintiff, but was a speculation and a gambling transaction, a settlement to be made upon payment of differences, and that therefore the contract was void, invalid and unenforceable in law.

Dr. H. C. Mei represented plaintiff; Mr. A. M. Preston the first defendant, the Cotton Goods Exchange; and Mr. R. T. Bryan, Jr., the Heng Yue Hong, whom, plaintiff alleged, had disappeared.

Dr. Mei, after going through the pleadings, opened the case briefly.

Mr. Preston intervened, saying that he disliked the idea of the Court having to listen to the very complicated and difficult evidence which would have to be given by the employees of his clients, the Stock Exchange, as it would be most difficult to understand and follow and it would also occupy considerable time; but on the pleadings themselves, he suggested that there was an opportunity for him to argue on the law that the defendant exchange was not liable provided that the 21 contracts referred to in the petition were the same as those produced by Dr. Mei for inspection of the first defendant prior to the trial.

The Court, after argument, finally ruled against Mr. Preston and ordered Dr. Mei to proceed with the case.

The evidence-in-chief of the plaintiff was then taken and the case was adjourned and set for hearing at 2.30 p.m. on the afternoon of June 18.

A motion for a re-hea[illegible] case of the Belgian Tr[illegible] Neuss, Hesslein and [illegible] argued in the U. S. [illegible] on Monday, Mr. Bryan [illegible] a re-hearing on the [illegible] of defendants on the ground [illegible] there was a material differe[illegible] between the two exhibits submitted as contracts, that no evidence was on record that the contract as cla[illegible]ed had been ratified by the defendant; and that the counterclaim had been allowed. The case [illegible] shipment of 100 tons [illegible] yoke and 500 tons of [illegible] bumen alleged to have [illegible] tracted for by the defendan[illegible] pany, and damages representing the difference between the alleged contract price and the market price were awarded by the Court in respect of the alleged refusal of the defendant company to accept the goods as contracted for. As the case had not been heard by Judge Purdy originally, much of the evidence in the case had to be repeated and Mr. Bryan had not finished his argument when the matter was adjourned.

CUTICURA HEALS ECZEMA IN RASH

On Child's Face. Irritation Caused Scratching. Face Disfigured.

"When my little girl was fourteen months old wet eczema broke out in a rash of small pimples under her chin. It soon spread to her face and the irritation was so great that she scratched, causing it to bleed. She was very restless at night, and her face was disfigured.

"The trouble lasted about three months. We began using Cuticura Soap and Ointment which completely healed her." (Signed) Mrs. A. Vauden, Downside, West Town, Nr. Bristol, Eng.

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SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary, Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury S., Rhodesia.

The giving of advice to prospective settlers will be facilitated if applicants will advise the Board in detail of their circumstances and the amount of capital they would be prepared to invest in a suitable venture.

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

A NEW PROGRAMME FOR FRANCE

Herriot Demanding Recognition of Soviet: The Attack on President Millerand

Paris, May 31.

The executive committee of the Radical and Radical Socialist party, which is drafting the programme of the future Government, to-day heard a statement by M. Herriot, who, the newspapers say, insisted on resumption of relations with the Soviets, together with a conciliatory international policy, in conformity with which M. Herriot will personally attend the September session of the League of Nations, where, it is hoped, he will meet Mr. Ramsay MacDonald.

The vexed question of the Presidency, however, is becoming more critical. The Radical Socialist paper, "*Oeuvre*," contradicts a report that M. Herriot will form a cabinet at the behest of President Millerand. On the contrary, it states, M. Herriot will only take office conditionally on the President resigning or promising to resign as soon as possible.

The Cabinet has decided to issue decrees giving effect to economies in various public services totalling 440,000,000 francs.

Later.

M. Herriot, in a letter to the Socialist leader, M. Leon Blum, urging the Socialists to collaborate with the Radical-Socialists in the new Government, says that the country clearly desires electoral union and the two parties should be transformed into a Governmental partnership, with a view to far-reaching social reforms and the building up of peace abroad. The Socialist Party Congress, which opens to-morrow, will discuss the letter. It is generally believed that the Socialists will reject participation in the Ministry, while they will make their support in debate a condition of M. Herriot's refusing to accept the Premiership from President Millerand.—Reuter.

Resignation of French Premier

Paris, June 1.

M. Poincaré has resigned the Premiership.

Later.

The dead set against President Millerand by the Left parties is considerably aggravating the political crisis and is likely to render the formation of a new Cabinet very difficult, as several sections oppose collaboration with the President in the slightest degree.

The Radical and Radical Socialist Federation yesterday demanded President Millerand's immediate resignation, while to-day the Radical Socialist deputies, of whom the leader, M. Herriot, is the prospective Premier, unanimously adopted a resolution that the new majority in the Chamber was unable to accord President Millerand its confidence because "he has exceeded his constitutional rôle." Only the intervention of M. Herriot, who explained that he desired to retain freedom of action if summoned to form a Cabinet, prevented the meeting from adopting a proposal forbidding any member of the Left bloc accepting the Premiership from President Millerand.

Meanwhile the Socialist Party Congress and also the Republican Socialist and Independent Socialist deputies, at a meeting presided over by the ex-Premier, M. Painlévé, were uncompromising in their attitude, the former instructing the Parliamentary representatives to fight any Government formed under President Millerand's aegis and the latter declaring that the least collaboration with President Millerand was inconceivable.

Prior to M. Poincaré's resignation becoming effective, the Council of State ratified the decree laws which were forced through the last Parliament in the teeth of strong opposition, reducing departmental expenses Frs. 400,000,000. President Millerand subsequently countersigned the ratification.

Unanimous votes were carried at the plenary meeting of the Left bloc to-day, which was attended by all the sympathetic parties.

The meeting endorsed the Radical Socialist proposal referred to, adopted M. Painlevé as a candidate for the Presidency on the proposal of M. Herriot, and expressed unconditional confidence in M. Herriot.—Reuter.

Paris, June 2.

In the course of a speech last night M. Herriot declared that, if he did not secure the support he asked from the Socialists, he would not consent to assume office. He anticipated that the external difficulties would not be so many as was suggested, for democratic Europe had confidence in him. The aim of his Government would be European peace. He would take all measures to maintain the equilibrium of the budget, even recourse to the courts, if it were needed, to put an end to certain manoeuvres.—Reuter.

Drastic Changes in Domestic and Foreign Policy

Paris, June 2.

A striking programme is outlined by M. Herriot in a letter to the leader of the Socialist party. It embraces the immediate suppression of the decree laws, and the re-establishment of the match monopoly, both of which were passed by the Poincaré Government, and also a general amnesty, except for evaders of military service and traitors. It further proposes the suppression of the Embassy at the Vatican, the application of the law regarding religious congregations, and the reduction of military service by organization of the nation for defensive purposes.

M. Herriot, after describing his fiscal proposals and pro-Labour tendencies, favours strengthening and extending the rôle of the League of Nations, the Hague Tribunal and the International Labour Office, and resumption of normal relations with Russia. He unconditionally accepts the Dawes report.

Notwithstanding his party's opposition over the Ruhr policy in the past, M. Herriot does not believe in the possibility of evacuating the Ruhr at present before the safeguards, laid down in that policy, are enforced and an international *régime* established.

Later.

The Socialist Congress has rejected participation in the Government in the present circumstances. M. Herriot's statement of programme, however, was greeted with cheers, and the Executive of the Radical Socialist Party unanimously approved the programme.

June 3.

The Congress of Unified Socialists has decided to support M. Herriot's Government.—Reuter.

President Millerand's Firm Stand.

Paris, June 4.

The "*Matin*" states that President Millerand does not dream of resigning. If the politicians whom the country has called to office decline it, President Millerand will call someone else to form the Ministry, and if this Ministry is overthrown it will only be after an historic debate on the question of the President's right to appoint a Cabinet, after which President Millerand will take the decisions of the same.—Reuter.

M. Painleve President of French Chamber

Paris, June 4.

M. Painlevé was to-day elected President of the Chamber of Deputies by 291 votes. M. Maginot received 209 votes and the Communist candidate, M. Marty, received 27.—Reuter.

BRITISH AND FRENCH PREMIERS

Probability of an Early Conference on Policy Regarding Germany

London, June 2.

With reference to reports in the French press that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald has written to M. Herriot, offering to confer with him in Paris on the international situation, and that M. Herriot has replied, pointing out that he has not yet been entrusted with the formation of a Cabinet, Reuter's Agency is informed that it is obvious that both sides desire a settlement as soon as possible and that it is reasonable to assume that there has been some form of communication regarding a possible meeting of the two statesmen.

It is further pointed out that Mr. MacDonald agrees to a suggestion that he should meet Signor Mussolini, but that it is impossible at present for Mr. MacDonald to absent himself from England long enough to go to Switzerland for that purpose. It is not so difficult, however, for him to meet the new French Premier in Paris.—Reuter.

KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST

No New Peerages and Few Outstanding Awards but Several O. B. E.'s

London, June 2.

The first honours list issued by the Labour Government on the occasion of the King's Birthday does not contain any surprises. There are no new peerages and the honours are largely a reward for State and semi-diplomatic services. In addition to a few outstanding awards, there is a long list of appointments in the lower grades of the Order of the British Empire for home and overseas services.

The honours include:—

Order of Merit.—Mr. Francis Herbert Bradley, Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, the well-known writer on philosophy.

Sir Charles Scott Sherrington, President of the Royal Society and Professor of Physiology at Oxford University.

Grand Cross of the British Empire:—

Mr. Robert Donald, the well-known journalist, who is Chairman of the Publicity Committee for the British Empire Exhibition, for public services.

Field-Marshal Baron Plumer, of Messines, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Malta.

Privy Councillor:—

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., for political services.

Companions of the Order of St. Michael and St. George:—

Mr. Hayes Marriott, General Adviser to the Government of Johore.

The Raja Muda of Perak (Honorary).

Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire:—

Mr. W. G. Maxwell, Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States.

Knights Bachelor:—

Mr. Henry Edward Pollock, Unofficial Member of the Executive Council of Hongkong.

Dr. Malcolm Watson, of Selangor, in recognition of his services for the prevention of malaria.

Mr. Harold George Parlett, Japanese Counsellor of His Majesty's Embassy in Tokio.—Reuter.

LONDON UNDERGROUND RAILWAY STRIKE

Claims for Better Wages and Working Conditions: A Number of Demands

London, June 4.

The shopmen and electricians of the London Underground Railways and the Great Western system have decided to strike at midnight owing to a dispute with regard to wages and working conditions. The strike is disavowed by the National Union of Railwaymen, whose members will remain at work and prevent a general stoppage, but the situation is complicated by the action of the Locomotive Society, which has sent a strong letter to the railway companies giving a time-limit for satisfaction of a number of demands in connexion with anomalies arising from the last strike settlement and threatening drastic action if they are not conceded.

June 5.

The authorities had not received information of the operation of the threatened railway strike at midnight up to two o'clock on the following morning.

The strike of the railway shopmen developed rapidly during the night and as a result many tube services have been considerably affected and to-day city workers were much delayed.

Underground railway companies in London officially state that train service is being maintained on all lines, but that it has been necessary to close some of the least important stations in order to conserve power for the benefit of long distance passengers.

Forty per cent. of the shopmen at the Lotts Road power house and station were working this morning.

As regards the Great Western Railway only shopmen are involved. The traffic was hitherto not affected.—Reuter.

IRISH BOUNDARY DISPUTE

Commission and Judicial Committee to be Appointed: Premier's Proposals

London, June 4.

In a statement before the House of Commons to-day on the Irish negotiations, the Prime Minister intimated that the Government had secured a chairman for the boundary commission. He would announce the name to-morrow. The Government had also decided to ask a judicial committee to advise them regarding their legal and constitutional powers to constitute the commission. The committee would include the Chief Justice of Australia and, he hoped, also a member of the Canadian Bench.

There was every reason to believe that the judicial committee would be able to sit and resolve the issues in July. The Government had not abandoned hope that the two Irish Governments might reach an agreed settlement before the commission was constituted, though even in that event the commission would be necessary to give formal effect to the agreement. The conciliatory utterances of Mr. Cosgrave, the Free State President, and Sir James Craig, the Premier of North Ireland, had encouraged these hopes.

Mr. MacDonald said that at his meeting with the two Irish leaders on Sunday he had asked them to consider certain proposals which he had since submitted to them in the form of a letter. He hoped that Irish statesmanship would enable a solution to be reached (cheers).

It is stated unofficially in the lobby of the House that Sir James Rose-Innes, the Chief Justice of South Africa, will be chairman of the Irish boundary commission.—Reuter.

GERMANY'S HIDDEN RE-ARMING

Allies Insisting on Inspection of Armaments: Military Control Commission

Paris, May 31.

The text of the long inter-Allied note to Germany on the question of military control has been published.

It rejects the proposal to abolish the Military Control Commission, and other German suggestions, and reiterates the demand that Germany shall agree to a general inspection of armaments. It promises that, if the result is satisfactory, control will be limited on certain specified points and the effectives of the Commission will be considerably reduced, whereas, if Germany persists in refusing the offer, the Allies will demand the strict application of the Treaty.

The Note declares that from every point of view the present situation cannot further be prolonged and requests acceptance by June 30 at the latest.—Reuter.

GERMANY'S FOREIGN POLICY

Chancellor's Willingness to Carry Out Experts' Recommendations

Berlin, June 4.

The Chancellor, Herr Max, in a statement on the Government's foreign policy before the Reichstag to-day, declared that he intended to continue the preliminary work of carrying out the experts' report in conformity with his previous announcement that Germany was ready to co-operate in the experts' plans as offering a quick solution of the reparations problem. The Government were prepared to translate the report into a reality, but the measures they were preparing would only be enforced if it were clearly shown that the other parties would accept the report as indivisible and unchangeable.—Reuter.

BRITAIN AND TURKEY

Breakdown in Negotiations Regarding Mosul

Constantinople, June 2.

The negotiations between Britain and Turkey with regard to the Mosul Vilayet threaten to break down. Sir Percy Cox has informed Fethy Bey that he has been instructed to return to London unless the Turks modify their attitude.—Reuter.

SOVIET DESIGNS ON TURKEY

Rumoured Rash Speech by M. Trotsky Discredited in Later Report

Berne, June 4.

According to a telegram from Warsaw, M. Trotsky in a speech at Podolsk declared that the Soviet needed the Straits and Constantinople and therefore Bessarabia was vital to them as the first step towards Constantinople. If the Rumanians or the Poles tried to bar the way, he said, the Soviet would fight them.—Reuter.

London, June 4.

Russian quarters in London discredit the report of M. Trotsky's speech at Podolsk in view of the fact that M. Trotsky has not left Moscow recently.—Reuter.

Revolt in Albania.

Belgrade, June 5.

Civil war is spreading throughout Albania. The insurgents have captured Scutari and are marching on Tirana. They have sent an ultimatum to the Government demanding its resignation. The troops at Alession, which have been attacked, are in a critical position.—Reuter.

Bukharest, June 5.

A sensational rumour of a revolution in Rumania is semi-officially denied. It is declared that perfect order prevails throughout Rumania.—Reuter.

ATTACK ON AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR

Dr. Seipel Fired Upon and Seriously Wounded: His Assailant Captured

Vienna, June 1.

The Austrian Chancellor, Dr. Seipel, was shot and seriously, but not fatally wounded, to-day. The would-be assassin was also shot and seriously wounded during the arrest.

Later.

Dr. Seipel was returning from Wiener-Neustadt and had just alighted at the Southern Station, when a man, who had travelled in the same train, made the attack. The shot penetrated Dr. Seipel's lung, inflicting a serious wound, but it is not thought to be fatal. The assailant turned the weapon on himself when about to be arrested. He refused to disclose his identity. The Chancellor was immediately removed to hospital.

June 2.

The Chancellor was wounded twice. The first was slight, but the second was more serious. The assailant has been identified as a weaver, named Jaworek, of Pottendorf near Wiener-Neustadt.—Reuter.

London, June 2.

A telegram from Vienna states that Dr. Seipel was leaving the station to enter his motor-car, when a young man approached and fired three revolver-shots. The Chancellor fell to the ground unconscious. His assailant shot himself in the head and his condition is desperate. An operation was subsequently performed on the Chancellor, whose life the doctors hope to save. The Chief of Police has issued a statement that the crime is a political one and that the assailant is a railway worker and supposed to be a Communist.—Reuter.

June 2.

A bulletin issued this morning says that the Chancellor, Dr. Seipel, passed a quiet night and his condition is satisfactory. The haemorrhage has not extended and an operation has not been performed.—Reuter.

Chancellor's State Unchanged

Vienna, June 3.

The Chancellor's condition is unchanged. Jarowek is reported to have made a confession, in which he says that he had repeatedly heard that the Chancellor was responsible for the misery of the great masses of the people, and therefore he had long ago resolved to remove him. He denies that he had any accomplices. He admits that he belongs to a Social-Democrat organization, but says that he has long abandoned political activities.

M. Bauer, the leader of the Social Democrats, in the course of a speech yesterday, strongly condemned the attack, as does the whole Vienna press. Several papers urge more moderate conduct of political hostilities.—Reuter.

Vienna, June 3.

The doctors now cautiously express hopes of Dr. Seipel's recovery.

A special sitting of the National Assembly to-day passed a resolution of horror at the crime.—Reuter.

U. S. IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS

Publication of Japanese Protest: An Injustice to Self-respect

Washington, May 30.

The Japanese protest is coupled with a request that the American Government shall take all possible steps for the removal of the discriminatory measures. The Note declares that international discriminations are particularly unwelcome when based on race, and the history of the commercial agreements between the two countries shows that the Japanese Government has sought to protect its nationals from discriminatory immigration legislation in the United States, which position "is fully understood and appreciated by the American Government." Citing the Japanese-American Treaty of 1911, the Japanese Note points out that the new legislation is in entire disregard of the spirit and the circumstances underlying the treaty. The Note concludes with the Hope that the communication will be received in the same spirit of friendliness and candour as it is made.—Reuter's American Service.

Tokio, June 1.

The Japanese protest to the American State Department against the American Exclusion Act has been officially given out here.

After lengthily discussing the relations with America under the treaties of 1894 and 1911 and under the Gentlemen's Agreement, and after countering arguments that the Japanese are undesirable, the note declares that the Act disregards the spirit and circumstances making those treaties. It does not deny the right of any State to limit and control immigration into its own domain, "but when in exercise of that right evident injustice is done to a foreign nation in disregard of its proper self-respect, international understandings or ordinary rules of comity, the question must assume an aspect which justifies diplomatic discussion and adjustment." The note requests the American Government to take all possible and suitable measures for the removal of such discrimination.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Weight of the New Law Bearing on Italians

New York, June 2.

The Italian colony of Brooklyn is excited by the announcement that 700 of their compatriots who arrived on board the steamer Dante Alighieri were not allowed to land but would be deported under a recent Supreme Court decision. 200 of them originally intended to land at Halifax, but were barred owing to the lack of the necessary $1,200 each.—Reuter's American Service.

The Emigration Conference

Rome, June 2.

The Emigration Conference has concluded after adopting, practically unanimously, resolutions drafted by the Committee, dealing especially with the general principles of treaties respecting emigration and colonization. An important matter which was determined was a declaration of principle in regard to the legal status of emigrants and conditions governing residence of workers in foreign countries. The Conference passed a resolution urging States to institute compulsory medical examination of emigrants before embarkation. It was decided to hold a second Conference in 1927 in one of the immigration countries.—Reuter.

United Act of Protest by Japanese Press

Tokio, June 3.

All the Tokio and Osaka newspapers were represented at a meeting held in Tokio to-night to protest against the American exclusion legislation. A resolution was adopted declaring their "grim determination" not to abide permanently by the "rash and discriminatory decision" of Congress.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

A Mass Meeting

Tokio, June 5.

This afternoon some 25,000 citizens filled a huge wrestling hall to its utmost capacity at the first national anti-exclusion protest meeting. The meeting was promoted by publicists, including representatives of every moderate and extreme political party organization of the Lower House, as well as the Press. A resolution was adopted to the effect that "every step be taken to maintain Japan's position against America's anti-Japanese Immigration Bill."

The large attendance, which was due as much to the holiday as to the purpose of the meeting, responded enthusiastically to a series of speeches in which was emphasized the seriousness of the disgrace inflicted on Japan as the attempt to close the white lands to the Asiatic people was, for which Japan should strive to strengthen her national power on behalf not only of herself, but of all Asiatic people.

The promoters propose to organize a nation-wide campaign in order to call to the attention of the people the gravity of the situation.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CANADA AND JAPANESE IMMIGRATION

A Request for Restriction

Ottawa, June 2.

In the Dominion House of Commons to-day the Minister of Immigration, Mr. J. A. Robb, said that representations had been received from retail merchants in British Columbia requesting the same restrictions on Japanese immigration as obtain in the case of Chinese. The question of the advisability of further restriction of Japanese immigration was under consideration. The Japanese Government had agreed to restrict the number of Japanese coming to Canada annually as household servants or agricultural labourers to 150, this constituting the quota now allowed to enter, though the total number of Japanese entering last year was 448.—Reuter's American Service.

2,500,000 HOUSES FOR BRITAIN

Government's Agreement with Building Industry and Brick Combine

London, May 31.

Official details of the Government's scheme to build 2,500,000 houses in 15 years show that the contributions by the State and the local authorities would total £1,376,000,000, spread over 50 years, the State's share being £926,000,000.

Ninety-thousand houses would be built in the coming year, rising to 225,000 yearly by 1934.

May 30.

The second national ballot of the building trade operatives has resulted in acceptance of the employers' offer of a half-penny an hour increase. The danger of a threatened strike has therefore been removed.—Reuter.

London, June 3.

In the House of Commons to-day, the details of the Government's housing policy were outlined by Mr. J. Wheatley, the Minister of Health, moving the financial resolution on which the Housing Bill will be founded.

The Minister stated that the programme aimed at producing 2,500,000 houses over a period of 15 years, beginning with 90,000 in 1925 and rising to 225,000 in 1934.

Mr. Wheatley declared that an agreement had been reached with the building industry which stipulated for the production of at least two-thirds of the foregoing figures. The brick combine had agreed to fix the prices prevailing in January, 1924, and legislative steps would be taken to prevent profiteering. A subsidy would be paid amounting to £9 annually over a period of 40 years, but the subsidy would be reviewed every few years in the light of prevailing circumstances.—Reuter.

INDIAN NATIONALISTS

Homage to a Murderer

Calcutta, June 3.

The Bengal Provincial Conference, consisting of representative Bengal members of the Indian National Congress sitting at Sirajganj, to-day adopted a resolution paying homage to Gopi Nath Saha, who was hanged for murdering Mr. Ernest Day, a prominent Calcutta merchant, in January last. The speakers urged that he aimed at ridding the country of its enemies and so, while condemning his action, they admired its object. Mr. C. R. Das, one of the Nationalist leaders, voted in favour of the motion.—Reuter.

Serajgunj, June 5.

The Bengal Provincial Nationalist Congress has passed a resolution calling Bengal Ministers to resign and urging the resignation of the Governor, the Earl of Lytton, on the ground that he does not enjoy the confidence of the public.—Reuter.

GANDHI RECANTING?

Reported Repudiation of Swaraj Policy

Bombay, May 30.

Under the heading "Gandhi repudiates Swarajists" the newspapers publish a statement by Mr. Gandhi referring to the working of Congress organization and urging those who do not believe in the boycott of councils, law courts and Government schools, etc., to resign from the Congress bodies.—Reuter.

EMPIRE WIRELESS TELEPHONY

Successful Tests Between England and Australia

London, June 4.

Wireless telephony has been successfully tested between England and Australia by Marconi stations. Signor Marconi, interviewed, said that they used the new system but without the "beam." He predicted that distance would be no obstacle with the new system, which comprises something more than the beam.—Reuter.

THE DEATH RAY

Reported Purchase by English Company for Development

London, May 31.

It is reported from Paris that it has been decided that Mr. Grindell Matthews will transfer the "death ray" rights to an English company with a capital of £350,000 with which tests will be carried out on a large scale.—Reuter.

QUEEN AT WEMBLEY

Buying Chinese Toys in the Hongkong Section

London, May 30.

The Queen, accompanied by Prince George, paid another visit to the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley to-day. They spent over an hour at the Hongkong section, where they purchased a number of articles, including vases, a miniature elephant and Chinese toys.

Later.

The Hongkong exhibit at Wembley is thronged daily. Thousands of visitors are attracted by the Hongkong street with its open shops. The native workers are surrounded continuously by a large crowd. The Chinese restaurant is insufficient to hold the crowds of would-be diners.—Reuter.

BUCHAREST EXPLOSIONS

Continuing at Intervals: Huge Financial Loss

Bucharest, May 29.

A fire has broken out in an ammunition dump in the centre of the city. There have been numerous explosions, which have done much damage in the vicinity. A large force of firemen is endeavouring to localize the fires.—Reuter.

Vienna, May 30.

A thousand wagonloads of munitions containing 12,000 shells, which had recently been received from the Skoda Works and also a quantity of old munitions were involved in the explosion at Bukharest. It is estimated that 2,000,000,000 lei worth of damage was caused by the explosions, which are continuing. A fearful panic prevailed for two hours. The population of the threatened area fled to the centre of the city. Many houses have fallen and an immense number of windows have been shattered. King Ferdinand had a narrow escape as a shell exploded on the spot he had just vacated.

An official *communiqué* states that the explosions of munitions began in the night and set fire to three magazines, several supply depôts and Army workshops, a block of barracks and a number of private houses. The prompt measures of the authorities saved a great quantity of munitions and restricted the fire to one area.

"The ammunition store destroyed was only one of many possessed by the Army and thus no great disaster occurred. Four persons were killed and 20 wounded. The report that a shell fell into the Royal Palace is untrue."—Reuter.

Vienna, June 1.

A traveller from Bukharest, describing the disaster, says that the explosion of a magazine filled with shrapnel grenades was so terrific that it seemed that every building had fallen, every house shook to its foundation. Tiles and parts of facades fell into the streets. There was hardly a pane of glass left unbroken throughout the city. He adds that the people of Bukharest are convinced that the disaster was the work of Communists.—Reuter.

RHODESIA'S FIRST PARLIAMENT

Meet in Dancing Hall for Want of Other Chamber

Salisbury, May 30.

The first Southern Rhodesian Legislature opened to-day in unique conditions. There was a huge attendance, including many settlers from remote districts. In the absence of a Parliament building, the Assembly is being held in the dancing-hall of a local hotel.

This is probably the first case in the history even of Colonial Legislatures of an Assembly deliberating in licensed premises, nevertheless the dignity of the occasion was well maintained, though the waiting crowd was entertained with orchestral music.

The opening was attended by the usual pomp and ceremony.—Reuter.

THE RED FLAG IN SOUTH AFRICA

Political Meetings Made Impossible by Rowdies

Capetown, June 2.

Several newspapers here demand that drastic action should be taken to prevent disturbances in the political campaign which have already broken up many South African Party meetings, notably at Durban last night, where General Smuts was unable to get a hearing. The General subsequently declared: "The red flag has come to South Africa and free speech is denied us. This will do more than any speech of mine to arouse the public to a realisation of the dangers of pact rule."—Reuter.

AMERICA AND THE WORLD COURT

President Coolidge's Ideas

Washington, May 30.

President Coolidge in the course of an address at the Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington Cemetery said that any proposals that American adherence to the World Court should be contingent upon the dissociation of the Court from the League of Nations were unworthy of American principles and conditions. The President did not mention the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's plan, but the address is generally accepted as indicating his rejection of it.

President Coolidge renewed his endorsement of the original Harding-Hughes World Court plan and added that, while he would not oppose some further reservations, "any material changes, which would probably not receive the consent of many other nations, would be impracticable."

He reminded the audience of the necessity that nations should always be prepared for war, but emphasized the point that the American Government had been founded to maintain peace.—Reuter's American Service.

A PORT DARWIN BASE

Said to Be Not Only Useless But a Danger

Melbourne, May 30.

The Nationalist, Mr. Marks, moving the adjournment of the House of Representatives in order to discuss defence matters, suggested that, if a naval base were constructed at great cost at Port Darwin, the Japanese, in case of war, would be deeply obliged. Such a base would have to be destroyed, because, if left, the enemy would use it, and Australia would be at the mercy of the Japanese fleet without the protection of the British Navy.—Reuter.

ANTI-SCARLATINA SERUM

Great Results Claimed for American Discovery

Newhaven, Conn., May 23.

The Yale School of Medicine announces that recent experiments with a new anti-scarlatina serum cured 25 out of 26 extreme cases. Death appeared probable in six of the cases, prior to inoculation.—Reuter's American Service.

THE MINERS' STRIKE IN THE RUHR

Situation Growing Graver

Cologne, May 25.

The situation arising from the miners' strike in the Ruhr is growing graver following the closing down of other big works, employing many thousands. Several departments of Krupp's suspended work to-day and others are expected to close to-morrow.—Reuter.

RELIEF MEASURES FOR U. S. FARMERS

Senator La Follette's Motion in Senate

Washington, June 2.

While the lower House to-day was proposing a resolution for the adjournment of Congress on June 7, Senator La Follette, who is the Independent candidate for the Presidency, introduced a motion in the Upper House for the re-convening of Congress on July 9 in order to enact legislation for the benefit of the farmers.—Reuter's American Service.

HERETIC BISHOP

Sentence on Bishop Brown of Arkansas Postponed

Cleveland, Ohio, May 31.

The Episcopal Ecclesiastical Court has found the retired Bishop of Arkansas, the Rev. William M. Brown, guilty of heresy and has condemned his writings as not in accordance with the teaching of the Church. Sentence has been deferred.—Reuter's American Service.

CHILD LABOUR IN U. S.

Drastic Constitutional Amendment Approved by the Senate

Washington, June 3.

The Senate has approved a Constitutional amendment empowering the Government to limit, regulate or prohibit labour by children under 18 years or age. The House previously approved of the measure, which will now be submitted by the Senate for ratification.—Reuter's American Service.

PORTUGUESE AIRMEN'S FLIGHT

Lahore, May 30.

The Portuguese airmen, whose aeroplane crashed at Pipar (Jodhpur) on May 8, resumed their flight to Macao this morning with a new machine purchased from the Government of India.—Reuter.

Allahabad, May 31.

The two Portuguese airmen left Ambala in the Dh-9 at 5.30 and arrived at Allahabad at 10.30 this morning. They had a good journey, with a following breeze.—Reuter.

June 1.

The two Portugese airmen left for Calcutta at 5.15 this morning.

Calcutta, June 1.

The Portuguese airmen have arrived here.—Reuter.

Calcutta, June 4.

The Portugese world-fliers left here this morning for Akyab.—Reuter.

Akyab, June 4.

The Portuguese aviators arrived here to-day.—Reuter.

Akyab, June 5.

The Portuouese airmen left here for Rangoon at 6.15 a.m. to-day, but returned here at 8.30, being unable to cross the hills owing to clouds.—Reuter.

U. S. SOVEREIGNTY OVER SWAIN ISLAND

Washington, May 24.

President Coolidge has forwarded to the Senate a recommendation by Secretary of State Hughes for extension of United States sovereignty to Swain Island, an isolated atoll 200 miles E. S. E. of Apia.

State Department records show that the British discoverer of Swain Island ceded it by deed to an American and that the British conceded it to United States sovereignty.—Reuter's American Service.

RAVAGES OF MALARIA IN RUSSIA

Moscow, May 23.

There were 5,500,000 cases of malaria in Russia last year. It is feared that the number will be exceeded in 1924.—Reuter.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR CONSULAR SERVICE

London, May 22.

The annual meeting of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce has cordially approved Commercial, Diplomatic and Consular scheme submitted by the President, Sir Arthur Balfour, for a British Consular Service Scholarships Fund of at least £10,000 to provide scholarships, each to the value of £80 a year, for sons of British members of the British rular Services, tenable for four years at any British public school.—Reuter.

THE CHURCH IN RUSSIA

Moscow, May 23.

The head of the so-called Living Church is co-operating with the Patriarch Tikhon for the reform of the Church, the revision of the Episcopate and the excommunication of "foreign, counter-revolutionary ecclesiastics.—Reuter.

FATAL AEROPLANE CRASH AT HELSINGFORS

Helsingfors, May 25.

Three Army airmen were killed to-day through an aeroplane catching fire and crashing.—Reuter.

THE LEWIS GUN NOT YET SUPERSEDED

Shanghai, May 26.

Reuter's Agency is informed that there is no foundation for the report, published recently in the "London Star" and quoted by Reuter, that the Lewis gun is being superseded by the Browning gun in the British Army.—Reuter.

ONCE MORE A DRINK ON ATLANTIC LINERS

London, May 24.

Atlantic liners sailing from to-day onwards will again carry their old stocks of liquor in consequence of formal exchange of ratifications of the Anglo-American Liquor Treaty.—Reuter.

TURKEY'S PURCHASE OF AEROPLANES

Constantinople, May 27.

The Turkish Council of Commissars has sanctioned the purchase of 16 Bréguet aeroplanes from France.—Reuter.

TIKHON SAID TO HAVE TURNED BOLSHEVIST?

Moscow, May 28.

M. Krasnitzky, head of "the Living Church," has issued an appeal to his followers to rally round the Patriach Tikhon, who "has recognized the error of his former attitude towards the Soviet and adopted the programme of the New Church."—Reuter.

U. S. NAVY BILL

Washington, May 28.

The House of Representatives to-day passed the bill to bring the Navy to the 5:5:3 ratio, authorizing the construction of eight scout cruisers and six river gunboats and improvements to six battleships at a total cost of $111,000,000.

The House of Representatives rejected an amendment to the Naval Bill authorizing an appropriation for the elevation of the guns of certain battleships, but approved the expenditure of $18,500,000 for the conversion of six battleships into oil-burners and affording them additional protection against submarines and aircraft.—Reuter's American Service.

NEW FINNISH CABINET

Helsinfors, May 30.

A new Government has been formed, M. Jamann taking over the Premiership and the Ministry of Education and M. Procope the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—Reuter.

FATAL FIRE IN GIRLS' SCHOOL

Los Angeles, June 1.

Five girls and the matron of the Hope Development School for subnormal girls at Plaza del Rey were killed to-day in a fire which destroyed the building. Three girls are missing and 19 girls who jumped from a height were injured and are in hospital.

Later.

The latest reports state that 18 have died as a result of the fire at the Hope Development School. Sixteen were girls between the ages of five and 15.

June 2.

Twenty-three girls and the matron of the Hope Development School at Plaza del Rey perished in the fire reported earlier. 19 girls are suffering from burns and injuries caused by jumping from a window.—Reuter's American Service.

BRITISH EMBASSY IN LISBON

London, June 1.

The British Legation in Lisbon and the Portuguese Legation in London have been elevated to the status of Embassies.—Reuter.

Peking, June 2.

Mr. R. H. Hoare, C.M.G., counsellor of the British Legation, has been transferred to Lisbon, where the Legation is being raised to an Embassy. He does not expect, however, to leave Peking for some time.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

THE DISORDERS IN THE PUNJAB

Gen. Dyer's Orders and Actions Vindicated by Judge and Jury in King's Bench Division: Wrongly Punished by Secretary of State for India

London, June 5.

An important libel suit, the hearing of which occupied no fewer than 25 days and cost £20,000, ended to-day when Sir Michael O'Dwyer, former Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, was awarded a verdict against Sir Sankaran Nair, a former member of the Government of India. Damages were agreed on at £500 and costs.

Sir Michael O'Dwyer complained that defendant in his book, "Gandhi and Anarchy," accused him of resorting to methods of terrorism to obtain recruits for the Army during the war and of being responsible for alleged outrages at Amritsar and elsewhere in the Punjab.

Plaintiff's Innocence.

Plaintiff's counsel contended that Sir Michael O'Dwyer had opposed coercive measures of recruiting, that General Dyer's action in firing on a mob at Amritsar in April, 1919, was justified and that Sir Michael O'Dwyer was not responsible, as martial law had been proclaimed and the military had charge of the situation.

The judge, summing up, expressed the opinion that General Dyer had acted rightly and had been wrongly punished by the Secretary of State for India.

The dramatic character of this vindication was enhanced by the fact that it was announced in the course of the trial that General Dyer was dying.—Reuter.

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The trial of this action began in the King's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice on April 30, before Mr. Justice Cardie and a special jury. Mr. Ernest Charles, K.C., and Sir Hugh Fraser appeared for the plaintiff; Sir Walter Schwabe, K.C., Mr. H. J. Wallington, and Mr. J. M. Parikh for the defendant.

Plaintiff's Distinguished Service

At the first day's hearing, Mr. Charles, in opining the case, said that the alleged libel was made much graver than it otherwise would have been by the position held by the defendant. Sir Michael O'Dwyer joined the Indian Civil Service in 1885. He had done valuable work in various provinces, and had devoted his whole life to India. In May, 1913, he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. During the war recruits were needed for the Army, and they were to be obtained from the Punjab as quietly as possible. The defendant, as a member of the Indian Government, was kept in touch with the exact course of proceedings in the province. From 1915 to 1919 the defendant was a member of the Government of India. For some years he had been a member of the Indian Judicial Bench.

The alleged libels were published in a book written by the defendant, entitled "Gandhi and Anarchy." In that book the defendant attacked Gandhi violently for his responsibility for the most ghastly atrocities but there were also attacks on Sir Michael O'Dwyer which went to the very heart of his governance of the province. The first passage complained of was:—"The recruitment of non-Mahomedans also went up and both were due to the terrorism of Sir Michael O'Dwyer, very useful in this instance." That charge of terrorism was a black lie. Another passage was: "Before the Reforms (a period during which the plaintiff held his office) it was in the power of the Lieutenant-Governor a single individual, to commit the strocities in the Punjab we know only too well." The defendant could not set his hand to the commission of a single atrocity by the plaintiff. "Above all it will be remembered that it was necessary to pass an Act of Indemnity to save the delinquents (the plaintiff and his subordinates) from proceedings in Civil and Criminal Courts." That had relation to the imposition of martial law which was proclaimed against the wish of the plaintiff, and the indemnity referred to acts under martial law which the Government, of which the defendant was a member, had established.

The King's Enemies.

The defendant also wrote: "I realize that the eulogium passed by the English Cabinet on Lord Chelmsford and Sir Michael O'Dwyer was an outrage on Indian public opinion." The jury would hear from Lord Chelmsford what the Indian and British Governments thought of that eulogium. It might have been an outrage on the opinion of seditious blackguards, but not on decent Indian opinion. Anything like praise of the Viceroy of India and of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab must have been bitter to those who were always ready to curse the King.

Mr. Charles, dealing with the question of recruitment, said that Sir Michael O'Dwyer had many times forbidden the purchase of recruits and the withholding from villagers of the privileges of irrigation if recruiting were poor. He went from village to village calling on the bravery and honour of the people to provide recruits. He directed that there was to be nothing like coercion. The recruiting policy was settled by the Indian Government, of which the defendant was a member.

The Amritsar Rising.

Referring to the Amritsar disturbances in 1919, counsel said that violent excesses were committed by the mob. White persons were murdered and burned and premises were sacked. The position was very grave, and the disturbances might have spread like a forest fire. Sir Michael O'Dwyer, therefore, called on the military. General Dyer arrived at Amritsar in due course, and the incident which gave rise afterwards to inquiry occurred—namely, the firing on the mob—two days later. That was done without the knowledge and direction of Sir Michael O'Dwyer, but on that incident was founded the justification for the statement that Sir Michael O'Dwyer had power alone to commit atrocities. It was impossible to call General Dyer as a witness, because he was ill and was not expected to live. It was also alleged that Sir Michael O'Dwyer was responsible for floggings, but those floggings were carried out by the military during martial law, and Sir Michael O'Dwyer persuaded the military to abandon them and other punitive measures. Even if all the punitive measures imposed by the military were entirely wrong. Sir Michael O'Dwyer was in no way responsible for them.

A Crisis to Be Stayed.

Sir Michael O'Dwyer gave evidence in support of this statement. He said that from 1913 to 1918 he practically did not have a single day's leave, and at the end of that period he was worn out. It was through him that the pay of bonus to recruits was increased and that land was set apart for the reward of Indians who served well during the war. Four hundred thousand combatants from the Punjab served in the war on different fronts. When he instructed the commander of the native police at Lahore not to hesitate to fire if necessary, because the mob had to be held up at all costs to save the lives of thousands of Europeans, prominent Indians had agreed with him that the situation was very grave, and that it was necessary to restrain the storm at the outset.

BRITAIN'S HOUSING BILL

Companion Measure to Prevent Profiteering

London, June 5.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Wheatley, the Minister of Health, formally introduced a bill to prevent excessive charges for building materials and providing for the securing of an adequate supply of such materials.

The bill, which was read for the first time, is a companion measure to the Government's housing bill.—Reuter.

FRENCH POLITICAL CRISIS

M. Herriot's Refusal to Form a Ministry under M. Millerand

Paris, June 5.

President Millerand to-day asked M. Herriot to form a Cabinet.

M. Herriot declined the Premiership because M. Millerand refused to resign the Presidency.

Later.

President Millerand this afternoon summoned M. Herriot to the Elysée and offered him the Premiership. M. Herriot raised the question of the Presidency, but M. Millerand declared that he was determined that the Constitution should be respected, adding that he was resolved to remain President for the remainder of his seven-year term. M. Herriot thereupon declined to form a Ministry.

The President is continuing his consultations with other statesmen.

Later.

In consequence of the decision of M. Herriot, President Millerand is likely to seek a politician who would form a Cabinet. Thereafter he will present a Presidential message to Parliament, on which a vote will be taken.

Alternatively, the Left Parties will introduce a motion involving the Presidential issue. M. Millerand will doubtless abide by the result in either case.—Reuter.

JAPANESE RUSH BACK TO AMERICA

Shipping Unable to Cope with Crowds in Anticipation of Exclusion Law

Tokio, June 6.

The ordinary shipping services here are not sufficient for the transportation of the large numbers of Japanese who desire to return to America before the first of next month, when the new immigration Bill comes into force.

An arrangement has been made between the Government and the shipping companies for three additional steamers to proceed to America immediately, each capable of carrying 1,200.

The vessels are the Nippon Yusen Kaisha Mishima Maru, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha Hawaii Maru and the Toyo Kisen Kaisha Persia Maru. These ships will leave Yokohama on the 12th and 14th instant respectively.

The Government is assisting to the extent of Yen. 1,200,000.

Holiday-Makers.

Later.

It is explained that the majority of those who are proceeding to the United States are on furlough in Japan. According to the regulation they could stay in Japan for three years before returning to the States, while the others were granted passports before the immigration crisis occurred—such passports being valid for six months from the date of issue.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE IRISH BOUNDARY COMMISSION

South African Judge as Chairman

London, June 5.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald announced that with the full approval of the South African Government, Mr. Justice Feetham had accepted the chairmanship of the Irish boundary commission. He would sail for England next week.—Reuter.

AEROPLANE CRASH IN TEXAS

Collision in Mid-Air

San Antonio, Tex., June 5.

Colliding in mid-air, two Army aeroplanes caught fire here to-day and fell 1300 feet. They buried a Mexican peasant boy, working in a cotton-field. One pilot was killed, but the other made a sensational descent by parachute.—Reuter's American Service.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

MARGARINE AND MUSIC

How Some of the British Unemployed Live

FROM OUR TRADE UNION CORRESPONDENT

If the figures printed in our Liberal and Labour newspapers on the wages and the costs of living in Germany are correct it is difficult to understand how the workers there manage to exist. And if the stories in the other newspapers of the enormous wages of the Americans are also true it is evident that most of those lucky workers will soon be able to retire and live on the interest of their capital. To the British worker the accounts of conditions in other foreign countries are equally perplexing. Relative statistics on the subject are easy to get, and it is even more easy to generalize from them. What is lacking is a detailed account of just how the workman lives; what—as the American cinema captions put it—his "eats" are, and what he pays for housing accommodation, whether he is able to save any considerable proportion of his wages, and what share he has in the more civilized amenities of modern life.

The difference between the general and the particular in dealing with these problems was sharply brought home to us a few days ago through a visit we paid to the home of a skilled artisan who had been out of work for nearly three years. He was one of the million and a half unemployed who are customarily visualised as being the most unhappy section of our populace. He is middle-aged, married, and has two children at school; and his mother, an old woman over 70, lives with him. On the surface one would think that here was a case of particular hardship, for there are children at school, the unemployment has been prolonged, and the wife has no trade.

How It Is Done.

Their weekly income consists of 15s Unemployment Insurance Grant for the man, and a dependants allowance of 5s for the wife and a shilling each for the children. The grandmother was drawing the Old Age Pension of 10s per week. The man's trade union paid him 10s per week from a fund maintained by a special levy on his fellow craftsmen in work. Most of the skilled trade unions pay a grant of this kind. This made the joint income of the family 42s per week. Their house was a six-roomed one in a working class suburb and the rent was 11s 2d per week. They sublet one room for 6s 6d, which made their net rent 4s 8d.

His wife was very discursive on the standard of living possible with this income. From her we gathered that breakfast consisted of tea, and toasted bread and margarine. The midday meal consisted of meat and two vegetables followed by boiled rice. Tea was the same as breakfast with the occasional addition of herrings or kippers when they were cheap, and for supper there was bread and margarine and cocoa. Gas for lighting and cooking cost 1s. 3d per week, and coal 3s. The housewife's greatest problem was clothes and boots. Her house was clean and neat, but it was evident that all the curtains, tablecloths, and clothes of the family were threadbare and badly worn. She said it was only possible to spare 3s per week for clothes and boots, and that only paid for leather and materials for mending.

Vested Interests.

It should be noted that although the whole of this family's income consisted of grants, none of them were strictly charitable grants or Poor Law Relief. They were a part of what might now be called the vested interests of a British workman. And in addition to these direct payments there were other benefits. Ten minutes walk from his house there are municipal baths and wash houses carried on at great loss by the corporation. In these his wife for a few coppers could have the use of every modern power-driven laundry device for doing her week's washing in a few hours and drying and mangling it. This abolishes the dirt and discomfort of the old washing day in the home. And for 2d. it is possible to get the use of a sumptuously appointed private bathroom with unlimited soap and hot water in the same building. Nearer still there is a fine Free Library and reading rooms. From these he can obtain the latest and best novels and technical works a few days after publication. By filling in a form any special book will be bought for him to read, subject to the approval of the librarian, which is usually freely given. The living room of this unemployed man's house contained a shelf exclusively filled with new books lent from this library. Other municipal amenities at his disposal gratis were half a dozen art galleries, several beautiful parks and flower gardens, and many courses of free lectures by men of world famous reputation.

His son and daughter having shown an intelligent interest in the subjects taught in the early standards of the elementary school had been drafted into a secondary school. In this the teaching was far superior to that at a good private school. The curriculum included mathematics, French, chemistry, and physics, and the most modern laboratories and the best equipped workshops were at the service of the scholars. All books and apparatus were supplied free of charge.

State-Provided Luxuries.

All these luxuries were provided at great expense by the State or the municipality. But the crowning luxury was being supplied by private enterprise. It was "broadcast.' This unemployed man had built for a few coppers a wireless crystal receiving set, and for 10s a pair of second-hand phones. It had an inside aerial impossible of detection and he had no licence. It was only two miles from a broadcasting station and with it he was receiving a seven-hour daily programme consisting of the latest news, the best vocal and instrumental music, and the most interesting lectures and plays.

He said that he got up about 8.30, and after breakfast went to the trade union "out-of-work room" to 'sign on' and see if there were any jobs in the papers. Twice a week he had also to go to the Labour Exchange and make a formal application for work at the vacancy counter. There never was any work to be had there, he said, but it was necessary to do this to fulfil the Uuemployment Committee's demand that he should prove he was looking for work. His trade union forbade its members to go round the workshops seeking work as it had a tendency to bring wages down. Applications for men had to be sent to the union offices who then supplied the employer with a list of the men out of work.

After signing on at the out-of-work room he usually went on to the allotment garden he rented from the municipality at a nominal rent and did a few hours' work. After dinner he did any boot mending or other casual job that needed doing in the home and then spent the rest of the day reading or 'listening in" on his wireless set.

There are tens of thousands of unemployed in the same position as this man and his family. The two circumstances that lift them above the destitute remainder are membership of a good trade union that has not frittered its reserves away in hopeless disputes, and the luck of being a householder. When all the expensive indirect benefits are added to the direct cash payments which the State and the municipality give these members of the community, the cost of providing them with food and amusement must be enormous. And yet it is almost impossible to put a finger on any specific benefit and say that it should be abolished or reduced, and it would be difficult to argue that some of them should not be increased.

This man is a skilled workman getting on in years and willing to work to the utmost of his capacity. There is a slump in his trade and every time there has been a vacancy the employer or foreman has chosen a younger and more active man. For all the signs there are at present of improvement there seems no reason why he should not remain an unwilling parasite on the community for another three years. And by that time he will no doubt be a complete man-about-town, philosophically resigned to poor living and high thinking and indisposed to exchange bread and margarine and leisure, for eggs and bacon and work. Twenty years ago there would have been a small chance of such a man finding a semi-skilled or unskilled occupation without any difficulties. It would be almost impossible now because every kind of labour is organized and the rules of every trade union contain a clause forbidding its members to join another society. The only occupation open to him is door-to-door canvassing for which the chief asset is the ability to excite pity.

Something Radically Wrong.

Yet there is something radically wrong in a state of things that enables a man to have at his command innumerable luxuries without doing anything to earn them. A Labour Government is likely to increase these amenities by an increase in the allowances. No Government would dare to reduce them. Wholehearted individualists like Austin Hopkinson, M.P., demand the abolition of all these devices to ameliorate unemployment. If this were done, they say, the workers would compete more desperately for work; wages would come down; production would go up; and very soon we should win back our old place on the world's markets. It is a false assumption. The menaced workers would be more likely to combine and lend a more attentive ear to the agitators who tell them that the only solution of their miseries lies in the abolition of the capitalist system.

That the out-of-works should be employed on "works of National importance" has long been a plank in the Labour programme. It is, however, doubtful if it will ever be a plank they will walk on. To employ inefficient factory-bred workers on out-of-door work at less than the ordinary navvy's wages would bring official Labour into disrepute with trade unionists, and to pay such labour the full rate would provoke opposition from anti-waste enthusiasts. The trade depression has been so prolonged that foremen and employers have now weeded the older and less fit workmen out of their factories and the bulk of the present unemployed are not of the type for heavy out-door work. Labour's policy will be an increase of the "dole," and the abolition of the gap between payments. This will increase unemployment and the burden on those who remain in work. The solution of the problem seems as far off as ever.

COUNTESS FLIES TO COURT

London to Perth to Answer a Charge

After flying from London in a De Havilland aeroplane at an average speed of 100 miles an hour, the Earl and Countess of Kinnoull, who were recently married, landed near Balhousie Castle, Perth, at 9.30 the next morning.

The trip was made in order that the Countess might personally answer a charge in the Perth Sheriff's Court of exceeding the ten-mile limit while motoring at Scone on her first visit to Perth on April 6.

Clad in flying wraps, the Countess pleaded guilty.

She explained that she was in a hurry at the time of the offence. The Sheriff imposed a 50s. fine.

Interviewed afterwards, the Countess laughingly remarked that she was caught speeding while on her homecoming to her husband's family seat, Balhousie Castle.

The Earl said they left Hendon the previous morning at 10 o'clock, and would have reached Perth the same day, but for rough weather. Much rain, wind and fog was experienced at Lincoln. They could scarcely see 100 yards ahead.

After lunch at Hull the journey was resumed, but bad fog developing, Captain Barnard, the pilot, decided, when nearing Scotland, to return to Middlesbrough, and landed there early in the afternoon.

In order that the Countess might be in time for the Court the flight was resumed at 7.30 this morning On the way the aeroplane flew beneath the famous Forth Bridge, which the Countess said was "a jolly fine little stunt."

OUR CANADIAN LETTER

Beachcombers from the Orient Stowing Away to Canada: Cossacks also Trying to Enter

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Vancouver, B.C., May 15.

Approaching a total of 400 passengers, an unusually large list for this time of the year, sailed to-day aboard the Empress of Australia for the Orient. In the saloon were Mrs. Helen and Miss Violet Judah, for Shanghai. Also bound there was, among many others, Mr. W. S. King, a prominent London business man, as well as M. C. S. Baines, of Paris, who is also travelling on business. The Rev. John McKim and his bride, formerly Mrs. E. P. Baird of Chicago, had Tokio as their destination. Mr. R. White, O.B.E., and Mrs. White were also among the saloon passengers.

The Australia brought here a week ago, among other missionaries, the Rev. Jonathan Goforth, D.D., the veteran Presbyterian missionary of Honan. Clericals and others closely interested in Oriental missions met him and he proceeded to Toronto where he met his sons. He will spend a year in Canada on furlough and hopes to spend a few days amid the mountains and woods of British Columbia on his return.

Once in five years Capt. Joseph Barrett, who commands a steamer on the Yangtze river, gets a holiday, and he spends that holiday in Vancouver. He will stay until March of next year. "I like the British Columbia people," he said in an interview. "They are so friendly and give one such a good time."

British Sailor Stowaways.

Four stowaways were discovered among the 930 passengers on the Empress of Australia. When she arrived last week officers reported that they were found shortly after the liner had left the Orient. They were handed over to the immigration authorities here. One was a Chinese, who was marked down for deportation when the ship sailed. Three were British sailors who were homeward bound in search of berths. They were given an opportunity to sign on with some foreign-bound ship, the alternative being a trip back to their port of embarkation to be turned loose again.

German Detained.

A German who came in with the vessel, and who was well supplied with money, arrived with New Jersey, U.S.A., as his destination. He proposes to enter the export and import business there. He was refused admission into the United States because the German quota was exhausted. He then had to take steps to get permission to stay in Canada until the new U. S. quota comes in on July 1, when he would take his chance of passing into the land of promise.

The Australia came in with her holds bulging with silk, this cargo being valued at $7,000,000. It was one of the heaviest silk cargoes arriving this year.

Captain Married.

Staff Capt. A. J. Holland, R.N.R., of the Empress of Australia, has been enjoying shore leave in Hongkong. He was married the day after the big liner left that port on her last trip. Miss Alice Green, of London, England, was his bride.

Fiji Chiefs Arrive.

Among the most interesting of recent trans-Pacific passengers arriving here were two Fiji chiefs who were on their way to the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley. One was Ratu P. Veili, who led the squadron of Fiji soldiers to London for the coronation of King Edward in 1902, the other Ratu J. Rebeci, O.B.E., who was decorated for the great assistance he give the British Government during the war. The two chiefs were given a warm welcome at the dock by Canadians, as they represented another unit in the great British Empire. Chief Veili created an unusual amount of interest from the fact that he stepped down the gangway attired in regulation clothes, but with a grey bathrobe trimmed with dark red collar and cuffs doing the service of an overcoat.

To Confer with the King.

A Chinese who has been commanded to attend upon his Majesty at Buckingham Palace, Kom Tong-ho a wealthy Chinese of Hongkong, was in the city a few days ago. Decorated in 1921 with the order of the Cross of St. John and Jerusalem for the excellent service he rendered to Britain during the war, Kong Tom-ho, like his brother Sir Robert Ho Tung, is remembered here for his fine war work and as a keen admirer of the British government of Hongkong, as well as for his generosity in giving money and time to Chinese hospitals and Red Cross work. Although he is not a Catholic he stated here that he would visit the Pope before returning to China.

Cossacks Looking to Canada.

Stranded at Manila, P.I., to which place they journeyed from Shanghai to give exhibitions in horsemanship, a troop of 12 Cossacks are endeavouring to get into Canada. A Russian resident here has received a letter from the Cossacks informing him that they had heard that Canada is a cattle country and that they might bolster up their fast dwindling finances by a rough-riding show. In their letter the 12 Cossacks admit that they are the pick of the old Imperial Russian Army's hard-riding Cossacks from the Don, and say they would like to try their luck as hard-riders on cattle ranges in Canada. There are, however, one or two little difficulties in the way. The second one is that they do not know how the immigration laws affect them, but that is considered immaterial alongside the first one, which is that they owe a board bill for themselves and their horses and they have'nt got the steamer fare to get here. Hence the letter.

SINGER MAKES AN ART "FIND"

Believes She Possesses Two Priceless Rembrandts

While international experts scour the world for Old Masters, it sometimes happens that the early amateur makes the find.

Sonia Herma, the soprano, who has been appearing at Wigmore Hall and Queen's Hall, London, believes that she is the owner of at least one original Rembrandt. She described how she came to acquire it to an "Evening Standard" reporter.

"I am a Circassian," said Sonia Herma, "and in artistic matters I am but an amateur. One day I was walking through a famous private gallery in Moscow, before the war. 'That is a Rembrandt,' I said to my host. 'Will you sell it?' The sale was duly completed, and part of the purchase price was completed, and part of the purchase price was made up in land. The sale included another picture which is certainly at least of the school of Rembrandt.

Saved from the Revolution.

"I put away these pictures, and eventually took them to Paris before the Russian Revolution. I never bothered about their value, until an expert told me 'You are a richer woman than you know.'

"He assured me that I possessed Rembrandt's lost portrait, painted by him two years before his death.

If so, it's value is incredible. On this expert's advice, I sent my two treasures over to the United States. Several American experts believe these pictures are Rembrandts, but before they buy, they wish to have them examined by Dr. Bodé, of Berlin, the great authority on such matters. Dr. Bodé is 75, and is at present ill. He cannot make the journey to America, but offers to send his assistant. Reply has come from America that it must be Dr. Bodé or no one.

"Not to be defeated, I am going to America next October on a two months' singing tour. If necessary, I am prepared to carry these two masterpieces to Berlin, get them examined by Dr. Bodé, and then take them back to America.

"I don't believe I shall be disappointed in Dr. Bodé's verdict. It is, however, tantalising to have such wealth just outside your reach for the moment."

WASHINGTON, May 31. — The Senate has re-considered and ratified without the previous reservation the Treaty with Britain for the preservation of the halibut fisheries in the North Pacific, including the Behring Sea.—Reuter's American Service.

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

There Are Bad Scots: A Concession from North o' the Tweed

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT .

Edinburgh, Apr. 23.

The Scottish Trade Union Congress at Ayr devoted some attention to that hardy annual—nationalization of banking. The usual vague statements that the existing order was prejudicial to democratic government, the interests of industry, and the economic welfare of the whole body of the people, were again complacently set forth, but, beyond the demand for another Royal Commission to inquire into the existing system, and another Blue-Book, no constructive policy would seem to have emerged. The advocates of banking nationalization seldom venture beyond generalities.

They fail to realize the basic fact that London owes its premier position in the world—if not entirely, at any rate to a very large extent—to the unquestioned stability of its great banking institutions, and that successive Governments have been, and still are, to a very large extent guided by the financial experts who conduct their operations. A legislative control of banking would result only in irksome restrictions deterrent to public interests. Critics of the existing system would appear to have been asleep during the war period, or at any rate sadly out of touch with current events. It was mainly due to the banks of the United Kingdom, who were, on account of their liquid position, able to respond so loyally to the War Loans, that successive issues were so satisfactorily taken up. No country in the world can show a banking mechanism of a finer grade; and a system which coped so successfully with the unparalleled exigencies of the decade since 1914 is not likely to be undervalued by responsible statesmen. The banks are in every case able and willing to foster industrial enterprise provided they are given satisfactory cover, and their rates are extremely moderate, considering the risks which are incidental to all human ventures. It is a common fallacy to confuse our great joint-stock institutions with "capitalists." The only money-lending capitalist nowadays is the man who runs a moneylending business on his own account. A "banker," like a "professor," is a somewhat elastic term. The great banks, however, which are owned by tens of thousands of shareholders all over the kingdom, are, so far from being inimical to the democratic ideal, the very embodiment of a democracy, and that one of the best, because their success is entirely bound up with goodwill of the constituencies among whom they do business, and their profits contingent upon the enterprise which they show.

The Scot in Byron.

The bad blood which permitted Byron when a youth to write to his mother from abroad, "I know you are a vixen," and which on the very threshold of life caused him to blaspheme his native land and the friends of his youth, was Scottish blood. Scottish blood when it [illegible] and [illegible] which [illegible] ask [illegible] and [illegible] a [illegible] a grandfather, and with the aid of the Gordons of Gight behind him. These early slanderings of the Albanian highlands, his association with wild elegance and the riff-raff of the Morea, are perhaps accounted for by the old Gight feeling in his blood. All Harrow's screams could not pierce him into a decent, settled Englishman. Others accept this view of heredity and maximize Byron's Scottish strain of feeling. He certainly shows some pride in Caledonia, but here and there we find a confession like this in the 10th canto of "Don Juan."—

> And though, as you remark, an Irish fit
> Of wrath and raptre, when juvenile and early,
> I raved at Scots to show my wrath and wit,
> Which must be owned was sensitive and early,
> Yet [illegible] such sallies to permit.
> They [illegible] fresh and early,
> I [illegible] the Scotchman in my blood
> And [illegible] land of "canny and of [illegible]

Lord Byron, [illegible] that detracted quality in Byron's character [illegible] Scots Calvinism which is being blamed to-day for the religious excesses of the melancholy Hebrides. There may be little in this, but it is noteworthy that no English poet since Milton has drawn so copiously on the Bible for the matter of his poetry. There were, however, causes of that temperamental derangement nearer to hand.

On of the things which always strike readers of Byron is the poet's sound and extensive knowledge of the Bible. It is said, and no doubt with truth, that this originated in the teaching of his Scots nurse at Aberdeen, May Gray, and was later carried on at the Grammar School of Aberdeen.

James Welsh, Miner-poet.

Mr. James Welsh, Labour M.P. for Coatbridge, and known as the Scottish miners' poet, has just published his second novel. It is called "The Morelocks," and deals with the lives of the people with whom he was brought up, in his native Lanarkshire. Mr. Welsh's previous novel, "The Underworld," which had a very good reception, has already been translated for circulation in Holland and Scandinavia. He has just completed a further arrangement for its translation into German. Mr. Welsh worked in the mines until about four years ago. He has been writing poetry and prose since 13 years of age. "I think," he said in the course of an interview, "I was born with a rhyme on my tongue. I find a great deal of interest now in looking back over the old things I wrote long ago. Some time ago I began to burn them, but my mother stopped that, and now she treasures them." Mr. Welsh had been turning over in his mind for some time the idea of producing another volume of poetry. "My difficulty is in finding time. I have sufficient material for a volume of songs and poems, and when I do compile it I have no doubt that my Parliamentary experience will provide some inspiration, and that the House of Commons will creep into it in some way." Discussing his new book, Mr. Welsh said that he had been particular to avoid anything in the way of conscious propaganda. "I feel that the propaganda novel misses its aim, I have read a number of such novels, and I always find that they tire people. There may be propaganda in a way in my book, but the volume cannot be said to be propagandist."

E. H. Liddell.

Mr. E. H. Liddell, of Edinburgh University, the famous sprinter and Rugby footballer, whose family is well-known in the Far East, is to take part in a series of evangelistic meetings to be held in Glasgow in September. At present he is on a visit to the United States with the Cambridge University team of track athletes.

Unconscious Humour.

It is good to see the tracks being laid for a joke or a sample of humour worthy of the name, but the diffused humour is better still. If it has a superior it is to be found in the entirely unconscious exercise of the spirit of jumbledom. Here, for instance, I have before me the results of an egg-laying competition sent from a certain quarter with the compliments of the "Association for Peace with Honour." Can you improve on that sample?

"Goff" or "Golf."

Quite an interesting dissension has been taking place in Scotland as to the proper pronunciation of the name of our premier Scottish game, and the most authoritative opinions are in favour of "goff," or, even more Scottish, "gowf." One of our oldest and best known golfers says—"I first tried to play that fascinating but elusive game at St. Andrews, in the 'sixties, where I knew all the leading professionals, including Old and Young Tom Morris, Jamie Anderson, Bobby Kirk, Tom Kidd, etc., and venture to say that not one of them ever pronounced it otherwise than 'goff.' It was the same with the crack amateurs of the day, such as Maitland Dougall, Gilbert Mitchell Innes, Sir Robert Hay, Robert Clark, Tom Hodge, Colonel Boothby, and others. Golf was 'goff' to them, whatever it might be to English visitors. In the 'seventies I used to play not infrequently at Musselburgh, on the famous old nine-hole course, where the proper pronunciation was in vogue among both amateurs and professionals. Later on I joined the Prestwick Golf Club, where again I found that 'goff' was the word used by everyone who knew anything about the game, from old Charlie Hunter downwards; and I am glad to think that it still obtains there. Those who frequent the numerous golf courses (I can't call them links) that have sprung up like mushrooms in recent years may play g-o-l-f, and good goff at that, but they might with advantage follow the old Scots usage and pronounce the word according to the manner that prevails at the three famous centres mentioned above—a manner that has the sanction of Jamieson and of the Oxford English Dictionary."

The Call of Sport.

With Eastertide we are in the midst of the transition stage from winter's work and winter games to holiday time and summer sports. There is every reason to suppose that the increasing popularity of games like golf and tennis will be maintained. Cricket is not played in Scotland to such an extent as it might be. More frequent introduction of teams from across the Border might prove a good missionary enterprise in stimulating interest in the game. In the realm of golf we are being prepared for the annual invasion from America in quest of the honours. Nowadays we to take the invasion seriously. But if the season is to continue the run of almost phenomonally low scores put up in the big golfing events which have already taken place, we may hope that our home competitors will secure a full share of the records.

Scottish Cup Final.

A new name falls to be inscribed on the Scottish Cup; the Airdrieonians defeated the Hibernians in the final of the national competition at Ibrox, Glasgow. As a rule these finals are disappointing, and the one just decided was no exception. There were long spells of listless play, and before the interval it was a general impression that the Airdrieonians, then leading by two goals to nothing, had settled the issue. As a matter of fact, they did that two minutes from the start, when, following a brisk attack, against which the Hibernian defenders made a poor show, they forced a corner, from which a goal was headed by Russell. That blow was the most telling in the game, one from which the Hibernians never recovered. True they fought out the issue well in midfield, and kept the ball for long spells in Airdrieonian ground, but in their progress to the final they had not shown themselves to be a ready scoring side, and this was again manifest. Under the slashing defence put up by the Airdrieonians they were never allowed to settle down. The Airdrieonians, on the other hand, were smarter in their raiding, and perhaps lucky in finding the Easter Road club's defence less strong than usual; at any rate they made them pay for their mistakes, and it was really these that decided the game. There was little brilliant work seen. Airdrie thus close a most successful season, being also runners-up to Rangers in the League.

Closing Stages of the League.

The League would be a very dead affair were it not for the dramatic struggle going on to escape relegation. The most interesting event of the week was Queen's Park victory over Falkirk. The amateurs are by far the most popular club in Scotland—at least they have the greatest number of well-wishers—and there were many happy hearts last week end over their success, as it saved them for relegation to the Second Division. Clydebank's defeat of Rangers, however, was by far the most sensational event, although it did prevent them going down in later matches and thus losing their position in the First League. They defeated the Champions, it may be said, by punch, not polish. Clyde is the other club relegated. The bottom of the table reads thus—Queen's Park and Kilmarnock have each 30 points with a game still to play; Third Lanark have finished their card with 30 points; and the relegated clubs are Clyde with 29 and Clydebank with 25.

LONDON, May 31.—In the presence of 50,000 people, Field-Marshal Earl Haig to-day unveiled the Cenotaph in George Square in Glasgow.—Reuter.

THE BUNGALOW MURDER

Discovery in a Lonely House: Details Suggest Case for Sherlock Holmes

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

London, May 8.

Politics have this week been quite pushed into the background by what is known as the "Bungalow Crime." It certainly is a remarkable tragedy even in these days when crime is being carried to such a high measure of perfection.

Last Friday evening a man went to the cloakroom at Waterloo Station and presented a ticket for a Gladstone bag which had been deposited there about a fortnight before. As he was about to carry away the bag two detectives spoke to him and requested him to accompany them to the Kennington Road police station where the bag was opened. It was then found that its contents were two long and broad pieces of silk, an article of woman's underclothing, a small piece of flesh, some powder, said to be lime, and a large knife something like a bread knife. The silk and underclothing were bloodstained. Apparently someone in the station cloakroom had noticed what he thought were bloodstains on the bag and had communicated his suspicions to the Scotland Yard authorities, who decided to place detectives on watch until the article was claimed. Hence the detention of the man.

Sinister Associations.

The police were obviously face to face with a very grave crime, but the result of their inquiries speedily drew them to a bungalow known as the Officer's House, Langley Bungalows, Pevensey Bay, one of a row of whitewashed houses formerly occupied by the coastguard. It was, by the way, within a short distance of this house that nearly three years ago the dead body of Irene Munro, a young London typist, was found, and in connexion with whose murder two men named Gray and Field were executed. The officers searched the house and discovered many traces of a gruesome crime, in fact, portions of a body which showed that the victim must have been a tall well-made woman, although there was no head, and for this the police are now digging in the garden. One doubts, however, if the head will ever be discovered because, clearly, the criminal has been making away with bits of the body and he had more than a fortnight to do it in. The victim has, however, been identified as a Miss Emily Beilby Kaye, who seems to have been a North-country girl and to have started life in Manchester, where she was employed as secretary to Messrs. Beith, Stevenson & Co., merchant shippers, and she left Manchester in October, 1922, to take up a similar position in London. During the 18 months before her departure from Manchester, Miss Kaye was in apartments in Oswald Road, Chorlton, and her landlady stated yesterday that it was impossible to imagine a nicer girl to have living in a house. She was reserved, homely, athletic, and fond of novel reading; she had no male friends. Her favourite game was lawn tennis, but she was also fond of golf and used to go off early on Sunday mornings to play with friends in the country. Miss Kaye was for five years a member of Edgelane Lawn Tennis Club, and she was one of the first six players in a strong ladies' team connected with that club. Shortly before Easter one of the members of the club received a letter from Miss Kaye saying she was going to be married to a boy she had only known six months, and that they were going out to Africa in three weeks' time. Her Manchester friends subscribed for a wedding present, and despatched it three weeks ago, but to their surprise they received no acknowledgment. What happened to her after that is not known, though she undoubtedly stayed at Eastbourne, since her clothing has been recognized by the hotel girl clerk. There seems to be no doubt whatever, from a letter she wrote to her friends, that she did intend to marry and go to South Africa.

The Accused Man.

The detained man is named Patrick Mahon who has for the past 12 months lived with his wife and nine-years-old son in rooms in Pagoda Avenue, Richmond, Surrey. Mrs. Mahon is still living in rooms in Pagoda Avenue. Her daughter, aged 12, is at Kew Hill School for Girls. Both he and his wife are connected with a soda-water company at Sunbury-on-Thames. He is a prominent figure in Richmond bowling circles, and is a member of the Mid-Surrey Bowling Club. He played with other members only last Thursday and seemed then in his usual good spirits. A member of the club said last night: "He was an exceedingly charming and popular man. I recently visited him, and he and his wife seemed very happy. He was organizing secretary of a very successful open bowling tournament at Richmond last summer and carried out the arrangements most satisfactorily. He was going to be selected for another tournament this summer." The accused man up to the present has denied the murder, though he has made a statement to the police the purport of which is not known. It would, however, appear that he will have considerable difficulty in exculpating himself. The authorities have just opened the inquest which took place in the bungalow itself, though it seems to me this must have been rather a dramatic addition of mental torture to the accused man, for whom crowds of people waited outside and gave him such a hostile reception that the police had great difficulty in clearing the way to a waiting car. It was, however, curious that as they drove away one woman shouted "Poor chap; leave him alone." Another screamed "Be English; be fair."

WOMEN HYPNOTISED BY A STATUE

Priest with a Mona Lisa Smile: British Museum Image

A Chinese priest in the Buddhist room has become the centre of interest at the British Museum. He hypnotises all who behold him. Artists by the score set their easels at his feet and attempt in vain to reproduce his elusive Mona Lisa smile. The Queen, who visited the Museum before she left Buckingham Palace for Windsor recently, was as interested in him as any of her subjects.

The Lohan is a porcelain image, nearly four feet high, and is one of the masterpieces of the T'ang period, 618-906 A.D. It is said that his purchase price was in the neighbourhood of £5,000. The Lohan is seated, Buddhist fashion, on a raised pedestal, with crossed legs, and exquisite hands tranquilly folded on his lap.

Around him a dead black cloth screen concentrates all the light in the gallery on his face. He wears a simple but beautiful robe of soft green, tied round the waist with a thin yellow sash, over which is an outer robe of brownish yellow crossed by white bands. These are narrowly edged with green and adorned with designs of white plum blossom on a yellow ground.

Apostle of Buddha.

The Lohan is one of the apostles of Buddha, and his full style and title is Sohinda Sonja, in Chinese Su-pin-t'o. He was found in a secret mountain sanctuary, in wild, lonely and almost inaccessible country.

"Visitors who come here," said his guardian to a "Daily Express" representative recently, "say he is the most wonderful thing they have even seen. Many compare him to the Venus of Milo for the perfection of his modelling, and Mona Lisa for the magnetism of his expression.

"He has a remarkable effect on the imagination of women. Some turn away almost in fear from his slanting, deepset eyes;; others cannot get away from their spell. His enormous ears always arouse their curiosity. The lobes were probably dragged down to their unusual size by weights attached to them for the purpose.

"Although I have been in China myself, I never get tired of sitting here all day watching other people watch him, and sometimes even I can imagine that his expression changes as he notes his extraordinary effect on them."

THE GLOBE TROTTER

Dumm & Dummer File More Detailed Report of Trip Through Europe

FROM THE "NEW YORK SUN."

LONDON: London is a fog with a population of eight million people and four million sandy mustaches. It is the home of 3,876 restaurants in which Dickens once ate. It would be a nice city if they'd ice their ale and change their policemen's hats.

The principal ruins are Lloyd George, Papyrus, Horatio Bottomley and practically all the first class hotels. The historic buildings are Buckingham Palace, which is a cross between a 16th century gaol and a 19th century apartment house; Westminster Abbey, where the sexton's orders have long been "kings or better to open," and the Tower of London, where the head bobbing craze and the "Positively No Waiting" sign originated.

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PARIS: This is a city of beautiful women, even if you don't see 'em, and of terrible looking taxi drivers, even if you do. It is famous for its light wines and dark cathedrals. It has memorials to Napoleon in front of every cafe, and 57 victory arches denoting the spots where Cook tourists won battles with French hackmen. It is the home of the Latin Quarter, which is now worth only about eight cents at the rate of exchange. This quarter is famous for its Smock Set. It has 89 museums, and each one is full of the hat and coat worn by Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo, and of the horse that carried him through his campaigns. This proved to us that Nap went into battle riding 18 horses abreast and met final defeat through wearing too many clothes. We visited Notre Dame Cathedral, which was full of American tourists, who were hurrying through it on a trot for fear they wouldn't get out in time for the Folies Bergere.

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VERSAILLES: This is the geranium growers' delight and the hedge and tree clippers' despair. It is the only place in the world having more mirrors than the Terminal barber shops. Here is located the palace in which Napoleon and Josephine fought. There is a museum in the back yard (to the right of the pear tree), containing the gold embroidered hack out of which Madame DuBarry once fell; the mahogany desk Napoleon Bonaparte slept on, the oil stove he threw at the Empress and the low cut imperial taxi in which Marie Antoinette, returning from the ball with Louis the Five-Eighths, made her famous remark, "It couldn't have been pre-war stuff or we wouldn't feel this way."

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GENEVA: We couldn't get in here as all the hotels were full of delegates to the League of Nations, which was rehearing a new summer revue. All the hotel proprietors were running around hanging up "Watch your coat and hat" signs as the delegates arrived, and stamping "Stolen from the Hotel Blank" on all the pillow cases and quilts.

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VENICE: This is an amusement resort flooded by the local fire department and never pumped out. It is a tough spot for automobile and bicycle salesmen. Venice is the site of St. Mark's Square, where all the hick tourists get their pictures taken feeding the pigeons. We fed the birds some tan shoe buttons as a substitute for yellow corn and had our pictures snapped for home consumption. Its most curious building is an American bar, where a bartender with red whiskers serves a pink drink with sliced bananas in it as a Manhattan cocktail.

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FLORENCE: This is the town in which the old painters gave a guarantee of five masterpieces to the gallon. It was the home of the famous Medici family. (There was Dan Medici, Ike Medici, Webster Medici and the Medici girls—Irene, Sophia and Kittie).

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ROME: The city of fallen arches and one church to a person. We saw the Coliseum, which was built by the Flavius Fuller Construction Company on a cost-plus basis 1,800 years ago. It was guaranteed not to bend or break and never has done so. The guides show you animal dens and cells of early Christians for a nickel. For a dime they will show you an early Christian. 15 cents will get you a lion.

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NAPLES: Vesuvius defying the "No Smoking" signs.

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POMPEII: The only city in Europe that is all it was cracked up to be. Downtown Jersey City.

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MONTE CARLO, NICE, etc.: We don't remember.

Your loving friends,

(Signed) DUMM & DUMMER.

MOST BRILLIANT OF ALL SEASONS

London as World Centre of Society and Sport: Two Royal Visits

"In the number and splendour of its entertainments," said an official of the London Association, "this season will surpass any that London has known.

"I do not suppose we have ever before had so many visitors from the Dominions and Dependencies, or so many brilliant official functions arranged in their honour.

"We have the Prince in town again, Princess Mary at Chesterfied House, the Duke and Duchess of York at the White Lodge, Lady Maud Carnegie at No. 5, Norfolk-street, and Lady Louis Mountbatten at Brook House.

"Private entertainments will be more lavish than ever, and the 81 dances already arranged by no means exhaust the list.

"May 5 sees the opening of the Royal Academy and the Covent Garden season of international Grand Opera.

Two Royal Visits.

"On May 12 the King and Queen of Roumania arrive. A State banquet will be given at Buckingham Palace. The Lord Mayor entertains their Majesties at lunch at the Guildhall on May 13.

"The first evening Court will be held at Buckingham Palace on May 20, and the second on May 21.

"On the 25th the King and Queen of Italy will be the guests of the King and Queen at Buckingham Palace. The State Ball at Buckingham Palace on May 28, when 2000 guests will be present, has been arranged in honour of the visiting monarch.

Royal Movements.

"The King and Queen will be present at the Derby on June 4, at the Oaks on June 5, and at a Garden Party at White Lodge on the 14th. They will have a house party at Windsor Castle for Ascot week, returning in time to hold their third and fourth evening Courts on June 26 and 27.

"Their Majesties will give a Garden Party at Windsor that month in honour of visitors from Overseas, for whom also a State Ball will be given at the Guildhall on June 30. Hampton Court will present a brilliant scene when the Colonial Office acts as host to our Overseas visitors.

"The biggest event of the season will be the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, to which 6000 guests will be invited. After the fourth Court the King and Queen will visit Goodwood, staying with the Duke of Richmond and Gordon at Goodwood House, and the first week in August will see them at Cowes.

Sport and Festivals.

"Sporting and musical festivals will be very numerous. On May 24, Empire Day, the largest band ever seen, with over 1000 performers, will play at Wembley Stadium. On June 12-14 there will be the Richmond Horse Show, and on June 20 the International Horse Show.

The All-England Lawn Tennis championships take place from June 23 to July 1 at Wimbledon.

England plays South Africa at Lord's on June 28. From July 2 to 4 there is Henley Regatta, on July 7 Oxford *v.* Cambridge, and on July 11 Tton *v.* Harrow. Both are at Lord's.

Festival of the Shops.

"One great attraction for all our visitors, whom we estimate at from 12 to 15 millions, will be the London shops.

"I doubt if our shops have ever made such a display of their treasures, as they are making now."

OUR PARIS LETTER

General Election Preparations: Complications of Voting Dear to the Gaul

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Paris, April 18.

The electoral campaign being now in full swing, the official notice-boards outside the town halls and other public buildings are blossoming out into posters of brilliant hues. Just as one man's necessity is another man's opportunity, so does the meritorious printer benefit by the present outpourings of political souls. Printing used to be an even bigger item when candidates stood "on their own," but the *scrutin de liste* system introduced in 1919 has led to a good deal of splitting expenses, and the cost of contesting a seat remains quite reasonable. Before the war a candidate usually had to disburse about Frs. 12,500 or £500, in Paris, and rather more in provincial constituencies where more travelling had to be done. In 1919 the economy resulting from the new system partly counteracted the general increase in the cost of living, and Frs. 18,000 was an average election bill. This year it will be about the same, thanks chiefly to a more complete sharing of expenses among all the candidates on the same list.

Complicated Voting.

One of the most baffling features, from an English point of view, of a French general election is the complicated system of ascertaining the results. In Great Britain the candidate who polls most votes is elected without any question, and if there is a second or third seat, it is allotted in the same way. This is clear, definite and easy to understand. During nearly all the life of the Third Republic, France has had a similar system, the only real difference being that, to be elected at the first ballot, a candidate must have an absolute majority of all the votes polled. Should this condition not be fulfilled, the election had to be repeated a fortnight later, and then the candidate with the biggest poll secured the seat. These second ballots, which took place in a great many constituencies, came to be regarded as a nuisance. The free and independent electors, and possibly their wives as well, thought that one Sunday was quite enough to spoil by having to vote. Earnest politicians also became possessed by the notion that the then exising system was too favourable to the money candidate and particularly to the large employer of labour. They argued that persons were of much less importance than principles, and that every man qualified to represent his fellow citizens in Parliament should have an equal chance.

An Arithmetical Problem.

The result is the present system—a new and revised edition of the *scrutin de liste* formerly prevailing. Candidates do not stand independently but in sections, or *listes*, of men with more or less the same political views. After the votes are counted, an arithmetical process has to be carried out and a thing called the "electoral quotient" generally comes into play. It is obtained by dividing the total votes polled by the number of seats. Thus, if 50,000 votes have been cast in a constituency entitled to 5 members, the quotient is 10,000. A *liste* obtaining 10,000 votes is entitled to one seat, 20,000 votes giving two seats, and so on. This is without prejudice to the rights of any one candidate who may obtain the absolute majority, or more than half the total votes. He is elected without further calculation and the quotient is applied to the remaining seats. When the position of the lists has been ascertained, the seats have to be apportioned among the candidates on the successful lists. The votes cast for the list are divided by the number of candidates, so as to obtain what is called a *moyenne électorale*, or average, below which no candidate can be elected. Sometimes the application of the quotient does not fill all the seats, and those remaining are allotted to the list having the best average.

In spite of all this elaborate machinery there were still a few constituencies where in 1919 the voting did not give any definite result and a second ballot had to be taken. The outcome of the present combination of *scrutin de liste* with another political fetish called "proportional representation" is that, as a rule, it is impossible to tell the result of a French election until an expert has subjected the figures to all the arithmetical processes required by law As we are always being told that the genius of France calls for light and a clear atmosphere, one can only wonder whether the French public really likes the highly ingenious apparatus with which its politicians have presented it.

A Great Nephew of Napoleon.

Napoleon's grand-nephew, Prince Roland Bonaparte, who has just passed away, was singularly devoid of the ancestral temperament, and, for that reason and others, not even the wildest anti-monarchist objected to his presence in the country from which the head of his family was excluded. Prince Roland was descended from Napoleon's younger brother Lucien, the most prolific of the Bonapartes. Born in 1858, he was intended for the army, and although the dynasty was swept away when he was still at school, no change was made in the plans for his career. He went through St. Cyr military academy and entered the army as second lieutenant, but, very soon afterwards, Parliament voted the law which prohibits from residence in France the heads of families having ruled over the country. It was impossible for a Bonaparte to remain in the French army in these circumstances, and the military career of Prince Roland came to an abrupt end. Probably the world lost nothing, but rather gained. Prince Roland was much more interested in travel, exploration and science than in military affairs, and he was fortunately able to gratify his tastes. His great house in the Avenue d'Iéna contained a very fine collection of scientific books and specimens. He was a pillar of the Geographical Society and gave freely to many branches of investigation. He was one of the simplest and most unassuming of men, and his pleasantness and cheerfulness, combined with his great name and wealth, gave him a unique position in Paris. His only child married Prince George of Greece, a brother of the late King Constantine.

JERUSALEM SURPRISE

Important Discoveries in the City of David

New discoveries made during the excavation of the City of David at Jerusalem are described by Professor R. A. S. Macalister (who is working under the auspices of the Palestine Exploration Fund and the "Daily Telegraph").

One of these discoveries, says the Professor in a dispatch from Jerusalem, carries back the history of the city in all probability at least 500 years behind the farthest point hitherto attained.

This is the section of a great trench. Only on the north side, goes on the Professor, was Jerusalem vulnerable to the assaults of primitive warfare. The steep valleys east and west of the ridge protected it effectively; the inhabitants acknowledged the protection thus afforded them by endeavouring to cut an artificial valley on the north side.

This is our reading of the entirely unexpected discovery with which we have been favoured.

We can hardly allow less than 500 years as the term of usefulness of a work so extensive. I should scarcely hesitate to assign a date near to 3,000 B.C.

There are broken steps now cleared of soil that has cumbered them since the time of Abraham. I venture to claim that those broken steps are a record of a previously unknown siege of Jerusalem.

Another important discovery is a gigantic bastion, unquestionably part of a great city wall, previously undiscovered. It was about 20ft. thick.

I have no doubt that it was the Jebusite outer wall, and in all probability the bastion which we have unearthed was the very spot from which the Jebusites taunted David with his inability to take the city.

THE DARDANELLES LANDING

Sir Ian Hamilton's Story

General Sir Ian Hamilton, lecturing at Hull in aid of the British Legion, told his story of the Dardanelles landing, and, incidentally, expressed some frank opinions of some of the men who directed British operations during the Great War.

"By the winter of 1914-15," said Sir Ian, "the First Sea Lord was Winston Churchill. That is a name to conjure up brick-bats or bouquets according to fancy. But we need not here trouble ourselves with his goodness or badness. Genius is an X-ray faculty which enables a mortal to see what is on the other side of the mountains.

"Whether, having seen, he uses his knowledge ill or well is another matter. Mr. Churchill saw. After all, he is an artist—a seer. He can see; he saw the Dardanelles, and so seeing he resolved to use the long-distance boots given us by our Fleet to get round the enemy's Eastern flank.

"Next in power to this young genius sat an old man of the sea. Lord Fisher, brilliant as he was, sensible as he could be, was more narrow than Winston Churchill in that he was essentially a one element man. He never wasted a thought on anything so dry as the land. He reckoned to mask Borkum, force an entrance to the Baltic, and land Russian and British armies within 70 miles of Berlin."

Lord Kitchener

The chief of the War Office was Lord Kitchener, who was eager to save the nation, but was badly handicapped.

Generally speaking the officers at the War Office were capable but in the wrong posts, or they were capable but too terrified of Lord Kitchener to say "Boo" to him. England's destinies really rested upon Lord Kitchener himself. He had not vision, or if he had, he could never explain what he saw, but he had instinct, and, given a free run, it rarely failed him.

Sir Ian spoke of the morning of March 12, 1915, when Lord Kitchener sent for him.

"I entered his room. He was writing. After a moment he looked up and said 'We are sending a military force to support the Fleet now at the Dardanelles, and you are to have command.'"

Within 24 hours he must hand over a command three times larger than the British Expeditionary Force; receive his instructions; select a staff; get hold of the hang of the Dardanelles and of the nature of the whereabout of his new Force, and—bundle off. As was to be expected, in so much agitation, all sorts of things were overlooked.

A Brain Wave

Sir Ian spoke in detail of the operations that followed. "V Beach," he said, "had we but known it, was next door to impossible as a landing. Our evil genius had planned our ruin there, and yet, at the last hour, good angels came and saved us by sending into the naval minds the thought of how, by the gift of a wooden horse, Troy and all her citadels had fallen.

"Commander Unwin was the name of the hero who had the brain wave, and as he is miraculously still alive I can still take my hat off when I meet him. So it came about that Admiral Wemyss fixed up an old steelbuilt tramp steamer called the River Clyde to bear within her womb two battalions of infantry.

> "Not one of our men would have returned to tell the tale but for the River Clyde—sold now to the Spaniards by a Government of spendthrifts who could find millions for anything except sentiment."

Sir Ian spoke of the lack of reinforcements, and declared that it was easier to get butter out of a dog's mouth than troops out of the War Office—except, that was to say, for the Western Front.

In the end, concluded Sir Ian, the Higher Direction of the British at home proved less tenacious than the Turk. Then, sadly, the Army of the Dardanelles left their battlefields and their dead, and without having lost guns or trenches, sailed away into the night.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

A SPRING SERMON

Notes of a Sermon Preached by the Rev. C. E. Darwent in Union Church, Tientsin, Sunday Evening, April 27.

Text: St. Matthew XXIV 32. "Now from the figtree learn her parable; when her branch is now become tender, and putteth forth its leaves, ye know that summer is nigh."

When the "pageant of summer" is over and the leaves begin to turn, and we know that autumn is here, and the harvest festival is due, it is almost impossible not to preach on the suggestions of the season, if we have any preaching instinct at all. I used to notice, that a favourite text with students was "We all do fade as a leaf." And there are so many texts that suit it, suggesting other harvests, not so welcome as the golden wheat. Spring, however, equally deserves our attention, though I do not think it gets it. I do not know that I have ever preached a spring sermon. So I ask you to-night to consider some aspects of the springtime. Perhaps spring deserves more attention here in Tientsin than in the south, in Shanghai for instance. Here in Tientsin spring, for one thing, is very short. There seems a ridiculously meagre interval between winter and summer. Those who have trees to transplant have to be quick about it, for the leaves are out before you know where you are, and transplanting is impossible. Then it is a more tough season than in the milder and more genial south. On Sunday, at nine o'clock in the evening, the thermometer stood at 70 Fahr. By midnight it was down to 47 Fahr. a drop indeed, very trying to tender plants. And we have dust storms with a cutting hard wind. It tries the vitals of us hard adults, and it can shrivel up the tender leaf. Any success in gardening in Tientsin is a triumph, while in Shanghai, April and May are so favourable to growth, owing to the damp warmth, or to the warm dampness, that one used almost to think that, if anyone planted a cane, a silver head would sprout on it, and save the expense of a visit to a Chinese dealer in canes. However, men value things according to the difficulty in getting them. Anything won in the face of difficulties is more enjoyed than anything [illegible]. A [illegible] in the Falkland Islands is the creator of more joy than all the bushels you can purchase for a reasonable sum in Shanghai market. So we are glad to see spring once more. And we can read some of the truest lines on the season by one of the best of our minor poets, Mr. Aubrey de Vere, with as much enjoyment as those who live in a region where spring knows not Gobi dust-storms;

"Who feels not, when the spring once more
Stepping o'er winter's grave forlorn
With winged feet, retreads the shore
Of widowed earth, his bosom burn?

As ordered flower succeeds to flower,
And May the ladder of her sweets
Ascends, advancing hour by hour
From scale to scale, what heart but beats?

Some Presence veiled, in fields and groves,
That mingles rapture with remorse,
Some buried joy beside us moves,
And thrills the soul with such discourse

As they, perchance, that wondering pair,
Who to Emmaus bent their way;
Hearing, heard not, like them our prayer
We make—"The night is near us; Stay."

The Charm of the Familiar.

"From the fig-tree learn her parable." In Palestine the figtree was one of the commonest and most useful of trees. The fig was not used to [illegible] as [illegible] are. I dare say most of us [illegible] figs without [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND OPIUM

The Whole Country Full of It and the Trade Pushed Briskly: Can China Justify Herself before the Coming League of Nations Conference?

(CONTRIBUTED).

Time is running out and China must render an account to the nations of the world at the forthcoming Opium Conference of her lamentable opium recrudescence. The time is too short to allot blame. The world knows that the disruption in the South and West together with the maintenance of enormous armies in all parts of China is responsible for four-fifths of the present traffic. The world equally knows well that the opium battle which culminated in total victory in 1915 has to be fought over again under harder conditions. The fact is that it is "fight" not a comedy show, requiring definite and energetic action. The opposition is prodigious and is both personal and official. Not only are Civil and Military Governors determined to maintain their taxes and consequently production, but that daily the habit is fastening itself on thousands. Many provinces in 1922 and 1923 grew such an opium surplus for which markets could not be found, that the people have taken up the habit owing to the cheapness of the product. From all parts of China come reports of the freedom and openness of opium smoking. People smoke in railway carriages, on river steamers, in restaurants, and in the houses and yamens of officials and gentry without the least attempt at secrecy. The traffic is officially licensed, smoking dens and opium sale shops exist side by side with shops and stalls for the sale of food and household commodities, and officials of many different grades cannot be seen during opium smoking hours, or until midday. In fact travellers find it difficult to realize that the general and open use of opium is contrary to the law of the land or prohibited by the most severe legal penalties.

A Well Organized Trade.

The recent annual investigation by the International Anti-Opium Association of Peking, which embraces over a hundred personal reports from missionaries and other foreigners in every province in China, shows no diminution in this season's cultivation. The Southern provinces are now collecting a bumper opium harvest, whose output runs hundreds of tons must find markets. Every opium province has its monopolies, some are straightforward and others—by far the majority—are merely excessive taxes imposed by local militarists on poppy land, opium shops and smoking dens. The straightforward opium monopolies are wider in their scope, they are provincial affairs governed by published regulations and restrictions promulgated by the military and civil provincial Governors. The stringency of these regulations is highly efficient for the raising of the largest funds, and for preventing promiscuous dealings.

Take the most recent monopoly, that of Kiangsi. Its regulations consist of 28 Articles completely controlling import, transport, sales bureaux and smuggling. Opium is not permitted to be grown in the province, but must be imported from Szechuan and other provinces in order that the import tax may be secured. The whole province is divided into 14 sections each under the control of a sectional bureau whose duty will be to raise monthly a tax of $15,000, $12,000 and $8,000 respectively according to their classification as 1st, 2nd or 3rd class. The four importing bureaux are supplied with stamps, coloured grey, yellow, white and red respectively, so as to avoid encroachment on each other's area of trade. The opium import tax is heavy, the sectional bureaux tax is also heavy, and finally the dealers who pay heavily for their post are unrestricted in the price they ask from their purchasers. This monopoly is established by the Military Governor of the province and from the number of the tabulated offices and officials a very large monthly income must be anticipated.

A Clear Case.

This Governor Ts'ai Ch'eng-hsun has the record of being the first Governor to start the poppy recrudescence in 1917, and when Governor of Suiyuan made a fortune by supplying Peking with cheap opium.

A reasonable defence might be made for provincial monopolies if control and taxation aimed even in the smallest degree at restriction but they do not. Money is the end and money only. No consideration for the people or the destructive effect of opium upon the life of the nation exists. The Kiangsi Governor knows he is breaking all law and treaty, for in the preamble to his monopoly regulations he states *"In order to* avoid foreign interference a formal *declaration of strict opium prohibition shall be made,"* and in the same preamble calls on officials of every grade military or civil to make the monopoly a success. The only commendation due to Governor T'sai is that he is open and straight with his destructive monopoly. Scores of others are doing more or less the same thing under the title of Suppression Bureaux, and that within a short distance of the Chinese Capital.

Chinese Government Uneasy.

The Chinese Government is undoubtedly perturbed by the coming League of Nations' Conference of the Powers having Far Eastern possessions. The programme suggested by Sir Malcon Delevingne for discussion will be stultified as far as the opium monopoly countries are concerned, unless China can stop production. The Hongkong Governor declared in 1923 that "no financial consideration would prevent total prohibition in the Colony if China would *pari passu* stop cultivation." The difficulties of preventing smuggling are almost insuperable. In Hongkong opium is sold at $14.50 per ounce, and in China it is as low as 35 cents. Whilst morally the traffic is indefensible in any Far Eastern possessions, yet if restriction leads to extensive underground methods of smuggling the results will be doubtful. *China must stop cultivation.* Can she do this? No and Yes. No! she cannot stop it in the South and West, where the bulk of her yearly 10,000 tons are being grown. These provinces have virtual autonomy and Peking mandates are disregarded, and they will continue to cultivate and traffic, until some power not at present operative makes it impossible. Yes! applies to the Northern provinces such as Anhui, Honan, Shensi, Kansu and Chihli. Here the Central Government is dominant, controls all official and civil appointments and has the power to enforce the law. Will she do it?

What Prohibition Means.

Recently the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior, War and Police have formed an Opium Suppression Board in Peking before which the General Secretary of the Association was invited to discuss present conditions and suggest methods of restriction. Later the Association was asked to make recommendations in writing, which they did, and the main points emphasized were; first, that further investigation of poppy cultivation and opium traffic were unnecessary and would cause delay. Every one knows where it is grown and the quantities, and in the meantime farmers are planting for the Summer harvest. If, however, the Suppression Board decides to send Investigating Commissioners the Association urged that they should act independently of the Civil and Military Authorities, for there is conclusive evidence that in the past the investigators have not been permitted to investigate until the opium harvest had been reaped, and hence their reports are entirely misleading. Secondly the Association urged that methods for the prevention of opium smuggling be considered. It will avail little, if prohibition of cultivation be enforced in the North, and no means taken to prevent the surplus tons of opium entering from the South.

Thirdly the Association suggested the opening of "Curing Houses" in the Northern provinces, for with almost millions of addicts, it will be impossible to prevent smuggling, unless something is done to help the miserable sufferers. The Model Province of Shansi has a number of curing houses and 51,000 persons were treated therein during the last two years. Without these "Curing Houses" the labouring classes will suffer, whilst as formerly the official classes will be able to put by a store of opium sufficient to last for years.

The Test for China.

Finally the Association explained that the coming Opium Conference would be a test of China's sincerity. Would she prohibit, where she has the power to do so? The six Northern Provinces are under the control of the Central Government. Energetic action could clear these provinces in six months, and unless China does this, it will be futile for her to talk of the Southern provinces where she has no control. The crux of the whole eradication problem is the opium habit amongst officials. President, some Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, Tuchuns, Governors Civil and Military, are known opium smokers. Every one knows it, and yet these men make the mandates and issue orders, which the public is expected to obey. During the last five years the opium habit is proportionately more apparent amongst the official classes than the peasants, and no reform can be permanent which does not commence at the top.

HELPING CHINA TO HELP HERSELF

BY "LEO"

The Chinese get more material benefit out of industrial development and by knowing how to conduct business than they do out of higher education, and this material benefit is given largely by the International Settlement and French Concession here, as it is within these areas that the Chinese make most money and at the same time learn how to do it.

Examples of this are that the Chinese are the largest land dealers in the Settlements, that they are owners of some of the largest shops such as Sincere's and Wing On's and others now buliding, also the Chinese bankers are conducting very successful banks in greater and greater numbers.

All this is being done within the Settlements and we foreigners benefit to a certain extent from these activities of the Chinese in that, although they compete with us, we still gain from the increase in volume of trade which results.

So it may be said that the Chinese are benefiting immensely from their use of the Settlements, so why not extend this beneficial educational influence by returning part of the various Boxer indemnities in the shape of a loan for developing the land around the Settlements and include therein all the land between the Railway and the Huangpu down to and including Woosung and the bank of the Yangtze up to the city of Paoshan—all the land out to the railway to the west of the Settlements—and a strip of land 2,000 ft. wide all down the right bank, Pootung side, of the Huangpu.

The average value of land per mow within the Settlements may be put at about Tls. 30,000 whereas the value of land at more than a few hundred yards from the present Settlement limits is not more than a few hundred taels per mow.

And this marked difference is yearly getting more impressive.

This suggestion, if adopted, would give Shanghai room to breathe which it can hardly do at present, as the congestion is so great.

As to the Administration of the extended area, this should be done by the Shanghai Municipal Council with Chinese representation on the Council.

The S. M. C. would be the supervisors of the loan, as the Boxer indemnity money could be put into Municipal debentures.

THE ex-Emperor, Hsuan Tung, has appointed Mr. R. F. Johnstone (his tutor) Supervisor of the Yu Chuan Mountain, a famous hill near the Imperial Gardens in Peking which is famous for its spring waters, with power to improve it as he sees fit, says the Chinese press.

IMPRESSIONS OF CHINA

BY GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY

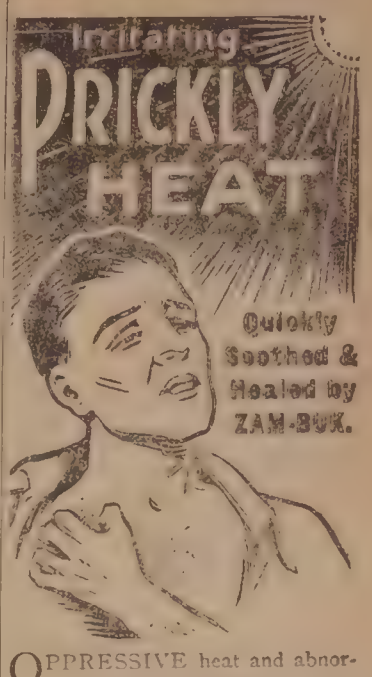
To denounce another man's work and yet, to do it one's self; to question another man's integrity and yet to act as he has acted; to cry "Traitor," and yet to commit what was called a treasonable act, is the moral significance of the Sino-Russian Agreement. A thunderbolt, Rodney Gilbert has called it. But to Chinese it must be even a greater thunderbolt than to foreigners. For why did the Statesboy denounce his former friend and colleague? Why did he drive him from office? Why did his friends speak of the spending of Russian gold? Why did the police prevent the students from demonstrating? Why the bomb which injured some servants? Why the heroics and bombast, the influenza and martyrdom? Face what crimes are committed in thy name!

A Pamphlet

Denouncing the militarists of China is perhaps justified. It would be more justified if the denouncers would set themselves to constructive tasks, would train themselves to replace the militarists, would do service for their country. But to couple the Chinese militarists and foreign imperialists in one sentence, to say that one supports the other, to ask Chinese to rid the country of both military officials and foreigners, is the logic of ignorance. What are these ideas which the Communist Party of China is spreading throughout this country? Do they come from the mind of Chinese? Are they the teachings of Confucius or Mencius or Mog Ti? Are they in harmony with the character and needs of the Chinese people? Or are they not rather the unassimilated phrases of a German sociologist? The very form of the document resembles Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto, a work which deals with problems in no way facing China. The foreigner offers China his best: he brings his methods of production and distribution which teach the Chinese merchants and industrialists how to make things efficiently and speedily and less expensively. He brings here his physicians and teachers to strengthen the body and make virile the mind. He offers China an example of methods which some day will make China one of the great and strong countries of the earth. You reject these. You care nothing about a strong body and mind, a capacity for efficient labour, for development of your country, for means of communication, for the broadening and deepening of your rivers, for the improvement of your cities. You care nothing for the future of China. Your only interest is the present noise, the hurly-burly of excitement, the enthusiasm over the new, the emotional reaction to the unusual. If you dislike the militarists, if you dislike the position of your country, if you dislike foreigners, if you want any change at all, why not go to work to improve your country and to make it great instead of issuing pamphlets and poorly thought out literature on meaningless subjects.

Ku Hung-ming

They called him dead just as they called Sun Wen dead. Perhaps they would have him dead, for he is unlike the spineless men of his age, who knowing little and daring less, agree with whatever is. Sun Wen represents the extreme left in the thought of the revolution; Ku Hung-ming, the extreme right. He wears his queue probably not because he likes queues but as a protest against men rushing to cut theirs off to prove themselves patriots and progressive. Queue or no queue makes not the man. It depends largely on the stuff that is inside the skull the queue covers. It is said of him that when men were rebelling against the Manchus and were cutting their queues, when ragamuffins shouted for a Republic and sold their hair as well as their hearts, he rode through the streets of Peking in a ricsha displaying his tail that the world might see that his was still intact. One even said that he made his longer by the addition of a few stands of hair. One almost hopes that the story is true. For in it is a moral. The gentleman is neither impetuous nor false. He does not depend upon externals and showy acts to announce that he is a man. The story of his life tells his tale.



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THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

The idea adapted by Miss Elinor Glyn of forming a limited company to acquire the copyright in her works was anticipated by Mr. Fred M. White in his novel, "A Deal in Letters," published by Messrs. John Long.

∴

None of the contents of Mr. Augustine Birrell's new volume of essays, "More Obiter Dicta," has appeared before in public print. Heinemann's are publishing this most welcome volume.

∴

A bibliography of that wise and kindly doctor, Sir Thomas Browne, who wrote "Religio Medici," will be welcome. The great fame of one book has caused many people to think of him as a single book author, like "single speech Hamilton." As a matter of fact, he wrote much on many things, and for the purpose of this bibliography Mr. Geoffrey Keynes has tracked them all faithfully down. It is being published by the Cambridge University Press, and it will be found well embellished with facsimiles and portraits. Particularly there is a contemporary painting of Sir Thomas Browne and Dame Dorothy Browne.

∴

The idea of a book which John Lane is to publish sprang from the beauty of the historic gates of Peking. It is written by Dr. Osvald Sirén, whom we already know for a work on "Essentials In Art." He speaks of the gates of Peking as characteristic elements in some of the finest views of the Chinese capital. Especially he dwells on their wonderful setting amid old buildings, fresh trees and decaying moats. Their decorative architectural character is brought out in a series of unusually good photographs.

∴

A literary event of the quiet days which went before the Great War was the success of Mr. Horace Vachell's story, "Quinneys." It was equally successful as a play, and indeed Mr. Henry Ainley never did anything better than the butler in it. Some day the story of "Quinneys" was bound to have a sequel, and it is just appearing under the title, "Quinney's Adventures." It will let us renew our acquaintanceship with Joe and his wife Susan, and with the other old friends of the Soho-square establishment.

∴

Mr. Peter E. Wright wrote a lively book about what happened "at the Supreme War Council" during the war. He has now written a variation on the old theme of the quest for the shirt of a happy man The shirt is required for the ailing son of an American super-millionaire and the episodes of the quest give occasion for comments on many phases of life. British statesmanship and American "materialism" are faithfully reviewed and society comes in for a buffeting.

∴

The romance of engineering should make a good book, and Sir Francis Fox is a good man to write it. He is best known as the saviour of Winchester Cathedral, but he has also been intimately associated with most of the great engineering feats of the last half-century. He has written his memories of 'Sixty-Three Years of Engineering," and John Murray will publish them. He gives a full account of the way in which Winchester Cathedral, standing on apparently solid ground, was saved by the use of divers. The other two subjects which interest him are the dangers threatening St. Paul's and the possibilities of the Channel Tunnel.

∴

That unusual book, "Lady Into Fox," was so unusual that it was bound to be parodied by somebody. It has been parodied by Mr. Christopher Ward, wherever he may be, with a volume entitled "Gentleman into Goose," which we shall have at once. This book is, we are told, "the exact and true account of Mr. Timothy Tester's quest, of Pebblehigh in Dorset, which at the wish and prayer of his wife was changed to a great grey gander. A humorous idea, but, after all, perhaps not so very novel!"

THE TEN MOST NOTABLE NEW BOOKS

In the recent Spring Announcement Number of the "Weekly Westminister," prizes were offered to the readers who selected the 10 most notable new books listed in the publishers' announcements appearing in that issue. The prize-winning list were to be those which most nearly corresponded with the popular choice, and this listt has proved to be as follows:—

Biography; Life of Olive Schreiner (S. C. Cronwright-Schreiner.)

History; The Secret of the Coup d'Etat

Art; Modern English Architecture (Charles Marriott.)

Education; Principles of Education (Prof. J. J. Findlay.)

Drama; St. Joan (G. B. Shaw.)

Fiction; The Dream (H. G. Wells.)

Essays; Essays (W. B. Yeats.)

Travel; In Quest of El Dorado Stephen Graham.)

Poetry; New Poems (W. H. Davies.)

Science; Old and New (Prof. J. Arthur Thomson.)

A feature of this competition even more interesting than the number of entries was the wide range of the voting. Competitors seemed to have studied the publishers' lists very carefully, and no book of any importance was overlooked. In some sections the choice was not so varied, and one or two great names attracted nearly all the votes to themselves—though even "St. Joan." which was by far the easiest winner of the ten, was by no means without rivals. But in each of the other sections at least a score of books received votes, and in some the figure was very much higher; under "History" there were over 40 candidates for the place.

The final result showed a very good list, including several books that will remain notable long after the Spring Season of 1924 has passed.

The first section—Biography—produced a very close contest, and in the end Morley Roberts' "W. H. Hudson: a Portrait" (Eveleigh Nash & Grayson), was beaten by only a few votes. The lists contained such other undeniably notable books as Earl Buxton's "General Botha" and Edmund Blunden's "Leigh Hunt."

In the History section "The Secret of the Coup d'Etat" led fairly easily, on a very scattered vote, though its rivals ranged from "The Cradle of Our Civilization." by Marion Newbigin. to J. Saxon Mills' "Mr. Lloyd George and the Great War."

In Art, too, "Modern Architecture" had a good majority over "The Necessity of Art," edited by Dr. Dearmer, with the "Rodin," published by Messrs. Benn, close behind.

In Education, Professor Findlay's book had an easy victory. though "The Sub-Normal School Child" and Belloc's "Economics for Helen" were well supported. In the Drama section, even so noteworthy a book as Eugene O'Neill's plays ("Beyond the Horizon" and "Gold") had no chance against "St. Joan."

In the same way, in the section devoted to fiction, Mr. H. G. Wells's "The Dream" received the lion's share of votes, with Fannie Hurst's "Lummox" and E. M. Forster's ("Passage to India" next up.

In the Essay section, C. E. Montague ("The Right Place") and Robert Lynd ("Peal of Bells") both challenged Mr. Yeats in vain.

"The Right Place" came close after Dr. McGovern's "To Lhasa in Disguise" for second place in the Travel section, where "In Quest of El Dorado" was an easy first.

Under the heading of Poetry there was a long struggle between the two books produced by Mr. Davies and published by Mr. Jonathan Cape, but towards the end Mr. Davies's new volume forged ahead, and "Best Poems of 1922" had to take second place, with "The Chilswell Book of Poetry" and "Green-Kirtled Spring" —a strange preponderance of anthologies—not far behind.

Finally, in the Science section, "Science Old and New" by Professor Thompson, romped home from an extraordinary large and varied field, including philosophy, medicine, anthropology, psychology, and education.

YOUTH AND ROMANCE

THE OLD DOMINION. By Mary Johnston. BY ORDER OF THE COMPANY. By Mary Johnston. Thornton, Butterworth Ld. 3/6 net each.

It was with something of a shock that I found, on picking up these reprints, that a quarter of a century has passed since I first read the first and not much less since I read the second. Upon that disconcerting discovery it was interesting to try whether the thrill I enjoyed,—it seemed but yesterday,—could be recaptured from a re-reading. Two important things seemed to be involved in the isue. Not Mary Johnston's claim to mame. That is surely, by now, put beyond doubt. But two things important to me seemed to hang upon the result of the test: my own taste in fiction and a possible clue to the discovery of an ingredient of fiction essential to lasting enjoyment. It seemed to me that here should be a test one does not often get the chance of. There are, of course, many books of fiction we read first 25 and even more years ago and still read. But then we have been reading them on and off during the whole of the period; Dickens, Merivale and one or two others. So that they have become old friends, usual and near, and no answers to the important questions of literary taste and the essential quality in fiction to lasting enjoyment may now be extracted from their comfortable perusal. Here, in Mary Johnston's "Old Dominion," seemed the opportunity of the real test. Here is a book I read once, all years ago. Would the old thrill return? And lo! It was so. It shook with the same force. Nay, more; I'll swear it shook the same youth,—that if I could have looked up from the reading into a mirror, I would have seen a crown of brown hair atop of an unlined, eager face.

But I could not look up until I came to the end and to the answers to my questions: that literary taste does not matter very much and that the only essentials in literature to permanent enjoyment are Youth and Romance.

No very great discovery? Maybe not; but very satisfying to me. Mary Johnston. I thank you a thousand times.

JOHN LOFTING.

A BOOK OF VERSE

"Queen Bess in Borrowed Plumes," and other poems. By Alice Masters Balean. John and Edward Bumpus Ld., 350 Oxford St. London.

Beneath a portrait of the authoress appears the announcement of her death on January 10, 1923, and this very daintily produced colume, privately printed, thus becomes more of an intimate book of remembrance for family and friends rather than one intended for a wider and perhaps more critical public. Many of the [illegible] have been reprinted from various magazines, and all of them reveal a talent for producing smooth flowing, graceful verse, each one an expression of some passing mood or fancy and characteristic of a quiet, gentle outlook upon life. There is a certain neatness and grace of expression about all the verses which is very pleasing and, if no note of great poetry has been struck, there are qualities about the work which distinguish it from mere versifying. It has character. and that of a charming personality.

NEW LIGHT ON SPAIN

"SPAIN TO-DAY." By Frank B. Deakin. The Labour Publishing Co., Ld. 7s. 6d.

The colour and romance of Spain, its rich past and mysterious links with the East, are a well-worn theme, but in this book we are given another picture in darker colours; for it is a detailed account of the inefficiency and coruption of the governments and official classes and of the apathy, due to much illiteracy, of the population, substantiated by statistics and numerous extracts from the Spanish Press. To these, the author, who was Press Attaché to the British Embassy in Spain, where he has spent the best part of his life, adds his own personal observation and experiences in an exceptionally original and interesting book.

In his view the stagnancy of that country is due to the curse of excessive politics, and he believes that adequate social reform cannot possibly be carried through without the introduction of good laws and of a good system of popular education in accordance with the needs and wishes of the people—a matter of years rather than of days or months. Hence, though most of the book was written before the military movement of last September overthrew the constitutional authorities and invested Gencral Primo de Rivers with a virtual dictatorship, he doubts, from a democratic point of view, and without discussing Fascism, the capacity of a Military Directorate for social reform and reconstruction.

POWDER

Its Use And Abuse

"STELLA NASH." By Ganpat. Blackwood. 6s.

"THE SAINT OF THE SPEEDWAY." By Ridgwell Cullum. Palmer. 7s. 6d.

"OUTLAWED." By Robswood Cooke. Hodder and Stoughton. 7s. 6d.

"THE ROAD TO MONTEREY." By G. W. Ogden. Hodder and Stoughton. 7s. 6d.

There is powder in the air. I suppose the public taste, already recovering from its satiety after four years of blood and death, really does impel this absorption of the popular novelist in men who shoot. The amount of gunwork in this little batch of novels would require a biggish computation. A squad of "greasers" armed to the teeth, adorns Mr. Ogden's dust-cover: Mr. Cooke faces us with Jacobite Highlanders and Cumberland's redcoats at the charge; while "Stella Nash" opens with a stomach wound and fatal hæmorrhage.

"Ganpat"—whom I suspect to be a lady, if only from her Stella's pervading assumption that woman has perception and man mere observation—alone of these writers pretends to the gnomic. This carries us nowhere; and disfigures what might have been a fairly pretty descriptive style. As it is, she has given us a wearying mixture of the sensational, the sentimental and the pretentious, which even the glamour of the inevitable East does not redeem: for the glamour shares in the general dilution. *O sancta simplicitas!* "Ganpat" really has some sense of humour and some verisimilitude in dialogue, if she would but avoid this overstrain.

Curiosities of Dialect.

Mr. Cullum is a hearty figure, with a following in his particular line; and his admirers will not be disappointed by "The Saint of the Speedway." What chiefly worries me is his complex geography, his dialect, and his wholly superfluous introduction of the supernatural. His portrayal of cities and manners in the far North, where gold men and oilmen prospect, is startling enough; but it does hold the attention in a way, he has a genuine interest in character. This is a very mild example of the dialect, chosen because the speaker is a Commissioner, a government "big man."

"There's no such darn vessel registered at Boston. And there's no owner yearning to claim anything with a name like the 'Limpet.' That doesn't leave me guessing. There's such a thing as insurance. In a while, maybe, we'll be getting word from some underwriting house; then the fur 'll fly, and someone 'll be squealing in the courts."

There is a good deal of promiscuous loosing off of guns, and a melodramatic secret society of white-robed figures, a modern Ku-Klux-Klan, that enlivens the countryside with judicial murder and arson, but that I take for a necessary part of the game. Mr. Cullum is substantial and human; but in emotional description he can lapse into stilted American cliches.

Two Famous Rebellions.

"Outlawed" shows that the '45 has not lost its appeal. In sober fact it was a sorry, bloody, treacherous affair; but it inspired "Waverley" and "Waverley" has gone on inspiring. . . . Mr. Cook gives us the real thing; no mere tale, but the "Memoirs of Charles Bethune of Whitley" etc. He lacks the essentials of a historical or romantic novelist, and his 18th century English and his Highland colloquies are alike unconvincing. This is a story of adventure, of hairbreadth escapes and incredible feats of arms, but nothing more.

Mr. Ogden takes us from the 1740's to the 1840's, from Culloden to California. His theme is a local rebellion against the tyranny of the Mexican dons, on the eve of the American invasion. He alone of these four writers has a natural and occosionally felicitous style. His expenditure of powder and shot is well up to the average.—"Daily News."

TIBETAN DRAMA

Plays which Last for Three Days

"Three Tibetan Mystery Plays" is the title of a new book translated from the French by H. I. Woolf and published by Messrs. Routledge. These are, it is believed, the first plays of the kind that have been fully rendered into English, and it is remarkable that they should have come to us through the industry of a Frenchman. The drama is the property of the monks, laymen occasionally helping in the female parts, and this gives it its semi-religious and didactic character. There is no set stage and no scenery. The play is acted in the open air, in what the translator calls an enclosure, though it seems that the fence is composed of the crowd and of the tents or other shelter for notables. It consists of narrator and dialogue, the narrator opening with a short recital of the previous history, rather after the fashion of the opening speech in many of the extant Greek tragedies. But his part does not stop there. At intervals between the dialogues he comes on to carry the action forward, or else this is done by the actors themselves. The actors frequently read their parts, and the play lasts for two or three days.

Actors' Latitude.

We are, however, not to suppose that the text before us represents the drama as played. The printed book is, in fact, little more than a skeleton; for long periods are occupied with the mute pantomime, while the actors, who specialize in particular parts, are by no means bound by the written word, but, on the contrary, use it with a great deal of freedom, putting in much of their own, so that each actor gives his own individual version. It may be remarked in parenthesis that this freedom of treatment seems to be peculiar to the Asiatic genius, for we find it also in the highly developed Indian art of music. Europe regards the text as sacred; it is a crime to take liberties with the text of Hamlet or with a Beethoven symphony. Asia prefers to introduce the personality of the performers, regarding the performance of the literal text as tending to lifelessness. This freedom of treatment naturally increases the length of the play, which is further assisted by being sung, often to the accompaniment of dances.

Most Popular Plays.

The three plays here presented have been well chosen, since they exhibit three distinct styles, though only the last can strictly be called a "mystery" play. The first and most popular is written round the Buddhist theme of the supreme virtue of charity. The Prince, who is unable to resist any demand for alms, gives away a precious magic jewel. For this fault he is banished to the Mount of the Demons, and on the way he parts with all he can call his own—even his children and his wife. The latter, however, is returned to him, for the beggar turns out to be the god Indra, who wishes to test him. The second play is rather of the nature of a fairy tale, in which one is led to suspect the influence of Arabia, or at least the Western Asia, since we are brought into the atmosphere of fairies, genies, and scarves that enable the wearer to fly. The third play is more characteristically Buddhist, and is perhaps of the three the most national. There is nothing in it that suggests outside influence. The heroine is almost a religious maniac. She is continually dwelling on the vanity of human life and the supreme comfort of religion, and, having left, first her husband's and then her father's home, retires to a monastery, and finally to the desert, where she is left in contemplation.

CHINA Journal of Science & Arts, edited by Mr. A. de C. Sowerby and Dr. J. C. Ferguson, is a bi-monthly, profusely illustrated magazine. It contains authentic articles written by experts on the Arts, Literature and Science of China. The annual subscription is $10.00 Shanghai currency, or $6.00 gold for U.S.A. and Canada. Office:—Room 102, the Ben Building, Shanghai. Central 3247.

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

A LOVESOME THING

"I Saw a Garden With Peonies, and a Tinkling Pagoda"—Amy Lowell.

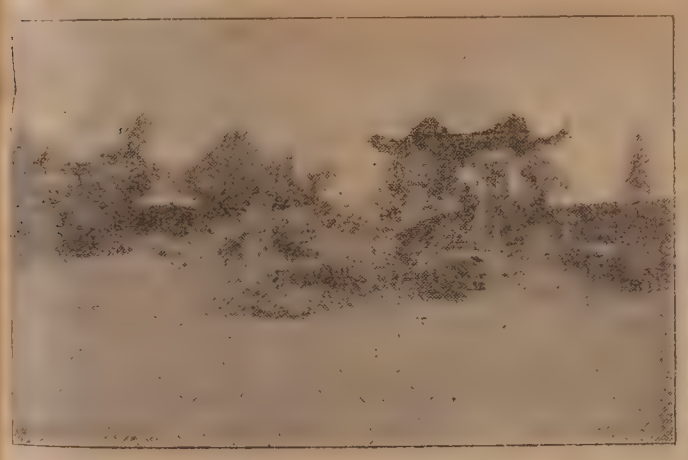
BY ELIZABETH PEPYS.

A garden is a wonderful partnership entered into between oneself and Nature, a most rewarding partnership, but one which must be fairly administered or else you are both losers. One of the successful collaborators with Nature in Shanghai is Lady Turner. "I give my garden its head," she laughed, "more perhaps than I ought to, much more than my gardener or my tidy friends approve, but I like to see what it will do with a certain amount of freedom."

Perhaps this is the secret of a happy garden. Surely it is one of its ingredients. At all events, as one passes under the *porte-cochère* covered with the green of the wisteria vine, past the gay beds of flame and white sweet-william which border the drive and frame the rose bed, through a gateway pierced in the shrubbery, a refreshingly rustic vista unrolls. The garden was originally the oblong which is the water buffalo were then grazing. It is hard to believe, as one's glance sweeps round the cherry tree, the Chinese ashes, the juniper and cryptomeria, the irregular silhouette of the poplars at the south and the willows which outline the other side. Seven years seems a tiny period to have achieved so much in forestry.

But have I given the impression of a rectangular garden? If so I am no truthful reporter, for the lines are skilfully broken by tree-planting, which is too landscapy to have been quite as unstudied as it now appears. Best of all in the further, southwestern corner, beyond the pagoda summer house which tops a little mound in that same direction, there is "the way out for the eye," which is so desirable. Here the questing glance may look beyond the confines of the garden, past a little rustic fence into the uncultivated country, and this long view gives a sense of liberation and freedom from constraint which is the equivalent of two changes of scene and one rest cure.

WISTERIA ARCH AND CIRCULAR DRIVE

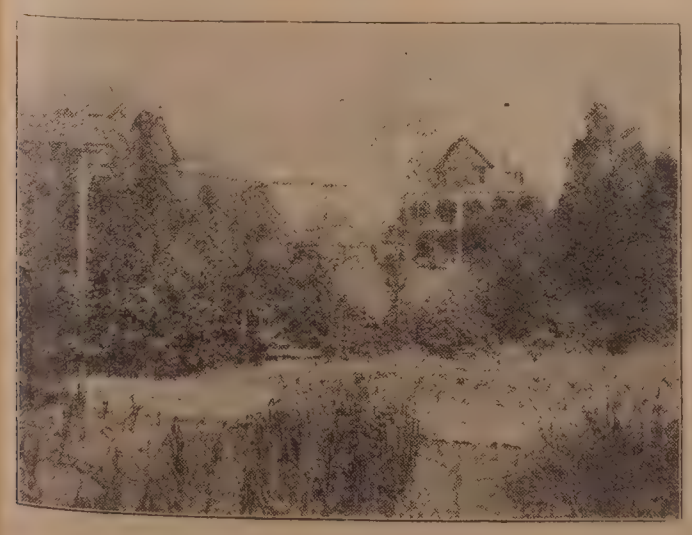


SUMMER HOUSE IN THE GARDEN

As for the actual flowers—the shaded walk is primarily a spring garden, with its early iris and coy April blooms. And what a rapid succession of the seasons as there is here. Three plantings if not more, for spring, for the intensely hot weather, and for autumn are the least to be expected. Then following the paved walk further one comes upon the the kitchen garden behind an informal screen of trees, where succulent cabbage, racy onions and blushing strawberries, not to mention the aerial sweet peas, "on tip-toe for a flight" are found. We leave this part of the garden through a fragrant arch of red and white rambler roses and come towards the summer house, where daffodils have been shedding their spring sunshine. The garden wall at the west is covered with ramblers and in the beds stocks, poppies, snap dragon, larkspur, and viscaria show up most prominently now. Later will come the hollyhocks, then the sunflowers for the mid-summer, and last the cosmos and chrysanthemums.

To the left, as one faces the house, in front of the greenhouse is a colonnade of ramblers, with connecting chains, which will be festooned with roses by next season. Next season! That is the slogan of every ardent gardner. This guild is the most optimistic, ambitious, dauntless of all bodies. To-day may be good, but to-morrow is always to be better. Seed catalogues bloom and blossom when read with the eyes of faith, no problems of soil or situation are impossible when a real nature lover attacks them.

"And be your own gardner," says Lady Turner, "you lose half your flowers and nine-tenths of the fun unless you really dig among posies yourself."



RAMBLER ROSE ARCHWAY IN THE GARDEN.

only orthodox garden according to the architects of Shanghai. Indeed, seven years ago, this charming spot was field, plain field, without a flower or tree to distinguish it from the field outside where the

SHANGHAI STYLE INTERPRETATIONS

How Paris Modes Are Transplanted.

BY ELIZABETH PEPYS.

"Teaching by seeing" is a sound educational maxim these days and what more delightful demonstration of the proper modes for the summer can there be than to visit a Garden Party with an eye seeking out illustrations of the dictums sent on from Paris. Shanghai is an excellent place for such a fashion show, since its women visit Europe, England and the United States frequently and many of them constantly receive models from home.

One of the features which stood out at the B.W.A. Garden Party of Tuesday was the matching cape, or the scarf which continues the colour scheme of the costumes. The perfect weather, warm sunshine and cool breeze, made capes appropriate as well as picturesque. The present fad for having a separate wrap for every outfit may be an extravagance, but it surely an effective luxury. Shanghai is delightfully gay in its colourings. One does not realize what a difference these bits of colour make until one visits a city where dull uniformity prevails. What would we not have given to have seen one of the daring flame coloured frocks or that vivid orange at some of New England's restrained lawn fetes!

Flowered frocks in transparent materials were particularly favoured in this gathering. Made with fairly full skirts, deftly draped, flounces or ruffles disposing of the additional material they seemed highly fitting for such an occasion. Some jaunty little coatees were seen, adding a chic note. Despite the general pillar-box effect there were many indications that the bouffant mode is slowly creeping in, and for more uses than that of "period costumes."

THE LOST BLEND

Standing one day in the bar room
I was thirsty and had the blues
And my fingers handled idly
The bottles of different hues.

I know not what I was mixing—
Something stronger than near-beer—
But its various elements blended
Like the sound of a rousing cheer.

The boys said it was a winner,
And wanted to have some more,
But when I tried to re-shake it,
It wasn't the same as before.

I have sampled every bottle,
Tried combinations in vain,
But I fear that only in dreamland
I shall strike that blend again.

E.P.

WOMEN AS FARMERS

In Western Canada

In Canada it is not considered enough for the child of a farmer to pick up agriculture by helping on the parental farm. A course at one of the nine Agricultural Colleges of the Dominion is often taken to impress on the young mind the importance of agriculture as a science. This course may vary from four weeks to four years, which is the length of the degree course, the sucessful student emerging with the letters B.S.A. (Bachelor Science, Agriculture) after his or her name. The women who have this degree are few and far between, because, although there are hundreds of girl students in every Agricultural College in Canada, they study mainly the domestic, side, and occasionally departments, such as poultry work, dairy work, that fall to the lot of the farmer's wife.

A British Quartette.

A short course in agriculture, however, was recently taken by the four British farmer girls, Mildred White, Ivy Townsend, Emma Absolon, and Joan Moore, who won the scholarships offered by Sir Henry Thornton, president of the Canadian National Railways, and their sojourn at Manitoba Agricultural College was by no means the least enjoyable part of their five months in Canada. "Animal husbandry," or care of live stock, as we should designate it, was their main study, but "field husbandry" ran it close. Little Joan Moore, a Leicestershire girl, though only 13, was in no way behind her companions of 17, 18, and 19, and impressed the college professors with her knowledge of farming matters generally.

THE JUNE BRIDE

Since her return to England she has won a silver medal for cow-judging at the Dairy Show, and is now foreman on her father's farm near Longborough. She attributes her success to her Canadian training.

In the college the day began at seven, when the bell awakened them; breakfast was at 7.30, and consisted of fruit, porridge, and their Canadian breakfast dishes. Then came the excitement of the mail from home, and after that there was time allotted to all students to make their beds and do their rooms. At nine their class began, lasting till eleven either practical work in the poultry yard, dairy, live-stock sheds, carpenters bench, or theoretical study in the class-room, entomology, botany, and even sociology, for all these come within the scope of the farmer's work. There is a Professor of English at the college, which, by the way, is part of Manitoba University, for the Canadian view is that the farmer is the life-blood of Canada and he cannot be too well educated.

Plots on the Prairie.

At eleven the students were free to enjoy the swimming pool, and the English girls were among the boldest divers and swimmers. At twelve the midday meal was taken in the large dining-hall, amid a babel of tongues and crowd of eager young people. Classes began at 2 p.m., and again the afternoon was spent in farming pursuits, perhaps on the experimental plots on the prairie, perhaps haymaking, or perhaps learning to drive a tractor. After this the swimming pool called again, and it was not considered harmful to bathe twice a day; everybody does it in Canada, apparently with no ill effects. After the six o'clock evening meal the students were free to amuse themselves according to choice, and often a merry party started for a film theatre in Winnipeg. The young people are trusted, and so long as they are back by ten o'clock there is plenty of freedom.

The Vacation School.

In the vacation school they are of all ages, from boys and girls in their teens to men and women of 30 or 40, though it is more usual for the older women to take the home economics course.

On Saturdays the students do their own laundry, for which all facilities are provided, and in the afternoon there is generally an outing of some kind. Such courses at the Canadian Agricultural Colleges are extraordinarily inexpensive, practically only the cost of board being charged, and they do much to promote the scientific farming by which Canada has become the leading agricultural country of the world.

A POSTER PARTY

Children in Fancy Dress.

Sometimes it is difficult to think out fresh and charming designs for children's fancy dress, and one sees a surfeit of peasants and pierrots. An idea which has been found to work very well is that of the "poster party." All town children are familiar with certain well-known figures in what has been called the poor man's picture gallery—the advertisement hoardings, which brighten our streets. And the little ones love dressing up as the prettiest and quaintest of these posters, while, from the parent's point of view, the cheapness and ease with which most of the costumes may be contrived will be a recommendation.

From the Advertisement Hoardings.

For kiddies still at the stage of pretending to be fairies there are many delightful characters—the fairy who drives the swans that advertise the matches, the green Puck, also of match fame, the dancing, gauzy elves of the night-lights, the queer tiny man who proclaims that "Zog is an extra hand." A brother and sister may be the "cocoa nibs" whose names are just now the subject of competition, or the Sunkist raisin boy and girl. "Everyday" clothes may be worn by these, as by the small girl who personates Mary having "a little lamb, with lots of H.P. sauce," and by the bearer of the huge strawberry, which may be realistically made without much trouble. If there is a kilt in the family the small boy may appear as the "puir wee laddie" deprived of his Oxo, or as the bonny golden-headed one who "tickles the world's palate."

A Wide Choice.

The Player's cigarettes Jack Tar may be "done" by the owner of a sailor suit. Other easily represented characters are Sir Kreemy Knut of the toffee tins, the "shipper" of sardines and salmon in his oilskins, the Oxo motorist with his face comically plastered, and the little nigger in white who drives off the big orange, while pyjama rig is all that is wanted for the cherry optimist afloat on the Bovril bottle and the crying little boy who has spilt the liver salts. Johnny Walker, the Quaker of the oats, and Sunny Jim need more elaborate fancy dress. Characters for older girls are the gallant black-and-white nurse of "Ours," the pretty Kodak fiend in the striped frock, and the "keep that school-girl complexion" young woman.

Breaking the Ice.

On the top left-hand corner of the invitation cards should be painted a bright little thumb-nail sketch of a billsticker. After the first dance the game of identifying the advertisements may be played on the book tea principle. The very little ones should not take part in this, and some ring game may be organized for them while the elder children enter their guesses on their cards.

This party proves a great success where boys and girls, many of whom do not know one another, are to be entertained. The fun of identifying well-known figures, and laughing over the representation of their idiosyncrasies, soon breaks the ice, and, if well organized, the thing "goes" from start to finish.

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

DUE SHANGHAI

Per L.T.S. Nippon .....June 7
Per N.Y.K.S. Kaga Maru .... „ 10
Per M.M.S. Angers ..... „ 12
Per R.D.S. Pres. Adams .... „ 15
Per T.K.K.S. Shinyo Maru .. „ 15

OUTWARD

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON, ETC.

Per P. & O. S. Kashgar . June 10
Per B.F.S. Menmuir ..... „ 10
Per N.Y.K.S. Hakone Maru .. „ 14
Per B.F.S. Ningchow ..... „ 15
Per M.M.S. Chantilly ..... „ 19
Per R.D.S. Pres. Hayes ..... „ 20
Per P. & O. S. Morea ..... „ 24

FOR JAPAN, CANADA, U.S.A. & EUROPE:—

Per P.M.S. Pres. Wilson ....June 7
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jackson .. „ 10
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia „ 15
Per T.K.K.S. Korea Maru .. „ 17
Per P.M.S. Pres. Lincoln .... „ 21
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jefferson .. „ 23
Per T.K.K.S. Shinyo Maru .. „ [illegible]

FOR MANILA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND VIA HONGKONG:

Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jefferson .June 7
Per P. & O. S. Kashgar .... „ 10

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per A. O. L. S. President McKinley, May 30. From Hongkong. Mr. E. C. Boyle, Mr. W. M. Barber, Mr. C. F. Carvalho, Mr. E. E. Ellis, Mr. A. J. Hill, Mr. P. Jesperson, Miss R. Y. Lacey, Mrs. G. A. Mallison, Mr. A. C. Ruof, Mr. F. V. Walker, Miss G. Bulger, Miss E. Covert, Mr. M. H. Dodge, Master S. E. Ellis, Miss D. Hollgate, Lt. H. Kinworth, Dr. J. L. Maxwell, Miss A. Schmidt, Mrs. F. V. Walker, Mrs. G. E. Brumley, Mr. E. de Souza, Mr. C. Elkus, Mr. L. Felberbaum, Mrs. H. S. Komer, Mr. M. Leitao, Mr. G. E. Mallison, Mr. H. Schumacher, Mr.. D. E. Weidman and Mr. A. E. Willsher.

Per R. M. S. Empress of Russia, May 31. From Hongkong. Mrs. M. A. Arrett, Mr. F. W. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. S. Bunn, Mr. and Mrs. E. Bushir, Miss Liesel, Master Frederick, Master Rudolf, Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Cassidy, Mr. D. C. D. Forrest-Clarke, Mrs. Cock, Mr. Y. Gock, Mrs. Gock, Master Gock, Mr. A. P. Harris, Mr. E. Hoolief, Hon. P. H. Hewett, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Jones, Mr. B. Markham, Miss J. Nicholson, Mr. A. Nissim, Mr. C. G. Peacock, Mr. S. S. Pet[illegible], Mr. A. L. Rutherford, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Rusling, Mr. T. M. Rudall, Mr. J. L. P. Sanderson, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Hast, Mr. E. S. Kadoorie, Mr. L. Kadoorie, Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Zecha, Miss H. Zecha, Miss K. Brown, Miss L. Brown, Master E. A. Brown, Major and Mrs. G. R. Callender and two children, Miss J. Callender, Mrs. R. E. Collins, Captain and Mrs. G. T. Collar and child, Mrs. E. Esheiman and child, Mrs. E. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. L. Hutschenruyter, Captain and Mrs. R. Hirsch, Mrs. M. Hirsch, Captain and Mrs. W. E. Jenkins, Mr. J. D. Lowry, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. McHenry, Miss J. McHenry, Mrs. C. T. Sisson, Captain and Mrs. B. S. Thompson, Master Thompson, Mr. A. E. Waller, Lt. and Mrs. M. R. Woodward, Miss M. M. Da Costa, Mr. A. Landsbert, Mrs. C. G. Miller, Miss Matsuda, Mrs. A. G. Robinson, Mrs. R. Woodside, Master R. Woodside, Mr. B. M. Talati, Mr. V. F. Viccajee, Captain T. A. Lee, Mr. J. Campbell, Mr. F. Seayroff, Mr. G. Assmarotse, Mr. B. Sekace, Mr. G. Bolioff, Mr. A. Riabonshko, Mr. A. Kodorid, Mr. B. Startzeff.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, May 31. From Ningpo. Mr. Y. E. Shoemaker.

Per str. Fengtien, June 1. From Tientsin. Mrs. K. Logan, Mrs. Vanaman, Mr. C. H. Core. **From Weihaiwei.** Miss Brown, Miss Rowntree, Mr. Roundall.

Per str. Luenyi, June 1. From River Ports. Mrs. Martin, 9 British Naval Ratings.

Per str. Tuckwo, June 1. From River Ports. Lieut. Laing, Miss L. Costa, Misses M. Connor, C. E. and J. E. Dowell, Mr. G. Gomez, Mr. A. T. Pinneeard, Mr. Arrand.

Per str. Hsinming, June 2. From Tientsin. Mrs. H. Melchers.

Per str. Kiangyung, June 2. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Stone and three children, Miss V. V. Baeger.

Per str. Suiyang, June 2. From Swatow. Mrs. G. R. M. Young and two children, Mr. Tregrellis, Mr. Mahlaki.

Per R. M. S. Empress of Australia, June 1. From Vancouver, etc. Mr. E. J. Boyrne, Mrs. J. W. Carlyle, Mr. and Mrs. D. Clark, Mr. A. H. George, Baron H. Gebsattel, Mrs. P. R. Ingersley, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Irving, Mr. H. A. Jaynes, Mr. E. J. Hargreaves, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Bentley, Miss N. Bentley, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Frost, Miss K. R. Green, Mr. J. Gabersan, Mr. G. Morita, Mr. K. Yamaguchi, Mrs. Judah, Miss Judah, Mr. G. McGarva, Mrs. A. P. H. McGarva, Miss E. R. H. McGarva, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Manley, Mr. A. W. Peterson, Mr. E. R. Willets, Mr. Y. Sasaki, Mr. W. King, Mr. and Mrs. N. Price, Master J. Price, Mrs. W. Schmidt, Rev. and Mrs. C. Y. Sparkham, Mr. and Mrs. S. Idsumi and child.

Per P. & O. S. Morea, June 2. From London. Captain F. K. Tomlinson, Inst. Lt. Grant, Mr. F. C. Bowman, Mr. G. B. Pike, Mr. and Mrs. A. Macdonald and child, Miss C. F. Ormond, Rev. and Mrs. Seonye and two children, Miss Kristofferson, Mr. E. N. Fenton, Mr. E. E. Williamson, Mr. J. A. McFarlane, Mr. H. A. Sweet, Mr. A. S. Cole, Mr. G. Crawford, Mr. J. V. Taylor, Mrs. H. C. Thorpe, Mrs. Rowe, Mr. H. M. Wrigley, Mr. R. W. Cox, Mrs. D. M. Stewart, Mr. F. W. Morrie, Mr. and Mrs. Pennington, Mr. H. Taylor, Mrs. R. A. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Green, Miss Green, Mr. [illegible], Miss S. H. Robertson from Gibraltar, Mr. D. E. Calver. From Marseilles, Lt. E. St. J. Edmonstone, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Isaacson and child, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac, Mr. G. S. Small, Mrs. Hall, Children, Miss Hall, Mrs. Cohen, Master S. Cohen, Mr. J. N. Brown, Miss C. Schweitzer. From Port Said. Mrs. G. A. Haley, Mrs. A. J. Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Hohn. **From Singapore.** Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Dunnett, Mr. and Mrs. Grunberg, Mr. Boissevain, Mr. Bueb. **From Colombo.** Mr. C. A. Stone, Mr. H. C. Dunnigan. **From Hongkong.** Mr. R. T. G. Aitken, Mr. G. Armfield, Mrs. A. Croome, Miss K. Fryer, Miss B. Hilson. Mr. and Mrs. Karanjia, Miss Karanjia, Mr. D. E. Commissariat. **From Bombay.** Mr. P. W. Karanjia.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, June 3. From Ningpo. Mrs. Anderson, Miss Dias.

Per str. Kiangan, June 3. From River Ports. Dr. and Mrs. Fest and child, Mr. C. B. Romy, Mr. L. Lataso, Mr. W. T. Smith, Mr. J. R. Bell, Mr. W. Palmer, Mrs. C. M. Benzeman, Miss Z. Benzeman, Miss R. Stubi, Master Protasieff, Mr. W. Major.

Per R. D. S. Pres. Van Buren, June 3. From San Francisco, etc. Rev. and Mrs. J. S. Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hillman, Mrs. C. F. Rehnborg, Captain W. Bals, Mr. C. E. Banta, Mr. W. Broeg, Mr. G. N. Colgate, Mr. J. Cornelius, Mr. J. Denuth, Mr. C. Fogelquist, Mr. J. Hicks, Mr. N. Hurlock, Mr. A. Jones, Mr. H. Laub, Mr. and Mrs. E. Lehman, Mr. B. Newman, Mr. T. Richards, Mr. A. von Linden, Baroness J. Winther, Mrs. A. Yates, Miss L. Ernst, Mr. C. F. Rehnborg and two children, Mr. A. Jones, Mr. E. Bayle, Mr. M. Carlson, Mr. P. Collins, Mr. L. Coughlan, Captain W. Fichter, Mr. W. Hauser, Mr. E. B. Howe, Mr. D. Johnson, Mr. J. Jones, Mr. G. Laub, Miss G. Masset, Mr. R. Randolph, Mr. H. Straets, Baron and Baroness C. Winther, Dr. J. Winner and Dr. H. Yates.

Per str. Fausang, June 4. From Tientsin. Mr. A. Mempel, Mrs. G. F. D. Magee and child. **From Weihaiwei.** Mr. H. G. Elliot.

Per str. Hsinchi, June 4. From Foochow. Mr. A. C. Hall, Mr. C. M. Manners, Mr. Fritz.

Per str. Shuntien, June 4. From Tientsin. Mrs. McLeish, Mrs. McTavish and child, Mr. and Mrs. Brechen and son.

Per str. Luchow, June 4. From Hongkong. Messrs. F. E. Stringer, T. B. Low, Mrs. W. F. Cowen.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, June 5. From Ningpo. Mr. C. L. Branley, Bishop H. Melong, Mr. D. Gustafson.

Per str. Loongwo, June 5. From River Ports. Miss G. Hayes, Rev. and Mrs. Batchach, Dr. and Mrs. E. W. Breenemuer and two children, Dr. and Mrs. Fort and child.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Kanchow, May 31.—For Hongkong.—Mrs. J. A. Craig. **For Swatow.**—Miss Satokino, Mrs. L. Gerstenkorn, Mr. A. Vizzi.

Per str. Sunning, May 31.—For Tsingtao.—Mr. T. E. Hammond, Mr. F. E. Gange, Miss L. Tippin, Miss L. Tippin, Miss L. Doyle, Prof. C. Theresses, Master McCormick.

Per str. Tungchow, May 31.—For Chefoo.—Mr. Webster. **For Tientsin.**—Mr. A. Dodd. **For Weihaiwei.**—Mrs. Niven, Mrs. Lavington and child, Mr. and Mrs. Bidmead, Master Bidmead, Mrs. H. Lipson Ward, Mrs. F. M. Dillon and three children, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Hedges.

Per str. Poyang, May 31.—For River Ports.—Mr. Ch. Wiedemann, Mr. J. Glasser, Mr. C. Goetz, Mr. A. M. C. L. Duncan, Mr. A. Drachenfels, Mr. T. Altadvokoff, Mr. M. D. Crichton.

Per A. O. L. S. President McKinley, May 31.—For Seattle.—Mr. S. Yahaia, Miss O. E. Lethine, Mrs. Spunt and three children, Mrs. H. W. Livingston and three children, Master W. Melville, Mrs. U. G. Frondorff and two children, Mr. B. May, Mr. A. D. McBoyle, Miss Sherwood, Mrs. W. C. Ball, Mr. C. M. Papaz, Mrs. F. Michaelin, Mr. and Mrs. W. Melville, Mr. H. M. Livingston, Mrs. I. H. MacIntyre, Mrs. M. Moody, Mrs. B. May, Mrs. H. V. H. Lethine, Mr. J. Spunt, Mr. F. Michaelin, Mr. H. W. Livingston, Miss Melville, Miss E. Melville, Mr. U. G. Frondorff, Miss MacIntyre, Miss P. Tidmarsh, Mr. G. E. Young.

Per str. Wuhu, June 1.—For Hongkong.—Mr. W. Collins.

Per R. M. S. Empress of Russia, June 1.—For Vancouver, etc.—Dr. A. G. Albers, Mr. A. E. Algar, Mr. J. Ambrose, Mrs. F. Allport, Mrs. C. Brooks, Miss E. Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Chalkley, Mrs. E. M. Chalkley, Miss C. W. Chalkley, Mr. H. Crombie, Mrs. Crombie, Miss S. Crombie, Mr. A. David, Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Dubs and child. Master C. Dubs, Miss E. Dubs, Mr. F. W. S. Evans, Mr. D. J. Gommas, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Irvin, Miss A. B. Irving, Mr. H. E. Jense, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Kern, Miss Kern, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Kirk, Miss D. R. Kirk, Mr. and Mrs. R. Laurenz, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Mortimore, Miss E. Mortimore, Master F. Mortimore, Master A. Mortimore, Mr. D. McLorn, Mrs. N. S. Marshall, Mr. W. H. Purcell, Mr. C. Ripley, Mr. and Mrs. L. Soyka, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Scott, Mr. F. A. Sampson, Jr., Mrs. F. A. Sampson, Miss E. Sampson, Mr. H. Simmons, Mrs. Simmons, Master L. Simmons, Mr. W. C. Sinclair, Mr. F. Stommes, Dr. J. C. Scofield, Mrs. Scofield, Mr. H. Schamli, Mr. E. S. Van Dorssor, Mrs. Van Dorssor, Mr. J. F. Van Dorssor, Mrs. G. H. B. Winsatt, Mrs. H. Wygodsky, Mr. J. Warry, Miss E. H. C. Weir, Mr. Thomas Weir, Mr. A. Achimaulan, Mrs. H. Beckett, Miss D. Beckett, Miss E. Beckett, Master H. Beckett, Mr. C. Butcher, Sister Du Guay, Mr. C. F. Deale, Mrs. L. E. Krokoff, Mr. A. Gracie, Mr. A. Gracie, Mr. J. Hoyman, Mrs. Hoyman and child, Mr. W. C. Hankins, Mrs. Hankins, Miss B. M. Hankins, Miss Z. M. Hankins, Mr. C. B. Harkey, Mrs. E. F. Jareske, Master L. Jareske, Mrs. A. W. Larder, Mr. F. L. Lutz, Mrs. Lutz and child, Master R. Lutz, Mr. and Mrs. W. Moy, Mrs. W. F. Moy, Mr. G. J. Morgat, Mr. and Mrs. A. Row, Miss Row, Mr. and Mrs. L. Shinn and child, Miss Shinn, Mr. S. R. Shalden, Master C. Sheldon, Dr. A. C. Selmon, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Sawdon, Miss E. H. Sawdon, Mr. E. J. Van Dyk, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Wilkinson and child.

Per str. Tientsin, June 3.—For Hongkong. Mr. J. G. Wilson, Mr. G. [illegible].

Per str. Luen Yi, June 3.—For River Ports.—Mr. E. J. Lowe, Mr. McLeay, Mr. A. M. Gurney, Miss M. Dingman, Dance Adelaide Arrerser.

Per str. Fengtien, June 3.—For Chefoo.—Mr. M. G. Brisker, Mr. A. M. Cannan. **For Tientsin.**—Mr. W. J. Mercer, Mrs. L. Ketcham, Mrs. J. H. Swart and child, Mr. J. N. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. K. Ingenaky, Miss C. E. Whitamore and child. **For Weihaiwei.**—Mr. J. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. D. Clark, Mrs. R. E. Scatchard and two children, Mrs. Hayim, one nurse and maid, Mrs. Marawaka.

Per str. Kaiping, June 4.—For Chinwangtao.—Lady Walsham, Mrs. Chilton, Mrs. G. T. Guignard and three children, Miss Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Fenestrass and three children, Miss Ahrend, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm and three children and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. March and three children.

Per str. Kansu, June 5.—For Newchwang.—Mr. O. Keats.

Per str. Tatung, June 5.—For River Ports.—Mrs. Perlin, Mr. H. M. Hodges, Mr. H. Kimmouth.

Per str. Suiyang, June 5.—For Amoy.—Mr. H. J. Unkel.—**For Hongkong.**—Mr. D. M. Stewart, Captain Hope.

Per M. M. S. Amboise, June 5.—For Marseilles.—Rev. Pères Giraux and Flachère, Dr. Arraud, Mr. and Mrs. C. Charnier, Mr. J. Machefaux, Mr. C. Schevich, Mr. M. Simendinger, Miss Sulzer, Mr. J. Perault, Mr. J. McMillan, Rev. Peré Lefaki, Mr. S. G. Stolovi, Messrs. J. Ferrazzoni, J. Gonnclaz, Szoslant, Jouan, F. Le Luron, F. Le Cerf, E. Memery, C. Riviere. J. Kerisit, Faramond, Le Roux, Guenee, Gueroult, Corbel, Madee, A. Bezaud, F. Challande, R. Popinet, P. Amard, V. Jacquet, P. Casanova, J. Barbe, H. Clara, J. Laribeau, A. Filippi, R. Rouge, A. Castille, J. Czyz, Guinard, Le Guenee, Mrs. O. Pifer.—**For Port Said.**—Mr. Nicolachis.—**For Singapore.**—Mr. R. J. A. Benjamin, Mr. W. Major.—**For Saigon.**—Dr. Vieron, Mr. de la Pommerage, Miss Etienne, Mr. L. Boucher.—**For Hongkong.**—Miss B. Magnoya, Mrs. Annett, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Williams, Mr. Dupuch, Mr. Grewith, Mr. Ferchet, Mr. Kircher, Mr. Neron, Mr. J. M. Phersen, Miss V. M. Ryjkoff.

BIRTHS

BRETT.—On March 30, 1924, to the wife of Otto Brett (*née* Eileen Meyer), a daughter. Eve. great grandchild of Mrs. E. W. Tisdall.

LEWIS.—On June 2, 1924, at Dr. Fearn's Sanitarium, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Lewis, a daughter, Jean Craig Lewis.

MAGUIRE.—On June 1, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Maguire, a daughter.

PEPLOW.—On June 4, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Peplow, a son.

MARRIAGES

FORDE—HUTCHISON.—On June 3, 1924, at Union Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. A. N. Rowland, Frank Hubert Forde, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Forde, of Dublin, to Catherine Ferguson Arthur Hutchison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Hutchison, of Shanghai.

SCHROEDER-MEYER.—On May 31, 1924, at the Royal Danish Consulate, Shanghai, by Mr. T. Raaschou, Consul-General, and afterwards at No. 17 Rue Corneille, by the Rev. K. L. Reichelt, Gunvor (Gunnie) Elly Austin, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Schroeder, to Helge Fugl Meyer, son of the late Mr. A. J. J. Meyer and Mrs. Valgerda Meyer, of Copenhagen.

WIDLER—LIDSKY.—On May 31, 1924, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, by Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., Consul-General, Naoum (Ned) Widler, second son of Mrs. E. D. Widler, to Nessy Lidsky, only daughter of Shulim Ziss Lidsky.

DEATHS

FERREIRA.—On June 2, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, Luiz Gonzaga Ferreira, aged 33 years. Hongkong papers please copy.

LEIGH.—On June 1, 1924, at his residence, 332 Broadway East, Shanghai, Eustace Oswald Leigh. Australian papers please copy.

LOWE.—On May 31, 1924, at Hongkong, Arthur Rylands Lowe. By cable.

PYKE.—On May 29, 1924, at Chinwangtao, Rev. James Howell Pyke, D.D., of the Methodist Episcopal Mission, North China, in his 79th year.

IN MEMORIAM

RUDDAN.—Sacred to the memory of George Alexander, who passed away on June 2, 1923. Greatly missed by his loving sister and brother.

SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer 9 a.m.	Barometer Att'ed Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
May 30	29.97	71.4	S E	3	73.1	67.5	78.8	63.0	
„ 31	29.95	71.8	S E	2	75.2	70.6	83.3	64.8	O.
June 1	29.90	71.4	E N E	2	66.2	63.3	71.6	63.1	O.
„ 2	29.87	71.4	E N E	1	70.4	68.2	78.5	65.4	O. D. R.
„ 3	29.80	71.6	E S E	1	75.7	70.2	84.2	62.1	O. M. D.
„ 4	29.77	72.1	E N E	2	73.2	69.3	80.8	63.8	C.
„ 5	29.93	71.3	N	1	71.1	64.6		59.6	O.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Rainfall Inches 1923
May 30	65.0	62.0	77.4	67.0	Nil.	0.30
„ 31	66.2	62.0	81.4	70.0	Nil.	0.22
June 1	60.0	58.4	72.6	75.6	1.20	Trace
„ 2	66.0	61.4	73.0	77.0	0.05	Nil.
„ 3	64.4	62.8	77.4	81.8	Nil.	Nil.
„ 4	66.0	63.0	71.8	82.0	Nil.	Nil.
„ 5	64.0	64.4	78.0	81.2	Nil.	Nil.

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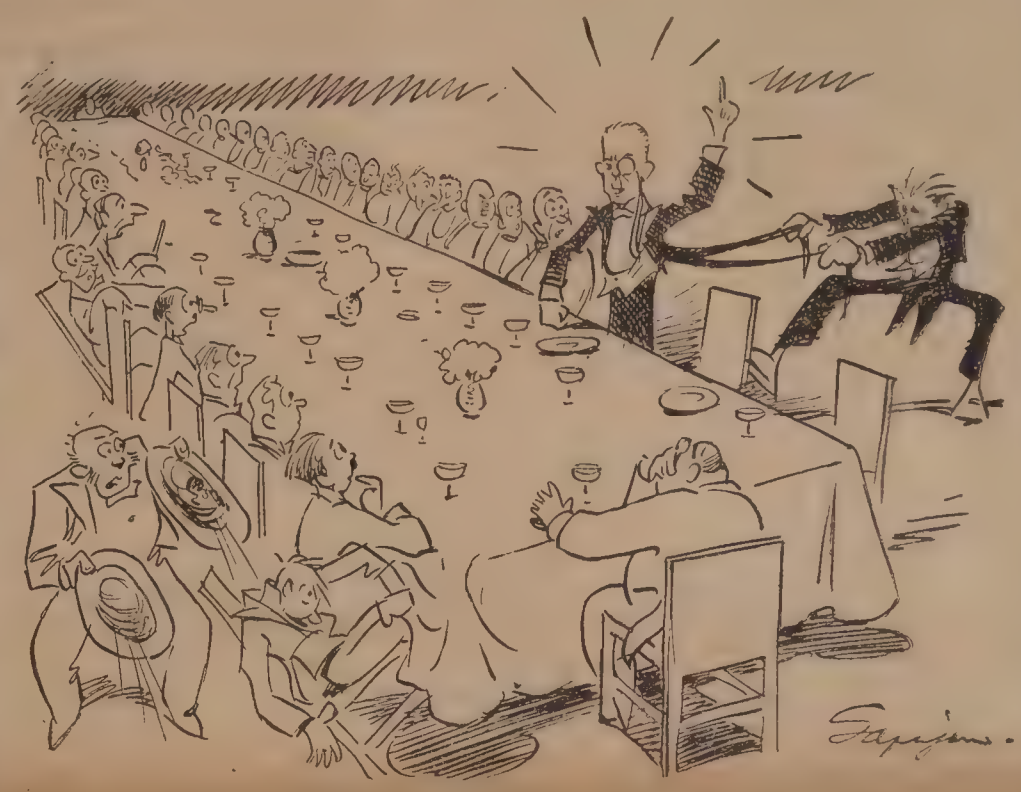

Startling Effect of a Little Truth in an After-dinner Speech

WU PEI-FU AND BRITISH BOXER INDEMNITY

His Thanks to Great Britain: Money Most Usefully to Be Spent on Railways: China's Lack of Communications and Experts to Assist Industrial Development

Peking, June 5.

"As a private citizen of the Republic of China I desire to express my gratitude to the British Government and the British people for their friendly act in remitting some £11,000,000, being the unpaid balance of the Boxer Indemnity," said Marshal Wu Pei-fu to Reuter's special correspondent at Loyang on June 4.

Asked his opinion regarding the disposal of these funds, Marshal Wu said: "There is no doubt that the funds should be used in such a way in China as to promote harmony and to further Sino-British interests. The Chinese and British Governments should now endeavour to discuss and decide upon the ways and means to carry out this object. I hear that there is a growing feeling among Britons in China in favour of allocating a large portion of the funds for railway construction. Curious to say, British views coincide with mine. What China wants to-day are communications, facilities and experts to develop Chinese industries. If these funds are used for railway construction, that plan will exactly meet China's wants and additional railways will promote and increase British commerce in China."

A Monument to Friendship

"First let me enumerate briefly the many advantages that would arise from this scheme. The railways would form a great monument of Sino-British relations for as long as the railways lasted, and they would be everlasting. Secondly, the railways when constructed would open up provinces where there are immence resources, and these resources would be transported to supply the wants of the world. Thirdly, the profits of the railways should be applied to the education of young Chinese. Union issued an official decision that Thus the masses would benefit. Fourthly, with increased railway communications developing our great resources, our economic and political conditions would be placed on a sounder footing, giving an impetus to general progress throughout the country which, in its turn, would have a favourable effect as regards not only peace in the Far East but also world-wide peace.

The Pernicious Pin-prick

"I want to say through you to the world that China with her big population and unlimited resources must in the future take a more prominent part in contributing to the peace of the world than she has ever done before. I only wish that our foreign friends knew more of the methods of Government of our great sages and statesmen, men like Yao, Shun, the great Yu and Confucius, who says that within the four seas all men are brethren.

"I am surprised that some of the English newspapers in China continue all sorts of pin-pricking with reference to such cases as the Fengtai incident. Pin-pricking does no good to anybody, particularly when it relates to questions between nation and nation.

Death for Opium-Dealing

"Save for the Opium War the relations of Britain and China have always been extremely friendly, and Britain now holds that the sale of opium in China is morally indefensible. Before you go I wish to say one word more. In the provinces under my jurisdiction I have made a death penalty for anyone found to be in possession of four ounces of white pills or opium. I am determined to rid the country of this evil. I hope that in time to come the other provincial authorities will follow me in this."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE "Eastern Times" reports that an important meeting of the Peking Communist Association was held in Peking on Friday afternoon last to lodge protests against the action of the Peking Government in placing some 60 students under observation and in censoring the vernacular press and other printed matter as the result of the recent bomb outrage in Dr. Wellington Koo's house.

TROOPS FROM KIANGSI IN CHEKIANG

Retreating from Fukien and in Search of New Abode: Authorities Secret

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Hangchow, June 8.

It is reported that 5,000 defeated soldiers arrived at Changshan, Chê., some days ago. Changshan is on the borders of the Kiangsi and Chêkiang Provinces, being about 45 li from the boundary, and 90 li from Yushan in Kiangsi. The soldiers are said to be Chuang Tsz-ping's men who ran short of rations and ammunition, got defeated, and retreated to Changshan, Chè., from Fukien. Chuang Tsz-ping was in command of two army corps in Amoy. Yesterday, army officers proceeded from Zahkow up the Chientang River to Changshan by hydroplane to investigate. Newspapers are forbidden to publish any news relating to this affair as the authorities do not wish it to be known. Last night troops in Hangchow City were seen to be busy in making preparations at 9.30 p.m. carrying provisions and military stores. This is significant, as unless troops will be moving, soldiers are never seen working at this time of the day.

It is rumoured that a British man-of-war may be expected in Hangchow. She, no doubt, will come up the Hangchow Bay, and anchor on the Chientang River by the City, or may proceed as far as Lingpu, as one British man-of-war did a few decades ago.

AN appeal for a distribution of the funds to be remitted from the Boxer Indemnity by the Powers, is made in a telegram from the Kiangsi Provincial Assembly to the Central Government. That province feels that as the money to meet the Boxer payments is collected from all the provinces, it should be turned back to them as an endowment or reserve educational fund. This would tend to give everyone in China an equal opportunity in education, as would not be the case were it to go to one in-[illegible]tion.

GERMAN-CHINESE NEGOTIATIONS

Agreement Said to Have Been Initialled Bringing Big Sums to Peking

VIOLENT OPPOSITION OF SENATE

Peking, June 5.

The Senate received the reports of the Ministers in a hostile manner. Strong opposition developed on the question of the submission of the Sino-German Agreement to Parliament. The Premier was informed that, if he signed the agreement before Parliament approved it, such action would be a violation of the Constitution. The Premier pointed out that Parliament had not been given such a privilege in the case of the Sino-Russian Agreement. A heated discussion ensued.

The Senate finally adopted a motion to call another meeting on Tuesday, at which the Cabinet will be required to give fuller information. Parliamentary circles are of opinion that the Senate's action will delay signature of the agreement, which was imminent.

The Agreement Initialled.

June 6.

The opposition of the Senate undoubtedly surprised the Government, as arrangements had been made to sign the agreement immediately after the report had been submitted in Parliament. A special meeting of the Cabinet was held at 10 o'clock last night in order to determine the course of action. The feeling of the members of the Cabinet was that Parliament was not within its rights in demanding the submission of the agreement before its signing. The meeting, therefore, resolved to go ahead without delay and the representatives of the Ministry of Finance and of the German Bank initialled the agreement at 11 o'clock. Signed copies of the agreement were formally exchanged between the Waichiaopu and the German Legation at noon to-day.

The agreement covers all outstanding Sino-German questions, including the German war indemnity, the restoration of German private property in China, the settlement of German loans and bonds and the rehabilitation of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank.

Both sides have agreed to withhold publication.

$9,000,000 the Prize.

As regards the Reorganization Loan, according to unofficial reports, Germany will hand over to the Chinese Legation in London drawn bonds and coupons to the value of $9,000,000, which the Legation will present for payment to banks, which hold the salt reserve of some $15,000,000, the balance of which will remain in the banks to meet liabilities on reorganization bonds held by other nationaities.

It is understood that the Government have already received advances from Chinese banks on this agreement thus tiding over Dragon Festival.

June 7.

The Premier, Mr. Sun Pao-chi, Dr. Wellington Koo and the Minister of Finance, Mr. Wang Koh-ming, yesterday afternoon reported the signing of the Sino-German agreement to the President.

The Chinese and German officials decline to discuss the agreement and the obvious intention is to maintain strict secrecy for the time being. The reason for this may lie in the explanation, which the Premier, Mr. Sun Pao-chi, gave to Parliament, when asking that the report regarding the German Reorganization loan and bonds should be held strictly confidential, namely that the matter was being discussed between Germany and other Powers.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE RUSSO-CHINESE AGREEMENT

Extraordinary Secrecy of Its Conclusion: A Further Conference to Sit on Debateable Points: China's Diplomatic Victory Yet to be Proved

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 3.

Bewilderment predominated when the first news of China's recognition of Russia was announced on Saturday. The negotiations prior to the signing of the agreement, declarations, and so forth, were so secretly carried on that even the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs was unaware of what was happening. He was called [illegible] to the ceremony, and appeared without the regulation morning coat, being oblivious of the occasion. His apology was a tribute to the backstairs methods with which the Koo-Karakhan conversations have been invested. Secret diplomacy has never had such arch-champions as the signatories of Saturday's agreement.

And what is the result of all this palaver? Merely the Wang-Karakhan agreement re-shuffled, with a "t" crossed here and "i" dotted there. Dr. Wellington Koo has scored nothing over his predecessor Dr. C. T. Wang according to whether his sense of humour is stronger than his ruffled feelings.

It is emphasized that China was able to obtain in the new agreement a repudiation of post-Tsarist Russian treaties with third parties in the clause whereby she agreed herself to cancel all treaties with third parties which affected Russia's sovereignty or interests. This addition, to a layman, merely crosses the "t" of reciprocity which is inherent in such a document as has just been signed by Messrs. Wellington Koo and Leon Karakhan.

Soviets Grip on Mongolia.

As to the absence of such a definite point in the Wang-Karakhan understanding caused by [illegible] which were prejudicial to China's [illegible] course refers to Russia's irregular proceedings in Outer Mongolia, but the acknowledgment of China's sovereignty in that region is implicit in the understanding, and will undoubtedly be placed in an unmistakable light in the treaty that is to be negotiated.

In this connexion it is contended that China has secured a clearer statement of Russia's intention of withdrawing her troops from Outer Mongolia by the substitution of the word "questions" for "conditions" in the following clause:

"The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [illegible] the withdrawal of the troops of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics from Outer Mongolia—[illegible] the time limit for the withdrawal of such troops and the measures to be adopted in the interests of the safety of the frontiers—will be settled by the Conference provided in Article 2 of the present Agreement, it will effect the complete withdrawal of all the troops of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics from Outer Mongolia."

It is difficult to appreciate the importance that is now being attached to the change, seeing that the "questions" or "conditions" are left over to the treaty-makers, and that, in the phraseology of the agreement, they are synonymous terms. In the Chinese text, it would not be surprising to hear that the character is identical with that used in the Wang-Karakhan text. At any rate it is known that when the draft was considered it was a point whether "terms" or "conditions" should be used, as both were rendered alike in the Chinese. And as the "terms," "questions" or "conditions" are named in the [illegible] general principles, why quibble about the matter of reference to the Conference?

Russian Property in China.

Annexed to the agreement on general principles are several declarations, one at least of which is considered to be a distinct advance on the original agreement. It refers to the transference of the real estate and movable property of the Russian Orthodox Mission. Instead of reverting to Russia, as was provided for in the Note between Dr. Wang and Mr. Karakhan,

"The question of the transfer or other [illegible] disposal of same will be jointly determined at the Conference provided in Article II of the Agreement on General Principles in accordance with the internal laws and regulations existing in China regarding property holding in the inland."

This was one of the questions which Dr. Wang was asked to make [illegible] he made certain, I am given to understand, that the transfer would be in accordance with Chinese law prohibiting foreigners from owning land in the interior. If this is so, then even in this respect China has gained nothing over the Wang-Karakhan instrument.

Twixt Cup and Lip.

Now that Dr. Wellington Koo has put his name and that of China to recognition of Russia, what is to be the outcome? The Conference will not begin work seriously for several months. The heat of summer is given as the excuse for the delay in coming down to "brass tacks." It is an admission that the fashioning of a treaty will be a long-drawn-out process. Judging by the experience in England the Conference will not find its way as strewn with roses as the ceremony attendant on according Russia recognition. In the meantime the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is in possession of considerable power over its enemies, the White Russians in China, and is in a position to proceed against some of them in the Chinese courts. China is eager to curry favour with the Soviet, and would have to counte[illegible] the prosecution of certain Whites by the [illegible] Reds. It is [illegible] to imagine the [illegible] would be [illegible] which were [illegible] would be the misappropriation of Boxer Indemnity moneys rightly belonging to the government of the Russian people by the representatives of an ousted government! That would be a *contretemps* indeed—not only for the White Russians but for China as well. There are some people with a legal turn of mind who argue that the Soviet is in possession of extraterritorial rights until the signing of the treaty embodying the general principles and declarations; but on that point the writer does not dare to express an opinion. But if that were the case, and the Union cared to take advantage of such a technical point, China would have stirred up a pretty kettle of fish by recognizing the Soviet.

Flirting with Chang Tso-lin.

It appears that the conversations between the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Soviet envoy have extended over a month. On behalf of Mr. Karakhan, who was skilfully misleading the public up to May 22, it is contended that the negotiations only took shape last Monday, six days before the signing of the agreement.

Many people would like to know what impelled the negotiations to take such a decided turn toward mutual satisfaction. A reasonable answer would be—Mukden. Ever since March 14 Mr. Karakhan has been flirting with Chang Tso-lin. And he has made no particular secret about it. On his part, the Manchurian warlord has allowed it to be understood that as head of the Independent Three Eastern Provinces he is perfectly willing to sign an agreement similar to the Wang-Karakhan draft. After the hitch ten weeks ago, Marshal Chang invited Karakhan to Mukden, but for some reason or other another envoy went to the Manchurian capital. It is said that Chang, while eager to sign an undertaking with Moscow, was not to be put off with a co-signatory of lesser importance than the Soviet representative in Peking. Evidently, Karakhan, or Moscow, thought better of his flirtation, or, what is more tenable considered that his bluff had worked or gone far enough; while Wellington Koo, who cannot have viewed the overtures in any happy mood, was only too anxious to compose China's differences with Russia after China's militarists had expressed themselves so strongly in favour of the renewal of relations on the terms settled by Dr. Wang and Mr. Karakhan—terms which Dr. Koo and his colleagues had rejected.

Karakhan Eager to Get Russian Legation

Peking, June 7.

Views were exchanged between the Diplomatic Corps and the Waichiaopu concerning the Russian Legation. It is understood that the Diplomatic Corps will discuss the [illegible] meeting [illegible] Tuesday.

[illegible] to obtain [illegible] to take over the [illegible] Russia's Pacific service.

Soviet to Become an Active Power in the Far East: Trade Opportunities

Moscow, June 8.

The Premier, M. Rykoff, in an interview said that the Russo-Chinese agreement would make the Soviet an active power in the Far East and would open up unlimited opportunities of trade. The earlier draft agreement was not signed owing to pressure on the Chinese Government from France and America, but public opinion in China realized the urgent need of the agreement. The document recently signed differed from its predecessors inasmuch as the Soviet had avoided all clauses likely to humiliate Eastern peoples. Mr. Rykoff added that it would soon be illustrated whether Japan would show equal indifference to foreign pressure.—Reuter.

Chang Tso-lin's Refusal to Participate in Karakhan Agreement

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 11.

I understand that Marshal Chang Tso-lin has issued a statement saying that he will not recognize the Russo-Chinese agreement.

This means that he will prevent Bolshevik action in the Chinese Eastern Railway zone in fulfilment of any agreement with the Peking Government.

Marshal Chang has always intended to settle the status of the railway himself. The Bolsheviks used him as a lever against the Peking Government, but this flirtation has now reacted against them, for no agreement concerning the Chinese Eastern Railway is applicable without his concurrence.

Special Arrangement to Be Signed.

Reuter's Peking correspondent says that the Harbin Chief of Police, in an order published in a local paper, asserts that until a special arrangement between Marshal Chang Tso-lin and the Soviets is signed, the affairs of the Chinese Eastern Railway and its employees must remain unaltered. The order goes on to say that any person guilty of wilfully dismissing or replacing employees of the Chinese Eastern Railway will be severely punished. The Chief of Police then instructs subordinates to watch responsible officials of the C.E.R. lest they leave their posts and go abroad, and also to watch regarding their dismissal by anybody.—Renter's Pacific Service.

Attitude of Diplomatic Body Regarding Custody of Russian Legation

Peking, June 11.

Replying to a Note from the Waichiaopu, dated June 9, concerning the Russian Legation, M. Oudendijk, Netherlands Minister and acting Doyen of the Diplomatic Body, this afternoon acknowledges receipt of the Note and quotes it as saying that, according to a Note from the Diplomatic Body on October 4, 1920, the Ministers entrusted the custody of the Russian Legation to Prince Koudacheff, while in a Note dated January 11, 1921, they said that, in view of Prince Koudacheff's departure from Peking, custody of the Legation had been handed over to the Netherlands Minister until the arrival in Peking of a representative of a recognized Russian Government. The Waichiaopu remarks that these Notes were only acknowledged and as China has now recognized the Soviet Government the Waichiaopu is of the opinion that the Russian Legation, as well as the articles appertenant thereto, should be returned to the representative of the Soviet Government, in accordance with the agreement which China has recently concluded with the latter.

The reply goes on: "Finally the Waichiaopu requests me to bring the matter to the attention of interested resident Ministers and to reply. I laid Your Excellency's Note before the representatives of the signatory Powers of the Protocol of 1901. The said representatives considered the Note and they feel impelled to draw your attention to the following two facts:—(1) that the Note of October 4, 1920, stated that by virtue of the conventional status of the Diplomatic Quarter the representatives of the signatory Powers assumed the responsibility for guarding the Russian Legation until the re-establishment of a Russian representative recognized by the Powers, and (2) that the Chinese Government, when informed of this measure, declared that it would not be responsible to any party whatsoever for the safeguarding of the Russian Legation.

"The Waichiaopu will understand from the foregoing," the reply states in conclusion, "that the foreign representatives concerned can under the existing circumstances only consider the question of handing over the former Russian Legation if a request in that connexion should be addressed to them by the diplomatic representative duly accredited to the Chinese Government by the Russian Government."

M. Oudendijk explains that the Protocol representatives designated him their intermediary in this matter.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Likely to Increase Friction Between Mukden and Loyang: Those Romanoff Notes

Peking, June 12.

The Harbin report with regard to Marshal Chang Tso-lin's attitude on the Sino-Russian agreement has caused much interest in Peking in view of former reports to the contrary.

Unofficial reports from Mukden state that Marshal Chang insists on getting control of Outer Mongolia. He is urging the Soviet to agree to accept Romanoff notes, which he acquired before their depreciation, at gold value.

The situation is thought likely to increase the tension between Marshals Wu Pei-fu and Chang Tso-lin. It is also believed that it will weaken the Sino-Russian agreement, which is certainly not strengthened by Notes which the Japanese Legation has sent to M. Karakhan and the Waichiaopu, insisting that Japan's acquired privileges and interests in the Chinese Eastern Railway shall not be affected by the agreement. The text of these notes has not been divulged, but it is understood that the "acquired privileges" relate to the through traffic between the Chinese Eastern Railway and the South Manchurian Railway, while the "interests" include Y.10,000,000, which the Chinese Eastern Railway owes for materials supplied.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

[A traveller reaching Shanghai yesterday stated that the Romanoff notes, which Marshal Chang says he acquired at gold value, have appreciated 300 per cent. during the last few days.]

CUSTOMS REVISION

All Powers Concerned Decline to Partake in Conference

Peking, June 11.

All Powers concerned have now declined to participate in the preliminary Tariff Conference proposed by China, mostly on the ground that the time was inopportune.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LINCHENG AND MIXED COURT

Peking, June 7.

The Diplomatic Corps sent Notes to the Waichiaopu on June 5 (1) containing affidavits on the Lincheng claims and (2) regarding the rendition of the Shanghai Mixed Court. The latter is described as conciliatory in character.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ACCORDING to the "*Shenpao*" the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has invited suggestions from all parts of the country as to the disposal of "White" Russians living here, in order to decide what steps shall be taken to deport them.

A PREMIER WHO MAY NOT RESIGN

Mr. Sun Pao-chi's Unhappy Lot Between Militarists and Politicians

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Peking, June 4.

It would be interesting to know just how many times Sun Pao-chi has tried to resign the Premiership. It seems to be a case of crossing the t's of his as mah-jongg; but when his friends take him seriously at the game that Confucius was supposed to play, they refuse to pay him the same compliment when it comes to resignation of the second most responsible office in the land.

That the Premier is serious himself there is not the slightest doubt. He was beckoned out of the calm backwater of his Customs appointment much against his inclination: and his disgust with the turbulent waters of office intensifies the deeper he gets into them. And as the Minister of Finance, Wang Koh-ming, hasn't extended much help, his lot is altogether unenviable.

During the last week the capital has been full of rumours and reports that he had resigned again. The capital has also been full of counter-rumours and counter-reports that he had done nothing of the sort. They fought each other in the local papers, and now it has been established beyond a peradventure that after a gallant effort to extricate himself from the cares of the Premiership, Mr. Sun has again resigned himself to the withdrawal of his resignation.

The Premier has more worries than probably any other Premier in any other country. On one side he has the militarists to contend with; on the other, the politicians. And what militarists, what politicians! When the militarists are not at war the politicians are; while the higher-ups and lower-downs are in running the nation's affairs without taking him into consideration. The Tientsin negotiations [illegible] German bonds question [illegible]

No Rest for Premiers.

It is said that the Cabinet put very strong pressure on the Prime Minister to induce him to withdraw his latest resignation. Dr. Wellington Koo is stated to have been the most insistent in his arguments with Mr. Sun. Probably the Minister of Foreign Affairs reminded the Premier that the Cabinet had attained a very strong position as a result of the signing of the Sino-Russian draft of general principles. There is no doubt about this, no government action of recent times has gained such complete support from people, politicians, and militarists. There is something uncanny, as a matter of fact, about such unanimity from such contrary factions, and Mr. Sun deserves a rest on his see-saw for being the head of a government that put it through.

But there is no rest for modern Chinese Premiers. The M. P.'s have already sounded a complaint that Wellington Koo did not submit his understanding with M. Karakhan to Parliament for approval. They are also intent on having unto themselves the dispensation of the whole of the patronage contained in Ministerial appointments, right down to the humblest clerk. They seem to disapprove on principle of anything Mr. Sun does or might be doing or is in a position to do.

MARSHALS Wu Pei-fu and Hsiao Yao-nan, as well as the Tuchun of Honan, have telegraphed to the Ministry of Communications urging that immediate action be taken to repair the Peking-Hankow Railway bridge over the Yellow River as the present structure is unsafe and is a danger to the lives of the public.

MARSHAL Chi Shieh-yuan, the Nanking Tuchun, has recommended the appointment of Mr. Sun Fa-chu, former Governor of Shansi, as Civil Governor of Kiangsi (states the Chinese press). Gen. Wang Yu, Commissioner of Defence in Southern Anhui, has been recommended for the post of Tuli. This [illegible] our report of several days ago to the effect that the Government had decided to meet the request of Marshals Chi and Wu Pei-fu and dismiss Gen. Tsai Ting-kai from office.

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THE HOUSEWIFE'S BUDGET

June 9.

MR. Philip Snowden, is entitled to consider himself a lucky fellow. Seventeen years ago he published a book entitled "A Socialist's Budget" in which he sketched with a free hand the kind of Budget he would propose, if and when he became Chancellor of the Exchequer. At that time it is likely that most of his readers thought he had as much chance of ever bringing in his ideal budget as he had of becoming a Living Buddha in Tibet. But the impossible happened as it has a way of doing for some people. Mr. Snowden not only became Chancellor of the Exchequer but, owing to the excellent administration of his predecessor in office, he found himself heir to a surplus of £48,329,000. Like one of the chosen people he entered into possession of cities that he builded not and reaped fields on which he had bestowed no labour. And so he immediatly set to work to transform the insubstantial pageant of his dream into a positive reality.

The Budget which he introduced into the house of Commons on April 29 has been called a "Housewife's Budget." It took one step towards the realization of that dream of radical reformers, "a free breakfast table." The duty on sugar was reduced from two-pence three-farthings to one penny-farthing per pound. Tea, coffee and cocoa duties were cut in half, (tea from 8d. to 4d. per pound). The entertainments tax was abolished on all payments up to 6d. and reduced on payments up to 1/3d. Cheaper food and cheaper recreation; a fairy godmother at the treasury could hardly have been kinder to a certain section of the tax-paying public. There is no doubt that these reductions will make the budget popular though we are also sure that Mr. Snowden would have introduced them equally readily had they been likely to have the contrary effect. He is embodying the convictions of a lifetime in his first legislative effort. That it will probably win votes for his party is doubtless gratifying to its author, but we do not think that was the primary reason for his action. It may be more than a coincidence that one of the first moves of the Labour party after the introduction of this "Housewife's Budget" was a proposal to reduce the legal age at which women are entitled to vote to twenty-one years. If this were carried into effect, it would give women a preponderating voice in the affairs of the state and for, perhaps, the first time in history a great Empire would be actually under petticoat government. We do not think this is likely to happen—yet, but the Labour party believes that it can count on the women's vote to a greater extent than either of the parties in opposition; it would not be wonderful, therefore, if they attempted to legislate so as to increase the number of women voters on the parliamentary roll.

The budget will be welcomed not only for the actual relief it gives in taxation, but it will be hailed as an earnest of the Government's intention to reduce, by every means that may legitimately be used, the H.C.L., that bogey that haunts the mind of the householder nowadays. People do not resent having to pay a high price for the necessaries of life if they are convinced that the occasion justifies the sum asked for. It is the suspicion that there is something artificial and unfair about the present exaggerated cost of most things that provokes them to wrath. It is the sense of being "done;" of being at the mercy of a house-builders' ring, or a railway combine, or a coal-merchants' association. A hidden hand pulling unseen strings that somehow evolves a combination of circumstances inimical to the interests of the general public and against which it is impossible to struggle. This conviction, even if it be unfounded, begets in the mind of the common man a dull resentment against some person or persons unknown that finds vent sometimes in unexpected action at the polls, simply because there is no other medium through which it can express itself.

A Court of Inquiry to consider the question of wages in the coal-mining areas of Great Britain has been sitting at Home for some time. The court found that the miners were underpaid; but the masters were able to show that, taking the industry as a whole, there were no excessive profits and, indeed, no margin whereby wages might be raised. One correspondent wrote to the papers pointing out that in 1913 the average price of a ton of coal was seventeen shillings and sixpence; now it is forty-one shillings. He wanted to know what had become of all this vast increase. The Under-Secretary for Mines wrote to the Coal-Merchants Federation asking for some information in this direction and received in reply a statement in which the Secretary pathetically complains that "the merchants are disappointed at finding captious criticism in place of the appreciation to which they felt themselves entitled." They did not produce the figures asked for because that would have been giving away trade information, but this attitude of aloofness, too often adopted by the great corporations, does more to alienate public sympathy than any criticism levelled against them by trade union speakers.

CHINA'S LEADERS AND BRITAIN

June 10.

FOR so many moons has Great Britain been a sort of whipping post in China for all the misdemeanours real or imaginary of other nationalities, the *fons et origo* in Young China's eyes of all their misfortunes, that the compliments reported on two successive days from two such outstanding figures as Marshal Chang Tso-lin and Marshal Wu Pei-fu are slightly bewildering. The latter in an interview with Reuter's correspondent desires, "as a private citizen, to express his gratitude to the British Government and people for their friendly act in remitting some £11,000,000 being the unpaid balance of the Boxer Indemnity; while Marshal Chang unexpectedly arrives at the British Consulate in Mukden on the King's Birthday to take a leading part in the celebrations of the day. In describing these events as slightly bewildering we would not be thought guilty of discourteous flippancy. It is easily imagined that Marshal Chang's visit was paid with all ceremony that the occasion demanded, all the gracefulness of which high Chinese officials are master; and it is clear that he specially desired to show friendliness, in which spirit his attention is heartily reciprocated. It recalls the days when meetings could take place between Chinese and British officials for other purposes than the exchange of notes—the pin-pricks which many others besides Marshal Wu Pei-fu most cordially deplore.

It is interesting to see that Marshal Wu advocates spending the Boxer Indemnity on railway construction in China, saying that his views entirely coincide in this matter with those of certain British subjects who have pressed this idea. He says:

What China wants to-day are communications, facilities and experts to develop Chinese industries. If these funds are used for railway construction, that plan will exactly meet China's wants and additional railways will promote and increase British commerce in China. The railways would form a great monument of Sino-British relations for as long as the railways lasted, and they would be everlasting. They would further open up secluded provinces, develop resources and contribute funds for the education of Young Chinese. Our readers may remember that this suggestion was first put forward through the columns of the "North-China Daily News" by Sir Robert Ho Tung about a year ago. He specially mentioned the completion of the Canton-Hankow railway as a most desirable object, and dwelt on the fact that, whereas the Indemnity money if devoted primarily to education would never be more than the endowment it was at the outset, by being used for railways would achieve a double purpose and might contribute to education indefinitely. At the present moment the British Government, we are told, is at work on a scheme for the allocation of the Boxer money, and we are glad to see that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald has resisted a suggestion that the granting of it should be made dependent on the amendment of the Trademark Law. The latter is in no sense to be condoned. But we have no hesitation in saying that that question should be kept entirely distinct from the remission of the Boxer Indemnity. It is to be hoped that Marshal Wu's suggestion may be known at Home in time to be properly considered before the British Government's scheme is published.

But would Young China see in the use of this money for railway construction an infringement of sovereign rights? The question leads us on to Marshal Wu's remarks about pin-pricking.

"I want to say through you to the world (he tells the correspondent) that China with her big population and unlimited resources must in the future take a more prominent part in contributing to the peace of the world than she has ever done before.

"I am surprised that some of the English newspapers in China continue all sorts of pin-pricking with reference to such cases as the Fengtai incident. Pin-pricking does no good to anybody, particularly when it relates to questions between nation and nation.

We cordially agree. But the apparent implication that foreign newspapers alone are guilty in the matter cannot quite pass unchallenged. Inasmuch as the Fengtai incident is about to be brought to trial, we do not wish to comment further on it than to say this, that a foreigner was seriously knocked about, in such circumstances as clearly to justify an inquiry; that no attempt was made to fix the responsibility and that the Waichiaopu, when questioned by the British Minister, gave his an entirely false account of the supposed trial of the allegedly guilty man; and that the British Government was obliged to cable out instructions for strong pressure to be exerted in order to get the most ordinary dictates of justice fulfilled. Can Marshal Wu fairly say that it showed unreasonableness on the part of English newspapers in China to complain, especially remembering the large number of unrequited outrages of which foreigners of all nationalities have been victims in China during the past two or three years? The point must be pressed both because of the powerful position which Marshal Wu holds and because of his own character and reputation. By every account he is a man of high integrity and sense of justice. Admitting that there are things in the foreign treaties obnoxious to China which her national pride justifies her desiring to abolish, the maltreatment of foreigners outside areas protected by their own police or men-of-war is a matter entirely beyond treaties, invólving merely the question of the ordinary usage of civilized countries. The unvaried series of protests and evasions which have characterized dealings between Chinese and foreigners in recent years are infinitely disheartening and distasteful. But when the latter are continually being despoiled, kidnapped and even slain, and there is no evidence of any attempt by China's rulers to bring the guilty to justice, it cannot be wondered at that other foreigners complain. To do so is not rightly to be call pin-pricking. When the cause is removed, we can assure Marshal Wu that the complaints will very quickly cease.

THE GAMBLING IN LANGKATS

June 11.

ALTHOUGH the June settlement day is still a fortnight or more away, it is already evident that it will be of a particularly grievous nature. For several months past heavy gambling has been going on in Langkats—perhaps with special reference to the Shanghai Exploration and Development Co. of the three component companies—and the shares have been pushed up from 11 to as high, we believe, as 36. All this without a shadow of justification and simply by the circulation of rumours of fabulous mines possessed by the Exploration Co. In actual fact we believe the Company has what should ultimately prove a good coal mine. But its output is still a long way from justifying the boom in shares; were the coal produced, the means of shipping it away are still deficient; and finally, the Exploration Co. owes some seven lakhs to the Loan Co., which it must first liquidate out of profits, and is, moreover, about to announce a new issue of capital, which will tend still further to reduce its dividend-paying capacity. All these facts are common property, the gamblers cannot plead ignorance of them, but still the gamble has gone on. Twice the buyers have been carried, in the December and March settlements, at interest as high as 35 per cent. per annum. Now the evil day can be postponed no more. Those who have sold short stand to make enormous sums—on paper. But their chances of realizing their profits are small. As usual the shares are slumping even more rapidly than they rose. One more chapter has to be added to the already too lengthy tale of wild unprincipled gambling for which the Shanghai stock exchange market is unfortunately notorious.

We shall probably be told that we can do no good by calling public attention to this gamble and may indeed only make the settlement harder. The answer to this is, first that we do not believe anything published or unpublished can make the settlement worse than it is likely to be; and secondly that it is high time there were an end of glossing things over, of winking at outrageous gambling until a crisis arrives and then of combining to stave it off and to assist those concerned in it somehow to pull through, to take a breathing space and then to begin all over again on something else; and if Shanghai is to realize the destiny so clearly marked out for it as the commercial, industrial and financial centre of the Far East, a strong effort must be made to render impossible these intermittent orgies of speculation. It is an astounding, an almost inconceivable thing, that we can hear to-day of this man being two lakhs down and somebody else even more, and on the morrow, they appear in their usual haunts as smiling as ever, their luxurious mode of life "moults no feather" and in a few months or less they will be heard of as gambling again as wildly as ever, though it is common knowledge that in all but name they are utterly bankrupt. If they were publicly bankrupted and forced to remove themselves to other regions, it would be an infinite gain for the legitimate commerce and industry of Shanghai and their creditors would certainly be no worse off than they are already.

There is further an urgent need that the whole system of stock exchange dealing should be radically revised. An attempt was made at this after the rubber boom, and, in particular, a good deal was heard of new forms of contract designed to show whether a broker was dealing for a third party or merely jobbing. But the repentance of 1910 has come to naught. And reform to be effective must go a good deal deeper than the shape or colour of contracts. What is principally needed is that operators, dealing in futures, should be compelled to put up a margin. Settlement days also should not be so far apart: in London, we believe, they have to take place every ten days. And lastly it is much to be desired that a broker should have to register his transactions in order to put a limit on the operations of men of no substance. Such measures, it will be said, would restrict business to such a degree that there would not be enough to go round. That is precisely the object in view. If the tone of the market is to be wholesome, if trade is to be protected from the violent intermittent shocks to which the gamblers' operation's expose it, the dealings of the stock exchange ought to be brought back to the limits of legitimate business. The big banks, vitally interested as they are in the trade of Shanghai, have the power to enforce these reforms and it is earnestly to be wished that they would use it.

TOWNS AND THEIR CHARACTER

June 11.

IN a recent article in the London "Spectator" the writer draws attention to the way in which many modern towns are planned, or rather are not planned, for it would appear as if they had been allowed to grow up without any sense of order or thought for the future welfare of their inhabitants. "Where there's smoke there's brass (money)" says a Lancashire proverb and there we have in a

...ntrasts the attitude that many ... take ... regarded as places in which all sorts of inconveniences in the way of dirt and disorder can be put up with so long as wages are good and work is regular. It must not be thought, however, that the inhabitants expect to spend the whole of their lives in such surroundings. Those at any rate who are of a sober, industrious, saving nature have vague notions of the time when they will be able to retire and live in a cottage in the country. To them the town is a sort of temporary abode only to be used for the purposes of laying by a competence for old age, or else a place to stay in until a better job offers elsewhere. This is the traditional frame of mind of dwellers in Shanghai and to it many of the evils from which we suffer are due—not least among ... Hongkew creek to which attention is drawn to-day.

Professor Adshead in his book "Town Planning and Town Development" has some severe things to say about the modern industrial towns. "The smoke," he says, "can be endured with stoicism as a temporary evil and so two or three generations have passed their lives in such places as Burnley, Wigan, St. Helens, and the Five Towns, because the men who made the towns never faced the fact that they were going to live in them, but believed themselves only tented and encamped. The miner has no notion, like the peasant, of settling on the land, and of building; he is hasty, is satisfied with a cubicle, a gin-palace and a chapel, and this makes his town." The professor then goes on to add that "all the manufacturing towns of to-day are practically miners' towns."

Now considering that the dream of a cottage in the country very rarely comes true and often when it does the result is so disappointing that a hurried removal is made back to the old town, we ought to get the idea firmly fixed in our minds that towns are not places that ought to be built up in any sort of fashion to cope merely with present necessities and conditions but rather as an arrangement of streets, houses and public buildings that will have about them an air of permanence and an appearance of beauty.

Surely the advance of modern science ought to enable us to make our towns and cities in whatever country we may live more beautiful than we do at present. The Greeks were able to erect the magnificent Parthenon: we with the rich harvest of mathematical research at disposal for the most part construct drab rows of jerry-building. It is not to be forgotten that the appearance of a town has its effect upon the character of its inhabitants, and the dreary, standardized, cheap-looking town will cause the people who live in it to have a hard task to live a clean life. Many students of industrial life will go so far as to say that makeshift towns make makeshift inhabitants, and see a connexion ... and a distaste ... and contain beautiful public buildings ... and leaning over the counters of its saloons will steadily diminish.

PRUNES AND PRISMS

June 12.

ENOUGH, we think readers will agree, has been written on "Dress at Henli"—"Old Correspondent" sufficiently criticized or championed, the "creatures" adequately castigated or comforted. Not since the ever-famous controversy on lap-dogs and lapping has there been so spirited a discussion; and in passing, to refute those who believe that the editor deliberately invents letters in order to excite replies and fill his columns for nothing, let us once again state that no letter we publish is ever solicited nor is any member of the staff allowed to contribute a "letter to the editor"; these correspondence columns are an open forum in which readers are as far as possible allowed to say what they like. It might further be stated that the greatest care is taken to preserve anonymity where that is desired, and unless a writer gives himself away, no one else will do so.

As in every other controversy there is, of course, much to be said on both sides of the subject started by "Old Correspondent's" letter. If it be read in the most extreme reactionary sense—and in justice to the writer, we do not think it ought to be—there is much in it with which one may well disagree. Personally we do not think women look as well in knickerbockers as in frocks: but if they choose to don them for sporting purposes there appears no reason why they should not do so. And if they like to row in bathing-dresses, by all means let them, though, from personal experience, one might think they would have wanted something thicker between themselves and the seat. Twenty-five years ago the young ladies of the Gaiety chorus sang a song about

> Oh fie, cigarette; oh sly cigarette
> Why do you teach me to teach me to love you so,
> When I have to pretend that I don't, you know?

—which fairly reflected a general attitude towards feminine smokers that seems now as extinct as the dodo. Mixed bathing has only been tolerated during the past few years. Would anyone seriously argue that this delightful practice is harmful to morals and behaviour and ought to be given up? As for everyday fashions of dress, the present writer has no hesitation in saying that he likes open-necked blouses (or whatever the correct term is), short skirts and bare arms; they appear in every way healthier and better than the buttoned-up habilaments of the feminine friends of his youth and he hopes that ladies will have the sense not to let fashion rob them of these pleasant styles.

Yet we think that most of those who rushed to the "creatures'" defence, missed the real point of "Old Correspondent's" letter. It was touched on by a Chinese reader, but he misunderstood what was meant by the objection raised to girls in bathing dresses "rubbing shoulders with natives." If the mere contact with Chinese were what "Old Correspondent" disliked, then the girls might have worn sealskin jackets instead of bathing dresses and the criticism would have been the same. But no such discourtesy towards Chinese was intended. The whole point was that the bathing-dresses, promiscuously worn along the towing path and not expressly for bathing, would lead the Chinese rustic either to think that the wearers thereof were no better than they should be, or, more probably, to acquire a low idea of the general behaviour of Western women. The average Chinese is not yet within reasonable distance of ... His attitude towards and classi... of women is quite ... become wives and mothers and are theoretically, if not physically, as much secluded as the charges of a Spanish duenna; and there are those who become something else. And when he ponders on the liberties assumed by some Western women nowadays unrebuked, applying to them his own scale of valuation, he not unnaturally begins to imagine all sorts of things that are not.

It may be said that there are so many things about the West which the East can never understand, and *vice versâ*, that one more or less does not matter and that anyway it does not affect us what the Chinese rustic thinks. But surely it is a great mistake to argue in that way and especially as regards women, towards whom we justly hold that the Western attitude is nobler and more reverential than the Eastern. To take an extreme case; it used to be the practice in India and we think Hongkong, and may be still, to forbid entrance to any British members of a certain class once not mentioned in polite society. The reason is obvious. But apart altogether from questions of women's dress, it is felt by many people that we foreigners in China are not nearly as careful about our behaviour as we ought to be and that, from stock exchange gambling on the heads-I-win-tails-you-lose principle at the one end to kicking a ricsha coolie at the other, we are guilty of many laxities which give the Chinese a wrong and harmful idea of foreign ways and lower foreign prestige in their eyes. We are, in China, an outpost of Western civilization: in some ways it is inferior to Eastern standards, in others it is immeasurably superior; and surely it behoves us all to remember that we supply the gauge whereby our respective countries will be judged. For nobody is quicker than a Chinese to pick out the man who lives up to the best standards of his own nation and to respect him accordingly.

TARIFF CONFERENCE

June 13.

IF Reuter's report that the tariff revision conference is not to take place is correct; and there is every reason to believe that it is, China has again misplayed. For at the Washington Conference all the Powers present had agreed to such a conference and it would have been held in Peking, had not those over-clever men in the Waichiaopu and the over-zealous supporters of sovereignty in the provinces not forced even the best friends of China to lose faith in her ability to live up to a treaty obligation. The Tariff Conference assumes that, old contractual relations having been lived up to, the Powers agree to make new contracts in the expectation that they will be lived up to also. But immediately after the Washington Conference China began to break treaty obligations and long standing customs.

The levying of illegal taxation in the provinces, loyal and disloyal, and the arguments used by those favouring these taxes, could only serve to convince foreigners that not even the elements of contractual relations were understood by China's rulers. One famous educator, for instance, suggested that Kiangsu need not abide by a treaty between China and a foreign Power, such a treaty being limited to the relations between the national government and that Power. That sort of sophistry does not even go down with the unknowing. It does not smack of ignorance. It is not the result of ignorance. It is an isolated example of continuous and clearly thought out insincerity and is based upon an assumption that because the foreigners no longer use gunboats to enforce their rights, anyone may trample on them. Unfortunately for China these men forget that China has a long way to go before all the clauses in all the treaties to which she objects are changed and that they can only be changed by mutual consent. Considerable gains came to China as a result of the war and the attendant elimination of Germany and Russia from the family of nations. But it may be a very long time before a similar accident will bring to China such great gains in her effort to gain equality with the Powers, an equality to which she would be entitled by her size and population, were it not for just such circumstances as the inveterate habit of "doing one in the eye" when the occasion offers.

Would it not then appear to be logical for China to make a case for herself, to be so just, upright and efficient in her dealings that no excuse could be found for not doing as she asked? That would appear logical. Yet it does not seem to present itself to the Chinese as a suitable solution of the problem.

THE LIBERTY OF THE BOLSHEVIST

June 13.

THERE are some words which appear to have the power of driving those who use them demented. When we say that at the word "imperialism" anybody of Soviet tendencies at once loses whatever reason he may still have in him, it is, of course, open for him to retort that the word "Bolshevism" has the same effect on its antagonists. Against this, nobody yet has exactly defined "imperialism," while on the contrary the world sees in Russia itself the clearest example of what Bolshevism means. When, therefore, Mr. Karakhan invites the professors and students of Peking University, as he is reported on another page to-day to have been doing last Saturday, to contemplate the blessed freedom in which his country is supposed to be basking, the said professors and students have a mass of facts by which to test the reality of the alluring picture Mr. Karakhan draws of liberty under a Bolshevist Government.

It is, of course, the great glory of Bolshevism, on which it never tires of pluming itself, that it has thrown off the tyranny of Tsarism. We have no wish to defend the Tsarist *régime*: it was no doubt guilty of much misgovernment and political oppression. But at least, so long as men and women refrained from political intrigue, they were free to live their own lives, free to trade as they pleased, to enjoy the fruits of their labours, to practise the religion which is so deeply a part of the Russian nature. None of these things is allowed by Bolshevist standards of freedom. The bed of Procrustes was not more ferociously rigid than the Communist scale of measurement to which all Russians must be lopped or stretched. For example: during the last months of his life, Lenin clearly perceived the impracticability of Communism, at least from the economic point of view, and private trading had been permitted once more to raise its head. With Lenin dead, the extremists who have replaced him in government discover that private trading is the enemy of the State and, although apparently it cannot be forbidden altogether, we have lately been told of special taxation designed to cripple private initiative and restrict all advantage to State commerce and industry. Again, as already said, Russians are deeply and instinctively religious. The Bolshevists, finding in religion a rival to their own supremacy, have stripped the churches bare, persecuted and imprisoned the priests, and preached atheism in the schools. Finally, because the Russian is not to be robbed of his beliefs, the Soviet has formed a Red church and, in order to give it prestige with the multitude, has invented the lie that Archbishop Tikhon, the great apostle of the Orthodox Church in Russia, has joined their revolutionary priesthood. Even the law courts must administer law according to Red ideas or not at all. At the end of last month, seventeen judges, magistrates and others of the Supreme Court in Petrograd were sentenced to death for blackmail, extortion, illegal release of prisoners and accepting bribes from houses of ill-fame. At once the central executive of the Soviet telegraphed from Moscow ordering these sentences to be suspended.

That the Soviet budget this year shows a deficit of gold roubles 400,000,000 is further evidence of the fruits of freedom which may be commended to the notice of the Peking University. Also, the fact that Moscow voluntarily promised so long ago as in 1919 to give back Mongolia to China and as yet has not shown the faintest sign of keeping its promise proves that, whatever else Bolshevist freedom implies, it certainly includes complete liberty to be forsworn. Finally, the professors and students of Peking may bethink them that, among all the victims of the Russian Revolution, nobody has suffered more than the intelligentsia, the people of their own class. Just as in the French Revolution, the moderate middle classes of the Gironde were the peculiar object of the fury of the extremist Mountain, so in Russia it has been even more fatal to be a member of the bourgeoisie than a prince or peer. In a word, Bolshevism, which prides itself on liberty, is the greatest tyranny that the world has seen. To-day it seeks to stir up the intellectuals of China against the world. How long will it be before it calls upon the proletariat to turn upon the professors?

THE REVOLUTION IN FRANCE

June 14.

THE circumstances in which President Millerand has resigned office are so extraordinary as almost to justify the word revolution. Other Presidents have resigned from personal dissatisfaction with their position—M. Casimir Périer for instance, during the stormy days of the Dreyfus affair. But history affords no precedent for the head of the State being literally forced out of office by a strike in parliament and it is a most dangerous one to have established. As the ex-President said in the message read to the Chamber of Deputies on June 10, it is an utterly unconstitutional proceeding "which makes the President a plaything in the hands of the majority in Parliament." The ease with which Governments are overthrown has often been regretted as a weakness of French political life. If now it must be added that Presidents are to be pushed in and out of office as easily as Premiers, the resulting instability of French policy both at home and abroad cannot but tend to be most disconcerting.

To be just, we have yet to hear the Socialist side of the

quarrel. It will be remembered that the elections held in the second week of May, left the Chamber nearly divided into equal masses of Right and Left with the people on the borderline holding the scales. When they decided to stand in with the Socialists, the latter's majority was assured. The composition of the new Chamber proved that there was at any rate something in M. Poincaré's policy which the country disliked and there is little doubt that that something was the financial decree laws which he had forced through the last Parliament and under which Government may decree any departmental economy it pleases or any taxation without consulting the Chamber. That the ex-President is believed to have supported M. Poincaré in this measure, that at different times he has been accused of departing from the aloofness and impartiality which should characterize a President, to aid and abet the strong-willed Premier, is, perhaps, only part of his offence in Socialist eyes. It is not to be forgotten that M. Millerand, who first took office as Minister of Commerce under the late M. Waldeck-Rousseau in 1899, started his political career as a Socialist, Like every other member of the tribe who has attained to high office, M. Briand, Sir John Burns, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, he has found that the actual responsibility of government requires the revision of doctrinaire ideas. And the Socialists have determined to be revenged on him. M. Herriot, the Socialist Mayor of Lyons, absolutely declined to take office. M. Marsal did so merely as a matter of form. The ex-President's dignified appeal to the Chamber to respect the constitution was read in icy silence; and the deputies immediately passed a resolution that they could accept no Government which was "a negation of the rights of Parliament."

What now will happen is a matter of conjecture. M. Herriot, we are told, in the certain expectation of being invited to form a Ministry, is at work on a programme which embraces the immediate suppression of the decree laws, and the re-establishment of the match monopoly, both of which were passed by the Poincaré Government, and also a general amnesty, except for evaders of military service and traitors. It further proposes the suppression of the Embassy at the Vatican, the application of the law regarding religious congregations, and the reduction of military service by organization of the nation for defensive purposes.

M. Herriot, after describing his fiscal proposals and pro-Labour tendencies, favours strengthening and extending the rôle of the League of Nations, the Hague Tribunal and the International Labour Office, and resumption of normal relations with Russia. He unconditionally accepts the Dawes report.

Obviously there is much material here of a highly inflammable order. That M. Herriot will endeavour to make peace with Russia is a foregone conclusion: twice he tried to get M. Poincaré's Government to support his schemes for trade resumption. Now he will have a free hand for his own ideas and, as France has greater claims on Russia than any other country, her chances of satisfaction are proportionately smaller. As regards relations with the Vatican, the Socialists in France are traditionally anti-clerical. But much has happened since the Dreyfus affair and it seems a pity to revive old fends. As for the decree laws one cannot but think that that question is largely regulated by the necessity of keeping up the value of the franc. It is interesting to see that M. Herriot "does not believe in the possibility of evacuating the Ruhr." We wonder how many Frenchmen do.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Lest They Forget!

While there is no doubt that travel in Soviet Russia, so far as non-Russians are concerned, has greatly been facilitated during the last two years, so much so that it now is possible to undertake the journey to London by the trans-Siberian route without excessive inconvenience, the Soviet authorities are by no means inclined to permit any foreigner to travel in Russia without his credentials being submitted to the closest scrutiny. We have every reason to believe that even now, five-and-a-half years after the armistice and four years after the overthrow of the last serious opposition to Soviet rule, it is impossible for any foreigner wishing to travel in Russia to do so, if at any time since the Revolution he was concerned, directly or indirectly, in any operations or expedition against Soviet Russia. For example; there are in China at the present time quite a few ex-members of the French and Knox's Missions to Siberia in 1919-20. Most, if not all of them are known to Soviet agents in Shanghai, who have intimated in terms not to be misunderstood that it were quite useless for any ex-member of the Missions we have named to apply for a visa for travel by the trans-Siberian route. That is carrying matters much too far. Most of those who were engaged in the anti-Soviet forces were there without any option of staying away and it is difficult to understand why the Soviet authorities, even if imbued with their first quality hatred, should carry it to such unreasonable ends. If France and Britain took reciprocal measures—though it is almost without the bounds of possibility—the Russians would feel a much-aggrieved people, and would be quick to let the world know it. Their present attitude is more than a little obscure; maybe they are afraid of forgetting.

Truth After Dinner

Nobody, we feel sure, regrets more than Sir James Jamieson himself any discourtesy which Mr. Chu Chao-hsin may have found in his plain speaking at the British and Chinese Corporation dinner in London, as reported by our correspondent in another column. But at the same time we believe that there is a very general feeling in Shanghai that, as one reader put it to us, "it was time somebody told the truth" and satisfaction that it was so distinguished a member of the Consular service as Sir James Jamieson who had the courage to tell it. The Chinese Chargé d'Affaires in London is undoubtedly a very pleasant and popular gentleman. No one would willingly hurt his feelings or be discourteous to the representative of a friendly Power. But the plain fact of the matter is that either he is singularly misinformed from Peking as to the state of affairs in this country, or he has been so long out of it that he has entirely forgotten what it is like. Whatever the explanation, his public utterances invariably wear the appearance of unblushing propaganda and perhaps we may say without offence that no member of the Diplomatic Corps more fully realizes Sir Henry Wootton's famous definition of an Ambassador as "an honest man sent abroad to lie for his country." At one time, as readers may recollect, we tried to offer a corrective for some of the fairy-tales which Mr. Chu was continually being put up in London to disseminate, but the task became too great and inasmuch as both London and provincial papers have latterly been giving increasing attention to China and showing a welcome understanding of the facts, there is the less to be done from this end. This new enlightenment will, we trust, enable Home readers who take any interest in China to realize that though Sir James Jamieson's language may have been strong, his vision was as unclouded as ever.

The Exclusion Law

For the sake of general relationships of Japan and America and especially with a view to the possibility of amendment of the American Exclusion Act, it is to be hoped that the Japanese Press will keep its head and neither give prominence, still less support to the talk of an American boycott. The incident reported to-day in the Imperial Hotel at Tokio need not be taken too seriously. It was probably most unpleasant for the dancers, but need not rank as of international moment. But a boycott would be very different. The Japanese, who themselves have some experience of it, know very well that it is the last weapon to use against a proud people with no mitigating result against the enormous harm it does. To employ it in respect of the Exclusion Act would ruin all chance of modification. We publish to-day the Japanese Government's protest against the law: it is a fine and dignified Note and its arguments are unanswerable. In addition to this, there is a very strong feeling in the best of the American press and public against the law and, although there appears no means of stopping it from coming into operation on July 1, we may be sure that the earliest possible steps will be taken to remove the obnoxious discrimination. The United States Senate is not distinguished for its helpfulness in respect of the American Government's international affairs; and in the present instance it has committed the country to a piece of combined discourtesy and injustice which all patriotic Americans resent. Nothing can more help the latter in obtaining a remedy than a continuance of the dignified attitude Japan has hitherto maintained.

The Cup that Cheers

It is a little hard on innocent tea-drinkers who are hoping for a penny or two off the tax on tea, says a writer in the "Daily Mail," to have doctors saying that it would be better for the community if the tax were increased instead of being reduced.

How the homely brown tea-pot swells with pride at hearing itself called inebriating. How it will boast to the Toby beer jug and the claret decanter and tell them they are not the only intoxicants. Before a bragging tea-pot—proud to be considered a demoralising nerve-destroyer—the tantalus stand will shake in its polished oak shoes. Why are doctors so down on tea? Are they haunted by memories of their student days, in rooms where the landlady gave them an inky black poison that had stood stewing at the side of the fire for hours on end?

Evidently a doctor on his busy rounds meets every pernicious form of tea-drinking that exists—tea that is too strong, tea that is not properly made, tea that has stood for hours. Worst of all, he sees mutton chops, beef-steaks, pork being eaten to an accompaniment of many cups of tea like treacle. He then hears a rumour that tea may be cheaper, and at once waxes both alarmed and eloquent.

There is indeed nothing much more nauseating than a cup of Indian or Ceylon tea made as it usually is in England—alike bitter in mouth and biting to the belly. But the remedy is simple: Drink China tea and palate and digestion are safe. It must be confessed than even China tea can be made very badly. The average house boy has no conception of how to do it: he takes water that has been simmering on the hob since morning and never properly boiled at that. But with water freshly brought to the boil from cold, the teapot warmed first and also the cup, China tea is a drink for Elysium. It is recorded that Dr. Johnson thought nothing of drinking twenty cups of tea. This is the secret: It was all from China in those days.

Mr. Wells' New Heaven

Mr. H. G. Wells is as confirmed a dealer in futures as any broker could be. His volumes project unprepared mortals into Utopia with surprising ease and facility, and yet none of us who enjoy the romances feel ourselves much nearer the lands of idealism on that account. His latest (at least we think it is his latest, although at this distance it is difficult to be sure) novel has a new angle and in "The Dream" one of the Utopians, by name Sarnac, travels backwards two thousand years through the agency of a dream, to the life he led in the twentieth century "Age of Confusion," as Harry Mortimer Smith, the son of a small green-grocer.

Through his detailed recital we are seen as the Utopians see us. Poor perplexed little Harry with his love affair and his religious struggles is unbelievably grotesque to them. Even the university gentleman, the one who splashes his cold bath about instead of having it, is grotesque too. The auditors sit about and exclaim at intervals "How impossible!" or "Can such things be so?" in a manner which we find it difficult not to take personally at times. It would be rather irritating to have the realization of our all-but universal dishonesty, discomfort, discontent forced home upon us were it not for the comforting assurance it implies that in two thousand years human nature will have been made perfect, and that men and women will no longer hurt themselves and one another.

The optimistic moral is a little too distant for immediate encouragement. Mr. Wells has drawn us a strictly up-to-date Heaven, but after all it hasn't quite the same consoling ring possessed by some of the old fashioned beliefs sniffed at so scornfully by our far-away posterity.

Up-to-date Opportunism

Some of the amateur wireless enthusiasts in Argentina consider that it is an ill wave-length that brings no good. They have discovered a system whereby they can operate their sets to both pleasure and profit. It seems that the masters of vessels *en route* to Buenos Aires are continually sending wireless messages to their agents announcing probable hour of arrival, etc. These messages are received and delivered by the postal authorities who, according to "The Times of Argentina," are frequently far from prompt in effecting delivery. Knowing of this defection, some of the amateur enthusiasts are taking stock of the messages coming from steamers and have hit upon the plan of beating the Post Office in delivering them. The system adopted by the amateur is to telephone the agent of a vessel on the way, advising that he has picked up a message which he will hand over immediately on payment at 20 cents a word. In many cases, it is stated, the agents have agreed to the proposition and have received legitimate information three or four hours before the news was received through official channels, and as three or four hours in the life of a steamer is often a great thing, it is obvious that the payment made to the unofficial receiver of the message is usually money very well spent. It is, however, more than probable that the Post Office will strongly resent this system of poaching on what it may consider its exclusive preserves, and it would not be surprising to hear that some of the private owners of receiving sets are in for a warm time. In any case, this poaching should have the effect of accelerating the official service.

The Soochow Creek

It will be noted with satisfaction that, according to letters published on another page, addressed by the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce to the corresponding foreign body, the Soochow Creek at last is to be dredged. The agitation has been long drawn out and until now has had not the slightest result. Foreigners, notably the Whangpoo Conservancy Board, many times have expressed their willingness to do the work, even without charge to the Chinese, but always the latter have raised a cry that sovereign rights were endangered and so the creek has gone from bad to worse. Under extreme pressure, the Chinese undertook to do the work, despite the fact that they find it so difficult to secure the funds required for any public purpose. It is understood that the Governor of the province presented the responsible men with an ultimatum to the effect that, as they had said they could and would do the work, and that they could find the money, they must do something definite by a fixed date. They failed and it is said that he gave them an extension of time, but the extended date also passed without any sign that the work would be put in hand. However, something appears to have frightened those who direct affairs on the creek, for on February 22 they gave the outline of a scheme for collecting the money and on May 24 they announced that they had obtained sufficient funds. Survey work was to commence on June 1 and it is to be hoped that neither too much time nor money will be wasted on this, but that actual dredging operations will be started as soon as possible. That alone will not be sufficient, for once the creek is cleared—and one may be pardoned for expressing some scepticism that the work will be done properly—it must be kept in a navigable state. If there is to be a clean-up to last for six months or a year, those who have given the money as well might have kept it in their pockets.

The Missionary

It is always relaxing to listen to the opinions of the new-comer to China, whose assumptions of facts are so rarely even an approximation of correctness. For instance, the writer of a gratuitous attack on the foreign missionary in China in our correspondence column cannot have any conception of he excellent work done by missionaries in this country and of the high regard in which they are held by the Chinese. The accident of an occasional missionary captured by bandits or pirates in this unfortunate period of China's history can but be another comment of their worthiness. For, instead of living lives of ease and comfort, as the correspondent would suggest, they labour in the interior where life can be neither salubrious nor sweet and where the foreigner is always in danger of being misunderstood by those desiring to make trouble. Chinese scholars of anti-Christian tendencies have paid rare tribute within recent years to the foreign missionary, whose work has kept education in China alive in a period when the Government has been unable to pay teachers in Chinese schools their salaries for months. Practically all the work done in connexion with health education, with the possible exception of that organized in Harbin by Dr. Wu Lien-teh, is under the guidance of foreign missionaries. To suggest that the Chinese are unappreciative of these services is to misunderstand the situation in China. Perhaps the writer of the attack on the missionaries might allow himself a little time to investigate the situation and to study conditions in China before he offers so stirring an appeal to the Chinese bandit to murder foreigners working beneficially to the masses of China. He might read a better book on China than the American "Mercury," a new publication edited by two humorists, H. C. Mencken and George Jean Nathan, the apogee of the precocious in American parlordom.

China's Chaotic Currency

The opinion more than once has been expressed—and frequently by people of consequence—that it is not altogether to be regretted that certain provinces of China in one way or another have broken away from allegiance to Peking, and, if memory serves aright, one eminent person propounded the view that never would there be real peace until each of the provinces had secured independence and then had joined in an alliance to protect one another in case of encroachments from outside. That, however, is getting into the region of higher politics, with which this note is not concerned. Yet there have been frequent examples of lost provinces instituting reforms that never could be hoped for from Peking. What could be more puzzling to a newly-arrived business man, or indeed, more worrying to one long established in business here, than the fluctuating taels and dollars and the discounts on bank-notes enforced in every city? It would be interesting for a man to travel through 20 or 30 cities, starting from here with a $5 Bank of China Shanghai note, change it at the next stop for a note of that city and continue the process until he returned and then reckon up how much his last $5 Government note had cost him. Weights and measures are equally puzzling and seem to vary in every shop into which one goes. There is no indication that Peking ever has considered the possibility of standardizing weights and measures, but the Mongolian Government, worried to distraction by the confliction of the many Chinese scales, made the worse by the use in places of Russian systems, now has abolished both Russian and Chinese systems and ordered the general use of a new standardized system, which, according to an account on the financial page of this issue, approximates closely to the metric. Would that Peking would follow such an example, especially with its coinage.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

THE GREAT FIGHT FOR KUEILIN

36 Days of Siege and Continual Bombardment: Many Civilians Killed but City Holding Out Well: The Struggle of North and South for Kuangsi

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

It will be noticed that there is a long gap between the first and second parts of this report. We can only conjecture what has happened in the interval, but Marshal Lu Yung-ting, who is trying to win Kuangsi for the North has held his own through 36 days of siege and even pressed back the Southern forces though he cannot clear them altogether.

Kueilin, Si., April 11.

Two well equipped and ably-led armies face each other and contend for the mastery of the ancient provincial, capital.

To-day the army of Marshal Lu-Yung-ting, the Pacificator of Kuangsi, and the troops of General Shen Hung-ying are drawing close to each other in the eastern corner of the province, each intent to be the master of the city of Kueilin, where at present the troops of Marshal Lu are mustered.

Marshal Lu passed through the city of Kueilin some weeks ago on his way to Hunan to unite forces against the Kuangtung government and to secure necessary ammunition for the proposed campaign.

Less than a week ago the Marshal returned to the city and at once the deferred New Year's celebrations which had been awaiting his arrival were entered into with more than ordinary fervour. Night after night the streets were packed with men and women watching the parades. Festivities were still in progress when the word was whispered round that trouble was brewing.

General Shen Hung-ying, it was reported, had turned over to the southern government and had accepted a commission from Dr. Sun Yat-sen to subdue to province of Kuangsi and bring it under the southern sway. It was also stated that funds and ammunition had been provided for the campaign and that hostilities were to begin at once, and that Kueilin would be the first place of attack.

The Assault Begins.

Soon messengers brought the word that Shen's troops stationed at Kuangyang and also at Pingloh were on the march towards Kueilin. This report did not cause any commotion for, as a rule, hostilities are slow in reaching a climax. Only a few days elapsed, however, when fighting broke out in the south between Shen's troops and the forces under General Han Ts'ai-feng, Marshal Lu's main support. Simultaneously fighting began on the northern front. Shen's forces from Kuangyang had reached the main road connecting Hunan and Kuangsi, had defeated a small detachment of Marshal Lu's men stationed at Tsuenchow and had cut communications between the two provinces. The troops continued their march on Kueilin taking the places *en route* without serious opposition as Marshal Lu's outposts fell back without fighting rather than risk the outcome of meeting superior numerical forces. To-day at three o'clock the oncoming troops could be seen approaching in the distance, and it was not long before fighting began.

Marshal Lu had a trusted detachment stationed on the rocky bluffs overlooking the city outside of the north gate and these soon let the approaching troops know that their advance was to be seriously contested. The city gates were closed and heavily guarded while soldiers were stationed at irregular intervals along the city wall. It was not long before the sharp crack of rifles and the occasional sputter of machine guns told the city that the reported contest was in progress. This was to be no small scuffle between opposing military factions for the purpose of gaining better camping grounds, but representatives of the northern and southern Governments, Peking and Canton, were now meeting each other and the issue was whether the Southern Confederacy or the Northern Government should be dominant in Kuangsi. Well trained forces, splendidly equipped and ably led were facing each other, each determined to battle for the mastery and emerge victorious.

The city people are not perturbed. All the stores are open and "Business as usual" seems to be the motto. Small vendors are going about the streets calling their wares, schools are not closed and mission work is being carried on as usual, though the services are often punctuated by the sound of heavy firing and the victorious shouts of the soldiers stationed on the city wall.

Sleep Rudely Disturbed.

April 12.

People living in the northern part of the city did not get their accustomed rest last night. The night was made hideous by the continuous firing which at times reached a pitch of intensity not soothing to the nerves. The whiz of bullets was heard overhead and sent a shudder through the hearts of householders as they crashed through tile and timber in their onward flight.

Big guns came into action to-day, the attacking forces throwing three-inch shells into the city. One of these fell inside the Baptist Mission compound in close proximity to the girls' school. It did little damage, however, as it did not explode and was picked up by one of the inmates and put to soak in a water vat. Another shell fell near the Chamber of Commerce and while the shell when picked up was emptied of its contents, it did not appear to have done much harm. The Marshal's yamên was also visited by one of these potent messengers, but is simply regarded as a souvenir. There is no excitment in the city, the people believing that the Marshal has the situation in hand and has sufficient numbers at his command to hold out against all odds. Both sides seem determined to fight to a finish. All the outposts, save those stationed on the bluffs outside the north gate, have now been recalled into the city. The troops fighting on the southern front entered the city through the south gate at nine o'clock this morning. It caused a flutter of excitement. The streets were thronged with people anxious to ascertain what this movement meant. The gates were heavily guarded with soldiers and the wall was packed with officers and men. As soon as the last soldier had stepped inside the huge city gates were swung and closed and again barred against invasion.

Attack Vigorous But Fruitless.

Fighting continued throughout the entire day. On two occasions the opposing forces fought desperately for the mastery of the hills outside of the north gate. These hills overlook the city and are in close proximity to the city wall. On these Marshal Lu's men could be seen running here and there and with machine-gun and rifle fire beating back Shen's men who tried to ascend the slope. After repeated failures the troops then began to encircle the city and the heaviest fighting moved around to the west gate. The graves and rocky boulders on this side of the city formed splendid hiding places for the troops and a perfect fusilade of bullets came whistling into the city. Many civilians were killed or wounded and the roofs of many houses to-night have air holes made by the flying missiles.

There seems to be no appreciable change in the situation. Marshal Lu though suffering from rheumatism in the ankles visits his men daily and encourages them to hold out. Reinforcements are expected to be on the way, but even if they do not arrive it is a serious question whether the opposing forces can force their way into the city against the present resistance.

Kueilin, Apr. 16.

As far as a civilian can view the situation there seems to be but little change in conditions although the city has been beseiged for six day and continuous fighting day and night has been in progress. Both sides seem determined to win and each is doing its best.

Outside of the north gate Marshal Lu has forces under command of his own son stationed on the top of Lao-Yin mountain. This rocky bluff is near the walls and commands a view of the entire city and from its craggy heights the entire city could be shelled. This bluff has been the scene of many a fierce onsault during the last two days, but Lu's flag still flies and the enemy has been driven back with great loss of life every time he attempted to scale the heights.

A Hail of Bullets

On Sunday the fighting veered round to the west gate. A perfect hail of bullets came over the wall, and just as heavy a shower fell outside. The opposing forces hid behind the graves and rocks and from their hiding places picked the men on the wall. Big guns were placed in position on the city wall and while a brisk fusilade was kept up from the wall the west gate was opened and a detachment of troops were sent out to drive the enemy from their hiding places. Bullets fell in rapid succession all over the city and quite a few civilians have been killed or wounded, while walking the streets or even sitting in their own homes. About 80 soldiers have been wounded and are being attended at the local Red Cross, assisted by the foreign doctors. The loss of life outside is not known but it must be much more than has been caused inside the city.

On Monday the southern part of the city was enveloped. Here the houses formed hiding places for the opposing forces. All day long desultary firing was kept up all along the line, but darkness had scarcely settled down before with startling suddenness a terrific bombardment began on three sides of the city. north, west and south. Rifles screeched on every side, and machine guns chattered their notes of death. Something was taking place. Frightened women could be heard screaming for fear, and as the roofs of the houses began to be punctured with bullets and tiles flow here and there people living in lofts fled for safety to the downstair quarters. The forces without were trying to scale the wall and judging from the amount of firing and the savage yells that now and then rent the air, the enemy must have paid dearly for the fruitless attempt.

Yesterday, (Tuesday) was spent much the same as former days. Rifles sounded here and there all along the wall, while answering shots told that the enemy was watchful. Now and then a stretcher bearing a wounded soldier to the Red Cross base or one who had been killed to some secluded spot told plainly that all the shooting was not at random. Towards evening the electric light situated outside the city wall ceased to function and big shells began to scream as they sped across the city and burst in thunderous tones as they reached their objective. This was followed by an uncanny silence until late in the night when again along the north three murderous attacks were made upon the city. Lao-Yin (Old Man) Mountain came in for another tussle but on all fronts the lines held and the attackers were driven off with loss of life.

Hill-Tops Stormed and Taken

May 15.

At 8.30 this morning the city was aroused to a pitch of excitement by the sudden sound of heavy firing outside of the north gate. Immediately all eyes were turned toward the hills to the north of the city which are occupied by the city soldiers. All was activity. On the pinnacle of the Old Man Mountain the dark forms of the soldiers were silhouetted along the northern sky-line, while by the aid of glasses soldiers could be seen taking up their positions along the various ridges that skirt that part of the city. Rifles chattered in endless succession while little jets of smoke rising from the mountain summits followed by the thunderous roar of the old cannon, and a large field gun that had been taken out for service, told that an important battle was in progress.

For several weeks past certain hill-tops near the northern part of the city have been occupied by enemy troops, and their near presence has endangered the city and they have been a source of anxiety to the military leaders who are holding this place. Quite a few soldiers and civilians have been killed or wounded by the sniping from those heights and so it was decided to storm the hills and take these positions. Five thousand dollars was offered to the storming party to accomplish the dangerous task.

The attack was timed to take place at midnight, but the torrential rains prevented the orders from being carried out, and the attack was postponed until this morning. Three hundred troops were selected to form the storming brigade, and in the early morning hours these unobserved took up their positions near the rocky base of some hills near by ready for the signal to advance. Each soldier wore a small strip of red, white, and grey cotton on his arm to distinguish him from the others, and when the big guns began to roar these picked men ran out from their places of concealment and rushed forward to the attack, while the artillery on the mountain tops covered the advancing troops and opened the way for them to advance. The tide of war ebbed and flowed. Gains were made by the city soldiers and then lost in a counter attack. The big guns boomed forth encouragment, while the enemy artillery snapped defiance and death, but cheered on by their comrades on the hill-tops the city soldiers rallied and once more dashed forward, and while many fell in the charge the troops gained their objectives and managed to hold them.

A Commanding Position.

The fighting lasted for about three hours and when it slackened in intensity the city soldiers were in possession of five new hill-tops; strategic heights, (among which was Kuan-Yin Mountain) from which commanding position the enemy soldiers have been working much havoc, and hindering the easy movement of the city troops. The Kuan-Yin temple which is situated at the base of the mountain also fell into the hands of Marshal Lu's troops. In the recesses of the temple was found a small munition factory. A number of mechanics were captured, and some bullet-making machinery and 2,000 rounds of ammunition also felll into the hands of the victorious troops. The new hills captured also give the city soldiers control of the path leading to the arsenal in which it is believed is stored considerable quantities of ammunition and other war material. This will be a tremendous asset to Marshal Lu as during the intense fighting of the past 35 days since the city has been besieged large quantities of ammunition have been used and the reserve stock drawn on heavily. A bullet factory has recently been opened in the old Law Academy where 400 bullets are turned out daily and this aided by to-day's captures will assist materially in the defence of the city.

The casualties are not yet fully known, but some 20 wounded have been carried to the Red Cross and are now being treated by the foreign surgeons there.

War Prisoners Executed

May 16.

It is reported that some of the prisoners who were captured yesterday were later led bound out of the old West Gate and beheaded on the green near the Hero Monument. Some state that the men were accused of robbing in the villages, while others claim that the soldiers who captured them insisted their prisoners should be executed as the enemy forces are accused of putting to death some of the men who fell into their hands and the murdered men's companions who have risked their lives in the defence of the city now seek revenge.

This evening it was reported that detachments of enemy soldiers were seen crossing the river this afternoon from the east to the west side, both above and below the city, and it is conjectured that they are planning an offensive, perhaps with the hope of regaining the positions which they lost yesterday.

Insistent rumours of reinforcements nearing the city are still rife, and even the names of the commanders, the number of the men, and the geographical position of each company are clearly given. At times even the guns of the oncoming troops are supposed to be heard, but as yet none have arrived, and no authentic information is really at hand as to just when or from which corner help will arrive. It seems to be clear that fighting is being carried on on a large scale throughout the country within a day or two's march of the city, but the contour of the surrounding territory and the density of the high commanding bluffs that line every pathway leading to the city make it most difficult for the relieving forces to make much headway.

Passes Strongly Held

All the passes are held by small squads of enemy soldiers well supplied with ammunition and machine guns and these spit defiance in the face of the troops who are attempting to get through: neither side too strong enough to run the risk of a costly offensive. The soldiers stationed within the city make [illegible] sional sorties out of the gates and by dint of hard fighting, and with the loss of numbers killed and wounded manage to drive the enemy back, but they are not strong enough to turn the defeat into a rout and they do not dare pursue the retreating troops too far away from the city lest their own rear be cut off. Consequently the conquering troops have scarcely sounded the call to return before the scattered outside forces are pecking away at their rear. The forces that surround the city quite outnumber the troops within, but they have not sufficient strength to take the city by storm.

The City Still Holds

Throughout the 36 days of the siege every known military tactic has been resorted to, but has failed. The defending positions have been bombarded; the city has been shelled; the wall dynamited. Attempts have been made to burn the gates, to scale the walls, to fire the city, but every device has failed and every attack has been beaten off with great loss of life, and to-day the military situation seems to be much the same as it was when the siege began. Neither side seem to be war-weary. Each are determined to fight to the bitter end.

The troops of the various commanders are placed in windening circles about the city for many miles around. Many of the troops that formerly made up the attacking divisions have now been withdrawn and sent further afield to join the passes and guarded the approaches to the city. Thus these forces have managed to keep the relieving columns back. The relief divisions have not been strong enough to break through the cordon and the pass-defenders cannot spare sufficient forces to send back and make a determined attack on the city. Each are holding the other at bay, but neither have sufficient strength to turn the tide of battle. A deadlock seems almost to have been reached, and now who can hold out the longest may emerge victor in the present struggle.

Both sides are busy manufacturing ammunition as each believes that cartridges are more effective than conferences. It may be that eventually the issue will be determined by the amount of munitions, rather than the number of men; not by brains, but bullets.

THE MISSIONARIES IN KUEILIN

Mr. Cunningham Stated to Have Been Killed: Other Foreigners Safe

Peking, June 7.

The fate of the score or so of British and American missionaries in the beleagured city of Kueilin appears still to be uncertain. As late as May 25, according to a Consular report received to-day from Changsha, Kueilin was still closely invested and no news had been received from Bishop Holden or any of the other British missionaries in the city. Chinese reports state that two American missionaries have been killed and that the whole population is in the last stages of famine, the daily rice ration for each person having been limited to four ounces. The suburbs and neighbourhood of the city are said to have been laid waste by Gen. Shen Hung-ying's troops and the outlook is gloomy.

On May 27, the consular report states, two British missionaries, the Rev. J. R. Wilson and the Rev. A. J. W. Mackay, arriving in Yingchow, set out for Kueilin with the object of trying to get some information regarding the foreigners in the city. Meanwhile large bodies of Hunanese troops have been drafted to the Kuangsi border.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Hankow, June 11.

The Hengchow correspondent of the "Central China Post" telegraphs: "Kueilin reports that Mr. J. R. Cunningham, of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, has been killed, but the other foreigners are safe."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE PEKING WALL ASSAULT CASE

Mr. Campbell's Convincing Evidence and Stringent Cross-examination: An Absurdity of Chinese Law: Medical Examination at Long-delayed Trial

Peking, June 9.

All three of the assault charges preferred against the ex-soldier Li Yi-yuan were disposed of at the Tahsing Magistrate's Court to-day. In each case it was announced that the verdict would be made public within a week.

This morning was devoted to the hearing of the cases in which the complainants were Mr. Pomeroy, an American citizen, and Mr. Castellani, an Italian, and official observers from the respective Legations concerned were present. Mr. Shou Lu-yuan, who had been specially sent from the Local Court for the hearing of the case, acted as Judge and he was assisted by the Tahsing Magistrate, Mr. Chung Show-lung. Mr. Tsoong Lung represented the Waichiaopu.

When the case arising out of the assault upon Mr. Campbell, a British merchant, was called on at three o'clock this afternoon, Mr. H. I. Prideaux-Brune, of the British Legation, took his seat on the Bench as British official observer. Mr. Campbell was asked to come forward to give his evidence and, after answering queries as to his age, occupation and place of abode, he proceeded to tell the story of the assault.

He said that on April 13 he went on to the city wall at 11.15 a.m. to take a walk before tiffin. A soldier already on the wall was standing so that it was impossible to pass him and he made some remark. Mr. Campbell remarked that he did not know Chinese and therefore could not tell the Court what the soldier said. The man made a louder remark and witness turned around and told him to go down off the wall and not be foolish. As Mr. Campbell was turning away the soldier struck him in the face with his fist, smashing the pipe Mr. Campbell had in his mouth.

Eager to Fight.

"So," Mr. Campbell proceeded, "I hit him on the head and knocked *him* down. He then turned around and hit me on top of the head with a bag of coppers, so I hit him again and knocked him against the wall. He came back again and hit me, cutting my jaw and raising a lump. He was eager to fight and I continued to defend myself, though I could have done very much more. He was trying to kick me and before anything further occurred two policemen from the Legation Quarter came up and the man was arrested. As far as I am concerned, it was quite unexpected that he should attack me and naturally I retaliated, endeavouring to keep him from doing me more harm than necessary. He was armed and I was not."

Through an interpreter, Mr. Campbell was questioned at some length by the Court. He was asked first of all whether he could understand Chinese and he repeated that he could not understand the language. "Then," he was asked, "if you cannot understand Chinese why did you say in your affidavit that the Chinese spoke in a loud voice insulting words?"

Mr. Campbell replied that the man's manner was insulting and, borrowing one of the soldiers on duty in the Court, gave a demonstration of the defendant's actions.

The Court: So the fact is that he was standing in the road and you passed by him and then he followed you?

Mr. Campbell: He was standing so that I could not pass by without moving him. He was trying to take the whole road up.

Did you bear any mark of injury?—Yes. A lump on the jaw and an abrasion. These were not very serious. I also broke a finger and have not been able to use it since.

Mr. Campbell was told that, according to Chinese law, as he had given evidence of injury he would have to be examined by a Court expert. He replied that within half an hour of the occurrence he had himself examined by the British Legation Doctor and he understood that the Doctor's certificate would be available if necessary.

The Court: According to Chinese law, if there was any injury, even if it was examined elsewhere, the Court has still to examine it.

Mr. Campbell: It is too late now. If the Court had been held immediately afterwards, there might have been something to see.

The Court still insisted upon an examination, although Mr. Campbell protested that there was now no sign whatsoever of the injuries, and an official came forward and inspected Mr. Campbell's face and finger. The announcement was then made that, although the Court expert's opinion was that there had been some injury, still the Doctor's certificate must be produced. Mr. Campbell said that he thought the certificate was at the British Legation and could be produced all right.

A Case of Self-Defence.

The Court then proceeded to cross-examine Mr. Campbell in regard to his contention that he acted in self-defence. He said that the man struck him three times and he struck the man three or four times.

The Court: Assuming it was an act of self-defence, the force seems unnecessary.

Mr. Campbell: I think the answer to that is that the man was still willing to go on fighting.

How do you know that he was still willing to go on fighting?—Because he was still standing up. The last blow I struck was just before the policemen came up and I hit him on the nose.

Even when he stood up, could you not have called a policeman to stop him?—There was no policeman on the wall. As soon as a policeman came the fight stopped and the business was over. That was all I wanted.

Then during the fighting you and the soldier were the only persons there?—There was an American soldier who saw it from the start.

This is the first time you have said that?—I believe it is in my affidavit.

With what did you strike the Chinese?—My fist.

You did not use any stick?—I never carry a stick.

The injury evidenced by the blood on his clothes was caused by your fist alone?—Yes. When I hit him on the nose.

Did you strike him in any other place?—No. He kicked me.

Mr. Campbell was then asked whether he thought he could recognize the soldier if he saw him. He replied that he thought he could and was then asked to retire into a waiting room while Li Yi-yuan was brought into the Court. Looking unkempt and dishevelled, the defendant was then marched in between two soldiers. After he had been lengthily harangued by the Judge and had answered numerous questions, the Court directed that Mr. Campbell should be brought in again.

Defendant Identified.

In answer to the query whether he could point out the Chinese with whom he fought, he indicated Li Yi-yuan without hesitating.

The Court: According to the defendant's statement you were in a ricsha and you stepped in the way and did not allow him to go up on the wall.

Mr. Campbell: Where was the ricsha? Rickshas are not allowed on the wall.

Did you tell him he was not allowed to go on the wall?—I did not. I cannot speak Chinese. I did not at that time know that he was not allowed on the wall, as I am a stranger to Peking.

Mr. Campbell then retired again and a lengthy argument between the Court and the defendant ensued. In the course of it the latter denied that he was ever on the wall and it was pointed out to him that the statements he was now making differed materially from his previous evidence.

The Court then announced that its verdict in all three cases would be given in the course of a week and Li Yi-yuan, still vigorously protesting, was led outside.

The defence put up in connexion with the cases heard this morning was that the assaults were accidental.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE *"Sinwanpao"* states that a large quantity of arms and ammunition have been sent to Shensi, at the order of the Tuchun, Gen. Liu Tsen-hua. This shipment, which includes a number cannon, have been sent *viâ* Nanking. Marshal Wu Pei-fu, it may be remembered, is threatening to attack Shensi.

CHINESE DUG-OUTS TO ESCAPE BANDITS

Extraordinary Defences Found in Shensi with Moat and Drawbridge

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 6.

Travellers in the interior do not need to be told that very many Chinese live in caves. Cave dwellers are to be found in Honan and Shensi provinces and right across to the Tibetan border. In these provinces many of the people are forced by economic necessity to dig into the hillsides for their homes, and it is no uncommon sight to see a projecting cliff burrowed right through, affording hearth and home for a family and shelter for its chattels and livestock.

According to a recent traveller in Shensi, Mr. O. J. Todd, Engineer Representative of the Famine Relief Commission, it appears that the impoverished Chinese in some of the Weipeh villages are now living underground on the plains. The habitations he saw were complete dug-outs, with some of the features of the old baronial castles of England, such as a moat and a drawbridge. It is by reason of these latter features that one is inclined to the belief that Mr. Todd holds, that the people are going underground to escape the bandits.

The photograph shows the entrance to one of these dug-outs. It is made of mud and straw, and is at least 15 feet deep. One has to descend almost perpendicularly, and if one happened not to be a friend of the family, the consequences might be disastrous, for in the cavernous depths is either a well or some other Chinese version of a moat, over which the inmates of the dugout place a bridge for their own convenience and withdraw it for the inconvenience of bandits and other obnoxious folk.

Passages lead off in three directions, and these form the habitations of several families, as well as of their worldly possessions, stock, provender, tools, and the like.

ENTRANCE TO A DUG-OUT IN SHENSI, A REFUGE FROM BANDITS.

SAKHALIEN OIL AND RECOGNITION OF RUSSIA BY JAPAN

Two Questions Intimately Allied: Japan's Prime Need of Oil: An American Syndicate's Concession Complicating Issues

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 9, 1924.

Now that China has recognized Russia, the possibilities of recognition by Japan are being canvassed. Mr. Karakhan and Mr. Yoshizawa are both possessed of plenipotentiary powers with which to negotiate such an understanding, and with that end in view have participated in conversations almost every other day for the last few weeks. However, almost as much secrecy about these conversations is maintained as about the conversations between Dr. Wellington Koo and Mr. Karakhan. Recognition will not be so easy to reach as it was between China and Russia. For one thing, what [illegible] public opinion in China was on the side of Wellington Koo, whereas in Japan, particularly among the military classes, the idea of recognizing the Soviet is still about as palatable as it is in the United States.

One question which has to be decided before even recognition can be accorded is Sakhalien. The status of the northern half of that island cannot be left to a post-recognition conference. It is of immediate consequence to Japan, the particular "principle" and *sine qua non* of recognition. The other issues—old treaties, debts, fishery rights, and the rest—may easily be reconciled into general principles, as they are problems that have to be worked out. Fishery rights, for example, are not so urgent a subject as sometimes made out to be, seeing that an amicable arrangement with Vladivostok at any rate is now in force and will continue until next year. The other questions are more or less those that are now confronting Britain.

Northern Sakhalien was occupied for a few more guarantees than [illegible] Japan would lose its case. When Joffe came to the Far East two years ago, the writer asked him if Russia would sell its share of Sakhalien. It was a point blank question, to which a straightforward reply was not to be expected. "I can only say that we are a realist government," was all he said, but even this was sufficient to show that Russia was prepared at that time to talk business. It has been said since then that Joffe did talk business in Tokio, but the time was not then ripe for Japan to make an effort to adjust the peculiar situation in Sakhalien, and the issue remained apparently insoluble. (Incidentally, Joffe parted with his best bargaining point when he made Japan a present of the fishery rights for another year as soon as he landed in the country). Now any such talk could not be straight business, for the ratification of the Sinclair contract by Moscow has thrown a cog into the machinery which will take all the wits of Mr. Karakhan and Mr. Yoshizawa to extricate with honour to both sides. Yet the problem has to be settled one way or the other before recognition can be mentioned.

The Sinclair Concession.

The Sinclair contract was ratified on August 28, 1923. It gives the Sinclair Oil Company exploitation rights over Northern Sakhalien territory north of the 51st parallel, the 52nd parallel being the dividing line between Northern and Southern Sakhalien. The company can go on drilling for oil for five years, and then it must restrict itself to a thousand square versts, which is to be the extent of a 36-years concession. In connexion with the preliminary exploitation, the company has the right to build ports, establish lines of communication, and erect electric light plants. It will be gathered that when the concession has been delimited, the Sinclair company will have secured the richest oil reserves in the island, and that the next comers will have to be content with the second best.

Now Japan is short of oil, and in want of it as no other country is at the present time. It constitutes for her as important a raw material as iron and steel, and therefore Northern Sakhalien is almost as important an economic base for Japan as South Manchuria. Japan's urgent necessity for oil was aggravated by the earthquake losses at the Yokosuka base. Sakhalien has this now-precious commodity in abundance. Seepages have been found all over the northern part of the island, and experts are of the opinion that the reserves are tremendous. By the irony of fate, Southern Sakhalien is not supposed to hold any oil at all.

In these circumstances it is not surprising that Japan could not wait either to buy or lease the territory, or to make some other definite arrangement, before liquidating the guarantee. A company called the Hokushinkai was formed by all the leading financial interests in Japan, including the Mitsubishi, the Mitsui, the Susuki, the Kuhara, and the Nihon-Sekiyu, for the purpose of starting drilling operations. It was capitalized at Yen 3,000,000 and according to some reports was to receive a yearly subsidy of Yen 600,000 from the Department of Navy. It is known that the company's geologists have been prospecting in Northern Sakhalien for some time, and it is stated that drilling has actually started.

By the ejection of the Sinclair company's geologists in February, the contract under which they sought to enter Northern Sakhalien is automatically extended. The five-year period will date from the time when the company starts operations in the island itself, and so will the period of the concession.

Playing America on Japan.

Why did Russia tie itself up with such a contract? There were apparently two or three reasons. The contract was signed at a time when anti-Japanese feeling was rampant throughout the country, particularly in the Far Eastern Republic of Siberia, which first negotiated the agreement. It was also part of the sinister campaign of playing off nation against nation—in this case, America against Japan. It was thought that the United States would eventually come to the rescue of the Sinclair company in the event of Japan refusing permission to the company's engineers to start work. It was also hoped that recognition of Russia would be influenced by the signing of the contract, and this hope was expressed in the clause which provides for the annulment of the contract if the United States did not recognize Moscow within five years of the date of ratification. All hope of American diplomatic interference, if there was ever any hope, was lost when the Sinclair company became involved in the political scandals now raging in Washington.

Russia is now faced with the dilemma of bargaining somebody else's concession for recognition, for the only concession worth having according to Japan's immediate point of view is the oil in Saghalien. It will be interesting to see if the Soviet can tear up its own as well as Tsarist agreements; it would be in keeping with the necessities of the case to a "realist" government if it did so.

GEN. Yang Sen, Tuli of Szechuan, in sending $2,000 as his subscription to the Good Roads Movement of China (the National Road Construction Association), has signified his willingness to become honorary director of the Association and president of the Szechuan branch. This is the Association that has advocated a road round the Settlement "to prevent foreigners from encroaching on Chinese territory" and that recently sent out appeals to foreign residents for funds for "a new club house and a dinning room."

WRESTLING WITH CHINA'S EMPEROR

A Visit to Photograph a Medical Curiosity and an Afternoon with the Son of Heaven

FROM OUR HAICHOW CORRESPONDENT.

Shade of Kang Hsi! Bones of Chien Lung! Corpse of the Emperor Dowager!

The Son of Heaven has been wrestling with barbarians. The royal hands have been locked in rigid grip with the fingers of the Foreign Devil.

But cheer up, ye departed great ones, for the royal scion won the match. And think ye not for one moment that the last of the royal line engaged in this sport by arrangement. It happened in the natural display of his hospitality, and—but let us tell the story from the beginning.

Many old residents in China have heard of the Emperor's Mannikin, charts of which, more or less accurate, are widely distributed throughout China. A medical man in Peking was anxious to get a photograph of this mannikin and after some negotiations it was arranged that a visit should be made to the Forbidden City's innermost sanctuary where the mannikin could be inspected and photographed. At the moment of starting, on the afternoon of June 2, an old friend of the doctor turned up and it was in a party of five that the visit was made. For the benefit of the lay reader, let me explain that the Emperor's mannikin is the official guide and chart to the custom of "needling" which is perhaps the most universal panacea in China today.

The Cure by Needling.

Have you a headache? A few needles stuck artistically through the skin of the temple and forehead—and the headache is cured. Is your heart beating feebly? A rusty bodkin thrust deep on each side of the larynx, and the heart is greatly stimulated. Have you a shaking attack of malaria? Some embroidery needles in the calf of your leg will bring quiet and calm—and so *ad infinitum*. And this celebrated mannikin shows where, and the direction in which, needles may be thrust.

Perhaps the greatest surprise of the visitors was the lack of the throngs of eunuchs and attendants which are inseparable from our mental picture of Chinese palaces. There were no more than ordinarily found in a small yamên or home of a wealthy merchant. Especially was it noticed that all the personal attendants of the Emperor were mere boys of 14 or 15 years of age.

The Emperor met his visitors without the least trace of stiffness. He is said to speak English to some extent but before strangers is a little diffident and prefers to speak through his interpreter or tutor. He is about 20 years of age, rather thin, but, as was proved later, quite muscular. Interest will naturally centre more on the Emperor than on his aged mannikin, but as this visit was primarily for the photographing of the latter, the mannikin must have first place on the stage.

The Mannikin.

The first mannikin shown to the visitors was disappearing. It was a wooden model, badly proportioned and it was recognized as having been photographed some time ago. Strange to say the Emperor himself did not know of the existence of another, but when he inquired of his attendants they scurried away and soon the object of the visit was before them. It is brass or bronze, about three feet in height and several photographs were taken. It is covered with tiny lines and on these lines at intervals are dots to indicate the spots at which needles may be stuck. So much for the mannikin.

How the Son of Heaven spends his days will be of considerable interest. Several bicycles were seen and it was explained that he gets on these a large part of his exercise and amusement. High doorsills and stone pavements have been built up with earthern approaches so that he can ride through without stopping.

Clocks and Music Boxes.

The two things that are most in evidence in the Emperor's quarters are clocks and music boxes. Of clocks there are a dozen or more, many of interesting design. One of the music-boxes was of a type much in vogue 30 years ago, the "canned music" being carried on wooden cylinders studded with small steel pins. The Emperor loves to go from one to another, winding them up and listening to their weird emissions.

The Emperor seems happy and cheerful. We wonder if he has ever been told that a century and a half age provinces, states and kingdoms waited breathlessly on the pen of his illustrious ancestor Chien Lung. We wonder if he dreams of that mighty band that welded half of Asia into a single empire. Perhaps he has been told that the great Chien Lung himself spent a full quarter of a century, after ascending the throne, in the quiet and seclusion of a student and then suddenly emerged into an activity and vigour that made him one of the greatest monarchs in history. Perhaps the young Emperor, the Prisoner of the Republic, is dreaming of the future! Who knows what that will bring forth.

Emperor's Skill in Wrestling.

Hand wrestling is a popular sport in China and without any formalities the Emperor was soon showing that he has a fine physique. The opponents stand opposite each other, about four feet apart. Each man's feet must be kept close together. Right hands are locked and each tries to pull or push the other from his footing. The first man forced to move his foot loses. Several men in the party were far heavier than the Emperor but he was not once scored against.

In the city famous for its rugs it was naturally to be expected that the palace of the Emperor would be furnished with in rugs numerable. Imagine the feelings of the visitors to find the Emperor's room floored only with linoleum—of the kitchen variety!

The Emperor so manifestly enjoyed his callers that the party remained with him the whole of the afternoon. It is hard to guess which side was more delighted: the visitors who enjoyed an opportunity rarely available or the Emperor who is easily at the head of the "shutins" of the world.

ASIA AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Chinese Charge in London Calling for Fuller Asiatic Representation

London, June 7.

Addressing Chinese and Asiatic students at Christ-church College, Oxford, Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires, dwelt on the under-representation of Asia on the Council of the League of Nations.

Mr. Chu urged that the Council should be made up with substantial reference to the numbers of people comprised in the nations belonging to the League. It was essential, he said, that Asia should be very thoroughly represented, because it might have to speak with no uncertain voice on many vast issues raised from time to time. Nearly all problems of first-class importance germinated in the Far East, where many great issues were springing from the meeting of world civilizations, marking the dawn of new and sometimes conflicting ideals. The League, Mr. Chu declared, should be sufficiently authoritative, catholic and world-wide, to deal with all of them.—Reuter.

THE FUKIEN CAPTIVES

Mr. MacKay Released: No Ransom Paid: One Bandit Caught

Foochow, June 7.

Mr. MacKay, of the China Import & Export Lumber Co., Ld., and his party, have been released from captivity, without paying any ransom.

One of the bandits was captured.

June 12.

Mr. Mackay arrived here to-day. He is feeling well.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE POOR POLICEMAN OF PEKING

His Months of Unpaid Salary Yet Behaving Remarkably Well: How to Pay Him?

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 5.

Anybody who was in Peking at the time of the spring war of 1922, when Wu Pei-fu and Chang Tso-lin were battling within ten miles of the capital, will sympathize with the demand of the police here for their pay, arrears and all. It is not usual to notice the police until danger is in the air, just as Tommy Atkins, according to Rudyard Kiping, is appreciated only when we have something very urgent for him to do; and in Peking we are little different from the general run of people in this respect. Even old hands were amazed at the excellent moral of the Peking police during those disturbing times in 1922, when we whose lot it was to stay in the capital were in no little danger from the scattered army of Manchurian soldiery who were routed almost within sight of the city wall. When it was all over we played the band for the local policeman, and the strains should still be in our ears as we listen to the tale of his impoverishment.

The House Tax.

Like the teachers and the civil servants in the capital, the policeman has been without pay for several months, and the problem has become so acute that the authorities, in view of the necessity of keeping him in good humour, have proposed the levying of a tax on the Peking people with which to discharge their obligations to him. It was at first called a police tax and under that name received the approval of the Cabinet. But a hue and cry had been brewing among the Pekingese, and the name was hastily changed to "house tax" when it seemed evident that there was to be some opposition to the impost. Even the new name did not prevent the storm from breaking. It was a dog all the same. Indignation meetings were called, and all sorts of organizations, the most vociferous of which was Parliament, protested against any further levy on the people.

Where are the Proper Funds?

The people are not personally opposed to the claims of the police. On the contrary they support them, and that is really half the reason for the protest. They object to the filching of money in the name of the police, and they ask what has become of the money that is definitely earmarked for them out of the Octroi, the Stamp Tax, and the Wine and Tobacco Administration. Most of the money that should go to the police now goes to General Feng Yu-hsiang for the upkeep of his national forces. To maintain these men, the Peking policeman has to go without his pay, and in consequence is in wretched straits—so wretched in fact that the wonder to the foreigner is that he can be so loyal and, it must be said, so argumentative.

The householders in Peking doubt very much if this impost is really intended for the police. They have an idea that it will disappear *en route* to its intended channel as mysteriously as other revenue. There are many precedents for this habit on the part of Revenue, so one cannot accuse the householders here of unjust suspicion.

A Voluntary Collection.

At any rate, opposition to the house tax is as stubborn as ever, and the police authorities have now hit on another plan which they hope will extract the necessary dollars from the Pekingese. It is another change of name, this time to our old frind "voluntary subscription." A campaign has been organized to educate the people into a more tractable mood, but in spite of lachrymatory handbills headed "Help the Poor Policeman," the householders are referring the campaigners to the next street without the least sign of apologetic snuffling. The drive was supposed to start on June 1, the date of the proposed enforcement of the tax, but it does not appear as if the really poor policeman will be any the richer as a result thereof, although he might be as a result of the four million dollars or so that the Finance Minister has been able to collect to tide him over the Dragon Boat Festival. Everybody, whether a newcomer or a witness to those 1922 days, hopes so.

MR. BARTON'S CAPTURE BY BANDITS

Further details are published in the "Central China Post" of Mr. J. A. Barton's hold up by bandits on the Han, the first intimation of which appeared in the "North-China Daily News" at the close of last month. It will be remembered that Mr. Barton was on a business trip at the time in the interests of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's sugar department.

Apparently the hold up was a premeditated affair, of which the native officials had some knowledge, as the captain of the police boats convoying the junks along with Mr. Barton's boat informed him that in the event of trouble he was to hide himself as well as he could among some sails stowed forward.

A Night Attack.

The attack itself took place at midnight on May 24, whilst the convoy was anchored at a small town called Pengtaukang. Here the boats were strung along the river bank, with the police boats at the end which did not lend itself to protection at all as events eventually proved.

When all had been made snug for the night the attack started. The bandits drifted down-stream in sampans and boarded the first boats of the convoy, firing with their Mausers and automatics and smashing everything within reach. All the bandits were well armed, those who did not carry revolvers had murderous long knives stuck in their belt. Nearly all carried an axe as part of his armament, and many were disguised with false beards. They worked well together by a system of whistles from a commander who kept out of sight. Pandemonium reigned. The police boats tried to open fire with their guns, but found that owing to the position they had taken up they were simply landing their shots in their convoy so gave it up after the third attempt.

Interpreter's Brave Action.

During the turmoil which was going on Mr. Barton's boat cut her moorings and tried to drift downstream out of the trouble, but being observed was made to heave to by rifle fire coming from both banks of the river. A boarding party put off in sampans and ransacked the boat. At first they were for shooting Mr. Barton on the spot, but his interpreter bravely stepped in and informed the gang that he was a poor missionary, the shooting of whom would not do them the least good. Here a discussion arose among them to which Mr. Barton had to sit and listen as to the outcome of his ultimate fate. However, the bandits decided to spare him and proceeded with their search for money. The amount found not being up to expectations, the question of killing both Mr. Barton and his interpreter was again broached, but it was eventually settled that the boat would be allowed to proceed provided nothing was said of the matter. In the meantime several of Mr. Barton's personal belongings had been taken, his typewriter smashed, and the wood-work of the boat badly knocked about.

Official Action Lacking.

Arriving at Anlu the matter was at once reported to the official there. He was full of sympathy and said he would despatch soldiers to deal with the matter. Whether they were sent is problematical, for by the latest news to hand no move up to that time had been made.

Some of the bandits were captured and taken to Anlu where they were beheaded, but this was owing to a pure bit of luck and not through any move from official sources. A party of soldiers happened to be returning from Fancheng when they came across a sampan load of the bandits. Fire was opened on them; four are said to have been killed and the remaining six captured. These were the ones the Anlu official had beheaded.

AN important law has been passed by the Ministry of Interior, forbidding males to marry until they are 16.

"FOR I AM A PIRATE KING"

Audacity of Modern Pirate: Loan Demanded of Sir R. Ho-Tung: Otherwise...

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Hongkong, May 31.

With almost a showman's passion for publicity, Wong Ng, a pirate king of South China's troubled waters, has revealed himself with a rattle of swords to be as audacious and enterprising as any of the filibusters of old. There is a Gilbertian touch in his latest move.

Wong first came into the limelight two months ago, when, with a band of lusty followers, he spirited away with a coolness which is worthy of better things, a ferry launch, the "Kwongshun," which plies between Hongkong and Shamshuipo, a Chinese district on the mainland of Kowloon. The pirates kidnapped the crew and passengers and Shanghaied them on a lonely beach near Macao. Wong added to his notoriety by writing letters to relatives of the kidnapped passengers, demanding ransoms for their release.

Apparently, Wong has fallen on evil days. Piracy as a flourishing business some months ago has received a slump and Wong is feeling the pinch. And the pirate king needs a loan. In a letter addressed to Sir Robert Ho Tung, Wong politely asked for a loan of $2,000 which, on the oath of a pirate, he promises to repay.

Wong's letter was addressed through the post to "Mr. Ho Tung, Local," and was delivered to his Peak residence. Sir Robert and Lady Ho Tung being absent at Wembley, the family opened the letter. This mysterious letter bore a Hongkong two-cents stamp and was evidently posted in the Colony. In order to obviate any error that may be made in its delivery, the author had written in pencil, the following instruction to the postman:—

To be delivered to Ho Tung's house on the upper levels.

The letter was duly opened by members of Sir Robert's household and, translated, reads in effect:—

Our band of brothers have formulated a plan of action. But because of lack of funds we are unable to proceed. Therefore, it is for this special reason that we solicit a loan of $2,000 in Hongkong notes. When our objective is achieved "children and mother" (i.e. interest and principal), will be repaid and on no account will we break our promise. Please send this sum to the "Great Eastern Hotel" in an ordinary envelope and addressed to my name. There is no need for registration as it will mean a lot of trouble for the messenger receiving it. You are given three days from the day of receiving this letter to reply. Otherwise. . . .

The seal of Wong Ng.

Wong's signature is decorated with a rambling coat of arms and together with the notepaper used are identical to those addressed to the victims' relatives of the ferry piracy. As in the previous instance, the pirate chief did not append his signature but used a chop. Wong's promise to repay the loan is given added emphasis by the fact that the phrase contained in the letter is underscored in black ink. There is no effort in the least, either to conceal his identity or the source of his stronghold.

Wong jumped into fame with one of the most daring coups in the black history of pirates in South China. As far as is known Wong did not resort to murder, but for several days perplexed the authorities when the ferry boat could not be found. It was eventually recovered, but in a dilapidated state.

For his audacity, Wong Ng deserves better than a mere lopping off of the head. As a North China brigand, a two gun man of the Blue Express, his exploits may have gained him a generalship

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PEKING, June 8.—Gen. Lu Chin's proposal that all provinces and districts shall purchase arms and ammunition only through the Ministry of War has been approved.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

WHAT CHINA WOULD DO WITH BRITISH SHARE OF BOXER INDEMNITY

Institute of Science the Principal Aim: Facilities of Study of English Literature and Arts Throughout China: Peking University Chancellor's Memorandum to British M.P.'s

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

London, May 13.

Dr. Tsai Yuan-pei, Chancellor of the National University of Peking, has issued the following memorandum to Members of Parliament interested in the proposed remission of the Boxer Indemnity:—

To those who are interested in the question of the allocation of the Boxer Indemnity Fund (writes Dr. Yuan) I beg to submit the following proposals:

(1) The principal portion of the fund is to be utilized for the establishment of a great and inspiring Science Institute. It will consist of two departments: one to contain mechanical models and diagrams, illustrating the different stages of development of the physical and chemical sciences, and illustrating the different stages of the evolutional processes of the industrial arts, the other to contain natural history specimens, showing the genus and species of flora and fauna—leading up to anthoropology.

(2) A portion of the fund is to be utilized for subsidizing any well-known universities or technical colleges in China for the express purpose of starting or extending certain special faculties or departments of sciences and technology; such as biology, textiles, engineering, chemistry, medicine, agriculture and forestry, etc.

(3) A portion of the fund is to be utilized for establishing within some of our national universities facilities for the study of the science, art and literature of Great Britain. Foundation funds will be provided for (a) professorships, (b) purchase of English books on literature and art, and (c) scholarships for research students.

(4) A portion of the fund is to be utilized as a foundation fund for sending teachers and graduates of the universities and technical colleges in China to the universities and technical colleges in Great Britain.

Opportunities for British Students in China.

(5) A small portion of the fund is to be utilized for sending scholars from Great Britain to China to study Chinese literature and philosophy, etc.

(6) A small portion of the fund is to be utilized for purchasing Chinese objects *d'art*, to be exhibited in museums of Great Britain on condition that the former unworthy ones be removed.

(7) A portion of the fund is to be utilized for the exchange of professors between Great Britain and China, namely for providing: (a) distinguished scholars of Great Britain to lecture in the Chinese universities and colleges: (b) distinguished scholars of China to lecture in the universities of Great Britain on Chinese literature, philosophy and art or any other subjects appreciated by the British people.

Explanatory Note: The remission of the Boxer Indemnity Fund by any nation to China is generally appreciated by her people as an act of generous good will to their country. Her educationalists propose, by the carrying out of the above-mentioned proposals, especially the first one, to have, thereby, a permanent memorial of the great friendly deed of Great Britain. It will be set up in order to create a spirit of reference for science and industrial arts—becoming, when properly equipped with laboratories and other faculties, a great centre of research and reference. As in the present circumstances, it seems very difficult for China herself to provide such an essential, Great Britain, in co-operating with her to satisfy this urgent need of her education, will render to that country a great service: and thus earn her lasting gratitude.

Before I left China I served, for a time, as the Chairman of the Committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Education, that met in conference in Tsinan (Shantung) and elsewhere, in which among other questions, that of the Boxer Indemnity was carefully considered. As a result, the Association, thoroughly representative of all parts of China, unanimously maintained the following points:

(1) That China can, and ought to, undertake her own primary and secondary education; and what is needed for that purpose is, therefore, regarded as the ordinary fund to be raised by her national and provincial authorities.

(2) That the return of the Boxer Indemnity Fund by any nation should be regarded as a special fund, and be set aside for a special purpose.

(3) That the Boxer Indemnity Fund remitted by Great Britain should, if possible, mainly be utilized for the great object of providing facilities in the studies of science, pure and applied.

Of the seven proposals above-mentioned, the first one was strongly advocated by the said Committee, and the third and fourth were also their original suggestions, but have now been worked out in detail.

Furthermore, what I have presented is not merely my personal view, but also represents a consensus of opinion in China. Such opinion, I am confident, will be taken carefully into consideration by all who are interested in this question.

BOMBSHELL FOR TSINGTAO OFFICIALS

Salaries Down 20 Per Cent: New Governor's Latest Dispensation

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tsingtao, June 1.

In order to reduce expenditure to a minimum in this year's budget, the Administration has from to-day reduced the salary of all officials who until yesterday drew a $100 and over a month. This reduction is one of no less than 20 per cent. When one takes into consideration the fact that when the Kao En-hung Administration assumed charge of this territory, the salaries of officials were fixed at 50 per cent. less than the sums earned by the former officials, one at once realizes the magnitude of the saving effected in the item of wages alone. For example, the former Director of General Affairs drew $600 a month, whereas when Mr. T. C. Kuo replaced him, his income was fixed at $300. Now comes this reduction of 20 per cent., bringing Mr. Kuo's salary down to $240, representing a saving of $360 a month, or $4,320 annually. Multiply this saving by a score of officials and one at once appreciates the magnitude of the scope of the economy axe.

Milking the Property

Under the old *régime*, there were several officials noted for their appetite for squeeze. One, a general and an adviser on military matters, whom the Governor referred to as "General Nuisance," always managed to get hold of a house when he had made up his mind to get it—and for nothing! "General Nuisance" wanted a house at the foot of Observatory Hill and in order to secure it, he organized an "Educational Commission" headed by himself. The "Commission" asked for an appropriation of property, and upon being requested to point out the one which it desired, "General Nuisance" asked for the house in question and obtained it. He next organized a "Public Library" and a house was secured in the same process. When Governor Kao took charge of the Administration, he ascertained the manner in which "General Nuisance" obtained the two houses, and requested that worthy to disgorge. The Governor dissolved the "Educational Commission" and decreed that no "Public Library" could be privately owned.

MARSHAL CHANG AND KING'S BIRTHDAY

Attendance at British Consul's Reception and Leads Cheers for His Majesty

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Mukden, June 5.

On the occasion of His Majesty's birthday, a formal reception was held at the residence of Mr. H. Porter, H. M. Acting Consul-General, at noon. A notable assembly filled the reception rooms and hall and gathered into animated groups, the attire of the foreign consul and officers throwing into prominence the variegated uniforms of the Chinese officials.

The staffs from the business houses attended and interest was considerably heightened by the arrival in person of Marshal Chang Tso-lin, who stepped gravely out of an attended closed car and, after being welcomed, made a brief address. He then delighted the assembly by calling for three cheers for His Majesty and, after this, the National Anthem was sung. This gives us satisfaction here to recall that the Marshal has not visited the Consulate for two years. After this demonstration of cordiality three cheers were given in honour of the distinguished visitor.

We are informed that two ladies presented themselves unaware of the masculine sanctity which prevailed: they are to be congratulated on having prevailed without a hostess.

The departure of Marshal Chang was followed by a general dispersal.

HOW TO KEEP WARM IN CHINA

Stoves Almost to Be Carried in the Pocket: Missionary's Story of His Life

We have been favoured, says the "Dewsbury Recorder," by Mr. J. T. Auty, of Northgate, Dewsbury, with the glimpse of a very chatty letter written to him by his friend, the Rev. A. J. McKay, a Wesleyan missioner, of Yungchowfu, China.

In my brief span of life I have been in various places and sampled several kinds of life, but this life is the best I have struck yet. Interest increases as the weeks go by, and I would not change places with anyone. I am pleased to say I am keeping in the best of health, and trying to keep warm these cold days. Thank goodness, the Chinese winters are not long, and by the time you get this letter we shall be on the brink of the warm weather. During the cold days our devices for keeping warm in chapel are rather peculiar. Down the two aisles of the chapel there is a big wooden tray with an iron bottom in, at the bottom of which a charcoal fire is burning. This only warms those in the immediate vicinity. Several of our members carry their own charcoal fires with them in receptacles which are called Chioh Lo. These are small wooden boxes with handles, in the bottom of which is an earthenware pot in which the fire burns. You can carry these about in any position.

Some are so made that you can use them for a seat, and thus your "fundamentals" are nicely warmed. Many of our women carry them under their Chinese jackets, and to see them walking along with these things under their jackets gives one the idea that they are tremendously fat. We usually have one in the pulpit for the preacher to use during the service, and we find these portable warmers very handy and useful. For instance, when travelling round our circuit and using a sedan chair, it is no joke sitting in the chair when the day is very cold, so we have one of these Chioh Lo and start off with a little fire inside, and it is replenished by our boy at every inn we call at; so you have a fire always going on in the winter.

A Typical Day.

Here is a typical day out of my life. Rise 7-30; breakfast 8 o'clock, after which I go to the school and take morning prayers with the boys. From 9 o'clock to 11 I have my Chinese teacher, and together we work at the language. This teacher is a well-educated young man of about 22 years of age. We just saved his life during the late war in this province, and now he is living with us on our compound, teaching me the language for $10 a month. At 11 p.m. we have a break for a quarter of an hour, during which time we have a cup of Chinese tea and a few biscuits. Then private study till mid-day meal at 12-30. From 2 o'clock to 3-30 I am engaged in the school. Tea at 3-30, then tennis till dusk. Dinner at 6-30, a smoke and chat, then study again at 7-30. On Mondays at 9 o'clock and Fridays at the same time, our Chinese doctor comes to my study for a smoke and a chat. From 9 to 10 p.m. we discuss every matter under the sun in Chinese; then, after that, for half an hour we read an English book together—a book which will help him in his preaching, for he occasionally preaches in the chapel. On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, at 8-30 p.m., my Chinese teacher comes along, and for an hour and a half we discuss the Chinese Classics together, and work on in that way. At 11 p.m. we have a break for a final cup of tea; then we adjourn again to our books. By that time I think I have earned a rest from Chinese, so I do a little English reading—Chinese history or English biography. Twelve or 12-30 usually finds me wending my way to bed, tired after the day's work.

North and South.

The recent war which was waged round the capital of this province has fizzled out, and I hope we are in for a spell of peace for the sake of the country people. It was only a drawing-room kind of war—very few men were killed—the chief sufferers were the poor, peace-abiding citizens. The whole trouble can be traced to the antagonism between the South and the North, the former represented by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, a hot-headed fanatic who hopes some day to be President of the Republic; the latter represented by Wu Pei-fu, the Northern General. The latter desires to make this province a buffer State between the North and South, whereas Sun Yat-sen has desires on Peking.

Then, again, the brigand problem is very acute. Most of these brigands are ex-soldiers who have been disbanded and who are too idle to work. I am of the opinion that until China gets back to a monarchial form of government things will stop as they are. Well, and how is good old Dewsbury looking nowadays? I wish I could accompany you to the Test matches with South Africa. I shall follow the games in the papers and thus keep in touch with home sport. I am very happy in my work, and enjoy everything as it comes along. For life in its fullest, give me China every time. How are you getting on at Centenary? Who is your minister now?

PEKING'S FRANTIC FINANCES

Disbursements Totalling $472,194 Charged Against Octroi's Revenue of $200,000

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 7.

At a recent meeting of the Anglo-American Association, Sir Francis Aglen remarked facetiously that the Peking Octroi was reminding Peking residents that the Capital is not a treaty port. He might have added that that was because it was reminding us of its own existence, for the activity of the Administration, or the inactivity, has taken new form since Hsueh To-pi was made Superintendent, on July 6, 1923.

So much new life has he introduced into the administration that revenue is jumping up every month. In 1914 the actual receipts were $996,937, in 1923, $2,698,163. The latter figure was about half a million dollars over the official estimate, and $330,301 over the total for the previous year. With revenue showing such an upward trend, the Octroi is now of increasing importance to a government which is as hard-up as China's, and there has been no lack of flies round the pot. As a matter of fact, the jump in the revenue, vigorous thought it has been, has not been so high as the charges that have been placed upon it.

From 1918 to 1919, all the proceeds from the Octroi were remitted to the Ministry of Finance. In the following year the Superintendent was directed to allocate a monthly sum of $100,000 toward the expenses of the President's Office, and this was followed by smaller charges until the amount to be paid out was much above that coming in. Then Gen. Feng Yu-hsiang entered his name on the books, for a cool hundred thousand with which to face the monthly pay roll of his troops; and in conformity with the rule that the last shall be first, was given a prior claim on the funds.

Four Pounds Won't Pay Five.

This is how a monthly revenue of about $200,000 should be disbursed according to the book-keeping system devised by the Government: Gen. Feng Yu-hsiang's troops, $100,000; Chinese Students $25,000; Primary and Middle Shoools in Peking, $35,000; President's Office, $100,000; Judicial Reforms, $2,194.50; Ministry of War, $30,000; Sinking Fund for the Redemption of Treasury Notes, $100,000; Ministry of Finance, $30,000; Ministry of Justice, $50,000. Total, $472,194.50. Even in China, $472,194.50 won't go into about $200,000, so Justice comes last, and other charges higher up the list, which is in the order of priority, make up the "also rans."

Mr. Hsueh is doing his best to meet all these claimants: he is not only collecting more money, but trying to eliminate "squeeze." According to the last number of the sheet which circulates among the staff of the Administration, various employees have been discharged from the service for taking "squeeze." The services of one humble employee are dispensed with for appropriating 14 coppers, which looks as if the new administration is thorough at any rate.

CHINESE IDEAS OF WESTERN ART

Wuchang Art Students' Venus: Queen of Beauty Not in Her Cyprian Shade

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, Hup., June 6.

The Wuchang Arts School has been giving a three days' exhibition of paintings and drawings. This school has about 70 students, and their main study is the imitation of Western art, in both water-colours and oils. The exhibition was opened by a representative of the Tuchun, whose likeness on an oil-portrait appeared among the exhibits. Students from many of the other Wuchang schools were admitted by complimentary tickets, and a good crowd patronized the show for three days.

As a foreigner, somewhat interested in art, I was curious to go and see this exhibition. One was not optimistic; yet there were hopes of something better than the worst. It was interesting to go, and to find whether fears or hopes would be realized. The very worst fears, however, were palpably materialized on the walls. Yet, the hopes were not altogether wanting. It would ill become one to poke fun where one was treated with every respect, or to callously condemn where criticism was frankly invited. But, to speak the truth without fear or favour, it appears that the Chinese had better not attempt at present to copy Western art, but to stick to their own delightful composition.

Pink, Yellow and Green.

On entering the first room, where the work of the teachers was on show, the first picture that caught one's eye was the well-known portrait of Napoleon, "The Last Phase." Somehow, the Napoleonic nose had become bent into a distinctly Jewish nasal organ, and that haunting look of disappointed ambition had become transformed into a sodden look of debauchery. Near to this was a canvas upon half of which appeared the Venus of Milo, well enough reproduced so far as form goes, but painted upon a stark pink background. The other half of the same picture was occupied by a deep unltramarine vase, in which were arranged flowers of vivid red, pink, and yellow.

Several pieces of local landscape appeared done in water-colours and quite easy to recognize. But unfortunately, all the colours were laid on too violently. The green rice-fields were too verdant, the flowers were too blue and too pink, the skies were too heliotrope. One was reminded of the reply which Turner made to the lady who declared that she had never seen such colours in the sky as he put into his sunsets. "Don't you wish you could, Madam?" was the artist's reply. But in this case, the lady might well have answered, "No, I certainly don't." Yet, in a corner, probably the least noticed of all the pictures in the room, was a water-colour of a Chinese beggar-woman. There was hardly any colour, except the plain blue of the dress. Somehow, the painter had managed to put into the eyes a look of hopeless misery. If it were not accident, it were genius.

In another room, were hung the exhibits of the scholars. The best of these were water—colour scrolls, done in the dainty Chinese fashion. They portrayed just leaves on twining branches, houses and boats and fish and hills. This is a form of art in which the Chinese are second to none. Over the rest, it were well to draw a veil.

CANTON telegrams to the Chinese press (*via* Peking), are to the effect that his associates have urged Dr. Sun Yat-sen to take a complete rest and to retire from public life. They propose to establish an Administrative Council, of which Gens. Chen Chiung-ming (who is still said to be Dr. Sun's bitterest enemy), Tan Yen-kai (former Governor of Hunan, who is chief secretary in Dr. Sun's Generalissimo's yamen, and the Commander of the Yunnanese troops in Kuangtung, Yang Hsi-min, will be the chief members. Gens. Hu Han-ming and Hsu Tsung-chih (Dr. Sun's lieutenants) oppose peace with Gen. Chen, and the latter has also announced his willingness to negotiate peace with Dr. Sun's party provided that Gens. Hu and Hsu are dismissed from office forthwith.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND DRUGS

London Society's Branch of International Anti-Opium Association

Peking, June 3.

In connexion with the London Society, which co-operates with the International Anti-Opium Association, Peking, a representative board has recently been formed consisting of nearly 50 members of Parliament and experts on the opium question. The preliminary meeting was presided over by Sir John Jordan, K.C.B., and the following resolutions were submitted:—

1.—The Board, after reading the statement made to the Imperial Conference on behalf of the India Office, is unable to accept it as in agreement with the Hague International Opium Convention, the intention of which was to restrict the trade in opium and its use to the exact limits of medical and scientific requirements.

It can accept no other view of India's trade in opium and morphia than the strict limitation of both, whether for home or foreign use, to these requirements, nor should either be exported except in conformity with the intention of the Hague Convention, and the recommendations of the League of Nations.

Consequently the Board considers that the time has now arrived at which the supply, as at present, by India of opium to the Governments of the Federated Malay States, Ceylon, British North Borneo, Dutch East Indies, Hongkong and Cochin China should cease.

2.—The Board urges upon the League of Nations, the necessity: (a) Of inviting the Government of the Argentine and other coco producing countries to cease the promiscuous export of the leaves to chemical firms. (b) Of encouraging the production and use of effective but non-addictive drugs in places of cocaine, and that, meanwhile, the production of cocaine should be confined to accredited medical agencies.

3.—In the present lamentable condition of the drug problem in China—the militarists compelling the peasants to grow poppy, and vast quantities of narcotics being smuggled into the country—this Board expresses its sympathy with the National Christian Council of China, the Peking Anti-Opium Association, and all similar bodies that are resolutely fighting the narcotic plague.

4.—The Board respectfully urges upon those Members of Parliament who consent to join it, to form themselves into a Parliamentary Committee with a view to watching the progress of events and taking Parliamentary action.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Berne, June 5.

Both Chambers have adopted the Opium Convention.—Reuter.

$500,000 CONSIGNMENT OF OPIUM

Escorted Across Hunan by Troops: Northerners Enrolling Yunnanese Deserters

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kanchow, Ki., May 30.

A short time ago there arrived in this city the unusually large consignment of 150 piculs of opium, worth, it is stated, $3,000 or more per picul. It travelled all the way from the province of Kweichow, and was escorted across Hunan by a lien of soldiers, who brought it safely to its destination. Government troops evidently have multifarious duties to perform, and the protection of this opium caravan from the law, as well as from the lawless, was one of those paradoxical missions upon which the resourceful soldier is able to embark, to the wonder of the wise, and the indifference of the foolish.

The local Electric Light Department has departed for the present to rather odd circumstances. It sold its plant, now inadequate for the wants of the city, to a country market place, and shipped it there. It purchased another plant, and brought it to the riverside on a special lighter. The plant, which was towed up by a launch, was unloaded at the jetty, about three chains from the door of the premises where it was to be housed. The generator, which is said to be capable of supplying 10,000 volts, was safely deposited on the steps at the river-side. A wire hauser was attached to it, and a double-handled, single-barrel winch was employed to coax the generator up the slope to its appointed place. They have been hauling on that winch now for two months, and the generator has moved a chain and a half. It has still the balance to go; but, as there is a corner to round, it seems as if a deadlock has been reached. In the meantime the city is waiting for its light, and the engineers are being paid their comparatively high salaries for waiting upon the stubborn generator; and, altogether, the company is not very happy.

There are a good many local incidents with the soldiers on the streets. Petty tyrannies over merchants, and non-payment, or only partial payment for goods is common. The city is less at ease than formerly. The Northern army is enrolling a good many Yunnanese troops, who have surrendered at the borders. It is said that a brigade of Yunnanese deserters is being formed in the southeast of the province.

Fifty Persons Drowned

There have been floods in the district the last 10 days, but the crops have not suffered very much. A boat-load of traders from the Kiangkeo market, riding down on the flood, struck the bank at Mao-dien, 30 *li* from here, and over 50 persons were drowned in a few moments.

SIR ROBERT HO TUNG IN LONDON

Present at King's Levee

London, June 5.

Sir Robert and Lady Ho Tung attended the King's lévée to-day. They were presented by Lord Olivier, the Secretary of State for India. Their Majesties accepted gifts of dried lichees and silk hosiery, the products of Sir Robert's farm.—Reuter.

TIBETAN BORDER COMMISSIONER GOING

Gen. Chen Hsia-lin's Departure Regretted by All: Wise Administrator

From Our Own Correspondent.

Yachow, Sze., May 26.

Chen Hsia-lin has tendered his resignation as Commissioner of the Tibetan Marches and it has been accepted by the military authorities in Szechuan. He gives as his reason for doing so the long tenure of his office and the desirability of a change.

Chen has been on the Border for 10 years and has often expressed a desire to return to his native province of Hunan. At last permission has been granted and he now returns with his Hunan officers and their families by way of Kansu and north China. Gen. Chen prefers this long arduous northerly route to that of a more direct way by Yunnan and the coast or Szechuan and the Yangtze.

The Szechuan soldiers in Chen's army will hand over their rifles to the military in the province—his Hunan soldiers and officers are allowed to take their arms with them. What Chen Hsia-lin will do in his native Hunan remains to be seen. He is still not an old man—only 53—and has tremendous energy and ability. That he will retire into inactivity is hardly possible and we here on the Tibetan frontier who have been grateful for his wise, able administration, will follow with great interest the future of this brave Chinese General.

In Yachow his name is highly spoken of and merchants and gentry would gladly appreciate his return to office. Chen, however, has determined to retire and is now waiting to hand over his office to Sen Tao-yin.

An official proclamation has been issued by the Generalissimo's headquarters in Canton to the effect that Gen. Chen Chung-ming has sent two delegates to Canton to meet Dr. Sun Yat-sen to discuss peace terms.

CAPTAIN D'OISY IN MUKDEN

Entertained by Marshal Chang Tso-lin and Members of the French Community

The arrival of Capt. d'Oisy, after such a thrilling descent at Kiangwan, was naturally calculated to quicken the interest and expectation of Mukden to a considerable degree, and on Sunday last divers reports were scattered abroad proclaiming the imminence of his arrival, which greatly exercised the imagination to account for his delay. By 11.30 a.m. on Monday, however, an enormous crowd had thronged the aerodrome grounds to pay due homage to the Frenchman and to witness an incident in one of the most remarkable and intrepid flights in port-war times.

There were tens of thousands of Chinese, processions of school children, cadets, and ecclesiastical notabilities. Chinese student fliers and airmen waited eagerly to catch first glimpse of the famous aviator. Capt. d'Oisy' arrival was finally signalized by a liberal volley of crackers, which were fired when the plane had flown straight in from the west, passed the hangars, and had turned south to face the wind. A perfect landing was then made in the centre of the grounds.

Gen. Chang Hsiao-liang, the Director of Aviation, leading his young son, went immediately towards the machine, accompanied by Col. Yao, Chief of Staff, as it taxied in. In a few moments the hero and his mechanic were pulling off their substantial leather clothing and were being congratulated by the young General and an enthusiastic crowd of foreign and Chinese spectators. After numerous introductions, Capt. d'Oisy was escorted to the hangar, where all present were invited to drink the very good health of the visitor. This happy and vivacious procedure was earnestly performed while a Chinese band played the Marseillaise. Shortly after this welcome preliminary Capt. d'Oisy was taken off by the General and his Staff to be received by Marshal Chang Tso-lin, who congratulated him on his achievement and sympathized with him over the regrettable spill at Kiangwan.

Although the Frenchman's time was limited and he appeared to be somewhat tired by the flight, he accepted heartily the invitation of M. Pulet to partake of tiffin, and after an hour's sleep sat down at M. Pulet's table, at which the whole French community were present; also Capt. Mackenzie, the popular colonial instructor. Mme. Pulet sat next to Capt. d'Oisy, and the event was interesting in that M. Pulet and Capt. d'Oisy were war-time colleagues. M. Pulet having signed Capt. d'Oisy's brevet to authorize his graduation as a pilot. It will be remembered that M. Pulet flew from Paris to Saigon in a twin Caudron of 80 h.p., with Le Rhone engine.

Marshal Chang Tso-lin cordially entertained the airman at dinner at 7.30 p.m. and invitations were also extended to the French residents of Mukden. Congratulatory speeches were made and numerous presents were bestowed on the gallant flier. Sgt. Vesin, the mechanic of the machine, was busy during these festivities in overhauling the plane, and is to be congratulated upon his efforts in ensuring that the engine is always in good trim. His work has been splendid throughout. As a very early start was contemplated next morning, the entertainment was not prolonged, and the airman returned to M. Pulet's residence about 10.30 p.m.

Every assistance had been given by the Chinese officials, and at 4 a.m. Capt. d'Oisy, Gen. Chang Hsiao-liang, and a few French visitors sat down to a hasty "petit dejeuner" at the Club on the aviation ground. Ten priests from in and around Mukden were on the ground to see the departure, and a small black kitten (or gollywog) was tendered by Mme. Pulet and tied to the front strut as a mascot. By this time Capt. d'Oisy was dressed and had clambered in; Sgt. Vesin then swung the propeller, "contact" was called, and the motor instantly roared into life. While the motor still hummed away, Sgt. Vesin took his seat and "good-byes" were shouted; then, at 5 a.m. sharp, Capt. d'Oisy waved away the chocks and the machine taxied out to the west side of the aerodrome. Turning to the east, he quickly opened up, took off, and flew straight over the hangars, dipping his right wing in farewell as he went over and waving to the little knot below, who cheered as he disappeared to the south-east. Two Caudron machines, one piloted by a Chinese and the other by M. Pulet, who had as passenger the young General, also took off and quickly followed the Frenchman, who was now steering S. E. in the direction of Antung.

Although we were not favoured with a longer stay, the flight can be looked upon as a signal event in the history of this famous town, and we trust that the conditions which obtained during the trip from Peking, *via* Peitaiho, will again be encountered on the next stage of the flight.

Ancient Jewish Relic in Trinity Church, Kaifengfu

Now used as font. The bowl and stand and relics of the ancient synagogue erected at Kaifeng in 1185 A.D., by refugee Jews from Palestine, the ruins of which were excavated under Bishop White's direction and this treasure discovered.

Capt. d'Oisy Reaches Tokio

Taiku, June 7.

Captain d'Oisy has postponed his flight owing to bad weather.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Hiroshima, June 8.

Captain d'Oisy arrived here at 10.10 this morning from Taiku on his way to Osaka, where he is expected at about two o'clock this afternoon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Osaka, June 8.

Captain d'Oisy arrived here at two this afternoon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Osaka, June 9.

Captain d'Oisy left at 8.39 this morning for Tokio—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, June 9.

Captain d'Oisy arrived at Tokorosawa near Tokio at 11.40 this morning.

Later.

Captain d'Oisy, who arrived escorted by three Army aeroplanes, which had been sent to meet him, was greeted, upon alighting, by Gen. Yasumitsu and Gen. Hadano, the Chief and Assistant Chief of the Military Aviation Board respectively, as well as by deafening cheers from the crowds, which included school-children with French and Japanese flags.

After luncheon Captain d'Oisy proceeded to Tokio where he faces a week's round of elaborately planned public and private entertainments in his honour.

Captain d'Oisy's daring feat evoked tremendous enthusiasm on every side, which paid a generous tribute to his endurance and courage.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The "North-China Daily News" made records in the newspaper world in China on Saturday morning, when it despatched 10 copies of that day's edition to Amoy in care of the American aviators. This is, we rather believe, the first instance in the history of journalism in China that aeroplanes have carried the day's paper. The fortunate few in Amoy who will get one of these issues, will be able to read of the departure of the aviators long before the regular delivery of press reports notifies them of the birdmen's arrival in Shanghai, three days previously.

HONAN'S TAXATION SCHEME

Moiety of Customs Duty to be Paid at Ports of Entry: Rest Inland:

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kueiteh, Ho., June 7.

In view of the continued financial stringency and the seeming impossibility of finding anything else to tax, the Provincial Treasurer must be congratulated upon having at last thought of a means to increase the revenue, thongh he modestly gives the credit elsewhere. Proclamations are now out to the effect that in future merchants importing goods into the country are to pay half the Customs duty only at the port of entry. They are to get a receipt to show they have paid these dues and then when their goods are brought up country to the place where they are to be sold, the merchants are to produce this Customs receipt and pay the other half of the Customs duty. The same applies to goods for export. It is stated that Kiangsu has adopted this plan and the Civil Governor has given permission for it to be used here. Paying half the Customs duty locally will do away with all these other little taxes on goods which the merchants have to pay at present.

Pity the Poor Merchants.

The one great objection one sees to the above, especially from the people's point of view, is that the Customs authorities have perhaps not been consulted and given their consent to this marvellous little scheme. But naturally if they should be so unreasonable as still to require full Customs duty to be paid at the port of entry that will not be the fault of the Provincial officials!—and the merchants will still have to pay the extra half up country. The proclamation states that this method of taxation will stimulate native trade.

Disorderly Military Departed.

With thankful hearts the people have seen Gen. Wang Wei with his troops of the 24th Division move away at last. The soldiers were some months behind in their pay and had been threatening mutiny for several weeks previous to their departure, to the great alarm of the people, many of whom had removed themselves to Kaifeng and other places for refuge. The men were paid up, however, at least in part, and finally moved off in peace to their new stations on the King-Han Railway, north of the Yellow River.

The new military commander in charge of the Kueiteh District is Lui Huan-chen, one time an officer in the 3rd Division. He is a man of 40 or thereabout and gives promise of being able and energetic. The new troops are a part of the 1st Mixed Brigade under Col. Huo and seem to be very well behaved. May they continue to be so.

Three of the newly arrived soldiers are in the Canadian Mission Hospital down with typhus. They must have brought this with them, of course, as they have only been here a few days. It is to be hoped there will not be an epidemic of this dread disease.

The First Russian Refugee.

A young Russian refugee turned up here on Tuesday last; the first we have seen here so far. He was a young fellow of about 20 with practically no knowledge of Chinese or English and claimed to be making his way on foot from Shanghai to Peking. One is certainly sorry for these poor fellows and willing to help them out, but it is a very bad thing for foreign prestige to have them wandering around the country begging their way from place to place. Presumably Trotsky and the proletariat of Russia would be with us heart and soul if we left these poor unfortunates to starve to death.

The Crops.

The wheat and barley harvest is now over and the weather has kept very fine for the ingathering. Owing to the former drought there is not much more than half a crop this year, but even so the price of wheat has gone down during the last three weeks from $2 a "teo" to about $1.50.

The autumn crops have got a good start and a little shower of rain on Tuesday evening last was very acceptable, but the farmers would like to see more.

SOVIET AND CHINESE INTELLECTUALS

Karakhan's Speech in Peking University: Attempt to Stir up Discord in China

Exception may be taken to the following report on the ground that it assists the spread of Bolshevik propaganda. On the other hand we may be sure the Chinese papers of Peking will give the speech every publicity and it is important to know what the Soviet representatives are doing to stir up discord in China.

FROM ROSTA NEWS AGENCY.

Peking, June 9.

A big meeting was held on Saturday, 7th instant, at 1 p.m., at the University Hall, under Mr. Chiang Mon-lin's, the Acting Rector's chairmanship, to celebrate the signing of the Russo-Chinese Agreement. Mr. L. M. Karakhan, who was accompanied by a few members of the Soviet Mission, was enthusiastically greeted upon his appearance on the platform. The Soviet Plenipotentiary Representative's speech, addressed to the students of the National University, was to the following effect:

"To-day you are celebrating the resumption of mutual relations between the Chinese people and the people of the Soviet Union. I wish to congratulate you on this day, and tell you—the future hope of China—that yours is no small part in the efforts which led to the completion of the Russo-Chinese Agreement.

The Soviet's Battle.

"Of course, you all know what this Agreement is, you have probably read it; so that I need not talk about it to-day. What I wish to say now is something about the unwritten part of the Agreement, but one which is perhaps more valuable and precious and which both you and we keep in our hearts. Indeed, when you insisted and demanded that relations be restored with the Union even without the Agreement being necessarily signed; it was because you realized that the crux of the matter was not in the articles of a treaty, but in the establishment of friendship with the Union of our Revolutionary Republics. Well did you realize that the Union had, for five long years, battled against world Imperialism, that it had won this battle and is now stretching out its hand of friendship and succour to the Chinese people, which has many years yet before it of strenuous and, eventually, bloody struggle for national freedom and liberation from Imperialism.

Proof of Bolshevik's Goodwill.

"As you know, the Agreement which we have signed is not, as it usually happens, the outcome of a struggle: it is but a manifestation of our goodwill, our respect for the Chinese people, the redemption—in fact—of our own promises. Such an Agreement China will not be able to sign so easily with any other Power, unless she does after a tenacious struggle. The greatest woe and misfortune of the Chinese people, that which makes it suffer and keeps your great nation in a position of almost a semi-colonial country—let me be frank with you—are the treaties which exist between China and the Imperialistic foreign Powers. These treaties have fettered your national liberty, happiness and welfare. The happiest event for your people will be to throw off these chains and conquer the same national freedom and independence as were achieved by the peoples of the Soviet Republics.

"Now, how ought the struggle to be carried on? You, who are but one part of the Chinese people, cannot do it by yourselves, though I do know that every one of you is ready to die, if necessary, for the happiness of your people. Your task is to make the great majority of the Chinese people understand your own conception of your people's welfare.

Drive Out Imperialism.

"You must, each of you, open the people's eyes on the Imperialistic treaties that stifle it, and in this respect you have an excellent arm in your hands in the shape of the Agreement just concluded; you must explain and compare it with those that are a bond upon the Chinese people. You must explain that the Agreement signed with the Soviet Union as an example of such treaties as China must strive to complete with all countries.

"We have driven Imperialism out of our country, but only then shall we be satisfied when there will not be a single oppressed nation in the world. When you will be strong enough to start the battle against the Imperialism, which is oppressing your country, you may be assured of the sympathies with your cause of the people of the Union.

"Long live the brotherhood of the peoples of China and the Union! Long live China, independent and free from Imperialism!"

RUSSIAN CHURCH PROPERTY

Soviet Claims on it in China: Private Property Not State: Archbishop's Protest

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 6.

Except for a reminder from the Russo-Asiatic Bank of the provisions in the Washington treaties relating to the Chinese Eastern Railway, the first protest against the Koo-Karakhan agreement comes from Archbishop Innocent of the Russian Orthdox Mission in Peking. The venerable prelate is making known his troubles all over the city and has protested to the foreign Legations against the clause in the Sino-Russian understanding which provides that the property of the Russian Church in Peking and at Patachu, near Peking, shall be transferred "as soon as the government of the U. S. S. R. will designate a Chinese person or organization, in accordance with the laws and regulations existing in China regarding property holding in the interior."

The basis of this transfer, says the Archishop, with truth, is an understanding between the two parties to the agreement that the property belongs to the Russian Government, whereas the fact continues, is that the rightful owner is the Mission itself. Presumably, the contention of the Soviet is that a mission that had such close affiliations with the State and as the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission—close enough to have acted as diplomatic agent for Russia in the early days of its intercourse with China—cannot have private holdings in Peking. But the Archbishop has prepared a statement which he says he is prepared to back up by documentary proof and which argues the ownership to be vested in the Mission as a private party. There does not seem to be any reason to doubt this contention, for the Archbishop says he is able to to establish that after the burning of the Mission during the Boxer outbreak, the property was rebuilt out of money provided by the Mission, and not by the Russian Government, and that the ownership is vested in the Mission as a missionarary enterprise.

But the Archbishop is not likely to get much sympathy from the Soviet Government, which has already a record for its antipathy to religious organizations, and the Chinese, in engaging themselves rather rudely to "clear" the property of its occupants, does not betray the same friendliness that once characterized the relations between Imperial China and the Russian Ecclesiatical Mission.

CAPTIVE OFFICERS OF THE YIHYANG MARU

Further Efforts to Obtain Their Release: Still at Tunghsinhsien

Peking, June 9.

Gen. Yang Sen has established his headquarters at Chêngtu, and has formally assumed the post of Tuli, while Gen. Teng Hsi-hao, the Civil Governor of Szechuan, has left Chêngtu for Chienyang to inspect his troops.

No later information has been received by the Japanese Legation regarding the two captured Japanese officers, who are supposed to be still at Tunghsinhsien. Gen. Tang Chi-yao has been asked to exert his influence towards securing the release of the officers by the Japanese Consul at Yunnanfu. Gen. Tang has telegraphed to two of his Generals in Kueichow, one at Pichiehhsien and the other at Tsunyi, instructing them to do what they can in the matter.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ANHUI FARMERS AND OPIUM SUPPRESSION

$500,000 Loss Through Uprooting of Poppy by Tuli Ma: 13 Bandit Heads

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Pochow, An., May 25.

In my last letter I referred regretfully to the fact that an exceedingly full opium crop was rapidly maturing and it was reported that place was to be visited by Governor Ma. Though it seemed but a report, a week ago to-day he arrived here from Pengpu by boat and his visit has been very effective. I understand that the poppies have been uprooted all over the county. I know they have in three different directions where I have been or heard about. I should not be surprised if this means a loss of half a million dollars to the farmers—this is what they would doubtless have realized on, say, three months' sales. This seems hard on the poor farmers, but I am glad that there is yet some semblance of authority "in spots" in China. It is stated that the *hsien* official was arrested and handcuffed, but that with "much money" he purchased his liberty. Four deputies sent here by Governor Ma are reported to have been taken handcuffed to Pengpu.

The Governor also seems to have lent his hand somewhat against banditry in the community. Yesterday morning 13 men were executed down by the river. Their hideous heads now decorate the walls by the various gates. These felons were said to have had the appearance of common country people.

An old friend at Yungcheng at whose foodshop I have taken meals for a good many years told me recently that after the tall grain is well grown the robbers will probably be worse than ever. It is now to be hoped they will have less inducement to come to Pochow county as the opium is destroyed and these 13 heads are exhibited here.

I passed through Kueitehfu two days ago and they were just exchanging troops, one party going and another coming in. The citizens had to pay the retiring body $6,000, so report says, to prevent a threatened loot.

There has been plenty of rain that has wonderfully improved the wheat prospects. Farmers are deeply grateful for this as it prevents what at one time seemed likely to be famine conditions.

CHANGSHA'S DAY OF SHAME

Students' Plea Not to Be Laughed at: Anxious News from Kuangsi

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Changsha, June 3.

The first anniversary of June 1 passed off with a very sorry sort of demonstration. The schoolboys are able to isolate ricsha coolies, and being able in practice to deal with them individually can order them at any time to stop work. The one noticeable feature of the "Changsha day of shame" was the absence of ricshas. I heard of a procession of some of the coolies carrying little white flags.

I also received one somewhat lengthy declaration from one of the city schools beseeching me not to laugh at any of the scholars whom I might meet weeping at the spot of shame.

The Kuangsi news we have is causing a flutter in the inner circles. After a lengthy stay in the city, the generals have all departed except Gen. Liu who is in command at this centre. There was no formal meeting with decisions communicated to the public. Of course, there were plenty of actual meetings of the military leaders in which every aspect of the attitude that should be taken up towards Wu Pei-fu was discussed. Outwardly, the Constitution under which Hunan is being governed is its own constitution, and its "independence" has not been fully revoked. No proclamations from any officials outside the province appear on any of the city boarding.

In regard to Kueilin, one of the provincial deputies has been officially sent by Gen. Chao to attempt to stay hostilities there. Should he fail, troops are being drafted to the southern border of the province. Gen. Ma Chi, himself a Kuangsi man, left for Yungchowfu last week.

The King's Birthday.

The King's birthday kept fine until afternoon so that all who could go to pay their respects to the Consul were enabled to do so comfortably; but between three and four it became wet. Although the river has not been exceptionally high, there has been an exceptional number of rainy days. As we have been reading in the daily papers of drought in many places, we ourselves have been wishing for a bit more sun.

YANGTZE SHIP ASHORE

M.-V. Pingan in Trouble near Chungchow

Ichang, June 6.

The motor-ship Ping An has gone on the rocks near Chungchow, and it is feared that she will be a total wreck.

The B. & S. str. Wanhsien, which was badly holed on her first trip up this season, was safely brought down to Ichang. It was found possible to repair her here by using a cofferdam.

Last year the military at Wanhsien instituted a tax of $2 a bale on cotton yarn to be paid by the shipping companies. There being no way of escape, they paid, knowing well enough that they would not be allowed to run their ships if they did not. This year the Chungking military officials are trying to impose a similar tax, but of $1 a bale, to be paid by the shippers.

The latter, however, are not willing to pay, and have wired to Ichang to stop shipping cargo. The result is that most of the ships are taking little but oil. The Shuhun came down last trip practically empty.

It is said that the Japanese ships are having difficulty in getting coal at Wanhsien and Chungking.

The King's Birthday was the occasion of a gathering of most of the foreign residents and several of the Chinese officials at the British Consulate, where Mr. Eastes dispensed the wherewithal to drink his Majesty's health.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

WEDDING

Clark-Jelvakova

A pretty wedding took place at St. Mark's Church, Wuhu, on May 9, when Mr. W. E. Clark, the popular Harbour Master at the port, was married to Miss Olgan Jelvakova, late of Hankow, and Tomsk, Siberia. The Rev. Vincent H. Gowen officiated.

The bride, who looked very charming in an elegant dress of white liberty silk, with veil to match, trimmed with artificial orange blossoms, was given away by Mr. R. Luff.

Miss May Clark, the bridegroom's youngest daughter, acted as a bridesmaid, and looked very pretty garbed in white silk, and carrying bunches of red roses, the gift of friends.

The weather was anything but propitious, but notwithstanding the little church was crowded by the local community who turned up in force to wish the happy pair "good luck."

The Consular ceremony took place on the previous day before the British Consul at Nanking.

The numerous silver and other presents included a handsome silver flower bowl, suitably inscribed, presented by the foreign and native Customs staff at Wuhu.

The Chinese staff, who generously subscribed towards the presents, provided a very liberal cracker display.

THE wedding of Miss Doreen Holmes, daughter of Mr. E. Hamilton Holmes, British Consul-General at Yokohama, to Lt. L. King, R.N., will take place on June 24 at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, London. Miss Wright, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Wright, who will arrive in London with her mother early in June, will be bridesmaid. The wedding reception will be held at the Forum Club, Grosvenor Place, of which both Mrs. Holmes and Miss Holmes are members. Many invitations will be issued to Japan friends in England to the wedding and reception.

FINE NEW HOSPITAL AT HUCHOW

Up-to-date Equipment at Cost of $200,000: Best in East China Out of Shanghai

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Huchow, Chê., June 4.

To-day marked the opening of the new plant of the Huchow Union Hospital. The plant includes hospital, out-patient buildings and power house. A building for the Chinese staff is already started. This plant which was constructed and equipped with every modern convenience throughout at a cost of nearly $200,000 is considered by competent men to be the finest hospital building in Chêkiang and Kiangsu provinces aside from Shanghai. In fact it would be hard to find one better in all China with the exception of Peking.

The main building is a very magnificent structure, fire proof construction, having wards amd rooms for 100 patients It contains a well equipped operating pavilion, laundry and kitchen. The latter attracts particular attention with its white tiled sinks and stoves. Modern bathrooms are generously supplied for wards and private rooms. Cold and hot water are in use in all the buildings.

The main building is connected by a covered passage way to the dispensary building which is a classical looking building in its style of architecture. It resembles a small Carnegie Library with its pillars and rounded balcony over the entrance.

Appropriate exercises were held in the Out-Patient Department when about 200 of the leading gentry, educators and preachers assembled. Many congratulatory scrolls were sent by noted men throughout the province and were hung around the inner balconies. Music was furnished by the band of the orphanage from a near-by town, by representatives of the School of Mothercraft and students from the Virginia School.

The main address was given by Dr. J. V. Latimer who for many years was connected with the Baptist work here. He traced the early history of medical work, mentioned the coming of Dr. Eubank of the Baptist Mission and later representatives of the Southern Methodist Mission including Dr. J. B. Fearn of Shanghai and later of Dr. Manget, Dr. C. D. Leach and Dr. Oscar Nelson who are all three now on the staff.

Appropriate remarks were made by the military and civil heads of the city, a message was read from the governor of the province, a ringing speech was made by the head of the Chamber of Commerce who seemed to find hope that through such an up-to-date plant manufacturers may be induced to come to Huchow. He closed by saying that this splendid institution may act like medicine through the assimilation of which all ills may be driven out.

The Chairman of the meeting, Rev. E. J. Pilley, reminded all of the splendid work of Dr. Sen of the staff and of Mr. Chang for so many years the efficient manager.

Many speakers spoke of the splendid co-operation that has existed between the various bodies that have made possible this achievement. The buildings have been put up by the Rockerfeller Board, the Southern Methodist Mission, and the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society. The land was in great part the gift of the local gentry who are represented equally with the two missions on the Board of the Hospital.

D'ANNUNZIO, who is said to have been one cause for Eleanora Duse's long retirement from the stage, addressed the following telegram to Sr. Mussolini on hearing of her death:—"Eleanora Duse's tragic destiny could not have been fulfilled in a more tragic manner. Far from Italy the most Italian of hearts has ceased to beat. I beg you that the adored remains be restored to Italy at the expense of the State. I am sure that the sorrow which I feel is felt by all Italians." Mussolini's reply revealed that a year ago the Italian Government offered Eleanora Duse a pension in order that she might not be forced to leave Italy again, but the pension was refused.

JAPANESE CABINET RESIGNS

Three Principal Parties Too Evenly Balanced: Who Will Carry on?

Tokio, June 6.

With the Imperial wedding festivities completed, attention is reverting to politics and the Cabinet changes which, according to unanimous opinion, are imminent.

While nothing official is available, statements claiming to be reliable declare that Viscount Kiyoura has determined that, the purpose of his Ministry having been completed, he will resign not later than June 10, and perhaps earlier. It is understood that this determination has been taken in spite of the attempts of a section of the Cabinet to win over sufficient support to maintain the Ministry. These have apparently failed in spite of the Government party, the Seiyuhonto, that the Ministry should meet the Diet and announce its policies, which have not yet been made public, thereafter deciding whether it should stand or fall.

[illegible] manœuvring since the elections has been as usual complicated. With the three principal parties so evenly balanced any combination considered a possibility and rumours of different combinations and splits have been rife. A fairly constant and confident prediction, however, is that Baron Kato, of the Kenseikai, will succeed Viscount Kiyoura as Premier, but whether the Cabinet will be purely a party one or a coalition remains to be seen.

The registered strength of the parties in the Diet is as follows:—

Kenseikai	155
Seiyuhonto	119
Seiyukai	101
Kakushin Club	29
Business men	[illegible]
Chusei Club (which is a new combination of neutrals)	39
Absolute neutrals	13

Tokio, June 7.

An extraordinary Cabinet meeting is being held this afternoon for the final adjustment of business, after which it is confidently expected that their resignation will be tendered.

Later.

Immediately after the meeting of the Cabinet to-day the Premier went to the Palace and tendered the resignation of the Cabinet.

Later.

The Court Chamberlain, Prince Tokugawa, by order of the Regent, went to Kioto this evening to consult the Genro, Prince Saionji, who is too ill to come to Tokio. This, according to custom, will delay the appointment of a successor to the Premiership two or three days.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, June 8.

Baron Matsui, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, has been created member of the House of Peers.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Viscount Kato Instructed to Form a Cabinet

Tokio, June 9.

According to general expectation, the Regent to-day summoned Viscount Kato, the Kenseikai leader, and instructed him to form a Cabinet. Viscount Kato accepted.

Interest now centres on whether he will select Cabinet Ministers from his own supporters or call on the co-operation of the Seiyukai and the Kakushin Club. Prior to Viscount Kiyoura's resignation, Viscount Kato was in constant conference with Mr. Takahashi and Mr. Inukai, the leaders of the Seiyukai and the Kakushin Club respectively, which lends colour to the belief that the next Government will be a coalition. It is further believed that the Kenseikai itself [illegible]

Later.

After leaving the Palace, Viscount Kato visited Mr. Takahashi, the leader of the Seiyukai, and Mr. Inukai, the leader of the Kokushin Club, for consultation about the new Cabinet.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, June 9.

With reference to the formation of a new Cabinet under the Premiership of Viscount Kato, M. Karakhan stated that with the formation of the Kato Cabinet, the Russo-Japanese negotiations would no doubt make rapid progress and that it was with this expectation that he would gladly accord a welcome to the Kato Cabinet.—Eastern News Agency.

Conference of Party Leaders with a View to Forming a Coalition

Tokio, June 10.

Welcoming the selection of Viscount Kato as the next Prime Minister, this morning's newspapers practically unanimously exhort him to lay aside party preferences and establish a really strong three-party Ministry in order to effect proper handling of foreign and domestic problems. At the same time they warn the parties against their ancient feuds and dissensions.

The party leaders are at present holding conferences to explore the possibility of forming a coalition. The difficulty is said to be the question of allocation of portfolios amongst the parties.

Baron Shidehara, the former Ambassador to the United States, is most prominently mentioned for the Foreign Office, and Admiral Takarabe for the Ministry of the Navy, while it is understood that General Ugaki will remain Minister of War.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Personnel of Viscount Kato's New Ministry Now Announced

Tokio, June 10.

The personnel of the Kato Cabinet has been definitely decided upon as follows:—

Premier, Viscount Kato.
Home Affairs, Mr. Reijiro Wakatsuki.
Finance, Mr. Yuko Hamaguchi.
Navy, Admiral Takeshi Takarabe.
War, Lieut.-Gen. Ugaki.
Foreign Affairs, Baron Kijuro Shidehara.
Agriculture and Commerce, Mr. Korekiyo Takahashi.
Communications, Mr. Takeshi Inukai.
Justice, Mr. Sennosuke Yokota.
Education, Mr. Ryohei Okada.
Railways, Dr. Mitsugi Sengoku.

It has been decided that the installation ceremony will take place in the Imperial Palace to-morrow morning.—Eastern News Agency.

Tokio, June 10.

It is noteworthy that Mr. Takahashi and Mr. Inukai, the leaders of the Seiyukai and the Kakushin Club respectively, are content with less important portfolios in the Japanese Cabinet. The new Minister of Justice is also a member of the Seiyukai, while the Minister of Education is a peer.

Inauguration of the new Government takes place to-morrow morning.

New Cabinet's Warm Welcome

June 11.

The Cabinet, which is being installed at the Palace this afternoon, is greeted with satisfaction by all shades of political and financial opinion, though occasionally the customary objection to a coalition is raised. Public opinion especially welcomes the inclusion of Mr. Inukai and Mr. Takahashi, to the latter of whom a notable tribute is paid for his having abandoned the claims he might have made as ex-Premier and accepting a post of lesser importance.

The "*Jiji*" says: "If the formation of the Ministry reflects the solidarity of the three parties, there is reason to hope that the spirit of co-operation manifested will enable the carrying out with resolution of domestic and foreign policies."

The "*Kokumin*" declares that to former Ministry has ever so well represented the will of the people and it looks to the future with confidence.

The "*Miyako*" expects much from [illegible]

The "Hochi" points out the tremendous power wielded by the Cabinet and the majority in the Diet and hopes that that power will be exercised with discretion.

Viscount Goto's Optimism.

Viscount Goto declares that the Cabinet is ideal. The promptness with which it was formed testifies to the unity and harmony pervading the three parties. He says that the men elected represent the highest type of statesmanship and Japan may be congratulated on her new Government.

Later.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Baron Shidehara, who made a statement to the press to-day, admitted that very difficult problems confronted him and that more difficult problems were, perhaps, coming. However, his policy would not be Machiavellian or aggressive, but along the path of justice and peace.

He said that he was not afraid to seek to realize the mission of the Empire by observing the lofty spirit revealed in the treaties of Versailles and of Washington.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SILKWORM INDUSTRY IN JAPAN

A Government Subsidy Applied For

Tokio, May 31.

Silkworm-rearers of Japan are now in conference, and to-day adopted a resolution to apply to the Government for a subsidy of Y. 10,000,000 to resuscitate the industry, which, it is claimed, suffered a severe set-back after last September's disaster, and is still further threatened by the untoward developments in Japanese-American relations as the outcome of the Immigration legislation by the American Congress.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LABOUR REFORMS BY TSINGTAO GOVERNOR

Limited Hours and Wage Scale: Large Haul of Smuggled Arms and Opium

Tsingtao, June 5.

The Governor, Mr. Kao En-hung, has promulgated a set of regulations governing relations between employers and employees. They provide that employers seeking labour must state the number of working hours and the wage scale: in a case of misunderstanding there shall be peaceful adjustment of all disputes and no violence: before a labourer can be discharged proper warning must be given and his wages must be paid to the date of his dismissal: no labourer must be punished by his employer but be handed over to the police: any employer guilty of harsh treatment of an employee shall be tried and punished.

Plans are maturing for the establishment of a University here. The Bismarck Barracks are suggested as suitable for the purpose and are being renovated. They will afford accommodation for several thousand students.

Arrangements are being made to hold a Child Welfare Week, commencing on June 19, which will include a baby show.

There have been several arrests of opium smugglers recently. The latest captures were made on successive days on the Kiao-Tsi Railway. A waiter in a dining-car was found in possession of two packets of opium, containing 160 ounces, and the next day 60 ounces were found in a basket carried by a woman passenger.

A large haul of arms and ammunition has been made by the harbour police. Their attention was directed to a godown from which large boxes were being removed. The police examined the boxes and found them to contain several hundred rifles and thousands of rounds of ammunition. The owner of the garage and his employees, who are all Japanese, have been handed over to their Consular authorities.

The Governor has taken up the matter of establishing a through freight service between the Kiao-Tsi and Tientsin-Pukow Railways. Some alterations in the station platforms and railway yards at Tsinan will be necessary. It is reported that the Ministry of Communications approves the proposal.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE rate for the collection of fees at the United States Consulate-General has been re-established for the current month as follows:—U. S. $1 equals Mexican $1.95, U. S. $2 equal Mexican $3.90, U. S. $2.50 equal Mexican $4.88, U. S. $5 equal Mexican $9.75, U. S. $7 equal Mexican $13.65, U. S. $9 equal Mexican $17.55, U. S. $10 equal Mexican $19.50.

THE NEW PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN

A Sketch of Viscount Kato: The Business World of Japan Comes into Its Own in the Work of Government

BY OUR TOKIO CORRESPONDENT.

Born of an old Samurai family named Hattori, in Nagoya in 1860, Viscount Kato, the new premier, is now 62 years of age. He is closely connected with the Iwasaki family—whose three firms, the Mitsu Bussan, the Mitsu Bishi and the Mitsu Gomei are world wide—having married the eldest daughter of the house. The Iwasakis are the Rothschilds of Japan. Viscount Kato's name is best known to foreigners in connexion with the revision of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance in the concluding of which he played a major part, and in connexion with the much-discussed Twenty-One Demands which he, when Foreign Minister in the Okuma Cabinet, presented to China in 1915.

The significance in the appointment of Viscount Kato to guide the Japanese ship of state lies in the fact that, through him, the financial and business interests of the Empire have now stepped into a position in which, if they do not have full control of the affairs of the nation, they certainly occupy a position of immense advantage and are on a par with the clan chieftains who, hitherto, have had the biggest say in the political life of Japan. Family and clan connexions are of paramount importance in Japan still, as may well be imagined when it is remembered that all life in Japan, political, social, commercial, hinges on the family system and these connexions completely eclipse party affiliations. Viscount Kato's alliance with the rich Iwasaki family by marriage, one can safely say, is bound to increase the influence of the commercial and business element of the country in the nation's affairs. It is still premature to try to pierce the future, but the indications are that the commercial barons and merchant princes of the Empire are well on the way to unseat the clan chieftains. The battle between these elements has been pronounced and protracted, and the appointment of Viscount Kato can be regarded as a signal victory of a new order over the old that did yeoman service in the past, but that the nation thinks has now outgrown its usefulness.

The nation has already begun to call the Kato Cabinet the "Iwasaki Ministry." Baron Shidehara, for several years Japan's representative at Washington, who is now Foreign Minister in Viscount Kato's official family, is also closely connected with the Iwasaki interests, for Baron Shidehara, like his chief, married a daughter of the Rothschilds of Japan. Thus the Premier of Japan and his Foreign Minister are brothers-in-law—for the first time in the country's history.

Statesman of British Type.

The new Premier is a statesman of the British type and his fond boast is that "next to a Japanese I would rather be an English gentleman." Viscount Kato rounded out his education in England and was Japan's representative at the Court of St. James for many years.

After he had graduated from the Tokio Imperial University, young Hattori (the name Kato was assumed after he was adopted by the Iwasaki family) joined the Nippon Yusen Kaisha as a clerk. His worth was soon recognized by the late Mr. Kotaro Iwasaki, father of Baron Iwasaki, the present head of the world-wide Iwasaki interests. He adopted the young man into his family, gave him his daughter in marriage and launched him on a diplomatic career by finding him a place in the Finance Ministry. Promotion came swiftly. He was soon made head of the Foreign Office commercial bureau, became private secretary to the late Marquis Okuma who—shrewd judge of people—held the young man in the highest esteem, and was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. James.

The present Premier held a Cabinet portfolio for the first time in 1900 when he was made Foreign Minister in the fourth Ministry organized by the late Prince Ito, known as the father of Japan's constitution. Mr. Kato was then in his forties and enjoys the distinction of being the youngest Foreign Minister that Japan has yet had.

Business in Diplomacy.

He has held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs four times since, and brought into the administration of his department a brusque and businesslike manner. Diplomats abroad are said to have complained that the Foreign Minister treated them as though they were subordinate clerks in the Foreign Office.

For many years Kato enjoyed immense popularity. The first rebuff he met was in 1906 when he refused to consent to the nationalization of the railways of the country. He was accused of catering to the interests of the Iwasakis and preferring the interests of the family with which he was connected by marriage to those of the Empire, and, although no evidence was produced to support the charge, the outcry against him was so vehement that he was forced to resign.

He then went into the newspaper business and purchased the "*Tokio Nichi Nichi*" ("Tokio Daily News") which was then under different proprietorship to what it is now. The Iwasakis supported him in his journalistic venture, but it proved only a flash in the pan.

After a period of comparative obscurity, he was offered the Ambassadorship to Great Britain where he had been before as Minister Plenipotentiary. He readily accepted, declaring that nothing pleased him more at the time than to go "to my second home."

The Twenty-one Demands.

When the European War broke out, Marquis Okuma was Premier and made Viscount Kato his Foreign Minister. It was then that the famous Twenty-One Demands were presented to China. A scandal in connexion with the general elections held while the Okuma Cabinet was in power led to the fall of that Ministry. Marquis Okuma, on resigning, recommended to the Throne Viscount Kato as his successor. The clan chieftains and the Elder Statesmen, however, disagreed with the recommendation and Field-Marshal Terauchi, during whose *régime* Japan played a lone and ill-starred rôle in Siberia, stepped into the shoes of Marquis Okuma.

For several 10 years after this Viscount Kato kept out of the Government, but was very active as an Opposition politician.

Kato was made a baron in connexion with the revision of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance and a Viscount in relation to the recent war. He is a fluent, but careful, specially when discussing politics. His language is the quintessence of politeness, but he can use sarcasm with sufficient effect to make an adversary squirm. Viscount Kato is committed to giving the manhood of Japan the franchise.

If the appointment of Viscount Kato means the disruption of the balance of power held by the various clans; and the growing consciousness that Japan's future really lies in the hands of her bankers, merchants and economists rather than in those of the military hierarchy, then the appointment is not merely a step forward, but an augury of good. It is also the beginning of the end of the absolute control that the Genro (Elder Statesmen) have for so long wielded, and ushers in the dawn of responsible, party government.

"TROUBLE-MAKERS will be arrested and shot without hope of pardon." Thus reads a proclamation by Marshal Hsiao Yao-man at Hankow with reference to the agitation there over the affairs of the Electic Light and Waterworks Co. The Marshal says that those who wish to complain of the alleged irregularities of the company must do so through the proper legal channels. Any other demonstration of disfavour is a capital crime!

A Reuter's message dated Peking the 5th instant, states that the plans being made for the establishment of a British School in Peking are proceeding satisfactorily. A prospectus giving full particulars about the school will be issued later and in the meantime parents who have prospective pupils are asked to communicate with Miss Leach, former Austro-Hungarian Legation. If the response warrants it, a kindergarten class will be formed.

CHINA'S TWENTY YEARS' OCCUPATION OF THE TIBETAN BORDER

The Jealousies of Two Rival Generals: Lives and Property Sacrificed: A Melancholy Review

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tachienlu, April 30.

The Chinese administration on the Tibetan frontier shows every symptom of a serious and immediate collapse. Wu Pei-fu, we are informed, has appointed Liu Hsiang as Border Commissioner. When Liu Hsiang, if he ever does so, will take up his position on the frontier is still a very remote proposition. The road from Tachienlu to the outside world has now been closed to the general public for six long weeks; when it will open is still somewhat uncertain. Chen Hsia-lin with 10,000 men and Liu I-chiu with 20,000 men have placed themselves right across this part of China and are playing a very keen game of "Somebody to move and win." In the meantime, mails, trade, and commerce are entirely suspended and the merchants are anxiously waiting to see what will be the final outcome of the present struggle.

That the merchants, Tibetan and Chinese, have no interest in the present dispute is certain, it being a purely personal affair between Chen and Liu: an old border animosity and a present geographic difference. If Versailles would only function, the present dispute might be amicably settled. Chen wants this and Liu wants that and as in all Chinese affairs a compromise will ultimately be arranged. Our only grievance is the dislocation of the mail service and the abnormal rise in the price of eggs. Apparently the altitude seriously affects the hens and we almost entirely depend on our supply of eggs from the outside world.

An Insane Quarrel.

The absolute insanity of the present struggle also impresses us: why thousands of men should be

Chen Hsia-lin, Border Commissioner.

carelessly used and their lives jeopardized simply to settle the difference of two opposing generals can only be answered by the innocent, unassuming term, China. The difference between these two generals goes back some time, perhaps to 1916, and apparently they are still very unwilling to let bygones be bygones and shake hands as friends. It is somewhat difficult to understand but not difficult to visualize—on one side of a pass 9,000 feet high lies Chen's army and on the other Liu's army and for now nearly two months these two old border warriors will yield not one single point in spirit, temper, or attitude. China, Szechuan, the Border, may go to Timbuctoo till this present personal grievance is settled. We cannot understand why Yang Sen, Wu Pei-fu, and Tsao Kun should allow the present struggle to continue.

The Opium Prize.

The other generals throughout the province have enough to do to look after themselves so take very little interest in border affairs. The frontier position is not very lucrative and is almost entirely dependent on Tibetan imports and exports and opium grown along the border. They say that $100,000 can be collected from opium along the Chino-Tibetan frontier. Whoever controls the revenue from opium produced by the Lolos controls the largest market in China. The Lolos grow it abundantly and sell it to the Chinese. Liu I-chiu has his keen eye on this means of revenue and since his army needs an occasional remuneration, he is quite prepared foolishly to sacrifice thousands of young lives to get it. If these two generals with their armies would devote their skill and energy to exterminating this mephitic haunt of destruction they would go down in history as men who had served

Taoyin of the Tibetan Border.

their day and generation. But? Unfortunately extermination is not the watchword but appropriation. In China nothing becomes gold quicker than opium and the Chinese army will uphold the ancient traditions of the Celestial Empire if paid in either substance. The quarrel between Liu and Chen becomes exceedingly intricate and has a personal, political, and financial bearing, and the word army may lie at the root.

China's Hold on the Border.

Eastern Tibet without a Chinese army gives us an opportunity to review afresh the whole frontier situation. China has occupied Eastern Tibet with a military force for nearly 20 years and what has she accomplished? We might say the influence of the occupation in Eastern Tibet has been purely negative: politically this is probably true; morally and financially, the influence of the Chinese army of occupation has been by no means of a negative quantity or quality.

Politically, there is no question at issue. A Chinese Imperial Amban was murdered near Batang and as a punishment for this crime China annexed Eastern Tibet. That is the simple and whole question in a nutshell. Before the subjugation Eastern Tibet leaned constantly and heavily towards China, and since, as far as we can see, has continued to do so. The sympathies of Eastern Tibet, including the three classes of the people, lama, nomad, merchant, are strongly with China and we believe will continue to remain so. On this part of the Chinese border nothing is more true that the expression "Distance lends enchantment to the view." Peking is a long way from Eastern Tibet and by the laws of heredity the Tibetans have inherited a holy and wholesome fear of anything and everything that emanates from that sacred capital.

The Lamas Pro-Chinese.

The great lamaseries with their thousands of lamas are openly friendly to China. Litang, Kanze, and Derge are all important and opulent centres and no doubt would be prepared to defend China's rights with their lives. Those lamaistic *rendezvous*, are too significant and too wealthy to run the risk of incurring the displeasure of China. Self preservation is an important question and perhaps dominates every other where the lama's skin is concerned. Politically therefore there is no tremendous issue involved and who rules Eastern Tibet is quite unimportant so long as there is peace and harmony. The lama has few interests outside his temple; the nomad's one concern is grass outside his tent; the merchant's one anxiety is a plentiful supply of good Chinese tea. Temple, tent, and tea will cover a multitude of sins and will, we believe, insure the peace and quietness of Eastern Tibet.

Financially, Eastern Tibet, in the broker's language is "No go." Chinese generals have come and gone and so has Chinese silver. From a Chinese standpoint there is absolutely nothing but desolation and ruin to be seen throughout Eastern Tibet.

A Wicked Destruction.

Take one single instance. Fourteen years ago two French engineers constructed a very handsome suspension bridge across the Yalong. It cost China the round sum of Tls. 150,000 and M. Keruel and M. Aufrey two years' strenuous and dangerous work. Two Chinese generals had a difference of opinion—a question of ability—one got the start for Tachienlu and so that the other might not overtake him he sent Keruel's beautiful suspension bridge to the bottom of the Yalong. We talk about the Scotchman's experience in London: the end of this expensive bridge was rather more sudden.

Take another instance. Batang is 18 stages beyond Tachienlu. Thirteen high passes, with heights ranging from 14,000 to 18,000 feet, have to be crossed. The journey between this city and Batang is perhaps one of the most arduous in the whole of Asia. Along this dangerous road H. E. Chao built a palatial rest house every 30 li (ten Engllish miles). With the exception of one or two, these handsome rest houses have been demolished. The journey between this city and Batang is now impossible and the road to that town in the heart of Asia is now *viâ* Yunnan and Talifu.

Temples, lamaseries and settlements have all suffered and largely, very largely, because one Chinese general had a grievance with another. Take one more instance. Eastern Tibet is now an armed camp. Where did all the modern rifles come from? On one occasion 2,000 of Yuan Chang-hen's soldiers were surrounded, disarmed and sent back to Tachienlu. Similar incidents have now been going on

The Tachienlu Magistrate.

for over 10 years. Financially, if China were not so wealthy she would bend or break under the burden.

The army of occupation has steadily retarded every Chinese commercial enterprise. Under the old *régime*, merchants from north China lived peacefully in every part of the interior. This is now impossible and these hardy Shensi merchants have had to abandon much of their trade in Eastern Tibet. Along the north Lhasa road those frugal Shensi merchants still carry on a very lucrative trade in musk, furs and tea; along the old Amban road to Lhasa the north China merchants have practically given up trade.

Mixed Marriages and Bandits.

Morally, the army of occupation has created a very peculiar situation. During the past 15 years between 5,000 and 10,000 Chinese soldiers have occupied different strategic points throughout Eastern Tibet and most if not all have been powerfully obsessed by the beauty and charm of Tibetan girls. Marriages between Chinese soldiers and Tibetan women became very common and to-day Eastern Tibet has a population leaning both ways. Troops have been frequently moved about and so have those poor Tibetan women. The American and French missionaries throughout Eastern Tibet have done and are doing a good work among those boys and girls. The Chinese troops move on; the women and children are left behind. The soldier goes off at his country's call to fight Liu I-chiu or anybody and leaves his off-spring to the tender care of Providence. The children grow up as we see them around us to-day, 12, 14, 16 years old; some become lamas, others act as interpreters to the different armies, and the majority, sad to say, become brigands. No country claims them and no parents control them and as they must live they select one of those three occupations.

Thus the army of occupation has produced in Eastern Tibet a peculiar situation for which it takes entirely no responsibility. China has enough problems at the present moment without embarrassing herself with any more and the thousands of boys and girls can just grow—well, anyhow. Unfortunately anything growing by itself has a natural tendency to grow wild and but for the absorbing power of the lamaseries the situation would be more difficult than it is.

EFFORTS TO STEM ANTI-FOREIGNISM IN WUCHANG

Student Peace Delegation Going to Japan

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Hup., June 6.

An incident which occurred a few days ago in Hankow shows how easily a mere spark may fan into a blaze the present anti-foreign feeling. The affair began with four coolies, resting on the steps in front of a Japanese trading depôt in the native city. They may have been spitting; they may have been gambling; or they may have been simply slumbering in the sunshine, after the way of coolies who are tired. Anyway, they were not ornamental, and one of the Japanese merchants stepped out and asked them to move on. The coolies refused to budge, whereupon the Japanese kicked one of them. The coolies in return fell upon their enemy and began to beat him, when his partner ran out to his assistance. Naturally, a crowd began to collect who were all angry with the Japanese, and the latter are said to have produced knives and begun to lay about them, wounding three of the Chinese. By this time the crowd numbered two or three hundred and they surrounded the shop, in which the two Japanese had taken refuge. A small body of 20 police who had collected were quite unable to cope with the numbers. In the end, a company of soldiers appeared, who dispersed the mob, arresting about a score of them. The three wounded Chinese were carried off to hospital.

It is pleasing to hear that, in more responsible circles, some effort is being made to bring about a better state of international feeling. A deputation of students from most of the leading centres of North China is about to be sent to Japan on a friendly visit. They will visit Tokio and other big centres, and will be received on terms of friendship by many of their Japanese fellow-students. No better means could be thought of for trying to promote international friendship, and if the Chinese delegates come back to their homes with good impressions of their neighbours, this may be the beginning of a better state of affairs. The eight leading government schools of Wuchang have been asked to select one delegate each for this tour, and one teacher to accompany them.

MISSIONARIES WOUNDED IN CHANGSHA

Peking, June 10.

A Consular report from Changsha of yesterday's date says that during factional fighting at Shenchowfu, Western Hunan, two American missionaries, Messrs. George R. Snyder and Carl H. Beck of the Reformed Church of the United States Mission, were each wounded by a bullet in the left arm. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

Two women bandits are said to be rampant at Shiuchichuan, outside Puanganmen. Armed with swords and dressed in short coats with their heads veiled in blue cloth they have recently been committing robberies. Both are said to be quite young.

PANCHAN LAMA AT LANCHOW

Trouble with His Temporal Peer Real Motive for Peking Journey?

From Our Own Correspondent.

Lanchowfu, Kansu, May 28.

There is considerable flutter in official circles in Lanchow over the expected arrival of the Panchan Living Buddha. It will be known to those who take an interest in things Tibetan, that the Panchan Buddha is regarded as being on an equal rank, or possibly even higher in rank than the Dalai Lama. However, the Dalai Lama retains in his own hands the whole of the executive power, and the Panchan Buddha is regarded as too sacrosanct to meddle with human or mundane affairs, so that politically he is of small account for the moment. But it is perhaps worth remembering that 60 years ago, in Japan somewhat similar arrangement existed, whereby the Emperor delegated all real authority to the Shogun. And that by a master stroke the Shogun's power was overthrown, and the Emperor became all powerful.

In a like manner, it is within the bounds of possibility that the Panchan Buddha will "find his representative, the Dalai Lama, is managing worldly affairs unworthily, and come forward himself to the deliverance of mankind." It is known that the Panchan Buddha had some trouble with the Dalai Lama in Llasa, and started off for Urga, the capital of Outer Mongolia. The Chinese authorities, however, persuaded him to travel *via* Peking, and he is expected in Lanchow next week. Mr. Tong, brother of the Governor here, has been sent from Peking to meet him here. What the prime motive of this is, it is hard to say. It may merely be honour to an exalted guest, or it may be the Chinese wish a counterpoise to the so-called pro-British activities of the Dalai Lama.

Arrogance of Dalai Lama.

The people here remember with some apprehension the visit of the Dalai Lama some years ago—the *hauteur* and arrogance of his entourage, and the devastation they wrought by eating the best of everything, and paying nothing. As he passed, all had to kneel on the ground,—even the great Viceroy, who went out to meet him in his chair, had to get out and kneel, and had no notice taken of him. The Dalai Lama swept by him as if he were a mere dog in the gutter. Those who did not kneel were promptly beaten, and the indignities put upon the people are not easily forgotten.

Motor-road for Kansu.

Mr. Tong, the Governor's brother aforementioned, is also to look into the practicability of the proposed motor-road across the mountains to Sianfu. Many of us fear that the present Government will make a bungle of this undertaking, which properly constructed, would cost $8,000,000. But poorly made, we have no doubt that every summer flood will make it impassable, and it will stand as a monument to the colossal lack of thoroughness of the Chinese official. We believe a motor-road could be run from Lanchow *via* Ningsin to the railhead at Paotou, at far lass expense and with far fewer gradients and with far less risk washouts. Can the Central Government not insist on a careful examination of the two routes?

Lanchow, June 9.

The Panchan Lama arrived here this afternoon.—From Our own Correspondent.

Allegations of the most revolting cruelty have been made against Governor Ma Fuhsiang, of Kashgar, by the Tuchun of Sinkiang, Gen. Yang Tseng-hsin, in a telegram to the Central Government, according to Chung Mei Service. Gen. Ma is accused by the Tuchun of cutting off the hands and feet of eight local people to show his authority. Gen. Yang says Ma calls himself "Pahsia," which means emperor, a title not permitted under the Republic, and making such an act one of a traitor and unpardonable. Gen. Yang concludes with the information that he has sent officers in investigate the charges against the Governor and, unless he abolishes his title, he will resort to military force in dealing with him, so that the border may be restored to peace once again.

AMERICAN AVIATORS IN HONGKONG

Bad Weather After Amoy and Arrival Just Ahead of a Threatening Typhoon

Amoy, June 7.

The American aviators landed at the Island Ping Fong at 11.20 a.m. for fuel and food. They left again for Amoy at 1.49 p.m., arriving at Amoy at 4.30 p.m.

Lieut. Smith reports that the weather was very good and the trip excellent. He says that it is the second good day since they left the United States.

The aviators intend to leave Amoy at about 9 o'clock to-morrow morning, if the weather allows it. A typhoon has been reported about 200 miles south of Hongkong; however, neither its intensity nor direction is known. The weather at Amoy is clear and the aeroplanes are running.

June 8.

The three American aeroplanes left Amoy for Hongkong at 9.17 this morning. The weather was excellent.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The Arrival in Hongkong

Hongkong, June 8.

The American fliers arrived at 12.30 p.m.

Lieut. Smith told Reuter's correspondent that they had encountered bad weather half-way from Amoy. Rain and fog lasted for an hour. Otherwise the weather was very good. The airmen made a perfect landing.

A typhoon was threatening in the vicinity last night. It had blown over this morning, but the rain is continuous and dark and lowering clouds are making the visibility bad. The sea is choppy. The Standard Oil Company, which is in charge of all arrangements, has its preparations for the provisioning and service of the airmen complete. The airmen will probably call at Government House after their arrival.

Later.

The clouds lifted at 12.30 p.m. and the leader's aeroplane was sighted over the harbour approaching the landing area. It was closely followed, at a lower altitude, by the other two aeroplanes. Obviously they had difficulty in discerning the landing place, which was three miles from the Hongkong Island. The United States destroyer Paul Jones heliographed and eventually attracted the aeroplanes. The service lighter, which was moored at Laichikok Bay, fired a signal gun and the aviators steered to the bay with perfect grace. The aeroplane No. 2 was the first to alight.

The Governor's steam tender, with the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the United States Consul-General and Mrs. Gale on board, steamed up to Lieut. Smith's mooring, while Mr. J. A. Shaw, the representative of the Standard Oil Company, visited each aeroplane successively, attending to them and rendering service, assisted by sailors from the Paul Jones, which was moored at the boundary of the landing area in case of emergency. One of the pinnaces from the Paul Jones took off the aviators to the service lighter, to which they were transferred and where they received the congratulations of the representatives of the American men and women.

Commodore Grace, the Head of the Naval Establishments, who came up aboard the Admiralty launch, asked: "Can I be of service to you?"

After that the aviators went on board the Paul Jones.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Hongkong, June 9.

Lieut. Smith is effecting a change in the pontoon of his plane. The Taikoo Dock Company and the British Admiralty are giving assistance in lifting the plane for the pontoon to be taken off. It is expected that the change will be completed in time for the departure of the aviators on Tuesday morning. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

Hongkong, June 9.

One of the American aviators, Lieut. Wade, this evening called on the Governor, who congratulated the flyers and wished them the best of luck.

June 10.

The American airmen left for Haiphong at 10.17 this morning.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

NORTHERN OCCUPATION OF HUNAN

Troop Movements Daily: Public Sale of Opium

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Siangtan, Hu., June 3.

There have been constant movements of troops here during the last few days, indicating that the Northern forces are to be stationed here. This seems quite probable, for Marshal Wu Pei-fu undoubtedly is strengthening his position in the province.

The other day I visited Hsianghsiang county on the road to Paoching and the west. According to Chinese estimates no fewer than 3,000 loads of opium have passed over this road to Siangtan this year. Inns and small shops along this road, and all roads of any consequence for that matter, display lamps and openly sell opium. My carrier stopped three times to smoke opium while on a journey of 60 li. One could see the young smoking everywhere—youths who had evidently just become addicts to the drug.

The Tong Shan Hsae Society has been most active in some country districts about Siangtan and Hsianghsiang recently. At a small town on a big highway, a three-day feast was held. Men, women, and children from 30 or 40 li around came to this celebration, which was simply a demonstration with a view to increasing the society's membership. Women, dressed in their best and powdered and painted and bejewelled, were much in evidence. One dollar and 60 cents was the fee for entrance and 1,000 cash the fee for the feast. Each day there were 40 tables of feasters. It is said that the great political background of this society is desire to reinstate the monarchy.

Celebrating Shame Day.

On June 1 the students in all the schools of Hsianghsiang had a celebration on the occasion of the great national disgrace day, and also in memory of one or two people killed by the Japanese in Changsha last June. Each school marched for hours about the city in double file. Every two scholars had the characters for shame pinned on their clothes and carried banners and flags. It all ended up by a play called "Enlightened." The general tenor of the affair did not seem to show forth much sorrow or shame. Indeed it seemed as though all were having great good time.

A case of awful cruelty came to the notice of the hospital here recently. A countryman was taken and cruelly beaten by soldiers. Afterwards heavy weights were put on his back. For hours he was left in a most awful condition. The poor fellow grabbed old pieces of crockery and tried to cut his throat. He was brought to the hospital by soldiers, whose story was that he was a bandit, but it turns out that the soldiers themselves were trying to get something out of him and took this cruel way to try to export his wealth from him. Becoming frightened at what they had done they brought the man to the hospital for treatment. Such cruelty is in keeping with the general lawlessness of the soldiers. They simply cannot seem to think that anyone but themselves have the right to liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN PEKING

Residents Warned to Boil all Milk Before Use

Peking, June 5.

The following notice is issued by the Administrative Commission of the Diplomatic Quarter:—

Owing to cases of foot and mouth disease having appeared amongst the cows of Peking, and one foreign resident having been infected, residents are reminded that it is absolutely necessary to boil all milk before use.

(Signed) W. H. Graham Aspland, Medical Officer of Health of the Diplomatic Quarter.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TELEGRAMS from Tientsin indicate that Japanese residents of Tientsin are about to advocate a boycott of American goods.

JAPAN'S SURPLUS POPULATION

The Necessity for a Proper Outlet: Possibilities of Hokkaido

Tokio, June 3.

Finding a proper outlet for Japan's surplus and increasing population is one of the most serious problems that this country is faced with, according to the report of the Immigration Sub-committee of the new Imperial Economic Board, which has just submitted its recommendations to the major body for consideration.

Fully recognizing the importance of the problem, the sub-committee has drawn up a comprehensive list of suggestions, the execution of which is believed to be necessary, if a successful emigration policy is to be inaugurated, from the point of view of the administration and of the emigrants themselves.

Looking at the problem from a domestic view-point, the sub-committee recommends a more extensive emigration to the northern districts known as Hokkaido, which at present has a population of 2,400,000, whereas space can be found there for over 4,000,000.

But it is clearly indicated that little success would attend any efforts to people these districts, unless special attention is paid to the needs of settlers there, particularly in the matter of communications and banking facilities.

The Committe therefore recommends that communications between the mainland and Hokkaido should be speeded up and developed, that the railway system should be extended, either by Government enterprise or by subsidy to private concerns, and that railway freights should be reduced to the lowest practicable level.

At the same time the establishment of a special colonial bank is recommended.

For the settlers themselves, the authorities are urged to consider means of more favourable terms of settlement and to encourage the setting up of industrial guilds.

The lack of knowledge as to conditions and possibilities in Hokkaido among the Japanese people generally is pointed out, and those appointed to supervise emigration are recommended to make the districts better known by means of judicious propaganda.

Emigration to Other Countries.

The other aspect of emigration, namely to foreign countries, has also been taken into consideration by the Committee, which, however, in its report so far published, has not indicated any directions in which Japanese people might migrate, except to say that emigration should be encouraged to those countries where Japanese are acceptable, and after a proper diplomatic arrangement has been made.

Noteworthy among the recommendations made for the encouragement are the permanent exemption of the overseas settler from his military service and the advice that after a certain period of residence abroad the settler should seek to naturalize himself in the country where he is living.

Should the Government adopt these recommendations, it would mark a great change in the emigration policy Japan has hitherto followed.

Other recommendations put forward by the Committee include a sufficient grant to each emigrant so that he may properly establish himself, special training for the would-be emigrant, and the establishment of emigrants' homes with ample protection for those about to embark on a new life abroad.

June 4.

Three thousand immigrants approximately are to be sent to Brazil this year, according to an announcement by the Social Affairs Bureau of the Home Department.

Each intending settler will be subsidized with a grant of two hundred yen to cover travelling expenses.

At the same time every effort by means of a publicity campaign will be made to encourage migration to Hokkaido and Formosa.

For the purposes of this campaign the sum of Y.150,000 is reported to have been set aside.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT KULING

Three Coolies Killed by the Collapse of a Bank

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Kuling, June 5.

We had a bad accident here two days ago. Coolies, at work digging a trench at the foot of a steep slope on the American School property, were involved; they were warned the day before that it was dangerous and that they should shore the bank up, but took no notice and the consequence was that about 9 a.m. the bank collapsed and three were killed outright and three injured.

The auditorium will soon be finished and then they will start the usual cinema shows.

LIU TSEN-HOU ON THE WARPATH AGAIN?

Reported Mutiny Among His Troops on Upper River

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Mienchow, Sze., May 24.

During the last few days there has been fighting in this neighbourhood. In the Chungkiang (Tongchuan region) there was trouble about a week ago. Last Thursday (the 21st) the troops who had come here a week or two previously, went off to Tongchuan. They started at four in the morning, and were expecting to fight in the afternoon. I am told that they were despatched thither as Kansu troops brought down by Liu Tsen-hou are discontented because they have received no pay and so are making trouble. I would not like to vouch for the truth of this, and would rather think that the bandits are the cause of this military activity. There is no doubt, however, that the Kansu soldiers are there.

Tongchuan is said to be full of coolie-soldiers, victims of the press gang. Some say it is only a local affair between *tien* and *yang* or *den*—petty quarrelling over local finances.

There are also a good many soldiers at Chungkiang. A general called at the mission house there on the 23rd with one of his staff who was a Canton man.

Up to the present the weather has been unusually cool for the time of year. Typhus is said to be prevalent.

CANTON ARSENAL DISPUTE

Mr. Eugene Chen's Reply to U. S. Legation's Statement

Hongkong, June 10.

Mr. Eugene Chen has issued the following statement in regard to the explanation of the American Legation on the matter of the Canton Arsenal plant:—

"If the American Legation would re-direct its attention to the *communiqué*, which was issued by my Government, it would see that the Arms Embargo Pact had been advisedly referred to as 'the so-called Arms Embargo Agreement' and that the *communiqué* concluded in a sense that the sale of arms and the plant by an American national in China would involve a breach of the pact by America, not as regards China, but only *vis-à-vis* other parties thereto. The suggestion that the pact is a self-denying ordinance is not in term of art in diplomacy."

Mr. Chen states that Dr. Sun Yat-sen wishes the matter settled on fair and just terms and that negotiations on this basis are proceeding with the vendors.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE Chinese press learns that Volunteer Corps have been established in Ningpo and the outlying districts in order to cope with the bandits who have been much too active of late, to the discomfort of peace-loving people. Representaties have come to Shanghai now to purchase arms for the Volunteers' use.

DEFEATED GENERALS OF SZECHUAN

Hsiong Keh-wu the Fallen in Kueichow: Country Distraught with Lawlessness

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Tsunyi, Kuei., May 28.

Tsunyi is a very important city just now as it is the headquarters of Hsiong Keh-wu, and his bedraggled armies. He was ill when he arrived here some weeks ago, but I believe he is getting better. They are recruiting fresh troops. But they have neither money nor ammunition, so I suppose they will soon be making a levy on the city. The new opium crop is just in, so they might try and get something from that source. But with the roads all closed to traffic, little trade is being done here.

Shih Ch'ing-yang also came along; but he has gone on to Kueiyang and I believe, expects to go on to meet Sun Yat-sen. He will ever remember his journey from Tsunyi to Kueiyang, because of an unexpected interview he had with robbers some 40 li from this city. He did not have a very big escort, and so was waylaid, and relieved of several revolvers, some money and personal effects. I hear that the goods are still safe, and can be recovered when negotiations are satisfactory.

We have a Yunnan army of riff raff here. They have burnt all the partitions, and moveable fittings of all the public buildings in which they have been quartered, for fuel. They have preyed on the people in the city, and the surrounding country, until they are a stench in the nostrils of the people. Some of the poor country people became desperate, and when more of these soldiers (?) came foraging about the farm they were attacked, and some killed. This of course stirred up the soldiers in the city, and they made a sally to attack these lawless people, and killed a number of them.

The people find the Szechuan soldiers much more civil and friendly than the Yunnan crowd, and it is hoped that Gen. Hsiong will do something to open up the roads to traffic. It would not be a difficult task. For the robbers in these parts vanish as soon as they smell powder from other than their own rifles.

There have been severe hail storms in the province this spring, but Tsunyi has escaped all damage, and the outlook for a good harvest is very promising.

FURTHER FIGHTING IN SZECHUAN

Dispute Over Distribution of Salt Gabelle Receipts

Chêngtu, May 24.

After some months of peace, following the capture of Chêngtu by General Yang Sen, to-day heavy fighting is reported at T'ungchuan between Gen. Yang Sen and Gen. T'ien Sung-yao.

The cause is reported to be a dispute concerning the distribution of Salt Gabelle moneys. For some weeks past the Szechuan Generals have had representatives stationed there to watch their interests. No more definite news is available yet. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE whole of the city of Manchester may now be described as a sanctuary for wild birds. No one may either take or kill a wild bird of any description at any time of the year within the boundaries of the city without laying himself open to the penalties which the Wild Birds' Protection Act imposes. The Order is the outcome of a desire on the part of many people to put an end locally, as far as possible, to the shooting of comparatively rare birds and to the systematic trapping of gold finches, linnets, larks, thrushes, and other songsters. The Parks Committee, sympathizing with this, determined some time ago to provide a number of sanctuaries for birds in the parks, and entered into a thorough examination of the matter with a number of local ornithologists, who appointed a small committee.

DEATH OF THE LIVING BUDDHA

Acknowledged Ruler of Outer Mongolia Despite Bolsheviks:. Who will Succeed?

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Urga, May 23.

The health of the Eighth (Resurrected) Living God, Djebtsung Damba Hutukhtu or Bodgdo Gheghen, has been daily getting worse until at last it was impossible for him to take any nourishment and he could get no relief from doctors or medicines.

Bogdo Gehen when he felt the end was near, sent for his confessor, Bogdo Khambo Hutukhtu, but the latter did not arrive in time. The Living God passed away at 4 a.m. on the morning of May 20. This is likely to prove to be an event of great moment to Mongolia; the late Living God was at one time the absolute and autocratic ruler of all the Mongols in Outer Mongolia; he successfully withstood Hsu Shucheng when the latter endeavoured to bribe the Princes into bartering away their autonomy. In spite of the change in Government and the accession to power of the Mongolian Young People's Party, the Living God was still the Spiritual Sovereign of the State and a power in the land. The Premier, Tsereng Dordji, visited the Bogdo on the 19th and it was seen that the end was near.

On receiving news of the death of the Living God several Ministers of the Government went to verify the fact and to see the corpse; no other persons were permitted to go near the corpse, not even the Under-Secretaries who accompanied the Ministers of the Government.

The corpse of the Living God is in the Dzung-Ordo (Eastern Palace) and is constantly and strictly guarded by Lamas. The house in which he died is surrounded by a Cord Barrier and no persons are permitted within.

Public Grief.

There is a continuous procession of his co-religionists around the court in which he died, expressing their grief by crying, praying and prostrating themselves in religious exercises of reverence. The road between Urga and the palace is crowded with people, mostly on foot, going to pay their respects to the dead, but none are permitted near the corpse. Foreigners are not permitted to go near the palace where the body lies and the taking of photographs is strictly forbidden.

The Government has decreed two weeks general mourning and all the Government Offices and Departments will be closed for three days; they have also assigned the sum of Tls. 3,000.00 towards the funeral arrangements which will take place after the body has been embalmed, this will take about two months. The Army and all Government Departments willl take part in the funeral procession.

The Future Government.

With the disposal of the effects of the deceased comes the practical question of the future state of Mongolia, that is, the form of the future Government; it is well-known that the Living Buddha was a monarch yet the Government was of Communistic nature. In any case the highest power in the land has now devolved upon the Mongolian People's Party. The final settlement of this question will be decided when the Upper Khuruldan (Mongolian Parliament) meets in the autumn.

It is uncertain what will happen to the body, in the past it has been the custom to embalm the past Hutukhtus and build for them a Palace where they sit in perpetual state, in some cases after embalmation a Stupa has been built around the body. In Urga there is already one instance of a past Hutukhtu who was embalmed and still sits in state in the Palace of the late Bogdo's deceased brother near the Customs House.

The late Hutukhtu left one son, during his life he tried to make the position of "Living God" hereditary but was not successful. What will happen to the son, who is about 11 years old, is very uncertain.

DR. Alfred Sze, Chinese Minister to the United States, has been ordered to proceed to Geneva to attend the meeting of the Anti-Opium Section of the League of Nations which will be held there in November next.

DISORDERLY SCENE IN TOKIO HOTEL

Japanese Roughs Demonstrating Against U.S. Exclusion Law: A Dangerous Moment

Tokio, June 7.

A demonstration, which has brought the anti-American feeling closer home to the foreign community than ever before, occurred at the Imperial Hotel, the nerve centre of foreign and Japanese social contact, when a band of 30 Japanese political ruffians to-night invaded the usual Saturday evening dance and broke up the affair by menacing speeches and gestures, punctuated by dances with drawn swords.

The speeches, which were reinforced by handbills, urged a boycott of all American goods, the deportation and future exclusion of Americans from Japan, and Japan to rise against foreigners.

Japanese friendly towards foreigners tried to interpret the affair not as directed against foreigners but as upbraiding Japanese who would associate with Americans at a time "when the motherland is insulted and endangered."

The demonstration was so menacing that the foreign women, of whom there were about 50 present, were compelled to leave the dance room. The men stayed, and for a time a fight was threatened.

The police did not interfere.

Among the witnesses of the demonstration were the American Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Caffrey, and members of the Embassy staff.

The band were finally persuaded to withdraw from the scene by the more sober Japanese who were at the hotel.

June 8.

Though the inflamatory speeches and handbills are all purely anti-American, the representatives of the "Taikosha," which is composed of extreme political reactionaries who are prominent in all domestic disturbances, declare to the newspapers, that the demonstration, which was staged last night at the hotel by their employees, was directed not against the foreigners, but against the Japanese present "who seek pleasure while their country is faced with a grave crisis."

Later.

This afternoon at the Aoyama cemetery a public memorial service was held in honour of the man who committed suicide on May 31 on the site of the American Embassy. The service was attended to by many thousands of people who came in a continuous stream from one till four o'clock and paid their respects at the grave-side. Wreaths were offered by many prominent personages. The proceedings passed off quietly.

Later.

For the next three days the Buddhist priests will conduct in Tokio a campaign of protest against the Immigration Law. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

Japanese Boycott of American Films

Tokio, June 9.

As a protest against the enactment of the Japanese exclusion law, all the cinema-houses here have passed a resolution not to use American films as from July 1. It has also been decided that this resolution will be applied to all cinema-houses throughout the country. In the city of Sapporo, Hokkaido, the Young Men's Association there have already started their agitation not to see American films.

WORD has been received here that Mr. S. Sakurai, a local Japanese athlete, has just completed his walk between Nagasaki and Aomori, a distance of some 1,500 miles in 48 days. He walked a little more than 30 miles a day. It will be remembered that Mr. Sakurai participated in the international walking race in Shanghai last year, being placed eleventh. Mr. Sakurai gave over 50 lectures at important places along his route on walking in foreign style. This record-breaking walk for Japan took place under the auspices of the *"Osaka Mainichi,"* which is interested in all kinds of sport.

JAPAN'S MILITARY RETRENCHMENT

Scheme of National Defence. Being Redrafted: Popularizing the Services

Tokio, May 31.

"Whatever the complexion of the Ministry that may come into power in succession to the present Government, it is the purpose of the military authorities to lay before it a recommendation that the system of national education should be thoroughly revised," says Gen. Yamanashi, the former Minister of War, writing in the columns of the *"Kokumin."*

"Japan," he explains, "has carried out her plan of military retrenchment in accordance with the post-Washington Conference demands and is now in process of re-drafting her scheme of national defence.

"There is nothing however, in the trend of world affairs to indicate the military retrenchment is anything but idle talk, and it would appear that the real reduction of military forces is not at the present time a practicable proposal.

"America," he says, "though democratic in her form of government, is extremely nationalistic in her actions. While some of her leaders are advocating further armament limitation and would like to see the military strength of the Powers curtailed, the advantage of citizen camps is not lost sight of, and efforts are being made to spread a knowledge of military principles among the people in general.

Education on Military Lines.

"Japan, too, should see to it that military retrenchment and the consequent loss of efficiency in one direction should find some compensation in another, and it is with that in view that the war department chiefs mean to push their idea of revising the national system of education along military lines."

It may be said to be this idea that has prompted the latest move both in military and in naval circles to "Popularize the services."

Opportunity has been taken of more than one occasion to make the army and the navy better known to the general public.

Navy Day Demonstration.

May 27, popularly called "Navy Day," being the anniversary of the Battle of the Japan Sea, was chosen by the army for a great military parade and tournament, to witness which a large body of representative students and members of the young men's associations were invited as special guests.

The Navy, too, invited a number of people to witness the destruction of the warship Tsugaru by bombing seaplanes and torpedoes off Yokosuka.

Early next month, the *"Hochi"* reports, it is proposed to take a party of representatives of the young men's associations for a naval criuse as far as the Bay of Ise, and while on board they will be spectators of specially staged naval manœuvres.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

EMBARGO ON LUXURIES IN JAPAN

Regulations to be Drafted to Limit Imports of This Nature

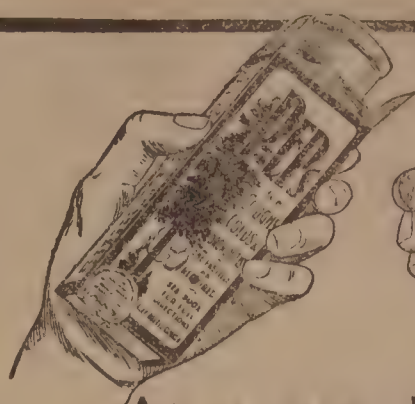
Tokio, May 31.

The Government has decided to place an embargo on the import of luxuries into Japan, and will within the next few days issue the necessary regulations by means of an urgent Imperial ordinance.

The scope and range of this new embargo is now under consideration, and until the regulations are finally drafted, the special articles which the import prohibition will cover cannot be ascertained.

The reason given for this emergency measure is the serious increase in the imports of pure luxuries, which it is claimed at present comprise nearly 60 per cent. of the country's whole import trade.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FOLLOWING an examination, the Fengtien authorities have dismissed a large number of district magistrates on the grounds that they are unqualified for the positions.



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—JOHN HENRY LOFTING, F.S.I., in *"North-China Daily News"* May 13, 1924.

CHINA

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CORRESPONDENCE

DRESS AT HENLI

To the Editor of the
"NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—There is not a word to be said against "An Old Correspondent's" letter, all right-thinking men and women have the same opinions. The woman of to-day is a disgrace to the world, for her sense of decency and modesty has left her.

Some time ago we were informed that the U.S.A. had passed a bill saying that women found smoking in public and men who encouraged them were to be arrested and heavily fined. If a rule to this effect were passed in Shanghai the police would have their hands full. Taking it from an aesthetic point of view it is disgusting, even profligate, to see a woman puffing away at a cigarette. As "An Old Correspondent" says there was a time when men stopped smoking in the presence of women, now they offer women cigarettes and look very astonished if they are refused—adding insult to injury.

Everywhere we see painted, half-naked, smoking, whisky-drinking women, many of them mothers, who do not even refrain in the presence of their children.

Yes, "Modern," women of the Stone Age had more decency. I agree with you that we should all go back, away from this craze of novelty, back to the time when women were modest, sweet and good.

All women should read Ruskin's "Lilies" or "Queen's Gardens," if they wish to know what womanhood really means, and all men too, so that they should realize what a good woman is, and not put up with flimsy paint and smoke.

I am, etc.,
GARGI DEVI.

Shanghai, June 5, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—With reference to the unsexed woman question, Old Correspondent, judging by her letter, must be one who deliberately searches out so-called unconventionalities on purpose to read into them all that is vile. Whilst agreeing, on physiological grounds, with her remarks anent whisky and cocktails, I feel impelled to say that had I her type of mind I would find means to give it a thorough wash.

To follow out Old Correspondent's argument to its logical conclusion on the lines of "Sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander" it would appear that male rowing kit—sketchy singlet and very abbreviated drawers—is blatantly improper, and in future the participants in all races should be clad in all the horrors of civilized full-dress. Evening kit with stiff shirt has been suggested to me as a suitable garb (S.R.C. Committee please note).

Regarding the ladies in bathing costumes "rubbing shoulders with the natives going along the paths" I say nothing. "Oarsman" has, in his very restrained and reasonable expression of opinion, disposed of that matter in a way which calls forth my hearty approval, for it really was a bit too thick. But on one point I join issue both with him and with Old Correspondent.

I was myself at Henli; further, I was in a boat with ladies attired in bathing costumes—albeit they wore kimonos in addition, save on occasions when the latter would have seriously impeded their usefulness at the oars (I refer to racing and practice for racing), and I cannot discover the least sign of detriment to my morals. Indeed, I was agreeably surprised to find myself in the company of ladies so sensible as to suit their dress to the weather.

I suppose Old Correspondent would have had ladies remain in the house at the time [illegible] out of the question. Had they done that, they would have spent most of Sunday on the river, and the day would have been wasted for the rest of us. I've had some experience of [illegible] who will not in the present instance [illegible] to all the weather to defeat them.

Again, the point of opinion among modern youth [illegible] to the present day, when in a boat [illegible] and expects to be fed on chocolates the whole day, again personally at the [illegible] endeavours to spoil [illegible] see into the heart of that boy as [illegible] having a good time, but to [illegible] who join in the sport and get their share of the sun.

Finally, permit me to offer my congratulations upon your editorial comment of even date. To my mind it strikes the right note; the Mid-Victorian days are happily past, and the majority of educated men and women of to-day are far more wholesome-minded than some folks would have us believe.

I am, etc.,
IRISHMAN.

P.S. I too am a grass-widower, and I only wish I had the chance of taking my wife to Henli. It takes all sorts to make a world, doesn't it?

Shanghai, June 5, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I have watched with interest the articles pertaining to the "creatures" at the Henli Regatta.

It seems to be everyone's idea that these "creatures" dressed so either for notoriety or comfort. Has it not occurred to anyone that they dressed so to row or swim? Are girls to be compelled to give up these two very healthful and joyous sports just because some narrow-minded people choose to think that they dress in these costumes for other reasons? Everyone seems to have overlooked the fact that these "creatures" probably went to the Henli Regatta and dressed in these costumes just for the sport of rowing and swimming. If these sports are not approved of for girls, then it is up to the Rowing Club to eliminate the girl's races, for any oarsman can tell you that it would be impossible to row in a skirt.

I am, etc.,
A CREATURE.

Shanghai, June 5, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—As it seems there's no restriction to the flow of frenzied fiction
And the high-falutin diction that is poured out day by day
On the modern style of dressing, (which I do not mind confessing,
Leaves but little to the guessing), I should like to say my say.

First; what is it that's so shocking in the clothes at which they're mocking?
Do the Ladies show much stocking? Are their dresses cut too low?
Is the sight of bare arms risky, apt to make our passions frisky
Like an overdose of whisky? Frankly I can't see it so.

Is a girl whose clothes are sporty quite inevitably naughty?
There's no need to do the haughty in a houseboat or canoe.
If a bathing costume's handy—why the girl looks fine and dandy
If her legs are not too bandy and it doesn't cling like glue.

No! On due consideration without heat or indignation
Let us give our approbation to the modern girl free-lance.
As for me, I'll go on spurning pious critics all-discerning,
Let them think (if they've the learning) "HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE."

I am, etc.,
MR. GRUNDY.

Shanghai June 7, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—As an active participant in the last Regatta held at Henli by the Rowing Club, and also a reader of your paper, I wish to comment upon the attitude of "Old Correspondent" and his, or her, supporters and their views.

Having had a share of the work and preparation of the Regatta, which, together with the generous support of the public, has made it one of the most successful in years, I think it a pity that the outstanding feature of discussion should be what it is, and that the principal effect of endeavour should be almost entirely neglected. While we are all entitled to our views, we should not make a personal exception to any particular phase of the [illegible] and its attendant [illegible] personally, the means of tending to detract from the general feeling of enjoyment and good-fellowship which has distinguished our Regatta, and to raise the age old question of sex appeal. Active [illegible] and sex have no connexion, [illegible] worn on active, and the subject should not have been brought up.

It would be well to remember that freedom of action is the privilege of the spectators who support our Regattas, and that no personal standards of correct dress, or otherwise, may be enforced, or tried to, by any other individual whose views may be to the contrary. If the personal sense of propriety of dress and decorum does not conform to another's ideas, it would be far better, in such a case, to entertain the objections privately, than to air them in the columns of a public press, where no possible chance would be missed to fully acquaint everyone with a condition which, personally, the writer did not recognize, and which also seems to have escaped the notice of the majority of the spectators and visitors, who have decent minds, and who are not on the look-out for such effects as "Old Correspondent" seems to have made an especial point of discovering.

If the efforts of the Rowing Club and the competitions and guests who have helped us so much by their assistance have had such small value as to be almost completely overshadowed by the ugly and suggestive points which have been raised, then sport and its attendant decent standards are of no possible beneficial effect, and we had better remain at home in Shanghai, which by the way, is equally surrounded by Gin, as well as Henli, on occasions.

Henli has always been, and still is, the scene of worthy and clean competition in sport, and as this is the sole purpose of the Regatta, I think it a pity that anyone should attempt to stigmatize it as a place where common conditions and effects are staged as the chief events and objects of interest, and which seems to have occupied so much of the attention of a few, perhaps queer-minded individuals. It is to be earnestly hoped for, that this abnormal, near-sighted, and distorted view will not be entertained by our public and friends, and that it will be realized and accepted that the conditions pointed out are universal, wherever men and women are to be found in each other's company, whether they wear bathing costumes at watering places, or the dress which is prescribed by society as the proper garb for display at social functions. Personally, I hold no brief for either.

I trust that the foregoing will tend to stop the discussion which can have no possible reforming effect upon the people who seem to have offended one individual, but which certainly will intimate to some that Henli, as the scene of the Club's Regattas, is not a nice or proper place to visit in the future. As I am quite in earnest, and feel very strongly in the matter, I have no objection to signing my name. Trusting that you will give this space in your paper,

I am, etc.,
F. W. SCHLOBOHM.

Shanghai, June 7, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Has too much of your valuable space already been taken with correspondence on the subject of "Dress at Henli"? If so, I should like to beg indulgence for being unable to refrain from adding my feeble "Hurrah" for those who have taken exception to the unfair and ill-directed remarks made by "Old Correspondent," and a few other voices from the "Dark Ages," through your columns.

It is possible that some of the inferences and allegations were justifiable. If there were any at the Henli Regatta whom the shoe happened to have fit, let him wear it. However, there were certainly a great many uncalled for allusions and insinuations directed at some who were undeserving of such blasphemy. Such slander will bear further and repeated refutation.

Isn't it lamentable that decent, respectable, broad-minded women and girls cannot take part in healthful sports and wear comfortable, practical clothes when doing so, without having some mentally warped "mud throwing artists" attempt to drag their character into the mire? It is indeed gratifying to see that the consensus of opinion among the "correspondents" is opposed to such narrow-minded prudery. It encourages one to believe that the time is not far distant when women shall have the same unquestioned privilege that men now enjoy of building up sound, healthy bodies through clean sports and of wearing suitable clothing when taking part in them. I'm sure that the S.R.C. is strongly in favour of encouraging women to take a more active part in athletics. Mutual participation in such beneficial sports as swimming and rowing is undeniably conducive to clean broad-mindedness and the betterment of mankind in many ways, both physical and mental.

Where can "Old Correspondent" have been hibernating for the past few years that she should suddenly emerge at Henli, from her "Rip Van Winkle" sleep, to discover that the world has progressed, and is wearing such shocking costumes as "knickers" and bathing suits. Surely Henli is no fit place for prurient prudes and other degenerates. They should return to the "tall and uncut" or to the questionable amusements through which they built up such perverted mentalities. I dare say, that if it were possible to relegate all such prudery back to the "Dark Ages," where it belongs, that we could rid the world of a good share of the undesirable things that exist to-day. Here's to the progressive "creatures" who are doing their share toward bringing that enlightened day closer.

Yours for fair play,
SINGLE STANDARD.

Shanghai, June 6, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Once again I would crave the indulgence of your valued columns to give expression to a few humble thoughts on this question.

First, I would plead for more tolerance in the writings of your correspondents. Too many of them, it seems to me, adopt the "high and mighty" standpoint in their thinking on this subject, and yet how very, very few of us have the right to cast stones.

"Gargi Devi," for instance, spoils the whole chance of his argument being favourably received by this distressing generalization at the very opening of his letter: "The woman of to-day is a disgrace to the world." After that statement I find it impossible to read your letter, "Gargi Devi," for your indignation has got the better of your sense of fairness.

Then the next letter, penned by "A Man." Here, again, readers are subjected to exaggeration and the use of misleading adjectives. Reading between the lines, one could quite conceivably imagine that his whole motive in writing was to give expression to a disappointment at the "unattractiveness and ill-formation" of the nudity (it was severely that) he saw, not at the fact of the "nudity" itself. If he so writes, it is easily understood, for we men will put up with a lot from a so-called "beautiful" girl, but when that superficial beauty of form is lacking, we are most exacting. Now, to be quite honest, quite a lot of the "nudity" was by no means unattractive or "ill-formed."

"Bachelor" ruins the hope of his judgment, being considered free from all prejudice and heat by generalizing all dancing as: "Swaying masses of perspiring flesh in sensuous contact." If he can see only that in dancing, can we possibly accept his opinion on this Henli question? And again, he refuses to discriminate between any of the couples who float by in a "transport of bliss" of a moonlight night. Surely not *all* couples on such occasions are a shock to one's sensibilities? And yet "Bachelor's" writing would make it appear so.

If evidence is required of the need for careful, unheated and tolerant writing on subjects of this sort, surely it is provided in this very case in the unqualified refutation which "Youth of 1924's" letter affords to the things which were said and implied of the "unsexed woman" by "An Old Correspondent." In view of what "Youth of 1924" says about the actual graces of this very lady, it would be only fitting if "An Old Correspondent" should hang her head in very shame for writing (unthinkingly, I hope) so basely of another. We yet need to have in mind: "Judge not, that ye be not be judged," and a continued remembrance of the parable of the beam and the mote.

My main purpose, though, in writing now is simply with a view to trying to dispel the entirely wrong impression which I think certain of the letters which have appeared in your columns are calculated to create in the minds of those of the public of Shanghai who are unacquainted with Henli. Henli is a delightful waterway where we oarsmen repair for our regattas and for the training incidental thereto. The benefits of this retreat, secluded from the bustle of city life, are not easily overestimated. To see the sun rise in the crisp morning air and touch with gold the dew-sparkled verdure of earth, and then to see, as it can be seen at Henli in a way denied the city-gazer's eyes, the

Pageantry of wondrous sunset,
Tinting crimson, skies of blue,
Whispering zephrs, scudding cloudlet.

Call of throstle, clear and true.

is to know the innate goodness and purity of Nature. During the regattas, these pleasures are shared with us by our gentle womenfolk, and who will say that Henli is not rendered the more attractive and beautiful just because of their presence? And some of them would share the pleasures that we men enjoy, in swimming and boating and generally lazing comfortably in the free air and unencompassed surroundings. To do so to the full, requires a freer attiring of the person, and it is here, just in this tiny little particular, that also something seems to have gone wrong, and a blot on the landscape raised. The beauty and joys and innocent pleasures of Henli have been side-tracked into a welter of sensuousness over the tiny point of wearing apparel. Well, it is all over now. Those who, unwittingly, gave cause for a little offence, will by this correspondence have had their attention drawn to it, and doubtless at the next regatta they will not be quite so unthinking.

But—and this is what all of us oarsmen would like to have remaining in the minds of the public, as a final impression from this unfortunate correspondence—Henli still remains an unblighted source of content and enjoyment to many men and women who take delight in contact with the open, and we may assure all those who go to Henli, with innocent intent, for that purpose, that they need have no fear of their enjoyment being marred by any unpleasantness, for if such unpleasantness does exist from any cause whatsoever, it may be a thousand times eclipsed by the knowledge that pre-eminently Henli exists for the association in chivalry and wholesome recreation of the men and women.

I am, etc.,
OARSMAN.

Shanghai, June 7, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,

Most just and learned editor,
I too am a competitor,
Your crowded columns with vain words to fill,
With lines which lack true scansion,
By contraction and expansion
Of feet, to make bad verses of doggerel.
May I these words now offer,
My sound opinion proffer.
With regard to all this scandal which has risen from Henli.
To those intent on showing
Their arms and limbs (while rowing),
To bulging eyes which wait prepared to see,
May I suggest the ballet,
The stage, or dancing "Palais"
But for goodness' sake don't tempt the poor Chinee.
He's of impressionable nature,
(I lack better nomenclature).
And is shocked by manners obviously free.
So if the weather's hotter,
Than when at home you potter,
A kimono I'm sure would cooler be.
And if it looks unsightly
And in figure far from sprightly,
Well imagine you're a dainty Japanee.
And to those who are complaining,
Of the modern woman's training
Just reflect on what you did in your young day,
And though it seems appalling,
How some women fill their calling,
Well.—you'd best just turn your head the other way.

I am, etc.,
MRS. GRUNDY.

Shanghai, June 9, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Can you associate Innocence with those half-naked, painted women? The way in which some of your correspondents fling around this sacred word is not only absurd, but sacrilegious to those who have any delicacy of feeling.

To gaze on the nude figure of a wonderful statue, and to look at the exposed bodies of living women are two very different things. In the statue is Beauty in one of its most glorious aspects, the pure beauty of Art; while in these women, Beauty, if they possess any, is overshadowed by a love for display and a search for cheap admiration.

If these women dress as they do for the sake of Beauty or comfort, they are to be respected. *But do they?* The great majority do not. They are slaves to "Fashion." As Thoreau so pointedly put it, "the head-monkey at Paris puts on a traveller's cap, and all the monkeys

in America do the same," *plus* the monkeys in Shanghai. Again he says "We worship not the Graces. . but Fashion." If Fashion dictate that sleeveless dresses should be worn, the womeen go sleeveless, if she decrees that necks must be hidden from sight, they go muffled. Last summer I heard someone complaining that she detested long skirts and yet she wore them. Why? She was afraid of Public Opinion. If Public Opinion went mad she had to go mad too. It is this craze for ridiculous novelty that will be our ruination.

Unless a woman has the unconcern and innocence of a child she has no right to expose her body, but the fact is that the woman who possesses *that* purity is too sensible and high-minded to do so, for she realizes that the physical form is a temple, a temple in which dwells "something" divine, and knowing this she will never desecrate that temple by exposing it to the profane and vulgar eye.

I am, etc.,
GARGI DEVI.

Shanghai, June 10, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—You have allowed many to air their ideas, in prose and poetry, re "Dress at Henli." The consensus of opinion seems to be against the views expressed by "An Old Correspondent."

Of course she is a "prude." Of course she is wrong and her letter shows how evil her mind is—"thoroughly nasty" needing a course of "treatment to straighten out that warped mentality." The damsels, who disported themselves to the delighted eyes of so many at Henli, were merely showing how innocent they were. It is fine of them to give us such an action-lecture in favour of nature-study. They showed how they are going back to the conditions before Adam and Eve fell. The more brief their skirts and the tighter their bathing gear the nearer they are to the pristine purity of the race. Certainly they did not show the "outline of their figures" with any shameful intent. It was just a jolly, free, going back to nature, pure old nature. Let us all rid ourselves of the "discomfort and inconvenience" of clothes even though it cost more for paint and powder. Those who object are those who are farthest from that ideal purity—poor prudes! "Disciples of Satan" who want us to wear clothes! Satan made Adam and Eve do wrong to make them wear clothes. Now that we are getting back to pristine innocency he stirs up "An Old Correspondent" to utter "sugar-coated words" to get the damsel-angels to put their frocks on again.

The dear girls at Henli were as innocent as the little four-month-old girlie whose mother asks visitors to see her take a bath in her little bath-tub. See her kick and splash with glee! Free as nature itself!

And the lovely damsel, when the dances with a handsome man, held tight, is as pure as the morning dew, and her feeling is as innocent as when she, at two years, threw her arms about her mother's neck and pressing her fond cheek against her mother's, said, "I love you, Mother." Why object to that jolly, pure, clasping, warm, heart to heart dance? Only prudes will call it sensuous. It is as pure as lily kissing lily in the gentle summer breeze.

And when our young lady takes a drink of wine or—she is as free from ill intent as when she takes a glass of lemonade or water. When she smokes a cigarette it is done as innocently as when, three years old, she playfully sported a tooth-pick in imitation of Daddy's smoking. Why? The glass of wine and cigarettes are glorified by the beautiful painted lips, not the mouth polluted by these things.

No, the damsels are all right. May the time soon come when the women will wear no "trousers" even, when, like Eve, they run around the streets of Shanghai in Eve's original garb. It is so much cheaper, so much more free and "comfortable," and the men do not care. We are angels.

I am, etc.,
INNOCENCE ABROAD.

Shanghai, June 10, 1924.

This correspondence is now closed.
—Ed.

STATE CONTROL.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I fear the writer of the leading article on the above subject is past hoping for: and I know that some of your readers will only be convinced by whatever coincides with their own interests. For the sake of the more innocent and fair-minded among your readers, however, it may be well to make a few comments.

If State Control is so undesirable, how is it there is such a tendency in that direction? Why is the number of Socialists increasing so rapidly?

I note from the "Municipal Gazette" that the Commissioner of Revenue estimates that whereas he will receive Tls. 900,000 from the Electricity Department, he will only receive Tls. 85,000 from the Tramway Co., Tls. 21,700 from the Waterworks, Tls. 6,000 from the Telephone Co., and Tls. 1,000 from the Gas Co. It is obvious that the shareholders in these companies must be pleased with your anti-Socialist articles: throwing sand in the eyes of the public prevents them appreciating the real situation.

Why did a Conservative Government dispossess all the blood-sucking water companies that preyed on the London populace; and establish the London Water Board? Why was the Port of London Authority established? Why was the office of the Public Trustee created? Why were the telephones taken over by the Post Office?

It is time there was more common honesty in dealing with these questions, and to abandon the usual journalistic claptrap about publicly owned concerns being wastefully managed. The fact is that whereas with public concerns the slightest mismanagement is magnified and proclaimed from the housetops, in a private concern the blunders are successfully hushed up: there is nobody interested in making them public. Here are a few instances of the economical (!) working of oil companies in China.

A huge tank was erected, but found to be in a wrong position, so that within four years a sort of canal had to be made, wherewithal to float the tank to a better location.

A large solid stone godown was erected, but also found to be inconveniently placed, so that within four years it was torn down and rebuilt on another position on the site.

Materials and machinery for new factory buildings were being rushed to a certain port before navigation ceased. Urgently required material was excluded by a large clumsy piece of machinery which would not be required till the very last, and indeed was not indispensible even then.

Forms of all kinds are printed only to be scrapped: or printed in disproportionate numbers. On one occasion so few were printed that they were used up immediately, and another lot had to be ordered. On another occasion a sufficiency was printed to last 500 years!

A married couple were sent over 1,000 miles inland, but within a few weeks were brought down river again and settled at another port.

Any blunders such as these in a public concern are megaphoned all over the world. Of course, oil profits are so enormous that nobody cares!

I venture to prophesy that in less than 10 years both the railways and coalmines of Great Britain will be nationalized: and the benefits will be so great that people will censure themselves for not having taken these steps before.

I am, etc.,
FABIAN.

Shanghai, June 5, 1924.

BRITISH UNEMPLOYED

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In your issue of to-day, under the caption of "Margarine and Music," there appears a contribution from your Trade Union correspondent.

Inter alia he writes, *anent* Free Libraries, as follows:—

> By filling in a form any special book will be bought for him to read, subject to the approval of the librarian, which is usually freely given. The living room of this unemployed man's house contained a shelf exclusively filled with new books lent from this library.

Are we to understand that the librarian of a Municipal Free Library is empowered to purchase, or even to approve the purchase by the Council's Library Committee, of any special book which any one or all of, possibly, 10,000 ratepayers may think fit to requisition?

Are we also to believe that any individual ratepayer may take out from the Library at any one time a number of books sufficient to "exclusively fill" his bookshelf? It is news to me that any one individual is able to take out at any one time more than two books—possibly three—but three books do not fill a bookshelf, unless Lilliputian.

If your Trade Union correspondent's other facts (?) are based on the same wobbly foundation as the foregoing I shall, in future, accept 'em at the selling rate of two bob to the tael.

I am, etc.,
SHADE OF CARNEGIE.

Shanghai, June 7, 1924.

* Our correspondent will in due course send his own reply to the above. Meanwhile we have sufficient experience of his work, to believe that when he says he has seen a thing, he has seen it.—Ed.

A PUBLIC DANGER

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Now the summer is again at hand, it is about time the public conscience was aroused against one of the greatest scandals of our so named model settlement; I refer to the Hongkew Creek and the unbelievable stench with which it is allowed to poison its whole neighbourhood. The stench which led to the culverting of the late Yang King Pang was as a mild odour compared with the one which the Hongkew Creek emits, and the smell of the Chinese City is, in comparison, like attar of roses. The district referred to is the one adjacent to the creek from the S.M.C. Electric Light Works to the Broadway Bridge and includes the public slaughter houses, the Sacred Heart Church, St. Francis Xavier's School, St. Luke's Hospital, and a very great number of dwelling houses.

The residents of that district have on numerous occasions complained to the Municipal Council Departments responsible, but apart from polite answers to the letters of complaint nothing whatsoever has been done.

This abomination flourishes within five minutes' walk from the Astor House, and I suggest, for your kind consideration, that you send one of your reporters round there about 8 o'clock in the morning to investigate, and that he tells your readers what he sees and smells. It would be a real service to the public if you would take up the matter in your powerful paper.

I am, etc.,
M. E. L.

Shanghai, June 6, 1924.

WHY REFUGEES CANNOT BE REPATRIATED

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—From all I have read concerning destitute Russians in China I gather one impression—they are a bore, a nuisance to all well-clad foreigners. To the latter category also belong the Russian profiteers of different nationalities who during the Great War and the following Revolution may have lost a little on the one side and gained a large fortune on the other without having taken active part in the war itself. They have come to Shanghai with well filled pockets, they belong to "society," their children are in the most expensive schools and they themselves are ashamed of speaking Russian—"you know how Russians are looked down upon!"—Well, to all such foreigners the Russian refugees, former soldiers who have fought many a battle since 1914, are merely beggars whom they very gladly would get rid of. After Soviet Russia's recognition by several Powers, a recognition from purely mercantile motives, the above mentioned foreigners find that time has come to repatriate the destitute Russians. To be repatriated means to come back to one's "patria"—fatherland. It would in this case be better to say "step-motherland" for every one who knows the real conditions in Russia also knows what fate awaits such repatriated.

I am a Scandinavian, have lived nearly all my life in Russia, have suffered together with its people and love the country as dearly as my own. It is only three months since I came from Vladivostok to this town and believe myself to know the Russian conditions better than people who have not lived in Russia or have only been there on a short visit.

I remember with what rage the Communists looked at Vladivostok from May 26, 1921, to October 20, 1922, during which period the Maritime Province was the only little white island in the red sea. And yet, the first time of their rule, they concealed their real nature. Before they entered they promised full forgiveness to all sinners, inducing them to remain in the mother country. They seemed really to have changed in the beginning, but it turned out to be only the old trick of theirs. I am not going to relate of their doings in economical, educational or religious matters, but will keep strictly to the question how they treat a defeated enemy.

A rather short time after their arrival the Bolsheviks found all their adversaries suffering from "homesickness." They were accordingly perforce sent "home." Some of them reached the place of their old homes where often nothing of it was left, some were "tried" during the voyage and put to death, and most of them had to make a stop in some coal mine where they worked chained to a wheelbarrow. All this I know from letters received by my friends from their relatives in this way repatriated. They were all promised a safe return home.

The refugee problem is a very difficult one to solve in a human way. I quite agree with the bored or rather shocked foreigner of Shanghai: this town is not the fit place for Russians to live in. They cannot find suitable work here and become demoralized from living on charity. But could not there in the whole world be found space enough for 50,000 Russians. Czecho-Slovakia alone provides for 3,000 Russian students hoping in future to benefit from their knowledge in some way or other. Russia is indeed a vast country rich beyond measure, but for the poor destitute Russians in China, this is of no use. In a not too distant future, I think, Russia will be able to show hospitality to some more than 50,000 foreigners who will be drawn to that country, not from fear of prison or death, but its richness.

I have no doubt that the Bolsheviks will promise a safe return to all refugees in China in the case of her demanding it. But who can believe in such promises being kept? I, at least, do not belong to optimists of this kind. Thanking you for the space in your paper,

I am, etc.,
A LOVER OF RUSSIA.

Shanghai, June 6, 1924.

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The constant capture and ill-treatment of missionaries in China is ample indication of their being unwelcome guests and provides food for thought.

A writer well versed with the affairs of this country has pointed out that there is room for modification in the Western attitude to China on the social question. No Government as weak as China's should be asked to extend protection over its vast dominions to every foreign missionary who cares to engage himself in preaching ethical Bolshevism in any *hsien, fu* or *chia* he likes. When the missionary informs the Chinese that the worship of their ancestors and their devotion to their mothers-in-law are sins against the Holy Ghost, he should be prepared for trouble and when trouble comes his way, according to the tenets of his own faith, he should not claim the protection of foreign bayonets. The Powers should make this clear to all the missionary bodies.

It is really astonishing that there has not arisen in China a strong man with a political platform "plank" advocating the abolition of foreign religious missions in China. He could be sure of great support and might eventually effect other improvements that would lead to a more peaceful development of the country.

As there is a distinct dearth of preachers of the gospel in the West, but no lack of them in the East, one is inclined to the belief that the inducements to come here are more mercenary than meritorious. America has lately had a remarkable revival of enthusiasm for missionary work in China. Divines of all ages are offering. One explanation is that it is easier to live cheaply and comfortably in China than in the U.S.A., while there are large sums to be made by dealing in silks, jade curios, etc. According to the American "Mercury," and this is of local knowledge too, many missionaries have found the business of exporting Chinese goods to the U.S.A. so lucrative that they have retired from the Church altogether. For those who remain there is the consideration that no controversies about Fundamentalism ever penetrate to China to discredit them in the eyes of their flock. They remain, first and last, what religious teachers should be—unchallenged autocrats on the spiritual side. There is a lesson here for wilting churches. A living wage and an uncritical outlook are first essentials in the chancelleries of Paradise.

I am, etc.,
P. O. Q.

Shanghai, June 9, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Presumably P. O. Q. wishes to start another controversy, now that the Henli Dress is about worn to tatters. If that is not his purpose, can it be that he is another of the great army of non-thinkers, or is it merely a case of *les fous se promènent là où les anges craignent le marché?* One might think the latter supposition is correct, when the words in the third paragraph are changed so that "religious missions" reads "business firms."

P. O. Q. assumes that foreign missionaries alone "claim the protection of foreign bayonets.' If he will only peruse the records of protests for indignities, our objector, who seems so ignorant of the work of missions in China, if he has been in China long enough, will lose a large amount of face. And his ignorance of the work of missions is appalling! I am certain any of the workers of the National Christian Council will be more than glad to tell him that not all missionaries in China are ministers of the gospel who preach "ethical Bolshevism"; that practically all missions have definite age limits for new workers in the field, so the "divines of all ages," will not get here, despite Mr. P.O.Q's efforts to bring them; that few missions allow their members to deal in "silks, jade, curios,etc," and that when they do they are usually requested to resign (is it that P.O.Q. exports these same luxuries and is losing in competition with a former missionary?); that not all missionaries say if you worship your ancestors you sin against the Holy Ghost.

I have no doubt but that anyone at the offices of the Associated Mission Treasurers will be most happy to inform P.O.Q. concerning mission salaries in China as compared with clergy salaries in the West. And does not P.O.Q. know there are not a few missionaries in China who have honest incomes, which they possessed before coming to China? And has P.O.Q. ever aided any foreign mission or visited a mission station, or, is he the type of foreigner in China who says it is his prerogative and who delights in belabouring his neighbour's rischa coolie?

I am, etc.,
MISS I. O. NARY.

Shanghai, June 11, 1924.

JEWISH TEACHING ON WORK

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In his sermon headed "An Old Evil" published in your yesterday's isue, the Rev. Mr. A. N. Rowland, *inter alia*, said:—

> "We have largely outgrown the old Jewish belief that work is a curse."

Such a sweeping statement cannot stand the searchlight of criticism. From time immemorial the Jews have regarded work as the most indispensable thing to pursue. "Labour is a kingdom," runs an ancient Hebrew proverb. The Wise King in his Proverbs (22—29) was not less emphatic when he said, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business he shall stand before kings." The first uprising of labour against capital, the first overthrow against domineering force, was conducted by the Jews in Egypt. "Cursed be he," said Jeremiah, "that builds his house by unrighteousness, and his chambers by wrong; that useth his neighbour's service without wages, and giveth him not for his work." The Rabbis of old were themselves recruited from the artisan and labouring classes, and some of them even maintained that poverty is a means of purification. The Talmud lays great stress on work and declares, "He who does not teach his son a profession instigates him to become a thief." As a matter of fact there is no instance where work had been decried or regarded as a "curse." On the contrary, work was extolled as a virtue and as an adjunct to achieve higher aims and pursuits in life. The climax was reached

when work was praised in the following flowery language in Tractate Baba Bathra, 11a:—

O strip a carcass in the street
And take your pay for labour sweet,
And say not "I am a priest or king,
And 'neath my honour's such a thing."

The foregoing will, I hope, suffice for the present to disprove the allegation that the old Jewish belief regarded work as a "curse."

I am, etc.,
N. E. B. Ezra.

Shanghai, June 10, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—In his sermon in the Union Church on the 1st instant and reported in your issue of the 9th, the Rev. Mr. Rowland told his intelligent flock "We have outgrown the old Jewish belief that work is a curse." Will the Rev. Mr. Rowland please tell me if his authority in propounding this doctrine before his audience is based on Biblical, Talmadistic or national basis?

I am, etc.,
M. Myers.

Shanghai, June 10, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—When I referred to "the old Jewish belief that work is a curse" I had in mind, of course, the words spoken to Adam in Genesis 3.17. "Cursed is the ground for thy sake; in toil thou shalt eat of it all the days of thy life." But lest this should be taken as an aspersion on the ideals of the Jewish people, I welcome Mr. Ezra's criticism and accept the correction. There is no doubt that the Jews have stood preeminently for the necessity and dignity of work. "Six days shalt thou labour" is a great law, and made a permanent tradition. Ben Sirach felt keenly the limitations imposed by a life of mechanical work, but he closes his famous passage on the subject in the 38th chapter of Ecclesiasticus with these fine words concerning the artisan: (They shall not sit on the seat of the judge, nor declare instruction and judgment. But *they will maintain the fabric of the world. And in the handiwork of their craft is their prayer.*

Delitsch quotes the following passage from the Talmud which bears upon the point. "When the Holy One, blessed be His Name, pronounced judgment upon Adam, at the words 'Thorns also and thistles shalt it bring forth to thee,' his tears fell, and he cried 'O Lord of the world, must the Ass and I eat out of one manger?' But when God continued 'In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread' he acquiesced. Here, as so often, common sense proved itself to be a window of the divine revelation.

I am, etc.,
A. N. Rowland.

Shanghai, June 11. 1924.

STOCK EXCHANGE REFORM

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—All who wish to see an improvement in our business methods here will heartily congratulate you on your very able leader in to-day's issue, and will agree that radical changes are necessary in regard to dealings in stocks and shares. Would such methods as are in use here be allowed on the stock exchanges in Great Britain or America? When a man buys a stock or share on the London market he can ascertain for himself, from the lists published in the daily papers, the actual prices ruling on the Stock Exchange that day. Here a buyer or seller has no such guarantee. As you suggest, one cannot say whether a transaction has been done with a jobber or a broker.

Then, again, why cannot there be fortnightly settlements, as in London? The present system only encourages gambling. With daily or fortnightly settlements, as in New York and London, a good deal of gambling by men who are never able to meet their obligations when the market goes against them would be eliminated.

In writing thus, I wish to make it clear that I am, personally, quite disinterested. I never buy or sell a single share on the Shanghai market. All my share transactions are done in London with brokers on the London Stock Exchange. I speak feeling, however, because I have seen so many young men, with no experience whatever, gambling in shares of companies of which they have not the slightest knowledge, and who have lost all their money.

While on this subject I would like to call attention to the deplorable ignorance on the part of many investors here in regard to London stock and share quotations. Many people seem to think every share purchased in London involves the payment of income tax on dividends. This is not correct. There are many shares quoted on the London Stock Exchange which are suitable for investors abroad, as their dividends are not subject to payment of income tax, and many shares can be purchased which give a return of seven to nine per cent. These are shares in companies which are absolutely sound. Similarly, first charge bonds can be purchased which give a good annual return, free of income-tax. Anyhow, my experience, which covers many years, has been such that, under no circumstances, would I buy or sell a single share on the Shanghai market while present conditions continue.

Enclosing my card,

I am, etc.,
Ferro.

Shanghai, June 11, 1924.

COCAINE AND CAFES CHANTANTS

To the Editor of the
"North China Daily News"

Sir,—I notice in to-day's Municipal Gazette that clause 13 of the licence conditions for Sing-Song houses reads: "That the use of morphia, cocaine, or other noxious drugs be not permitted on the premises."

Presumably such a clause also applies in the case of *cafes* catering to foreign trade.

If this be so, it would be interesting to know what, if any, measures those who run these "joints" take to observe the condition.

It is a fact familiar to those who know anything of the action of drugs that cocaine retards intoxication and in the interests of trade there is reason to suspect that the management of the resorts referred to, if they do not actually encourage the use of cocaine by the girls, at least tacitly encourage its use by taking no active steps to prohibit it.

The widespread addiction to "coke" on the part of the unfortunate women refugees is one of the saddest things I know.

While on the subject of *cafes* and Municipal regulations, can any of your readers explain how it is that out of all the *cafes* in Shanghai, a certain popular *cafe* in the French Concession systematically keeps open till all hours of the night, the early closing condition recently passed, notwithstanding?

I am, etc.,
Curious.

Shanghai, June 12, 1924.

MUNICIPAL INVESTMENT BANK

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—On May 1 last the Shanghai Municipal Council invited applications for Tls. 500,000 6 per cent. Debentures at 97½, a portion, if not all, of which loan was allotted to members of the Municipal Investment Bank under Rule 5, who had made deposits between February 6 and May 5. Notices to this effect were sent out on various dates up to May 21.

A fortnight later, on June 4, the Council sanctioned a further issue of Tls. 1,000,000 6 per cent. Debentures, subscriptions for which were invited at 95. In view of the substantial increase in the amount of this second loan, following so rapidly on that allotted to the Bank depositors, one cannot but think the Council must have been aware of their financial requirements when they sanctioned the former issue at 97½, and it would appear somewhat harsh that the public who had deposited money in the Municipal Investment Bank should received allotments comparing so unfavourably with the loan appearing a few days later.

It is certainly discouraging to subscribers to the Bank, to look at these two issues made within one month, and to realize that in making their monthly deposits they incurred a loss of slightly over 2½ per cent. as compared with what their position would have been, had they held the money themselves, and invested it in the second loan.

The Council, of course, could reply that it is entirely optional to the public whether they make these deposits in the Bank or not. Nevertheless, the two issues following in such rapid succession, with the allotment to Bank depositors at the earlier and more unfavourable rate, in the interim, certainly offers some grounds for comment.

It might be construed that the Council, being aware that a considerable sum was in the Bank, and had to be satisfied by the issue of Debentures as at May 5, came out with a small issue on May 1 of Tls. 500,000 at 97½, knowing full well their requirements were greater, but that the total amount desired; *i.e.*, Tls. 1,500,000 might not be obtained at this price. Having satisfied the Bank depositors, they immediately float another loan of Tls. 1,000,000 at 95, to attract the public whose money was not in the Bank, and to the detriment of the Bank depositors.

Thanking you for your space,

I am, etc.,
Fairplay.

Shanghai, June 10, 1924.

The story of how a big passenger junk, being towed by a motor-boat, successfully fought off two piratical attacks but succumbed to a third, appears in last week's Hongkong papers. The junk, which plies between Canton and Shiuhing, was being towed by a motor boat to the latter place on Monday, June 2. When off Tze Tung, the boats were attacked by a big gang of robbers who fired from both banks of the river. By offering strong resistance, the boats managed to get away, but were attacked again about an hour later by another gang. This time, also, the boats succeeded in making their escape. When near Shiutong, however, two launches were seen to approach and, by reason of the firing, it was early evident that this was a third piratical attacked. Those in the motor-boat quickly cut the tow rope and made off in an opposite direction, leaving those on the junk to their fate. Little resistance was offered and the pirates seized the junk. About $10,000 and a quantity of valuable cargo was stolen, whilst over 50 of the passengers were kidnapped and are now being held to ransom.

COMPANY MEETING

S. MOUTRIE & CO., LD.

Annual General Meeting

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of shareholders in S. Moutrie & Co., Ld., was held last Friday at the head office, 37 Nanking Road. Sir Edward Pearce presided, supported by Dr. W. J. Isenman, Messrs. A. E. Paine, J. H. Teesdale (directors) and W. S. Watson (assistant manager), 740 shares being represented. The notice convening the meeting was read.

The Chairman.—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some few days, I propose, with your permission, to take them as read. It is with much pleasure that your Board have another successful year's business to announce and that the result of the 12 months shows a balance standing at the credit of profit and loss account of $121,589.11, which sum includes a a carry forward from the previous year's working of $20,281.59, but less the $18,504 paid as an interim dividend of 6 per cent. last November. Subject to your approval, your board recommends, as stated in the report, the following allocations of the profits:—

	$
A final dividend of 4 per cent absorbing	12,336.00
A bonus of $4 per share	24,672.00
To building reserve	35,000.00
To a superannuation fund	37,000.00
To carry forward to new account	12,581.11
	$121,589.11

During the year your board have been carefully considering the advisability of putting into operation a staff superannuation scheme in place of the usual annual bonus granted to our employees; and in view of the many years' service of a number of our staff, your board recommends that the scheme be made partially retrospective. Following therefore the lines of certain other public companies, it was decided by your board to recommend to the shareholders at this meeting an allocation to a superannuation fund of an amount of approximately 5 per cent. of each employee's salary since the commencement of his service with the company. This involves an amount of some $37,000, which your board now recommends be written off this year's profit and loss account rather than debit our reserves which it might legitimately have recommended. Future allocations will be as follows:—5 per cent. to be deducted from the salary of each employee and credited to the fund, the company to add an amount of 10 per cent. of salaries and credit the fund with interest at 6 per cent. per annum every six months. The scheme if adopted will give every satisfaction to the staff and your Directors feel that not only is it well merited but that it is also in the best interests of the company.

With regard to your building reserve account, this, with the recommended appropriation of $35,000, will stand at $175,000. I have to inform you that your Baikal Road property, mow 14.8.2.6, standing in the books at a cost of $46,842.59 is now being developed. Building operations were recently commenced, the plans having been gone into very carefully by Mr. Watson, who on his visit to America and England last year had the advantage of studying the most up to date pianoforte factories; his knowledge thus gained has been most beneficial to the company. The new factory, the architects being Messrs. Stewardson & Spence, should be completed by the end of the year. The total cost will be approximately Tls. 160,000. When completed we shall be able to dispose of our present factory on the North Honan Road. With the proceeds thus obtained and the amount standing at building reserve, we should have ample funds to meet the cost.

The Company's financial position will unquestionably, if I may say so, be received by you with much satisfaction. The year, recently completed, has as you know been one of general trade depression, but we have come through well and are in a stronger financial position than at the close of our previous 12 months' working. We have met successfully our extraordinary expenses. To move into these handsome new premises it has cost us something like $16,000 for loss in rent on our old premises, [illegible] fixtures, etc. We have written off nearly another $14,000 for loss in rent on our old premises at both Kuala Lumpur and Peking. Your Shanghai premises and both the branches just mentioned have been reconstructed into a modern standard, this being in keeping with the general progressiveness of the Company and your board are fully confident that it has been money well spent and will eventually result to the benefit of shareholders.

Stocks.—Our stock reserve of $50,000 remains untouched, and it will be noticed with satisfaction that your stocks have been reduced by some $14,000 and sundry debtors by $3,000.

Assets—Under this head you will notice that we have in fixed deposit $241,680.72 and cash in hand and on current account with the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank $62,987.17. As already stated therefore we have ample funds to meet all the requirements of the company.

Before sitting down I should like to express the board's appreciation of the excellent work carried out by the staff during the 12 months under review. It is, I need hardly say, due to their interests in the business and their loyal endeavours that we are able to-day to lay such a satisfactory report before you. I feel assured therefore that you will pass the inauguration of a superannuation fund involving an initial outlay of $37,000, which your board recommends for your acceptance at this meeting. I think, gentlemen, that I have covered all the points necessary to refer to, but should any shareholder wish to ask any questions, I will do my best to answer them.

No questions were asked and the following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

"That the report and accounts, as presented, be passed."—Proposed by Sir E. C. Pearce and seconded by Mr. J. H. Teesdale.

"That the appointment of Mr. J. H. Teesdale as director of the company be confirmed."—Proposed by Dr. W. J. Isenman and seconded by Mr. A. E. Paine.

"That Sir E. C. Pearce be re-elected a director of this company."—Proposed by Mr. J. H. Teesdale and seconded by Mr. A. E. Paine.

"That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors to the company."—Proposed by Mr. A. C. Remedios and seconded by Mr. C. M. Bain.

meeting be held during the month of June, 1925."—Proposed by Sir E. C. Pearce and seconded by Dr. W. J. Isenman.

The Chairman announced that dividend warrants would be posted in the afternoon.

Mr. C. M. Bain said that on behalf of the shareholders he would like to express their appreciation of the very excellent report and he congratulated the Chairman and his co-directors.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chinese Young Men's Christian Association, held on Tuesday, Dr. W. W. Yen (Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, who was formerly acting Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs) and Dr. C. T. Wang (former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Director-General of Sino-Russian Affairs) were unanimously elected honorary presidents. Dr. Wang was formerly General Secretary of the National Committee of Y.M.C.A.'s in China as well as Chairman of the local Chinese "Y."

Under the English law a wife who has a spite against a deserting husband can keep him in prison for ever, since his ability in prison to provide for her is strictly limited and thus maintenance charges fall more and more in arrears. In a recent case in England a woman of Greek birth who had married an English soldier, but had been deserted by him, secured a maintenance order against him. He got in arrears, however, so the law proceeded to remove him from a position at the Wembley Exhibition where he had a chance of providing something for her and clapped him in prison, where he could earn nothing. The courts are powerless because they have no right to order that maintenance charges should be stopped out of wages, but the absurdity of the present position is obvious.

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Recognised Everywhere as
THE WORLD'S MOST SUCCESSFUL REMEDY
for Eczema, Ulcers, Abscesses, Ringworm, Bad Legs, Poisoned Wounds, Heat Sores, Rashes & Swellings, Sore Feet, Cuts, Burns, Bites, Stings, etc.
CONTAINS NO ANIMAL FAT
Agents: Messrs. Wakefield & Co. (China), Ltd. Y. Sheng Building, Szechuen Road, Shanghai

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

MONEY AND EXCHANGE

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, June 13.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/3 1/16=Tls. 60.7 at 70.85=$8.57

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 71½=Tls. 140.35 at 70.85=$198.09

Mex. Dollars, market rate	71.1
Native Interest	16
Copper Cash	276,000
Bar Silver	34 1/16
Bank rate of Discount	4 per cent.
Paris on London	Frs. 81.50
New York on London	G.$4.31⅛

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/3⅛
Demand	3/3 5/16
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	71
Demand	71¼
PARIS—	
Demand	1353
INDIA—	
Demand	232½
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73
JAPAN—	
Demand	58¼
BATAVIA—	
Demand	197
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	71

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/4
4 m/s. credits	3/5⅛
4 m/s. Docs.	3/5⅛
6 m/s. credits	3/5⅞
6 m/s. Docs.	3/6⅛
NEW YORK—	
Demand	72¼
4 m/s. credits	74⅛
4 m/s. Docs.	75
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1420
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/3⅝
New York T.T.	71⅝

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR JUNE.

Hk. Tls. 5.52 at 3/3	£1
„ 1 at 1218	Frs. 13.57
„ 1.27 at 70⅜	Gold $1
„ 1 at 57⅛	Yen 1.95
„ 1 at 230⅜	Rupees 2.56
„ 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
„ 1 at 15.85	It. Lire 17.66
Marks and Roubles no quotation	

AMERICAN-ORIENTAL BANK

Closing Rates

June 13.

Selling Demand Draft.

U.S. G.$100.00	=	S'hai. $197.96
Stg. £1.0.0	=	S'hai. $ 8.60
Frs. 100.00	=	S'hai. $ 10.69
Yen. 100.00	=	S'hai. $ 82.51

Buying Demand Draft.

U.S. G.$100.00	=	S'hai. $194.80
Stg. £1.0.0	=	S'hai. $ 8.42
Frs. 100.00	=	S'hai. $ 10.24
Yen. 100.00	=	S'hai. $ 80.65

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates for June 13:—

It. Lire 16.20	Tls. 1
Swiss Frs. 4.03	Tls. 1
It. Lire 9.30	Yen. 1

Sino-Scandinavian Bank

Selling Rates June 13:—Nominal:

Tl. 1.: Norw. Kr.:	5,12
Tl. 1.: Swed. Kr.:	2,59
Tl. 1.: Dan. Kr.:	4,10

WEEK'S EXCHANGE NOTES

June 14.

At the close of business on the 12th instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 34,391,000 and $36,140,000. These figures include Tls. 5,760,000 and $19,520,000 in Chinese banks, in which there were no bars.

Bar Silver.

Arrivals were:—
Nil.

Shipments were:—
323 bars to London.

Sycees.

Arrivals were:—
Tls. 420,000 Mex. Dollars melted.
50,000 from Chefoo.

Tls. 470,000

Shipments were:—
Tls. 500,000 to Canton.

Dollars.

Arrivals were:—
$780,000 from Nanking.
750,000 „ Chinkiang and Wusih.
600,000 „ Hangchow.
400,000 „ Hankow.
400,000 „ Tungchow, Ningpo and Changchow.
300,000 from Riverports.
150,000 „ Shantung.

$3,380,000

Shipments were:—
Mex. $600,000 sent to Melt.
„ 100,000 to San Francisco.
„ 100,000 "Dairen".

$800,000

Silver.

The price came yesterday at 34 1/16d. ready and 34⅛d. forward, as against 35 1/16d. and 34⅜d. last week, showing a decline of ⅜d. and ¼d. on the respective prices. The London market has been generally quiet and steady, with the Continent still holding off. On Thursday India and China were reported as small sellers.

Bars in stock 2,691, including Silver Yen 10 lakhs. Stocks of Sycee and Dollars amount to Tls. 344 lakhs and $361½ lakhs, against Tls. 347½ lakhs and $335½ lakhs last week, and Tls. 200 lakhs and $260 lakhs on June 12, 1923.

Chinese Dollars are returning in large quantities from the Cocoon districts and the price went as low as 70.9875, but rose yesterday to 71.10.

Exchange.

Exchange closed off last week on Thursday, Friday being a holiday, with the official quotation at T.T. 3/3⅜d. On Saturday it opened at T.T. 3/3⅜d., where it remained until yesterday, when it dropped to 3/3¼d. On Thursday the market opened steady with sellers T.T. 3/3⅜d. ready and forward. Chinese bought small amounts during the day and the rate dropped slowly to 3/3⅜d. Quite late in the afternoon Chinese were buying freely. The rate quickly dropped and the market closed with the best sellers quoting 3/3 5/16d.

With the drop in silver the market opened uncertain yesterday with doubtful sellers of T.T. 3/3 5/16d. and Gold $71⅛, but soon steadied up and it closed at the tiffin interval with general sellers T.T. 3/3⅜d. and Gold $71⅜ ready and forward, with buyers ⅛d. and 1/8th of a cent higher. Buying quotations were 4 m/s L/C 3/4⅜d. and G.$73¼.

Chinese speculators' oversold position is reported as about £1,000,000; in Yen they are about square.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

Fair Recovery of Business after the Holidays: Piece Goods Quite Brisk

June 14.

The local markets have recovered quickly from the long holiday and quite good business was done in piece goods, whilst cotton and yarn also showed more signs of life. The one line that was out of it was general produce, but this is the off season and nothing can be expected for about two months yet.

Piece Goods

Generally speaking, the tone of the market has shown a distinct improvement. The north has fallen away, principally owing to the poor condition of the crops there, consequent upon unfavourable weather. However, Hankow and all the Yangtze ports have been sending in good orders and dealers appear to be well satisfied with the prices. The demand from Ningpo also has improved. Clearances naturally were upset by the holidays, but they have been quite satisfactory since the return to business. Of course, there has been nothing to report from Manchester, owing to the intervention of Whitsun.

Cotton, Yarn, etc.

China Cotton.—The marked fall in American prices has not affected the local market very greatly. Business has been fairly brisk since the holidays and a fair demand from Szechuan has been noted. Stocks are short and an advance is expected. There is a bullish feeling at the moment. Yesterday's closing quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange were:—June, 47; July 46.95; August 46.45; September 43.45; October 40.70; November 40.05. Spot quotations:—Shensi, Tls. 46 to Tls. 47; Hankow, Tls. 45.50 to Tls. 46.50. There were no other varieties in the market.

Yarn.—This market also has shown up rather more briskly. Yesterday morning's closing quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange were:—June 178.50; July 176.90; August 174.80; September 172.80; October 168.80; November, 167.60.

Produce.

The position remains unchanged. All the markets are lifeless through a lack of demand and a shortage of supplies locally.

DUTCH OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT LOAN

London, June 11.

Messrs. Rothschild, on behalf of the Koninglijke Nederlansche Maatschappij tot Expoitatie van Petroleum-bronnen in Nederlandsch Indie, are offering to shareholders for subscription Florins 80,364,000 in shares of 1,000 florins each, and sub-shares of 100 florins each until June 30. The issue price is par. The issue will be devoted to an increase of the fleet and to business extensions in various countries.—Reuter.

A NEW DUTCH BANK

The Hague, June 12.

A new banking concern has been established at Amsterdam under the name of Vanderheydt's Bank. It is partly a continuation of the firm of Vanderheydt & Co., of Zandwoort. The capital is 1,000,000 florins, of which 20 per cent. is paid up. The new firm is closely associated with the Barmer Bankverein and the firm of Hugo Stinnes.—Reuter.

DUNLOP'S HUGE DEFICIENCY

London, June 6.

Among measures to wipe off a total deficiency of £11,250,000, the directors of Messrs. Dunlop, in a scheme submitted to the shareholders, suggest writing down the ordinary £1 shares to 6/8d., and reducing the C Preference shares to 15/-. Arrears of preference dividends will be satisfied by allocation of ordinary shares, and the nominal capital will be restored by the creation of 32,000,000 new ordinary shares of 6/8d.—Reuter.

AWARD IN BRITISH SHIPBUILDING DISPUTE

London, June 6.

The award of the industrial court in the shipbuilding dispute grants a general increase of 7/- a week over the prevailing rates, payable in two instalments on June 14 and September 20, with an additional 6d. a day for the men engaged in repair work at Southampton.

The national claim was for an advance of 10/- a week, and the Southampton strikers had advanced local claims.—Reuter.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE

Tokio, June 4.

Japan's foreign trade during May is officially stated to have reached the total of Y.400,308,000. While exports totalled Y.176,685,000 during the month, imports amounted to Y.223,623,000, showing an excess of the latter over the former to the amount of Y.46,938,000. Since the beginning of the present year imports have totalled Y.1,290,994,000, that is Y.629,172,000 more than exports.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

S. M. R. ENTERPRISES

According to the President of the South Manchurian Railway Company, the sum of about 45 million yen will be available for various enterprises during the fiscal year 1924-25. This amount, which compares with Y.26,500,000 for 1923-24, has been allocated as follows: Railways, 15 million yen; harbours, Y.3,500,000; mines, 3 million yen; ironworks, Y.7,500,000; electrical undertakings, 3 million yen; gasworks; Y.1,200,000; hotels, Y.1,500,000; local administration, Y.8,600,000; and miscellaneous work, Y2,200,000.

LANGKATS

Meeting of Shareholders in the Shanghai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.

Meeting of Shareholders in the Shanghai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.

The report of the directors of this company Messrs. R. S. F. McBain, John Prentice, A. W. Burkill, A. J. Welch, and W. R. McBain for presentation at the fifth annual meeting of shareholders to be held at the office of the general agents, 1 The Bund, on Friday, June 20, at 4 p.m., states:—

The directors herewith beg to place before the shareholders a statement of accounts and balance sheet for the year ended December 31, 1923, and regret that they are so much later than last year owing to the sad death of our accountant at the mine, which occurred just at the time when the accounts were nearing completion.

The profit and loss account, after charging general agents' commission, directors' and auditors' fees and general expenses, shows a loss on the year's working of Tls. 63,083.82, which, added to the balance of Tls. 13,341.23 brought forward from 1922, makes a debit balance of Tls. 76,425.05. To this amount has been added the loss of Tls. 98,264.36, being balance of profit and loss account of the Mentoukou (Sino-British) Coal Mining Co., leaving a total debit balance of Tls. 174,689.41 to be carried forward.

Profit and loss account was opened as from July 1, 1923. The above result therefore represents only six months' working and during that period production was stopped for practically two months when the mine was shut down owing to danger of flooding. Since work was resumed production has progressed satisfactorily and at present about 500 tons of coal are being raised daily. The branch railway line from Mentoukou Station to the mine, referred to in our last annual report, was completed during the year and has since worked satisfactorily, all the coal despatched from the mine being carried over it.

Increase of capital.—Notice of an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the company to be held on Friday, June 20, immediately after the close of the annual general meeting, is enclosed (with the report), to which the attention of the shareholders is called.

Directors.—Mr. J. K. Tweed resigned his Directorship of the Company on his retiring from the East in May, 1923, and Mr. W. R. McBain was invited to take his place on the board. This appointment requires your confirmation. Mr. R. S. F. McBain, on his return to Shanghai, was invited to rejoin the board, and this appointment requires your confirmation. Mr. A. J. Welch retires by rotation, but, being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

Auditors.—Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews offer themselves for re-election.

YANGTSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

At an extraordinary general meeting of the Yangtsze Insurance Association, held on Tuesday afternoon, the resolution recently passed, which provides for enlarging the scope of the Company's operations, was confirmed.

The resolution, the adoption of which was proposed by the Chairman (Mr. John Prentice) and seconded by Mr. Brodie A. Clarke, reads as follows:

That the company's memoradum of association be altered by substituting for the present clause 2 thereof a new clause to read as follows:—2.—The registered office of the association shall be situate at Shanghai in China.

And by adding to clause 3 thereof immediately after subparagraph (G) of of the said clause a new sub-paragraph to be lettered (H) and to read as follows, that is to say:—

(H)—To undertake and execute any trusts the undertaking whereof may seem desirable and also to undertake the office of and act as trustee, executor, administration, guardian, committee, agent, custodian, receiver, treasurer, registrar or auditor and to keep for any company, government, authority or body any register relating to any stocks, funds, shares or securities or to undertake any duties in relation to the registration of transfers, issue of certificates or otherwise and generally to transact all kinds of *fiduciary* business and either with or without remuneration and by re-lettering the present subparagraphs (H) to (S) inclusive of the said clause (I) (J) (K) (L) (M) (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) (S) and (T) respectively."

NEW TRADE WEEKLY

"Capital and Trade"

We have received a copy of the first number of "Far Eastern Capital and Trade," a weekly journal dealing with financial, insurance, banking and shipping, as well as other industries, with a view to the dissemination of accurate commercial news. The new weekly is neatly compiled and printed and is well illustrated. It contains a number of interesting articles on a variety of subjects, including "The Protection of Trade Marks in China" (the first of a series by Mr. N. F. Allman), German Trade with China, the Tea Trade, Money and Exchange, Shanghai Markets, Machinery, Metals, etc. In the editorial notes it is stated that "Capital and Trade" is not attempting to compete with any other journal, but to help to develop the country's trade and to be the means of introducing reforms that will help trade in general. If succeeding issues are equal to the high standard of the first number, the new venture should prove highly successful. The head office of the paper is at No. 25 Jinkee Road.

TRADE IMPROVEMENT IN SZECHUAN

An important piece of news was received Tuesday to the effect that the military authorities had taken off the 1 per cent. import duty which they imposed, a few weeks ago, on all imports into the province, and which, combined with the other impositions which trade with Szechuan has to endure, had brought business to a standstill.

It is understood that Marshal Wu Pei-fu ordered removal of the tax, which was immediately followed by improved demand.

AMERICAN WHEAT BOUNTY

Washington, June 6.

The Farm Bloc in both Houses is supporting the Bursum Bill, conferring a bounty of 35 cents a bushel on wheat and wheat products.—Reuter's American Service.

ARE YOU ILL?
Are you ill with any disease due to impure blood such as Eczema, Scrofula, Scurvy, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Boils, Sores, Eruptions, Piles, Glandular Swellings, Blood Poison, Rheumatism, &c.? If so, don't delay, start taking Clarke's Blood Mixture to-day and the experience of [illegible] it has proved itself a truly wonderful purifying properties. Over 50 years success. Pleasant to take. Of [illegible]
Clarke's Blood Mixture
CURES ALL SKIN AND BLOOD DISEASES.

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GIVES INSTANT RELIEF
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FAMED FOR 50 YEARS
Sold in tins by all Chemists and Stores throughout the country
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS

COMPANIES' NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ltd.—A dividend at the rate of 2s. 6d. per share, free of income tax, has been declared, payable on July 5. Bearer Coupon No. 43.

The Shanghai Exploration & Development Co., Ltd. The 5th Annual Meeting will be held at No. 1 The Bund, Shanghai, on Friday, June 20, 1924, at 4 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from June 16 to 20, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ltd.—The 8th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 2 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Friday, June 27, 1924, at noon.

The Transfer Books will be closed from June 20 to 27, 1924, both days inclusive

Share Report for Week Ending June 13, 1924.

No. 24/23

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Codes in use A1 Code
A.B.C. 4th, 5th and 6th Editions
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Members of Shanghai Stock Exchange.
Land, Estate & Insurance Agents.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building,
The Bund
Post Office Box No. 244, Shanghai

Local share business has continued very depressed and the problem of financing the Settlement on the 24th instant has been the most important factor in the market during the past week.

London market quotations show no marked fluctuations and the following are the latest prices offered to us by cable this week:—

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Gold Loan 1913, B.I.	£ 74. 0. 0	(Middle Price)
" " " " " " F.I.	71. 0. 0	ex B.I.R.S.
" " " " " " C.I.	71. 0. 0	"
" " " Shai & Nanking Rly. Bonds	70. 5. 0	"
" " " Lung Tsing U. Hai Rly. 1913	53. 12. 6	"
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"	3. 11. 6	(Middle Price)
Shell Transport & Trading Co. "B"	4. 5. 0	" cum divid.
British-American Tob Co., "B"	0. 0. 0	
Singapore Electric Tramways	0. 4. 6	(Buyers)
Pekin Syndicate, Ord.	0. 11. 6	(Sellers)

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/3½.

Shanghai June 13, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

JUNE	7th Cash	7th June	9th Cash	9th June	10th Cash	10th June	11th Cash	11th June	12th Cash	12th June	13th Cash	13th June
RUBBERS												
New Amherst Rub. Est., Ld. Tls.					0.10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
STOCK EXCHANGE HOLIDAY												
BANK HOLIDAY (WHIT MONDAY)												
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld. Tls			..	..	74	..	74	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co. (Ord.) "			..	..	..	..	..	85	..	..	..	..
S'hai Dock & Eng. Co., Ld. .. "			..	..	..	..	..	91	..	..	..	..
Langkats (combined) .. .. "			..	..	..	..	20½	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Elec. Cons. Co., "B" "			..	..	..	..	13	..	13	..	..	..
COTTONS												
Ewo Cotton Mills Ld. (Ord) Tls.			..	..	..	..	..	11.35	..	..	..	..
DEBENTURES												
S. M. C. 1922 7% Debs. .. Tls.			104	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 8% " .. "			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	108	..

FORWARD SETTLEMENTS FOR 1924.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, JUNE 13, 1924.

STOCK		Last business done	Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc.	Finan. year ended	Last Dividend etc.	Paid or Due
BANKS.										
London	£	132½								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Cor.	$	1135	1145		61) 400 000	H $126	(a H $3,370,314 (c H $64,494,394	Dec.	Final $3 & Bonus $2 (mkg. $5 1922) less I/T	29-2-24
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. ..London	£	19 3/	£19 1/3		800,000	£5	(a £222,407 (c £3,900,000	Dec.	Final 7s. & Bonus 6s. 3d. (mkg. £1 6s. 3d.) free of I/T, 1923	8-1-24
INSURANCE.										
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	H $	223	222		55) 200,000	d $10	(au $457,648 (b $89,500 (c $2,284,797	Dec.	Final 16s. (mkg. 40s.) ex 1922 Work. a/o. Interim 24s. & Bonus to Contributors, 20%. ex 1922 Work a/o	17-5-24
North-China Insurance Co., Ld.	T	138			10,000	e £5	(ap T810,687 (c T4,739,885	Dec.	Final 15s. (mkg. 30s.) ex 1921 Work a/o. and Interim 15s. ex 1922 Works. a/o.	10-8-24
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld. ..	$	284			21) 250,000	$10	(au $2,221,[illegible] (au $2,713,138 (c $3,559,700	Dec.	$24 (24%) ex 1923 Work. a/o. payable in Taels at Exchg. 78	28-5-24
Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld.	T	22			1) 50,000	T20	(au T154,435 (au T731,344	Dec.	T1.40 ex 1923 Work. a/o.	28-5-24
Canton Insurance Office, Ld.	H $	720		820	10,000	f H $250	(au H $1,940,924 (c H $7,149,847	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $40) ex 1923 Work. a/o.. Interim H $18 ex 1923 Work. a/o.	21-5-24
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld. ..	H $	550	560		8,000	g H $50	(au H $515,163 (c H $4,307,811	Dec.	H $35 ex 1922 Working a/o.	27-3-24
China Fire Insurance Co. Ld.	H $	135	136		20,000	h H $100	(au H $1,366,779 (c H $6,017,740	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $3 ex 1923 Working a/c ..	17-5-24
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	F	500			14,000	F500	(a F191,[illegible] (b F3,784,330	Dec.	Note, Finance 1918	....
SHIPPING.										
Indo China S.N. Co., Ld.	H $	93	47½		2) 140,000	£5	(a $1,179			
	H $	140			2) 120,000	£5		Dec.	Prof. 6s. at Exchg. H $2/4½ London Warrants less I/T. Def. Ord., nil..	7-5-24
Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ld. ..	'B' ord.		4.13.0	£4.6.6	21) 300,000	£10	(a* £2,029,058	Dec.	Interim 2s., free of I/T, Coupon 42	5-1-24
	£ (5% cum. pref.				57) 10,000,000	£1	(a £5,000,000			
	£ (7% cum. 2nd pref.									
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co., Ld.	T ord.	86½			20,000	T25	(a T23,575	Dec.	Final Ord. T4.50 (mkg. T7, 1923)	11-3-24
	T 7% pref.	51½			10,000	T50	(a T410,000		Final Pref. T1.75 (mkg. T3.50, 1923) ..	11-3-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.										
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld. ..	T	95			47) 55,700	T75	(a T102,535 (c T1,945,000	Apr.	T1.50, 1922-23	27-7-23
Hongkong & W'pao Dock Co., Ld.	H $	143		143	½ 60,000	H $50	(a H $319,796 (c H $4,081,695	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkg. H $9, 1923)	21-3-24
New Eng. and Shipbuilding Works, Ld. .. .. .. (ord.	T	6	6		42) 500,000	T5	(a T59,500		Ord. T0.25 1923	10-2-24
(8% pref.	T	4.95			65) 500,000	T5	(b T300,000 (c T1,311,045	Dec.	Pref. T0.40 1923..	10-2-24
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co., Ld.	T	191	190		(31) 40,000	T100	(a T3,420 (b T200,000 (c T1,075,281	Dec.	Final T10 (mkg. T13, 1923	4-3-24
H'kong & K'loon W. & G. Co., Ld. ..	H $	170½	170½		30,000	H $50	(a H $290,619 (b H $300,000 (c H $59,240	Dec.	H. $6 & Bonus H. $3, 1923	26-2-24
MINING.										
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ld. ..	£	12/-	11/3	14/6	24) 500,000	C.$10	——	June	C $0.50, 1920-21	26-7-23
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ld. (Bearer).	T	21½	20½		(†36½) 2,000,000	£1	(a	June	Int. 2/- free of I/T, 1923-1924 (Coupon No 24)	1-5-24
London	£		£3.10.0	£3-13-0			(c			
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co. Ld. ..	H $	5			200,000	£1	(a $23,613 (c £4,873	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	31-3-10
LANDS AND HOTELS.										
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld: ..	T	118	117½		‡) 78,000	T50	(a T34,419 (b T275,000 (c T2,289,317	Dec.	Final T3 & Bonus T2 (mkg. T3, 1923) .. .	21-3-24
H'kong Land Invest. & Agcy. Co., Ld. ..	H $	105		102½	240,000	H $25	(a H $157,880 (b H $250,000 (c H $6,060,060	Dec.	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares (mkg. H $5, 1923) H $2.50 on 40,000 new shs.	28-1-24
(New Reg.)										
Humphreys Est. & Finance Co., Ld: ..	H $	22½	22		150,000	H $10	(a H $158,289 (b H $50,000 (c H $421,438	Dec	H $0.80 and Bonus H $0.80, 1923	11-2-24
Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld:	T	6			3,674	T20	(a T2,946 (c T7,000	Dec.	T1.20, 1923	13-2-24
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld. ..	T	115½			‡23) 18,000	T100	(a T9,269 (b T20,000 (c T375,000	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg. T8, 1923-24)	3-4-24
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld: ..	H $	19 old 13			33) 500,000	H $10	(a H $35,238	Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000 shares (mkg. H $2 (old)	24-3-24
							(c H $4,953,767			
Carlton, Ld.	T	53			14) 10,000	T50		Mar.	Floated April 1, 1922.	
Asia Realty Co., Inc...	G $	100			118) 10,000	G $100		Dec.	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware 1922, 7%	4-1-23
Haven Trust Co., Inc. .. .. .. (ord.	G $	10	12½		**100,000	G $10				
pref	G $	10	10			G $10			Ord. Pref. 1st gr. 1923, 1½%	4-1-23
PLANTATIONS.										
Alma Estates, Ld:	T	5½	3½		70,000	£1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23	19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.10			‡62) 500,000	T1		Oct.		
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld. ..	T	1.80	1½		12) 400,000	10s.	a T30,242	Dec.	T0.26, 1923	1-4-24
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T	4½	4		4) 500,000	10s.	(a T12,442 (c T372,167	Dec.	Final T0.30 (mkg. T0.55, 1923..	15-4-24
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld:	T	21			37) 30,000	T10	(a T16,223 (b T22,000 (c T60,960	Sept.	Final T2.00. (mkg. T2½) 1922-23	28-12-23
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld. ..	T	0.65	0.50		400,000	T1	a T22,777	Dec.	T0.05, 1923	
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T	1.12½	0.75		500,000	T1	a T20,402	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	11-4-24
Bute Plantation (1913), Ld.	T	0.75			28) 500,000	T1	a T3,505	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	25-7-17
Chemor United Rubber Co., Ld.	T	0.75			400,000	T0.90	(a T17,973 (c T12,000	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)	29-3-17
Chempedak Rub. & G'bier Est., Ld. ..	T	4½			39) 35,000	£1	a (Loss) T13,435	Oct.	2nd Interim, T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17)	3-1-24
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	1			675,000	T1	a T4,120	June	T0.20, 1916-17	16-10-17
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ld..	T	2.12½			25) 500,000	2s.—T0.75	(a T16,988 (c T60,000	Dec.	Final T0.15 (mkg. T0.21, 1923)..	1-11-17
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T	1¾	1¼		19) 350,000	T1	a T2,775	Dec.	T0.10, 1923	9-4-24
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T	8¼	7		†48) 750,000	(21:450,000 (5s; 200,000	(a (c			16-4-24
Java-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee Est. Ld.	T	8	8½				(a T17,215		2s. less I/T 4s. 7½d in £ (Coupon 21)	16-4-24
Kali Gludik Coffee Estates, Ld.	T	6.10			8) 85,000	£1 at 2/3½	(a T2,683	Dec.	Final T0.75 (mkg. T1.25, 1923)..	15-4-24
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld. ..	T	9.40			70,000	T5		....	Incorporated 1923	
					35) 15,000	T10	(a T6,977		(T0.50, 1922	19-4-23
Karan Rubber Estate Co., Ld:	T	3	2.60		25,000	T10	(a T4,023 (a T3,008	Dec.	(Interim 1923, T0.50	17-7-23
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Ld..	T	0.50			800,000	T1	(b T30,000	Mar.	T0.60, 1922-23	1-6-23
K.Poewoek Java Plantations, Ld.	T	12	9½		20) 75,000	£1 at T8.50	a (Loss) T38,268 (a T42,946	June	....	....
Padang Rubber Co., Ld.	T	9½			80,000	T10	(c T92,000 (a T13,410	Dec.	T1 (mkg. T1.50, 1923)	4-6-24

RUBBER AUCTIONS.

The following telegraphic advices have been received:—
Singapore, June 11, 1924.

Spot or June	35⅝ cents
July/Sept.	36¾ "
Oct./Dec.	37⅜ "

Market dull and steady.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
S'hai Municipal Council	1905	6 to 20	5-4-24	T87	320,000	6	June-Dec.
	1907	do.	19-3-24	T97	500,000	6	do.
	1908	do.	9-5-24	T93	650,000	6	do.
	1909	do.	15-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
	1910	do.	18-5-24	T97	313,800	6	do.
	1911	10 to 30	9-5-24	T97½	350,000	6	do.
	1912	do.	3-1-24	T99	340,000	6	do.
	1913	do.	3-5-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
		10 to 50	19-5-24	T89	500,000	5½	do.
	1914	10 to 30	19-5-24	T89	900,000	5½	do.
	1915	do.	19-5-24	T89	800,000	5½	do.
	1916	do.	28-5-24	T97	1,400,000	6	do.
	1918	10	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
	1919	10	9-5-23	T102	1,793,300	7	do.
	1920	10	1-5-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
		10 to 30	29-3-24	£104	£750,000	6	do.
	1921	do.	13-2-24	$110	$1,000,000	8	do.
	1921	do.	13-6-24	T108	T5,096,400	8	do.
	1922	do.	10-6-24	T104	T8,000,000	7	do.
	1923	do.	29-5-24	T97	aT6,000,000	6	do.
	1924	do.	1-5-24	T97½	T500,000	6 %	do.
French Municipal Council	1911	do.	8-10-23	T90	400,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914	do.	12-2-23	T88	1,000,000	5½	June-Dec.
	1915	do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
	1921	do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8	do.
	1923	do.	17-12-23	T95	a T800,000	6	May-Nov.
S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	1921	10 to 30	9-5-24	T107	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
	1922	do.	6-6-22	T108	T500,000	8	do.
S'hai Gas Co., Ltd.	1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
	1909	do.	2-4-23	T94	£ 800,000	6	do.
S'hai Land Investment Co., Ltd.	1912	do.	29-5-24	T97½	250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1913	do.	3-4-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct.
		do.	11-1-24	T93	250,000	6	May-Nov.
		do.			250,000	6	April-Oct.
	1914	do.	22-3-23	T98	250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1915	5 to 25	3-4-23	T88	600,000	5½	do.
	1922	do.	12-2-23	T95	750,000	6	Mar.-Sep.
	1922	do.	10-1-24	T98	500,000	6	May-Nov.
Shanghai Club	1907	20	1-2-24	T93	435,000	6	do
Country Club	1901	Perpetual	29-5-24	T91	139,000	6	June-Dec.
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ltd.	1914	5 to 20			130,000	6	May-Nov.
	1915	do.			110,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ltd.	1906	do.			250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1917	do.	7-6-23	T93	300,000	6	do.
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ltd.	1923	10 to 20	27-2-23	T95½	h 270,000	6	do.
S'hai Race Club	1923	25	14-4-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
Culty Dairy Co., Ltd.	1915	10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
Hall & Holtz Ld.	1914	5 to 20	14-10-22	T92	T230,000	7	Jan.-July
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	1922	5 to 20	..	..	T500,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—b—Tls.65,100; c—Tls 51,100; d—Tls.34,100; e—Tls.68,500; f—Tls.262,400; g—Tls.139,800; h—Tls.12,300; i—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-12-23	1924: Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Total output this fin'yr. to date.
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Aima	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	246,648	8.87d	65,000	22,000	18,000	17,000	19,000	22,000	100,000
Amberst (New)	" 300,000	Oct.	72,442	80,692	40,751	*8.89d.	19,020	8,214	8,475	14,682	14,670	15,538	60,579
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	650,000	640,000	600,000	3.43d.	..	60,000	60,000	65,000	62,500	50,000	291,500
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,624,711	1,663,450	..	6.70d	..	184,000	164,100	187,000	173,000	140,000	848,100
Ayer Tawan	Tls. 300,000	Sept.	369,447	82,042	360,000	†0.24.41	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam	" 400,000	Dec.	255,510	247,322	185,793	9.01d	..	12,500	11,500	15,000	15,300	15,600	69,900
Bukit Toh Alang	" 500,000	Mar.	305,745	248,182	345,000	7.54d	..	..	..	..	23,000	31,200	54,200
Buto	" 500,000	Dec.	230,067	177,350	159,516	11.11d	..	17,500	16,400	13,600	Nil	10,000	57,500
Chemor United	" 360,000	Dec.	340,794	261,827	..	8.40d.	..	27,200	23,300	9,500	16,900	20,200	97,100
Chempedak	£35,000	Oct.	145,789	155,063	..	1.49.42d.	30,700	14,000	4,400	1,000	33,200	14,700	73,000
Cheng	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.09d.	102,014	10,500	9,700	11,900	11,400	15,000	158,414
Consolidated (1914)	" 375,000	Dec.	669,399	646,775	761,500	7.47d.	..	53,000	50,770	44,477	43,523	49,454	242,173
Lothlorien	" 350,000	Dec.	271,150	321,546	306,867	9.63d.	..	28,039	27,654	15,999	19,369	26,695	117,749
Gula-Kalumpong	£500,000	Dec.	1,113,000	933,000	1,216,000	1/0.½ d.	..	88,000	78,000	86,000	83,000	..	315,000
Java Consolidated	£85,000	Dec.	626,524	672,325	..	6.25d	..	68,200	60,900	72,300	72,900	63,400	337,800
Kapayang	" 150,000	Dec.	199,239	146,710	..	†26.90	..	10,592	8,315	7,636	5,908	5,541	37,992
Karan	" 250,000	Mar.	104,783	78,576	84,000	8½d.	..	..	..	..	6,050	8,100	14,150
Kota Bahroe (1921)	" 340,000	June	132,230	230,970	..	..	160,918	29,156	26,949	19,180	19,640	22,670	278,413
Kroewoek	£70,000	Dec.	449,000	584,581	540,000	0/7.24d.	..	59,000	55,000	59,000	56,000	53,000	282,000
Langkat	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	842,589	943,000	975,000	Glds.0.28	179,300	82,500	71,500	70,000	64,000	..	477,300
Padang	Tls. 500,000	April	220,232	171,900	..	10½d.	..	..	..	..	..	12,000	12,000
Pengkalan (1921)	" 150,000	Mar.	135,253	9,265	176,028	†40.19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Permata	" 250,000	Oct.	98,303	86,299	..	0/8.4d.	17,585	8,080	6,033	5,867	..	..	37,535
Repah	" 275,000	Dec.	68,884	217,087	..	..	..	17,400	8,700	15,900	11,000	14,900	67,900
Saungaga	" 600,000	Sept.	361,810	250,813	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
See Kee (1918)	" 100,000	June	179,995	142,000	115,183	11.32d.	120,509	8,500	11,000	10,500	8,200	..	158,709
Semamboe	" 500,000	Dec.	161,155	245,595	158,284	0.9.37d.	..	13,100	13,100	7,000	15,600	14,300	64,300
Senawang (1921)	" 375,000	Jan.	272,500	275,100	..	*7.35d.	..	..	14,500	16,100	17,200	20,000	68,100
Shanghai Kedah	" 400,000	Sept.	313,414	246,542	..	8.12d.	67,025	21,196	17,259	17,024	23,007	23,446	172,537
S'hai-Klebang	" 315,000	Dec.	126,106	100,034	..	11.35d.	..	9,700	8,000	..	..	6,300	23,000
S'hai-Malay	" 600,000	Dec.	373,111	283,816	408,961	..	..	22,782	21,124	16,254	7,983	20,331	88,824
S'hai Pahang	" 200,000	June	209,881	188,016	..	9.4d.	100,973	16,132	14,175	14,846	11,400	14,200	172,326
S'hai Seremban	" 325,000	Dec.	171,213	147,112	..	9.82d.	..	11,400	13,200	7,400	7,400	10,000	52,500
S'hai-Sumatra	" 600,000	Oct.	661,238	679,740	650,000	Glds.0.38	111,341	61,110	51,170	43,537	39,079	..	306,237
Sua-Manggis	" 250,000	Dec.	185,000	157,100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungaia	" 100,000	Mar.	165,757	22,992	..	†7.20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungei Duri	£40,000	June	308,073	296,568	220,000	11.61d.	126,409	27,698	22,272	10,048	10,769	18,512	211,768
Tuliping (1913)	Tls. 2,30,000	Dec.	107,911	103,880	99,000	*30	..	..	6,572	5,561	6,518	..	26,265
Tunah Merah	" 750,000	Mar.	395,900	304,700	..	7.52d.	..	..	..	..	25,000	25,000	50,000
Tebong	" 750,000	Jan.	630,823	721,000	717,725	0/7.66d.	..	..	61,000	66,000	59,000	71,000	130,000
Ziangbe	£150,000	Dec.	514,566	523,600	600,000	7.24d.	..	67,500	53,200	58,000	63,760	53,500	300,560

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expens

† Straits 9 cents.

See Kee Rubber Estates (1918), Ld.	T	0.75	0.50	0.60		100,000		T1	a	Loss T32,626	Sept.	T0.05, 1922-23			12-12-23
Semambu Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.85	0.60			$60,000		T1	b	T42,000	June	T0.10, 1923			....
Senawang Rubber Ests. (ord.	T	0.70			633	300,000		T1	c	T420,000	Dec.	Interim T0.05, 1923—No final			20-4-23
Co. (1921), Ld. 12% Cum. Pref.	T				667	140,000		T1	**a	T1,417	Jan.	....			30-10-23
Shanghai Kedah Plantations, Ld.	T	0.75	0.50		343	400,000		T1	a	T1,118	Sept	T0.05, 1923			....
S'hai Klebang Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.50			130	315,000		T1	a	T12,068	Dec.	T0.05, 1919			27-12-23
S'ha Malay Rubber Estates, Ld. ord.	T	1	1½			30,231		T10	a	T621	Dec.	(Ord. T0.60 for 9 months ended 31/12/1			24-2-20
" 8% cum. part. prof.	T	9			22)	30,000		T10				Pref. T0.40, for 6 months ended 31/12/22			2-5-17
															31-10-23
S'hai Pahang Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.75				200,000		T1		(Loss) T1,212	June	Final T0.09 (mkg. T0.10, 1916-17)			12-10-17
S'hai Seremban Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.85				325,000		T1	a	(Loss)T10,352	Dec.	T0.04 for 10 months, ended 31/12/22			31-3-17
S'hai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ld.	T	105			7)	30,000		T20	(a	(Loss) 325,816					
									c	T812,170	Oct.	T2, 1918-19			1-4-20
Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ld.	T	2.85			30	56,000		T5	a	T7,451					
Sungaia Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.80			25)	100,000		T1	c	T25,000	Dec.	T0.35, 1923			18-4-24
Sungei Duri Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	6	6			10,000	£1 at T8.50		a	T4,625					
Taiping Rubber Estates (1913), Ld.	T	0.50	0.40			200,000		T1	c	T10,000	Mar.	T0.10, 1916-17			12-7-17
Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ld.	T	0.47½			32)	750,000		T1	a	T22,766	June	T0.85, 1922-23			12-10-23
									c	(Loss) T857	Dec.	T0.08, 1919			20-5-20
Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	1							a	T31,851					
Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ld.	T	2½	2		£54)	750,000		T1	c	T9,737	Mar.	Interim T0.05 1916-17 (Final, Nil)			7-12-17
					32)	300,000		10s.	a	T6,379	Jan.	T0.05, 1923-24			2-5-24
									(a	T17,851					
									c	T3,243	Dec.	T0.25, 1923			8-4-24
COTTONS, ETC.															
Ewo Cotton Mills, Ld. (ord.	T	11½		11.35	15	1,000,000		T5	(a	T3,257					
" (8% cum. pref.	T	105			43)	10 000		T100	b	T1,400,000		Ord. T0.55, 1923			
									c	T2,802,920	Dec.	Pref. T8, 1923			5-3-24
Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ld.	T	8.	6½			80,000		T10	(a	(Loss)T36,057					5-3-24
									b	T120,000					
Oriental C. S. & W. Co., Ld. ord.	T	4.20			30	500,000		T3	c	T7,612	Dec.	Final T2, (mkg. 1921)			
pref.	T				3)	5,000		T100	(a	(Loss) T95,590					8-3-23
									b	T200,000					
Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ld. (Shanghai Boshoku K.K.)	T	61 old (new)	54 30			80,000		T50	c	T2,551,760	Dec.	Final T0.50 (mkg. T1.50 1921)			25-3-22
						40,000		T50	(a	T50,375					
INDUSTRIAL.									c	T1,270,000	June	T3.50 1922-23			24-8-23
British-American Tobacco Co., Ld. (ord.	£		£5.5.	£5.7.	66)	12,000,000		£1	(a	£3,531,816					
(5% cum. pref.	£					4,500,000		£1	c	£2,251,649	Sept.	Final Ord. 1922-23, 9% (mkg. 25%) free			
China Im. & Ex. Lumber Co., Ld.	T	350				5 000		T100	(a	T240,406		of I/T			11-1-24
									b	T300,000					
China Sugar Refining Co., Ld.	H $	230	220			20,000		H $100	c	T2,100,000	Feb.	T8, 1923-24			
									a	H $10,763					31-5-24
Gordon & Co., Ltd.	T	25			37)	6,000		T25	b	H $600,000					
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.	H $	23 old	21½ old 5.65 new			400,000		H $7.50	c	H1,200,000	Dec.	H $40, 1923			
Maatschappij, &c., In Langkat	T	6	6.15			230,000		Gs.10	(a	T22,318					1-4-21
									c	T140,917		Div. 10% & Bonus 2½%, 1923-24			
Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ld.	T	5 (comb. T20)	5½ (comb T90)	(comb. T		250,000		T5	(a	H $93,347					15-4-24
									c	H $1,050,000	Dec.	Final H $1.50 (mkg. H $2, 1923)			
S'hai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.	T	9				250,000		T5	(a	(Loss)T158,433					4-3-24
Major Brothers, Ld.	T	5			10)	6,000		T20	c	T190,164	Oct.	T0.50, 1923-19			30-3-20
John Richards & Co., Ld.	T	10			11)	25,000		T10	(a	T35,698					
									c	T300,000					
Shanghai Gas Co., Ld.	T	40	40		1)	24,000		T50			Dec.	T0.50, 1923			5-3-24
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.	T	150	145		19)	60,000		£20	a	(Loss) T13,341					
STORES.									(a	T6,941)	Dec.	....			
									c	T70,000	Dec.	....			....
American Drug Co.					44)	10 000		M $100	c	T7,130					....
									(a	T30,000	Dec.	10%, 1921			
Hall & Holtz, Ld.	$	6	5.60		£161	23 000		$20	c	T24,322					24-6-22
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.	$	30				1 200		$60	(a	T50,000	Dec.	T4.00, 1923			
S. Montrie & Co., Ld.	$	50			17)	10 000		$50	c	T52,241					11-6-24
Weeks & Co., Ld.	£	11			150)	30,000		$20	(a	T24,475					
									c	T1 770,985	Dec.	(Final 10s. (at Exchg. 3/2½=T3.09) mkg. 20s./-, 1923			4-4-21
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	$	97	98		3)	2 500		$100	(a	Loss T3,955					
MISCELLANEOUS.										T7,895	Dec	....			....
									(a	T104 298					
Culty Dairy Co., Ld.	T	11				10,000		T10		$7,944	Feb.	$2, 1917-18			1-5-15
									(a	T26,000					
S'hai Electric Construction Co., Ld., "B" London	T	18		£3-2-6		40,000		£1	c	$12 581	Dec.	$2, 1922			12-5-23
									(a	T592,000					
S'hai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ld.	T	50				5,400		T50	(a	(Loss) $3 965	Mar.	Final $2 & Bonus $4 (mkg. $9, 1923-24)			6-6-24
									c	$26,141	Feb.	$1.60, 1922-23			3-5-23
Shanghai Mercury, Ld.	T	25				3 000		T50	(a	$7,815					
									b	$20,000					
Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co. Ld.	T	74			£49.	40,000		T50	c	$250 000		$10, 1923-24			23-5-24
									(a	$109,513					
Oriental Press (L'Imprimerie Francaise)	$100					940		$100	b	$9,000					
									c	$21,101	Mar.	$10 1922-23			5-7-21

For all Dollar shares quoted on the Shanghai Stock Exchange the Exchange rate is taken at 75.

REFERENCES.

a Carried forward at last Ann. Genl. Meeting.
b Dividend Equalization Reserve.
c General and Other Reserves.
d Uncalled liability £6 per sh.
" " " £10 "
" " " Rl60 "
" " " $200
" " " $ 80 "
" " " Tls. 25 "
u Working Account 1923
v Working Account 1922
w Working Account 1921
† Registered or Bearer (idem, "B").
** Issued Capital: 7% Cum. Pref. 24,461 shares; Ordinary, 16,270 shares.

‡ Debentures Issues also.
‡‡ Subject to Estate Managers' Commissions
* Subject to E. P. D. and Corp. Tax.
** Contingent liability for Interest on 12% Cum. Pref. Shares of Tls. 9,162

1—14,000 sh' unis'd.
2—70,411 "
3—5,000 "
4—4,800 "
5—19,182 "
6—30,000 "
7—10,761 "
8—10,000 "
9—16,470 sh. unis'd.
10—500 "
11—15,280 "
12—50,000 "
13—1,437 "
14—3,063 "
15—100,000 "
16—1,692 "
17—3,832 "
18—5,530 "
19—18,330 "
20—15,000 "
21—100,000 "
22—2,620 "
23—5,000 "
24—70,210 "
25—125,000 "
26—60,000 sh' unis'd
27—8,121 "
28—200,000 "
29—4,085 "
30—2,000 "
31—4,000 "
32—50,000 "
33—125,000 "
34—102,570 "
35—200 "
36—189 000 "
37—1,443 "
38—7,695 "
42—200,000 "
43—1,000 "
(Not to be issued for less than 950 ea.
44—1,672 sh' unis'd

47—500 sh. u. 10 d
48—100,000 "
49—5,644 "
50—6,115 "
54—40,000 "
55—89,000 "
56—10,544,3.6 "
57—5,000,000 "
60—16,000 "
61—240,000 "
62—401,055 "
63—15,000 "
64—800 000 "
65—200,000 "
66—1,953,940 "
67—66,057 "

In order to ensure of the above details, Agents and Secretaries of Companies are requested to notify Messrs. J. P. Basset & Co. of any alterations errors or omissions.

SHANGHAI NEWS

THE RUSSIAN SHIPS AT WOOSUNG

Bolshevik Intrigue and the Rumours of Sale: Vessels Now Brought Inside Huangpu: Sickness Rife and Men Landed for Treatment

It is evident that a good deal of misunderstanding exists with regard to the Russian ships at Woosung and the men on board, and available information indicates that this has been fostered by Bolshevik agents. The recently published letter protesting against the sale of the vessels is certainly open to suspicion. Even if rumours of the proposed sale of the vessels have any foundation in fact, it is obvious that no such sale can take place, or at least would be a very risky transaction, for the reason that those in charge of the ships have no title to sale. Meanwhile, the state of this strange armada of mendicants continues to present the authorities with a problem of extraordinary difficulty.

The Eldorado, which has been idling about Chinhai and Woosung for nearly a year now, recently moved off to Tsungming Island and is now reported to be moored in one of the creeks there, the suggestion being that this is preparatory to removing her machinery and breaking up the vessel. The other three vessels, the Monguvgay, Zaschitnik, and Okhotsk, have just been moved inside the Huangpu to a position opposite the Customs Station.

This move has been made through the initiative of Mr. V. Grosse, Co-Director of Russian Affairs, and was found to be absolutely necessary in view of the shocking state of affairs prevailing on board all three ships. They are very small, and, with some 600 men on board, sanitary conditions are indescribably bad. Consequently, a great deal of sickness has broken out, particularly stomach trouble and eye disease, and deaths are almost a daily occurrence.

Realizing that it was impossible to allow continuance of this state of affairs, Mr. Grosse made arrangements to have the vessels moved as already stated, and to send 200 men ashore to the Chinese Red Cross quarantine station on the Pootung side. Some of them, it is hoped, will land to-day, and their reception ashore will continue until all have had their immediate needs, and their sicknesses, attended to, this of course being the sole purpose for which permission to land has been given.

The League of Nations

The desperate state of these men raises anew the whole question of the repatriation of Russian refugees in China. It is most urgent that something definite be done to secure their final departure, either as emigrants or under a repatriation scheme. It will be remembered that last autumn Dr. Greig, of Kirin, came to Shanghai as the special representative of the League of Nations, charged with the duty of studying the condition of Russian refugees in China and of devising some final solution of their problem. As the result of Dr. Greig's work negotiations went forward between Dr. Nansen, on behalf of the League of Nations, and Moscow, but without avail. These have definitely broken down, the Soviet declining to give guarantees for the safe conduct of returning refugees or allow the intervention of a third party. Why they should assume this attitude is difficult to understand, since it is directly at variance with the policy they have pursued elsewhere. They were ready enough to allow a representative of the League to investigate conditions in the Don region and to arrange the repatriation of Russians who had taken refuge in the Balkans. Why, then, should they not similarly be ready to follow a similar policy in the Far East? Possibly, they regard with suspicion a situation on this side which has been complicated by an extraordinary amount of intrigue; but whatever their motive for refusing to co-operate with the League, it is to be hoped time will bring them to a more reasonable frame of mind.

The Emigration Outlet

In the meantime, what is to be done for these unfortunate people in our midst? The first and only remedy is that resort must be had to emigration. Here it becomes necessary to correct an impression which apparently has got abroad that Dr. Greig considers repatriation the only solution of the problem, a view with which he seems to have been credited in the American Red Cross report. The case is distinctly otherwise, Dr. Greig having made it perfectly plain that he considers emigration for a certain number of the refugees to be an absolute necessity. He has already done something towards sending a few of them to Canada. The first party of 35 Russians left Kobe on board the Empress of Russia on the 7th instant, special terms having been arranged by Dr. Greig on their behalf with the South Manchuria Railway, the Osaka Kisen Kaisha, and the Canadian Government and the C.P.R. Further efforts will be made to secure the departure of more families, and in selection special care will be taken to secure people able and willing to settle down on the land as cultivators.

Unfortunately, the expense attached to Canadian emigration on even a small scale must be enormous, G.$1,000 being the minimum cash requisite for sending away one family of five people, the Canadian authorities having stipulated that an emigrant family must be in possession of $700 on landing, to provide for their maintenance until they are able to earn for themselves. And unfortunately the financial side of the problem is no nearer solution than the political. Incidentally, it should be mentioned for the assurance of those who have interested themselves in the matter, that ever since his appointment as League delegate Dr. Greig has been working most energetically to secure a solution of the refugee problem, and neither he nor the League are to be blamed for the delay and lack of progress.

The Appeal to China

Once more we would urge that the Sino-Russian Agreement puts a new complexion on the matter so far as China is concerned, the way having been opened for negotiations for dealing with the problem on a comprehensive scale. A very large majority of the refugees are now willing to return to their own country, and China would be doing a service to all concerned if she would arrange with Moscow to take them back.

Russian Refugee Seamen's Protest

A strong note of bitterness runs through an ultimatum, signed by M. N. P. Patireff, and 88 other officers and men on the five Russian steamers at Woosung, which was sent to the "New Shanghai Life" regarding the action of their superiors in selling the vessels to outsiders. They stress the futility of their remaining in Shanghai while their leaders are, so they allege, betraying them by selling ships which belong to the Russian people, and express the intention of going back to Russia.

"We, the undersigned," runs part of the proclamation, "officers and soldiers, have become convinced of the futility and mistake of further sojourn abroad at a time when a new life is being introduced into Russia. We have learned of the sale of the str. Eldorado to Chinese speculators to be broken up, and we authorize Citizen N. P. Patiroff to make by every means in his power a decisive protest against further attempts to sell the remaining Russian ships."

The ultimatum goes on to point out that the Eldorado, the Monguvgay, Zaschitnik and Okhotsk all belong to the Russian Volunteer Fleet, and therefore to the Russian nation, so that no individuals or groups of military refugees have any right to sell them. They should be returned to the Russian people. That, they state, is the only honourable and straightforward course to take. The selling of them is dishonourable [illegible] Already they point out, anchor chains, fittings, and other equipment have been sold to outsiders. Their leaders had assured them that they would keep the ships safe for New Russia, while even then they were lulling their followers into a false sense of security, and conducting negotiations for the sale of the ships.

Then comes a note of hopelessness. "No matter what happens" they state, "or what sort of government may be in power in Russia, do you think the Russian people will even say 'thank you' to us?"

Leaders Selling Arms?

Developments now will be watched with interest. These ships have been something of a mystery since they came here some time ago and moored off Woosung. The general impression was that those on board them were "White" refugees, and at first sympathy was expressed for them. This sympathy evaporated when it became known they were openly selling arms to the Chinese. Then came whispers that the sympathies of these people were not altogether "White," and no one has really known what are their political opinions. When, however, both Great Britain and China recognized the Soviets their position became a somewhat difficult one, and something was bound to happen. What did happen was that one day the Eldorado slipped quietly away and it transpired she had been sold. If all the ships were sold, as seemed likely to happen, the men would be left in a most unhappy position, and thus this outbreak. Now it seems large numbers of the men, tired and weary, having lost all faith in their leaders and feeling that in some subtle way they had been betrayed, have decided to drop the waiting game and go back to Russia.

THE DREDGING OF SOOCHOW CREEK

The Money Required now Raised: A Promise to Begin Surveying Work Immediately

Two letters have been received by the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce from the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, in reply to inquiries made as to any steps taken by that body towards bringing about some improvement in the condition of the Soochow Creek. The Chairman of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce has sanctioned publication of the letters, which follow:

Dear Sirs,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter regarding the congestion on Soochow Creek and requesting this Chamber to take any action possible in the matter. In reply I beg to state that the Creek is communicating with eight districts, as follows:—Shanghai, Paoshan, Chingpu, Taitsang, Chiading, Quinsan, Wukiang, etc. The people of these districts are suffering seriously from the congestion on the Creek, and they are unanimously willing to contribute towards the expense of dredging of the creek, in order to avoid the congestion.

This Chamber is now in consultation with the people of these eight districts regarding subscriptions towards the expenses for dredging and as soon as the contributions are fixed we will request the Chinese authorities to commence the work forthwith.

FAN CHIU-PA,
Chinese General Chamber of Commerce (Shanghai).

February 22.

Dear Sirs,—With reference to inquiries about the Soochow Creek contained in your letter of the 14th instant, we have the pleasure to inform you that so far as the contributions are concerned, the amount required for the conservancy of the lower part of the Soochow Creek has been successfully raised through the co-operative efforts of the public organizations of the eight districts concerned, as well as the commercial bodies of Shanghai. The date of June 1 has been fixed for carrying out the first part of the undertaking by surveying the Creek.

Yours faithfully,
K. S. ZEE,
Chinese General Chamber of Commerce (Shanghai).

May 24.

RUSSIAN CONSULATE AND SOVIET

We understand that there is no truth whatever in the report circulated on Tuesday by an evening paper to the effect that the Soviet had applied to the Chinese authorities, under the new Sino-Russian agreement, to take over the Russian Consulate in Shanghai.

WEDDING

Duncan-Findlay

Holy Trinity Cathedral was beautifully decorated with bamboo arches, white button daisies and white lilies for the marriage last Friday of Miss Isobelle McInroy Findlay, daughter of the late Mr. James Findlay, of Dundee, Scotland, and Mr. James Douglas Fletcher Duncan, son of Mr. William Duncan, of Banff, Scotland. The ceremony was performed by the Very Reverend Dean Symons.

The bride, who was given away by Mr. T. E. Wilson, looked charming in a gown of white crêpe de Chine, artistically draped at the side and caught with a true lovers' knot of orange blossoms and white heather. With this she wore a French silk crêpe hat, and carried a shower bouquet of pale and white carnations with streamers of asparagus fern and white ribbons nearly reaching the ground. Her bridesmaid, Miss Killick, wore a smart gown of old gold crêpe, with georgette sleeves banded with the crêpe to match. A russet-red rose at the waist matched the roses which trimmed her hat of golden fancy straw. Her bouquet was of yellow tea roses.

Mrs. T. E. Wilson, the matron of honour, wore a becoming gown of soft blue taffeta trimmed with lace and taffeta ruffles of the same shade about the neck and sleeves and set in groups panelling the skirt. Her hat was gold lace over blue silk to match, trimmed with a large gold tissue rose. She carried a bouquet with carnations

The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. Bowrie as best man and Messrs Buckley, Reoch, and McKinnon acted as ushers.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, 74 Sinza Road, and was attended by many friends. The bridal couple received their friends under a floral bell, suspended from an arch of bamboo, rambler roses and daisies. Among the many beautiful gifts displayed was a handsome silver tea service and tray from the bridegroom's associates of the foreign staff of the Shanghai Electric Construction Co., Ld., and a dining room clock from the Singapore foreign staff of the same company. After the reception Mr. and Mrs. Duncan left for Hangchow on their honeymoon trip, the bride wearing a *chic* pongee costume and straw hat trimmed with a wreath of flowers.

FACTORY MURDER AND ROBBERY

Wednesday's Outrage by Gunmen: Watchman Killed and Coolie Wounded

An armed robbery which resulted in the murder of a Chinese watchman and the wounding of a coolie was carried out on premises occupied by the Shanghai Brick & Tile Co., 51 Ferry Road, at 7.55 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

The Chinese manager was sitting in his office paying a number of coolies their wages when the proceedings were interrupted by two men, one armed with a revolver, who demanded $1,000. Outside the door a third man, also armed with a revolver, was on guard. The manager told the two men inside that he had not such a sum there, and they demanded $500 instead. Meanwhile, five coolies who were in the room were made to keep quiet at the point of the gun.

While they were arguing there was the sound of a shot from outside and the two immediately grabbed some $70 in notes that was lying on the table and decamped. Before they left the room they fired two shots, one of which struck one of the coolies in the leg.

The shot that alarmed them was from the gun of the man on guard outside, who had fired at the Chinese watchman and shot him in the head. This man immediately collapsed and was taken to hospital where he died somewhere around midnight. As usual in these cases no arrests were made at the time, but the police are exerting their utmost efforts and have warned the Chapei police.

MR. A. H. George is now in charge of the Shipping Office at H.M. Consulate-General.

CATHOLIC GENERAL COUNCIL CLOSED

Thanksgiving Service Most Impressive in Annals of Catholic Church in China

The Catholic General Council of China, which opened on May 15, in the Church of St. Ignatius, Siccawei, was brought to a close on Thursday morning by a solemn thanksgiving ceremony.

From 8 a.m. a large crowd began to assemble in and about the Church, some interested in the solemn ceremony that was to take place, others eager to [illegible] the picturesque sight.

At 8.30 a.m. the ceremony commenced by an imposing procession of seminarists, clergy and bishops—these last numbering 52, the Delegate Apostolic included—marching solemnly through the broad square in front of the church, and thence to the sanctuary. All along the way were sightseers and the local police maintained excellent order among the crowd.

The bishops were ranged in the chancel in two parallel rows, some 40 within, and a dozen accommodated outside. Officials, secretaries and others connected with the Council were placed further on around the chancel rails.

Majesty and Piety

Punctually at 8.45 a.m., the service commenced, the Delegate Apostolic, Celso Costantini, Archbishop of Theodosia, officiating, assisted by the Deacon and Subdeacon, while two other deacons attended at the throne. The choir, composed of seminarists and the Siccawei College students, chanted successively the *"Kyrie, Credo, Sanctus,"* and the Communion, the assembled bishops alternating at times, thus producing a combined impression of majesty and genuine piety. The service terminated at 9.30 a.m.

Following the solemn thanksgiving ceremony at the high altar, special psalms were chanted and prayers offered to God and the Virgin, in thanks for the successful issue Council. The *"Veni Creator"* was then chanted. In the course of his discourse, the Delegate said: "We rejoice at the happy closing of this General Council, the first held in China. Our aim, as well as that of the assembled bishops here present, has been to bring China to Christ, so that its vast millions may enjoy the full light of the Gospel, and thus walk in truth and goodness to the final goal of mankind."

Signing of the Council's Acts and Decrees

A public lector then invited all the bishops to sign the Council's acts and decrees. Hereupon each one advanced, conducted by the Master of Ceremonies, and signed on the altar all that had been discussed and approved for the welfare and progress of Christian life, formation of a native clergy, education of converts, propagation of the Gospel, methods of approaching non-Christians, philanthropic and press work. Copies of this document will be forwarded to Rome, and promulgated after all has been approved by the Holy See.

Solemn "Te Deum"

The Council was finally brought to a close by the solemn chanting of the "Te Deum," the Ambrosian hymn of praise and thanksgiving for God's benefits and the favours conferred on the Church. Acclamations were then called for, and delivered with powerful and unanimous voice by the assembled bishops. "Thanked be Christ, the Redeemer and Sovereign Lord; thanked be the Holy See, his Excellency the Delegate, the bishops and officials of the Council, and may all return in peace and happiness to their respective missions. May the Catholic Church in China increase in numbers, doctrine and Christian life, and may those that still sit in darkness enjoy soon the light of the Gospel and enter the true Fold of Christ."

The assembled bishops and clergy then returned in procession, and as they descended the steps in front of the Church porch, a cinema operator was remarked taking views of the imposing scene, one of the finest and most impressive ever witnessed in the annals of the Catholic Church in the Far East.

AMERICAN AVIATORS IN SHANGHAI

Shanghai Club Welcome: Lt. Wade on Terrible Pacific Crossing

At the Shanghai Club last Friday the British and other Shanghai residents assembled to congratulate the airmen. Promptly at noon Mr. Cunningham drove up to the entrance of the club, and four of the aviators, in the khaki unform of the American Army, stepped out. They continued inside and for a few minutes chatted with various aviators and ex-Service men and civilians. Mr. R. G. MacDonald, Chairman of the Club Committee, stepped forward and welcomed the fliers. He said: It is with great pleasure that we welcome to our midst these American fliers, men who have accomplished what has seemed to us in the past to have been impossible—the flight across the Pacific Ocean. These six men will go down to fame as the first to accomplish this feat. Going through hardships and difficulties, their skill and pluck brought them through situations which could baulk the bravest.- (Applause). Such a trip as theirs has not as yet ever been accomplished. It is our misfortune that they are leaving to-morrow, but I want each and every one of you to rise and drink with me to a safe return to their homeland" (Applause).

Then three cheers and a "tiger" rang through the building, after which some enthusiastic listener—he must also have been a flier, broke into: "For He's a jolly good fellow." Everybody broke into song. Three cheers and a "tiger" vociferously rang out again and cries of "Speech, speech!" re-echoed the length of the room.

"Easier to Cross Pacific Than Make a Speech"

It was with diffidence that Lt. Wade, forced to the platform through the bashfulness of his comrades, Lieuts. Harding, Nelson and Ogden (who received his commission in Shanghai) approached the throng. "Friends," he said, "for I am sure that I can call you such, I assure you that it is much simpler to cross the Pacific than it is to make a speech. We are fliers, not speech-makers. But on behalf of my fellows, I can assure you that we feel highly complimented on this marvellous reception that we received in Shanghai. It is a pleasure to be here among you and I wish that we could tarry with you, but this is impossible. We must be on our way. It is with sorrow that we learned that our fellow fliers, the British and Portuguese have had such misfortune and it is with pleasure that we learn that their immediate problems have been remedied or are being competently handled. We are glad to learn that the Vickers is near to him, and it is with hearty fellowship, that we leave, 'Cheerio, MacClaren.'"

The ceremony concluded, friends, both British and American, fraternized with the birdmen. An hour after they left to attend a tiffin party given by Mr. Cunningham, U.S. Consul-General, and Mrs. Cunningham, and later journeyed to Mr. and Mrs. Tucker's house in Hungjao Road for tea.

While in Japan the aviators were decorated by Prince Kuni with the medals of the Aviation Society of Japan.

Lt. Ogden's Promotion.

It is most interesting to note that the commissioned officers in the flight are responsible for Lieut. Ogden's commission. Last Friday afternoon they stated that, if ever a man was entitled to a commission it was their comrade. He had done Trojan work throughout the entire 7,500 miles from Seattle to Shanghai. As a matter of fact, recognizing the merits of their then subordinate, the officers cabled to the War Department that Sgt. Ogden was worth the commission. Acting upon their information, President Coolidge, who is Commander-in-chief of the American Army and Navy, signed the order, and as previously reported in the "North-China Daily News," Mr. J. P. Davis, American Executive Consul, carried out the formalities on Wednesday in the Astor House. The chiefs told the "North-China Daily News" representative that Lt. Ogden is one of the proudest men in the American Army and deservedly too.

THOSE LITTLE CHERUBS WHO SIT UP ALOFT

Lieut. Arnold (top left); Lieut. Ogden (bottom left); Lieut. Nelson (centre); Lieut. Harding (top right); and Lieut. Wade

Pacific Snorters

In a reminiscient mood Lt. Wade referred to several of their experiences while on the long stage across the Pacific, in which they covered nearly 800 miles, the largest they have done since leaving on March 17. On this big "Chicago-off jump" the aviator stated that within a span of two hours, they experienced every kind of weather possible with the exception of tropical, and that would be asking too much—it rained, snowed, hailed, sleeted and the wind came up from a dead calm to a 60-mile gale and gave them great trouble. It was just this kind of weather with intense fog that brought Major Martin down. They did not officially know what exactly had gone wrong with his machine. All they heard were scraps of intelligence among the Japanese Islands, for they were ahead of him and he was trying to catch up, it will be recalled, and when they reached Paramushiru in the Kuriles group, they had not the faintest notion whether Major Martin was still on the journey or not.

While in the north they had to come down near Nazan, off the beaten path and, of course, found no preparations had been made for them. This being the first time that a plane had ever been seen in those waters, the natives were greatly surprised. Some of them could talk English and told the aviators that their less intelligent friends had called them the "Big Ducks."

Of the new equipment with which the planes have been provided, much of it is being used for the first time in a flight of this kind, it has not been found wanting and the birdmen express themselves favourably towards it, stating that in future this machinery will be applied to all Army planes. The ignition which was specially laboratory-constructed had turned out to be a perfect success, while the pump to force petrol into the cyclinders, also a new thing, has given them no trouble at all.

The Departure from Shanghai

The American aviators, Lieuts. Smith, Nelson, Wade, Arnold, Harding and Ogden, left Shanghai in the bright hours of Saturday morning, the first propeller blade being swung over at 6.48. Two minutes later two of the machines were in the air and another minute afterwards Lieut. Nelson rose with a farewell salute to Shanghai.

After Lieut. Smith arrived here, the entire six mechanics gave the machines a thorough overhaul and the last bit of work was done, as they thought, including replacement of the burnt-out manifold on the New Orleans. But not satisfied with this arrangement, another last look was given them and they found that one of the cams had become worn badly, it was egg-shaped. In a few moments, however, Lieut. Harding had made it right.

The aviators did not have any trouble in getting started, though it was a short while after the first men had got off before Lieuts. Nelson and Harding left the water. The pontoons have a wonderful attraction for the water and until the proper point of vibration has been reached, it is most difficult to get any loft—as a matter of fact this was the trouble with the Chicago in Kagoshima. The Boston, Lieut. Wade at the stick, was the first to rise, moving right off. He circled upward after a long run and then hovered round waiting for his fellows. Smith soon joined him and the two gradually worked upstream, accompanying Nelson, who was scooting along on the surface. When he got clear, all the machines circled over the Settlement, turned their noses toward the Yangtze and followed the broad expanse of muddy water for the open sea, then to the south.

Travelling Light.

Though the aviators felt that they would like to make the jump to Amoy in a single flight, they thought it best not to attempt it if they could do otherwise, for the added weight of gasolene meant just so much more wear and tear. So after consultation with the Navy, it was decided to come to water again at Ping Fong Island to replenish the tanks. The machines, though the one carried a gross load of 8,300 lb. when it got to Shanghai, travel as light as possible, and to cite an example, all the charts used up to date were discarded here.

Souvenir for American Club.

A charming souvenir by the visiting birdmen was left in Shanghai for the new American Club building, one of the massive propeller blades. The gift, however, will require the official sanction of Lieut. Lawton before it may be handed over to the committee.

It is also interesting to note that two of the visitors. Lieuts. Wade and Arnold, who are members of the Mystic Shrine, have been made honorary life members of the local organization, Nomad Oasis. Both were so busy while in Shanghai with repairs to motors and a few necessary social and official visits to make, that they could not attend a ceremony, but this will not be a bar to their affiliation locally.

In the party who got up at four o'clock to bid the fliers Godspeed were Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Cunningham, Mr. J. P. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Eisler, a representative of this journal, while in another boat were several patriotic enthusiasts. Their universal expression was that it was well worth the journey of six miles to Black Point, to see what was indeed the best take-off in the annals of aviation in China.

It was the common sentiment of the combined six that Shanghai "looked better" to them than any port since they had left America; they hoped to return at their leisure, and they were so busy that the full measure of enjoyment could not be indulged in. Lieut. Nelson's terse phrase on Friday night when Gen. Li asked him to attend a Chinese dinner, characterizes their attitude—"It all was wonderful, it was great, it was the best of all, but I am so tired, we hop off in a few hours; I'm sorry, but I cannot."

This is their itinerary to date with dates of leaving—Seattle, April 6; Prince Rupert April 10; Sitka April 13; Seward April 15; Chignik April 19; Dutch Harbour May 3; Nazan May 8; Attu May 15; Nikolski May 17; Paramushiro May 19; Hitokappu May 21; Minato May 21; Tokio June 1; Kagoshima, June 4; and Shanghai June 7.

The "North-China Daily News," first in the field, handed the aviators 10 copies of the Saturday morning edition for distribution in Amoy, being the first journals carried by 'plane in China. The following despatch has been cabled by the local representative of the "Philadelphia Public Ledger" and the "New York Evening Post" to those organs:—"First newspapers ever carried in China by aeroplane, taken from Shanghai to Amoy by American world trip fliers. Took 10 copies 'North-China Daily News' of June 7 issue. Arriving same day."

MR. T. Z. KOO, associate general secretary of the National Committee, Y. M. C. A. in China, and secretary of the World's Students' Christian Federation, left on Friday by the French Mail steamer with his family for a two years' stay in Europe where he will travel in the interests of the Federation. He will go directly to Switzerland, the Federation's headquarters, after which he will go to Demark to spend the summer.

APROPOS of our Kueilin Correspondent's graphic description of the fighting in Kuangsi, we now learn that local Kuangsi residents are forming an association to raise funds for their unfortunate fellow-provincials whose relatives have been killed. Among the patrons of the association may be noticed the names of Gen. Tsen Chun-hsuan (the "Tiger Mandarin" and former Viceroy of Kuangtung and Kuangsi), Gen. Mo Yung-hsin (former Tuchun of Kuangtung) and Dr. Ma Chun-wu (former Civil Governor of the province).

THE Chapei Fire Brigade has addressed a letter to the Chief of Native Constabulary requesting him to instruct his subordinates in the police force to give the Brigade as much assistance as possible when fires break out. They complain that when an outbreak occurs the police never report such matters—and, when they do, it is always far too late to control the flames. Also they state the police never attempt to keep back the crowds at fires with the result that the firemen on duty are greatly hampered in their work. The Brigade finally states that the police seldom control traffic in the neighbourhood of a fire.

AMERICAN FLIERS' AID TO MACLAREN

Comdr. Abbott's Tale of How the Aeroplane Was Lent to Col. Broome

Lt.-Cdr. Abbott, Executive Officer of U. S. S. Peary, which has reached port after a stormy seven weeks in northern latitudes escorting the American world-fliers, in an interview with the "North-China Daily News" on Tuesday discussed the prospects of the British flier, Squadron Leader Maclaren, and recalled some of the difficulties encountered by the American aviators during the Pacific crossing. Lt.-Cdr. Abbott, it will be remembered, was right on the spot to offer Col. Broome, forward reconnaissance officer to Squadron Leader MacLaren, all facilities at his command when word arrived in the Japanese waters of the misfortune which had overtaken the British world flier.

Col. Broome, said Commander Abbott, was somewhat downhearted at first, but brightened immediately when he was told that every assistance would be extended to transport the new plane from Hakkodate to Burmese shores. It was just at the time that the American planes arrived in northern Japan, that news first reached there of the British aviator's difficulties and Lt. Smith, commanding the American planes after Major Martin's crash, got into immediate communication with Col. Broome and went with him to the Peary and insisted in no uncertain terms that if the American Navy was in a position to do so, it should forward the plane.

Commander Abbott at once acquiesced in the venture and promised to carry the crates containing the Vickers machine to Yokohama, which city was the farthest he was permitted to go under his orders. Permission to proceed further was at once applied for, and immediately given by Admiral Washington, commanding the Asiatic Fleet, to take the plane wherever the British aviator desired. Without delay it was despatched to Hongkong, being transferred to U. S. S. Preston and left there a week ago last Tuesday We should learn at any moment that Maclaren has taken over his machine. Unfortunately it is boxed up and will require probably two weeks of hard work to get it into working order.

Col. Broome, continued the officer, has stated that Maclaren will try the flight from Paramushiru to Attu, even though the weather conditions continue as bad or become even worse than the Americans found them, which is possible, for in the summer months fog may be experienced for two weeks at a stretch and often for 26 to 28 days in the month. Commander Abbott added that he could vouch for this, having surveyed the region several years ago.

Maclaren would have one advantage in the North, and that was the privilege to stop on Behring Island, Russian soil.

The flight from Attu to Paramushiru, westward, took the fliers more than 12 hours to make, it being over 800 miles, but it was not done in a single trial. Uncomfortable circumstances forced them to come down outside the harbour on the Island where they were immediately questioned by the Russians. Upon a reply that they had to make a forced landing, the local citizens promised to cable to their provincial headquarters, Petroplavsk. They were told to send the Americans on their way, but when this answer came the lieutenants had already gone. England had recognized the Soviet and hence a more favourable reception can be looked for and Maclaren would doubtless land there.

At one time Lieut. Wade's plane was so near the surface of the water that he was afraid that he would be swamped by surf. The snowstorm, severe as it was, caused the four to fly in column, and just above the breakers, for that was the only way in which they could distinguish the land from the sea—all else was a solid mass of snow, the air as well. They could not see the plane before them, nor could they hear the buzz of the motor.

MISSION BUILDINGS NOW OCCUPIED

New Premises Now Unifying Several Mission Boards: Local Management

The fine new Missions Building, in Yuenmingyuen Road, of which the foundation stone was laid hardly more than a year ago, is fast approaching completion and a number of societies are already ensconced in their airy and commodious quarters. The building, which was erected by the Mission Architects Bureau, under the special supervision of Mr. Charles A. Gunn, stands as an outward and visible sign of that underlying spirit existing among the various Protestant denominations working in China and will help to demonstrate to the Chinese, who often wonder at the multiplicity of the Christian sects, their fundamental brotherhood.

The need for such a building was felt as early as 1913, when the headquarters of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church (N.), situated at 18 Peking Road, came to be considered as a sort of clearing house for all missionaries in Shanghai. The China Continuation Committee (now merged in the National Christian Council), created in 1913 primarily for the sake of promoting closer co-operation among the Protestant denominations of China and furthering their common interests, approached the Presbyterian Board to see whether they were prepared to make these quarters a union, interdenominational affair. A member of the Presbyterian Church, Dr. Fred J. Tooker, and his sisters, when approached by the Committee, donated G.$150,000 to the Presbyterian Board for the erection of this building, as a memorial to their father, who was greatly interested in such work. Dr. Tooker himself was at that time in the Presbyterian Mission in Siangtan, Hunan, but was later obliged to leave China for health reasons. He has since returned and is now carrying on medical work at Kuling.

To show its sympathy with the project, the Presbyterian Board contributed its valuable property, as the agreement reads: to promote the principles of co-operation and the spirit of fellowship and accord among the Christian forces at work in China: to forward the unity of the Christian Church in China: to encourage the most harmonious and efficient co-ordination of the work of all missionary agencies, both among themselves and in relation to the Chinese Church: and to assist as far as possible in the equipment of the Christian forces in China to deal adequately with their task, both in the wide range of detail and as a whole; and especially to assist the movement of co-operation and co-ordination represented in the establishment and the activities of the China Continuation Committee.

The Laura Spellman Rockefeller Fund also contributed G.$120,000 to the building, of which only the first block has been built as yet. It is hoped later, as the need for larger accommodation becomes more pressing, to build a second block, similar to the present one, which will face Museum Road and be joined to the present office by a smaller, connecting building.

The Tenants.

At the present time the National Christian Council, an organization formed at the initiative of the China Continuation Committee to succeed the parent organization, and which, as its name indicates, provides opportunity for the Native Christian Church to take over control of its affairs as soon as it shall be able to carry on for itself, occupies the third floor of the Mission Building. Besides its administrative offices, there is a large committee room, waiting hall, and smaller offices for some of the organizations who have their offices in the building and who find it helpful to have their work in the immediate vicinity of [illegible] may do so.

The Girls' Christian Educational Association and the Boys' Christian Educational Association have offices on the fourth floor, together with the Daily Vacation Bible School and the Mission Architects. The China Medical Missionary Association, the China Council of the Presbyterian Board, the London Missionary Society and the American Bible Society have rooms on the fifth floor, and on the sixth floor the Methodist Episcopal Board of Foreign Mission has offices for both its men's and women's work. The Associated Mission Treasurers, handling the finances of the Presbyterian Boards, North and South, the American Baptist Society, the Methodist Board of Foreign Missions, the London Missionary Society, and the English Baptist Society, The American Bible Society and the National Bible Society of Scotland occupy offices on the ground floor and the Council on Health Education is also located there. One strictly Chinese inter-denomination organization, the Chinese Home Missionary Society, working mainly in Yunnan and Manchuria, also has headquarters in the building.

Local Management.

The management of the building, fixing of rentals and the like, is in the hands of a local committee appointed here and subject to the confirmation of the Presbyterian Board in New York. In the erection of the building this committee was represented by Dr. H. Fowler of the London Missionary Society, Mr. A. Q. Adamson of the National Committee of the Y.M.C.A., and Mr. M. P. Walker, treasurer of the American Church Mission, Dr. Fowler especially devoting a large amount of time to supervision of the work and rendering unstinted service.

As set forth in the articles of agreement, the building was erected primarily for the use of the China Continuation Committee (now the National Christian Council) and its successors, in order to enable it more effectively to carry on its work and in order that all of the agencies of the Chinese Church and of the missionary body of China in general, evangelistic, educational, medical, and literary work, denominational or interdenominational, may be brought into the closest and most harmonious association; and to promote so far as possible close and sympathetic relations between foreign missions and the Chinese Church.

The National Christian Council formerly occupied quarters in No. 5 Quinsan Gardens, as did also the China Christian Educational Associations, and the Council on Health Education was housed in No. 4 Quinsan Gardens. The Missionary Home has taken over No. 4 Quinsan Gardens and the China Bible Union is taking over the control of No. 5 Quinsan Gardens.

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Laying of Corner-stone of New Church Building in the Western District

One year ago Community Church made known its plans: "A Church for the Western District." On Sunday afternoon the corner-stone was laid for this church. In place of the regular afternoon service at the Navy Y.M.C.A., this service was on the new church site, on Avenue Petain and Rue Louis D'Four.

Many friends gathered with the members of the Church for this occasion. On the platform, with the Governing Board, were: Mr. E. S. Cunningham, U. S. Consul-General; Mr. Sidney Barton, H. M. Consul-General; Judge Milton D. Purdy; the Rev. A. N. Rowland, Pastor of Union Church; the Very Rev. Dean Symons, of the Cathedral; and Mr. T. I. Vaughan, of the Free Christian Church.

Dr. J. B. Fearn, Chairman of the Governing Board, presided. The hymn, "Faith of our Fathers," was sung by all following which the Rev. C. M. Drury, the pastor, led in the invocation. The American School Glee Club, under Miss [illegible] direction, rendered an anthem, accompanied, in a very pleasing manner. Dr. Fearn then introduced the speakers of the occasion who, he said, needed no introduction because of their close connection with the work since the beginning. The Rev. C. L. Hutchinson, early convener the history of the church up to date; Mr. A. Q. Adamson made a statement of the contributions of the society [illegible] "We are thankful who could not be present." Mr. J. H. Roots, who is also building the Church, laid the corner stone, and [illegible] the sharing of the [illegible]." Dr. J. B. Fearn pronounced the benediction.

As is characteristic of all Community Church gatherings the people lingered after the programme for a little sociability and Mr. Drury called attention to the fact that the door frames were all ready in place. This fact encourage the community to look forward to January 1, when the Church will be able to meet in its own church home though no one is unmindful of the generosity of the Columbia Country Club for the use of their commodious quarters for the past two years.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDO-CHINA

Interview with M. Merlin: His Visit to Japan: Commerce Not Politics the Aim

Having successfully completed his mission to Japan, M. Merlin, Governor-General of French Indo-China, and one of the most experienced colonial governors France possesses, is stopping in Shanghai with his wife, Madame Merlin, M. Chatel, his Chief of Staff, M. Jeanbrau, Director of Political Affairs in Indo-China, and his A.D.C., Capt. Bernard, are *en route* for Indo-China once more.

The French Consulate is decked with flags in his honour, as are most of Shanghai's French business houses, while the French Consul-General, M. Wilden, and the French community in Shanghai are royally entertaining him.

A "North-China Daily News" representative had an interesting chat with the distinguished gentleman at the French Consulate on Wednesday, during which M. Merlin emphatically denied that his visit to Japan was made from political motives. He stated that he went to Japan principally to investigate the possibilities of developing trade and commerce between Japan and Indo-China.

"My little tour throughout the East," he remarked with a twinkle in his eye, "has served to show people that such a place as Indo-China does exist. There are many who do not seem to realize it, or who know that we have such big towns as Saigon, Haiphong and Hanoi, and the possibilities Indo-China holds out for trade are not generally grasped. In Indo-China we have some 40,000,000 people and the trade that can be done between that Colony and other parts of China is immense."

Trade Envoys.

Brought back to his visit to Japan, M. Merlin again refuted the suggestion that his visit to that country had any political significance. He remarked that he had with him three gentlemen, respectively the chairmen of the Chambers of Commerce of Hanoi, Haiphong and Saigon, who were much interested in all they saw that appertained to industrial conditions in Japan, and they were all optimistic regarding the possibilities for trade that did exist between the French Colony and that country.

M. Merlin went on to say that other important reasons for his visit were to convey the congratulations of Indo-China to the Prince Regent and the Crown Princess of Japan on their recent betrothal, and to renew the sympathies expressed by France and Indo-China to the Japanese in the trials their country had undergone as a result of the Tokio earthquake.

"But chiefly," repeated M. Merlin, "we wanted to study labour conditions in Japan, and I myself had a sincere desire to form some personal views and ideas on the future of her commercial prospects and possibilities."

Wonderful Trade Possibilities.

"Certainly," he repeated emphatically in reply to our reporter's question, "I had no notion whatsoever of preparing a treaty between Japan and France. I grant you, if it is at all possible, Indo-China will modify tariff rates in regard to certain articles imported and exported from the Colony, but even that would have [illegible] to the French Government, for Indo-China possesses no fiscal autonomy."

Questioned as to what were his [illegible] of the result of his [illegible], the Governor-General replied with a repetition of his former statement: "I know, now, more clearly what are the possibilities of commercial relations between Japan and the French colony of Indo-China for the future."

M. Merlin reiterated the hope that his tour had done something towards letting people know that such a place as Indo-China existed. He remarked that he had been most enthusiastically received wherever he had gone, and he was grateful for all the kindness that had been shown him.

Social Engagements.

M. Merlin is residing at the house of the French Chief of Police, Captain Fiori, who is out of town at present.

On his arrival from Peking on Tuesday night M. Merlin was escorted to this house, which is in the French Concession, by mounted Sikh Police, and on Wednesday morning he paid his respects to the Chinese authorities at the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, and was received with every courtesy and manifestation of friendship. In the afternoon he received the Chinese authorities at his temporary house. On Wednesday evening the Governor-General of Indo-China was the principal guest at a reception given by M. Wilden, the French Consul-General, at the Consulate, and which was attended by the most distinguished members of Shanghai's French community, including M. Le Bris, President of the French Municipal Council, M. Fano, a member of the French Council, M. Bordelongue, Manager of the Banque Industrielle, M. Denay, Manager of the Banque d'Indo-Chine, Commander de Maubeuge, of the French warship Jules Ferry, Commander D'Arvieu, Chief of the Staff to the French Admiral, and many others.

As M. Merlin entered the Consulate Grounds he was met and saluted by a detachment of Annamite Police, and the band from the Jules Ferry struck up the "Marsellaise" as he entered the Consulate itself.

M. Wilden made a short speech, welcoming M. Merlin to Shanghai and congratulating him on the success of his mission to Japan, which they all felt convinced was for the good of France generally and Indo-China in particular. M. Merlin was, added the Consul-General, one of France's most distinguished colonial governors, and had, in fact, been governor of practically every colony France had. They appreciated his services to their country and were proud to have him in their midst.

M. Merlin, in reply, thanked M. Wilden for the kindness of his remarks, and the French public in Shanghai for the kindness of their reception of him. He sincerely hoped that the relations existing between French Indo-China and the rest of China would always be of the best.

THE NOISOME HONGKEW CREEK

Slumland and Smells: A Region Crying Aloud for Improvement; Night Boats at Work in Broad Day: Why Not Culvert and Make Another Avenue Edward VII?

The correspondent who writes today so feelingly about the disgraceful condition of Hongkew Creek is but reiterating a complaint and appeal which has reached us at fairly regular intervals from that insalubrious quarter of the Settlement. He says it is a scandal and an abomination, and we agree. Beauty has never yet been one of Shanghai's distinguishing characteristics, and away from the main roads with their imposing modern frontages, acres of slumland squalor may easily be discovered, but in all the Settlement there is nothing to compare with the area bordering the Hongkew Creek from the Broadway bridge to Yalu Road district. It is indeed an unlovely quarter, a welter of dilapidated Chinese shops and houses of all conceivable descriptions down to the mud-hut of the beggar with here and there a godown or the works of some industrial concern. In places, the banks of the creek have been substantially "bunded" and the road more or less roughly made up, but in others, this development seems to have stopped short, the banks being merely mud heaps.

The Appalling Smells.

The worst feature of all, of course, is the variety of bad and viciously aggressive smells which pervade the neighbourhood. For many years, this particular section of the creek has been a night-soil loading station, and this primitive method of disposing of sewage will unfortunately have to be continued until that halcyon period when the whole of the Settlement property is of sufficiently substantial character to admit of modern sanitation. The whole of the sewage of this neighbourhood has to be transported in boats, and there is no present alternative, but the Health authorities, or whoever is responsible, might perhaps consider the advisability of abolishing this loading station and having the waste matter loaded in a more convenient locality. And certainly a stop should be put to loading up as late as 9.30 in the morning, as was the case yesterday, for at that hour the section of the creek between Broadway and East Hanbury Road was reeking with offensive smells.

Why Not Culvert?

Apart from this nuisance, the district is so obviously a danger to health and a bar to development that the authorities might well survey the whole area with a view to sweeping reforms. It cannot be supposed that the place has been entirely overlooked, and very probably there are difficulties of finance and property rights which so far have effectually prevented the carrying out of any broad scheme of improvement, but such a scheme will have to come sooner or later, and it might as well be taken in hand now. One sees nowadays in all parts of the Settlement huge blocks of ancient and battered property in the hands of the house-breaker, making room for houses more in accordance with modern ideas of sanitation and hygiene, and it requires no great stretch of imagination to see that in the course of a few years the greater part of old, of very old, Shanghai will have passed through this much needed phase of improvement. Cannot a start be made with similar development of the Hongkew Creek area? There may be technical difficulties in the way, but it appears to the layman that a fine opportunity is afforded for sending the creek the way of the Yangkingpang and converting it into a second Avenue Edward VII.

A Grand Road to Get.

If the creek were culverted, the way would be open for a fine broad thoroughfare, linking up with the northern part of Dixwell Road. Already that section of the Settlement has undergone marked change for the better and its development is well forward, the condition of these two adjoining areas being a remarkable study in contrasts. The building of such a road would open up a valuable means of communication with the northern district and relieve the pressure on North Szechuen Road. The cost of it should more than be covered by the resultant increase in the value of property along the route, while the chief gain would be to the community in general through the removal of conditions which cannot be other than a menace to health.

Other creeks in this part of the Settlement have been culverted, with excellent results, but we understand that the culverting of the Hongkew Creek, whilst presenting no engineering difficulties, is less a practical proposition owing to its importance as a tidal waterway. It joins up with the Sawgin Creek which goes as far as the Kiangwan village and serves a number of smaller waterways. However, as the creek does not appear to be of excessive importance as a means of transport, and its culverting would constitute an improvement of first rate value, we see no reason why a scheme of this character should not be considered.

THE Chapei public organizations have addressed a very lengthy petition to the Civil Governor of Kiangsu, Mr. Han Kuo-chun, praying that he will take steps to prevent landlords from increasing rents at will, as, they state, in view of the high cost of living, such increases will cause the people to undergo great sufferings.

MERCANTILE TRAINING IN SHANGHAI

A College to Train Schoolboys to Fit Themselves for Commercial Work

Is the locally born boy given a fair chance when he leaves school and commences his business career? This is a question which has given many Shanghai parents a considerable amount of worry, and generally speaking it is true to say that the locally born boy has not the same chance as his brothers from England and America. Few business men in Shanghai will take the trouble to employ a boy, straight from school, in their offices, to train him and pay him and generally show him the way he should go. The minor details of office routine, which, in England, are given to the apprentices, are in this country handed over to Chinese assistants, and the bigger jobs go to the men with Home training. Consequently there are few niches in which the raw youth straight from school may be placed.

In view of these facts it is all the more interesting to learn that there is a scheme in view for the establishment of an institution in the Settlement where boys who have left school may obtain a practical commercial training such as would fit them peculiarly to the needs of Shanghai business men. There is no disputing the fact that most Shanghai-born boys look upon Shanghai as their home, and the country of their parents merely as a [illegible]y, misty sort of a place w[illegible] every few years they may go fo[illegible] a holiday. Consequently it is in Shanghai that most of their interests lie, and their knowledge of local conditions, combined with the training they would secure at such a college as proposed, would have qualifications which should make them more valuable to an employer than the man straight from Home, and to make them more sought after by the business men of China than they are to-day.

Utility in Both Ways.

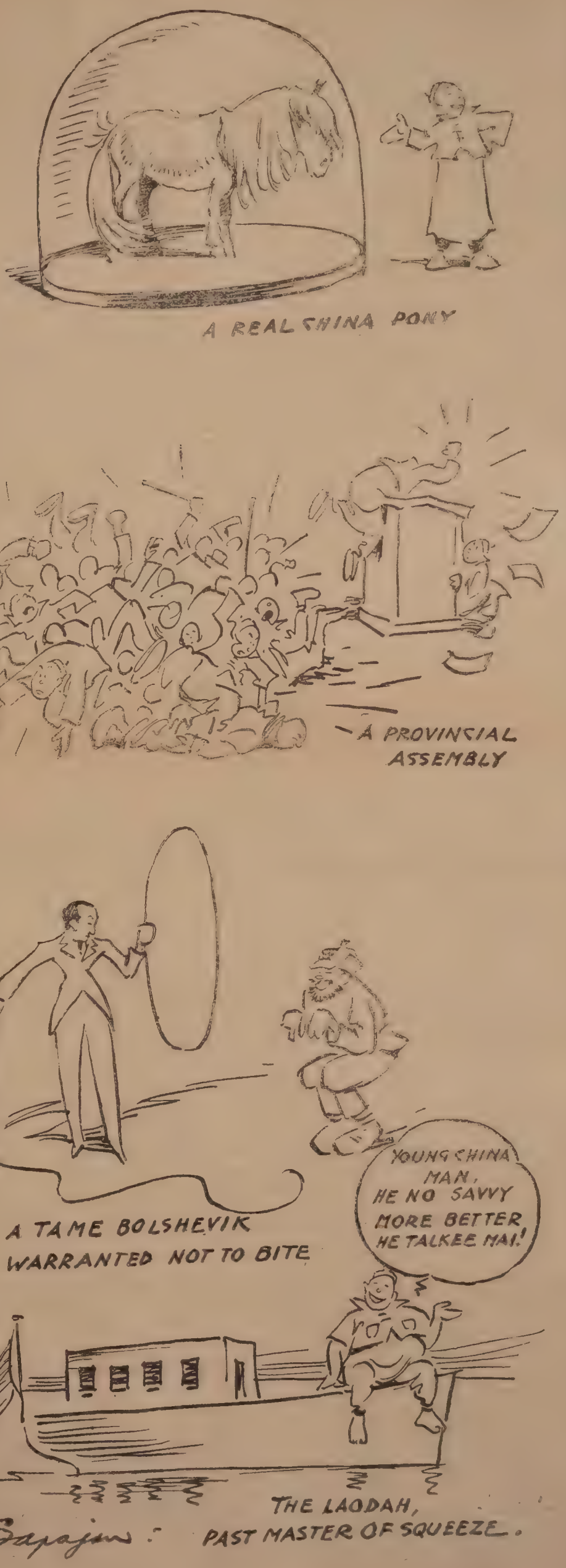
The originator of the scheme is Mr. C. V. Hutchison, a gentleman of considerable Far Eastern experience. He believes that the inauguration of such an institution would be of material benefit, not only to school boys, but also to persons of maturer age having no business qualifications, and wishing to obtain them. He points out, with regard to schoolboys, that after leaving school many lads do not get the opportunity of entering a mercantile house straight away, with the result that months are spent in idleness which may be of incalculable harm to the unfortunate youth. On the other hand, the institution he proposes would, in addition to serving as a training college, be at the disposal of any business house temporarily requiring part time service, and would thus enable the boy to gain both theoretical and practical experience, and possibly earn a little money all at the same time.

The course will include the practical routine conventional to all mercantile houses in the Far East. Here for instance are some of the kind of questions that a boy applying for a commercial position should be able to answer off-hand:

How many wharves are there in Shanghai?—Where are they situated?—How are they controlled?—What are public wharves?—What is the difference between a public and a private wharf?—How to function the duties in a wharf?—How to berth a steamer?—What is a Custom House?—How are the duties levied?—Why should certain goods be examined by Customs officials?—What is duty drawback?—How to obtain a drawback?—What does "E.C." mean?—What are the various classes of merchandise imported into China?—Which are the principal products of importation into China from England and America?—How to write Customs applications?

Needless to say other and more technical matters will be included in the course, the object being to give a boy a thorough grounding in knowledge, for which clerks in mercantile offices too often refer to Chinese. When the pupils graduate from the college they will be given a certificate of proficiency which should be recognized by all the leading firms of China.

TEN young men were graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the Nanyang Medical College, West Gate, at the "commencement exercises" held on Sunday afternoon.



SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR THE GREAT EXHIBITION WHICH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS ARRANGING TO HOLD AT SHANGHAI

OBITUARY

Capt. J. C. H. Lane, M.C.

It was with feelings of very deep regret that his many friends in Shanghai learnt of the death of Capt. James Cecil Heauclerc Lane, M.C., of 8 Sloane Gardens, London, which occurred at the Paulun Hospital on Saturday morning last.

The late Capt. Lane was an officer of The Prince Consort's Own (The Rifle Brigade) and had served in France and India during the Great War, 1914-18. He was wounded three times in the early part of the war and was awarded the Military Cross, afterwards receiving a bar to the Cross for further gallantry. He had also been the recipient of the French Croix de Guerre. As the result of his wounds, Capt. Lane was constantly under medical attention and spent considerable time in hospitals both at Home and abroad. A month ago he left the hospital here, but three weeks later his condition necessitated his return there for a further operation, to which he unfortunately succumbed.

The funeral took place at Bubbling Well Cemetery on Monday afternoon, the service being read by the Rev. Father McDonald, of St. Joseph's Church. Amongst the mourners present were Miss Venn-Brown, Mrs. Alex Samson, Mrs. Forrest, Major-Johnson (representing the United Services Association), M[illegible]. R. P. [illegible] J. H. T[illegible], C. H. [illegible] Cromwell, S[illegible] H. [illegible].

There were several beautiful wreaths.

Mr. P. H. Hilborne

The funeral of the late Mr. P. H. Hilborne took place at Bubbling Well Cemetery on Tuesday in the presence of a large gathering of friends. The service at the graveside was conducted by the Rev. Père Baumert of St. Francis Xavier's Church. Many beautiful floral tokens were sent.

Mr. Hilborne came to China as a balloonist about 1909 and made some sensational ascents and parachute descents in most of the Southern Treaty Ports. Chinese breaking up his outfit causing him to abandon the profession, he journeyed to Shanghai and joined the Telephone Company in 1910 with whom he stayed until his death on Monday from pneumonia at the General Hospital, he having entered only the Thursday before. Mr. Hilborne was a man well liked, of a retiring disposition; his one hobby was dogs, these were his friends, he was always ready with good advice and assistance if anybody came to him with their dog troubles. He was also a correspondent on dogs with the Press. He was a member of the committee of the Dog Show last year and had entered dogs for the show to take place to-day.

Mrs. Ellis

The death has occurred, at 2A Yuyuen Road, of Mrs. Ellis, the mother of several well known Shanghai boys. The deceased lady, who was 56 years of age, apparently was in good health until Monday night, when, shortly after her return from a visit to friends, she suddenly collapsed and expired before the arrival of a doctor.

The funeral took place in the Bubbling Well Road Cemetery on Wednesday evening. There was a large attendance of friends and relatives, and the service was conducted by the Dean, the Rev. C. J. F. Symons. The following old friends of the family acted as pall-bearers: Messrs. H. M. Cumine, Wm. Brandt, W. Gifford, K. F. C. Roberts, G. R. Grove and Wilfred Madsen.

There were many beautiful floral tributes.

IN connexion with the Chinese agitation against improper films, Mr. Hsu Yuan, Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, has notified the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce that the Consular Body is taking steps to suppress moving pictures of this character. It is indeed time that the pistol dramas were suppressed at Chinese amusement resorts. It must be plain to the authorities that such pictures make law-breakers, especially when automatic pistols can apparently be had so easily.

A RUN ON CHINESE MERCHANTS' BANK

Suspension of Payment by Hongkong Head Office: Eight Lakhs Invested in Shanghai

What would, but for the control of the Municipal of the Police Force, have been a serious run on a local bank took place on Thursday, the concern affected being the Chinese Merchants' Bank, Ld., which has its head office in Hongkong and branches at the corner of Ningpo and Kiangse Roads and at 10 North Szechuen Road.

At 11 a.m., Mr. Tang, the assistant manager (who is now acting in place of his chief, who has gone to Hongkong), received a private cable from Hongkong stating that the head office was forced to suspend payment, but giving no reason for this action. At one o'clock in the afternoon an official cable was received from the head office ordering the suspension of payment in Shanghai until further notice. Up till 9 o'clock last night no further cables had been received.

At 12.30, the run began, some depositors also evidently having received private information from Hongkong. Up till 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon some 200 creditors rushed to the Ningpo Road branch and a similar number visited the North Szechuen Road branch and were told that no further payments would be made until further notice, which would be published when further instructions had been received from Hongkong. The police were called in, a Central Station detachment under Det.-Sub-Insp. R. M. Tinkler, and a Hongkew squad under Det.-Sub-Insp. R. W. Yorke, and made every possible attempt to persuade the crowds to disperse, allowing nobody to enter the premises, which were closed. There was no violence and but little disorderliness, although some depositors managed to get behind the counters. They were, however, cleared away by the police, and the staff were working last night, adjusting the accounts.

The Chinese Merchants' Bank is a British registered institution, with branches also in Canton and Saigon, The local depositors mostly are Cantonese and the amount of their deposits is estimated roughly at eight lakhs of dollars for the two local branches. Between 12.30 and 3 p.m. yesterday about $20,000 had been paid out by the Ningpo Road branch alone.

MARVELS OF MODERN ENGINEERING

Turbine Electric Drive: Liners that Reverse in 45 Sec.

The str. Archer, operated by the U. S. Shipping Board, which was in port last week, is the latest thing in marine engineering, being equipped with the steam-turbine electric drive. Ships so fitted are easy and economical to run, their fuel consumption being low. Officers of the Archer stated that though she had run over 150,000 miles, engine repairs had not cost them a cent.

The propeller is driven from a shaft 225 feet long, coupled directly to a motor 18 feet in diameter which generates 3,000 H. P. The steam-geared turbine which drives the motor has a motive power still greater—in the neighbourhood of 5,200 H. P. more, while the boilers are fired by 50 tons of fuel oil daily. Although superheated steam at a temperature of 750 degrees Fahrenheit is used, by the time it has passed through the narrow and short turbine, only a few feet long, it has lost most of its heat. It returns to the condensers as steam still at a temperature of 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Although at such a low temperature the steam does not condense as it passes through a vacuum, maintained to many atmospheres. Thus the work of the condensers is materially lightened.

A big point in favour of this type of ship construction, is the ease with which the vessel can be reversed, this operation requiring but 45 seconds, the turn of the propeller being reversed from full speed ahead to full speed astern in that time.

Another novelty is the oil feed to the furnaces. To each of the three boilers, capable of generating 215 lb. at cruising speed, is fed crude oil through a single aperture with a diameter of between 1/32 and 1/64 of an inch, but under a very high pressure. This stream is projected with such a velocity that it is vaporized immediately. Thirty tons of heavy oil issue from this minute orifice every 24 hours.

The governor on the turbine, state the officers, is fool proof, being double and if the first one fails to work, the emergency trips on with a crash that automatically stops further flow of steam to the blades. This governor functions so truely that should the propellor be completely lifted from the water it would not spin at a rate which would wreck the average engine. Instead it is immediately chokes down to the number of revolutions it was turning when in the water. After a storm in the North Atlantic in January they lost three of the blades, but the governor kept the same rate just as before, though the ship made 199 miles within 24 hours.

The Archer arrived in Shanghai nine days ahead of time, due mainly, the officers affirm, to the mechanical perfection of their equipment.

BAD DOLLARS FROM ANKING

Strong Protest from Shanghai Bankers' Association: Minting by Anhui Must Stop

We have received from the Shanghai Bankers' Association the following copies of telegrams sent by it to Anking (capital of Anhui) and Peking, in respect of the bad dollars turned out by the Anking Mint.

To the Anking Mint:—

We beg to notify you that we have been often told that the fineness containing in the dollars, marked the 8th year of the Republic, coined by you, is far below the fixed standard of the National Coinage Regulations. We did not deeply believe in these statements at first, because you are a Government Mint and will naturally observe the National Coinage Regulations. When the Foreign Banks and the Custom House analyzed your dollars, and definitely reported that your dollars were far below the standard fineness, and criticized them seriously, we took up the matter carefully by analyzing the dollars recently coined by you, and we obtained the same result. Besides this, we feel very doubtful how you still continue to coin during such a time, when the dollar rate continues to fall down. As it concerns the credit of the National Currency, and the welfare of the financial community, we wish you to cable us your explanation at once.

THE SHANGHAI BANKERS' ASSOCIATION
THE NATIVE BANK GUILD.

To the Ministry of Finance, Peking.

We beg to inform you that according to the regulations of the National Coinage, there is a fixed standard for fineness and weight. However, the dollars, marked with the 8th year of Chinese Republic, coined by the Anking Mint, after being analyzed, are far below the standard fineness. This matter has been seriously criticized by the foreign bankers and the Shanghai Customs House, and suggestion has been made that such coins should be made unacceptable. Thus their inferiority may affect the welfare of the financial community and continue to endanger society as a whole. It may be remembered that the matter in question was brought to your attention by the Joint Meeting of the Bankers' Associations held at Peking in April of this year. We therefore beg to ask you to carry out our former suggestion, that is, to withdraw the master-die from the Anking Mint and to stop minting at once. Awaiting your reply.

THE SHANGHAI BANKERS' ASSOCIATION
THE NATIVE BANK GUILD.

Mr. Gordon Medicott Vereker, of the British Legation, who accompanied Sir Ronald Macleay on his visit to Shanghai to open the "North-China" building, has been promoted to First Secretary. Mr. Vereker joined the Diplomatic Service in March, 1919. His promotion, therefore, has been extremely rapid.

LAW REPORTS

MR. HERBERT WEBB v. "CHINA PRESS"

Action for Alleged Wrongful Dismissal: Claim for $80,000 and Fare to New York

An action for damages for breach of contract, brought by Mr. Herbert Webb, late editor of the "China Press," against the proprietors of the paper, was begun in the U. S. Court last Friday before his Honour Judge Purdy.

Plaintiff's claim is under a five years' agreement, renewing a previous contract and dated April 26, 1921, whereby he was re-engaged as publisher and editor of the "China Press," and was to receive 10 per cent. of the actual revenue of the paper, a minimum of $18,000 a year being guaranteed. He was also to have six months' leave in 1923 or 1924, on full pay, with first class passage to New York, and return. Plaintiff claimed that he had at all times fully and faithfully performed the terms of the agreement, but alleged that on March 24 of this year he was wrongfully discharged, and defendants refused to permit him to continue the performance of his duties. His earnings under the 10 per cent. commission were averaging $2,100 per month, were increasing, and would have continued to increase had he remained with the paper until the termination of his agreement. Hence, he had suffered damages to the extent of $80,000, and this amount he now claimed, together with $2,200 steamer and railway fare to New York.

Mr. C. S. Franklin and Mr. H. D. Rodger appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. S. Fessenden and Mr. W. S. Fleming for defendants.

Mr. Franklin having briefly opened his case, plaintiff went into the witness box, and gave evidence that he was 49 years of age and had been 13 years in Shanghai. He had at all times been able, ready and willing to perform his contract, and had brought an action to force defendants to permit him to carry it out. For the past year, his average monthly income under the contract had been $2,100.

An Editor's Hours.

Mr. Fleming (cross-examining)—You don't claim that you have carried out the terms of your contract?—I claim that I have, to the best of my ability.

Did you write any editorials during 1923?—Occasionally, when I had something to write about.

Did you write as many as three during the whole of last year? Can you specify one, and tell us the subject of it?—I should have to refer to the file. I did write a series during the time of the Lincheng bandit outrage. But I was not an editorial writer. Another thing is that, as editor, I did not believe in strong editorials in a community such as that of Shanghai. I have written but few editorials during the time of my connexion with the paper.

Questioned as to his office hours, witness said that he usually went in at 3 or 3.30 in the afternoon and sometimes worked straight through until midnight, or he might go out to dinner at 8 o'clock. He had never missed a day at the office during 13 years, except on an occasion when he had an injury to his foot. At the time of the Lincheng affair he worked 15 hours a day for five weeks. Even when away from the office he was always attached to it in the sense that he gave instructions where he might be found if wanted. Witness denied that he was frequently absent during office hours, particularly after dinner.

Questioned as to his drinking habits, Mr. Webb admitted that he drank pretty regularly, but was not a heavy drinker and frequently did not take a drink until five or six o'clock in the evening.

Allegations of Neglect.

Was it not your practice to call for a whisky and soda immediately you entered the office?—It was not. I probably had two or three drinks during an afternoon.

Not four or five?—No.

Were you in the habit of shaking dice for drinks in the office? Did you not shake dice with visitors to the office, as well as members of the staff?—Not with visitors. I did with employees.

It was a daily occurrence?—No, only once in a while. I might join in when the boys were shaking. I found it better for a man to have a drink in the office, and get on with his work at the same time, rather than go out to a bar. Members of the Board of Directors knew that we had a bar in the office. A friend would drop in on business, or with a bit of news, and it was usual to bring out the bottle on such occasions.

Have you been a visitor to the road houses in Shanghai?—Yes.

The Crest?—Not for some time.

The Del Monte?—Yes, about four times since August last.

The Royal?—Yes, before it was closed.

You were at one or another of these places practically every night?—Perhaps four nights a week, after finishing work.

I suggest that you neglected your office duties and failed to keep proper hours because you were at these places when you should have been in the office?—Not at all. I never went to any of them until after midnight, and the staff knew where I was to be found if wanted.

You were spoken to about it and attempted to justify yourself by saying that you were able to get business in this way?—Not that I recall. Sopher did write telling me he thought I spent too much time at the Del Monte.

Would you call yourself a frequenter of these places?—I went pretty often, but only when I had finished work and went somewhere for relaxation.

What were your average monthly bills from all of these places?—$400 or $500. Occasionally a man may get let in for $150 or $200.

Would you call them respectable places?—Well, that is rather a severe question. They advertise very heavily.

Aren't they about on a par with the dance halls of the Middle West during the mining days?—I never knew anything about them.

The Question of Editorials.

Witness denied that when under the influence of liquor he had called into his office Jabin Hsu, a member of the staff and "a high class young man," to discuss Chinese politics with him until three or four in the morning. He had had frequent discussions with Mr. Hsu, who was very well informed on these matters, and who was just as keen on discussing them as he was. Mr. Webb further denied that, on some of these occasions, he had given Hsu assignments to Peking and other places, and next morning forgot all about the assignment and when spoken to cancelled them.

Isn't it a fact that the only editorial work you did for the "China Press" was done with a pair of scissors?—No. I was responsible for the policy of the paper, and it proved a success. The policy of the previous editor had caused trouble and failure.

The "China Press" was practically the only Shanghai paper without local editorials?—We had editorials, but avoided subjects likely to cause trouble in a mixed community such as that of Shanghai. If anybody attacked America, or American institutions, or misrepresented American policy, I was ready to take up the cudgels, the paper being, ostensibly, an American paper.

Was there one local editorial a week?—Oh yes.

Written by you?—Occasionally by me.

A Firm American Policy.

The Directors told you they wanted more editorials on Shanghai and Chinese affairs?—I was told they wanted "a firm 'American policy," but none of them were able to define what "a firm American policy was." It was my duty to get editorials, but not necessarily to write them.

Leader writers were engaged at considerable expense because you failed to perform your duties?—Not at all. The matter was discussed and it was agreed I could engage men to write editorials if I could not do them myself. The idea of "a firm American policy" was Mr. Sopher's, and he talked of writing editorials himself, but he was not an editor and he was not an American. Leading articles were contributed and I edited them. My business was to edit and supervise publication of the paper. I did not have to write a single editorial unless I wanted to.

As a matter of fact you had not the capacity?—Oh yes. I have written many editorials for the "China Press," and for larger papers at Home.

Do you know whether your circulation was rising or falling?—I used to see the monthly circulation statement. The circulation was hanging on. It was affected by the fact that business was bad and many American firms closed down. The circulation remained about the same during 1922 and 1923. In 1924, I was up because of the motor-car [illegible] we gave at the Automobile Show, but that sort of circulation you cannot hope to hold. Lately there have been but slight variations.

The Judge on Irrelevancies.

Re-examined by Mr. [illegible] witness said that during his 13 years' connexion with the paper he had only once been asked to write a leading article, and on that occasion the Director who asked for it sent him a letter of appreciation. His policy had been to avoid international friction such as might be caused by strong leading articles, and to make the paper a Shanghai paper. On one occasion he wrote a leader defending Judge Lobingier, who he considered had been viciously and unjustly attacked, and directly it appeared he got a letter from Mr. Fessenden (a member of the Board) telling him to stop it. His predecessor adopted a strong editorial policy during the war, and the result was that he had to leave, the paper lost circulation, prestige, and advertising, and became practically a wreck. Then witness started in and swung round to the neutral policy of America.

At this point, the Judge commented on the number of irrelevancies introduced into the case, and observed that there was nothing in the contract which stipulated that plaintiff had to write editorials. He was manager and publisher, and could engage writers.

The Canteen and Del Monte.

In answer to further questions, witness said that the office canteen was started in 1911, and the Directors knew full well about it. It was not unusual for the advertising manager to invite a customer to have a drink, and the chances were then that a man who came in with an order for 500 inches, would go away with a contract for 1,000 in his pocket.

Mr. Rodger continued his re-examination of plaintiff when the proceedings were resumed in the afternoon, and was told that the late Mr. Ezra, and Mr. A. J. Israel, who signed his agreement, knew of the existence of the canteen. No more drinking had been going on lately than at that time. Questioned with regard to the Del Monte, plaintiff said he considered it to be a respectable place.

Mr. Rodger—Have you ever seen prominent Shanghai people there with their wives?—Many.

Name a few of them. . . .

His Honour—It does not seem to me to be necessary that you should name them.

Mr. Rodger—Have you ever seen any of the Directors of the "China Press" there?—Yes, Mr. Fessenden, and Mr. Dollar and his wife.

And the Del Monte advertises in the "China Press"?—Yes.

Counsel was proceeding to put in a copy of the "China Press" containing a Del Monte advertisement when his Honour demurred.

Mr. Rodger—I am only putting it in because they say the Del Monte is not respectable.

His Honour—Plaintiff has said that it is.

Mr. Fessenden—Did I ever have a drink with you in your office while I was a Director of the paper?—Not while you were a Director, but at other times. I cannot quite recall when.

Mr. Fessenden—I have never been in your office in my life. Did you ever shake dice with Mr. Ezra?—No.

With Mr. Harold Dollar?—No. But on several occasions he had a drink with me, and I told him about the bar. All the Directors knew about it.

Mr. Fessenden—I never knew. Have you ever seen the editor of any other first class paper attending these cafés night after night?—Not that I recall.

Were any of the Directors present on occasions when you shook dice with the editorial staff?—I think not.

Mr. Rodger—When was the canteen closed?—In March of this year, by order of Mr. Sopher. Its closing had never before been suggested.

Counsel then read a letter addressed to plaintiff by Mr. Sopher, who pointed out that inconvenience was being caused through there being no one in attendance at the "China Press" to receive morning callers on editorial matters, and directing plaintiff to begin work at 9 a.m., adding that it would not be necessary for him to remain for night duty.

This order witness said he refused to obey, for the reason that news did not begin to come in before 3 o'clock, and until it did come in he could not do his work as editor.

This concluded the case for plaintiff.

The Defence Opened.

For the defence, Jabin Hsu, Chinese editor of the "China Press," was first called. He said he had observed that plaintiff generally arrived at the office about 5 o'clock in the afternoon and left between 7 and 8 o'clock, sometimes returning by midnight and sometimes not. Witness had seen most members of the staff drinking at the office canteen, and he had noticed plaintiff have four or five drinks in an afternoon. In his opinion, plaintiff drank to excess.

Mr. Franklin—It is not for a witness to give his opinion on "excessive drinking." In the eyes of a Prohibitionist, a single drink would be excessive.

Witness went on to say that he seldom saw plaintiff at his desk without a drink, and his average appeared to be one every half hour. He had seen Mr. Webb in the office under the influence of liquor, and there were occasions—about once a week—when he did not seem to be in a condition to give instructions. When witness went to consult him upon Chinese affairs and the policy of the paper, he sometimes said foolish things.

Mr. Franklin, cross-examining, suggested that witness must have spent a lot of his time in watching Mr. Webb, and he asked: Why were you so particular in watching the clock and the number of drinks served to him?

Witness—I thought he was a man with a wonderful capacity for liquor.

Were you asked to spy upon him and make a report?—Witness (indignantly)—I would not be such a person to do that sort of thing.

And your salary has now been raised?—Not yet.

What Constitutes Drunkenness?

Having said he had seen plaintiff drunk in the office, and being asked to define drunkenness, witness said: On one occasion he suggested that, if I would assist him in putting through a scheme he had devised for the unification of China, it might be possible for me to become President of the Republic. Now, a man who will suggest that must either be drunk or crazy.

Mr. Franklin was proceeding to question witness further on the subject of plaintiff's alleged drunkenness, when his Honour intervened with the remark that he thought Mr. Hsu had given a sufficiently intelligent explanation.

Counsel—Plaintiff has admitted that he had three or four drinks, but that number would not make a man drunk.

His Honour—It might, Mr. Franklin. Everything depends upon a man's condition. There are degrees of intoxication, and they begin with the first glass.

Witness admitted that he himself had occasionally had a drink at the canteen, and shaken dice. He added that on the night of the Dempsey-Carpentier fight, while they were waiting for news to come in, plaintiff consumed about a quart of whisky.

How do you know it was a quart?—Well, a quart will not go to more than about 20 drinks.

E. Livesay, the "China Press" printing foreman, said there had been occasions, "pretty frequent," when they were kept waiting for "copy" until Mr. Webb came in. They always got it when he did come. The paper was delayed, but no serious damage was done. He had seen plaintiff in the office under the influence of liquor, but would not say that he was "drunk."

The proceedings were adjourned until next morning.

Defendants' Allegations as to Habits of Plaintiff

The hearing was continued on Saturday.

Mr. Webb was again put into the witness box to be cross-examined regarding the letter he alleged he wrote to Mr. Sopher refusing to go to the office at nine o'clock in the morning.

Mr. Fleming:—I put it to you, you never wrote that letter?—I certainly did.

I put it to you, you have cooked up this letter for the purpose of this trial in order to show you had some excuse for not appearing at the office at nine o'clock in the morning?—I certainly did not.

Mr. Norman's Statement.

Mr. Harold Christopher Norman, business manager of the "China Press," then gave evidence. He stated that he joined the paper in January, 1924. He had known Webb all that time, and it very rarely happened that Webb went into the office in the morning, as his predecessor did. Mr. Webb drank consistently, and it often happened that when witness wanted to see him he was unable to do so because he was drinking in his office with friends. Whenever he went in there he was asked to have a whiskey soda, which, as a rule, he accepted and returned. On many occasions Webb had gone to the office for days together suffering from the effects of alcohol and totally unable to keep his mind to the business in hand. He had frequently seen him under the influence of drink in the office. Their discussions would usually, on Webb's part, lead round to women. For about three weeks a travelling showman in Shanghai on business here would go and sit in Webb's office every afternoon and drink whiskey and soda. He was certainly not with Webb on business of the company. Another travelling showman in Shanghai did the same thing, while the managers of cafés and cabarets, after finishing their business in witness's office, would go in and chat to Webb in his office. Between six o'clock in the evenings and dinner time witness would hear the sound of dice-shaking in Webb's room, though witness admitted that he had occasionally shaken dice with Webb himself. There was no general supervision over the acts of the editorial staff on Webb's part.

Questioned regarding the paper's circulation during Webb's editorship witness said the circulation of the paper was at its height in December, 1921. After that there was a heavy slump and they lost hundreds monthly. Then with the Lincheng outrage the circulation went up but when interest in that affair died down the circulation decreased steadily and was at its lowest when Webb was discharged February last: since then the circulation had improved.

Cross-examined by Mr. Rodger, witness said he had never had any trouble with Webb with the exception of one occasion when they had some slight difference. They had always been good office friends.

"I give my evidence with regret," added witness.

Mr. Rodger: I noticed that.

Mr. Norman's Position.

Mr. Rodger: When Mr. Sopher took charge of the paper he was going to dismiss both you and Mr. Webb, was he not?

Mr. Fessenden objected, but the objection was overruled.

Witness replied in the negative, but added: "He may have made the attempt for certain reasons."

Witness stated that Mr. Webb had threatened to "shoot Mr. Sopher full of lead."

Asked whether he took the threat seriously witness said, knowing Webb, it might have been serious, but admitted he had not warned the authorities, or warned Sopher himself. "I was not" he added "on the best terms with Mr. Sopher at the time."

Witness was then questioned regarding his salary, and Mr. Fessenden objected on the ground it was irrelevant.

Mr. Rodger, explaining to the Court the trend of the question, alleged that Mr. Norman was getting an extra $1,000 a month since Webb had left the paper, and that was why he was prepared to give evidence that day.

Witness denied the allegation. He stated that formerly he received 10 per cent. of profits and no salary. He had since signed an agreement accepting a flat salary instead of $30,000 per year, which actually worked out at a loss to himself.

The Office Canteen.

Mr. Arthur Sopher, who described himself as a French protected subject, said he was managing-director of the "China Press," and had been so since the middle of August, 1922. Witness said he had seen Webb drinking in the office and had once had a drink with him. On one occasion he had sent for Webb and he had gone to witness's office in a state which he would describe as pitiful. He was very drunk and could hardly stand on his legs. Witness had seen Webb in a state of "carry-over" on four or five occasions and on those occasions he could not talk coherently. There had been a canteen in the office and witness, when he took the paper over, decided it was a bad thing to have alcohol so close at hand for Webb, and so he ordered the bar to be closed. Regarding the paper's circulation witness said the circulation dropped steadily in 1923 excepting for a transitory improvement in September. When Webb was discharged in February the circulation improved steadily, till there was some 400 difference between the lowest point reached and to-day's circulation.

Mr. J. Harold Dollar, a director of the China Press, Inc., said he had spoken to Mr. Webb about the bar, and Mr. Webb replied that all the newspapers in the United States had bars for the benefit of the night reporters, etc., and advertisers.

The Sunday Supplement.

Mr. Sopher went back into the witness box.

Mr. Franklin, cross-examining.—You say you are a French protected subject. What is your nationality?

Witness: My father was British for a while and came from Mesopotamia, and where he was living he came under French protection. There was some doubt as to what nationality my father was, so when he died I took the same nationality as he did.

Questioned regarding the innovation of a pictorial section for the Sunday paper, Mr. Sopher said Webb had deliberately delayed the production of the section, and then produced a very bad one.

Questioned with regard to Mr. Webb's abilities, witness said he considered him a very mediocre editor.

The proceedings were adjourned until this morning.

An Editor's Responsibility.

Mr. Franklin at this stage produced a quantity of correspondence which had passed between Webb and Mr. Sopher as evidence showing the interference to which Mr. Webb had been subjected by Mr. Sopher in his duties. One of these referred to the reinstatement of an employee whom Mr. Webb had dismissed.

Mr. Fessenden objected to the production of these letters as having no bearing on the case.

Mr. Franklin contended that they plainly showed the interference to which Mr. Webb had been subjected. Under the terms of his contract he was in complete command, and fully vested with the right to engage or discharge those under him as he saw fit.

Mr. Fleming replied that such reasoning made the servant greater than the master, which was obviously illogical and absurd.

His Honour held that Mr. Webb was subject to the control of the Board of Directors. Investing him with the powers they had, they yet reserved to themselves the supreme right concerning such points as this.

After further argument the Judge confessed that he might possibly change his mind, but still agreed with Mr. Fessenden and Mr. Fleming.

Mr. Sopher Cross-Examined on His Editorship

The hearing was resumed on Monday.

Mr. Sopher, managing director of defendant company, underwent further cross-examination.

In reply to Mr. Franklin, witness said he considered himself editor-in-chief of the paper, though he admitted he had had to employ editorial writers.

Asked whether the pay of the editorial staff had been increased since his advent witness said to the best of his recollection it had not.

Mr. Franklin—Is it not true that the real reason you wanted Mr. Webb out was because you wanted his job?—Absolutely no.

Is it true you wanted Mr. Webb's salary?—I draw nothing whatever from the "China Press."

Are you a wealthy man, that you can afford to work for nothing?—I am working for my sister, at whose house I am living at present, and I am deriving an income from her.

I put it to you the reason Mr. Webb was discharged was because you wanted his job; that you needed the salary he was getting to make certain annual payments to the French Court, as ordered by the French Court in proceedings in which you went into bankruptcy?—Certainly not! Most emphatically no!

You do not deny there is such an order in the French Court?

Mr. Fleming objected to the question, and the objection was upheld.

Re-examined by Mr. Fessenden, witness said Webb's negligence had resulted in the firm's losing $400 or $500 per month for the last three years on wastage of waste-paper—a loss of about $5,000 altogether.

Further questioned witness stated that he considered Webb's conduct outside the office had lowered the paper's prestige immensely.

Small Town Stuff

A slight breeze arose between counsel when Mr. Fessenden attempted to put in a certain letter to the Judge.

Mr. Franklin objected strongly on the ground that it should have been put in the bill of particulars. "It's what I call 'small town stuff,'" said Mr. Franklin. "These letters are put in, well knowing they won't be admitted. It's the sort of thing you'd put up against a small town jury. They know they won't be admitted but they know you will have read them."

The Judge expressed the opinion that the term "small town stuff" should not have been used in that court.

The dispute proved, after argument, to be the result of a misunderstanding, Mr. Franklin being under the impression that Messrs. Fessenden and Fleming wished to put in certain letters only instead of the complete correspondence.

Mr. Fessenden stating they had all along been prepared to put the complete correspondence in, Mr. Franklin sat down pacified.

Mr. Arthur West, sports and cable editor of the "China Press," said it was Mr. Webb's habit to go to the office at three o'clock in the afternoons and stay there till dinner time. He would sometimes go back after dinner and sometimes not. Mr. Webb drank fairly steadily, mostly whiskey-and-sodas, both before dinner and after. After Sopher took over the paper there was a period when Mr. Webb did not drink so much. When Webb went to the office in the afternoons he read the local, Home and foreign papers and clipped from them. He clipped leaders and occasionally wrote them himself. By occasionally he meant three or four a month.

Plaintiff a "Hearst" Man.

Frequently the leaders were late and that held up the paper at nights. Apart from what witness had described he took no part in the actual routine of the paper, but dealt with the several outside matters, such as an editor had to do.

There was a dice box kept in the office which the editorial staff, editor included, used for rattling for drinks. The box was put into frequent use. Webb would often go back to the office at night talking slightly loosely, and a trifle the worse for drink, though witness had never seen him hopelessly drunk. He had often been "pretty well lit-up." Witness, describing the delays which occurred at night, said Mr. Webb was responsible. He would go into the office late at night and want to make changes which witness considered useless and silly, and these changes would mean delay. Mr. Webb was a "Hearst man," fond of huge headlines, etc., whereas witness was of a different school, with the result that they often had arguments.

Asked what were Mr. Webb's topics of conversation, witness said he talked about all sorts of things, newspaper work, sporting events, women—many things.

Mr. Fleming: To what extent did he talk of women?

Mr. Franklin: I object to that question as irrelevant.

Mr. Fleming contended it was to show the state of the man's mind, but the objection was upheld.

Visits to Cafes.

Witness went on to say that Webb was a great frequenter of cafés, which he used to visit on business nights. After Mr. Sopher came he did not go about so much.

Asked what were the cafés Mr. Webb would frequent, witness replied the Del Monte, the Crest, Mumm, the Wintergarden and a place called the Royal.

Mr. Fleming—What sort of a place is the Del Monte?

Mr. Franklin's objection to the question was overruled.

Witness replied that it was not a disreputable place, but it was not a place he would want his daughter to be seen in. Mumm was more or less the same type, but the other places were rather lower.

Cross-examined by Mr. Rodger, witness said that when Mr. Webb was not at the office at nights he would usually ring up, and he always let the office know where to find him if he was wanted.

Asked whether there were any advantages attached to the bar witness said there were. People would go round and have a drink, and let things out that gave them tips on news. Policemen used to go in there, and other people who could give them news.

Witness agreed he had seen Webb in such a condition as not to be able to carry on his work, though not often.

Allegation Against Mr. Norman.

Have you even seen any other executive of the staff drunk? asked Mr. Franklin.

Witness replied that he had seen Mr. Norman drunk in the office once. He was so drunk that he wrecked the office, smashed lights, put fire crackers in the stove, knocked over a chair and generally created pandemonium. Witness quieted him by threatening to call the police.

Further questioned witness said there was a good spirit among the staff when Mr. Webb was in charge.

Witness agreed that all the editorial staff when they were on late duty used to go to the Del Monte for supper. They were usually so hungry they could not sleep, and the Del Monte was the most respectable place open.

Witness further agreed that Mr. Webb had done well with the paper.

Re-examined by Mr. Fleming witness agreed he had never seen either the editor of the "North-China Daily News" or of the "Shanghai Times" at the Del Monte.

Cross-examined again, witness agreed that both these editors were married and had homes to go to, whereas Mr. Webb's family was not here.

The Court then adjourned for tiffin.

On resuming in the afternoon Mr. James L. Butts, also of the staff of the "China Press," was questioned regarding his newspaper experience, and said he was for three years reporter and feature writer on the "Chicago Daily News" and had experience on smaller American newspapers. He joined the "China Press" in April, 1917, as reporter, and became managing editor of the "Evening Star," which had since lapsed. The bar was in the "China Press" office when he joined the paper. Mr. Webb's attendance at the office was very regular and he seldom missed. If he was not at the office at night he always let them know where he could be had. He had never seen Mr. Webb under the influence of liquor to such an extent that he could not do his work properly. Occasionally he had seen other members of the staff drunk, but not often. He had seen Mr. Norman drunk when he wrecked the office. Mr. Webb kept in touch with the editorial department of the office and as far as witness could see he exercised proper superivision.

An Editor's Hours.

With regard to the order given to Mr. Webb to be at the office at 9 a.m. every day, witness thought it impracticable. An editor had to make his own hours as experience taught. Never in his experience had he known a morning newspaper editor keep the hours of 9—12 in the morning and 2—5 in the afternoon.

Cross-examined by Mr. Fleming witness said Mr. Webb would often take four or five drinks in the evening. He had shaken dice with Mr. Webb for drinks, and it was the custom of the staff to do so.

Mr. Fleming.—There was too much drinking at that office, was there not?—Well, the work got done. There was not too much drinking to interfere with the work.

Further questioned witness agreed that it was his custom to have two drinks at the office bar before going to dinner.

Mr. Fleming.—The standard was set by the editor, was it not?—Well, I would not say that.

You had him as a guide, did you not?—Well, no.

You all felt safe, didn't you, with the assurance you were not

drinking as much as the editor?—Well, no.

Drinking and News-getting.

Do you think all this drinking did the paper any good?—I think so, yes, as far as news went.

Did the shaking of dice among the staff do the paper any good?—Well, it didn't do any harm, it was among themselves in the office.

Asked who ordered him to write a certain verse for the paper on the night of the Carpentier-Dempsey fight, witness replied Webb gave him the order.

Well, was it a good verse?—No, rotten. I am not a verse writer although I have written a jingle or two.

Did you not say it was the worst poem ever written?—Well I did, but I received many compliments on it round town.

Witness denied that Mr. Webb was quite drunk that night.

Would it have been published if it had ever passed through Mr. Webb's hands?—I don't know.

News Editor's Evidence.

Mr. Bert L. Kuhn, also of the "China Press," said he had been a newspaper man about 13 years. He was now news-editor of the "China Press."

Questioned regarding the bar Mr. Kuhn said he thought it a good idea. It served to keep the staff in the office instead of going out for a drink, and also by its use they were enabled to get all the police news. Also members of the fire department used it. American newspaper offices nearly always had them before prohibition, —and he believed they did now. "I never saw Mr. Webb drunk" said witness, "but of course I have my own definitions of drinking." Witness went on to say he had never seen Mr. Webb in such a state that he could not give coherent decisions on subjects of importance. He did not think it possible for a morning newspaper editor to adopt the 9-5 and 2-5 hours. He had seen Mr. Norman drunk on about three occasions.

As witness started to detail the incidents the Judge cut him short, remarking it was not necessary to "go fully into Mr. Norman's drunken escapades if there were any." Mr. Webb's visits to the various cafés mentioned had done the paper good from an advertising point of view, witness added.

Asked by Mr. Fessenden (cross-examining), how the drinking among the "China Press" staff compared with the drinking among the staffs of other papers, Mr. Kuhn answered "considerably less." He certainly did not think he and the rest of the staff would be discharged from any first-class American newspaper if they drank in that newspaper office as they did in the "China Press."

Witness stated that he himself would take about six drinks a day.

That Mental Strain.

Mr. Fessenden—A newspaper man requires a large amount of mental alertness, does he not?—Very much so.

And do you think six drinks a day would assist that alertness?

Witness replied that a newspaper man's hours and meals were irregular and the strain had the effect of lowering a man's vitality, so that drink would raise him a little.

Further questioned witness said he would advocate a bar for every newspaper office in Shanghai.

Mr. Fessenden: Then why not for law office or a business office? Would it be good for them too?—Well, I think it would. In fact I understand the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has one.

Asked whether there was really a good deal too much drinking in the "China Press" office, witness replied he had only seen it on three occasions, and on each of these occasions the only drunken man was Mr. Norman. Mr. Webb was only present on one of these occasions, and then Mr. Norman was staggering about and clapping him on the back with the remark "Good old cobber, I'll stand by you, don't cry."

Mrs. Kuhn, also a journalist, said she had been on various papers in New York State and New York City, and was on the Paris edition of the "Chicago Tribune." She certainly joined the "China Press," after being on the "Evening Star," owing her connexion with the "China Press" she had never seen any one incapacitated through liquor. The bar had a good effect inasmuch as it kept the men from going to bars outside while it attracted business men and thereby kept them from [illegible]

babbly, have done so otherwise. There was a wonderful *esprit de corps* when Mr. Webb was in charge. She had never seen Mr. Webb the worse for drink in the office.

Occasional Contributions.

Mr. Edward Percy Graham-Barrow, British subject and Headmaster of the Cathedral School for Boys, said he had been contributing to the "China Press" since 1911. He had never been into the office and seen Mr. Webb otherwise than normal.

Asked by Mr. Franklin who brought the dice box to the bar originally Mr. Graham-Barrow replied: "I am afraid I did."

Mr. Graham-Barrow also described the bar as beneficial, quoting similar reasons to those quoted by former witnesses. He had occasionally,—very occasionally,—gone into the office at nights and found members of the staff under the influence of drink.

Mr. Bruce Lockhart said he had never seen Mr. Webb under the influence of drink. Indeed, whenever witness was sending in long letters which he occasionally "inflicted on the public" Mr. Webb went through them most carefully, changing his English spelling into American and "generally taking out the news." All he had done could not possibly have been done had he not a clear head. He characterized the idea of Mr. Webb's being drunk as "absolutely ridiculous, absurd." As to the bar, it "was a most excellent institution,—*most* excellent." The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank had a bar, the police station, and other offices in Shanghai.

The hearing was adjourned till next morning.

Difference Between Bars and Canteens: Case Adjourned for Counsel's Argument

The evidence was completed on Tuesday.

Mr. Charles J. Laval, editor of the "Evening News," was the first witness called.

Questioned by Mr. Franklin (for plaintiff) as to the ownership of the "Evening News," witness replied: "That question does not seem pertinent to this case." Further questioned he agreed he had a proprietory interest in the paper. The "Evening News" was printed by the "China Press" from its birth till September last and during that time he saw Mr. Webb every day. Mr. Webb was, he agreed, a drinking man, but witness had never seen him drunk or incapacitated in any way through liquor. When witness was on the "China Press" Webb was his immediate superior, and he always seemed to witness to exercise proper supervision of his department. It was impossible for an editor to be governed by the same hours as a business man, or for Mr. Webb to do his work properly during the hours 9-12 and 2-5. It was essential that the editor should be present when the paper was "put to bed," which was any time after midnight. He had not noticed any change in Mr. Webb's ability as an editor, either mentally or physically, since 1921.

The Benefit of Bars.

Cross-examined by Mr. Fessenden, witness agreed there was a certain amount of drinking in the "China Press" office, and there were occasions when there was too much drinking, but these were very rare.

Asked whether he drank as much as the rest of the "China Press" staff when he was on the paper, witness replied: "Well, I drank my share." With regard to the benefits or otherwise of bars in newspaper offices generally, witness thought they would have their advantages in Shanghai, though in America public opinion would be against them. They had to accept the fact that newspapermen did drink, and a bar in the office prevented their going outside. Also it was helpful in getting in news.

Mr. Fessenden, putting a further question to witness in which he mentioned the word "bar," was interrupted by Mr. Rodger.

"Why!" asked that gentleman, "do you use that word bar? It's not a bar, it's a canteen."

The Judge wished to know the difference between a bar and a canteen. He supposed a bar had bar tenders, etc., while a canteen was where they kept drinks on the ice chest and members of the staff called for drinks and had them brought to their desks.

Mr. Fessenden failed to see the difference, since one called for drinks and signed a chit in each

Mr. Laval's contribution to the dispute was that in any case there was no bar with rails round.

Mr. Fessenden appeared to be unconvinced, but agreed to have the word altered to canteen.

Mr. C. E. P. Sutcliffe, nationality British, a printer in the "China Press," said he was night overseer at that office, and had been so since 1921. He had never seen Mr. Webb in such a condition that he could not do his work, and he had always exercised proper supervision over witness's department. Incidentally witness had been a printer since the age of 13 years, and was now 24.

Cross-examined by Mr. Fleming (for defendant), witness said he was engaged by Mr. Webb as assistant-overseer, though he agreed that since Mr. Livesey had taken over of nights, since August last, he had been employed chiefly proof-reading.

Mr. Norman Again.

Mr. Norman, re-examined, was asked to recall a conversation between himself and Mr. Graham Barrow at a Rotary tiffin some four weeks ago, in which Mr. Webb was mentioned. Mr. Graham Barrow, stated witness, had said that he wondered how Mr. Webb had continued for so long with drink, etc., and must come to an end some time. Asked by witness whether he would give evidence for the defence in this case he had said he would because the "China Press" had been very good to him. He also remarked that he had seen "poor old Herbert whooping it up" a good deal lately. Regarding the story told by Mr. West about witness's getting drunk and wrecking the office,—it was a half truth, which was worse than no statement at all.

Mr. Franklin interrupted at this pointed on the ground that the defence were impeaching their own witness, Mr. West.

Mr. Fessenden said he was bringing the matter up more to clear Mr. Norman than anything else. The story had been published in the press and in view of Mr. Norman's position he should be able to give an explanation.

The Judge held that by the rules of evidence he had to uphold the objection.

Mr. Fessenden.—But cannot the witness clear himself as a personal privilege?

The Judge: No, he cannot.

The case was adjourned till Monday morning, when counsels' arguments will be heard.

CHINESE CHILD ADOPTED BY AMERICAN COUPLE

But Is It Still a Alien? Question to Be Solved by Immigration Officials

An interesting question bearing on American immigration laws was raised at the U. S. Court on Tuesday when Judge Purdy granted the petition of two American citizens, a missionary and his wife, to adopt a Chinese child. They had been caring for the little waif for two years, it was stated, and rescued it from the streets.

Can this child enter the United States, to which country it is understood the parents intend returning shortly? Is this child an alien or is it a citizen of the United States? Could it be construed that the parents are attempting by subterfuge to evade the immigration Exclusion law?

The child is of Chinese parentage and according to Chinese law and custom remains a Chinese citizen. The American Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act 40 years ago and excepting students, travellers, merchants and those resident in America at the time of the passage of the law, no others have been permitted lawfully to enter.

We have been informed that the State Department refuses to accept naturalized Chinese (as this one appears to be) into the country and refuses to issue passports to them, but the courts hold that they become citizens by adoption under such procedure.

A similar case occurred over a year ago. Judge Lobingier issued the adoption papers—but the Consular authorities would not issue the necessary passports for the child, but did certify, as to the parent's nationality. The Judge told the parents to take the certificate and the child and enter the American borders. They went and nothing more has been heard of the matter.

Another question—What is the status of a Chinese woman married to an American citizen in China?

CAUGHT AT LAST

Skilful Burglar's Amazing Career of Crime

Smart work by the police brought to justice on Wednesday Tsu Chouling, who during the past year his entered the homes of numerous foreigners in the Western District in their absence and removed what he could.

The Bertillon system of the local police was used in identifying the criminal, for it was on three occasions during March and April that he left finger prints round the house into which he had broken. These were carefully gathered and it was found that the suspect, till recently at large, had been convicted previously on similar charges. Although this manner of identification could be only used in these specific instances, the accused's methods, particularly his manner of deadening the sound of the panes of glass he broke, convinced the police that he was the man wanted for all the burglaries. He very neatly pasted paper around the sections he cut and no sound resulted. Knowing who was wanted, the police sent Chinese detectives into his last known haunts and he was finally apprehended on May 25 and brought before the Court on the next day, when a remand was asked for.

Accused at length admitted that he was guilty on most of the charges. The total amount of property stolen amounted to $1,985, of which $774 has been recovered.

Sentence of five years' imprisonment was passed. Fifteen Shanghai residents were victimized by his depredations of including:—Sir Edward Pearce, 46 Hart Road, Mr. T. H. U. Aldridge 153 Sinza Road, Mr. Caudron, 140 Avenue Road, and Mr. Figge, 71 Kiaochow Road.

WILD SCENE AT U. S. CONSULATE

Drunken Sailor Who Assaulted Three Consuls Sent to Bilibid

Pleading guilty at the U. S. Court Thursday to a charge of assault and battery upon Mr. J. P. Davis, U. S. Executive Consul, Mr. J. E. Jacobs, American Assessor, Mr. C. I. Graham, Vice-Consul, and the U. S. Marshal, Mr. T. R. Porter, John Craig, unemployed seaman, was sentenced by Judge Purdy to three months' and 10 days' imprisonment.

Mr. Davis said prisoner got into the Consulate-General on Friday afternoon, which was a holiday, and began to make demands upon Mr. Graham and himself. As he was under the influence of liquor and did not leave when requested to do so, Mr. Davis suggested that the Marshal be sent for. When Mr. Porter arrived the man refused to go with him quietly and showed fight, so the Marshal left to get handcuffs and when he returned with these, prisoner ran amok, knocking down the Marshal, striking at Mr. Jacobs and biting Mr. Davis on the arm.

Mr. Faison (defending) called upon Dr. Dunn who testified to having examined the prisoner and finding scars of skull fracture and another scalp scar which might have affected the man's mentality, though he was apparently normal.

The Judge then questioned Craig, the latter stating that he was so much under the influence of liquor at the time of the assault that he did not remember anything about it. He also said he had been with the anti-aircraft division in France and had received his wounds there.

Passing sentence, the Judge said that while he could not condone the offence he wished to impose a sentence which would not be unduly harsh and which would bring the prisoner back to the States. He accordingly sentenced him to imprisonment in Bilibid for three months and 10 days, the last 30 days of the sentence to be carried out on board the transport returning to America.

CAPT. Reynolds, master of the Nemazee ship Frangestan, which was burnt out in the Red Sea recently, and sunk by a British submarine, has returned to Hongkong. At the official inquiry into this disaster it was found that the fire was caused by spontaneous combustion in a cargo of cotton.

HUSBAND'S ADVANCED THEORIES

Novel Plea that He Was Not Responsible for Wife's Debts Fails

When a husband pays over his monthly cheque regularly to his wife for housekeeping purposes he is not responsible for any household debts she may incur. This was the burden of the defence unsuccessfully pleaded, in a case which came before Judge Grain at H. M. Supreme Court on Thursday, Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld., and Dombey & Son claiming the sums of Tls. 329.75 and $63.2 respectively from R. F. Wrench, for household goods purchased on credit and not paid for. Mr. Tycho Wing prosecuted and Mr. Addis appeared for the defence.

Defendant, in evidence, stated that when his wife contracted these debts he was away from Shanghai. Every month regularly it was his custom to hand over his pay cheque for Tls. 450 to his wife, and with that he expected her to pay all the household expenses.

Mr. Tycho Wing submitted that a wife's debts were the husband's in a case of this sort.

Mr. Addis's argument was that the fact of marriage alone did not necessarily mean presumption of the husband's liability for a wife's debts. In this case they had evidence to show that the husband paid over his complete monthly pay cheque to his wife, and it was only reasonable to expect that with that money she would pay all the household expenses and not get into debt.

The Judge, giving judgment for plaintiff, stated that the law held that a wife living with her husband was deemed to have implied authority from him and directly on his behalf. The onus was on the husband to prove he was not liable, and there were various ways in which he could do this. He could show that he had given notice publicly that he was not liable for his wife's debts, or he could show that he had definitely drawn up an arrangement with his wife refusing to allow her further credit, and that the tradespeople were aware of this. But in this particular case none of these things has been shown or alleged, and he could see no other course than to give judgment against the husband, however much they might sympathize with him if his wife had been extravagant, although, he hastened to add, this had not necessarily been shown in this case.

THREE small cases were dealt with by Judge Grain in the British Supreme Court, on Tuesday. C. Maitland did not appear to answer a claim by Lee Tung for $106, balance due on a claim for furniture supplied and judgment was given for the amount claimed, with costs. On the application of Messrs. Moorhead, Halse and Robinson, an order was made for C. M. Castillo to vacate within two days a house now occupied by him, three months' rent being due. W. N. Lester not appearing in a case brought by Messrs. L. Moore & Co., though, as was stated, he had received a previous warning, a warrant was issued.

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M-2

SPORTS AND PASTIMES

WEEK-END CRICKET

Cricket Club v. Recreation Club: Leach's First Century in Shanghai

The first match of the inter-club series between the Cricket Club and the Recreation Club was played on the former's ground on [illegible] resulted in a win for the visitors on the first innings by 69.

The scores in detail follow:—

S. C. C.

D. C. Barn, l.b.w., b. C. E. Ollerdessen	4
H. Rogerson, c. Manley, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	1
E. C. Baker, c. Manley, b. Divecha	2
D. W. Leach, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	121
W. C. G. Clifford, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	11
W. E. O'Hara, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	10
J. S. Scott, c. Johannson, b. Madar	0
G. F. Gardner, c. Willis, b. Divecha	10
C. R. W. Thomson, c. Bhoora, b. Divecha	5
E. G. Barnes, run out	0
H. C. B. Peck, not out	2
Extras	8
Total	174

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
M. J. Divecha	15	3	57	3
C. E. Ollerdessen	16.2	1	57	5
C. H. Bhoora	8	4	15	0
W. T. Manley	9	2	30	0
T. Madar	4	0	7	1

S. R. C.

H. B. Ollerdessen, b. Peck	20
M. J. Divecha, b. O'Hara	70
A. J. Willis, b. O'Hara	0
A. J. [illegible]	21
C. H. Bhoora, c. Barnes, b. Rogerson	61
W. T. Manley, l.b.w., b. O'Hara	1
T. Madar, b. O'Hara	16
J. Johanssen, b. Rogerson	0
V. Evans, not out	30
C. E. Ollerdessen, b. O'Hara	11
S. F. Shroff, c. Leach, b. O'Hara	6
Extras	7
Total	243

Bowling Analysis

	O	M	R	W.
O'Hara	17.3	2	56	5
Rogerson	20	4	41	2
Peck	21	5	50	2
Clifford	5	1	23	0
Leach	19	2	52	0
Thompson	6	1	13	0

S. R. C. 2nd v. S. C. C. 2nd.

Played on the S.R.C. ground on Saturday afternoon.

Scores and analysis:—

S. R. C. 2nd.

S. F. Shroff, c. Leslie, b. Grimshaw	8
V. Evans, b. Carr	34
R. J. S. Brandt, b. Rawsthorne	66
G. E. Brockett, b. Carr	0
A. Madar, c. & b. Rawsthorne	20
J. A. Brockett, b. Rawsthorne	0
E. A. Cooke, b. Duckitt	0
F. O. Madar, b. Rawsthorne	11
W. Brockett, c. Leslie, b. Rawsthorne	2
W. E. Wilson, l.b.w., b. Carr	28
A. R. Madar, not out	1
Extras	12
Total	182

[illegible]

	O.	M.	R.	W.
T. L. [illegible]	[illegible]	3	63	5
W. [illegible]	6	2	28	0
R. [illegible]	[illegible]	0	23	1
F. [illegible]	7.1	1	27	3
W. [illegible]	2	0	20	0
F. [illegible]	1	0	9	1

S. C. C.

E. R. Duckitt, b. Shroff	5
A. Green, c. Wilson, b. Shroff	10
G. F. Bichard, b. Shroff	0
E. G. Norman, l.b.w., b. Shroff	9
A. H. Leslie, c. Evans, b. Shroff	47
P. Carr, c. & b. Shroff	14
T. L. Rawsthorne, b. Shroff	5
W. J. Monk, b. Shroff	1
W. G. R. Murphy, b. Shroff	1
R. Grimshaw, b. Wilson	16
A. McIntosh, not out	18
[illegible]	9
Total	135

[illegible]

	O.	M.	R.	W.
W. E. Wilson	8.5	0	45	1
S. F. Shroff	13	1	66	9
V. Evans	5	0	15	0

HUNGJAO GOLF CLUB

The Championship Final

The Hungjao Golf Club championship finnl was played on Friday, the 6th instant, and resulted in a win for Mr. J. Oswald, who defeated Dr. T. M. Burton by 2 up and 1 to play.

Dr. Burton was putting badly in the morning and at the end of the first 18 holes Oswald was 6 up. Four out of the first 5 holes in the second round went to Dr. Burton, Oswald halving one of them only. Dr. Burton succeeded in reducing Oswald's lead to 1 up but was finally beaten by 2 and 1.

The Captain's Cup.

The Captain's Cup, presented by Mr. C. M. G. Burnie, was played for on Whit Sunday and resulted in a win for Dr. Marshall and Mr. Edward F. Mackay, their score being 80 gross for each round—160 less 16—144 net. The winners deserved their victory, as they put in the best gross score.

AMERICAN OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Won by Cyril Walker

Detroit, June 6.

Cyril Walker, of New Jersey, won the American Open Golf Championship at Michigan with a score of 297 for 72 holes.

Bobby Jones, the former holder, made a score of 300.—Reuter's American Service.

LAWN TENNIS

Davis Cup Competition and Inter-Varsity Match

Prague, June 7.

Switzerland beat Czecho-Slovakia by 4 matches to one in the third round of the Davis Cup competition.—Reuter.

London, June 9.

At Scarborough to-day, in the third round of the Davis Cup Competition, Mr. Wheatley (Britain) beat Mr. Spence (South Africa), 6/4, 6/3, 6/4, and Mr. Gilbert (Britain) beat Mr. Raymond (South Africa), 6/1, 4/6, 6/2, 3/6, 8/6.

As the result of a telegraphic mutilation the result of the Davis Cup tie at Prague between Czecho-Slovakia and Switzerland was published as a win for Switzerland by 4 points to 1. The result should have been:—

Czecho-Slovakia beat Switzerland by 4 points to 1.—Reuter.

Scarborough, June 10.

The doubles in the Davis Cup tie between Britain and South Africa were played to-day, and resulted in a win for the South African pair. The score was as follows:—

Messrs. Spence and Raymond (South Africa) beat Messrs. Godfree and Woosnam, 11-9, 7-5, 6-4.

Britain still leads by 2 matches to 1.—Reuter.

London, June 11.

At Scarborough to-day, Britain secured the winning advantage over South Africa in the third round tie in the Davis Cup Competition, Mr. Wheatley defeating Mr. Richardson, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

Later.

Britain defeated South Africa by 4 matches to 1, Mr. Gilbert beating Mr. Spence, 4-6, 6-1, 6-1, 6-1.—Reuter.

London, June 10.

Oxford beat Cambridge in the Inter-'Varsity Lawn Tennis at Oxford by 11 matches to 10.—Reuter.

STATUS OF AMATEURS IN LAWN TENNIS

Mr. Tilden to Take Part in Davis Cup Competition: A Compromise

New York, June 5.

Mr. W. T. Tilden announces that he is withdrawing his resignation from the American Davis Cup team under a compromise arrangement, whereby a player-writer is permitted to write tennis articles provided he does not use his name or title in daily reports of tournaments in which he is competing.—Reuter's American Service.

GOLF AT GLENEAGLES

London, June 12.

The United States golfer, Jim Barnes, was one of 32 players to qualify for the Thousand Guinea Tournament at Gleneagles.—Reuter.

CRICKET IN ENGLAND

Draw Between Yorkshire and South Africans: The County Championship.

Sheffield, June 6.

The match between Yorkshire and the South Africans ended in a draw. Yorkshire declared with their overnight score of 142 for 3 wickets. At the close of play six South African wickets had fallen for 141 runs, Susskind being not out with 60.

Scores.—Yorkshire 236 and 142 for 3 wickets; South Africans 111 and 141 for 6 wickets.—Reuter.

London, June 6.

The match at Lord's between Middlesex and Essex was drawn.

At the Oval, Sussex beat Surrey on the first innings. Surrey made 53 in their first innings, Tate taking six wickets for 22 and Gilligan 4 for 24. In their second innings they made 121 for 3 wickets. Sussex made 165. Peach of Surrey, whose analysis was 8 wickets for 60, took four wickets with successive deliveries.

At Northampton, Kent beat Northamptonshire by an innings and 109.

At Portsmouth, Hampshire beat Worcestershire by 7 wickets. Hampshire made 104 in the first innings, Pearson taking 6 wickets for 43, and 98 for 3 wickets in the second innings. Worcester made 98 in the first innings and 103 in the second, Boyes taking 6 wickets for 36.

At Cardiff, Gloucestershire beat Glamorgan on the first innings.

London, June 9.

At Lord's, Sussex beat Middlesex by 194 runs. Sussex made 156 in the first innings and 183 in the second, Haig taking 6 wickets for 79. Middlesex made 104, Tate taking 7 wickets for 39, and 41 in the second innings, A. E. Gilligan taking 8 wickets for 25 and Tate 2 for 13.

At Southampton, Kent beat Hampshire by an innings and 109. Kent made 293 runs. Hampshire scored 62, Woolley taking 4 wickets for 30 and Freeman 4 for 16, and 122 in the second innings, to which Mead contributed 72.—Reuter.

London, June 10.

At Leyton, Essex beat Worcestershire by 5 wickets.

At Leeds, Lancashire beat Yorkshire by 24 runs. There was a wonderful finish. Lancashire made 113, Macaulay taking 6 wickets for 40, and 74 in the second innings, Macaulay taking 4 wickets for 19 and Kilner 4 for 13. Yorkshire made 130 in their first innings, Parkin taking 5 for 46 and Tyldesley 4 for 69. Yorkshire were one run for 0 wicket this morning and needed 56 for a victory, but R. Tyldesley, who took 6 wickets for 18, and Parkin, who took 3 for 15, dismissed them for 33. Yorkshire's only lower totals were 26 against Surrey at the Oval in 1909 and 32 against Notts in 1876.

At Leicester, Leicestershire beat Northamptonshire on the first innings. Leicester made 197 and 96, Wells taking 5 wickets for 24. Northamptonshire made 154 and 69 for 3 wickets.

The match between Notts and Surrey at Nottingham was drawn. Surrey scored 268 for 4 wickets and declared, Hobbs contributing an unfinished 203. Notts made 257 for 5 wickets, Carr scoring 112, not out.

At Derby, the match between Derbyshire and Warwickshire was drawn. Warwick made 317 for 8 wickets and declared. W. Quaife made 85 and Calthorpe 65. Derby made 34 for 2 wickets.

At Taunton, Gloucestershire beat Somerset on the first innings. Gloucester made 392 (Dipper 157 and Hammond 120). Somerset made 218, Parker taking 8 wickets for 71. They followed on with 78 for 4 wickets.—Reuter.

Cambridge University Defeated by South Africans

Cambridge, June 10.

The South Africans beat Cambridge University by 125 runs. Today the South Africans completed their second innings for 179, Meyer taking 5 wickets for 79. Cambridge scored 197 in their second innings, to which White contributed 53, not out. The South African bowler Carter took 5 wickets for 64.

Scores:—South Africa, 334 and 179. Cambridge University, 191 and 197.—Reuter.

HOME RACING

The Coronation Cup

London, June 5.

The following is the result of the Coronation Cup (1½ miles), run at Epsom to-day:—

Verdict	1
Parth	2
Poisoned Arrow	3

There were seven starters. Won by half a length; a head between second and third.

Betting:—3 to 1 against Verdict; 9 to 4 Parth; 9 to 4 Poisoned Arrow.

The Royal Stakes

The following is the result of the Royal Stakes (6 furlongs):—

Drake	1
Cleone	2
The Owl	3

There were six starters. Won by four lengths; six lengths between second and third.

Betting:—100 to 30 against Drake; 4 to 1 Cleone; 100 to 7 The Owl.—"North-China Daily News" Special Service.

The Oaks

London, June 6.

The following is the result of the Oaks (1½ miles), run at Epsom to-day:—

Straitlace	1
Plack	2
Mink	3

There were 12 starters. Won by a length and a half; a head between second and third.

Betting:—100 to 30 against Straitlace; 11 to 10 Plack; 100 to 7 Mink. Place betting:—6 to 4 on Straitlace; 5 to 2 on Plack; 3 to 1 against Mink.—Reuter.

Great Surrey Foal Stakes

London, June 6.

The Great Surrey Foal Stakes, at Epsom to-day, resulted as follows:—

Fianna	1
Sinkman	2
Lamb's Laugh	3

There were eight starters. Won by three lengths; a neck between second and third.

Betting:—11 to 2 against Fianna; 7 to 4 Sinkman; 7 to 1. Lamb's Laugh.

The Acorn Stakes

The following is the result of the Acorn Stakes:—

Margeritta	1
Roman Slave	2
Semnos	3

Sixteen ran. Won by four lengths; two lengths between second and third.

Betting:—4 to 1 against Margeritta; 6 to 1 against Roman Slave; 9 to 2 Semnos.—"North China Daily News" Special Service.

ATHLETIC SPORTS

100 Yd. Record Equalled

London, June 7.

At the Woolwich War Memorial Sports, the former Cambridge University runner, H. M. Abrahams, ran 100 yd. in 9⅘ sec., equalling the world's record.

Abrahams represents Britain in the 100 metres race in the Paris Olympiad.—Reuter.

HEAVYWEIGHT BOXING

Wills' Disappointing Display Against Madden

New York, June 10.

In spite of an advantage of 28 lb. and a longer reach, Harry Wills, the negro heavyweight boxer who has been clamouring to fight Dempsey, was unable to do more than beat Bartley Madden on points in a 15-round contest last night.

Wills battered the white man all over the ring, but had not a sufficient punch to knock him out. Madden fought back pluckily and in several rounds gave the negro as good as he got. The spectators wildly cheered Madden at the end of the bout.—Reuter.

News has just come to hand that Kwok Tak-kum and Wu King-ching, former pupils of the Public School for Chinese, have passed with honours the final examinations for the degree of Bachelor of Arts of Hongkong University.

Municipal Gazette News

Excerpts from Minutes.

Fire at Holt's Wharf.—Further report by the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade is submitted relative to the point raised by Capt. Dixon, that the Brigade attended unasked and suggesting a reduced fee. It is noted, however, that under the agreement with Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, the Brigade is required to attend all fires on their property with fees duly specified. It is decided, therefore, that no further action can be taken with regard to this matter.

At the same time, members consider that cases might arise where the scale charges for the Brigade services might exceed the amount of the damage caused by a small fire, and it is suggested that in such cases the charge be reduced to a sum sufficient to cover out-of-pocket expenses, to be made upon recommendation accordingly by the Chief Officer.

Sing Song Licences.—With reference to the minute of the last meeting, draft Licence Conditions are submitted and approved. The fees suggested are $10 a quarter for each house and a similar fee of $10 a quarter for each artiste, as against an annual house fee of $2, and a monthly licence fee of $10 in respect of each artiste, imposed by the French Council for establishments in the French Concession. After hearing the Commissioner of Revenue and the Prosecuting Solicitor, these fees are approved as are also the draft Licence Conditions. The Prosecuting Solicitor suggests that in their own interests a personal licence should be issued to each girl on the ground that otherwise they might be subjected to "squeeze" from the Landlord of the licensed house. Also that this system would be useful for the better identification of immoral and disorderly women seeking to secure refuge within the Sing Song houses from the closure disability they are experiencing as the result of the suppression of brothels. The Acting Commissioner of Police concurs with this view and after discussion the proposal is approved.

With regard to the house licence the Prosecuting Solicitor considers that this should be issued to the person in charge of the whole house who should be held responsible for the observance of its conditions. The Acting Commissioner of Police, however, states that the tenant or landlord of a house frequently does not reside on the premises or even in the Settlement, and that the various rooms are sub-let which would make it difficult to trace the holder of the Licence, if required. He suggests that the house licence should be issued to the mistresses of the girls who always live with them, and although in some instances this would mean that several licences would be issued in respect of one house it would be of material assistance for ensuring compliance with the Licence conditions. After discussion this proposal is recommended.

Cuticura Soap Baths Are Refreshing

Cleanse and freshen your skin by bathing daily with Cuticura Soap. If there are any signs of pimples, redness or roughness follow with a gentle application of Cuticura Ointment to soothe and heal. Dust with Cuticura Talcum; it perfumes as well as powders your skin.

Soap 1s., Talcum 1s. 3d., Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. Sold throughout the Empire. British Depot: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27, Charterhouse Sq., London, E.C.1.

Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

LONDON RAILWAYS STRIKE

Electrical Workers Demanding 10s. Weekly Increase and Minimum of £3: Government Promising to See that Essential Services Go on

London, June 5.

The possibility of an immediate strike of locomotive men is ruled out owing to a meeting of the locomotive delegates conference deciding to take a ballot in the event of the companies' reply being unsatisfactory.—Reuter.

London, June 6.

The chaos on the London electric railways owing to the strike of shopmen and workers at the power-stations was intensified to-day. The Central London Railway is closed owing to the shutting at midnight of the power-station supplying it. Fifty-five railway-stations are now closed. Six thousand of the uniformed staff are now out in sympathy with the strikers.

The railway managers have replied to the Locomotive Men's Society declining to re-open negotiations. Meanwhile the electrical trades union has instructed its members employed on the London underground railways to cease work, thus conferring a degree of official recognition on the present strike.

Mr. Tom Shaw, the Minister of Labour, replying to questions in the House of Commons, promised that the Government would give protection to willing workers and maintain the essential services in the event of the strike spreading. He declared that the Government declined to recognize anybody except a body capable of negotiating a settlement.

The object of the present strike is to secure an increase of 10/- a week with a minimum of £3, and consolidation of the existing war bonus of 16/6. The strikers also demand a guaranteed day and week and one week's holiday with pay.

Other Unions Joining

Later.

There are many indications that the Railway Strike has become more serious.

To-day, the Electoral Trades Union issued an official decision that they would join in the strike, and this is likely to be followed by three other Craftmen's Unions, which have shopmen on the Tubes, viz. vehicle builders, blacksmiths and engineers. These unions, after a meeting last night, announced that they merely waited the respective confirmation of their National Executives. The demands in these cases are an increase of 12 shillings a week, a week's holiday with pay, and settlement of the various shop questions.

The participation of these unions will mean a total cessation of the present modified services.

Central London Rlwy. Reopened

London, June 7.

The railway strike position is officially described as being slightly better. The Central London Railway has reopened, but the Hampstead line is closed. It is estimated that about 7,000 men are now on strike.

It is officially stated that the executive of the Amalgamated Engineering Union will not authorize a strike of its shopmen who are members of London electric railways, because a national claim by the Union for a wage advance for all railway shopmen is being negotiated. Thus the strike remains unofficial except as regards the Electrical Trades Union.

The executive of the Locomotive Engineers' Union, following the railway managers' refusal of their demands, have decided to ask for an immediate meeting with the managers before taking drastic action. It is therefore officially stated that there will be no stoppage on the main lines during Whitsun.—Reuter.

A Slight Improvement.

London, June 9.

An Underground Railway *communiqué* last night described the situation as slightly improved. Nine stations re-opened during the week-end and a little over half the normal service is operating.—Reuter.

Strike to be Continued.

London, June 9.

The railway strike position continues to improve. It is officially announced that, except for the Turnham Green-Richmond section, the whole Underground system is now working. Numbers of strikers have returned to duty, and it is expected that the stations now shut will be opened to-morrow.

Later.

A conference of delegates of the railway strike committee to-day decided to continue the strike.—Reuter.

Uniformed Staff Returning to Work but Power-house and Shop Men Obdurate

London, June 10.

The railway managers have agreed to meet the Locomotive Society's representatives on June 12. The latter in the meantime are delaying the ballot, which they threatened if the railway managers did not agree to meet them to discuss certain anomalies arising from the last strike settlement.

Later.

The railway strike situation is officially reported to be still improving. Although 39 stations are still closed, trains are operating on all lines. Fifteen hundred more of the uniformed staff have returned to work.

The difficulty now is to increase the output of the power-houses so as to increase the number of trains running.

Meanwhile the strike headquarters claim that the strike is extending to the Great Central Railway. The shopmen at Anerley and Nottingham are now out, and the shopmen and powerhouse men in the London Underground are solid. The effect will be felt very shortly because repairs to the rolling-stock are piling up.—Reuter.

Ultimatum from Management

London, June 11.

The London Underground Railways have warned the strikers to return to work before June 13; otherwise they will be dismissed and steps taken against them for striking without proper notice.

June 12.

The services of the Underground Railways did not show a material change yesterday and the public continue to experience much discomfort and overcrowding. There was a breakdown, which lasted for half-an-hour during the busiest hour in the morning, owing to overloading at the power station.

Thirtyfive stations are still closed and the prospect for improvement is far from bright, as the Electrical Trades Union last night decided, that as their demands for increased wages were not conceded, to extend the strike "in order to effect a speedy settlement."

The ultimatum to the strikers, which was signed by Baron Ashfield, the Managing Director of the London Underground Railways, says that in no circumstances will the companies meet the representatives of the strikers.

Mr. C. T. Cramp, the Secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, who has just returned from the Continent, has issued a manifesto, which says the line that this is a fight between order and mob-law. He declines to placate or temporize "forces of anarchy" and declares that he will not compromise with the unofficial leaders of the strike. Mr. Cramp calls for courage to deal with "all these disruptive elements" and defines any refusal to go to work as blacklegging.—Reuter.

FRENCH POLITICAL CRISIS

Resignation of New Cabinet Following Failure to Cope with Left Parties' Opposition in Chamber and Senate: Animated and Uproarious Scenes

Paris, June 6.

A continuous stream of politicians has been coming and going to and from the Elysée throughout the day. The Socialists are busy designing ingenious formalae designed indirectly to raise the Presidential issue in the Chamber, since the rules of the House forbid a debate involving the President's person. Up to the present the President of the Chamber, M. Painlevé, has not accepted any of the formulae submitted.

Interest at present centres on the sudden departure for home of M. Steeg, the Governor of Algeria. M. Steeg is a Radical Senator and a personal friend of M. Millerand. He is regarded as a candidate for the Premiership.

June 7.

M. Francios Marsal has agreed to form a Cabinet.

M. Marshal was the Minister of Finance in M. Poincaré's Government and is a friend of M. Millerand. He will introduce the new Cabinet on June 10, when he will read the Presidential message to Parliament, stating M. Millerand's case. Afterwards a vote of confidence will be submitted, and, if rejected, as is considered probable, M. Millerand will resign. The President will therefore have vindicated his standpoint of only leaving his post on a clear vote of Parliament and not at the behest of one section of it.—Reuter.

The President's Message

Paris, June 8.

M. Marsal has virtually completed his stop-gap Cabinet, which includes M. Lefebvre du Prey as Minister of Foreign Affairs and M. Maginot as Minister of War. All the members belong to the *bloc national* and almost all were members of either M. Millerand's or M. Poincaré's Cabinets.

It is understood that the President's message to Parliament, a draft of which he communicated to the prospective members of the Cabinet this afternoon, declares that the new majority's determination to cut short his seven years' tenure of the Presidency amounts to a *coup de force* and violation of the Constitution. He asks Parliament to state by an unequivocal vote whether it sanctions such a dangerous precedent. He asserts that he has acted constitutionally throughout his Presidentship.

It is a foregone conclusion that the Chamber will vote against M. Millerand. It is expected that the new President will be elected by the National Assembly at Versailles on Friday and that M. Herriot's Cabinet will thereupon be formed.

Later.

The official list of the Marsal Cabinet confirms the previous message. M. Marsal takes the Premiership and the Finance portfolio. M. de Selves retains the Ministry of the Interior.—Reuter.

M. Millerand's Message to Parliament: A Review of His Policy

Paris, June 10.

According to a semi-official forecast of M. Millerand's message to Parliament, he will briefly review the events since his assumption of the Presidency. He will recall that he has invariably pursued a policy of social progress and agreement at home and abroad, and that all Cabinets to which he has entrusted the power have been coalition ones in which members of the Left participated. He will declare that his attitude has always been in conformity with his constitutional prerogative.

M. Millerand will point out that the new majority has made it impossible for the head of the State to exercise his mandate and the [illegible] as it is understood. He will [illegible] the [illegible] of the head of State in electoral [illegible] would result in creating a precedent fraught with incalculable consequences. In conclusion the President will state that Parliament alone can decide the question of the Presidency.—Reuter.

Paris, June 10.

The Chamber of Deputies to-day voted in favour of a Left resolution refusing to enter into relations with a Ministry which by its composition was a negation of the right of Parliament, and adjourning all discussion until a Government in conformity with the country's sovereign will presented itself before it.

The Cabinet immediately called at the Elysée and presented its resignation.

It was later officially announced that M. Millerand intended to resign the Presidency.

Later.

M. Millerand's message was read in the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon by M. François Marsal, the Premier, and in the Senate by M. Ratier, the Keeper of the Seals. In the course of the message the President stated that he had faithfully kept the solemn engagement he had made before the country. He refused to desert his post and called upon Parliament to respect the Constitution. "You will respect the Constitution. If you disregarded it, if it was intended henceforth that arbitrary action of the majority could compel the President of the Republic to resign for political reasons, the President of the Republic would be only a plaything in the hands of the parties. You will assist me to avert such a formidable danger. Dangerous counsellors are striving in party interests to secure that the new Parliament shall open with a revolutionary act. The Chamber will refuse to follow them. Faithful to its traditions, the Senate will wish to remain, as it has always been, in the gravest conjunctures, the defender of the Constitution."

The new Marsal Government made a declaration that it was only formed to enable Parliament to pronounce itself constitutionally and therefore submitted no programme. It asks Parliament to decide whether constitutional laws shall remain "intangible" above party politics, or whether it disapproves the principles laid down in the President's message, which are the basis of the Constitution. The Government appeals to the conscience and reason of Parliament, the proceedings in which should be held on clear issues, as the vote concerns the future *régime* and respect for legality, the guarantees of Republican institutions and the safeguards of public liberties.

Left Resolution Carried.

After an animated debate, during which the Communists stood and sang the "Internationale," the Chamber voted by 329 to 214 in favour of a Left resolution, unanimously adopted earlier in the day by the Left groups, declaring:—"The Chamber is resolved not to enter into relations with a Ministry which by its composition is a negation of the rights of Parliament. It refuses the unconstitutional debate to which it is invited, and has decided to adjourn all discussion until a Government, constituted in conformity with the country's sovereign will, presents itself before it."

The Senate by 154 votes to 144 passed a resolution adjourning debate on the interpellation of Senator Cheron, who was thus prevented from presenting the case for the President. The Senate then adjourned until to-morrow.

In the Chamber for a long time the deputies of the Left, according to a concerted plan, maintained a frigid silence. They were determined to treat the Government as non-existent. None but the Communists uttered a word until the ex-Minister, M. Reibel, in the course of an 80 minutes' speech deliberately chose provocative phrases with the object of drawing the Left from their shell. The atmosphere became more electric. The Communists greeted references to M. Millerand with shouts of "Renégat," and sang the "Internationale." Shortly afterwards a message was communicated to the Chamber that the Senate had adjourned pending the discussion in the Chamber. The Left deputies were unable to restrain their enthusiasm. They rose *en bloc* and cheered for several minutes, shouting "*Vive le Senat!*" Subsequently they relapsed into silence again and listened indifferently, taking no part in the debate. When the result of the division was announced, however, they again broke out into thundering cheers.

The Chamber then adjourned until to-morrow to hear "a communication from the Government," namely, the President's resignation.

President About to Resign.

An official announcement was made after the results of the sittings in the Chamber and Senate were known that M. Millerand intended to resign. The *communiqué* said that the Premier and the Cabinet called at the Elysée to inform the President of the events in the Chamber and Senate. M. Millerand thanked the Cabinet for the assistance they had given him in the defence of the Constitution. When the Cabinet tendered their resignation, M. Millerand replied that he had made up his own mind to resign the Presidency. He asked the Cabinet to continue its functions for the time being.

M. Millerand's Resignation

June 11.

President Millerand's letter, which merely announces his resignation, will be read in Parliament this afternoon. To-morrow the Left parties will choose a candidate for the presidential election, which will be held on Friday. The candidateships of M. Painlevé and M. Doumergue are now being contemplated.

M. François Marsal will lead the new President to the Elysée and resign. On Saturday M. Herriot will be charged to form a Cabinet, which probably will be presented to the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate on Monday or Tuesday.—Reuter.

M. Herriot Preparing His Cabinet

Paris, June 11.

President Millerand to-day despatched letters to the President of the Senate and to the President of the Chamber of Deputies announcing his resignation.

The moderate newspapers unanimously regret the departure of President Millerand. Some of them consider yesterday's proceedings a dangerous precedent.

The "*Echo de Paris*" declares that M. Herriot and his friends have struck the first blow against constitutional laws with the assistance of revolutionaries, and have opened the way for the greatest unreasonableness on the part of extremists and the worst capitulations by the Radical party. The "*Figaro*" says: "The Left have accomplished a revision of the Constitution."

On the other hand, the Left organs are rejoicing at the downfall of President Millerand, whom the "*Humanite*" describes as "one of the worst enemies of the proletariat."

The Chamber of Deputies and the Senate will meet jointly at Versailles at 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon to elect a new President.

M. Herriot is losing no time in settling down to his task. He is already preparing a new Cabinet for announcement immediatly a new President is elected, and is planning to adjourn the Chambers after a very brief debate, so as to enable him to get in contact with the Allied Governments. M. Herriot is hoping to go to London to see Mr. Ramsay MacDonald at the beginning of next week.—Reuter.

A UNITED IMPERIAL POLICY

The Dominions' Right to Sign Treaties Affecting the Whole Empire

London, June 6.

In the House of Commons to-day in the course of a debate initiated by Sir Edward Grigg (Liberal), who denounced the late Government for not inviting the Dominions to send separate plenipotentiaries to Lausanne with the result that the Lausanne Treaty was the only peace treaty not signed by the whole Empire, the Prime Minister said with regard to procedure in the future that the Government stood by the resolutions of the last Imperial Conference that the Dominions interested should be informed before treaty negotiations were opened and, where their interests were directly concerned, they should be represented. As far as he was concerned, the resolution would always be put into operation. It was his opinion that the time had come when we must consider what machinery would be required to conduct a united Imperial policy, particularly with regard to foreign affairs.—Reuter.

THE LAUSANNE TREATY

Canada's Acquiescence in British Government's Ratification

Ottawa, June 10.

In the Dominion House of Commons to-day a statement on the Government's attitude on the Lausanne Treaty was made by the Premier, Mr. Mackenzie King. He contended that the British Government's procedure in asking Canada to ratify a treaty imposing obligations on her when Canada was not invited to participate in the negotiations and was not directly among the signatories was a serious departure from the position of equality of status, adopted at Versailles and elsewhere. He pointed out, however, that the ending of the war with Turkey by the King signing the peace treaty was binding on the whole Empire, just as the declaration of war on Turkey was binding. The Premier, in conclusion, said that he believed that an Imperial Parliament was impossible and that an Imperial Council would be disruptive. He expressed the opinion that any steps to make clearer their full rights to self-government would conduce to the security and permanency of their allied nationhood within the Empire.

Mr. King said that legally and technically Canada would be bound by the ratification of the treaty, but her moral obligations under the treaty would be vastly different from those imposed by the Treaty of Versailles in view of the different manner in which the negotiations had been carried on.

Mr. Meighen, the leader of the Opposition, sharply criticized the Government for tacitly acquiescing in the course of the British Government.—Reuter's American Service.

BRITAIN AND TURKEY

A Complete Deadlock with Regard to Mosul

Constantinople, June 5.

The Mosul Conference has broken down. The Turks refused to agree to the terms of reference suggested by the British, under which the dispute would be submitted to the League of Nations. The Turks suggested further negotiations with a view to the selection of another arbitral tribunal.

Sir Percy Cox was given a farewell by the Turkish delegates. He departs from here almost immediately.—Reuter.

EXONERATION OF SIR MICHAEL O'DWYER

Swarajist Indignation: A Proposal to Pay the Costs and Damages

Simla, June 9.

Mr. C. R. Das, the Swarajist leader, to-day introduced a motion in the Legislative Assembly that the Assembly should express disappointment and indignation at "Mr. Justice McCardie's judgment exonerating Sir Michael O'Dwyer and General Dyer."

Mr. Neogy, presiding, ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Das also sent in a resolution in favour of the payment of damages and costs in the O'Dwyer case from the Indian exchequer.—Reuter.

INDIA'S DEMAND FOR HOME RULE

Memorandum Claiming Right to Draft Own Constitution Like Other Dominions

London, June 11.

Mr. Sasteri, Mrs. Besant and Mr. Rangachariar and other Indian leaders are at present in London with the object of presenting a memorandum to the India Office demanding the establishment of Dominion Home Rule. It urges the despatch of a commission to India in the autumn with wide terms of reference, in order that the story of the American colonies and Ireland may not be repeated and the constitutional party destroyed, and claims that India should draft her own constitution similarly to the Dominions. The memorandum also insists that the Viceroy should conduct the Government with a Cabinet responsible to an Indian Legislature, but that he should provisionally retain the responsibility for the defence of the country and for foreign affairs, including relations with Indian Princes. The provincial governments should be autonomous and adequate provision should be made to protect minorities.—Reuter.

JUBALAND CEDED TO ITALY

A Long-Standing Cause of Friction Removed on Britain Abandoning Claim

London, June 10.

The long-standing diplomatic question between Britain and Italy with regard to the cession of territory in Africa, which has caused a little friction, has been virtually settled after a fortnight's negotiation between experts at a conference in London.

The matter in dispute concerned the cession of Jubaland, which is at present a part of Kenya Colony, for incorporation in Italian Somaliland. The question was bound up in the conditions laid down by Italy, when she joined in the war by the side of the Allies in 1915, the stipulation having then been made that, if Britain and France as a result of the war acquired territory in Africa, Italy should receive compensation, particularly in north-eastern Africa. An agreement with regard to the line of territory to be ceded was reached in 1920, but Britain made the arrangement dependent on a settlement of the future of the Dodecanese Islands in the Mediterranean, while the Italians made a counter-claim. The British have now abandoned their claim.

The tract ceded is 45,000 square miles in extent, and is largely desert. The principal port is Kismayu.—Reuter.

U. S. REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

Mr. Coolidge Sole Nominee: Democratic Candidate and Prohibition

Cleveland, Ohio, June 6.

President Coolidge's campaign manager states that Senator Johnson and Senator La Follette have withdrawn their candidatures from the Republican Convention, leaving the President the sole Republican nominee.—Reuter's American Service.

Cleveland, Ohio, June 9.

The eve of the Republican National Convention is in marked contrast to similar gatherings. The city is filled with politicians representing various States, but no banners are flying from the headquarters of rival candidates nor are pictures of them pasted in windows and other vantage points. The reason is that President Coolidge appears to be the only candidate and he is likely to be nominated, virtually by acclamation.

The only thrills likely to occur will be during the efforts to choose a Vice-President and to frame the planks of the party's platform, particularly in regard to the World Court, foreign debt and tariff, on which there is considerable divergency of opinion among the party leaders.

A number of names of possible Vice-Presidential candidates are mentioned, including those of General Charles G. Dawes, Mr. Herbert Hoover, Mr. Theodore Burton, and the Ambassador to Mexico, Mr. Charles Beecher Warren.—Reuter's American Service.

New York, June 9.

Considerable zest has been given to the political situation through a statement by Governor Smith of New York, the avowed Democratic candidate for the Presidency, on his stand on the "wet" or "dry", issue, which he made in response to an inquiry by the Self-Determination League.

Governor Smith said that he opposed saloons and "hard liquor," but favoured light wines and beer. He desired modification of the Volstead Law and challenged its definition of intoxicants.—Reuter's American Service.

Chairman's Eulogy of Pres. Coolidge: Unsurpassed in Honesty of Purpose

Cleveland, Ohio, June 10.

The Republican National Convention mustered at 11 o'clock this morning. Mr. Theodore Burton, a member of the House of Representatives, was elected temporary chairman. He delivered a "keynote" address praising President Coolidge as unsurpassed among the rulers of the earth in honesty of purpose, courage and high devotion to the welfare of his country. He declared: "By far the greater share of our citizenship looks to President Coolidge rather than Congress for leadership."

After recommending that the Republican Party should declare for American adhesion to the World Court with merely the Harding-Hughes reservations, Mr. Burton expressed regret that Congress had not heeded the President's wishes with regard to the immigration legislation. He advocated an educational campaign with regard to taxation, so that it should be generally realized that not all the burden of taxation fell on those who first paid their tax.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Presidential Platform Practically Completed

Cleveland, Ohio, June 11.

The platform to be submitted to the Republican Convention was virtually completed early this morning. It is asserted that it is entirely along the lines desired by President Coolidge. It is reported that in the executive session of the drafting committee no voice was raised against the plank favouring the United States joining the World Court under President Coolidge's terms.

The insurgent faction, led by Senator LaFollette, has submitted to the platform committee a substitute platform declaring that the paramount issue is to rescue Government and industry from the grip of private monopoly, pledging itself to a "house cleaning" of Government departments in Washington and proposing to reform railway, tax, tariff, banking and agricultural legislation, but it is not believed that this will be supported outside the insurgent ranks.

Later.

The drawing up of the Republican platform consumed more time than was anticipated. It was found advisable in the interests of harmony to devote a whole day to smoothing out disputed planks.

The document, as submitted to the Convention, begins with a tribute to the late President Harding. It declares that the country is fortunate because another fully equipped to be his successor stood forth on his death.

The platform favours adherence of the United States to the Permanent Court of International Justice, and endorses the Government's refusal to join the League of Nations and assume obligations under the Covenant of the League. It, however, upholds, as illustrations of what is possible in the direction of co-operative humanitarian efforts, the unofficial representation of the United States by General Dawes on the Reparations Commission and the convocation of the Washington Naval Conference.

After referring to the increase, menacing peace, in land and air forces abroad, the platform advocates the calling of a conference on the limitation of land forces, and the use of submarines and poison-gas, as proposed by President Coolidge, when, through the adoption of a permanent reparation plan, conditions in Europe make negotiations and co-operation opportune and possible.

A Tariff on Imports

The platform contains the usual Republican declarations in favour of a tariff on imports for the protection of labour. It also endorses the elastic provisions of the latest tariff law. It promises to place farmers on an equality with other United States industries. It specifically renounces in favour of a Federal system the co-operative marketing of foreign products. It declares for the creation of a commission to study the subject of tax reduction with a view to intelligent reformation of systems of taxation in conformity with sound economic principles.

Regarding foreign debts to the United States, the platform holds up as a model Britain's debt settlement, and declares that the great nations cannot recognize or admit the principle of repudiation.

The document then discusses the recent congressional investigations, frankly saying: "We demand speedy, fearless and impartial prosecution of all wrong-doers without regard to political affiliations, but we declare that no greater wrong can be committed against the people than to attempt to destroy their trust in the great body of public servants, thousands of whom are earnest and conscientious men."—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, June 12.

Senator Borah has declined the invitation to stand as Republican candidate for the Vice-Presidency.—Reuter's American Service.

U. S. NAVAL BILL

Final Passage Delayed Pending Motion for Reconsideration

Washington, June 5.

The Senate to-day passed the Bill, already adopted by the House of Representatives, authorizing the construction of eight scout-cruisers and the conversion of several coalburning battleships into oil-burners.—Reuter's American Service.

Washington, June 7.

Senator King has blocked the repassage of the Naval Bill authorizing the construction of eight scout-cruisers and the conversion of several coal-burning battleships into oil-burners.

The bill had passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, but Senator King's motion to re-consider the measure was pending and, owing to the adjournment of Congress to-day, the final passage of the bill was prevented.—Reuter.

TEAPOT DOME SCANDAL

Inquiry Committee's Strong Comment: $1,000,000 State Money for Worthless Claims

Washington, June 6.

The Walsh Investigation Committee has found that the Teapot Dome leases were negotiated secretly, that the Government in effect paid $1,000,000 for worthless claims in order to clear the way for Mr. Sinclair, and that the recommendations of the Navy experts were ignored.

The Committee further states that "the corrupt character of the loan of $100,000 to Mr. A. B. Fall, ex-Secretary of the Interior, by Mr. Doheny does not require comment" and condemns the Department of Justice for "negligence in failing to prosecute claims for the recovery of the California oil reserves obtained by the Standard Oil Company."

The finding also declares that the sending of marines to clear the Teapot Dome estate for Mr. Sinclair was "an outrageous use of the armed forces of the United States."—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICAN CONGRESS ADJOURNED

Pending Legislation Blocked by Partisan Strife: A Review of Work Done

Washington, June 8.

Congress adjourned *sine die* yesterday evening. The House of Representatives broke up peacefully, but the Senate's last hours were marked by partisan strife. The Republican Senator Spencer filibustered and prevented the adoption of the Walsh oil scandals report. The Democrat Senator King doomed the re-passage of the Naval Bill. The Democrat Senator Pittman killed other pending legislation by continuing to talk until the adjournment.

Meanwhile President Coolidge waited in a room in the Senate and signed 105 bills and resolutions.

A review of the work done in Congress shows the passage of the Soldiers' Bonus, Immigration and Tax Revision Laws, the Teapot Dome and Daugherty Inquiries and approval of American adhesion to a world court. Congress did not enact legislation to help the farmers or ratify the Lausanne Treaty. It delayed operation of the soldiers' bonus by not providing the necessary funds.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICAN REPLY TO JAPANESE NOTE

Model of Courtesy and Tact

London, June 10.

The Diplomatic Correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" understands that the American reply to the Japanese Note, which, it is believed, was handed to Mr. Hanihara, the Japanese Ambassador at Washington, yesterday, is a model of courtesy and tactfulness, and intended to assuage Japanese susceptibilities.—Reuter.

ITALIAN EMIGRANTS TO AMERICA

Several Hundreds Refused Admission to Canada and United States

Halifax, N.S., June 10.

One hundred and 50 Italian immigrants on board the Dante Alighieri have been refused admission into Canada and have sadly left for home.

Seven hundred Italians arrived at New York on the Dante Algihieri, and it was announced that they would not be allowed to land under the recent Supreme Court decision. Two hundred of them originally intended to land at Halifax, but were barred owing to lack of the necessary $1,200 each.—Reuter's American Service.

BY-ELECTION AT OXFORD

A Conservative Gain

London, June 5.

The Conservatives gained a seat at the Oxford by-election, which was contested by three Old Blues. The result of the voting was as follows:—

Mr. R. C. Bourne (Con.)	10,079
Mr. C. B. Fry (Lib.)	8,237
Mr. Kenneth Lindsay (Lab.)	2,769

—Reuter.

OBITUARY

Viscount Pirrie

London, June 8.

The death is announced of Viscount Pirrie, Chairman of Messrs. Harland and Wolff, Ld., at the age of 77. He died while on a voyage from Buenos Ayres to New York.—Reuter.

* The late Viscount Pirrie was born in Quebec on May 31, 1847, and was the son of Irish parents. He entered Messrs. Harland & Wolff's shipbuilding and engineering establishment in 1862 and became a partner in 1874. He was Lord Mayor of Balfast 1896-7, and High Sheriff of Co. Antrim in 1898 and Co. Down in 1899. In 1898 he was made the first Hon. Freeman of the City of Belfast. From March, 1918, to December, 1919, he was Controller-General of merchant shipbuilding. He was created a Baron in 1906 and Viscount in 1921. —Ed.

Sir H. M. Durand

London, June 10.

The death is announced of Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, G.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., P.C., at the age of 74.

Sir Mortimer Durand was the second son of the late Sir Henry Marion Durand, who as agent in Central India rendered highly valuable services during the Mutiny. He entered the Bengal Civil Service in 1873, and was political secrtary to Earl Roberts during the Kabul Campaign in 1879. He became subsequently Foreign Secretary in India, Head of the Mission to the Ameer of Afghanistan in 1893, Minister to Teheran, and later Ambassador at Madrid and Washington.—Reuter.

Dr. A. F. de Savoriu Lohman

The Hague, June 11.

The death is announced of Jonkheer Doctor A. F. de Savoriu Lohman, former Minister of the Interior, Judge of the Hague Permanent Arbitration Court, one of the arbitrators of the Anglo-American North American fisheries dispute and a member of the Council of the Carnegie Foundation.—Reuter.

THE CAUSE AND CURE OF CANCER

Interesting Experiments by Canadian Doctor with Remarkable Success

Philadelphia, June 9.

The "Philadelphia North American" publishes an article claiming that Dr. R. G. Glover of Toronto has discovered the cause of cancer and also the treatment of the disease, which, though still in the experimental stage, is producing remarkable results.

Dr. Glover has established that cancer is due to a micro-organism. He has isolated the germ and proved by the Koch cycle laboratory test its part as a causative factor.

It is stated that Dr. Glover has made tests in the past two years in over 2,000 confirmed cases of cancer in every stage and that in the majority of cases favourable results have been secured, some patients being discharged free of all symptoms of the disease.—Reuter's American Service.

INDIA'S STEEL INDUSTRY

Protection Bill Passed

Simla, June 5.

The Assembly to-day passed the Steel Protection Bill to provide for the fostering of development of the steel industry by increasing import duties or granting bonuses on certain articles.—Reuter.

FIGHTING IN ALBANIA

Rome, June 6.

It is reported from Bari that 100 persons were killed and many wounded on both sides in six hours of very violent fighting between the Nationalist and Government forces at Kolaedoles in Albania. The latter were routed. A large number of priests are marching through the country preaching a holy war and calling on the population to rise and fight the Beys.—Reuter.

London, June 11.

The Albanian Legation states that the National Army has captured Elbassan and occupied Tirana without fighting. The ex-Premier who was defending the capital escaped. All members of the Government and their partisans went to Italy.

All the country is in the hands of the Nationalists. The revolution is practically ended.—Reuter.

PORTUGUESE AVIATORS

Rangoon, June 6.

The Portuguese aviators arrived here at noon to-day, covering the distance from Akyab in 4 hours 30 minutes.

The aviators hope to leave for Bangkok to-morrow.—Reuter.

Rangoon, June 7.

Owing to bad weather the Portuguese aviators were unable to leave to-day.—Reuter.

Rangoon, June 9.

The Portugese aviators left for Bangkok this morning.—Reuter.

Bangkok, June 9.

The Portuguese world fliers arrived at Bangkok to-day.—Reuter.

ANGLO-IRAQ TREATY RATIFIED

Beirut, June 7.

It is reported from Bagdad that the Constituent Assembly of Iraq have refused to ratify the Anglo-Iraqui Treaty.—Reuter.

Baghdad, June 11.

The Iraq Constituent Assembly to-day ratified the Anglo-Iraq Treaty by 36 votes to 25.

The majority forwarded a petition to the President stating that, while many of the clauses of the Treaty were severe, they relied on the honour of the British Government not to oppress the people of Iraq. They also declare that the Treaty would be invalid if Britain fails to protect Iraq's rights to Mosul.—Reuter.

DUTCH-AMERICAN TREATY

The Hague, June 5.

The First Chamber to-day ratified the Dutch-American Arbitration Treaty of 1913.—Reuter.

GANDHI AGAINST THE EXTREMISTS

Bombay, June 6.

Mr. Gandhi, in an interview, condemned the action of the Bengal provincial council in passing the resolution of homage to the murderer of the British merchant, Mr. Day. Mr. Gandhi added that, if the Swarajists desired to take over the Congress executives, he would not resist but would form an organization outside the Congress.—Reuter.

GERMANY AND THE ALLIES

Berlin, June 6.

The Reichstag to-day passed a vote of confidence in the Government's declaration regarding the experts' report by 247 votes to 183.—Reuter.

ENORMOUS CROWDS AT EMIPIRE EXHIBITION

London, June 9.

In consequence of the enormous crowds of Whitsuntide visitors in London from the provinces, the attendance at the Wembley Exhibition to-day constituted a record, being estimated at a quarter of a million.

June 10.

It is officially stated that 321,232 people visited the British Empire Exhibition on Whit-Monday.—Reuter.

U. S. BUDGET SURPLUS

Washington, June 9.

The Director of the Budget Bureau has informed President Coolidge that the Government will close its books for the fiscal year ending June 30 with a surplus of between $350,000,000 and $400,000,000.—Reuter's American Service.

RIOTOUS STRIKERS IN JAMAICA

Kingston, Jamaica, June 9.

A strike of municipal labourers for an increase in pay this morning developed into a riot. Corporation property was destroyed. A mob assaulted and beat police, and also attacked armed police reinforcements. The police thereupon fired on the rioters, killing two and wounding several. The Military were called out and the rioters dispersed.—Reuter.

DANISH PRINCE'S WEDDING IN NEW YORK

New York, June 10.

In her old family carriage, drawn by be-ribboned horses, Miss Eleanor Green, daughter of Dr. James Green of New York, rode to Calvary Church to-day to marry Prince Viggo of Denmark. A large and fashionable congregation attended the ceremony. The couple will settle in Denmark.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICA AND ALIEN IMMIGRATION

Washington, June 7.

The Senate has passed the House of Representatives' resolution in favour of admitting a certain number of aliens in excess of the present year's quota.—Reuter's American Service.

JAMAICA'S NEW GOVERNOR

London, June 10.

Sir Samuel Herbert Wilson has been appointed Governor of Jamaica in succession to Sir Leslie Probyn.—Reuter.

AMERICAN BANKERS' CREDIT TO GERMANY

New York, June 11.

American bankers have completed negotiations for the grant of a credit of $25,000,000 to the new German gold bank, thus extending the initial advance of $5,000,000 arranged on April 25.—Reuter's American Service.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Left Parties' Difficulty in Securing Requisite Majority for their Nominee: Unexpected Support for M. Doumergue

M. PAINLEVE ADOPTED AS CANDIDATE FOR LEFT PARTIES

London, June 12.

President Millerand's letter of resignation to Parliament is strictly laconic, but at the same time he issued a long manifesto to the nation repeating the views, previously expressed in his earlier message to the Legislature, as to why he resisted the Left's demands for his departure, and announcing his intention of "resuming the struggle for the liberty of the Republic and France."

It is expected that M. Millerand will utilize an existing vacancy in the Chamber as a means of return to Parliament and will lead the Opposition, while M. Poincaré will occupy a similar position in the Senate.

There are indications that there will be a keen contest between M. Doumergue, the President of the Senate, and M. Painlevé, the President of the Chamber, for the Presidency of the Republic.—Reuter.

Paris, June 12.

The meeting of the Left parties of both Chambers for the purpose of selecting their candidate for election as President of the Republic to-morrow has resulted in the ex-Premier, M. Painlevé, obtaining 306 votes against 149 in favour of the ex-Premier, M. Doumergue.

The successful candidate to-morrow must secure an absolute majority of the votes of the 872 Deputies and Senators who are expected to be present.

The fact that so many voted in favour of M. Doumergue is additionally significant because they did so in spite of M. Doumergue's request that his candidature should not be submitted to the meeting on the ground that it was not calculated in the present circumstances to promote Republican union.

M. Painlevé's supporters had reckoned to obtain practically unanimous endorsement and the voting means a severe blow to his hopes, as M. Doumergue can count on the support of the moderate elements in both Chambers which were not represented at the meeting.

M. Doumergue, therefore, is at present the favourite in the race for the Presidency.

Later.

Disliking the prospect of a President elected with a Right vote, the Left deputies requested MM. Doumergue and Painlevé to withdraw in favour of a third candidate. The former refused, whereupon the Left bloc decided solidly to support M. Painlevé.—Reuter.

STATE CAPITALISM IN RUSSIA

Private Capital and State Planned Economy: New Economic Policy

Moscow, May 18.

The following are the replies to a questionaire submitted to M. Krassin, the Soviet Commissar for Foreign Trade, by Reuter's correspondent.

(1). To what extent does the Soviet Government welcome the foreign and particularly the British capitalist?

(Reply). The attracting of purely financial capital is desirable on conditions of common bank credit as well as on the credit of goods stocked in the interior of the country or in harbours.

The partaking of foreign capital is admissible only in the form of mixed companies or the furnishing of Soviet trade organizations with foreign goods on more or less long credit terms. The attracting of British capital is of particular interest for the Soviet Government in view of the financial power of Great Britain and the importance of London as a money market, as well as of the high standard of British machinery productions and other branches of industry.

(2). Has there not been a reaction in Soviet Russia against private capital in general; as witness the frequent attacks in the press against the private capitalist, and those doing business under the N.E.P. (New Economic Policy), and the recent very severe sentence in the textile trust case; and is there any guarantee that the prejudice existing against the native private trader would not extend to the foreign capitalist?

(Reply). The difficulty which foreigners have in understanding the actual internal situation in Russia depends on their inclination to consider the N.E.P. as a restoration of capitalism. In reality it is not so. The existing order in Soviet Russia is State capitalism, i.e. a transient form from private capitalistic economy to socialism. The activity of private capital is admitted in so far as it does not contradict State planned economy. As soon as a given branch of economy can be served successfully by the State or by co-operative apparatus, the Government curtails the admission of private capital and sometimes cuts it out completely. Of course, if the foreign capitalist has obtained by special agreement a certain privilege from the Soviet Government, the latter either grants a continuance of the right, or enters into a free agreement with such capitalist in order that the necessary change in his agreement may be made.

(3). Is it a fact that Soviet Russia looks on the foreign capitalist only as a necessary evil, to be got rid of as soon as the immediate need of him has ceased?

(Reply). We Communists and Bolshevists do consider the capitalist order as the principal evil in contemporary human society, and as the reason for the poverty, ignorance and oppression of the masses of the people and for periodical wars; but until the Western working masses change the capitalist system for the Soviet one, we do consider it necessary, in the interests of Russia's economical development, as well as of the reconstruction of the world's economy and trade, to establish economic relations between Russia and the rest of the world.

(4). Is it a fact that certain firms which had started or re-started business in Soviet Russia have had to close down owing to undue taxation or to being faced, as with an ultimatum, with the signing of contracts which no business firm could sign?

(Reply). It is true that many firms willing to conclude agreements with the Soviet Government could not do so because they could not find a means of agreement. Such cases are easy to find in every considerable and difficult commercial deal. But as regards the extent of taxation, every foreign firm is fully able to fix the extent of its taxation before signing an agreement. I know of no considerable refusal to work in Russia on account of the disadvantage of an agreement.—Reuter.

GERMANY AND THE ALLIES

Paris, June 12.

The Berlin correspondent to-day (of what paper or agency?—Ed.) interviewed the ex-German Chancellor, Dr. Wirth. Dr. Wirth expressed conviction that the experts' report would bring about pacification of Europe and contribute to the economic restoration of Germany. He deplored the progress of Nationalism in Germany in opposition to the progress of democracy in France and England and when only a pacific and democratic Germany could inspire the Allies with confidence.—Reuter.

MONSOON BREAKS

Bombay, June 13.

The monsoon has burst.—Reuter.

AMERICAN REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

President Coolidge Nominated: General Dawes for Vice-President

Cleveland, June 12.

A prolonged pro-Coolidge demonstration marked the brief session of the Republican Convention last night, at which the platform was adopted and the planks proposed by Senator La Follette and the insurgents rejected.

Wisconsin insurgents refused to take part in the voting on the platform or in the pro-Coolidge demonstration. They remained silently in their seats, ignoring the jeers, catcalls and hisses levelled at them as the other delegates formed in a long queue and marched round the hall for a quarter of an hour. They only rose when the crowd sang the Star-Spangled Banner.

During the debate of the committee on the platform there was bitter dissension over some of the planks. The World Court plank was only approved after the members of the committee had been informed that President Coolidge had personally written it.

Later.

The Convention has practically unanimously nominated President Coolidge its Presidential candidate.

Later.

President Coolidge secured 1,065 votes, Senator La Follette 34 and Senator Johnson 10.

The Convention went into recess until this afternoon, when it will nominate a Vice-President. Judge William S. Kenyon is a strong favourite for the post.

Later.

After Mr. Frank C. Lowden, ex-Governor of Illinois, was nominated but declined the Vice-Presidency, the Convention nominated General Dawes.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICAN AVIATORS LEAVE HAIPHONG

Lieut. Smith's Second Mishap: Forced to Land Between Hue and Tourane

New York, June 12.

Wireless stations throughout the Far East have been instructed to keep on the *qui-vive* for news of the American fliers. Reports are current in San Francisco that the fliers have reached Haiphong and that Lieut. Lowell Smith wrecked his motor in a forced landing at Hue, but both wireless companies at San Francisco are inclined to discredit the report. They declare that no news of the fliers has been picked up there for some days.—Reuter's American Service.

Hongkong, June 13.

Mr. J. A. Shaw, the representative of the Standard Oil Company, received a cable from Haiphong at 6.20 yesterday evening, stating that the three American aeroplanes left Haiphong at ten of the morning of June 11. Two only arrived in the afternoon at Tourane. Lieut. Smith was forced to land between Hue and Tourane. Communications have been opened with Tourane by automobile. Lieut. Smith has requested a new engine to be sent at once from Saigon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

OBITUARY

M. Deperdussin

Paris, June 12.

An extraordinary career has ended in the suicide for an unknown reason of M. Deperdussin, the constructor of the famous Deperdussin aeroplane. He was once a multi-millionaire, but died in penury.—Aeuter.

EXPLOSION ON AMERICAN BATTLESHIP

San Pedro, Cal., June 12.

Forty sailors were killed and 20 injured by an explosion on the turret of the battleship Mississippi, off San Clements Islands, during target practice to-day. The Mississippi was rushed into San Pedro and dropped anchor. Shortly afterwards there was another explosion caused by a 14-inch shell, which nearly hit the steamer Yale and rocked the harbour district.—Reuter's American Service.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

OUR AUSTRALIAN LETTER

Anzac Day Observed with Great Solemnity: British Government's Rejection of Imperial Preference Schemes a Serious Blow: Advent of the Boll Worm

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Melbourne, May 5.

April 25 is now a recognized and statutory holiday throughout Australia, and it is every year treated more and more as a holy day in commemoration of the 60,000 Australians who lost their lives during the great war. In its narrowest sense it marks that Sunday in April, 1915, when some twenty thousand raw Australian troops, who had practically never heard a shot fired in anger, surprised the world by their landing on the Gallipoli coast under heavy fire, and stormed the near heights with an *élan* which has since earned for them the reputation of being the best shock troops in the world. But as Senator General Elliott remarked at one of the great gatherings the other day, that was the exploit for which the Australians were best known, but the day was celebrated as marking all their operation including those in France where they actually turned the tide in the fateful August of 1918. All the churches and both the cathedrals were filled by large congregations, and the Melbourne Exhibition grounds were thronged by thousands who paid the tribute of silence while the bungles blew the unforgettable "Last Post." In all the cities and towns of Australia similar services were held, and generally the day was devoted more to the dead than the living. While many speakers urged that the sacrifices of our youth should not be in vain, by lack of proper defence in the future, the Prime Minister claimed that the Anzacs had lighted a torch of patriotism which it was our duty to keep burning. The question was asked by more than one preacher,—"Are we forgetting Anzac Day?" I think the answer is to be found in the foregoing.

British Budget

The Snowden Budget just issued is one of the most serious blows yet dealt to the Empire sentiment, and to the reputation of Mr. Bruce, the Australian Prime Minister, as a prophet. He felt perfectly certain that some good would come out of the Economic Conference, expecially out of so much of it as proposed to reduce the duties to the British consumer by substantially increasing the preferences to the Empire. Thus for instance with a duty of 10.6 on dried fruit there is a preference of one-sixth. The British consumer would not suffer, and might gain, if that preference were increased to the full 10/6. Similarly the late British Government had promised that if the sugar duties were lowered, the amount of preference, calculated at one-sixth the then duties, would be maintained, thus giving Empire production the existing rate of protection against such countries as Cuba and Java. However, in both these cases the duties have been reduced and the preference kept at one-sixth which means that the preference has been reduced also, and the margin of protection against foreign countries, to the extent of the preference, also reduced. But worse was to follow. At the conference it was urged that the duties on wines should be readjusted so as to enable Australia, which has to fortify her wines heavily in order that they may carry the distance, to compete with Spain and Portugal, and the only answer to this is for the present Government to make new treaties which place consideration of the Australian position on the shelf. There would seem to be something in the contention that the British Government is over anxious to trade with foreigners, including the Russians whose countries are giving us so much trouble, that it does not care what the Dominions want. Apart from the disappointment caused by the Budget there is a feeling that the natural bonds uniting Australia to the mother country have been rudely treated.

The Prime Minister's disgust with the Budget may well be measured by the statements he has made. Before he went to England he declared that if Australia could not get markets for her products in Britain she would have to seek them elsewhere, and in some quarters it was felt that this sounded unfortunately like a threat. However, Mr. Bruce is now being looked to to find those markets [illegible] without hope. Canada is a good market for dried fruit, and Canada wants to sell motor cars and machinery to Australia. Mr. Bruce has made this striking observation, namely, that it may be found desirable to place Britain on the general list of duties and give her preferences to Canada. In South Africa it has been suggested that the day of the preference farce is over, and elsewhere the proposal has been advanced that the Dominions should from a Zollverein for trade purposes, obviously leaving Britain outside the charmed circle. All this is very disquieting and should convince Mr. Snowden that he has started the Empire mountain rumbling, with the prospect that it will produce something more than a mouse.

But Mr. Bruce has gone further. He realizes that under the migration schemes with the Imperial Government we are bringing many ex-soldiers to this country and putting them on the land at considerable expense to ourselves. They are mostly being placed in the irrigation distri ts, and are producers of fruits. If Britain declines to find markets for their products then their introduction into Australia must cease, and the efforts to relieve Britain of some of her unemployed will have to be seriously curtailed. It was calculated in 1921 that the actual value of the preferences given by Australia to British goods was worth something like £5,500,000 to the manufacturers, and that since it has increased to as high as £8,000,000 during the past year. If British trade is made to pay that amount in taxation at Australian ports, and the relieving of the unemployed problem by even the relatively few persons now being brought to Australia ceases the British Government may have to recast its ideas of the advantages of trading with Moscow, Portugal and Spain.

A Defence Policy

Mr. Bruce the other day made the announcement that a defence policy would be laid before parliament soon after it resumed (which it does the day after to-morrow), and he made the curious statement that when it was known it would divide the country from end to end. As it was already known that the Government would procure two 10,000 ton cruisers, carrying 8" guns, and the country had not quivered at the announcement, there was some curiosity as to what the Prime Minister meant to infer. Application to the Minister for Defence has elicited the further information that four cruiser submarines are to be procured from overseas for scouting purposes, that the air forces are to be greatly strengthened, a seaplane base established, probably near Sydney, and oil fuel depots to be placed at strategical points along the coast, and particularly at Darwin in the extreme North. To those who carefully read Admiral Sir Frederick Field's speech at the Commonwealth dinner to the visiting squadron, it will be recognized that this whole programme almost exactly follows the lines of his remarks. But there is a further point, and this may be what Mr. Bruce had in his mind when he spoke of dividing the country from end to end. Sir Frederick referred to the Singapore base and oil fuel depot, adding that we could not have an oil fuel depot at Singapore unless we were prepared to defend it against all comers. It would seem that the country may be said of oil fuel bases in Australia, especially of one at so remote a port as Darwin. Defence means something in the nature of protective works and a permanent force to look after and garrison those works. This will involve an enormous expenditure, and probably Mr. Bruce has doubts about carrying the country with him. It seems highly improbable that he will receive the whole-hearted support of Labour, which in theory at least is against defence lest thereby we might provoke foreign aggression. Mr. Charlton, leader of the Federal Labour Opposition, recently said that in its own defence the Empire must stand shoulder to shoulder, but a vague generality of that sort does not carry us very far. The building of cruisers in Australia naturally appeals to Labour for it will find employment for the most militant of the unionists. Labour has also declared for submarines and air forces, but whether this approval will extend to cruiser-submarines, built abroad, and the creation of a permanent force to guard the oil-fuel bases, is a matter of some doubt.

Revanche

A curious illustration of parochial politics has just been given in Victoria. Its Assembly comprises three parties, Nationalist, Country and Labour, the last-named being in Opposition. The Country party just barely holds the balance of power, and it combined with the Nationalists in forming the Government under Mr. Lawson, who has been Premier for six years until the other day. An annual meeting of the Farmers' Union—the official organization of the Country party—held recently decided that this government would only be tolerated until the end of the present parliament and that when the elections took place the Country party would fight Nationalists and Labour impartially. Mr. Lawson promptly resigned and formed a new government excluding all Country ministers. Just then the Speaker died, and his place had to be filled. At once it was suggested that Mr. Lawson had made his relations with the Country party impossible and that he would make an excellent Speaker, while a more genial Premier, in Sir Alexander Peacock, an experienced expremier, would be able to lead the Nationalists and patch up the differences with the Country party. Mr. Lawson resigned with the assurances of leading Country members that his successor would make things very much smoother. At the last moment the Country party met and decided to nominate an old but not very brilliant member of their own party for the Speakership in Opposition to Lawson. They knew that if the Labour members supported them their man would dish Lawson out of the Speakership, and doubtless they felt that this would serve as he deserved the man who had so unceremoniously bundled the Country ministers off the Treasury benches. And Labour, knowing every move in the game, supported Mr. Bowser, who won the coveted seat by six votes, and left Mr. Lawson high and dry with no more standing than that of an ordinary private member. Labour is naturally delighted. It has succeeded in driving a wedge between the two parties opposed to it, and it will not be long before the Peacock government is defeated and a general election takes place, with results probably similar to those in Western and South Australia.

B. A. W. R. A.

The last bale of wool has been sold, and the tremendous work which the British Australasian Wool Realization Association was formed to carry out has been completed. The story is something similar to that of Cuba in relation to sugar. The end of the war saw immense accumulations of wool, amounting in Australia alone to 1,831,000 bales, which added to New Zealand, Falkland Islands and South African stocks totalled 2,691,827 bales. With a new clip coming in the position seemed desperate, and the Association was formed for the purpose of unloading what was aptly described as a mountain of wool which threatened to topple over and bury us. The two men appointed managers at this end and the London end were Sir John Higgins, and Sir John Goldfinch, and there were many who gasped when they found their salaries were fixed at £10,000 a year each. The assets of the Association, chiefly wool, were appraised at £22,000,000, and negotiable documents were issued to the owners of wool to the value of their holdings. Then commenced the struggle against the Yorkshire manufacturers, who demanded that the wool should be sold *en masse*. The Association held out for its policy and proceeded to sell on the basis of two bales of new clip to one of Bawra wool. Prices remained firm, and indeed rose, with the result that more than the appraisement was realized. Within 3½ years the whole of the mountain of wool had been disposed of, and the pastoralists at the same time have been able to sell their new clips as they came in. It was a splendid example of what can be done by organization, and the adoption of the best business methods. It is hardly necessary to say that disaster of the worst kind would have followed the granting of Yorkshire's demand that the huge stocks be thrown upon the market and sacrificed. The current clips would have gone into a gorged market, and ruination would have descended upon the Australian wool industry which is calculated to be worth about £35,000,000 a year.

Warship Murder.

An extraordinary crime has taken place aboard H. M. A. S. Brisbane, one of the cruisers belonging to the Australian navy. A seaman named George Ritchie was found lying dead in his hammock with his head battered in and his throat cut. Members of the crew at once thought of another seamen named Brown, who was reported to have a habit of wandering about the ship at night, was believed not to be altogether sane, and was suspected of making attacks on sleeping men. Search was made and Brown's body was found hanging from a rope in the ship's refrigerator. The inquest which has been adjourned brings out the above facts, but curiously it seems to show that the suspicions about Brown's sanity and previous attacks were never reported to anybody in authority. Members of the crew swore that they were waiting for proof, because it would have been serious to report a man on suspicion. One witness stated that the ship's police knew of the attacks at night. The captain is to be called to see whether the matter had ever been brought under his notice. Before the actual murder there had been five night attacks, two at the Royal Naval House and three aboard the ship.

Ghastly Fire Holocaust.

Lying alongside an Adelaide wharf the steamer City of Singapore (6567 tons) having aboard immense quantities of motor spirit and kerosene, caught fire and was soon a mass of flames. Practically every fire-fighting appliance was brought into use, and the fire stations around had to call up reserves to man them, while the permanent forces fought the flames. Immense volumes of water were poured into the holds, and at last it seemed that the fire was well under control. Suddenly there was a terrific explosion, and the ship seemed to burst asunder. Three firemen were killed outright, and nine were seriously injured, some being terribly burnt. Men were blown off the ship on to the wharf, and one charred body was brought out from below deck by the hazardous efforts of his comrades. The crew which consisted of 17 Europeans, 13 Malays and 37 Lascars had all been ordered ashore, and it is considered improbable that any of them were hurt. The body of at least one fireman has not yet been recovered and it is assumed that it was blown over the side. Other explosions of a minor sort followed, but the firemen bravely stuck to their job and eventually brought the conflagration under. The ship's side was blown out and her back was broken, while considerable damage was done to the wharf sheds by the flying debris.

A Cotton Worm.

Quite a sensation was caused when it was announced that the pink boll worm had attacked the cotton crops, chiefly in the coastal areas between Maryborough and Mackay, showing that it is widely distributed. Drastic steps are being taken to eradicate it, and stand-over cotton is being burnt. With all the care which has been taken, how the pest got into the country is not known, though it may yet be found that it is indigenous and that the cotton boll afford it a habitat where it is safe from its natural enemies. Those who deal in sensations naturally concluded that we had the cotton boll weevil in our midst, but the pink worm happily ranks below the weevil in its depredations upon cotton. To what extent the pest will affect the current crop, which is just been picked, has not been estimated yet, but I notice that the latest estimates are an output worth £500,000 and not a million as previously mentioned by the more optimistic. The [illegible] of the pink worm [illegible] sound the death knell of the agitation amongst some growers to be allowed to grow cotton. They claim that this is the more profitable crop, while the experts declare that it serves as harbour pests. Whether the pink worm is the result of rat [illegible] not has not yet been [illegible] but it has turned up in [illegible] make the supporters of [illegible] hopeful of success.

Echo of Police Mutiny.

Melbourne is in the throes of a tramway strike—3,000 men from the cable service and 300 from the electric having ceased work. The tram services are [illegible] ones, and it is hardly necessary to say that those who believe in private enterprise point out that during the thirty or so years a private company was running the cable services there had never been a single industrial dispute. The cause of the strike is rather interesting, and smacks largely of a revolt against law and order. It seems that a man applied for a job as a gripman, and was taken on and put under an experienced man for training. The latter trained the student for seven days and then somehow discovered that he had at the time of the police mutiny applied to be enrolled as a special constable, and was rejected on account of his [illegible] physique. The man who was giving the training at once refused to go on with the lessons, and was dismissed in consequence. This was considered harsh and therefore the whole of the men went on strike. Now of the police mutineers there are at least 70 who were taken on by the Tramway Board, so that the suggestion of bias does not hold. The fact seems to be that the anarchist element in the [illegible] service have once again misled the men into supporting [illegible] of orders. It backed the police in their mutiny, and was largely responsible for the rioting and looting which followed their refusal of duty. Now the purpose to carry their attack further, and doom to idleness and, if necessary, starvation any person who in that moment of anarchy offered to help in restoring order. And 3,000 men are fools enough to throw themselves idle in order to help the anarchists!

WHO WAS MARIE CORELLI?

Niece Clears Up the "Mystery."

Who was Miss Marie Corelli?

Stories are being circulated that the novelist's parentage is "surrounded with mystery." The "Daily News" is able to state, on the authority of one of her nieces, that there is no "mystery."

"Miss Marie Corelli was born in London over 70 years ago," the niece recently told the "Daily News," "and was the eldest girl of a family of nine. Her real name was Caroline Cody.

"Probably from a desire to surround herself with a halo of romance in keeping with the atmosphere of her early novels, she gave out a story of 'Italian and Scotch parentage,' which none of her brothers or her sisters troubled to deny.

"The second wife of the late Dr. Charles Mackay, the famous songwriter, was a personal friend of Marie Corelli's mother, and begged to adopt the child. The mother agreed, and Caroline went to live with the song writer and his wife when she was five years old, and until she became famous with the publication of her first novel, used frequently to visit her parents.

SIR J. JAMIESON AND MR. CHU CHAO-HSIN

Chinese Charge Taxed with Talking Nonsense: Awkward Affair at a Banquet

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

London, May 6.

There has been a very unpleasant incident recently in diplomatic circles in this country, and I take the following from the "People" of May 4:—

"An astonishing incident at the dinner given by the Chinese-British Corporation at Claridge's Hotel last week in honour of His Excellency Liang Shih-yi, ex-Premier of the Republic of China, and formerly Director-General of Chinese Railways, has caused a considerable sensation and much talk in diplomatic circles.

There were 60 guests, with Mr. David Landale, Chairman of the Corporation, presiding, while the gathering included representatives of the Foreign Office and the highest City business interests.

The Chinese Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, was present as a specially invited guest, and in his speech he laid stress on the advantages of railway construction in China.

When he had finished Sir James Jamieson, the British Consul-General at Canton, now on leave, laid stress on the fact that he had not been called to speak either at the recent dinner of the Chinese students or at the Legation dinner in honour of his Excellency, and proceeded to attack the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires directly. He intimated he was misleading the audience, knew little about his country's affairs and was talking nonsense, this being the actual expression used. The audience began to show signs of great uneasiness at the personalities used, and Sir James was induced to stop abruptly.

The Chinese Chargé d'Affaires showed great composure and after the dinner many came, it would seem, to him and shaking hands, asked him not to mind what Sir James had said. They expressed the view that it was at least imprudent and improper for an acting British official thus to attack the representative of the country to which he was accredited, and they expressed a hope that the incident would not interfere with the friendly relations between the two countries."

The facts, as I understand them, are as follows:

The Chinese-British Corporation on April 30 gave a dinner at Claridge's Hotel in honour of Mr. *Liang Shih*-yi, the ex-Premier of the Republic of China. There was a very brilliant attendance, perhaps about 60 people being present, and absolutely those most representative of every branch of our national life, including the Foreign Office. Mr. David Landale, Chairman of the Corporation, presided.

Mr. Landale, expressed a warm welcome to the guest of honour, and called to mind the relations between the representatives of the Chinese-British Corporation and Mr. Liang Shih-yi, who was Director-General of Chinese Railways under the old *régime* and Minister of Communications under the Republic; through such close connexions the financing of several railways in China was carried out.

His Excellency Liang Shih-yi thanked the Corporation for its hospitality and recalled his pleasure in dealing with the Corporation for a number of years. He was very pleased to meet old acquaintances again while travelling in England. He was much impressed by his first visit. He hoped the Corporation would further do more for China in railway investments.

Mr. Chu on Railways in China.

Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, Chinese Chargé d'Affaires in London, was called upon to speak on behalf of his Government. He first of all thanked them for the courtesies extended by the Corporation to his distinguished fellow-countryman, and secondly expressed his appreciation on behalf of his Government for the enterprise the Corporation had undertaken in developing the means of transportation in his country. He admitted that he had been a great advocate of foreign capital for Chinese railways; he pointed out that investment in Chinese railways was safe and profitable, and when the country was opened up by improvement in traffic and transporation, foreign trade would eventually be increased; he denied that political troubles in China were serious. The internal fighting was only of a temporary nature; and the militarists usually fought each other by means of telegrams. He urged financiers to waste no time in the matter of further railway investments in China. England had money to invest and China had opportunities worthy of investments, the benefit therefore being mutual. By lending money to China for railway construction, the security was at least in the line itself, and in addition the Chinese Government would be quite willing to be held responsible for the loan, and the Chinese people would not object to any foreign loan for productive purposes.

Facts Are Embarrassing.

Sir James Jamieson, British Consul-General in Canton, was then called on to speak and he started by complaining that he had not had an opportunity of doing so either at the recent Students' Dinner or at the Legation Dinner which was given in honour of Mr. Liang-Shih-yi. Now, however, he wished to speak of Chinese politics. He said the situation was getting worse and worse. The Chinese Acting Minister was misleading the audience by saying nice things about his country. Mr. Chu Chao-hsin went to America when he was very young and he had only served the late President as English secretary for a short time, and then went abroad again, so he did not know much of his home affairs. He simply talked nonsense.

At that stage, the audience was getting very embarrassed by the direct personal attack and Sir Charles Addis, who sat next to Sir James Jamieson, was seen to pull him by the coat-tails, whereupon he sat down abruptly without apparently finishing his speech. For the rest of the dinner there was a good deal of suppressed feeling, since clearly those present felt very uneasy at hearing the attack on the diplomatic representative of China at such a public function. After the dinner many came to shake hands with the Chinese Acting Minister, and asked him not to mind what Sir James Jamieson had said. Those present said that it was rather improper and impolite for a British official, who filled a position in China, openly to attack a Chinese representative in his country in such language by saying that the "Chinese Acting Minister talked nonsense." They said they were afraid such an awkward attitude would never help to improve friendly relations between the two countries.

Questions in the House.

London, May 14.

With reference to the attack by Sir James Jamieson on Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires, at the dinner of the Chinese British Corporation, Mr. Maclean in the House has asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether it was intended to take any disciplinary action with regard to the speech made his Majesty's Consul-General at Canton, in which he made a personal attack on the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires.

Mr. Ponsonby replied that the occasion in question was, he was informed, a private one. He had been assured by Sir James Jamieson that it was far from his intention to make a personal attack, and that if he did unwittingly cause offence he could only express his regret. No complaint had been received.

"THE MODERN GIRL"

Spinster Born in 1821 on 1924 Frocks

Miss Elizabeth Underwood Lisle, who lives in George Street, Portman-square, London, W. was 103 a few weeks ago. The last survivor of an old county family, she was presented at Court 80 years ago.

Miss Lisle knew intimately many of the famous Victorians, among them Dickens, Disraeli, Tennyson, Browning, Beerbohm Tree and Florence Nightingale. She tells a good story of Queen (then Princess) Victoria sliding down the staircase on a tea-tray just before her coronation.

She has no sympathy for the modern girl. "I don't believe in paint, or powder, or smoking," she says, "I wish, too, that the girls would wear more clothes. Modern dress has neither beauty nor utility, but serves merely for display."

She has little to say about modern men, but thinks, rather ominously, that "a woman makes a man what he is in a good many cases."

Miss Lisle is wonderfully well-preserved, and certainly looks not more than 80. She is now getting deaf and her eyesight is failing, but she still pays great attention to current events and the newspapers.

OUR [illegible] LETTER

This Year's Salon: Preponderance of Hashy Modernism: Gertie Millar Married to Earl of Dudley

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Paris, May 1.

The Paris Salon, which opened today, is characterized by a rather cruel contrast. It contains retrospective exhibitions of works by Puvis de Chavannes, Bonnat, Raffaelli and Lhermitte, departed painters who had varying degrees of genius. The rest of the Grand Palais is filled with the achievements of the living.

If one goes to the Salon for pure enjoyment of art, there is no need to stray beyond the three or four rooms devoted to the retrospective exhibitions. The other 7,000 paintings and groups of statuary are a wilderness with oases. Noticeable among the sculptures are a very beautiful female figure from a monument to Puvis de Chavannes by Desbois, a bas-relief by Bouchard commemorating, with excellent decorative effect, the first crossing of the Sahara by motor-cars, and a girl beautifully modelled by the blind sculptor Bernard Faudot.

As for the paintings, two tendencies are very evident. The rising generation wants to sell its pictures and has been persuaded that novelty in style is the essential. It therefore draws eccentrically, to put it mildly, and paints with ferocity. Van Dongen has hundreds of imitators with as much perversity but not as much wit. The other tendency is to paint portraits according to what is supposed to be the prevailing demand. The walls of the Salon are dotted all over with women in Venetian three-cornered hats, women with black mantillas, women endeavouring with the assistance of small monkeys to look like 18th Century persons of quality, and other women with jade-green snakes. This is portrait painting brought down to the level of a department store's illustrated catalogue.

As a compensation, Forain, Jean Paul Laurens, Devambez, Sabatte and a few others are as good as ever.

Gertie Millar for the Peerage

Mrs. Lionel Monckton, better known as Gertie Millar of the Gaiety, has just been married in Paris to the Earl of Dudley, once Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. To the Consulate for the civil marriage, the bride drove with M. Andre Messager, the composer of "Véronique," and Lady Honor Bridgeman, Lord Dudley's eldest daughter.

The formalities at the Consulate were timed for only half-an-hour before the service at St. George's Church, and therefore the bride wore the same dress at both places. She was in pale grey crêpe de Chine richly embroidered in the same tint and covered by a three-quarter coat trimmed with fine chinchilla fur. A very smart little hat of felt to match the dress fitted close to the hair, and the toilette was completed by grey satin shoes. She wore four strings of pearls and a spray of large mauve orchids.

After the brief ceremony at the Consulate, Lord Dudley drove off to the church with his daughter and best man. The bride came out of the Consulate a few minutes later with M. Messager, and was much amused by a small black velvet kitten mascot which some British and American women admirers had set down on the pavement just outside the door, so that it should be the first object she would set eyes on. She laughed as she picked up the kitten, and waved her thanks to the crowd, while at least 20 press photographers clicked their shutters at her and begged for "just another picture."

Lord and Lady Dudley are spending a few days on the Riviera, and will then go to Le Touquet, of which they are both very fond and where they have both lived for years.

"Doug." and "Mary" Shopping

Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford, who have just come to Paris for a shopping holiday—if such a contradiction in terms may be permitted—have evidently not lost their hold on the French public. They arrived from England on a rainy afternoon, but this did not discourage a large crowd of admirers from assembling at the railway station, and a whole battery of cameras was in action.

There was even cheering when the "world's sweetheart" and her husband drove off to their hotel. They were up early next morning. Douglas was breathing the air of the Place de la Concorde at 7 o'clock, and before nine they were looking at shop-windows, attracting plenty of attention from moving-picture fiends who recognized them. At 10.30 Mary and Douglas, like heads of governments, held a reception of journalists, and in the afternoon they went for another stroll. Mary seemed to be much impressed by the mounted policemen on duty in the Place de l'Opera and other important centres of traffic.

Some of the papers publish a very unbecoming photograph of her, standing with her mouth open and an expression of blank astonishment on her face. The distinguished couple have now gone on to Spain. They say that when they come back to France they will see about "making a picture" in which they will both appear—a novelty, it seems, in the "movie" world.

Englishmen Now the Best Dressed

It is refreshing to find a French writer taking his own countrymen to task for their neglect of personal appearances. M. Pierre Plessis, in the "*Gaulois*," deplores the undistinguished look of audiences at Paris theatres, including even those on the boulevards, which are supposed to be smart.

He leaves the women out of the question, for, as he very rightly says, a Parisienne can make herself look nice in anything, but he is quite cross with the men. They think nothing of going to the theatre, he says, in short coats and soft collars. Some of them do not even take the trouble to see that the mud is removed from their shoes.

This is the kind of reproach that used to be levelled at the British tourist. Now, it seems, the contagion has spread to the real Parisian. Our British residents set a much better example. M. Plessis mentions that the other evening there was a *belle salle*—by which he means a well-dressed audience—in a Paris theatre. Every man was in evening dress and there were heaps of chic women. The play was English, and so were the spectators.

M. Plessis refers with admiration to an elderly Englishman of his acquaintance who, though living alone in a remote Indian station, always dresses for dinner, whether he has any company or not. This would strike most Frenchmen as eccentric, not to say absurd, but that is simply because they have not been brought up with the same traditions. The remedy is in the hands of French women. If they insisted on greater attention to dress on the part of their men, we should soon see a change in theatre audiences.

LONDON'S NEW TUBES

Contracts Placed for the Morden Extension

The Underground Company placed two contracts recently with Messrs. Chas. Brand & Son, and the Foundation Co., Ld., for the driving of tunnels on the extension of the City & South London Railway from Clapham Common to Morden. Work is to commence forthwith, and the new line will be completed about August, 1925.

Messrs. Chas. Brand will undertake the section between Clapham Common and the north end of Tooting Broadway Station, whilst the Foundation Company will be responsible for the section of the line to Dorset-road, Morden. These contracts amount together to about £600,000; but even to this huge figure must be added the cost of the stations—both above and below ground—rolling stock, escalators, passimeters, and the like, which will probably bring the total cost of constructing and equipping the Morden Extension to £3,500,000.

The completion of these contracts will add another five miles of railway to the Underground system, of which 4½ miles will be tunnel work. Already for some weeks past the task of sinking working shafts has been proceeding, and if the contractors now appointed for constructing the running tunnels complete their work in the allotted 15 months, it will be the quickest piece of tube tunnel driving yet accomplished. To secure that the work is performed to schedule, 10 rotary excavators will be employed, each one having a forward drive of 15-20 feet per day. Sixty thousand tons of cast-iron segments will be used in the construction of these tunnels.

There will be seven stations on the Morden extension, at the following points:—

Nightingale-Lane. Collier's Wood.
Balham. South Wimbledon.
Trinity-Road. North Morden.
Tooting Broadway.

All these stations will be equipped with escalators of the latest pattern, giving direct access to the platform levels. The Morden extension will serve a population of 300,000, and it is estimated that 50,000,000 passengers will be carried annually.

ROCKET TO HIT THE MOON!

In 36 Hours' Flight

Some time in the next few weeks, if Professor R. H. Goddard, a well-known American man of science, has made no mistake in his preliminary calculations, the man in the moon will receive the first message our satellite has received from the earth since it broke away from our planet a few million years ago.

The professor has constructed a gigantic rocket of a unique kind.

It will be fired from a specially designed apparatus, which, it is claimed, will give it the necessary initial velocity to overcome the backward pull of the earth's gravitation a speed of about seven miles a second.

When it has attained the region of inter-planetary space it is expected to continue its flight to the moon, the propelling power being supplied by continuous explosions of gas, automatically produced by means of an ingeniously designed internal mechanism.

Approximately 36 hours after the rocket leaves the earth, if all goes well, it is expected to reach its lunar target.

When it falls on the surface of the moon there will be an explosion of a charge of "Victor" flash powder which will produce a brilliant flash of light that ought to be visible from the earth in a moderately sized telescope, and thus signal back its safe arrival.

For some years Professor Goddard has been carrying out experiments with rockets designed to attain very great altitudes, and with these he has had no difficulty in reaching heights far in excess of those possible by means of meteorological balloons.

The results of these experiments suggested that it would be possible to fire a rocket propelled by successive discharges governed by reloading mechanism, free of terrestrial gravitation, and even to reach the moon, provided it were accurately aimed at the section of the moon's orbit which the moon would be passing through at any definite time, calculated beforehand, after the rocket was fired.

May Try Mars Next.

He has satisfied American scientists that the thing is possible, and the Smithsonian Institution has agreed to provide at least G.$5,000 (over £1,100) towards the expenses of the experiment.

Professor Goddard is confident that he will be able to hit the moon and see the impact.

If he succeeds he may try Mars when that planet is nearest the earth next August. But it is to be hoped that, should the Martians send a reply back by the same method, they will arrange to use the Sahara as their target.

Fortunately the moon is dead and uninhabited, and a return rocket from the moon to the earth is a danger we need not worry about.

IN A DEVON GARDEN

The spring was late in coming,
The flowers were very shy,
When in my Devon garden fair
The sweet West Wiind swept by.

She dropped some tears in passing.
What magic in them lay
That on the wall japonica
Leapt forth in crimson spray?

The violets just unfolding
Were startled into bloom;
The witch in the genista-bush
Waved high her golden broom;

The pixies through the soft red earth
Thrust up their small green spears.
Ah! would I had the magic touch
Of West Wind and her tears!

JANET READ, ("John o' London.")

SPECIAL ARTICLES

AN OLD EVIL

Sermon Preached by the Rev. A. N. Rowland in Union Church on June 1, 1924

"Say unto Wisdom, Thou art my sister, and call Understanding thy Kinswoman, that they may keep thee from the ... strange woman." Prov. 7.4.

These words are urgent enough when you see what follows. They are part of the prologue to a dramatic chapter in which we are shown, step by step, the [illegible] moral downfall. The writer pictures a young man who has got mixed up with the wrong set. He has turned his back on the influences that would have braced him; he has neglected his higher nature and then wondered at the strength of his lower nature; he has refused a spiritual master and then complained that God has made him a physical slave. Such is a typical young man and the writer sketches the course of his inevitable tragedy, how he "goeth on, as a bird hasteth to the snare, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, and knoweth not that it is for his life."

We all know there is a side of civilization that will not bear much speaking about, and does not get closely looked into. It is a cause of discomfort and shame and we are inclined to leave it alone. But there it is, and it is not leaving us alone. It is undermining the strength of our civilization not the less surely because it is half hidden. It cuts at the roots of home, it cancels out the work of education, it nullifies man's highest privileges and steals away his soul. This vice is the child of sin and the parent of sickness, and we could trace the mischief along both these lines of misery.

But I would also remind you that it has the shame of slavery, not merely that men become slaves to themselves, but that women are enslaved to money.

"Branded as Per Margin."

The bitterest thing that can be said against human nature is that there are people who promote vice in order to profit by it, who wax fat on the failings of their fellows. This vice is organized, there is money behind it and it means slavery. Prof. Ramsay Muir has been telling the men of Lancashire that the wealth of their county is largely built upon the slave traffic which was suppressed less than a century ago. "Prime negroes branded as per margin" were a regular item on the invoice. They were bought in Africa for bad muskets and cheap spirits, shipped to the West Indies, and the survivors were exchanged again for rum, sugar and tobacco. "It was probably the most lucrative trade any people have engaged in."

But there is a craftier trade than that, and far more disreputable, that goes on in spite of Moral Welfare Leagues and defies the Leagues of Nations. It deals in young womanhood. There are red-lights connected with the business, and they may well represent the [illegible] of victims who would plead with men not to touch this sinister, soul-destroying trade. Will you not rather give a hand against it, and at least take the funds of the Moral Welfare League which is its most direct opponent. The Municipal Council has just granted Tls. 500 towards the maintenance of the Mixed Court Home. It should be easy to raise the $2,000 more that is required.

The Virtue of Work.

Now as to the matter of this evil we are men, not animals, we are open on both sides of our nature, and to [illegible] course is unwise. But the supreme issue turns on which side we cultivate and provide for. By what ways can we cultivate the higher side that really constitutes our virtue and actually links us to God. We may readily grant to begin with that sports and exercises have their use, the girding up of the loins, and the satisfaction of the muscles, and the mind's pleasure in well-directed competition. Thank God for that.

[illegible] is work. We have become accustomed to the old Jewish belief that work is a curse. We perceive the wisdom of Christ who has raised work to dignity by his parable and by his example, and who plainly says it is a commandment of God. We have [illegible] has often been our defence, whether in sorrow or in doubt or in temptation. I recall a story by Eden Philpotts of a man who gave the strength of his mature years to the reclaiming of the wild moorland as a means of assuaging the remorse of his heart. To him it was no curse but a means of lightening a curse.

Work has helped to keep at a distance that sin of idle gloom which was so prevalent in mediæval times, especially in monasteries. Westerners, we know, are much given to work. It amuses us sometimes to think of it, but it is not because they love it, but because they find it good for them. Orientals may pity all this output of energy and prefer their own placidity and lethargy. But it is worthy of note that by redeeming idle hours other values have been redeemed, and in the lands where men work women are free.

Ideals v. Instincts.

But work is not everything after all. Much work that goes on belongs only to the suburbs and outskirts of a man's real life. It is a poor business when the mind is blank and the heart empty. Here comes in the wisdom of this counsel to those who are uncertain of their paths. Engage your thoughts and affections to all that breathes of wisdom, "Say unto Wisdom, Thou art my sister and all Understanding thy Kinswoman." Cultivate their friendship, and give yourself up to it!

I noticed that a writer on this subject, quoted in Thursday's paper, stopped short with the following sentence. "Youths and maidens of the future must be taught to believe and practice that it is not instincts that matter, but the ideals you bring to them." She is surely right, but she stopped short too soon. For what chance has an ideal against an instinct? It is hopeless, unless it is reinforced by some affection or enthusiasm. Our text has far more insight than many a modern treatise. It says in effect that is not enough to take off your hat to Wisdom, and pay your respects to Good Sense. You must throw yourself into the matter, claim relationship with them, declare you cannot live without them. "Say unto Wisdom Thou art my Kinswoman, my Sister."

Noblesse Oblige.

Let us focus this point for a minute before I finish. Everyone recognizes the advantage of claiming high relationships. If anyone is connected with the aristocracy in England or the Pilgrim Fathers in America he does not forget or fail to let you know it, and there are other connexions to be proud of. The other day it did me good to see a man's face light up as he was speaking of his younger brother and his influence upon public life in the homeland, of his grandfather too, and the honour in which his name was held through a wide region. The remembrance of these connexions dignifies life, secures a man against many an unworthy action. *Noblesse oblige.* High descent and noble relationships lay claims upon a man; call to him in the festival of life "Friend, come up higher."

This is one of the laws of our nature that the Bible urges us to use as a means of salvation. Think of it, says the Apostle, that our heavenly Father has bestowed such love upon us that we are called to behave as sons of God. Think of it, says another, that Christ was not ashamed to call us brethren. These are incentives to right conduct that reach to the roots of our being.

Kinsfolk in the Spirit.

A lad was saying [illegible] me—and it is [illegible] said—that she thought it was enough for a Christian to do [illegible] in his own way. She was [illegible] against the non-attendance [illegible] at places of worship, [illegible] that was the duties [illegible] the day of prayer for [illegible] seem to have closely [illegible] and was capable of reading her own heart, she would find that the best of her life is by no means due to her own effort, but to the help she has been secretly receiving from those who are kinsfolk in the spirit—it may be her parents, it may be some teacher, minister or friend whom once she chose and now she keeps in remembrance. Bound over to that standard she walks in the Christian path.

A friend was once invited into the back parlour of a grocer in Brighton. "This is my sanction" said the shopman to his visitor, "and there is a portrait of F. W. Robertson on the wall" (referring to the first modernist preacher in England). "When I am tempted in my business I look at him and am made strong." That man claimed a spiritual hero for a kinsman and his strength was doubled.

But all are not complacent. There is many a one who says "I cannot profess to be good or godly. I cannot attain the high levels of virtue." If I might reply I would say: It is not Christianity that expects from you anything of the kind. Your confession is already your subscription to half the Gospel. Our Christian faith is just a matter of relationship: it is taking Christ as Kinsman and through him claiming to be the child of God. So I leave with you the Bible message. It is not "Be wise," but "Say to Wisdom Thou art my sister." It is not "Be good" but "Be ye imitators of God as dear children."

AN AUTUMN DIRGE

By Ou-Yang Hsiu

(After the prose translation of Dr. Giles)

The silvery moon is shining,
The Silver River shines,
A taunted soul repining
The tossing forest whines
And armies swiftly growing
From wind and torrent swell—
A tumult in their going,
A tempest in their knell.

At first a gentle swaying,
And then the muffled blast,
The bluster and the neighing
Of storms that hurry past.
A bending of the willows,
A roaring on the height,
A clash of breaking billows—
Of Autumn in the night!

O cruel time of dying!
O time of rack and mist!
Of desolation flying,
By winds of darkness kissed!
Thine is the sword of sharpness,
Thine is the breath of steel—
The rod of Nature's vengeance,
Her judgment past repeal!

As sure as lifts the flower
To Sping its sunny head
Must come the fatal hour
That finds its beauty sped;
The angel ever stoopeth
To herald sad decay—
When all that liveth droopeth,
And drooping dies away.

But what of tree or flower,
And what of blight for them?
Theirs not the ruling power—
Theirs but the fated stem—
Man, man alone rebelleth
Who fairest is of all,
Whose zeal divinely welleth
To keep him from his fall.

The tinkling bell of tassels
Hangs idly in the wind
Till Autumn and his vassals
Shall come with fury blind—
But worn by wrinkled worries,
Of harsh regrets the slave,
Man seals his heart and hurries
With burdens to the grave.

The burnished hair must whiten,
The staunchest back grow bent,
Nor tears the load may lighten
Nor honest faith prevent
Anxiety his master
And Ignorance his flail,
They drive him ever faster
Upon the Autumn gale.

Yet who but Man the Seeker
Doth steal the strength of Man?
And that he groweth weaker,
Can it be Autumn's plan?
Boy, ere thou curse the season
Give heed to Nature's word—

Alas, I spoke of reason,
And only crickets heard!

ANONYMOUS.

LORD Leverhulme recently stated that he had just returned from a voyage round the world, and his feet had never been off the soil of the British Empire, except in landing at New York to go to Canada and at the Sandwich Islands. The journey was about 40,000 miles. What had impressed him more forcibly than upon any previous journey was the enormous growth that was taking place in every section of the Empire. It was called the Empire upon which the Sun never Sets, but, as it seemed to him an Empire with enormous opportunities, he would call it the Empire of Opportunities.

O-MA-NI-PAD-ME-HUM

The Tibetan's Ceaseless Prayer: Wind, Water and Earth All Called to Keep It Alive

FROM OUR TACHIENLU CORRESPONDENT.

Tachienlu, May 1.

This simple, mysterious sentence, is the lama's prayer. What it implies and signifies is beyond explanation. Learned dissertations have done very little to shed light on this romantic phrase. There is no doubt that the mystery surrounding the origin and import of this sentence adds very materially to its intrinsic value as an efficacious prayer formula. The superstitious lama repeats it day and night; the ignorant nomad hums it as he goes about among his yak; the merchant sings it as he travels across the barren plateau; the old man, weak and frail, mumbles it with his latest breath; the wild Tibetan brigand roars out this mysterious prayer when in search of his prey; young and old, rich and poor, lama and layman, merchant and nomad, professional and amateur, false and genuine, day and night, in sickness and health, the Tibetan repeats this simple, mysterious, euphonious phrase. A meritorious part of lama worship is to walk round the hill side singing "O-MA-NI-PAD-ME-HUM."

As a physical exercise it has indisputable value, it brings the young men and women out into the open and fills their lungs with pure, fresh air; it takes them from their smoky homes out among the hills and flowers and trees. Even as a spiritual exercise it is not without its results; it implies the existence of good and evil; it teaches that good should be sought after and evil should be atoned for; though they may not understand it or realize it, it consciously or unconsciously reveals a spiritual side to his nature. But as a moral force, as a deterrent from evil, as an incentive to good, as an encouragement to truth, as an inspiration to righteousness, its power has yet to be seen. With a very keen prescience the inventer of this Sanskrit phrase hit on a euphonious and catching sentence.

The Happy-go-lucky Tibetan.

The Tibetan mind, the Tibetan mouth, the Tibetan nature, the Tibetan country, all seem beautifully in harmony with" "Omanipadmehum." There is a striking similarity between the British Lord Fisher, the African negro and the woolly nomad—purely temperamental. The Tibetan nomad is a free and easy, happy-go-lucky, devil-may-care, breezy individual. No man thinks less before he leaps and leaps more before he thinks. With a mind entirely free from household worries, family cares, business perplexities; with a mind bent on enjoying life and all its pleasures, this unembarrassing prayer suits him down to the ground. "Omanipadmehum"—he can sing it, read it, pray it, say it, roar it; he can use it as an narcotic to soothe him to sleep, as a talisman to get him past danger, as a means to ease his conscience, as an incentive to fearless, holy living, as a watchword through the gates of Paradise. "Omanipadmehum"—its untrammeled simplicity appeals to his untutored mind. He can repeat this sentence with avidity and do any mortal thing his wild nature prompts him to do. While repeating this sacred prayer he may smash your skull, rob your purse, steal your horse, or take your life. If the word religion means to bind then there is very little religion in the woolly nomad's nature or in his prayer. Freedom from anything and everything is all he asks and demands and "Omanipadmehum" gives him all he wants.

It is not too much to say that this mysterious prayer covers everything in the Tibetan's life from birth to death. They repeat it when he cries and he repeats it when he dies. On a high snow bound mountain pass, on the wide open plateau, on the streets of some small Tibetan village, in the precincts of the lama temple, in the nomad's tent, in the hermit's cell, in the smoky hovel, this mysterious sentence will meet you and greet you morning, noon, and night.

There are some things you can get away from but if you live in Tibet and provided your ears are in good working order, you will not and cannot escape continually and eternally hearing "Omanipadmehum." Tibetan merchant, well furred, well mounted, and well fed, looks at you, stares at you, gapes at your [illegible] and [illegible] you. He [illegible] his [illegible] will not [illegible] his prayer. He [illegible] ested is the awkward [illegible] a horse or the peculiar make of your tight fitting clothes, but he persists in praying and [illegible] hard and fast. Now the facility of this prayer is simply wonderful—he can relegate it entirely to the subconscious and all he needs is a safty valve or an exhaust; he has accomplished the extremely difficult art of praying while he thinks and thinking while he prays. Coueism worked down to a very fine science.

The Automatic Ejaculation.

There is more mystery in why he prays and how he prays than in what he prays. It is no uncommon thing to see a woolly nomad wander into one of our services here, apparently listening the whole time, repeat "Omanipadmehum" the whole time and wander out again. The red-robed lama frequently calls to see us, he listens very respectfully to what we have to say, may discuss a point when occasion arises, but under his breath and with an alarming rapidity keep mumbling his simple prayer. Why does he pray? might be answered by asking. Why does he wear clothes or eat food? He may have learned it from his grandfather or heard others praying or he may have been born with the instinct or his parents may have impressed upon him the duty to pray. There it is—he prays.

A cannon ball may take of his legs necessitating the laying down of his arms, but nothing, absolutely nothing, will compel him to lay down his prayers. I can conceive of no circumstance, no embarrassment, no contingency that would force him to give up this holy habit. The woolly Tibetan has prayed too long and too frequently and too persistently to abandon too lightly what has become part of his nature.

Then again, take his attitude in prayer—could anything be more charming or entirely free from convention? He rides his wild Tibetan horse and prays; he comes to town and prays; he makes love in his own romantic way and prays; he may do violence to your person and you have the consolation of knowing he does it while he prays. The wind carries his monosyllabic prayer across the wide, open grassland; it breaks the silence of the rugged snow-bound peak; it reaches your ear from the inaccesible recesses of some lonely hermit cell; it follows you every day in your straggling caravan across the high barren plateau; this dreary, monotonous, monosyllabic prayer haunts, disturbs or interests you wherever you travel in this great, mysterious closed land.

Prayer or Custom?

We may now ask the question—Is "Omanipadmehum" prayer, superstition, custom, habit or religion? There are six syllables in this Sanskrit phrase and lamas tell us it is a prayer for the six beings into which the Tibetans divide the human race. These six human beings include man, idols, ghosts, walking, crawling, creeping and flying things. If this is true and some maintain it is, then the woolly Tibetan nomad is certainly not remiss in praying for the inhabitants who dwell on the roof of the world. The Tibetans contribution therefore to the progress of the human race is his constant, persistent, devoted prayer. To the Tibetan the difficulty of praying while he made love, or praying while he did business, or praying while he enjoyed himself was child's play to encompassing the difficulty of praying while he slept. Here was a gigantic problem and one he had seriously to face if he desired to maintain his ambition and keep praying all the time. How to pray and work was nothing; how to pray and sleep was something, and this is how the woolly nomad got past this serious difficulty.

The eternal melting snows of Tibet is about the nearest thing we know to perpetual motion and the Tibetan was not slow in grasping this fact. He simply harnessed the mountain streams to turn his huge cumbersome prayer wheels and thus while he slept he prayed and "Omanipadmehum" has breath-

ng silently over rugged mountain and barren plateau while the lama ...amed his dreams. By the side ... mountain streams the ... traveller through Eastern Tibet will see these cylindrical prayer wheels, ...cked full with this mystic sen... ...ence "Omanipadmehum," being mov... ...jerkily, jauntingly, slowly, furi... ...sly, by the rushing mountain ...rrent. Thus while he sleeps and ...works and plays he has contrived ...some means or other at the same ... to pray. The Tibetan has ...worked out Paul's injunction to ...without ceasing" to a finer ... than the capillary theory.

Harnessing the Wind.

...ountain streams, however, are ... entirely free from perversity ... they frequently dry up. In a ...ion, cold, barren country like Tibet ...hese streams are frequently frozen ...or many months in the year. ...How now ask will the woolly ...nomad meet this new proposition? ... too cold to sit on for an in... ... period and coal and wood ...are very scarce in the Land of the ...Lamas. Cow manure, the fuel he ...almost entirely depends on, is very ...strictly regulated and a shortage ... would place the Tibetan in ... serious dilemma. A frozen ...mountain stream simply will not ... a heavy cylindrical prayer ...wheel so the next nearest ap... ...proach to perpetual motion and ...perpetual prayer was to harness ...the wind. It is quite safe to say ...that, on those broad, expansive ...plateaus, there is at some time dur... ...ing the day or night a little wind ...of some kind. If the water won't ...move his prayer wheel then he will ...make the wind blow his prayer flag. ...Between houses and from different ...parts of the courtyard these gaily ...coloured prayer flags fly merrily in ...the breeze. In this way the religi... ...ous Tibetan cries, "Omanipadme... ...hum" for ever. All over Tibet, on ...flags of every colour of the rainbow, ...and flying from every tree and ...house and temple the silent prayer ...is fluttered and the simple minded ...Tibetan continues to pray.

Let the Rocks Express It.

However, even this may fail. Chinese soldiers may burn the house, destroy the temple, or steal the tent; the wind, and Tibetan winds know how to blow, may carry *off the* prayer flags. The water and the wind as elements may fail him; his prayer wheel may cease to turn; his prayer flag may refuse to flutter; his own voice may be still in sleep; he now turns to the rocks, the eternal rocks, and makes them speaks his silent prayer. North, south, east and west, wherever the hard ingenious rocks rise above the plateau there you will find "Omanipadmehum" deeply carved on the unchanging, ever enduring, basalt rock. Thus he makes the eternal rock send forth his mystic prayer and again he can say triumphantly, "Omanipadmehum" for ever. Thus the Tibetan prays and literally fulfils Paul's injunction "To pray without ceasing." With his own voice he will pray till overcome by sleep; he will make the huge cylindrical prayer wheel utter his prayer as long as water will turn it; he will make the prayer flag flutter his prayer as long as wind will blow it; and when all these things fail and leave him he will make the eternal rock speak forth its silent prayer.

Not the Tibetan.

Some people are ashamed to pray, not the Tibetan. Some people are afraid to pray, not the Tibetan. Some people can't pray, not the Tibetan. Some people wont pray, not the Tibetan. Many people have no desire, ambition, or inclination to pray, not the Tibetan. Is it ignorance? many educated Tibetans pray. Is it heriditry? everybody in Tibet prays. Can we by any scientific method, inductive, deductive or otherwise find out why he prays? Religion may have one answer, psychology another, and anthropology a third. They may be all right, they may be all wrong. One traveller, the aesthetic, may see beauty and holiness in every step of this devoted life. The intrepid explorer can't see the point of contact between a smashed skull and an overwhelming desire to pray. The ardent missionary fails to understand why a bullet should put him out of business, fired by a religious being more devoted than Darwin's praying mantis. In the practical daily life of the woolly nomad there is absolutely no connexion whatever between religion and morality. The Indian fakir is easily explained, the Tibetan lama is not. Darwin has carefully placed the whistling bird and the walking monkey, where we ask in wonder to place the praying lama? Religion in almost every other realm has somehow or other been associated with goodness and morality, to this Tibet has proved an exception. Severe praying is no guarantee whatever that prayer will save life: the Tibetan outlaw may shoot you while he prays.

Oriental cults have their fervent admirers and no doubt when admired from a safe distance their is something in them to admire. In actual everyday life here on the Tibetan frontier we have yet to discover why the nomad prays and the connexion between his life and his prayer.

THE ANSWER OF THE SIRENS

Ah, Sorrow! that our shapely knees,
Betrayed by Henli's ardent breeze,
Wrought havoc in the minds of men
And drive me now from Song to Pen!
Why do you hold a "Ladies' Race"?
How *can* you hope for skill or grace
If we are trussed up like the Fowl?
What *is* this grouse about, this howl?
Gone are the girls in hoops and stays,
Gone are the Mid-Victorian days!
What if our suits *were* rather short,
T'was in the interests of *Sport!*
Ye Critics! Since the days of Eve's
First venture in a skirt of leaves,
In all the changing forms of dress,
Say, have men loved us any less?

PISCATOR.

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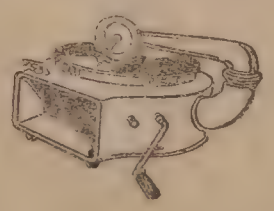

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THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

Before entering the Church, the Archbishop of York was destined for the Law, and it is said that he wrote a novel while waiting for his first brief.

∴

A copy of the first English edition of Euclid, published in 1570, was sold for £25 at Sotheby's recently.

∴

Sir John Ross, who was Lord Chancellor of Ireland during the recent troublous years, is now busy writing his reminiscences. They promise to be exciting, for Sir John was frequently threatened by the gun-men.

∴

Two new works by Mr. Compton Mackenzie will be published this year. One is a fairy story for children, the other a romance of adventure, entitled "The Old Men of the Sea."

∴

Mr. Moreton Frewen, the author of "Melton Mowbray and Other Memories" (Jenkins, 16s.), seems to have known in his time almost everybody worth knowing in the English-speaking world. He once surprised President Wilson by telling him that he had shaken hands with all the President's predecessors since James Buchanan, who became President in 1856. Mr. Frewen's publishers describe his book as written in "a light after-dinner style." It is certainly a very good style, enlivened with some first-rate anecdotes.

∴

No book about an English garden has had more success than Miss Flora Klickmann's "The Flower-Patch Among the Hills." There is a very charming professor in it, and she has often been asked by her readers who he was in real life. Miss Klickmann has just published a new book on "Mending Your Nerves," and it has a preface by Professor Albert Carless, chief consulting surgeon to King's College Hospital. Perhaps it is not indiscreet to say that he is the professor whose charming personality Miss Klickmann describes in "The Flower-Path Among the Hills."

∴

Further particulars of the activities of the Chief Committee for Popular Education now available provide additional evidence of the very severe press censorship in Russia. It appears that this body has condemned altogether the work of Plato, Kant, Maeterlinck, Tolstoi, Spencer, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, Kropotkin, and Nordau. Any book, indeed, that deals with liberalism, universal suffrage, or constitutionalism is banned, and the Committee has gone so far as to cancel the whole output of Communist literature from 1918 to 1920 as being "out of date." Books wherein "God" is spelt with a capital are condemned, the chief purpose of the censorship, apparently, being to stamp out religion. It is interesting to observe that the head of this very active Committee is Mme. Lenin.

∴

A newspaper serial to-day requires to be a very pungent and full-blooded affair. The reader in train or tram does not wish to be wearied with psychology or philosophy, but demands plenty of thrills. It is therefore surprising to be reminded by a correspondent of the "Glasgow Herald" that George Meredith's most difficult book, "The Egoist," made its first appearance in serial form. This was in the columns of the "Glasgow Weekly Herald," where that subtle story ran from June 21, 1879, till January 10, 1880, under the original title, "Sir Willoughby Patterne, the Egoist." One wonders what even the thoughtful Scots people made of the famous first chapter!

∴

At last there has arisen a case which promises to be of great importance to the numerous authors who sold the dramatic rights in their novels before films were thought of. An authoress, who disposed of the dramatic rights in a very successful novel to an actor-manager, has sought to establish the point that these dramatic rights do not include the film rights. This is a matter which the Society of Authors has long sought to make clear. The argument is that the cinema established a new sort of asset which contracts made before the coming of the cinema could not dispose of. It is certainly the case that modern agreements between authors and publishers differentiate very carefully between film rights and dramatic rights.

AT REGENT'S PARK

"A MAN IN THE ZOO." By David Garnett. (Chatto and Windus. 6s.)

Even if we had never read "Lady Into Fox," we should have guessed something odd was going to happen when Mr. Cromartie and Miss Lackett quarrel in the Zoological Gardens. Mr. Garnett has a very insidious, innocent style; and, what is more, he is really, we believe, far more innocent in the best sense than either he or his admirers realize. His original idea is fantastic in this story, though not so fantastic as was the idea of "Lady Into Fox"; but as the idea is allowed to sink in and absorb him, the artist in him, like a grave child, takes it quite seriously, quite patiently, and tells the story without a suspicion of deliberate malice or farcical irony. Most of us have known a child who, on learning that there is a man in the moon and that the moon is made of green cheese, has promptly started a fable about the possible happenings when the Man begins to eat the Cheese: and as the fable develops, the existence of the man in the moon and the substance of the moon become not fantasies but premises, axioms almost. Just so, when John Cromartie presents himself to the authorities of the Royal Zoological Society, and is accepted by them, we are not surprised, or tickled in any vulgar way, but excited and amused at his subsequent adventures.

Mr. Cromartie, who was a Scot, is given a cage between the chimpanzee and the orang-outang, and is labelled "Homo Sapiens." His adventures have, perhaps, less poignancy than those of Mrs. Trebrick; but there is plenty to arouse the emotions in the disturbance set up in the heart of Josephine Lackett by John's obstinate and wicked behaviour. We cannot admire too much the manner in which Mr. Garnett makes us believe in the authorities' acceptance of Mr. Cromartie's offer. On the Working Committee was Mr. Wollop, "a gentleman of advanced years, who was not popular with his fellow-members"; Mr. Wollop was furious at Mr. Cromartie's proposal:—

> This was a deliberate insult, he declared. This was no laughing matter. It was a matter which must and should and should and must, without question, be wiped out by legal proceedings. It would expose the society to ridicule if they took it lying down. This and much more in the same strain gave the rest of the committee time to turn the thing over in their minds. One or two first took the opposite view from Mr. Wollop from mere habit; the Chairman observed that the presence of such an interesting correspondent as Mr. Cromartie could not fail to be a great attraction, and would increase the gate-money; it was not, however, until Mr. Wollop threatened to resign that the thing was done.

That is a good instance of Mr. Garnett's unforced, insinuating style; but in this book, as in his other, he gains his effect cumulatively, by the nicest adjustment of such details, by an unerring sense of the right word, and by a gentleness of manner which only heightens the extravagance of his matter. There is one incident which rather spoils the story's unity of spirit. It is a fable of two people, and we rather resent the intrusion of the negro, Joe Tennison, as the second denizen of the Manhouse. He seems to belong to a different story; he is a note of jazz breaking into a formal minuet. For the Caracal, Mr. Cromatie's little animal friend, we are very thankful; it provides a human element just where it is needed. Mrs. R. A. Carnett's illustrations to the story are extremely delightful; is it greedy of us to say we wish there were twice as many of them?—The "Observer."

THE CORNISH COAST

A Delightful Study by Mr. Sowerby

"A NATURALIST'S HOLIDAY BY THE SEA." By Arthur de C. Sowerby, F.Z.S. Routledge & Son, $5.000.

One of the most delightful books from a nature lover's standpoint that has appeared in the past decade is Mr. Arthur de Carle Sowerby's description of a vacation outing in Cornwall, which he entitles "A Naturalist's Holiday by the Sea." The scene is laid in Penzance and each rocky pool that fringed the coast proved a veritable naturalist's Paradise, as the author says:

"A detailed description of each of the many organisms, animal and vegetable, that exists within the narrow compass of those slippery rocky walls, would fill a large volume," and we believe him after reading this "Naturalist's Holiday" with its wealth of information and deduction, dressed in most attractive style, for Mr. Sowerby can write as well as observe. Nor is the application of the volume restricted to Cornwall. Any one of a thousand beaches can reveal as many wonders to the eye of him who will only open his mind to see.

That is the real fascination of this book Mr. Sowerby makes one see. Not a didactic way at all, but just as he led his young son over those Cornish rocks with a "What do you think of this, Sonny?" so he leads his readers. One almost begins to believe the tales of the Indian fakirs who can compel a neophyte to prophesy by looking into a pool of ink, for from one Cornish rock-rimmed pool and 20 words of text, Mr. Sowerby brings vividly before his readers a picture of the whole cosmos. Von Humboldt took 50 years and five times that many thousand words to give a far vaguer outline.

Mr. Sowerby's genius lies not in the mere catalogueing of what he sees. He is not like that famous naturalist we once took through Hongkew market to show him what the Chinese eat. "*Scomber scombrus*," he said pointing to a fish with such a tone of voice that we have always doubted whether it really was a mackerel or not. Never does the author of this fascinating ramble descend to just enumeration. He even endows the seaweeds with vibrant life and brings forth vividly their place in the eternal scheme of things.

To those who know the Cornish coast—and those who don't as well—it will be a matter of hope that this gifted writer will take another holiday, this Summer preferred, and spend it along the China coast, preferably near where the foreigner sends his family for a holiday. If he brings half the wealth of knowledge and imagination to bear on such an area as Peitaiho, for example, as he did on the fringes of Penzance, we dwellers in China will be given a new link of appreciation, and owe Mr. Sowerby a lasting debt of gratitude for making us see the simple things lying under our feet—simple, yes, but how utterly complex until the mind of the trained observe cuts out for us the silhouette.

P. L. BRYANT.

THE PREACHING FRIARS

"THE LIFE OF ST. DOMINIC (1170-1221)." By Bede Jarrett, O.P. Burns Oates and Washourne. 6s.

Father Bede Jarrett, the present head of the Dominican Order in England, has done well to produce this popular and interesting biography of his Patriarch. For a hundred persons who believe themselves to be familiar with the personality of St. Francis, not one could give a coherent account of the character and life of St. Dominic: yet the services which his order have rendered to religion and to learning are at least as conspicuous as those to which the Friars Minor can lay claim.

Dominic had not, it is true, the special charm of Francis. He was neither mystic nor poet. Yet the description given by an early biographer, drawn from memories of his asociates, suggests something better than the grim dogmatist of Protestant tradition. "He began to appear among his brother Canons as a bright ray of sunshine, in humbleness of heart the least, in holiness the first shedding around him the fragrance of quickening life, like the sweet scent of pinewoods in the heat of a summer's day."

This aspect of a saint whose austerity towards others was exceeded by austerity towards himself—his only weakness was for apples and turnips!—deserves the emphasis Father Jarrett has given to it. Those who read his little biography will obtain the picture of a lovable human being who was led by circumstances to become a Defender of the Faith.

HUMAN NATURE

"RE-CREATING HUMAN NATURE: BEING AN EXPOSITION OF THE MAKING OF PSYCHOLOGY. By Charles W. Hayward. Leonard Parsons. 10s. 6d.

Some time ago we noticed here a volume by Dr. Charles Hayward called "What is Psychology?" To this volume he has now provided a sequel. We like both the author and his books. He is a barrister and a highly qualified medical man, but he writes like a breezy crusader with a sense of humour, and he charges at social crimes with the single-heartedness of Don Quixote. His thesis is this: human nature is just what we have made it, and it can be just what we Will to make it. While major prophets have evolved great general doctrines that remotely influence mankind, they have overlooked the regular little forces of suggestion impinging daily upon the human mind. It is these that Dr. Hayward deals with specially in his present volume. So to speak, he wants to make us look after the pence of personal psychology, and to persuade us that it is the multitude of minor influences that make or mar us. Of course he does not neglect the greater things; but he is most anxious that we should realize all the forces of evil that, unrecognized, are playing upon us. His book is breezy, personal and unconventional, and as enjoyable to read as it is serious in intention. We hope it will be widely read.

MEN ARE STUPID

"WANDERING STAR." By Clemence Dane. (Heinemann. 6s.)

The fact that men are stupid would be taken a little more lightly by all of us if the clever ones who insist on it would only admit that, occasionally, women are stupid too. Miss Clemence Dane's Damaris Page is stupid enough, but her author insists on treating her tenderly as a wronged, misunderstood, frustrated creature, while Greydon Hart, who is also stupid, is represented with a righteous and malicious indignation. We are sorely tempted, as we read "Wandering Stars," to echo our grandmother's favourite comment on the modern novel, "Well, my dear, I'm sure they'd all be the better for a good shaking." Hart is a successful dramatist, Damaris Page his leading lady and in love with him; though they write a play together, and Damaris insinuates her own character and point of view into the heroine, Hart never regards her as anything but an extremely competent actress. Seven years later—Hart has been in America—he hears from a third person how Damaris has loved him, and how his failure to recognize it has altered her beyond words, and, incidentally, turned the play from tragedy to ironic farce. Prefixed to this story is "The Lover," which is the story of the play Hart wrote for Damaris.

Neither in conception nor treatment can this book rank with Miss Dane's earlier work. All her faults, especially her persistent illusion that masculinity consists of nothing but trousers and thickheadedness, are exaggerated here; and there is little of her interpretative intuition in the portrait of Damaris in the one story or of Hester Peile in the other. "The Lover" is, however, certainly the better of the two, although Miss Dane is a little too solemn for the fantasy which plays around the figures of the real husband and the mirror husband.

EVOE

"AN HOUR FROM VICTORIA, AND SOME OTHER EXCURSIONS." By E. V. Knox (Evoe). (Allen & Unwin.) 4s. 6d. net.

Mr. Knox, unlike most humorists, is really funny. And he is most successful when he is least pretentious. Possibly that is why he fails to satisfy his more exacting admirers in some of his recent peregrinations of Empire with Mr. Raven Hill *à le manière de* Low and Thomas. But those excursions form no part of the present volume, which consists almost entirely of the saga of Bittleigh, that exquisite corner of Sussex which Mr. Knox, like the old engravers, *inv. et del.*

Critics have a curious weakness for the opening pages of the books which they criticize: that, one feels, is about as far as most of them get. But after reading Mr. Knox from cover to cover, as publishers delight to say, one comes back unreluctant to the first pages as the cream of an exceptionally creamy little jest-book. There is something more than a good joke in his study of Sussex men, with their Downs and their Sea and their Weald and their dew-pans and their yaffle—something which Mr. Kipling and Mr. Belloc and (if it is not indelicate to say so) Miss Kaye-Smith might do well to put in their pipes and smoke.

Mr. Knox is a master of that apparently effortless comedy which it costs so much effort to bring off as smoothly as he does. The rats which "ate the bread and arsenic and went on with the corn;" the two local ladies who were respectively "democratic after the Colonies" and exclusive after Kensington;" the recipe for Savoury Egge *à le* Walton, which must be read to be believed; the goat on the golflinks which, when Allardyce readdressed the ball, "ambled up and readdressed Allardyce"—these, and other diversions, are all to be found in Mr. Knox's small volume. At least one reader (and he a writer, at that) laughed through influenza with it. But the influenza's is optional.—"Saturday Westminster."

WHO WROTE "WUTHERING HEIGHTS"?

The question of the true authorship of "Wuthering Heights" is raised by Miss Alice Law in her brief, lucid, and, on the whole, temperately argued book, "Patrick Branwell Brontê" (Philpot 6s.). She has arranged all the available evidence with care, and if she has not exactly added to it, she has at any rate added to its coherence. Her book, therefore, is deserving of serious consideration. For our part, however, we remain without the slightest doubt that "Wuthering Heights" was written by *Emily* Brontê. No doubt it is in some respects masculine, but then Emily herself was in some respects masculine, and it is at any rate easy to make too much of the fact that on its appearance it was very generally taken to be the work of a man. Reviewers are not safe in arguing from the work to the sex of its author, and we may call to mind the assumption of one distinguished critic of Tennyson's "In Memoriam" that it proceeded from "the full heart of the widow of a military man." That Emily could not have written "Wuthering Heights" needs a great deal more demonstration than has yet been offered us. She was the most powerful and original woman genius our poetry has had, and not easily can we set limits to the capacity of that genius in prose fiction. It is true that "Wuthering Heights" in parts deals with material which can hardly have come within Emily's experience, but with which Branwell was more or less familiar. If that proves anything, however, it is only that Emily was willing to utilize, with something of the ruthlessness of the artist, the troubles of a black-sheep brother.—It does not at all prove that Branwell had the ability to write that great masterpiece. He was clever, certainly; he impressed people; the taverns have always had in them men clever in Branwell's way, quick enough of wit, when it was livened up with liquor, to strike the uncritical as men of genius. That he had the sustained imaginative power to write "Wuthering Heights" there is not a shred of evidence. Nor is the understanding of passion displayed by the book at all helpful to the case for Branwell. As was pointed out some 20 years ago by M. Maeterlinck, the book shows a profound knowledge of love in its essence, but an equally profound ignorance of love in its manifestations. It suggests the possession by its author of wonderful intuition, but of very little notion of the way of a man with a maid. Miss Law somewhat modifies our opinion of Branwell, but "Wuthering Heights," as far as we are concerned, remains the prose masterpiece of a powerful woman poet, not the solitary achievement of a neurasthenic and rather blackguardly young man.—"Life and Letters."

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

SHANGHAI MOTHER GOOSE

By Elizabeth Pepys.

Sweet Charity.

A drink for a dollar, a groan and a holler:
What makes you sell so dear?
Few cafés sell at half the price
To make a profit clear.

The Super-Prude.

Mother, may I go to Henli?
Yes, my darling daughter.
But swathe yourself that none may see
Your figure in the water.

China Takes Notice.

There was a man in Shanghai.
And he was wondrous wise;
He planned an Exhibition
Of International size
He talked about it quite a bit,
The Chinese said: "Some style!"
But now they say 'twas a mistake
And their show all the while.

HITS WE SHOULD LIKE TO SEND

To the Unco' Omniscient

By Elizabeth Pepys.

To Mr. N. O. Itall
Summit Heights
Shanghai

Dear Mr. Itall:—To begin with let me admit that you are quite right in this as in every other matter and that I am quite in the wrong. I would not doubt that you are the Person and Wisdom shall die with you. All I know is that, my enemy right or wrong, I hate you. There! You've no idea how much better I feel with that out.

Let me proceed further to explain that your method of being right is in the highest degree distasteful to me. You are so superiorly, [illegible], egregiously, ineffably, disgustingly right as to turn others to [illegible]. I had rather be wrong than agree with you any day in the year. My blood boils to contradict you even when you make a statement so non-controversial as "Two and two make four." Why, O why, must you be so cock-sure in order to be correct? Your assertive manner in pronouncing on so problematic a matter as to-morrow's weather is sufficient to make men loathe you. I suppose you would rather be right than be popular; but why must one exclude the other?

Endeavouring to get at the bottom of my virulent abhorrence of your personality I have been obliged to admit that it is at bottom a low jealousy of your unerring exactitude. Of course I only despise you all the more for engendering in my bosom so unworthy a feeling. Moreover I believe humanity has a case against you for making the Right so unattractive. Be warned, abate a bit of your bumptiousness, or in order to preserve any ideals whatever we shall be constrained to dispose of you.

Truthfully your enemy,
Igno Ramus.

ASSOCIATION NOTES

Chinese Women Abroad.

Reports of the Biennial Convention of the American Young Women's Christian Association, held in New York City in May, have been received at the national offices of the Y. W. C. A. of China. Mrs. H. C. Mei, Miss Sin Tak-hing, and Miss Ting Shu-ching were China's representatives at this convention, and each spoke before large audiences during the Convention meetings. Mrs. Mei was a guest in the home of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., during her stay in New York.

Mrs. Mei has been requested by Miss Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago, to represent China at the convention of the Women's International League of Peace and Freedom, to be held in the United States this summer.

Prominent among the guests at the Convention was Lady Gladstone, a daughter-in-law of the late William E. Gladstone; Countess Elsa Bernadotte, niece of the King of Denmark; Mrs. Appasawamy of Madras, India; Miss Kita Hasegawa, Dean of Koran Jo Gakko, Tokio, and many others of several nationalities.

Y.W.C.A. Favours League of Nations.

Matters of technical interest to the organization were side by side on the programme with matters of wide import to the women of all the world. On the last morning of the Convention a resolution was passed by which the American Y. W. C. A. pledged itself to use its efforts to secure the entrance of the United States into the League of Nations.

Announcements were made of gifts to the Y. W. C. A. from the Laura Spellman Rockerfeller Foundation of a large endowment toward the Retirement Fund for Y. W. C. A. Secretaries; also of a gift of $25,000 a year for three years from Henry Ford to further work of the Y. W. C. A. in certain rural sections of the country, understood to be in the Middle West.

Miss Grace Yang, national student secretary of the Y. W. C. A. of China, will leave on June 16 for England, *via* the United States. She will attend the meeting of the committee of the World's Student Christian Federation, of which she is a member, to be held at High Leigh, London, August 7-21.

MAH JONGG THAT MADE CHINA FAMOUS

The thousands of readers who chuckled appreciatively over the Mah Jongg number of "Life" issued on April 24 were doubtless many of them ignorant of the fact that the artist who drew the artistic cover design of "Mah Jongg" with her hand stretched out to take a tile, while "Pa Jongg" raptly studies his hand was none other than a Shanghai man, Monte Smith, the publicity agent of the local office of the Standard Oil Co. The number contains various quips on this sport of the Mandarins, one of them by James K. Guinness being entitled:

The Mah Jongleur.

Seven glaring characters; six little dots;
How I miss the good old roodle pots!
Dragons done in silver; dragons coloured green—
Once I held the straight flush to the Queen.
Build a house of bamboo; fashion it of reed.
Some one's shy his ante. Show some speed.
If you are the East Wind then I am the West;
Still I like my poker games the best.

TYPES OF BUSINESS WOMEN

The Blatant Pusher

A new and much criticized figure in our modern bustling life is the business woman, and by that I mean the woman who is struggling for a footing in big business and competing on her own merits in present-day commerce. She has not yet accustomed herself to her surroundings, and is apt to be somewhat extreme in her methods and manners. Her success or failure is being eagerly watched, on one side with open hostility, on the other with an anxious concern for her survival. In this struggle for a firm footing in the larger ventures of industry some women are apt to cast aside their greatest assets.

Aping the Man.

We are all familiar with the blatant pusher, who pushes literally with both elbows extended. The woman who considers it essential to speak in a loud strident voice, and who cannot write a letter or converse at the telephone without a cigarette dangling from the corner of her mouth. Who leans back in her chair with both feet propped upon her desk, and in fact feels it incumbent upon her to ape the man, forgetting that she can never be anything but a very poor imitation of the opposite sex. This description to some may sound harsh, but we have unfortunately such a type in our midst, who, instead of helping us in our struggle, only encourages hostility.

HATS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

The Pleasing Personality.

The woman who means to succeed in business with a capital "B" and still remain a woman (and no matter what others may say experience proves that it is an asset to remain, in spite of everything, a woman) should never forget that calmness and dignity of manner, allied to knowledge and alertness, will succeed where bluster and excessive push will fail. The well-modulated voice employed in persuasive argument will gain more for its owner than harsh, sharp tones jerked out in rapid succession.

Courtesy Costs Nothing.

Courtesy will cost nothing, but it makes friends not enemies. Neatness in appearance presents a pleasing picture to the eye, and will gain admission more readily than slovenliness. None of these qualities will detract one jot from your knowledge and real ability—they will add to it—because bluster so often is employed to hide personal deficiencies. The ability to preside at a desk or a board meeting is not bound up with an assumption of mannishness, it is entirely a question of mental capacity.

"Shoemaker Stick to Your Last."

We are all of us prone in our newfound opportunities to attempt too much. Until we have secured a good place upon the ladder of commercial successes we should do well to follow the advice given to the shoemaker and "stick to our last." We should leave bazaars and committees to women with more leisure, and should spend what little spare time we have in healthy recreation. Let us cultivate the week-end habit—a whiff of good fresh air is a wonderful mental stimulant and a great unraveller of these difficult problems with which we have to deal. Our hands are grasping the key to the door of commerce, and our successful opening of this great portal lies largely in the way in which we turn the key. We shall gain admittance more readily as dignified women rather than unpleasing imitations of men.

Catherine Murray.

PERSONALLY CONDUCTED

How to Find One's Way Round Shanghai.

A surprising amount of information is contained in the 116 pages of "Gow's Guide to Shanghai," which is just off the press and selling at a dollar. The author states his purpose as being to "give to new-comers to the Far East some idea of what they may expect to find here, and of how we who live here order our daily lives so far from the scenes of our native places," and he has realized his ideals excellently. The book is thoroughly up-to-date and even the resident of a week—than whom there are few more sapient—can hardly contradict its information.

Besides the usual friendly suggestions as to the most efficient way to make oneself at home as a stranger in an Oriental port, and a well-guaged schedule of prices and tips, there are bits not usually found, such as a comparative thermometrical scale. The maps are helpful, the index convenient, the advice sound and the feminine reader may well profit by the pages on hotels, boarding houses, curio and silk shops, cost of living, servants, cost of clothing and the like. The Pidgin English vocabulary as well as being amusing is a decidedly useful adjunct.

INCHES AND INDIVIDUALITY

Woman By Taking Thought Adds Chic to Her Appearance.

Weighed in a mental scale, one frock that is solely and individually one's own outvalues any number of frocks that might be anybody's.

THE THREE-QUARTER COAT AND COATEES. NOTE THE ORIENTAL INFLUENCE AND BE SURE TO CUT YOUR COAT ACCORDING TO YOUR HEIGHT

Even with a limitless income, there is no place in a wardrobe for a gown that is merely one of a crowd, and, with a limited income, it is more than ever essential that every gown shall be a success.

No one would willingly go to the opposite extreme and carry the pursuit of individuality so far that one is out of tune with the fashion of the day. The clash of ideals comes when style seems to demand surrender of individuality or individuality to demand surrender of style. Nevertheless, gowns may be generically alike and yet specifically different.

Only a short time ago, in Paris, an American girl viewed with consternation, across the tea-tables of the Ritz, a gown that seemed a duplicate of her own. Absolute duplicates the gowns were not, but the identity of inspiration was evident. The point of the episode does not lie in the similarity of the gowns, but in the fact that the untried eye of the girl caught the dissimilarity and that she felt wave after wave of disappointment and dissatisfaction with her own perfect gown. She was absolutely right in admiring the other gown and as absolutely wrong in believing that her own was any less excellent. Points of difference existed no less in the wearers than in the gowns, which had been adapted to the individual requirements of each buyer.

The Crux of the Costume.

One crucial point of difference was the position of the girdle-line, for there were segments of a girdle knotted at each side, as in the lower left sketch on the opposite page. After her French prototype had threaded her way among the tables and taken a seat near the American girl, the smart hats were almost on a level, but the difference in height was sharply noticeable when the two girls were standing. And, as each had stood before the artist who had created her gown, the proper position of the girdle was decided by the position of the hip-bone. That there were many more inches below in one case than in the other mattered not a particle, and, had a third subject appeared, neither so tall as the American nor so short as the Parisienne, the correct placing of the girdle would have been a problem to be solved anew.

Unfortunately, it is not always an artist in dress who makes the decision. If artisans in dress did not use a rule-of-thumb method in working out proportion, there would not be so many travesties of one style to be noted in any large assemblage of women. How many times do we see a tall and sinuous figure ludicrously girdled nearer the knees than the waist, a tiny figure overpowered by a disproportionately large cape or flounce!

Artistic Balance.

The rule-of-thumb method is to take the measurement from the neck-line to the hem-line of the original model and to reduce or increase that measurement in strict proportion when adapting it to a shorter or a taller figure. The artistic method is to take the position of the hip-bone as a starting-point and to make any changes in the proportion above or below, as the type of gown and the build of the figure may demand.

The success of a tailor-made suit may depend very largely upon the relation of the length of the jacket to the height of the wearer. It is a truism that a very short woman should not wear a knee-length coat, nor should a very tall woman wear an exaggeratedly short coat, whatever the mode. Jackets may be exactly finger-length with the length of the wearer's arm determining the end of the coat.

What is said of jackets is equally true of capes, and the cape-back of a coat-frock takes on the appearance of additional inches for a tall figure.

In coat-frocks the position of the tightly drawn segments of the girdle is constant, fixed by the position of the hip-bone, and tunics vary with the height of the wearer.—"Vogue."

FOLK SONGS

Over the long fields, the wet fields that lie between
Me and my lover the blackbird has been;

The blackbird has flown with a dark crying
Over the fields where the cold rains were lying.

And oh, blackbird, as you came on your way
Past the house of my lover, what did he say?

Was he at work with his pipe in his mouth
When you came flying out of the South?

Was there no message he trusted with you,
Was there no errand he begged you to do?

Were the tulips in blossom beside his back door?
O blackbird you never have failed me before!

Will you say nothing of where you have been?
What have you heard, blackbird, what have you seen?

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

DUE SHANGHAI:—

Per R.D.S. Pres. Adams ....June 15
Per T.K.K.S. Shinyo Maru .. „ 15
Per H.A.L.S. Ermland ..... „ 16
Per P. & O. S. Soudan ..... „ 16
Per R.D.S. Pres. Hayes ..... „ 17
Per P. & O. S. Karmala .... „ 18
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Grant .... „ 18

OUTWARD

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON, ETC.—

Per M.M.S. Chantilly .....June 12
Per R.D.S. Pres. Hayes ..... „ 20
Per P. & O. S. Morea ..... „ 24
Per H.A.L.S. Preussen ..... „ 27
Per N.Y.K.S. Suwa Maru .... „ 28

FOR JAPAN, CANADA, U.S.A. & EUROPE:—

Per R.M.S. Emp. of Australia June 15
Per T.K.K.S. Korea Maru .. „ 17
Per P.M.S. Pres. Lincoln .... „ 20
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jefferson .. „ 23
Per O.S.K.S. Arizona Maru .. „ 27

FOR MANILA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND VIA HONGKONG:—

Per M.M.S. Chantilly.....June 19
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Grant.... „ 19
Per R.D.S. Pres. Hayes ..... „ 20

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per str. Sunning, June 5. From Tsingtao. Mrs. and Mrs. Anderton, Mrs. Collins, Messrs. Newcombe, W. Small, Gange.

Per str. Kwangping, June 6. From Chinwangtao. Miss Stillwell.

Per str. Woosung, June 6. From River Ports. Dame Adelaide M. Anderson, Miss Mary A. Dingman, Mr. and Mrs. Nicol and child, Mr. and Mrs. A. [illegible] son, Mrs. A. D[illegible] Wade, [illegible] Mackenzie, G. D[illegible].

Per A. O. L. S. President Jefferson, June 6. From Seattle, etc. Father J. E. Walsh, Mr. I. W. Gollop, Mr. W. E. Ransom, Mr. S. W. Minor, Mr. S. R. [illegible].

From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Drake and two children, Miss Clinton, Mr. J. [illegible], Miss Loden, Mr. Kessell.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, June 7. From Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs. Daniels, Mrs. W. G. Hoffmann, Miss H. Smith, [illegible].

Per str. Sinkiang, June 8. From Amoy and Hongkong. Mr. Watson.

Per str. Haean, June 8. From Foochow. Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Smith, Mr. W. Wallace, Mr. Sipser, Mr. MacAuliffe, Miss Smith.

Per str. Tungchow, June 8. From Tientsin. Mr. Pearson, Mr. C. L. Cooke, Lieut. A. Gordon, Miss Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Storm, Mr. and Mrs. [illegible], Mr. Waterman, Mr. Woolin, Mr. H. Jansen, Mr. L. Paul, Sub.-Lieuts. H. Vaugle R. G. Mills, C. K. le Mesurier, Messrs. D. MacIntyre, J. B. Palmer, R. S. Brown, C. J. Smith, S. S. Booth, C. B. Ford, M. L. Power.

Per str. Kungwo, June 8. From River Ports. Mr. A. Egle. Miss Stewart, Miss O'Niell, Mr. W. M. Emey, Mr. and Mrs. Henkel, Mr. M. A. Kossolossar, Dr. Fletcher Jones, Mrs. W. C. Darwin, Mr. A. M. C. L. Duncan, Dr. and Mrs. F. Vierling.

Per str. Kingsing, June 9. From Tientsin. Mr. N. F. Meyers. **From Chefoo.** Mr. J. A. T. Thomas.

Per str. Poyang, June 9. From River Ports. Messrs. Lamb, Burns, Hary, Tucker, Master Tucker.

Per str. Ningshan, June 9. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Williams, Mr. Druill, Mrs. Stout, Mrs. Watson.

Per str. Kiangwah, June 10. From River Ports. Mrs. Gange and two children, Messrs. E. H. Harrs, Pinckard, Bergman, Johnson, Strookopp, Father Savarvas.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, June 10. From Ningpo. Mr. Right, Mr. Vallet, Mr. Grosbois, Mr. and Mrs. Wahrin, Mr. and Mrs. Barrand, Dr. Poral, Mrs. Van der Stijn, Mr. S. L. Brown, Mr. E. D. Wissier, Mr. Durran, Mr. C. Patuil, Mr. Y. W. Decker.

Per str. A. O. L. S. President Jackson, June 10. From Hongkong and Manila. Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Basto, Mr. Baboud, Miss M. E. Lourenco, Mrs. H. L. McLelland, Mr. J. D. Mencarini and family, Mr. T. W. Gibbons, Mr. C. Hammond, Mr. W. J. Hoos and family, Mr. S. Y. Hsue, Mr. and Mrs. L. Kornitzer, Mrs. G. Meuse, Miss A. Pereira, Mr. J. S. Ruble and family, Miss L. Taylor, Mrs. C. Thwaites, Mr. Yoshie, Mr. J. Langhammer, Rev. J. R. Lee, Mrs. M. Brix, Miss F. L. Laorence, Mr. H. L. McLelland, Mrs. C. G. McMahon, Mrs. M. Meyer, Mrs. E. B. Greer, Mr. F. Hofeman, Mr. J. J. John, Col. and Mrs. N. J. Lockett, Mr. G. Offord, Miss H. Santos, Mrs. V. Sorensen, Misses Sorensen (2), Mrs. R. Thomas, Mrs. J. W. Webber, Mr. B. Wilbur.

Per str. Hsin Peking, June 11. From Ningpo. Mrs. Sugg and child.

Per str. Fengtien, June 11. From Tientsin. Miss Manon, Miss Shaw, Mr. [illegible] from Canton, Mr. [illegible] Vanderwerk.

Per str. Luenyi, June 12. From River Ports. Miss Trixett.

Per str. Kaiping, June 12. From Chinwangtao. Mr. Cuthbertson.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, June 12. From Ningpo. Lord Addington.

Per str. Tuckwo, June 12. From River Ports. Mrs. S. Lankooskaya, Mr. [illegible] Vandewar, Mrs. J. Kennedy and two children.

Per str. Lychow, June 12. From Pakhoi. Mrs. and Mrs. Horne, Mrs. [illegible], Mr. [illegible]er, Miss M. Austin, Mr. Bickerton, Mr. [illegible]arper, Mr. Bentley, Mr. Sioczey.

Per str. Whangpu, June 13. From River Ports. Mr. Lecky.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Hsin Peking, June 6.—For Ningpo.—Mrs. L. Dioz.

Per str. Ngankin, June 6.—For River Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. E. Smebye and two children, Miss Kristoffersen.

Per str. P. & O. S. Sicilia, June 7.—For Bombay.—Mr. N. E. Chinwalla, Mr. H. Hiracka, Mr. K. Ismeloff, Mr. H. R. Mistry, Mr. R. Menashi.—**For Hongkong.**—Mr. N. Donald, Mr. C. H. Haslewood, Mr. C. Holt, Mr. R. Sawyer.

Per str. Shuntien, June 7.—For Tientsin.—Mrs. Macartney, Mrs. T. L. Macartney, Miss C. Hoas, Mr. Hall, Mr. T. T. Macartney, Mr. Birchall, Mr. B. G. Tennent, Mr. and Mrs. A. Pullen, Mrs. Gebley, Mrs. Macartney and two children.—**For Weihaiwei.**—Mrs. G. H. Wright, Mrs. Van Corback, Mrs. G. H. Wright's nurse and two children, Sir Edward Pearce, Lady Pearce, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Hopkyn Rees and two children, Mr. W. King.

Per str. Woosung, June 7.—For River Ports.—Mr. W. R. Stewart, Mrs. Marr, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Wu, Mrs. E. D. Alexander, Mr. Muller, Mrs. H. W. Daniels and child, Dr. Noelting, Mr. C. Elkier.

Per str. P.M.S. President Wilson, June 7.—For San Francisco, etc.—Mrs. F. V. Chamberlin, Mrs. B. Moss, Miss M. Mendel, Mrs. J. Eichwald and child, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Haile and children, Mrs. C. Seitz, Mr. C. Seitz, Mrs. L. Basset and family, Mr. J. P. Moller, Mrs. J. K. Davison and child, Miss V. Bernard, Miss V. Shelly, Miss N. Davis, Miss R. Parker, Mr. J. L. Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. Sokobin, Miss K. Skilling, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Jones and family, Mr. W. Palmer, Lieut. Commander J. W. McLaren, Rev. and Mrs. A. R. Callimore, Mr. M. Wolf, Mr. T. W. R. Wilson and family, Mr. C. Seitz, Dr. M. Lane.

Per str. Chengtu, June 8.—For Swatow.—Mr. L. K. Hall.

Per str. Luchow, June 8.—For Tsingtao.—Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Wolsiffer.

Per str. Sunning, June 8.—For Hongkong.—Mr. B. Henderson, Mr. Norric, [illegible] S. Shirokogoroff.

Per str. A.O.L.S. President Jefferson, June [illegible].—For Hongkong and Manila. [illegible] Washington Koo, Miss Hussey, Mr. [illegible] H. Miller, Miss Crawford, [illegible]gs, Mr. and Mrs. Taggart, Mr. [illegible], Mr. R. R. Roxburgh, Mr. [illegible]an, Miss Sayer, Mr. J. S. [illegible], Mr. T. K. Young, Mr. S. F. [illegible] Mr S. W. Vanaman, Mr. and [illegible] Mrs. C. C. Mallory, Mrs. [illegible] Hall, Mr. K. Nietsch, Mr. [illegible] Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Weisel, [illegible] Miss Noronlia, Mrs. Mar, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan, Miss Lowe, Mrs. D. Rolm and Miss Reardom.

Per str. Hsin Peking, June 9.—For Ningpo.—Miss Smith, Miss Palmer.

Per str. Szechuen, June 10.—For Hongkong.—Mr. Scott. **For Canton.**—Mr. N. Niloff, Mr. S. Remi, Mr. W. D. [illegible].

Per str. P. & O. S. Kashgar, June 10.—For Hongkong.—Mr. G. Adair, Mr. T. Adair, Mr. D. E. M. Drummond, Miss K. Fryer, Mr. A. W. Graham-Brown, Mr. J. H. Green, Miss B. Hilson, Mr. G. S. Johnson, Mr. A. C. Lofts, Mr. F. S. Wood. **For Singapore.**—Baron G. de Carters, Mr. C. T. Cooke, Mr. A. K. W. Gordon, Mrs. R. B. Stubbs. **For Colombo.**—Mr. M. Dosabhai, Mr. P. D. G. Gain. **For London.**—Sub.-Lt. C. S. Booth, Sub.-Lt. R. S. Brown, Miss L. E. Berry, Mr. D. H. Fookes, Sub.-Lt. E. B. Ford, Miss S. E. Foden, Mrs. N. Leslie and child, Sub.-Lt. A. R. G. Mills, Sub.-Lt. E. K. Le Mesurier, Sub.-Lt. D. G. I. Macintry, Sub.-Lt. N. B. Naugle, Mr. and Mrs. Palmer and child, Sub.-Lt. G. B. Palmer, Sub.-Lt. M. L. Power, Mr. and Mrs. Revill and child, Sub.-Lt. C. J. Smith, Miss F. K. Stewart, Miss A. G. Wilson, Miss L. Weber, Mr. A. J. White, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Young.

Per str. Tungchow, June 10.—For Chefoo.—Mrs. C. N. Ingraham. **For Weihaiwei.**—Miss C. N. Brown, Mr. C. N. Brown, Mrs. T. H. Hanbury, Mrs. F. Kemp and two children.

Per str. Poyang, June 11.—For River Ports.—Mrs. Sugg and child, Mrs. Hempstone, Miss B. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Butzboch, Mr. R. Gestreand.

Per str. Sinkiang, June 12.—For Amoy.—Miss M. Elliott, Miss L. de Pree, Master R. S. Elliott, Masters H. and D. Day, Mrs. J. Castro, Mr. Landsbert. **For Hongkong.**—Mr. Wherry.

Per A.O.L.S. President Jackson, June 12.—For Seattle, etc.—Miss F. Ruby, Mr. and Mrs. Henkel, Mrs. D. Briggs, Mr. R. L. Stevens and family, Mr. G. S. Sefershayan, Mr. and Mrs. Kutzenbach, Mr. M. Benjamin, Mrs. T. H. Harris, Mr. F. Laurence, Mr. R. R. Service and family, Dr. E. H. Brunemeir, Mr. C. J. Bushey, Mr. S. Ellis and family, Mrs. H. Danforth, Mr. and Mrs. C. Storm, Mr. J. A. Dixon, Mr. F. C. Eaton, Mr. E. O. Drake and family, Mr. T. H. Harris, Miss I. Harris, Mr. P. J. Mender, Mr. M. A. Kees and family, Mrs. Brunemeir and two children, Mrs. C. Bushey and two children.

Per str. Luen Yi, June 13.—For River Ports.—Mr. R. Slessor, Mr. A. W. Smtih, Mr. S. A. Simmonds.

Per str. Hsin Peking, June 13.—For Ningpo.—Mr. B. A. Da Cruz, Bishop Reynard, Rev. Father Dutilleul, Miss V. M. Murray.

Per str. Yingchow, June 14.—For Tsingtao.—Mrs. Collins, Master Collins, Miss Zimmerman, Mrs. Dell and child, Miss Lee, Mrs. Greenough, Misses Collins.

Per str. Luchow, June 14.—For Swatow.—Mrs. C. H. Lavers, Masters Lavers (2), Miss Capen, Master Giffen, Miss Giffen, Miss Lesher, Master H. Baker, Master C. Capen, Master Leavers. **For Canton.**—Master R. P. Wright, Master C. Dobson.

Per str. Fengtien, June 14.—For Chefoo.—Mrs. G. W. Simpson and two children, Mr. A. F. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Gibb, Mrs. A. E. Bishop, Mrs. Gregardo, Miss Hughes, Bishop Wittner, Rev. Father Huijeteque, Mrs. T. P. Riddle, Mrs. T. P. Riddle, Jun., Mr. and Mrs. Kammerling, Mrs. F. H. Hagler and two children. **For Tientsin.**—Mr. J. Wilson, Mr. N. Forrest, Misses Kammerling. **For Weihaiwei.**—Rev. Father Brun.

BIRTHS

BAKER.—On June 5, 1924, at Hankow, to Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Baker, a daughter.

SCHARPF.—On June 12, 1924, at 62 Seymour Road, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. O. Scharpf, a daughter.

MARRIAGES

DUNCAN—FINDLAY.—One June 6, 1924, at the British Consulate, Shanghai, before Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral by the Very Rev. C. J. F. Symons, M.A., Isobelle, daughter of the late James Findlay and of Mrs. Findlay, Dundee, Scotland, to James Douglas Fletcher Duncan, son of William Duncan, Banff, Scotland.

HODGES—HARRIS.—On May 7, 1924, at Bournemouth, England, Phyllis Ethel Harris, daughter of Captain and Mrs. J. B. Harris, late of Shanghai, to Charles Linton Hodges, of 25 Gerald Road, Bournemouth.

DEATHS

CLARK.—On June 7, 1924, at Kirkcaldy, Fife, Scotland, Helen Maggie, beloved wife of Davis D. Clark, in her 50th year, and eldest daughter of the late Wm. Youngson, Chinese Customs, and of Mrs. M. A. Youngson, Shanghai. Deeply regretted. (By cable).

GIUDICE.—On June 8, 1924, at the Hotel de France, Shanghai, Filippe Lo Giudice, aged 51 years.

HILBORNE.—On June 9, 1924, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, Philip Henry Hilborne, aged 40.

LANE.—On Saturday, June 7, 1924, at the Paulun Hospital, Shanghai, James Cecil Heauclerc Lane, late Captain Rifle Brigade, M.C.

LEACH.—On June 10, 1924, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, Alfred (Ginger) Leach, aged 63 years.

IN MEMORIAM

HERMITAGE.—In cherished memory of our dear little John, who passed away June 14, 1923, in his second year.
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SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month		Barometer 9 A.M. Reduced	Barometer 9 A.M. Attached Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer Thermometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer Thermometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
June	6	30.05	71.3	S	1	75.0	68.2	86.7	60.3	
„	7	30.04	71.8	S E	1	76.8	68.6	87.3	62.6	B.
„	8	29.93	72.4	S E	2	75.0	69.3	86.2	63.1	B
„	9	29.88	73.4	E S E	1	71.4	68.2	81.7	67.1	O.
„	10	29.78	74.1	S S W	1	80.1	71 8	82.2	67.8	O.
„	11	29.72	74.9	S S W	2	75.6	68.9	85.5	66 2	O
„	12	29.84	73.5	S S W	1	76.7	70.6	88.3	62.2	O.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date		Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Rainfall Inches 1923
June	6	65.0	64.0	83 4	80.0	Nil.	Nil.
„	7	65.4	69.0	82.6	74.0	Nil.	0.08
„	8	66.0	65.0	84 0	69.4	Nil.	1.75
„	9	69.0	65.0	79.8	77.0	0.25	0.02
„	10	72.0	65.0	81.0	82.4	Nil.	Nil.
„	11	68.0	68.2	84.0	92.4	Nil.	Nil.
„	12	67.0	73.4	87.8	82.6	Nil.	Nil

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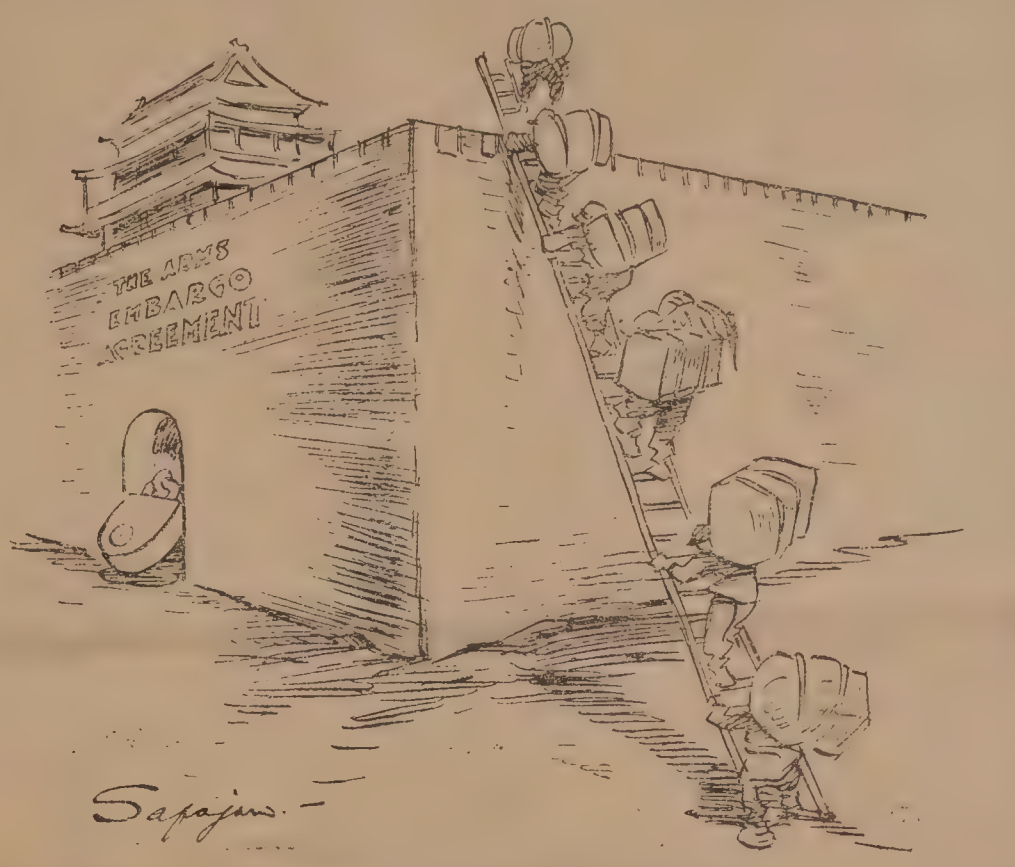

SHUTTING THE CHINESE STABLE DOOR

FULL TEXT OF RUSSO-CHINESE AGREEMENT

Important Details as Regards Chinese Eastern Railway Now Declared to Be a Purely Commercial Undertaking: Chinese Director-General and Russian Manager

PRESENT OCCUPANTS OF RUSSIAN CHURCH PROPERTY TO BE EVICTED BY CHINESE

Peking, June 17.

The following is the full text of the Sino-Russian Agreement, ratified by the Chinese Government to-day:—

Agreement on General Principles for the Settlement of the questions between the Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, desiring to re-establish normal relations with each other, have agreed to conclude an agreement on general principles for the settlement of the questions between the two countries, and have to that end named as their plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

His Excellency the President of the Republic of China: Vi Kyuin Wellington Koo.

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Lev Mikhailovitch Karakhan.

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles:

Article 1.—Immediately upon the signing of the present agreement, the normal diplomatic and consular relations between the two contracting parties shall be re-established.

The Government of the Republic of China agrees to take the necessary steps to transfer to the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics the Legation and Consular buildings formerly belonging to the Tsarist Government.

Article II.—The Governments of the two contracting parties agree to hold, within one month after the signing of the present agreement, a conference which shall conclude and carry out detailed arrangements relative to the questions in accordance with the principles as provided in the following Articles.

Such detailed arrangements shall be completed as soon as possible and, in any case, not later than six months from the date of the opening of the conference as provided in the preceding paragraph.

Article III.—The Governments of the two contracting parties agree to annul at the conference as provided in the preceding Article II, conventions, treaties, agreements, protocols, contracts, etc., concluded between the Government of China and the Tsarist Government and to replace them with new treaties, agreements, etc., on the basis of equality, reciprocity and justice, as well as the spirit of the declarations of the Soviet Government of the years of 1919 and 1920.

Article IV.—The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in accordance with its policy and declarations of 1919 and 1920, declares that all treaties, agreements, etc., concluded between the former Tsarist Government and any third party or parties affecting the sovereign rights or interests of China, are null and void.

The Governments of both contracting parties declare that in future neither Government will conclude any treaties or agreements which prejudice the sovereign rights or interests of either contracting party.

Outer Mongolia

Article V.—The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics recognizes that Outer Mongolia is an integral part of the Republic of China and respects China's sovereignty therein.

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics declares that as soon as the questions for the withdrawal of all the troops of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics from Outer Mongolia, namely, as to the time-limit of the withdrawal of such troops and the measures to be adopted in the interests of the safety of the frontiers, are agreed upon at the conference as provided in Article II of the present agreement, it will effect the complete withdrawal of all the troops of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics from Outer Mongolia.

Article VI.—The Governments of the two contracting parties mutually pledge themselves not to permit, within their respective territories, the existence and/or activities of any organizations or group whose aim is to struggle by acts of violence against the Governments of either contracting party.

The Governments of the two contracting parties further pledge themselves not to engage in propaganda directed against the political and social systems of either contracting party.

Article VII.—The Governments of the two contracting parties agree to redemarcate their national boundaries at the conference as provided in Article II of the present agreement, and pending such redemarcation, to maintain the present boundaries.

Article VIII.—The Governments of the two contracting parties agree to regulate at the forementioned conference the questions relating to the navigation of rivers, lakes and other bodies of water which are common to their respective frontiers, on the basis of equality and reciprocity.

Chinese Eastern Railway

Article IX.—The Governments of the two contracting parties agree to settle at the aforementioned conference the question of the Chinese Eastern Railway in conformity with the principles as hereinafter provided:

(1) The Governments of the two contracting parties declare that the Chinese Eastern Railway is a purely commercial enterprise.

The Governments of the two contracting parties mutually declare that with the exception of matters pertaining to the business operations which are under the direct control of the Chinese Eastern Railway, all other matters affecting the rights of the National and the Local Governments of the Republic of China such as judicial matters, matters relating to civil administration, military administration, police, municipal government, taxation, and landed property (with the exception of lands required by the said railway) shall be administered by the Chinese authorities.

(2) The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees to the redemption by the Government of the Republic of China, with Chinese capital, of the Chinese Eastern Railway, as well as all appurtenant properties, and to the transfer to China of all shares and bonds of the said railway.

Redemption of the Railway

(3) The Governments of the two contracting parties shall settle at the conference as provided in Article 2 of the present agreement, the amount and conditions governing the redemption as well as the procedure for the transfer of the Chinese Eastern Railway.

(4) The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees to be responsible for the entire claims of the shareholders, bondholders and creditors of the Chinese Eastern Railway incurred prior to the Revolution of March 9, 1917.

(5) The Governments of the two contracting parties mutually agree that the future of the Chinese Eastern Railway shall be determined by the Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the exclusion of any third party or parties.

(6) The Governments of the two contracting parties agree to draw up an arrangement for the provisional management of the Chinese Eastern Railway pending the settlement of the question as provided under section (3) of the present Article.

(7) Until the various questions relating to the Chinese Eastern Railway are settled at the conference as provided in article II of the present agreement, the rights of the two Governments arising out of the contract of Aug. 27-Sept. 8, 1896, for the construction and operation of the Chinese Eastern Railway, which do not conflict with the present agreement and the agreement for the provisional management of the said railway and which do not prejudice China's rights of sovereignty, shall be maintained.

Extraterritoriality, Concessions and Indemnity

Article X.—The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees to renounce the special rights and privileges relating to all concessions in any part of China acquired by the Tsarist Government under various conventions, treaties, agreements, etc.

Article XI.—The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees to renounce the Russian portion of the Boxer indemnity.

Article XII.—The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees to relinquish the rights of extraterritoriality and Consular Jurisdiction.

Article XIII.—The Governments of the two contracting parties agree to draw up simultaneously with the conclusion of a Commercial Treaty at the Conference as provided in Article II of the present Agreement, a customs tariff for the two contracting parties in accordance with the principles of equality and reciprocity.

Article XIV.—The Governments of the two contracting parties agree to discuss at the aforementioned Conference the questions relating to the claims for the compensation of losses.

Article XV.—The present Agreement shall come into effect from the date of signature.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentaries have signed the present Agreement in duplicate in the English language and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at the city of Peking this 31st day of the fifth month of the 13th. year of the Republic of China, which is, the 31st day of May one thousand nine hundred and twenty four.

(Seal) V. K. Wellington Koo.

(Seal) L. M. Karakhan.

Agreement for the Provisional Management of the Chinese Eastern Railway:

The Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics mutually recognizing that, inasmuch as the Chinese Eastern Railway was built with capital furnished by the Russian Government and constructed entirely within Chinese territory, the said railway is a purely commercial enterprise and that, excepting for matters appertaining to its own business operations, all other matters which affect the rights of the Chinese National and Local Governments shall be administered by the Chinese authorities, have agreed to conclude an agreement for the provisional management of the railway with a view to carrying on jointly the management of the said railway until its final settlement at the conference as provided in Article II of the Agreement on General Principles for the settlement of the questions between the Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of May 31, 1924, and have to that end named as their Plenipotentaries, that is to say:

His Excellency the President of the Republic of China: Vi Kyuin Wellington Koo.

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Lev Mikailovitch Karakhan.

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

Article I.—The Railway shall establish, for discussion and decision of all matters relative to the Chinese Eastern Railway, a Board of Directors to be composed of 10 persons, of whom five shall be appointed by the Government of the Republic of China and five by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Chinese Director-General

The Government of the Republic of China shall appoint one of the Chinese Directors as President of the Board of Directors, who shall also be the Director-General.

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall appoint one of the Russian Directors as Vice-President of the Board of Directors, who shall also be the Assistant Director-General.

Seven persons shall constitute a quorum, and all decisions of the Board of Directors shall have the consent of not less than six persons before they can be carried out.

The Director-General and Assistant Director-General shall jointly manage the affairs of the Board of Directors and they shall both sign all the documents of the Board.

In the absence of either the Director-General or the Assistant Director-General, their respective Governments may appoint another Director to officiate as the Director-General or the Assistant Director General (in the case of the Director-General, by one of the Chinese Directors, and in that of the Assistant Director-General, by one of the Russian Directors).

Article II.—The Railway shall establish a Board of Auditors to be composed of five persons, namely, two Chinese Auditors, who shall be appointed by the Government of the Republic of China and three Russian auditors who shall be appointed by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The Chairman of the Board of Auditors shall be elected from among the Chinese Auditors.

Russian Manager

Article III.—The Railway shall have a Manager, who shall be a national of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and two Assistant Managers, one to be a national of the Republic of China and the other to be a national of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The said officers shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and such appointments shall be confirmed by their respective Governments.

The rights and duties of the Manager and the Assistant Managers shall be defined by the Board of Directors.

Article IV.—The Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs of the various departments of the Railway shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.

If the Chief of Department is a national of the Republic of China, the Assistant Chief of Department shall be a national of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and if the Chief of Department is a national of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Assistant Chief of Department shall be a national of the Republic of China.

Article V.—The employment of persons in the various departments of the Railway shall be in accordance with the principle of equal representation between the nationals of the Republic of China and those of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Article VI.—With the exception of the estimates and budget, as provided in Article VII of the present agreement, all other matters on which the Board of Directors cannot reach an agreement shall be referred for settlement to the Governments of the contracting parties.

Article VII.—The Board of Directors shall present the estimates and budget of the Railway to a joint meeting of the Board of Directors and the Board of Auditors for consideration and approval.

Article VIII.—All the net profits of the Railway shall be held by the Board of Directors and shall not be used pending a final settlement of the question of the present railway.

Revision of Statutes

Article IX.—The Board of Directors shall revise as soon as possible the statutes of the Chinese Eastern Railway Company, approved on December 4, 1896, by the Tsarist Government, in accordance with the present agreement and the Agreement on General Principles for the settlement of the questions between the Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of May 31, 1924, and in any case, not later than six months from the date of the constitution of the Board of Directors. Pending their revision, the aforesaid statutes, insofar as they do not conflict with the present Agreement on General Principles for the settlement of the questions between the Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and do not prejudice the rights of sovereignty of the Republic of China, shall continue to be observed.

Article X.—The present agreement shall cease to have effect as soon as the question of the Chinese Eastern Railway is finally settled at the conference as provided in Article II of the Agreement on General Principles for the Settlement of the Questions between the Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of May 31,1924.

Article XI.—The present agreement shall come into effect from the date of signature.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present agreement in duplicate and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at the city of Peking, etc. etc.

Exchange of Property

Declaration I.—The Government of the Republic of China and the Government of the U.S.S.R. declare that immediately after the signing of the Agreement on General Principles between the Republic of China and the U.S.S.R. of May 31, 1924, they will reciprocally hand over to each other all the real estate and movable property owned by China and the former Tsarist Government and found in their respective territories. For this purpose each Government will furnish the other with a list of the property to be so transferred.

In faith whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the two contracting parties have signed the present declaration in duplicate in the English language and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at the City of Peking, etc.

Russian Church in China

Declaration II.—The Government of the Republic of China and the Government of the U.S.S.R. hereby declare that it is understood that with regard to the buildings and landed property of the Russian Orthodox Mission belonging as it does to the Government of the U.S.S.R. the question of the transfer or other suitable disposal of the same will be jointly determined at the conference provided in Article II of the Agreement on General Principles in accordance with the internal laws and regulations existing in China regarding property-holding in the inland. As regards the buildings and property of the Russian Orthodox Mission belonging as it does to the Government of the U.S.S.R. at Peking and Patachu, the Chinese Government will take steps immediately to transfer same as soon as the Government of the U.S.S.R. will designate a Chinese person or organization in accordance with the laws and regulations existing in China regarding property-holding in the inland.

Meanwhile the Government of the Republic of China will at once take measures with a view to guarding all the said buildings and property and clearing them from all the persons now living there.

It is further understood that this expression of understanding has the same force and validity as a general declaration embodied in the said Agreement on General Principles.

In faith whereof, etc., etc.

Declaration III.—The Government of the Republic of China and the Government of the U.S.S.R. jointly declare that it is understood that with reference to Article IV of the Agreement on General Principles, the Government of the Republic of China will not and does not recognize as valid any treaty, agreement, etc., concluded between Russia since the Tsarist *régime* and any third party or parties, affecting the sovereign rights and interests of the Republic of China. It is further understood that this expression of understanding has the same force and validity as a general declaration, etc., etc.

Declaration IV.—The Government of the Republic of China and the Government of the U.S.S.R. jointly declare that it is understood that the Government of the Republic of China will not transfer either in part or in whole to any third Power or any foreign organization the special rights and privileges renounced by the Government of the U.S.S.R. in Article X of the Agreement on General Principles. It is further understood that this expression of understanding has the same force, etc., etc.

Indemnity for Education

Declaration V.—The Government of the Republic of China and the Government of the U.S.S.R. jointly declare that it is understood that with reference to Article XI of the Agreement on General Principles:

(1) The Russian share of the Boxer Indemnity which the Government of the U.S.S.R. renounces will after the satisfaction of all prior obligations secured thereon be entirely appropriated to create a fund for the promotion of education among the Chinese people.

(2) A Special Commission will be established to administer and allocate the said fund. This Commission will consist of three persons, two of whom will be appointed by the Government of the Republic of China and one by the Government of the U.S.S.R. Decisions of the said Commission will be taken by unanimous vote.

(3) The said fund will be deposited as it accrues from time to time in a bank to be designated by the said Commission.

It is further understood, etc.

Fair Treatment for Russians

Declaration VI.—The Government of the Republic of China and the Government of the U.S.S.R. agree that they will establish equitable provisions at the Conference as provided in Article II of the Agreement for the regulation of the situation created for the citizens of the Government of the U.S.S.R. by the relinquishment of the rights of extraterritoriality and Consular jurisdiction under Article XII of the aforementioned Agreement, it being understood, however that the nationals of the Government of the U.S.S.R. shall be entirely amenable to Chinese jurisdiction.

In faith whereof, etc., etc.

Declaration VII.—The Government of the Republic of China and the Government of the U.S.S.R. having signed the Agreement on General Principles, hereby agree, in explanation of Article V of the Agreement for the provisional management of the Chinese Eastern Railway, which provides for the principle of equal representation in the filling of posts by citizens of the Republic of China and those of the U.S.S.R. that the application of this principle is not to be understood to mean that the present employees of Russian nationality shall be dismissed for the sole purpose of enforcing the said principle. It is further understood that access to all posts is equally open to citizens of both contracting parties, that no special preference shall be shown to either nationality, and that the posts shall be filled in accordance with the ability and technical as well as educational qualifications of the applicant.

In faith where, etc., ec.

Russians in Chinese Army and Police

Peking, May 31, 1924.

Mr. L. M. Karakhan,
Extraordinary Plenipotentiary Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Republic of China,
Peking.

Dear Mr. Karakhan;

On behalf of my Government, I have the honour to declare that, an Agreement on General Principles for the settlement of the questions between the Republic of China and the U.S.S.R. having been signed between us to-day, the Government of the Republic of China will, in the interests of friendship between the Republic of China and the U.S.S.R., discontinue the services of all the subjects of the former Russian Empire now employed in the Chinese Army and Police Force, as they constitute by their presence or activities a menace to the safety of the U.S.S.R. If you will furnish my Government with a list of such persons the authorities concerned will be instructed to adopt the necessary action.

I have the honour to remain, etc.,
(Signed) V. K. Wellington Koo,
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China.

Peking, May 31, 1924.

Dear Doctor Koo,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the following note from you under this date:

(Here follows the text of Dr. Koo's note given above).

In reply I beg to state on behalf of my Government, that I have taken note of the same and that I agree to the proposition contained therein.

I have the honour to be,
Very truly yours,
L. M. Karakhan.
Extraordinary Plenipotentiary etc., etc.

A Protest from Manchuria

Peking, June 18.

The Provincial Assembly and other public bodies of Fengtien have sent out a circular telegram stating that they have no special objection to China's resumption of formal relations with Russia, but they feel constrained to raise objection to the fact that Russia made the agreement with the Peking Government, which has no knowledge, says the telegram, of actual conditions in Manchuria. The telegram declares that they will never recognize any of the treaties concluded by Peking since May, 1921, and they feel sure that the unanimous public opinion of the Manchurian Provinces will not be disregarded by Marshal Chang Tso-lin.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TRADE MARKS LAW

Period for Registration Now Extended Until December 31

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, June 17.

The Chinese Government has agreed to extend the period for the registration of trade marks already recorded with the Customs to December 31, 1924. According to the previous Note the period for registration was to terminate on the 30th instant.

Many Foreign Firms Registering

June 19.

The Trademark Law is beginning to be accepted by foreign firms. The Trademark Bureau, I am informed, have already received several English and American application, notably from the British-American Tobacco Co. They are also overwhelmed with Japanese and German applications.

The English copy of the Trademark Bulletin, with photographs, is now in the press and will be issued shortly.

The Chinese say that a good deal of the opposition among foreigners is founded on misunderstanding of the text of the law, to remove which an official translation has been prepared for early issue.

Although it is said that a foreign expert has been engaged, I cannot yet verify the report.

THE SINO-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS

Germany's Liability for China's Losses During the Great War

THE HANDING OVER OF GERMAN BONDS

Peking, June 16.

The "Chingpao" and the "Chenpao" state that the following report was submitted to the Cabinet by the Ministries of Finance and Communications at the special meeting called on the evening of the 5th instant, when the report was approved and it was decided to go on with the settlement of the Sino-German agreement:—

Since China's entry into the Great War her losses, according to reports received from various provincial authorities, amounted to upwards of $122,000,000., while her losses due to participation in the war totalled more than $100,500,000., making a total of some $223,000,000.

As the result of negotiations between the Waichiaopu and German representatives in 1921, when the Sino-German Treaty was signed, Germany undertook, in accordance with the general provisions of the Wilson Peace Treaty, to compensate China for her losses, including the cost of interning German subjects in China. The cost of internment, however, has been paid and can be ruled out.

In principle, according to the Peace Treaty, Germany is liable only for expenses incurred in warfare on land, at sea and in the air, also direct losses and the cost of pensions for killed and wounded troops. Therefore, the war participation expenses of China, $100,500,000. cannot be claimed in full as military expenses must be excluded as Chinese troops did not go into the field.

The sum of $122,000,000 represents both direct and indirect losses. It includes increased expenditure due to the increased cost of such commodities as coal, and debts owing to Chinese by Germans. On the other hand, debts owing to Germans by the Chinese Government and funds derived from the forfeiture of German property in China amounted to between 40 and 50 millions of dollars. According to international usage China cannot repudiate these liabilities.

As regards German bonds, although payment of principal and interest was suspended during the war, now that peace has been restored between the two countries these suspensions can no longer be continued. Moreover, these are bearer bonds which have been in circulation in various countries, the holders not being confined to German nationality.

China at first desired to cancel these bonds but protests were received by foreign Ministers in Peking in behalf of their nationals who held these bonds. This question led to trouble with the London Stock Exchange, and it became necessary to abandon this intention. Now the German Government will hand over to the Chinese Government:—first, Tientsin-Pukow bonds to the face value of £1,400,000., to be assessed at the market value, thus representing £957,000; and second, Tientsin-Pukow bonds, face value £950,000, market value £627,000 and Hukuang bonds, face value £381,000, market value £202,269.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, June 16.

Backed by the Opposition, a group of parliamentarians have, it is reported, written to the German Minister pointing out that the Sino-German Agreement is looked upon as supplementing the Sino-German Treaty and that, under the Constitution, no treaty can be put into operation until it has received Parliament's approval.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MONGOLIAN CONFERENCE

Peking, June 13.

The Joluho Hutukhtu of Western Mongolia arrived in Peking yesterday and called on Prince Kalaching to express his approval of the Mongolian conference. He was offered and accepted a seat in the conference.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

LEADING ARTICLES

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HOUSES AT OTHER PEOPLE'S EXPENSE

June 16.

IF—there is much virtue in an if—if we had not to pay rent and its concomitant evils of taxes, lighting, water rates, etc., how happy we should be. There are certain lowly organisms that are ushered into the world provided with a shelter that automatically adjusts itself to their progressive development. But though we may appreciate the point of view of the worried hotel clerk who wished that the persistent boarder, who had lost his luggage, "had been born an elephant, for then he would have carried his trunk with him," we would rather bear the ills we have than carry our houses on our backs like the snail. Being the lords of creation, we come into the world the least fitted of all living things to fend for ourselves and, ere long, find ourselves under an obligation to provide a shelter for ourselves and those dependent on us. We are not long in discovering that the providing of this shelter is the white man's burden and a life-long handicap in that race which has but one ending. Rent is the companion spectre to poverty when it looks in at the poor man's window; it is the recurring decimal that complicates the solution of life's greatest problem.

When war broke out in 1914 everyone anticipated that rents would fall with a crash and for a little while good houses could be rented for a song. The men were away at the front and their womenfolk often closed up house for "the duration" of the war that was to last for six weeks or months at the longest. During the second year of the war a shortage of houses began to be felt. Rents soared to such an extent that a Rent Restriction Act had to be passed in 1915. How very necessary action of this kind was is shown by a report of the Comptroller for Manchester of the result of de-controlling seven houses in his area in 1921. As soon as the landlords regained unrestrained control of the property rents were increased from 84 to 195 per cent. Or, on an average over the whole seven houses, of 136 per cent. It will readily be seen that great hardship must have been inflicted on the families of the men fighting at the front had the Rent Restriction Act not been passed and the profiteers been allowed a free hand to turn out the families of the ill-paid soldiers in favour of the munition workers who were making fabulous wages in the abnormal circumstances then prevailing.

The unforeseen result of Rent Restriction was that capital sought more remunerative employment than there was to be found in house-building and the shortage of houses was steadily accentuated. To remedy this state of things tthe Government embarked on a policy of subsidizing house building in Acts sponsored, in the Liberal Government, by Dr. Addison and, in the Conservative, by Mr. Neville Chamberlain. Houses built under these acts cost £500 each and were rented at £39 per annum, inclusive of taxes. The money received in rent failed to cover the cost of interest, repairs and depreciation by some £10 per year and this had to be made good, by the Corporations providing the houses, out of rates and taxes. Mr. MacDonald, the present Prime Minister, now realizes that under the present moderate subsidy private enterprise will not be tempted into the business of house-building and he has introduced a comprehensive scheme in which he proposes to build 2,000 houses at a cost of £500 each. The rental is to be fixed at £23 per annum and the yearly subsidy to cover loss on the houses at this rental is to be about £26. The tenant will thus pay less than 50 per cent. of the rent that would have to be charged to him if the houses were built as a business proposition pure and simple. It is stipulated that the houses shall be let only to working men, but whether this phrase covers the humble clerk or is to be taken to mean manual workers only, who are usually more comfortable than their better looking but worse paid brothers of the pen, is not yet settled. If this proposal were carried into effect it would go far to solve the rent problem for those fortunate enough to get possession of one of the subsidized houses, but the less fortunate citizens who will have to pay full rent for the houses they themselves occupy and, at the same time, be taxed to make up the 50 per cent. due on the houses occupied by those who have "got in on the ground floor" may be pardoned if they fail to see the full beauty of the scheme. This would seem to prognosticate stormy times ahead before this housing bill is written on the statute book as the law of England. Nevertheless, there are a few points on which all parties seem to be agreed. The first is that a comprehensive house-building scheme is necessary and must be undertaken. The second is that to make an omelette it is necessary to break eggs and to get the cheap houses that must be had a subsidy is necessary. Just how much that subsidy should be and how it should be paid are details which may occasion some friction, but need not bring about the rejection of the scheme. It will be interesting to watch the debates that will ensue before the bill takes on its final form.

THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

June 17.

THE selection of President Coolidge for re-election and the nomination of General Dawes to the Vice-Presidency clearly indicates that the Republican party goes to the country for an endorsement of the policies of President Harding and his successor, the present incumbent in that high office. That President Coolidge would be the bannerbearer of this party was to be expected, since the nomination of any other person would have indicated an admission of error during the past administration and would have assured defeat for the Republican Party. President Coolidge has shown great force of character in his attitude toward many questions rising during the unexpired term of President Harding. He has been called upon to continue policies which he had no hand in forming and to justify acts for which he could not be personally responsible. He was faced with a gross scandal which shook the whole country and brought opprobrium upon men in high station. He was faced with a political revolt in his own party and a recalcitrant Congress which would have weakened the power of the executive branch of the American Government, were it not for his firm insistence upon constitutional government.

All this President Coolidge met with unusual personal bravery and with what appeared to many an utter disregard for his own political future. It was thought for a time that those who were politically his enemies and whom he had braved in his messages would secure his defeat for the Presidential nomination. It was believed that they would, by oratory and the fiery gestures of party politics, make it difficult for him to lead his own party. Yet, his nomination was by acclamation, no other name being suggested. Strength of character, a firm sense of right, political vision and statesmanship won the over the radicalism of sectional politics.

The selection of General Dawes, however, was not anticipated. Several names had been mentioned, but his was not among them. He was the usual "dark horse," whose appearance at American political conventions makes them so interesting. His selection is a recognition of his unusually excellent services in connexion with the reparations issue in Germany and of his popularity with the men of his own party. General Dawes is a figure in the American Legion which at present is not taking kindly to President Coolidge because of his independent and fearless attitude toward the bonus for soldiers who had served in the Great War. The Vice-Presidency in the United States has been a side issue, an office for satisfying "favourite sons" of important states who otherwise might not be happy in the party councils. The unfortunate overburdening of the American President with labours so multifarious and onerous as to lessen his resistance and to impair his health has led to a strong desire to fill that office with men of true presidential calibre. General Dawes is just such a man. A banker, a military man, an organizer of big business enterprise, a fighter for his beliefs, he could be a President were fate to make him one.

General Dawes will probably conduct the campaign for the Republican Party, it not being customary for the President to go before the people in his own interest. President Coolidge, who is unusually taciturn, whose words are few, but whose character seems to be made of that New England steel which produced the founders of the American nation, will undoubtedly sit quietly in the White House and listen to the abuse heaped upon him by opponents during the campaign. In General Dawes, however, he will have a lieutenant who can give as he can take, a fighter with an exceedingly powerful punch, a Rooseveltian character of vigorous decisions and unstinted effort. His familiarity with international problems, his knowledge of the European situation and his clear-mindedness will undoubtedly appeal to many voters in the United States, particularly that element, constantly growing larger and more influential, which desires to see their country resume a greater interest in the solution of the international problems arising out of the War.

SIR Beilby Alston (his Mapesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Buenos Aires) had an audience of the King at Buckingdoh Palace no May 13.

CHINA'S UNWIELDY POPULATION

June 18.

AT the close of the eighteenth century, when the population of England and Wales was less than nine millions, an English clergyman named Malthus wrote an essay on the "Principle of Population as it affects the future Improvement of Society" in which he warned social optimists that the natural tendency of population is to increase faster than the means of subsistence, and when this happens it necessarily means poverty and misery for a very large number. Since his day the problem has become more acute. At the time of the Norman Conquest the population of England and Wales was about two millions. In 1801 it was 8,892,536, having multiplied fourfold during this long period. But in 1851 it was 17,927,609; in 1901, 32,527,843, and in 1911 it was 36,070,492. In other words, the increase between 1801-1911 was as great relatively as during the preceding eight centuries. So with other Western nations. The population of Europe in 1801 was 150,000,000; in 1914 it was 450,000,000. The 3,000,000 colonists in America who revolted against Great Britain in 1776 are now represented by a nation of 110 millions.

This portentous increase has taken place in spite of many checks, both positive and preventive. The positive checks are, as stated by Malthus, "unwholesome occupations, severe labour and exposure to the seasons, extreme poverty, bad nursing of children, large towns, excesses of all kinds, the whole train of common diseases and epidemics, wars, plague, and famine." The principal preventive check mentioned by him is the prudential one of not marrying until ample provision has been made for the children likely to be born. Since his time a far more effective check has been found in the voluntary limitation of births. Nowadays, people marry and do not have children unless they want them. The consequence is that the birth-rate in England and Wales, which in 1881 was 34.7 per thousand, has been reduced by voluntary limitation to 19.7 in 1923, the lowest recorded except during the war years 1917-1919.

Nevertheless, the white peoples are still increasing steadily though at a diminished rate. In the Orient, however, there is no voluntary restriction and the increase is much more rapid. Consider China for instance, with its immense population of 400 millions, and with the men all desiring numerous offspring for religious reasons. The causes which were formerly operative in checking increase of population are being removed or weakened. The epidemic of pneumonic plague in 1921 which might easily have swept over the land and destroyed half the population, was stayed by means of medical science with a loss of only 8,000 lives. The knowledge of public health and hygiene, now being spread everywhere, is reducing the incidence of disease, and the instruction in the proper care of babies is lowering the frightful infant mortality. Famine sufferers are relieved instead of perishing as formerly. Other nations are protecting China from decimation by war. As to internal strife it is not very restrictive; the political change from the monarchy to a republic was accomplished with a loss of life insignificant compared with the loss during the Taiping rebellion. Unchecked, it looks as though the Chinese may so increase as to swamp the world.

Fortunately or unfortunately, as we choose to view it, the Chinese are acquiring from the West, but not from missionaries, the knowledge that if used will prevent an inordinate increase. In a recent article in the "Chinese Social and Political Science Review," the Chinese writer, after discussing the religious and political and social changes now taking place in China and remarking that "the old commandment making the childless a sinner is no longer taken seriously," goes on to say;

"Strange as it may seem, the talk on birth control, unwelcome even in many Western countries, is having a large audience in China, where the Chinese socialistic conception of the family might be expected to furnish the strongest opposition to it. The truth is that the opposition has been great, but not great enough to stop the talk. The talk has been going on unmolested; starting with a handful of radicals, it is now enlisting the leaders of society. It is in the present month that the 'Woman's Journal,' similar in its influence to "The Ladies' Home Journal' in America, issued a special number on birth control. The issue contains 24 articles discussing birth control from the standpoints of ethics, religion, biology, physiology, medicine, education, sociology, socialism, etc., suggesting actual solution of the problem, and voicing a uniform unconditional approval of birth control in China. It would be tedious to mention the special numbers on the same topic of smaller magazines. Suffice it to say, birth control is rapidly gaining ground in China. That even as individualistic an idea as birth control could have prevailed in China indicates a complete destruction of the Chinese socialistic conception of the family."

This is a subject involving tremendous issues. For the present we can only ask the question: Is it likely that the ancient faith of the Chinese in the solidarity and interdependence of the living and the dead with the accompanying rites and ceremonies of ancestral worship, which has held the nation together for thousand of years, is going to be vanquished easily by foreign influences? We think not. The Chinese women who hold advanced views will simply find their place in the home taken by those who do not object to motherhood. Therefore it seems at present as if China is going to increase and multiply without serious check. Likewise the populations of Japan and India. As over-population without a corresponding increase in the means of subsistence leads to grim economic struggles, wars of extermination, poverty, unemployment, and a high death-rate, the outlook is not very promising.

OIL RIGHTS IN SAGHALIEN

June 19.

ACCORDING to the *"Osaka Mainichi"* quoted to-day, a group of important Japanese concerns are about to spend a large sum of money in prospecting for oil in the island of Saghalien. Our Peking correspondent recently dwelt on the great interest which the Japanese take in the oil possibilities of Saghalien, which, he prophesied, would play an important part in the negotiations for recognition and other matters between Japan and Russia. Our correspondent expressed the belief that Japan would be quite willing to buy Northern Saghalien, and he speculated as to whether Moscow, if it were disposed to sell, would be able to get rid of the American Sinclair Syndicate, to which it granted an extensive tract in Saghalien in 1921, extending up the eastern coast from just above Lat. 50° to the regions of Lat, 53°, a strip of some 200 miles in length by perhaps three and a half deep.

One is inclined to doubt whether Moscow would ever be disposed to sell its remaining half of Saghalien. But supposing that it were, it is important to

point out that other concessionaires besides the Sinclair Syndicate have claims on Saghalien. In pre-revolution days this island belonged to the imperial privy purse and the Emperor gave considerable portions of it to Court favourites, many of whom parted with their property to foreign syndicates. Bolshevik maps of to-day, which are in point of fact merely reproductions of surveys made in Tsarist days, show numerous deposits of minerals of various kinds, which are undoubledly identical with gifts of land made at different times by the Emperor. In the year 1889 the Emperor gave to a Russian colonel a piece of land, the potentialities of which appear to be decidedly rich. The new owner made attempts in various directions abroad to get his concession financed and worked, but without much success until the year 1909, when he brought it to Shanghai.

Here he got a number of British subjects to invest money in the land and surveys were actually made and a little boring was done, it seems with no unpromising results. For one reason or another, however, work was not proceeded with—possibly the intervention of the rubber boom year was against it—and of course once the war began there was no more doing anything, although there is reason to believe that before their final evacuation of Vladivostok and general withdrawal from Russian territories, the Japanese had been getting oil from the concession. Representations have been made to the Soviet by the British owners and, if they have not actually been acknowledged, they have not been repudiated. Apart from any question of whether there is or is not oil in paying quantities on the land, the existence of the claim is an interesting complication not to be ignored.

ARMED ROBBERS AND THEIR ARMS

June 19.

THE encounter between police and armed robbers on Sunday afternoon in the western district is welcome for other reasons than that it resulted in the death or capture of the ruffians. Happening as it did in broad daylight, in some of the best known roads of Shanghai, it naturally attracts far more attention than if it had occurred at night in a slum. And it is time that public attention were aroused to the very serious prevalence of armed robbery and the smuggling of arms. Certainly not a week passes without its instance of one or the other. The resulting danger to life is extremely grave. On Sunday afternoon the injuries received by the pursuing party were, happily, slight. But one foreign lady had a narrow escape of being hit in her motor-car and, as things are, almost at any moment some one might be hit and killed. It is easy to imagine what an outcry would be raised, while at the same time it would be absurd and most unfair to the police to say that they must not shoot on such occasions. Too much admiration can hardly be felt for the courage and devotion with which the police generally, of all branches and nationalities, carry on the war against armed robbers. For not only is that work of the highest danger, but the police are hampered in doing it by their inability to prevent arms from entering Shanghai and by the inadequacy of the punishment for men found in possession of them.

It must be remembered that the police have no control either over the harbour or on its banks and wharves. That is in the hands of the Customs. As we have paid tribute to the work of the Settlement police, so would we certainly render it to that of the Customs men. With miserably inadequate forces for the large area they have to cover, the Customs police do astonishingly good work in seizing contraband. As the result of pressure by the Chambers of Commerce, their numbers are to be increased. But however many of them there are, their success in capturing arms on their arrival cannot be so effective as would be some means of stopping the smuggled consignments at the port of shipment. The public are justified in asking whether such means are available and, if they are, why they are not used. This, it appears to us, is a matter for the Consular Body, on account of the many issues involved, and they cannot be too strongly urged to take action. With the same Body does it lie to stiffen the penalties for smuggling arms, for dealing in smuggled arms, and for being in possession of them. Not long ago we drew attention to the special ordinance now in force in Hongkong, which empowers magistrates to inflict many years of imprisonment and the "cat" for these offences. Corporal punishment is, unhappily, past praying for in Shanghai. But even the terms of imprisonment that are or actually can be inflicted in local courts are absolutely derisory and provide no deterrent either for Chinese or foreigners. It is grossly unfair to the police that they should have to work under such disabilities and inasmuch as the public's safety is also involved, as shown by the affair on Sunday afternoon, they too have the strongest interest in demanding that more energetic measures be employed than are available for coping both with the armed robber and the man who supplies him with arms.

In conclusion a word may be said of what would happen in the case of a policeman killed by armed robbers. In this the specials are as much concerned as the regulars, possibly more so, in that so large a proportion of them are married. These men take their share of night patrolling and also in search parties and round-ups. Hitherto only one of them has been wounded, Mr. Rebsamen: he was fully compensated by the Council, and there cannot be the slightest doubt that in any similar or worse case the Council would deal liberally. But as matters stand, the amount of compensation is at the Council's pleasure: there is no kind of insurance either for regular or special police, and one cannot but think that it would be more satisfactory in all ways if there were.

COLD SHOULDER TO THE DOMINIONS

June 20.

IT is indeed tragic that a resolution so momentous as the very modest measure of Imperial preference moved by Mr. Stanley Baldwin should be thrown out, in one case by a mere six votes, in others by but little more. Mr. Baldwin had ten resolutions to urge: the first four gave preference to imperial products without extra charge to the foreign; the last six would have added to the taxation on foreign goods. It is difficult to see what harm could have been done by the first four resolutions and they would have been some consolation to the Dominions for the rebuff inflicted on them by Mr. Snowden's Budget, which threw down practically everything arrived at by the last Imperial Conference. That at least Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Colonial Secretary, had misgivings as to the state of feeling in the Dominions was shown by what he said at the opening of the recent debate. He advocated calling the leaders of the opposition as well as Premiers of Dominions to the next Imperial Conference and he went on to say that "it would lead to disaster to continue conferences only to find when they were broken up that nothing had been done." "At the present rate of going, one may wonder whether even Premiers will bother to come to any more conferences.

There appears no doubt that feeling in Australia is much offended over the rejection of the last conference's recommendations, and it can hardly be much better in Canada, South Africa and New Zealand. How Mr. Ramsay MacDonald is so sure that an Empire emigration scheme alone is "going to draw the Dominions nearer to us" does not at all appear clear. Unsupported by any prefence scheme, it is likely to have precisely the opposite effect, as our Australian correspondent explained last week. Mr. Bruce, the Australian Prime Minister, he pointed out, realizes that under the migration schemes with the Imperial Government we (Australia) are bringing many ex-soldiers to this country and putting them on the land at considerable expense to ourselves. They are mostly being placed in the irrigation districts, and are producers of fruits. If Britain declines to find markets for their products, then their introduction into Australia must cease, and the efforts to relieve Britain of some of her unemployed will have to be seriously curtailed.

At the same time preferential duties granted to Great Britain in Australian ports are at present worth £8,000,000 a year. If, as is not impossible, Australia gives that preference to other countries now, and British trade has to pay that amount of taxation in Australian ports, and the offtake of British unemployed ceases, Mr. MacDonald's Government will have cause to sing a different tune.

There would seem (says our correspondent bitterly) to be something in the contention that the British Government is so anxious to trade with foreigners, including the Russians, whose emissaries are giving us so much trouble, that it does not care what the Dominions want. And he goes on to point out that in South Africa it has been suggested that the day of the preference farce is over, and elsewhere the proposal has been advanced that the Dominions should form a Zollverein for trade purposes, "obviously leaving Britain outside the charmed circle."

If the preferences proposed by Mr. Baldwin were such as to make living dearer in England there would be reason in throwing them out. But while the duties on foreign stuffs are unchanged there is no danger of that, and for the sake of a free trade principle which is not endangered, Parliament risks alienating the Dominions. We have always in the past supported Free Trade against Protection as the policy for Great Britain. But it has become a very urgent question whether the importance of the Empire to the Mother Country does not necessitate her revising her fiscal ideas. She needs markets and she needs an outlet for her superfluous population. The Dominions already supply the one and must in time provide the other. We have only to consider the enormous development of Canada within the memory of everyone not more than forty years old, to realize what the future of the Dominions must be. Meanwhile the future of Europe is to say the least uncertain and America bars her doors with tariffs and legislation to imports and immigrants alike. The question is, What are we to think of the Empire, of what use shall it be to us and we to it? But that question is still distorted by the parrot cry "your food will cost you more" of political Bourbons like Mr. Asquith who have learnt nothing and forgotten nothing. The party system of government blocks all broad and fair-minded consideration of issues in which the whole future prosperity of Great Britain is involved.

THE DEPRECIATION IN COINAGE

June 20.

IT is extremely welcome to see from the *"Sinwanpao's"* article which we reproduce to-day on the opposite page and from the recent telegram of protest sent by the Shanghai Bankers' Association to Peking, that Chinese business men are becoming seriously exercised over the depreciation of dollars, small silver and copper. As regards the latter, the *"Sinwanpao"* says that debasement has gone so far that some mints have found it is no longer profitable to coin it. The fineness of the dollar used to be maintained by the steadiness of sycee, which, being controlled by merchants and not by officials, preserves its purity. But apparently the mints no longer care about the ratio of sycee and dollars: they fill the latter with base metal, with the result that whereas for rough purposes of calculation one used to add a third to a given amount of taels to find the equivalent in dollars, which meant Tls. 75 to the hundred dollars, the price has now dropped below 71.

There are three mints with which Shanghai is mainly concerned, those of Nanking, Hangchow and Anhui. The fineness of dollars issued by the two former has been fairly maintained at the proper standard. But the Anhui mint, which is under the control of the General of the province, has been adding more and more base metal to its coinage. Whereas the authorized fineness of the Chinese dollar is 887 and of the old Mexican dollar 898, the Anhui mint's dollar, according to a recent test, showed a fineness of only 830. During the past two months this mint has been producing these dollars at the rate of 50,000 a day. In respect of small coinage, notably twenty-cent pieces, the Kuangtung and Fuklen mints are the worst offenders. Both of them have been passing large quantities into circulation. The fineness of the Kuangtung coins is said to be about 700, of those of Fukien about 400, as against the 800 in former years. This depreciation coupled with overproduction amply accounts for the present cheapness of these coins. During 1922-23 the Canton mint was closed, but it has recently been reopened—under conditions, it is popularly reported, which will tend to make its output worse than ever. For once we may believe that rumour is likely to be correct.

With twenty-cent pieces running six to the dollar and copper cents in the region of 200, it follows that additional cost of life to the poorer classes of Chinese must be severely felt. All the day labourers, wharf coolies and the like, who are paid so many cents a day, find their income reduced in value by a large percentage. To some extent the value of dollars is influenced by the large number of them now in Shanghai. Only ten millions of them went out this year for the financing of the silk harvest as against fifteen last year. But the chief cause is undoubtedly depreciation. Some day the Customs will find that the value of the dollars they are taking is making a serious difference to the quantity of the silver they have for the service of loans: and then perhaps the Powers will make a fuss. But that day is still far off. Peking has been appealed to by the Chinese bankers to close the Anhui mint. But Peking has no power, and it would probably be more efficacious to appeal to Marshal Chi Hsieh-yuan, who is Governor-General of Kiangsu, Kiangsi and Anhui and therefore responsible for the goings-on of his subordinate at Anking. But the most efficient way of all would be that the leading foreign and Chinese banks should boycott new dollars, at any rate for a time. They must between them have sufficient dollars in their treasuries for every-day needs and they also have a properly-secured paper issue. It is scandalous that the Anhui mint should be allowed to thrust its debased coinage on the public and it should be taught that until it calls in the bad stuff and issues good, it shall not be allowed to sell its dollars at any price.

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION IN CHINA

June 21.

A few years ago a multi-millionaire said the day was coming when it would be considered a disgrace for any man to die extremely rich. The day has not yet arrived, but there is a growing conviction that power and great wealth, whether inherited or acquired, is a trust which should be discharged for the benefit of mankind. A remarkable illustration of this philanthropic spirit is Mr. John D. Rockefeller's munificent gift of about $160,000,000, U. S. currency, the administration of which is entrusted to an organization known as the Rockefeller Foundation, formed for the purpose of "receiving and maintaining a fund or funds, and applying the income and the principal thereof to promote the well-being of mankind throughout the world." The immensity of the gift, and its devotion to the prevention and treatment of disease in all countries, irrespective of racial differences and animosities, make it unique. Among the subsidiary organizations of the Foundation is that of the China Medical Board of Peking; another is the International Health Board which co-operates with the sanitary and hygienic work of the League of Nations.

Reference can only be made to the principal achievements of the Foundation, the annual report of which has been recently issued. Directly, by means of its highly trained workers, and indirectly, by the aid it has given to other institutions and workers, it has reduced enormously the incidence of some of the worst infectious and parasitic diseases. In the United States it has almost abolished malaria, the second or third great killing disease of the world; also hookworm disease, the cause of much physical and mental weakness owing to the steady loss of blood by the victims, among whom were many "poor whites" in the southern States, who were supposed to be examples of the occasional hereditary deterioration. In central and southern America "Yellow Jack" has almost disappeared. Only those who have lived in these countries and have heard, for instance, the appalling narratives of the mortality among the workers of different nationalities during the attempted construction of a Panama canal by the French can appreciate the marvellous conquest of the diseases which militated so disastrously against the enterprise. The Foundation has also given generous gifts to medical schools and hospitals all over the world. In May, 1923, one medical institution in London was opened with State ceremonies by the King and Queen. In France after the war it helped to wage a vigorous campaign against tuberculosis which was ravaging the country. In Austria and other countries devastated by the war, where women and children were suffering from diseases caused by the lack of proper food, the Foundation came to the rescue. In China it has founded the magnificent medical school and hospital in Peking; it has given financial aid

to mission hospitals, medical schools, and other institutions throughout the country, both Chinese and foreign; it has granted numerous fellowships to physicians and scholarships to students: conducted campaigns against hookworm disease, malaria, schistosomiasis (a parasitic disease common in many parts of the country which sometimes attacks foreigners), kala-azar (a serious disease also common in some of the provinces); aided the work of public health and hygiene, and the training of nurses, and in various other ways it has promoted the health physical and mental of the Chinese people. During its first ten years the Foundation spent on Public Health, G.$18,188,838; on medical education, G.$24,716,859; on war relief, G.$22,298,541, and on other philanthropic work, G.$10,445,628.

It is impossible to summarize briefly the benefit to mankind from this effective warfare against disease in some of its most common and pernicious forms. Not only is an immense numbers of lives saved; there is also the prevention of the chronic illness and disability which keeps multitudes poor and helpless, increases the burdens of the country, and at the same time decreases its productive power. If a private organization can do so much to promote the health and welfare of mankind, a wonderful improvement would be effected if the government of every country intelligently and generously supported the scientists in their warfare against diseases. Within a few years probably all epidemic and parasitic diseases would be abolished. Moreover, if the vast regions in various parts of the world still sparsely populated because of their unhealthiness were made healthy by the elimination of disease, new and productive fields would be opened to human enterprise, thus relieving the pressure of population and increasing human resources. Unfortunately, some countries are very backward in this respect. In China, for example, the Central Government and the officials throughout the country do not take much interest in questions of this kind, being absorbed in their own selfish struggles, for place, power, and wealth. Some day perhaps the Chinese will learn that public office is a public trust to be exercised for the benefit of the people, and that sovereign rights are always accompanied by sovereign duties.

TO PHYLLIS

(The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York announces that researches made by eminent physicians prove that kissing is very dangerous, and is in future classifying it among the "extra-hazardous occupations." It is feared this will lead to a movement to prohibit kissing.)

My Phyllis, do you ruminate
(With lovely eyes upturned in musing)
Upon the news illuminate
It seems you were perusing?
If so, then quickly dissipate
The slightest fear that you will heed it,
And argument anticipate
By kissing me—I plead it!

They who affirm that danger lies
In every kiss and each, my Phyllis,
Have never felt Love's rhapsodies
Or known just what a thrill is.
Not theirs the bliss that we attain
When, lip to lip in silence riven,
We leave awhile this earthly plane
And catch a glimpse of Heaven.

They sin who say that man and miss
Should forgo Love's divine expression;
When two hearts beat as ours, a kiss
Will never bear repression.
And should they ever prohibit
Our kissing on the ground 'tis risky,
They'll find us wanting more of it
(As in the case of whiskey.)

So, Phyllis, do not contemplate
Their dicta prejudicing you—
As soon arrest the gravitating earth as stop my kissing you!

MOSES MOOSA.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Thief Catching by Wireless

Ingenious though we know them to be, Chinese thieves in the Settlement must find it increasingly difficult to earn a living in the face of the activities of the police. The arbitrary but in every way excusable practice of sending armed patrols around the Settlement at unexpected hours to examine all and sundry has done more to protect honest and peaceable citizens probably than most of them realize. Silks and satins may clothe a rascal and frowzy rags an honest man, and the police have no mind to be fooled, so whether a man be outwardly a reputable and wealthy merchant or poor enough to look desperate, up must go his hands should a patrol so choose and he will be searched. How many rogues have been gaoled as a result of this procedure the police alone know, but many of us are well aware that the measure of their success has not been small. The Gazette now tells of another proposal for the further harassing of law-breakers. In due course the police are to be provided with a broadcasting station and the value of that will be obvious. There must be many an occasion when it is necessary to send an emergency message to all stations and the possibility of full success would depend upon letting all know as quickly as possible. The speed of telephonic messages is limited by the number of instruments that can be used at headquarters at the same time, but with a broadcasting station the message will reach every station simultaneously and action probably will be taken by all in less time than now is spent in calling up a number. It would be of immense assistance, too, in mobilizing the S.V.C., giving fire alarms and in many other ways. Customs restrictions prevent the immediate installation of such a system, but, judging from the statements in the official report, there are reasons for believing the matter can be arranged.

Missionaries in China

We apologize to our correspondent, P. O. Q., for mistaking him for a newcomer and forbear from the obvious retort to which his claim to 18 years' residence in China exposes him. Of his letter to-day, may we say that as an argument against Christianity it may pass (whether it convinces is another matter); but as an argument against missionaries it decidedly will not. Even if it be true that their teaching only appeals to the weak and vicious —and we do not admit it—we seem to remember something about one who came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. As for Chinese being ruined by Christanity the list of authorities our correspondent gives leaves us cold in view of the equal or greater testimony that could be given on the other side. For a personal argument, the present writer employed a Christian Chinese amah for some years and a better, more devoted servant could not have been found. As regards missionaries being an element of unrest, again it may be recalled that their Founder came not to bring peace but a sword: but it may also be recalled that again and again (as our own columns have shown) these men have been used by Chinese combatants as go-betweens and peace-makers. A notable example of this was outside Shanhaikuan in the summer of 1922 when Wu Pei-fu's and Chang Tso-lin's troops were facing each other. As for the general devotion and selflessness of missionaries' lives, not one, but scores of travellers in the interior of China (as in many wild parts of the earth) have borne witness to it.

The Russian Ships

General Gleboff kindly sends us a copy of a letter he has sent to M. Gross in refutation of the report that the Russian ships lying off Woosung had been brought into the Huangpu to prevent their being sold. The facts of the case were given by us last Thursday. The ships were brought in, through the influence of M. Grosse himself, because of the terrible amount of sickness on board, nearly two-thirds of the men being prostrated from their long confinement. But it is evident that the Soviet are working in obscure ways to get the ships. A few days ago they brought us a letter purporting to come from 54 officers and men on board the ships, urging that they should be handed back to the Soviet. There was nothing to show that this letter had in fact been written last February, as a means of enabling the signatories to get back to Russia, and we accepted the statement in good faith. We should have remembered, of course, that truth and fair dealing are words that have no meaning for Bolsheviks. They are welcome to chuckle over our folly in having for once so far forgotten ourselves as to believe what they said.

Labour and Art

People such as Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Dr. Stanton Coit, Mr. George Bernard Shaw, Mr. Pethick Lawrence and others of their kind may be just as truly Socialists, Labour advocates, or whatever they may choose to call themselves, as Will Crooks was, but as between them and those whom the world recognizes as of the "Labour" party there is a very wide difference of opinion. A Home paper prints the following item:—

Miss Margaret Bondfield, speaking at Pontypridd, said all that Labour desired was to get into its propaganda all that was beautiful in life. Some people imagined that Labour was dull and drab, associated with mean streets, old boots, and shabby clothes, and they were inclined to think that that was all that Labour meant. All that Labour wanted was new boots, better clothes, and more to eat. True, Labour wanted all those things, but Labour was interpreted more truly when she said that it hungered far more for the things of the mind and soul. It wanted all those God-given gifts to man in Art and Science.

Such may be Miss Bondfield's idea, but she would get very little support from the rank and file of the party if ever she told them that was Labour's highest aim. The experiment might be tried occasionally. Just now there is a strike on the London underground railways—not that a strike is anything uncommon in these days, and if it were an essential to an experiment there might be a continuous run of experiments—so why not gather up all the labourers who have ceased to labour, fit them out with new boots and set them slipping about on the polished floors of the porcelain rooms in the Wallace Collection, or the butterfly rooms in the South Kensington Museum. Would Miss Bondfield think they would enjoy the experience and decide to vote for compulsory attendance in new boots at the Wallace collection every day? For the sake of making some sort of a show in the experiment it might be suggested that the day selected be one when Stamford Bridge or the Oval are unoccupied.

Smoke

It may not generally be realized that Shanghai, one of the most important cities in the world, and probably one of the greatest industrial centres in Asia, is comparatively free from one drawback that obtains at most great cities, where heavy industry is carried on to any appreciable extent. We refer to the presence and effect of large quantities of smoke from factories and workshops. It is true that there are many big industrial concerns in and around Shanghai, but mostly they are well scattered, with comparatively few in any one area. If there was ever any doubt as to the effect of large quantities of smoke on a city, it was dispelled at Sheffield some two years ago. During the prolonged coal strike of that time most of the Sheffield furnaces were shut for lack of fuel, and even domestic grates failed for a time to contribute their quota to the pall of smoke that normally hangs over the city. We are told that old residents who had lived all their lives in the Sheffield atmosphere realized for the first time that they had to thank (?) the steel manufacturer for obscuring the sky and limiting their range of vision, for, with the wheels of industry at a standstill, the sky cleared and the surrounding country with its pleasant hills and dales clearly could be seen. And so it might be with Shanghai, if we had hundreds of blast furnaces, belching chimneys, foundries, steam-hammers, presses, and so on. In latter years there has come to be more smoke in the atmosphere than was once the case. There is still time to see that it does not get beyond our control.

Far Eastern Shipbuilding

It is well-known that although shipbuilding in the Far East, and especially in Hongkong, Shanghai and Japan, has been an established industry for many years (thanks to the Scottish pioneers in this branch of industrial activity), the greatest impetus in this sphere of industry was provided by the war, when the call for ships, of any and every size, was universal and ceaseless. How well the yards in this part of the world responded to the call, and how much their efforts were appreciated by the Allies, is now ancient history; and from that time the efficiency and comparative cheapness of shipbuilding yards in the Far East was a fact established and acknowledged. In view of this, it is a little difficult to understand the pained surprise with which, apparently, the news has been received at Home and in Australia that the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. has obtained, *in open competition*, an order for two passenger and cargo steamers for owners in Sydney (N.S.W.). The surprise appears to be based on the fact that both in the United Kingdom and in Australia are modern, up-to-date and efficient shipbuilding berths unoccupied and likely to be for some time ahead. To our mind, there is no reason for surprise at all. The successful tenders obtained the contracts in open competition; their efficiency, as that of all other shipbuilding yards in the Far East under British management or direction, is unimpeachable; and if, as no doubt was the case, their tenders were appreciably lower than any of those from either Australia or the United Kingdom, it is only logical and reasonable that they should have been awarded the contracts. Shipbuilding in these parts is an industry that has come to stay, and if Hongkong has obtained important contracts in open competition with some of the oldest and most efficient ship-construction establishments in the world, it is a matter on which Hongkong deserves heartily and sincerely to be congratulated. If such congratulation should be at all tempered by us in Shanghai, it should be only with the wish that our shipbuilding yards in Shanghai which, like those of Hongkong, have such a fine record of efficiency and achievement, shall secure some equally important jobs in the not distant future.

The Musk Deer

It has been noted many times before in these columns that, since the earliest days of the foreigner in China—and one takes no small pride in adding, especially the Briton—repeated attempts have been made to secure the drafting and enforcement of a series of rigid game laws, but Emperor, Dictator and President alike have been either callous or careless and to-day there is no more protection for wild birds and beasts than there was 100 years ago. Possibly there is less, for far more deadly and effective weapons now are used in the chase. An interesting story in the "Chinese Economic Monthly" once again directs attention to the necessity. Perhaps most people know that China is the greatest musk market in the world and China's product is in the highest demand. Of late years there has been such a great increase in the demand that now it is far in excess of the supply and thoughtless or ignorant people, intent only on profits, are engaging in reckless slaughter of the musk-deer. They are snared and killed at all seasons of the year, male, female and immature specimens alike, for the Tibetans have as much of a craving for the flesh and skins as foreigners for the musk. Up to 10,000 are known to be killed in Western China every year, according to trade returns, without taking into account those who fall to native hunters. Not only because of the demand, but mainly because of the difficulty now in finding the deer, the price of musk has gone up to five times as much as it was 20 years ago and the indications are that it will increase every year. The wideawake Dalai Lama foresaw what would happen and issued orders prohibiting indiscriminate slaughter of the deer, but practically no success attended his well-meant efforts and now no attempt is made to enforce the restriction. At the present time the musk trade is bringing enormous sums of money into China every year and with proper and adequate protection for the deer there is no reason why it should not continue to be a remunerative trade. It is common knowledge that a few years ago fortunes were being made from the export of pheasants in cold storage from districts not far from Shanghai. It is as well known that practically nothing is done in that line now—because the pheasants have been wiped out.

Road Building

The National Road Construction Association of China would have been a fine institution over in London in the days of those mysterious people, the practically defunct penny-a-liners, for the latter would have received twopence straight away for the title and any one of them would have been smart enough to work it into a paragraph at least twice. Those famous old characters ever were more keenly alert for something interesting about the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the Queen Alexandra Institute and Orphange, or Sir William Treloar's Homes for Poor Crippled Children, than they were for societies with such diminutive titles as the Burns Club, the Royal Society, or something like that. But there are other people who do more than talk about roads and to them every credit is due. Without any particular blowing of trumpets, the authorities in the districts round about Quinsan and Taitsang have been dismantling the useless walls of towns and already are well forward with the work of building connecting roads in that part of the country, using the old bricks as foundation material. These roads will link up with Shanghai by the road to the rear of Chapei and it is said there is every possibility of the work being completed next year. Those who delight in the rural quiet of Henli in the summer time may feel somewhat annoyed when the motor-cars invade their retreat, but it will be a great delight to the majority to have the opportunity of so long a run out into the country. If the Henli people think they are going to be crowded out, it might be worth their while to consider an early removal to some other spot where they will have more room and to complete their plans while there is plenty of time.

Insurance of Sea-Travellers

While insurance has for many years been applied to almost any and every risk that one can think of (including such strange policies as a husband insuring against his wife giving birth to twins and a county cricket club insuring against rain preventing play in an important match), it is a little surprising that the insurance of the lives of those who travel by sea has received comparatively so little attention, both from insurance and shipping companies, and from governments. The advisability of insuring emigrants was we believe, first mooted at the General Labour Conference at Washington in 1919, again at the International Emigration Commission at Geneva in 1921, and yet again by the Comité Maritime International at Gothenburg last year. The matter has been taken a step further by the International Shipping Conference which has just finished its labours at London, and a committee has been appointed to study the whole matter with the Comité Maritime. What apparently is aimed at as essential is a real and comprehensive scheme of protection, not for emigrants only, but for all travellers by sea, against the negligence of shipowners and their servants, and also against all of the risks and chances incidental to sea travel. The International Shipping Conference considers that any such scheme could be worked by the shipowners carrying the emigrants at far less cost and with far greater satisfaction to the insured than by any organization set up by the country from which, or in whose ships, the emigrants or other passengers may be travelling. It is considered that the insurance, if provided by the shipowners, could be combined with the passenger ticket and its cost collected as part of the fare, thereby obviating the need of any separate organization charged with the duty of issuing policies and collecting premiums from either the travellers or the shipowners or both. The inception of some sort of automatic scheme of insurance will, no doubt, be welcomed by most people who travel by sea, especially so as, overseas travel being extraordinarily safe, and the percentage of deaths and injuries so negligible, the insurance premium should, in equity, be very small.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

CHINESE EASTERN RAILWAY GIVEN AWAY BY PEKING GOVERNMENT

Unparalleled Concession to Foreign Power: What the Soviet Would Gain Under the Sino-Russian Agreement: China's Sacrifice of Sovereign Rights

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 14.

Li Hung-chang has been dead many years, but the mention of his name instantly brings to mind the most inglorious chapter of concession-grabbing that ever besmirched the relations between nation and nation. But even China's illustrious statesman, accustomed as he was to the bartering of Chinese territory, balked at the idea of granting a foreign Power the privilege of constructing or partly owning a railway line in China. In recounting the genesis of the Chinese Eastern Railway, Count Witte in his memoirs says Li Hung-chang absolutely refused to consider the construction or the owning of the proposed line by the Russian Treasury. Hence. the concession was passed on to the Russo-Chinese, now the Russo-Asiatic, Bank, and it was with the bank that the Chinese signed the agreement out of which grew the Chinese Eastern Railway. It never dawned on this statesman that the day would come when China would replace that agreement with one which passed on the concession to the Russian Government itself; and he would surely turn in his grave at the turn of events.

Russo-Asiatic Bank.

Whatever may be said of the extent of its governmental backing, the Russo-Asiatic Bank was never the creature of the Government. As the Russo-Chinese Bank it was in existence before it signed the Chinese Eastern contract with the Chinese Government. Its existence as an entity in itself was acknowledged in the minutes of the Portsmouth Conference, as a result of which the southern part of the Chinese Eastern, now the South Manchuria Railway, was ceded to Japan pending negotiations between the Russian Government and the Russo-Asiatic Bank. The terms with the Bank involved to indemnification by the Russian Treasury for this filching of its rights in the interests of reparations. In 1910, its independence was further exemplified in amalgamation with the Banque du Nord, which had over a 100 branches in Russia, and which strengthened considerably the financial foundation of the enterprise. From that time the Treasury's sole duty in the concern was the approving of the board of management, and even this was a mere matter of form. The shareholders carefully guarded their privileges from official encroachment and the Chinese Government on its part saw to it that there was no deviation from the letter and the spirit of the original compact.

Letter and Spirit Broken.

Now, however, both the letter and the spirit have been broken. China contracts with the Russian Government about a railway in its own territory, naked and unashamed. It is true the Koo-Karakhan document it merely an agreement on general principles which have still to be worked into a treaty; but these principles are premises on which one can build the main lines of the future agreement. It is the principle involved in the Chinese Eastern Railway "principle" to which attention is drawn, namely, that

> "the future of the Chinese Eastern Railway shall be determined by the *Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of China to the exclusion of any third party or parties.*"

Here we have a direct railway concession to another Power, without any camouflage, without any circumlocution. Is there another railway agreement on record in China which yields a principle so subversive of China's sovereignty? And there was no extortion about it; it was a free gift from China, as part and parcel of a reciprocal agreement.

It would not have been tolerated by Li Hung-chang, hardened as he was to the sphere of influence, but to-day after China has won the allegiance of all the "imperialistic" Powers to the renunciation of that imperialistic policy, the Peking Government gives away its birthright to the government whose principal tenet of faith is supposedly the territorial integrity of sovereign nations.

No Power Ever Got So Much.

Rykov and Karakhan protest too much that this is the fairest agreement that China has ever signed with another Power. No imperialistic Power ever secured such a privilege, no imperialistic nation ever pocketed such a concession. One wonders what the students would say if Japan asked to adjust its title on the Shanghai railway under the most favoured clause.

So it is that China has herself violated the provisions of the Washington treaties guarding its own sovereignty. Instead of reminding the Chinese Government of the resolution which puts China in the position of trustee of the Chinese Eastern shareholders—a resolution to which she did not agree—the protesting Legations might have based an objection to the agreement on the ground that it was an infringement of the clause relating to spheres of influence. It would have been very interesting to observe the effect of such an objection in Moscow.

The Huge Cost of Redemption.

It may be argued that China still holds the right to redeem the railway. It is stated in the Koo-Karakhan principle that "the governments of the two contracting parties shall settle at the conference. . . . the amount and conditions governing the redemption as well as the procedure for the transfer of the Chinese Eastern railway." The agreement with the Bank provided that the railway should revert to China free of all charge 80 years after traffic had commenced, which was about 1904; and that China could redeem it after 36 years, or in about 16 years' time. It is to be expected that the Soviet will allow China to redeem the railway any time she can raise the money; but when one considers the value of the line as it is to-day, there is little likelihood of the Chinese Government raising the huge amount required even in 16 years, let alone to-day. Count Witte stated in his memoirs that it was estimated that when the time for redemption came, the property would cost China over 700 million gold roubles; and even to-day the Government would have to raise nearly $400,000,000 for such a purpose. Under these circumstances, the concession that China now shares with a foreign government of one of the railways in its own territory is not likely to change its status for many years, even if Chang Tso-lin gives the Soviet a right of way in Harbin.

Marshal Chang's Romanoffs.

The Soviet will undoubtedly insist on the pound of flesh of redemption. That is perhaps the reason why they steered clear of a paper rouble offer which Chang Tso-lin is reported to have made! When Moscow started negotiations with Mukden after the Wang-Karakhan deadlock, they found the Manchurian warlord in quite an amenable frame of mind. He is naturally keener than the Peking authorities that the affair of the Chinese Eastern railway shall be adjusted; and he has sufficient power to insist that he shall be a party to the adjustment. Therefore, the writer understands, when overtures were made to Chang, the Marshal agreed with the proposal that the agreement that was negotiated between Dr. Wang and Mr. Karakhan be re-negotiated with him; but he went further and suggested that the two parties might anticipate the conference by also negotiating the purchase of the railway. He had plenty of Romanoff notes in his coffers, waiting, like many other luckless people, when they would rise out of the morass, and he offered them in payment of the line. Seeing that Romanoffs have fluctuated between $27 and $87 per 10,000, in the last few weeks, there is every reason to believe that the Mukden talk had some basis in fact. At any rate, Moscow deemed it wise to sheer off at this stage, and turn its attention again to the Peking government; and the Koo-Karakhan instrument was the result.

Moscow and the Bank

In one way, of course, one may appreciate the attitude of the Soviet for not parting with the Chinese Eastern for a song or roubles; it was probably thinking of its obligations to the Russo-Asiatic Bank! These obligations have been assumed in the agreement on general principles. In this connexion, it is interesting to mention that there has been quite a split between Mr. Karakhan and Moscow on the subject of the Bank. Mr. Karakhan wanted to rub out the Bank's account, which is the account of the shareholders, and to regard the institution as non-existent. Although the nationalization of private institutions is a favourite hobby in Soviet Russia, its present rulers differed from their representative in Peking in this particular application of the code of the Third International. A sharp dispute arose, the writer understands, the outcome of which was that Mr. Davtian, who was in favour of shareholders, returned to Moscow.

BRITAIN AND BOXER INDEMNITY

China Indemnity Bill Passes Second Reading: Motion for Rejection Defeated

London, June 16.

In the House of Commons to-day, moving the second reading of the China Indemnity Bill, providing for the allocation of the Boxer indemnity to the education of Chinese, Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, foreshadowed the appointment of a committee to investigate means of securing satisfactory administration of the fund. He declared that Chinese co-operation was being invited and a Chinese member would be invited to join the Committee.

Mr. Ponsonby referred to a motion for rejection on the paper, which was presumably being lodged with a view to raising the trademarks question. He stated that, while the Government did not wish the minimize the importance of the trademarks question, they did not think that these funds should be used as a lever for the settlement of outstanding questions with China.

The House defeated the motion for rejection and the Bill was read a second time.

June 17.

Notwithstanding a Government reverse on an unimportant division last night, the Members of the House of Commons were listless yesterday, saving up their energies for the full debate on the Imperial Conference resolutions to-day and to-morrow. The Opposition is anticipating the contest with particular keenness and has put down many motions covering all phases of the decisions. In order to simplify business, however, it is expected that divisions will not be taken until to-morrow night and then only on three or four representative resolutions.—Reuter.

ALLEGED BRIBERY OF MANILA OFFICIALS

Manila, June 19.

Two members of the Manila Municipal Board have been suspened by Governor-General Wood on a charge of criminally receiving bribes or otherwise benefiting by the construction of public buildings. The amounts involved are believed to total more than Pesos 1,000,000. It is declared that some of the members have been profiting for more than a year by this or similar operations.—Reuter's Pcific Service.

THE Kiangsu-Chêkiang Summer Conference which was to meet in Soochow has been postponed, as financial assistance heretofore given by the Stewart Evangelistic Fund this year is not forth coming.

WU PEI-FU'S ENEMIES IN PEKING

Expected Test Case to Force President to Declare His Sympathies

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 12.

The movement in the Chihli party to isolate Wu Pei-fu proceeds steadily, almost stealthily. Little is being said in the Chinese press in Peking about these subterranean manœuvres, but in view of the fact that the isolation of Wu Pei-fu concerns the President as well as his principal supporter, this is quite understandable. The withdrawal of the resignations of Wang Chengping and Feng Yu-hsiang mean nothing but an acknowledgment that the time is not yet ripe to declare themselves; but events are fast following each other which will sooner or later bring on the desirable season for such a declaration.

The minor lords of the Chihli party are all smarting under a dictatorship which is impinging on all their preserves. They have occasion every day to point to the increasing acquiescence of the President in that dictatorship. In the last analysis Wu Pei-fu's word is the final word in Peking. Naturally the other members of the party resent the focusing of the presidential eye on Loyang, leaving them out of the field of vision; and it is not unlikely that a crisis will be forced by a demand that the President come out in the open and declare himself on a test question.

At present there are at least three spots which may provide a test issue—Kiangsi, Szechuan, and the Sino-Russian agreement.

Kiangsi and Szechuan Bones.

In Kiangsi, the notorious Tsai Cheng-tsun continues to reap the fruits of opium cultivation. His authority is disputed by Chi Hsieh-yuan, who, as Inspector-General of the three provinces of Kiangsu, Anhui aand Kiangsi, has reason to expect Tsai's allegiance. But Tsai turns to Loyang, and Wu Pei-fu is believed to keep him in this saddle. Because of this direct loyalty to the Loyang General, General Chi wants to replace Tsai with somebody of his own choice. Tsai's acts in the last 12 months warrant his removal from office, and if Chi and his associates feel sure they have the situation in hand, they may precipitate a presidential crisis by asking Tsao Kun to cashier the poppy-cultivator of Kiangsi. Then a split in the Chihli party will be assured, and the President will have to choose between Wu Pei-fu and his antagonists.

Szechuan has always contained the seeds of Chihli strife. The last action of Wu-Pei-fu in making Liu Tseng-hou Inspecting Commissioner of the whole province, in addition to his frontier job, is not calculated to please Chihli men who think themselves entitled to expectations from Wu.

Chang Tso-lin and C. E. R.

Then there is the challenge contained in the future actions of Chang Tso-lin. By refusing to recognize the Russo-Chinese agreement to which Wu- Pei-fu has given warmest support, Marshal Chang may easily cause an explosion. No agreement about the Chinese Eastern Railway will be tenable without his concurrence, and it will be equally difficult for anybody to oppose his wishes regarding the future of Mongolia.

Chang is now accentuating his independence of the Peking Government by creating his own "ministries." Already a board has been established which will take over all railway affairs in his territory, and an organ to deal solely with his foreign affairs is in course of establishment. The Mukden chief seems bent on destroying all bridges which would connect him politically with Peking.

Portents of War.

It is difficult to gauge Chang's relations with the recalcitrant anti-Wu faction. If there is a definite split in the Chihli party, Chêkiang would undoubtedly compose its difference with Kiangsu, and possibly Chi Hsieh-yuan, Lu Yung-hsiang, Wang Cheng-ping, Hsiung Ping-chi and Feng Yu-hsiang would then strike a blow at Wu through Peking. Mukden's policy would continue to be one of watchful waiting, leaving the offensive to be taken by Wu Pei-fu; but there is every indication that Chang would be implicated when the challenge had been accepted by the Loyang chief. Experienced observers say they never knew a time when the portents of conflict were so gloomy.

CHINA'S FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

Friction Between Premier and Minister of Finance Said to Be Exaggerated

Peking, June 13.

Some members of the Cabinet left here this morning for Haitien with the object of persuading Premier Sun to return to the city, and it is expected that he will comply with their requests.

The belief is growing in unofficial circles that the alleged friction between Premier Sun and Minister of Finance Wang has been considerably exaggerated, and there is evidence that the Cabinet situation has been brought about principally by the Sino-German Agreement signed between the Waichiaopu and the German Legation last Friday. This agreement was rushed through hurriedly in order to regularize financial transactions between the Ministry of Finance and the Chinese banks, the Government having received advances to meet the Dragon Festival obligations on the understanding that the agreement would be settled prior to the festival. Premier Sun and the Germans were both in favour of settling all details in connexion with the agreement before the signing, but Mr. Wang insisted and the representatives of the German bank and the Ministry of Finance signed the agreement on the Thursday night. This agreement was confirmed by an exchange of Notes between the Waichiaopu and the German Legation at noon on Friday. (These facts, which were reported by Reuter on the same day, are emphasized in view of denials that have appeared in the Press since then.)

Premier Sun was not prepared to be heckled by Parliament over this matter and went to Haitien. A paper supposed to be under the Premier's influence has since stated that no friction exists between the Premier and the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Wang Koh-ming's supporters state that he has given instructions to the Treasury Department to compile a full report on the financial affairs since he became Minister of Finance last Novermber, and add that he will resign when that report has been completed. Referring to the Sino-German agreement, they say "that it is not unusual for the hound to be sacrifieed after it has caught the hare," which conflicts with the report that no friction has arisen.

The Gold Franc Question

Conflict between the Minister of Finance and the Premier is expected, however, over the gold franc question. Premier Sun is committed to Parliament not to admit the French claim for payment of the indemnity in gold, whereas the Minister of Finance sees that the Central Government is losing an additional revenue of some $2,000,000 a month through France holding aloof from the Nine Power Treaty. The gold franc question has not yet come to the front, but Dr. Wellington Koo is clearing up the big outstanding questions between China and the Powers rapidly and this question will probably be taken up very soon. As the Powers have now all refused to take part in the proposed preliminary conference on the tariff increase, China's only hope of bringing about the increase is to secure France's ratification of the Washington Treaty, and that can only be brought about by a settlement of the gold franc dispute.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

AT Hankow last week the jury found Cartar Singh, a Sikh watchman, guilty of a charge of indecent assault on a Chinese woman and he was sentenced by Judge Sir Skinner Turner to six months' imprisonment. Prisoner was also indicted upon two other counts, of rape and attempted, upon which he was found not guilty. Mr. A. G. Mossop prosecuted for the Crown and accused was defended by Mr. R. A. Frost. Mr. G. W. King, Registrar of the Supreme Court was present at the trial.

DEFENCE OF KUEILIN DAY BY DAY

Marshal Lu Yung-ting's Undaunted Resistance though Northern Relief Forces Unable to Reach City: Death of Rev. Cunningham from Stray Bullet

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

The death of the Rev. J. R. Cunningham, Kueilin's pioneer Protestant missionary, who was reported on June 11 to have been killed during the seige, is now confirmed by Our Own Correspondent in the beleaguered city. Mr. Cunningham was shot right through the head by a stray bullet on Saturday afternoon, April 26, while standing in the garden of his house. The following despatches, which fillI up the gap in reports of the fighting from April 16 to May 16, supply thrilling reading. During this period there was scarcely a lull in hostilities and the city was shelled daily by the Southern forces under Gen. Shen Hung-ying, whose troops are apparently effectively holding at bay forces sent to relieve the Gen Lu Yung-ting's besieged Northerners.

Kueilin, Si., Apr. 22.

This is the 13th day of the seige of Kueilin. Although every artifice has been used to force an entrance into city, they have all failed. During the past two days and nights the fighting has not been so severe, but there is still the steady rattle of rifles all around the city wall, while now and then the machine guns and large batteries add their thrilling notes to the awful uproar.

Both sides seem determined to fight to a finish, and each, at times, seem reckless in their use of ammunition. Marshal Lu says he will carry on to the bitter end: that he will fight to the last man and die in the city rather than surrender and hand over the place to the opposing hosts outside. The old governor's yamên which is now Marshal Lu's headquarters has had the iron gates partly closed and barricaded within with huge stones, but this is regarded by the more thoughtful as a move to instil courage into the hearts of the populous rather than a guarantee of what would really take place should the city be taken by storm.

Food seems to be plentiful though prices have arisen since the beginning of the seige. Nearly all the stores are now closed. The city has put on a Chinese New Year appearance save for the lack of firecrackers and this is made up by the louder and more momentuous cracks of the machine guns and rifle fire that is heard in all directions.

The city gates have been heavily barricaded with pavement stones and coffin lids, while snipers are concealed on a scaffolding under the archway above the gates ready to pick off and one who might attempt to rush in with kerosene and set fire to the gate. This has been attempted once or twice, but with disastrous results to these who made the attempt.

Civilian Casualties.

Large shells continue to fall in the city and civilians are continually being killed or wounded. One shell fell in the *hsien* yamên. There were several people standing in the outer waiting room when the shell burst. One of these was instantly killed by a fragment while two others were seriously wounded. Another shell came crashing through the roof of a near by weaving factory. It struck high, passed through the roof, a board partition, and then through a brick wall and out and through several other brick walls before it finally landed. No one was hurt, but a few were badly scared. A big store in the centre of the city was also visited by a shell, but although it exploded right in the shop where several clerks were standing, no one was killed, or badly wounded. The Baptist Mission compound suffered more severely. One girl was killed in the girls' school. Firing was in progress and girls had taken shelter on what was considered the safe side of the building, when suddenly a shell came from another direction, passed along the verandah where the girls were hiding, and struck one of the girls in the head, spattering her brains on the wall and flooring. The other girls mere not injured and the shell did not explode.

A few of the students were looking out of an attic window watching a battle, when a stray bullet came in grazing one boy in the head and entering the skull of another boy standing in the rear. The latter boy is still living, but hopes of his recovery are slight.

On Saturday evening a big blaze occurred just outside of the south gate. That day severe fighting had taken place outside of the west gate, and it was thought by some that the outside forces were about to retaliate by attempting to burn the gates. The fire burned fiercely for an hour or more and destroyed about 30 buildings, but it went out finally without any damage being done to the city. Again on Sunday night another fire started outside of the Literary Gate. This, too, lit up the whole countryside and caused some refugees in the city whose homes were on the outside to quake with fear lest their homes be destroyed. Again last evening a fire started to the north of the city, and simultaneously severe fighting commenced in the south and west.

City Magistrate a Traitor.

The citizens of the city are being closely watched and some accused of being in secret communication with the outside forces have been summarily dealt with. Ten days ago, the day before the city was invested, the head of the gambling fraternity was arrested, and after a brief trial was led out to the front of the Governor's yamên and shot. Yesterday the city magistrate was summoned before the Director of Forces and a few minutes later was led struggling to the street and executed.

Unsuccessful Sortie.

The fighting during the last two days has consisted of a sort of guerrilla warfare. The opposing forces surrounding the city hiding behind mounds of earth, rocky boulders, or adjacent buildings and sniping whenever they see a soldier's head appear above the city wall, or when one dares to peer through the parapets behind which they are hiding. City soldiers on the walls are acting likewise whenever a movement is detected by the enemy outside. Occasionally small irregular squads of soldiers creep up close to the city wall, and when they are discovered a lively artillery duel takes place.

Last evening a picked squad was organized for the purpose of charging into the enemies' ranks and driving them from a near by hill on which they had taken up their positions. A light floating bamboo bridge was prepared to enable the men to cross the small stream that separates the forces. Torches, kerosene, and all the equipment deemed necessary was provided for the attack. The night passed off without the anticipated skirmish taking place, but this morning one hour before daylight in a drizzling rain, sharp shots from rifles and automatics, with an occasional roar of a big field gun, told plainly that the attack was on. Shot and shell fell thick and fast, and again bullets began to fly over the city and find lodgement in the dwellings. This continued for about an hour when gradually the fighting slowed down again to normal. It was later learned that the attack was not wholly successful. The bamboo bridge over which the soldiers had to run was not made secure enough, and scarcely a hundred braves had scampered over when the bridge began to separate and prevented further troops landing for the attack. Consequently the position was not taken, but the troops hold the river bank and are planning another attack.

A few large shells have fallen in the city to-day from across the river, but no material damage was done, however, and no one seems to be perturbed. In fact as, the days pass there seems to be a sort of contentment settling down over the people. Shops that have been closed are gradually opening their doors, while street vendors can be seen again peddling their wares as if peace had been proclaimed. Hope says a few more days and then peace, as it is reported, that reinforcements are arriving from Hunnam and Liuchow. But those forces are likely to be strongly opposed.

Marshal Lu is still confident of victory, and he is continually seen among his men encouraging them to stand firm until the end is reached. The Marshal also visits the wounded in the Red Cross and other places and gives a cheering word to the men who have fought and fell for the sake of their leader.

Mr. Cunningham's End.

Apr. 28.

Two days ago it looked as if fighting was drawing to a close, but the dogs of war were again unleashed and shot and shell began to pour in and out of the city as before. On Saturday at half past four in the afternoon while the Rev. J. R. Cunningham, of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, was standing in his yard watching some workmen, a stray bullet came whistling over the housetops and struck him in the head. The bullet entered the lobe of the right ear, and passing through the head came out on the other side. Mr. Cunningham fell headlong to the ground and workmen at once ran and called for help. Friends were by his side in a moment and tried to help him. He never uttered a word. He had already gone beyond the help of man. Foreign doctors hurried to the scene, but arrived to find that life was extinct.

Mr. Cunningham had spent 27 years of missionary service on the field. He who was the pioneer missionary to enter this city, and throughout the succeeding years he had been indefatiguable in his efforts to preach the Gospel here and in the surrounding country. People of every rank found in him a loyal friend and a sympathizing helper in time of need.

Last year when the city was surrounded by hostile robber bands it was through the kind offices of Mr. Cunningham and Bishop Holden that bloodshed was averted and an amicable settlement made. These two men at great risk to themselves acted as go-betweens, and were later suitably rewarded by the grateful citizens for saving the city from destruction.

During past few years Mr. Cunningham has been instrumental in opening no less than 12 out-stations in the Kueilin district.

When the news spread around that Mr. Cunningham had been killed numbers of officials came to express their sympathy and regret at the sad accident. And the following day floral tributes were sent to adorn the coffin by members of both the Chinese and foreign community.

At the present time the city is in a state of siege, and fighting is carried on day and night so that it is impossible to conduct the funeral. The body will be laid to rest in the quiet church outside the north gate.

Huge Fires Nightly.

Apr. 30.

Fires seem to be an almost nightly occurance. On Saturday evening about nine o'clock the heavens were lit up by lurid flames outside of the Literary Gate. No one ventured to attempt to extinguish the flames as the least movement in the lighted district called forth rifle fire. The piteous cries for help could be heard above the crackling of the flames, and it is feared that many may have perished in the conflagration.

On Sunday evening an equally large fire took place outside the south gate.

It is reported that relieving forces from both west and north have come within 100 *li* of the city, but have met hostile forces and are now engaged in a sharp battle, the outcome of which may affect materially the situation here.

Orders have been isued by the Commander-in-Chief of the City forces that no more pigs are to be killed, so that the relief forces may be fed when they arrive. Dogs and horses are therefore being eaten, and cats find it much safer to sit upon the roof of the highest houses rather than come down to be fed and fondled. The Chinese Red Cross have opened congee kitchens where congee is being served free to the poor of the city who have not other means of sustenance. Rice also continues to be sold out of the city granary to the multitudes who apply for help. Many, however, cannot afford to purchase rice even at the cheapest price and considerable suffering is being entailed in many quarters.

It is stated that outside nearly all the city gates there are bodies of the dead lying around unburied. The fighting has been so intense that no one had dared to venture out, and now for 20 days these bodies have been soddened by rain and scorched by the sun, until when the breeze blows in from that direction the stench is almost unbearable, and great fear of an outbreak of plague is entertained in many quarters.

Reinforcements Held Up.

May 5.

During the past few days more fires have been raging in different sections of the city.

It is stated that the enemy forces had been using the burnt buildings which are adjacent to the city wall, as places in which to hide and under shelter of which tunnelling had begun leading to the city wall. It was therefore necessary from a military standpoint to have these building removed.

Unauthenticated rumous of reinforcements coming to our aid reach us nearly every day, and while none have materialized still there is doubtless a little truth in some of the reports. Gen. Han, from Liuchow is reported to have reached a place within one day's march of this city, but was met by a numerically stronger force and his undisciplined troops were forced to retreat. It is stated that he has now been strengthened by reinforcements from Nanning, and that the march for Kueilin has again begun. One-thousand soldiers are within one day's march of the city coming from the west, but fear to advance farther and so are waiting until additional troops reach them when a general march will be made in this direction. During the past 10 days quite a few of the opposing forces have been diverted to outside points to keep back the relieving troops, but they must have returned yesterday for this morning at four o'clock a general bombardment of the city began.

May 7.

Since the blowing up of the city wall yesterday it has been ascertained by spies that fairly large companies of enemy soldiers are in hiding outside the west gate in the Mohammaden mosque in a large godown outside the south gate, and in the Electric light plant near the Literary Gate, and it is feared that tunnels may be being made from these buildings to the wall. These buildings are too far from the city wall to be destroyed by fire, so it was decided to destroy them by big guns. Accordingly to-day about 20 old cannon shooting shrapnel were placed in position along the wall and at dusk these began to belch forth. The angry roars of the cannon were sometimes followed by the loud triumphant cheers of the soldiers indicating a hit. Presently in four different places fires started to blaze forth adding noise and confusion to the medley of frightful sights and sounds that greeted the ears of the somewhat panic-stricken populace.

RAIN-MAKING TABLET OF HANTAN

A Miracle Worker of Shantung and Its Curious History: Brought to Peking in Time of Drought and Once More Its Claims Justified

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 16.

The writer has intended to say something about the "miraculous" rain tablet of Hantan ever since its arrival in Peking was followed by a much-needed downpour; but succeeding hot days have not inspired such a disquisition. He is taking up the subject now for two reasons, first, it is raining hard, and secondly, the tablet has just been returned to its Shantung temple after having justified its removal and left us a parting reminder of its far-famed properties.

Rain in Peking is a dismal subject. A sharp shower is sufficient to make the narrow hutungs almost impassable, while a heavy downpour canalizes the city into seas of mud which the ricsha coolies ford like cavalry horses, leaving their "fares" to hang on by their chinstraps, as it were. The writer has just come through one of these seas, and having been precipitated into the mud for letting go of his chinstrap, is in a damp enough mood to say "Yes" to the question, "Has the Hantan tablet 'worked' "?

But hereabouts the Hantan tablet is the last hope of the people, and so it may be well to look into the other rain-cozeners first.

The God of Rain

Like Westerners, when hopes of melting skies are on the wane, the Chinese offer up prayers. Instead, however, of keeping to the same ritual, as in the case of Westerners, the Chinese vary their approaches to the God of Rain. Sometimes they appeal to the brassy heavens by means of street processions. The streets are bedecked with garlands, and banners are borne aloft which return thanks in advance for the overdue shower. "Bountifully the rain is falling" and "the gracious rain is falling far and wide" are typical examples of these forms of intelligent anticipation. In many cases, unfortunately, they are translated into realization only in the fervent hopes of the people. Chen Huang, or the god of the city, is always on parade, while many other idols keep him company.

Another method of inducing the heavens to open is to prohibit slaughter for a few days. This was done in Peking in May, but the drought persisted. After this failure, the people dragged the Dragon King out of his temple and gave him a taste of the scorching weather, but again the skies were adamant. Then it was that the stricken farmers asked that the Hantan iron tablet be sent for, and the police despatched three men to the temple in Shantung and brought it to Peking.

When it arrived it was met by the local gentry and escorted in a sedan to a suitable temple. Prayers were offered during the next two days, and lo the heavens opened, resulting in the partial saving of a wheat crop that was in danger of entire destruction.

The Magistrate's Sacrifice.

The tablet has a strange history. In the Ming dynasty there was a particularly severe drought. The magistrate of Hantanhsien, as the little father of his jurisdiction, prayed unceasingly for rain to relieve the anxieties of the people. But rain did not fall. Unlike the curate who attributed his failure to the unpropitiousness of the elements, the magistrate thought the reason must be the distance between himself and the heavens, and so, dressing himself in his official robes, he committed suicide by throwing himself into a well in order that his soul might have a hearing in the skies. The next day rain fell abundantly, and the people, rejoicing exceedingly, petitioned the Emperor on the noble sacrifice of their worthy magistrate, who was promptly canonized. An iron tablet erected in the temple to commemorate the occasion was popularly supposed to hold the power of rain-giving, and was thereafter constituted the court of last instance by the people of the two provinces of Chihli and Shantung.

An Escort of High Rank.

In monarchical days the emperors always sent special envoys of high rank to escort the tablet to the people who required it. It was carried to Peking by hand in those days, and is of such a conservative character that it still clings to old custom and tolerates the railway journey only on condition that somebody maintains touch with it all the way. On the last journey to Peking it was held in this fashion with all due reverence.

The tablet, which is held is high respect by the people, is never summoned to Peking; it is asked to come. Coincidentally with its visits to these parts, rain has fallen copiously on several occasions. Although it did not respond to overtures last year, in 1920 it fulfilled the promise of the records on two separate occasions.

One suspects that much of the tablet's success is due to the fact that it is brought out only when all other methods have failed, thus giving it a longer chance; but it would not do to express these suspicions to the farmers in the Peking district whose faith in the iron tablet of Hantan has been firmly established by the rainfall in the last few weeks.

SZECHUAN AS IT IS TO-DAY

Delimited into 20 Petty Military Kingdoms: Yang Sen only Holding Capital

From Our Tachienlu Correspondent.

Kiating, Sze., May 21.

Szechuan has at present a standing army of 300,000 men. For a province containing 60 million people this does not seem very large or very imposing. But the disposition of this army gives it a dimension which is somewhat alarming and a cause for very grave apprehension.

The 300,000 soldiers are strategically disposed round 20 different generals and in very close proximity to 20 important sources of revenue. The size and significance of Kiating as a military centre is unimportant: what really counts is, will the local revenue support and will the immediate district feed 10,000 men. If it can't or won't then Gen. Bu is quite prepared to fight Gen. Fu who unfortunately is in a much better position. And so the war goes on.

At the present time, in every important centre in Szechuan, one can hear the blowing of bugles from morning till night. One sees the drilling of troops during the cool hours of the day and one can feel the military spirit dominant in every wayside village, market, and town. Unimportant cities are loaded with parasite soldiers well fed and well clad whose hardest piece of work is marching daily through the streets singing. An increased lung capacity, especially when the band blows next door, is not an unmixed blessing.

Szechuan and her 60 million people is now divided into 20 petty military kingdoms. Each general is a despot in his own sphere: he holds himself entirely responsible for its internal peace, its sacred integrity, and its independence of any outside state. He will not tolerate any interference from Peking, Tsao Kuen or Wu Pei-fu. To the divine right of things he adds one simple dictum, the divine right of military despots. One general in Szechuan has shot and will shoot anyone who dares to cross his path. History is divided into periods, this large, important, wealthy, province is at present enjoying its "Military Period." I don't think it could be said with truth she is groaning under it: there is apparently plenty of revenue, plenty of money, plenty of opium, plenty of rice, plenty of men and what is very important, plenty of time. The civil official has become entirely honest and the military governor rules supreme.

Yang Sen's Little Realm.

Yang Sen does or did rule everything and everybody 12 miles outside of Chêngtu. Within his own little realm he will guarantee your peace and safety. Beyond his little kingdom he has no control and you travel entirely at your own risk. After you have passed through "no man's land," a distance of three or four miles, Gen. Pu takes you in charge and sees you safely escorted through his immediate principality. Traveller, merchant, and tradesman, they all pass along; robbed here, squeezed there, held up for a time here, allowed to pass there, through "no man's land" and one little kingdom after another till in the maze he begins to ask, is this Gen. Wu or Gen. Su's territory.

From Chêngtu to Kiating, a journey which may be made in one day by boat, the Chinese pass through the lines of Yang Tsi-huei, Liu I-chu and Cheng Hong-fan. In two or three more days he would be through the lines of Liu Tsi-chien, Liu Hsiang and Liu Tsen-hou. Add to this the military lines of Lai Hsin-huei, Yuen Tsu-ming, Hsiong Keh-wu and Tan Meng-hsin and a host of other major and minor military officials and the readers from any distance can visualize this great province not only sliced and quartered but divided and subdivided till its divisions suggest an enlarged map of Ireland.

One surprising thing about the whole picture or situation is the apparent prosperity and seeming indifference of the population. The farmers are busy in their fields, the merchants in their shops, the housewives in their homes. The soldier after all is not really a soldier, that is not a fighting man, but a simple Chinese coolie or farmer lad dressed in light gray. In the 20 days' journey across the province we saw very little poverty, practically no shortage in food, and an abundant supply of opium. Happily the 300,000 soldiers and the 20 generals confine their energies and activities to such cities as Chêngtu, Kiating, Suifu, Liuchow, Fushuen and Chungking. On no occasion could we see or did we hear that the Chinese army was a burden on the people. In some centres admission into the army is not too easy, especially is this so with Chen Hong-fan in Kiating. There the relation between the military and the civilian is most friendly and the intercourse quite mutual.

There is, however, one very great danger—the Szechuan army is decidedly on the increase—each general is striving to increase his army and thereby increase his power and prestige and thus necessitates an increased revenue and this will undoubtedly be followed by an increased burden.

END OF CIVIL WARFARE IN SZECHUAN

Finale to Thirteen Years Struggle: New Officials and Revival of Trade

Peking, June 11.

A mandate issued last night appoints General Liu Tseng-hou Inspecting Commissioner of the armies in Szechuan. The post is principally an honorary one and will not interfere with his duties as Tupan of the Szechuan-Shensi Frontier. General Liu reports that he has established his headquarters at Chungking and asks for an official seal.

As the result of Marshal Hsiao Yao-nan's request to withdraw the Hupeh troops from Szechuan the arrangement has apparently been reached for the 3rd Mixed Brigade at Wanhsien, the 5th Brigade at Yungchuan and Lungcheng to be withdrawn, while the 5th Division under the command of General Lu Chin-shan will remain in Eastern Szechuan to protect traffic along the river, and the 18th Brigade will stay at Chungchow. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, June 13.

With the appointment by the Central Government of the regular military and civil officials for the province of Szechuan, the 13 years' struggle in that province is looked upon in official circles as brought to a conclusion. It is learned that, since the issue of the Presidential mandates making the appointments, much progress has been made in the arrangement of administrative affairs. It appears that General Liu Tsun-hou, Yang Sen, Liu Hsiang and Tang Shi-hou are tired of political struggles and are willing to concentrate their efforts upon administrative affairs.

There are still small parties of troops under Lu Ching-hsuan in the several districts to the south of Szechuan, but it is expected that within the next fortnight or so they will be suppressed. The situation both at Ichang and Chungking is said to be settling down rapidly. There are, however, evidences of small groups of bandits who make their appearance off and on and passenger traffic is interfered with at times. But since the placing into service of the Upper Yangtze patrolling squadron, both Chinese and foreign merchantmen are travelling unmolested. The fact that the godowns in Hankow are full of goods for shipment to Upper Yangtze ports shows a revival of trade.

Gen. Yuan Tsu-ming, commanding the Kueichow troops, is unwilling to remain long in Szechuan and is anxious to return to his own province. Negotiations are proceeding with Liu Shieh-shin with a view to his returning without conflict.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Wu Pei-fu wants to use the Russian remitted portion of the Boxer Indemnity to build a railway from Suiyuan to Singkiang *viâ* Mongolia. He even expects to work it profitably enough to devote a part of its revenues to education, comments the *"Sinwanpao."* His plan seems good at the first glance (says the paper). But when one considers the desert land through which most of this railway would travel, can one seriously expect that it could be worked profitably? It might be valuable perhaps for military purposes, but never commercial.

MORE PURGE ON THE KIAO-TSI RLWY.

Managing Director's Ban on Smoking and Drinking to Speed up Efficiency

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, June 12.

A stern warning has been issued by the managing-director of the Kiao-Tsi Railway to all employees to cease drinking excessively when patronizing cafes and to give up the evil practice of opium-smoking. The managing-director contends that the Railway has received a poor return for the wages paid to a number of its employees whose chief preoccupation has been to run out of the Administration Buildings during the office hours ostensibly for the purpose of going to the doctor but in reality to have a drink. The worst evil, however, is opium-smoking, gambling ranking next. Mr. Shao Hung-chun is seeking to teach his employees habits of temperance and thrift. Recently he has been exercised by reports that certain of his men have been indulging to excess in drinking, opium-smoking and gambling and in a conversation with your correspondent yesterday he said he was aiming to stamp out these evils. If any of his employees persist in these practices after due warning they will be severely dealt with, either being demoted or dismissed.

Mr. Shao has issued a circular on the subject, requesting all employees to refrain from these practices. He describes them as being harmful in a physical way and costly to the pocket-book. He believes that in many cases instances of dishonesty have arisen from indulgence in evil habits. He, therefore points out the necessity of refraining from gambling, drinking and use of drugs.

Through Traffic Conference.

A conference for the purpose of effecting through traffic arrangements between the Kiao-Tsi Railway and the Tientsin-Pukow Railway is in progress in Tsinan at the Railway Hotel there, having opened this week. Matters that must be decided before this improvement can be brought about are engaging the attention of those attending this conference, whose decisions must have the sanction of the Ministry of Communications. The representatives of the two lines are said to be in accord on the question of the cost of the work entailed in raising the station platforms, construction of new sidings, the problem of train yards and a joint freight house, the disposition of rolling stock and the question of through traffic signals. Shippers and the general public are interested in the proposition, as a through traffic arrangement will appreciably shorten the time of through hauls over the two railroads. As soon as the conference ends its deliberations the entire matter will be referred to the Ministry of Communications for approval.

Tsingtao International Recreation Club.

The Committee of the International Recreation Club of Tsingtao is inviting public subscription to 1,000 shares of $50 each. Those applying for allotment, according to the notice just issued by the Club, will have to include 10 per cent. of the value of the shares required with their applications. The Committee, however, does not bind itself to allot the number applied for, everything depending upon the number of applicants and the number of shares available. The shares of the Club are considered locally to be a gilt-edged investment. The Committee, as the name of the Club implies, is an international body, and is comprised of men of very high standing locally. It is predicted that within three years from now, the shares of the Club will be worth considerably more than the original price.

Child Welfare Week.

The complete programme for Child Welfare Week commencing on June 19, is announced by Mr. James O. Kinoshita, chairman of the executive committee. Mr. Kinoshita and his energetic aides have arranged an interesting programme which should interest every father and mother in Tsingtao. Because of the international character of what might be termed an intensive campaign to acquaint parents with accepted methods of child care and child hygiene, the movement should have the earnest support of everyone in both the native and foreign communities. The presence of leading medical authorities from Japan lends much importance to Child Welfare Week.

PAKHOI-LIMCHOW MOTOR ROAD OPEN

Omnibuses Proving Popular: Another Southern Mint

From Our Own Correspondent.

Pakhoi, May 31.

The great event of the past month has been the opening of the new motor-road from Pakhoi to Limchow. Up to the present only two cars have been running, but others have been delivered or are on the way, and the instant success of running the first two, shows that the service will be a popular one, and will supply a long-felt need. The crowds that assembled at each end of the road to witness the arrival and departure of the cars, are only just beginning to diminish. The road has not had much labour expended on it to make a permanent surface, but gangs of men are kept constantly employed in repairing it, as the surface is so soft, though in some places small stones are being rolled in. The farmers' little stone rollers are being used for that. For about half the distance from Kotak onwards the new road runs on, or close beside, the old one, and two old stone bridges, had to be widened. The widening was done as cheaply as possible, for there is no room for anyone to stand on the bridge between the car as it crosses and the parapet on either side. Nearing Limchow the road has struck out an entirely new track, east of and at a higher level than the old one, in the hope of avoiding summer floods, but it has been made much too narrow and winding for safe and speedy running. There are some very bad S-bends which necessitate very low speed.

The larger car of the two is of the omnibus type, very similar to the ones running in Kowloon, and holds 16 passengers, 6 first-class at $1.20 fares, and 10 second-class at 80 cent fares. The distance is less than 20 miles and the time taken for the journey is just under an hour. An extension of the road to Shekhong is already being surveyed and it is hoped that it will be in use this summer.

The new road is under military protection and a few soldiers are stationed at intervals to deal with any brigands who might come along. That this precaution is not unnecessary is seen by the fact that a village quite close to Limchow, on the Shekhong road, was looted by robbers only a few days ago, very early in the morning.

Some alarm was felt in Limchow recently, at the appearance of an aeroplane flying very high overhead. It was thought that it might belong to Sun Yat-sen's army and have hostile intentions. However, it went away without doing anything, and a subsequent comparison of dates, suggests that it was probably the French Aviator, d'Oisy, passing from Hanoi to Canton on his way round the world.

Owing to low rainfall the people of Limchow are holding processions to the various temples to pray for rain. A little rain has fallen lately, but much more is needed by the farmers.

Since the flight of Gen. Wong Ming-tong last August, his unfinished mansion on the outskirts of Pakhoi has been in process of gradual demolition, all who would, going there and tearing out floorboards and window-frames for firewood. Occasionally soldiers have been stationed in it temporarily, but now the authorities seem to have taken it over altogether, and it is said that a mint is to be started in it. Already small furnaces have been built there and a lot of machinery has been installed, including small presses and lathes. It is to be hoped that a sound coinage will be turned out, and not a depreciated one, but the experiences of other places does not encourage such a hope.

YANG SEN'S IDEALS AND HOPES

New Tuli's Ingenuous Propaganda

From Our Own Correspondent.

Mienchow, Sze., May 29.

The foreigners in this city yesterday received through the post a little brochure, tastefully got up on good glazed paper. Its contents are a biographical sketch of the career and ideals of Gen. Yang Sen. It is written in good English and might have been produced by a foreigner, but seems to me to bear evidence of being the work of a Chinese pamphleteer, a piece of propaganda. Foreigners will doubtless readily believe the general truthfulness of its message; and will be helped to a better understanding of Yang Sen and his work. No one here doubts his ability, nor do they suspect his motives, but they know the difficulty of his task. They feel too, that he finds it difficult to live up to his ideals. It would need a man of the ability of his great predecessors in Szechuan, Chu Ko-liang or Tsiang Wan. Perhaps he has that ability. But even they found Szechuan politics more than they could cope with; and present circumstances seem to have many points of similarity with the far away politics of the Three Kingdom Period. It is true the greatly increased population and presence of foreigners make two important modifying factors: but as one reads the ups and downs of Three Kingdom politics and contrasts the situation with to-day the atmosphere seems very much the same.

It is doubtless only just to Yang Sen to believe that he himself and his more cultured officers are in advance of Three Kingdom Period civilization: but they could hardly be more magnanimous than were Chu Ko-liang and the greater of his confrères.

The ideals and hopes that Yang Sen is credited with in this little sketch are admirable; and perhaps it would be ungenerous to remark that there is much happening to contradict it: for in the present condition of China a man with excellent motives will find countless things to prevent him realizing his ideals.

The trouble is who is to be at the top? That is the difficulty at the present time. Chu Ko-liang was unquestionably a greater man than the first sovereign of Shuh, Liu Pei; but he served him faithfully as the man to whom fate had given the pre-eminence.

That is the kind of man that the Republic seems so sadly to lack and the stories of friction between Yang Sen and Liu Tsen-hou and the latter's conference from which he omitted Yang Sen are not reassuring. This is how the pamphlet ends:—

"Ever since the Revolution, the Chinese people are constantly meeting with misfortune; but these misfortunes are the result of fighting. The unscrupulous originators of these petty wars carry them on under various pretexts, such as, 'Self-government,' 'Liberty,' and 'Enforcement of law,' etc. There are really only a few of these enemies, who work to satisfy their own selfish ends. Now, in spite of whatever pretexts they take for fighting against Gen. Yang, he only does his best to unify the Province, and bring about union throughout the country. For without union nothing can be accomplished. Gen. Yang says that he regards union as the most important and the most urgent step to be taken. If union be not consummated he will reprove himself seriously. After union has been gained *he will do his best to manage and direct inside political movements."*

The italics are mine and I am thinking of Liu Tsen-hou. "If two men ride a horse one must be in front."

HONGKONG PROPERTY DEAL

Hongkong, June 14.

The Banque de l'Indo-Chine has bought the Victoria Building, next to the Chartered Bank, for $87,000 with the object of erecting a new bank building.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

The Hankow native press is informed that the cotton-mill at Chiaochow, which is capitalized by Japanese merchants, will start work at the beginning of July. The majority of operatives, both men and women, will be employed from Shanghai.

SENSATIONAL PIRACY AT CHEFOO

Southern Attempt to Capture One of Adm. Wen's Ships: Vessel Attacked Instead

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Chefoo, June 13.

The Ching An, a small Chinese-owned vessel which plys regularly twice a day between Chefoo and Yamatao, a few miles south of this port, received the unwelcome attention of a pirate band whilst only a few minutes out of the latter port. Reports indicate that these men were not the usual ruffians, but officers from the South who had in view the capture of the warship Hai Chi, which has for some months been lying in the bay. It will probably be remembered that this vessel was at one time the property of the Southern forces, but came over to Marshal Wu and the North, being at present under the jurisdiction of Admiral Wen. The idea of the outlaws was apparently to capture the vessel and restore her to the South.

There are various stories accounting for the reason why this plan was not proceeded with and, in view of the fact that they are so conflicting, it would be unwise to quote any one particular report as authentic. However, the Ching An was eventually beached and deserted by her captors. The vessel has since returned to Chefoo and is again making her two trips per day. According to the Chinese newspapers, 13 of the "bandits" have already been captured, and are now in Chefoo awaiting execution. The ringleader, a man named Wu, has not yet been apprehended and a reward of $300 has been offered to anyone responsible for his arrest.

Although no lives were lost in connexion with this affair it is pleasing to note that the authorities are showing no leniency with those concerned. It is to be hoped that their attitude will effectually put a stop to any further attempts at bandity.

Holiday-makers Arriving.

Chefoo is now entering upon its summer season and visitors are already commencing to arrive in fair numbers. It is anticipated that, with the arrival of the American Fleet in the near future most of the available accommodation will be bespoken. The latest report received here is that U. S. S. Huron will arrive on the 23rd instant whilst the destroyers and other craft will arrive later, the whole fleet being here by the July 15. The new Broadway Hotel, of which mention was made in an earlier letter, has been completely booked, as have also the eight bungalows attached to same. It should prove extremely popular with visitors and every effort seems to be being made to cater for guests in the best possible manner.

There is only one great drawback, apart from the increase which is caused in the cost of living, from the visit of the Fleet and that is the number of bars and cabarets which are opened in the town. These are to be found in the most conspicuous places and are most decidedly not conducive to the popularity of the port. The residents have recently, in view of the extraordinary large number of bars and other undesirable places which have been opened, petitioned to the International Committee to use its influence to have such places closed immediately. The petition will in due course be handed for consideration to the Consular Body who will, it is presumed pass it to the Chinese authorities. It is greatly to be hoped that the last-named officials will realize the importance and necessity of taking the action suggested. Admiral Washington, who recently spent a few days in port in his yacht the General Alava, endorses the views of those who have signed the petition. He has gone so far as to state that, unless the majority of the bars are closed and all undesirable places abolished, he will not allow the Fleet to visit Chefoo.

The Navy Y.M.C.A. is already installed here and, from information received, its programmes and work lead one to believe that the institution will be a greater success than ever.

The new Indo-China S. N. Co.'s str. Lienshing arrived in port today. The company are certainly to be congratulated upon this addition to their fleet. She will be regularly on the Shanghai-Tientsin run and will undoubtedly be the most popular vessel on the run.

CAPTURED MISSIONARIES IN KUANGSI

Escape of Mr. Ray, but Mr. Jaffray Still Held

Peking, June 12.

A telegram from the British Consul at Changsha says that the Rev. Wilson, a British missionary who recently set out from Yingchow in an effort to obtain some news of the missionaries in the beleagured city of Kueilin, reached his objective on June 1 and hoped to enter the city on the following day.

June 14.

A Consular telegram from Canton reports that the American missionary, Mr. Rex Ray, who together with other missionaries had been captured by bandits near Pinglo while proceeding to Kueilin with the object of succouring the missionaries in that beleaguered city, escaped on June 11. Mr. R. A. Jaffray, the British missionary, remains in captivity.

The news reached Canton from the U.S.S. Pampanga, which is at present at Wuchow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

C. M. S. Part Expected Shortly at Yungchow

Mr. J. A. Bailey, local secretary of the Church Missionary Society, courteously informs us that he has received a telegram from Yungchowfu, dated the 12th instant, worded as follows:—"Kueilin party due here 17th."

Mr. Bailey is of opinion that this refers to the members of the Church Missionary Society who were in Kueilin during its investment, and are probably Bishop and Mrs. Holden, the Rev. and Mrs. H. S. Bailey, the Rev. and Mrs. J. N. Bland, Dr. Charlotte Bacon, Mission Santter, Pim and Watkins.

OPIUM EXTIRPATION IN ANHUI

Farmers Who Paid the Tax and Then Lost the Opium Profits: Someone's $200,000 Squeeze

Peking, June 10.

The latest report received by the International Anti-Opium Association from Anhui contains a lamentation which is strong evidence of Tuli Ma's attempts to clear the province of poppy cultivation. The report is evidently intended to arouse sympathy with farmers who paid the poppy land tax and afterwards suffered the loss of their crops.

The report says that in 1923 Anhui produced several millions of dollars by opium tax, and the people in many districts were encouraged to plant again this year. In some places the opium has already been harvested, while in others it is nearly ready for harvest.

In reply to a recent order from the Tuli, General Shih Shun-yu, Commandant of the 5th Brigade, replied that General Ma was urgently in need of funds to pay the troops, and that both Wuwei and Pochow had raised about $200,000 by the opium tax. This angered the Tuli and orders were given for all poppy in those districts to be uprooted immediately. This order was transmitted to the Wuwei Magistrate by the Taoyin of Anking, and the poppy was immediately pulled up.

Who Got the $200,000?

Some one has the $200,000 and the people have lost their opium. Had the officials obeyed the mandates issued last February, the farmers would have sown other crops. The loss of their crops has brought many farmers to the verge of ruin.

The officials of Wuwei anticipated this year profits as large as they reaped last year, namely, about $1,000,000 from the land tax and the subsequent taxes on the opium produced. These funds were to be divided as follows: $200,000 to the Tuli, $200,000 to the Wangpu, $200,000 to the Taoyin, $100,000 to the Magistrate, $100,000 to the Opium Commissioners, and generous sums to the gentry. The people now are demanded that the officials concerned should be severely punished.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN CANTON

But Little Fighting: American Interest in Arsenal Plant: More Protested Taxes

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Canton, June 11.

During the last week there has been considerable activity amongst the military forces, although there has been little if any fighting. The situation round Waichow has not materially altered, in spite of the continual rumours that serious attacks are about to be made.

The most interesting event is the reorganization of the Cantonese troops, who will be formed into three Armies, the First Army under Gen. Leung Hung-kai, the Second under Gen. Hsu Hsiung-chih (who is also C.-in-C. the Troops), and the Third under Gen. Li Fuk-lam.

Further additions have also been made to the number of foreign troops who are assisting Dr. Sun Yat-sen, by the arrival at Yungyuen of some 4000 Fukienese troops. Their commanders have been in Canton the last few days interviewing the Doctor and making arrangements for cooperation.

Efforts are still being made to get the troops stationed in the City to move outside, but so far little progress has been made, with the result that the numerous disturbances caused by disorderly soldiers continue. The authorities are doing their best to put a stop to them but have great difficulties to face.

Arsenal Machinery Dispute

Considerable interest was caused recently by the stopping of the removal of certain machinery which has been lying in a godown here for some years for the Canton Arsenal, awaiting the final payments. The owners, the Davis Co., renewed the contract with successive Governments, but the last one expired last June, and they wished to sell the machinery elsewhere. It was to be removed, but owing to opposition of the Canton authorities they were unable to get coolies to handle the cargo in Canton and imported labour from Manila, and chartered a Japanese steamer to transport the cargo. The matter was then taken up before the American Consul-General, and a means of settling the matter amicably is being sought. This, it is believed, has now been done although the terms of settlement are not yet known.

Pawnshop Strike

On June 9 the pawnshops in Canton all went on strike as a protest against a new tax. They have not yet resumed business, and great inconvenience is being caused to the poor people in the City. It is reported that they are about to resume.

The question of the Civil Governorship has not yet been finally settled, but it is almost certain that Gen. Hsu Shao-ch'ing, who was Civil Governor some months ago will be re-appointed. He is well-liked by the merchants, and during his last tenure of office was popular.

It is announced that there will be a large review of the Gendarmerie, Police, and Merchants' Volunteers, on the North Parade Ground in about ten days time. It is expected that there will be about 5000 men on parade and they will be inspected by Dr. Sun Yat-sen and Gen. Hsu Hsiung-chih. The arrangements are in the hands of Gen. Wu Te-chen, the Commissioner of Police and Commander of the Provincial Gendarmerie. The Foreign Consuls and communities are to be invited.

HONGKONG GOVERNMENT AND PIRACY

Ship's Officers' Award for Wounds Received

Hongkong, June 16.

The Government has decided to make an *ex gratia* payment of $1,000 each to Capt. MacKechnie and the Chief Officer, Mr. Robb, in respect of the wounds which they incurred in the piracy of the Sanning.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FROM July 1 next, sleeping cars will be inaugurated on the Peking-Suiyuan Railway.

NEW COMMERCIAL BANK FOR UPPER YANGTZE

Mashal Wu Pei-fu's Interest: Enough Capital to Begin

Peking, June 13.

Mr. Sun Tan-lin, former Minister of the Interior, who is forming a commercial bank with a capital of $20,000,000, to operate in the Upper Yangtze regions, and who spent the Dragon Festival holidays in Loyang with Marshal Wu Pei-fu, has left there for Hankow. It is understood that Mr. Sun has now an available capital of some $4,000,000.

In accordance with the usual regulations, with one-fourth of the authorized capital paid up, the bank will commence operations, which, it is expected, will take place in the early autumn. Mr. Sun will go to Szechuan and Kiangsu to make the necessary arrangements for the opening of the bank.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

RUSSIAN REFUGEES IN THE PHILIPPINES

Adm. Stark's Men Eager to Gain Admission to U. S.: Health Tests to Be Made

Manila, June 5.

A survey of the condition of the 250 Russian refugees, who arrived here nearly a year and a half ago from Vladivostok, is to be made this month by the Philippines Health Department, the Bureau of Customs and a physician of the United States quarantine service to determine whether they are qualified to enter the United States. There appears to be little likelihood of the refugees being allowed to land in the United States for many months to come, but Admiral Stark, who led the colony from Vladivostok, expresses the hope that arrangement for admission of most of the Russians may be made.

About a year ago some 600 of the 850 who came here in February 1923 were sent to San Francisco on the army transport Merritt, and reports from them about favourable conditions in the United States have caused their friends and relatives remaining here to renew their efforts to reach America.

The colony of some 7,000, headed by Admiral Stark, adherent of the old monarchical *régime*, was forced to leave Vladivostok by the Soviet. They took 16 small ships and set out late in 1922 to look for a country in which to land. Several thousand were dropped in Korea and other thousands were left in China, a number of ships being sold *en route* to obtain subsistence. When they reached the Philippines, the personnel had dwindled to 850 and the number of ships to 11. During the last year and a half five more of the ships have been sold, leaving six now at the Olongapo naval station.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINESE IN CANADA

Strong Resentment at New Order Requiring all Chinese to Register

Victoria, B.C., June 15.

Chinese in Canada have designated Dominion Day, July 1, as "Humiliation Day" to mark their resentment at the Dominion regulations requiring all residents of Chinese origin to report to the immigration officials for registration before the end of June. Thirty-eight thousand, according to the last census, will be affected by the order, which was passed last year. The Chinese regard it as an unwarranted affront to the dignity of the race. While Canadian flags on July I will fly at the mast-head, Chinese flags in Vancouver and elsewhere will be half-masted.—Reuter's American Service.

IN a telegram to the Government, Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, Chargé d'Affaires in London, reports that the British Government has consented to conduct further negotiations for the restitution of Weihaiwei, in order to reach a speedy settlement. This according to the Chinese press. One cannot think, in view of all that is past, that it is likely.

PEKING'S PRICE FROM THE SOVIET

Reported $500,000 Were Paid by Moscow for Recognition for Dragon Festival Needs

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 10.

It is rumoured that part of the price for China's signature to the Koo-Karakhan agreement was $500,000, which the Soviet Mission paid to the Government to tide it over the Dragon Boat Festival. If this is so, it explains what Mr. Karakhan really meant in a speech he delivered recently to a jubilant host of students. The Soviet representative, according to the faithful Rosta, referrred to the unwritten part of the Agreement. Now this in itself had an ancient and fish-like smell. People in China are very familiar with unwritten parts to agreements; even the British High Courts have been told about them by the Marconi Company. But Karakhan, of course, did not mean what everybody else means; he meant some high falutin' nonsense about the soul bond in the understanding. Listen to what he said:—

"What I wish to say now is something about the unwritten part of the Agreement but one which is perhaps more valuable and precious and which both you and we keep in our hearts."

That was all, and the students applauded. It is not suggested that Mr. Karakhan wilfully misled the students. He was simply poetizing a very vulgar transaction, but the poetry was all that mattered to the students.

As a matter of fact, the Soviet envoy was delicately truthful. The present, or loan, which he is reported to have given to the Ministry of Finance was certainly "precious and valuable;" it has left the Mission poorer by half a million dollars. It was also "precious and valuable" to the Chinese, for it helped considerably to meet the obligations of the Government at this time of the year. On their part they have made no mention of the matter at all, and Mr. Karakhan's reference that he keeps it in his heart may be an unpleasant reminder to them of a hope that it will be repaid. The Soviet representative, who is generally accused of bluntness of speech, surely was too polite on this occasion. To have been more explicit, he should have said; "What I wish to say now is something about the unwritten part of the agreement, but one which perhaps is more valuable and precious and which you keep in your treasury and we keep in our hearts." But that is not the "dope" for the students.

H. M. S. ROBIN'S BRUSH WITH PIRATES

Commander Tudway Wounded: Numbers of Pirates Killed by Machine-gun Fire

Peking, June 11.

Despatches from Canton give an account of an incident which occurred recently on the East River, near Wuchow, when the British river gunboat Robin was fired upon by some soldiers from the banks, and, returning the fire, inflicted a good many casualties.

It appears that the Robin had been sent up the river to bring down some British-owned launches which had been captured by pirates. Near Wuchow some soldiers opened fire from the banks and Commander Tudway, of the Robin, was wounded in the thigh. The gunboat replied with a machine-gun fusillade which sent the soldiers scurrying into a handy clump of bamboos. Ranging accurately with the assistance of a pagoda near by, the Robin's machine-gunners then swept through the bamboos, killing about 30 of the soldiers and wounding an equal number. The enemy's "artillery" consisted of an antiquated muzzle-loader, the missile from which bounced harmlessly off the gunboat's side.

When the affair was over, the Robin went on up the river and had no difficulty at all in collecting the launches and bringing them back.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE Waichiaopu has instructed the Bureau of Foreign Affairs here to submit a list of schools, hospitals and other property belonging to Russian missionary organizations.

NEW HEALTH RESORT OF MANCHURIA

Jelantun Which Harbin Railway Administration Is Doing Its Best to Make Attractive

From Our Own Correspondent.

Harbin, June 9.

The excursion that had been arranged by the Railway Administration to that delightful summer resort Jelantun was a success in every way and every credit is due to those who were responsible for the details. It is quite true that a number of people who were expected to make the trip decided otherwise at the last minute either being depressed about the Sino-Russian agreement or fearing the weather conditions but they were the losers. The train-de-luxe consisting of observation car, restaurant car, three pullmans and a baggage car pulled out of Harbin Station at 11 p.m. on Wednesday evening and the 80 passengers on board immediately made themselves comfortable and turned in for the night, being informed that breakfast would be served on the train at 8 a.m. on the morrow just before arrival at Jelantun. Those up early on Thursday morning soon realized that perfect weather was in store for them and the excellent Manchurian atmosphere, as the mountainous district was approached, had an exhilarating effect on everybodys' spirits.

Jelantun was reached without incident soon after nine o'clock and undoubtedly is the most delightfully situated of the numerous attractive summer resorts along the Chinese Eastern Railway system and with a wonderful future. It is at an elevation of some 1100 feet above sea-level and is situated in a valley on a most beautiful mountain rivulet, the Yar River, which has its source in the Hinghan range some 90 miles distant. The mountains surrounding the resort rise to a maximum height of some 2000 feet whilst the valley is over four miles in width and covered with a thick grass of luxuriant growth abounding with a great variety of wild flowers giving a profusion of colour.

Accommodation and Amusement

Under the able guidance of Dr. Chaplik, who is in no small way responsible for the creation of this summer resort, the visitors were mustered together and shown over the place. One could not fail to notice that the streets are well laid out and lined with trees and that everything is most spick and span as becomes a model and up-to-date village. First of all a visit was paid to the Casino, with its spacious verandah opening into a grove of trees and well laid out flowerbeds. Here some hundreds of persons can be accommodated for meals, whilst in the building itself is another large room, a retiring room spacious lavatories, a hairdresser's saloon and a bar and at the back connected by a corridor pantries and up-to-date and spacious kitchen and usual service rooms to be found in European hotels. The Casino is being operated by the International Sleeping Car Company who regardless of expense have fixed up the "appointments" in a manner that cannot be excelled in the whole of the Far East. Close to the Casino is a two-storied brick building used as a hotel with numerous well-furnished bedrooms available by the day or month at most reasonable rates, 80 from $1.50 per diem and $40 per mensum. In addition to this there is another similar two-storied building on the bank of the river and two large bungalows for the same purpose thus offering accommodation for 100 or more persons. Besides this there are several furnished villas and cottages of two or more rooms specially adapted for families requiring accommodation for the whole season. All are solidly built in brick and equipped with radiators or Russian stoves so that they may be used in the winter as well.

The most attractive feature of the resort is its bathing pool. For this special purpose a branch of the main stream has been damned and sandy beaches improvised. The water runs over the dam, a fall of some four feet. The falls are illuminated at night as well as the paths leading to it creating a dazzling effect. On the beach about the pool there are canvas canopy bathing—boxes, reclining canvas chairs and other facilities for bathers and onlookers besides a few boats and canoes. As the river is fed by numerous springs along its course it is always cool during the middle of the day. At present the temperature of the water does not exceed 16 degrees Reamur (68 Fahrenheit). A few hundred yards from the pool is the main stream of the river and here one can find many beautiful natural bathing pools varying in depth from two to 15 feet. Foot paths have everywhere been made and rustic-bridges thrown across the numerous streams and thanks to the trees and foliage there is plenty of shade making the spot shady and delightful during the whole day.

Musical Delights

Though there is no formality about the social life of the place everybody changed for the dinner-concert which wound up the day. Thanks again to Dr. Chaplik all the principals of the Operetta have been engaged for the season by the Railway Administration who have placed a first-class railway car at their disposal on which they reside. Besides giving concerts at the Casino they are also to give performances from time to time at the Railway Club which boasts of a stage. The dinner menu was as excellent as the tiffins. The company broke up shortly after 11 o'clock many going to the waterfall to see the illuminations and fairy-like effect before turning in and satisfied with themselves and the world at large. Congratulations to the Casino management that they intend to keep early hours and the place is to close by mid-night, it is as things should be at a summer resort. Congratulations are also due to Mr. Yanashevsky the untiring Harbin agent of the Wagon-Lits and his assistants who attending to the comforts of the guests both on the train and at the Casino. It is impossible to write at one sitting as to all the attractions that Jalantun offers and with what care is being taken to make all visitors comfortable, the three days spent at this resort by the writer were to short to appreciate. Seeing that the journey takes some nine hours from Harbin and notwithstanding the fact that it is made during the night, the length of the trip is rather against the place for people who can get away for only a day or so, seeing that there are other summer resorts along the C.E.R. much nearer to Harbin. But for those who can get away for a few days or longer we have no hesitation in recommending Jelantun as an ideal spot for spending a holiday under the best climatic conditions as well as with acquiescence of comfort.

IMPORTANT NEW BRIDGE FOR TIENTSIN

Tender Accepted by Haiho Conservancy Board: Reported Price Over Five Lakhs

Tientsin, June 15.

The Haiho Conservancy Board has, upon the recommendation of its Chief Engineer, Lieut. Pincione, accepted the tender of the Etablissements Dade & Schneider, who are represented by Olivier & Co., in China, for the new international bridge. The new bridge will be of the type known as the Scherzer Rolling Lift.

What the cost will be has not been stated, but the sum is reported to be more than five lakhs of Taels. Some 31 tenders were received from firms of many nationalities, ranging between five lakhs and over ten lakhs.

The bridge in question is to be built to the west of the present bridge and will form a continuation of the Rue de France. The present bridge is considered inadequate for Tientsin's needs, and when the new bridge is completed, which is expected to be somewhere about 1925, it is expected to do much for the facilitation of communications and commerce.

AMERICAN MISSIONS IN JAPAN

Tokio, June 18.

More moderate counsels prevailing and the Committee appointed by the Japanese Christian Leaders' Conference failing to agree regarding a definite course of action, the proposal to break off with American missions has been dropped.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE ARMS EMBARGO IN CHINA

British Government Strongly in Favour of Effective Application

London, June 16.

In the House of Commons to-day Mr. P. Hannon (Conservative) asked whether Mr. MacDonald's attention had been called to the inadequacy of the present embargo on the importation of arms into China and whether, seeing that it operated in favour of countries which had failed strictly to observe the terms of the agreement prohibiting this trade, he would consider the desirability of modifying the agreement so that British manufacturers might have the opportunity of tendering for Chinese armament contracts.

Mr. MacDonald replied in the affirmative to the first part of the question, adding that the Government attached great importance to the arms embargo agreeement and, in order to secure its effective and uniform application, were endeavouring to expedite replacement of the existing agreement by the modified form proposed at the Washington Conference and elaborated by the diplomatic representatives at Peking. If Mr. Hannon were aware of any recent tenders by foreign manufacturers for supply of arms to China, he would be glad of particulars.

Mr. Hannon asked whether Mr. MacDonald was aware that foreign countries were sending arms into China now.

Mr. MacDonald said that he thought Mr. Hannon would gather that from his former reply. He would be exceedingly obliged if Mr. Hannon would send him any information he had of a specific case.—Reuter.

HUPEH KIDNAPPERS' BARBARISM

Mutilating Bodies of Children to Make Chinese Medicine: Bandits again Active

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, June 11.

A considerable amount of kidnapping is still going on in this centre; in fact, cases are said to be of almost daily occurrence, the victims being both boys and girls. The criminals are suspected to be in hiding amongst the immense river boat population of this neighbourhood, and the Hanyang river police have been given orders to make a strict search for suspicious characters among all the boats on the Han and Yangtze Rivers. Yesterday, one offender was caught in the streets of Wuchang. He was seen in a ricsha with a girl of 15, and a policeman, thinking the circumstances suspicious, stopped him to make inquiries. The girl was found to have been rendered stupid by some of drug. The man was taken to prison, where no doubt he will suffer the fate which he richly deserves.

The motives for this vile crime are no doubt varied. It is probably most profitable to sell the child as a slave. But it is said that another motive is to kill the victim and take out the eyes and internal organs to make medicines. Last week, at Hsientaotsen, a market town up the Han River, the bodies of several kidnapped children were found mutilated, and this fact lends probability to a statement which otherwise one would be unwilling to believe. That such a hideous crime is not unthought-of in China is shown by the fact that it is the very crime of which the early missionaries were so frequently accused.

Hupeh Bandit Leader Active.

Brigandage is still rife in the north of this Province. Around Anlu, there is such a reign of terror that all the wealthy inhabitants have left the villages and taken refuge inside the city. Only the poor are safe outside the city walls. The brigands are said to be defeated and disbanded soldiers from the fighting in Szechuan. Lin Hsin-huei, the Hupeh bandit leader, is still active in the regions round Suichow and Tsaoyang. Chi Kung-shan, the summer resort north of Hankow, is to be guarded this summer, as it was last year, by a special company of soldiers sent up by the Tuchun.

It is curious to find one of your correspondents referring to the T'ong Shan Shae as a new secret society. The T'ong Shan Shae is a religious society, which has been growing for at least 10 or 12 years. It has branches in nearly all the large towns of North and Central China, and numbers amongst its leaders many of the most respected men in such places. Its main object is a kind of religious eclecticism, i.e., it seeks to combine the best features of all religions. But it seems to be most akin to Buddhism. At its meetings, the members sit cross-legged in silent meditation, as the Buddhists do. The rules of the society are secret; but it has no political complexion, and there is probably no more harm in it than there is in freemasonry.

WATER LOW IN KIANGSU CANALS

Cargo Boats Aground Everywhere: Awful State of Soochow Creek

By Our Own Correspondent.

Soochow, June 17.

Returning from Shanghai by boat the other day, I could not fail to be impressed with the chronic condition of the Soochow Creek. Within a very few years no boat drawing 40 inches will be able to get through.

Even beyond the creek, however, I passed launches and heavy cargo boats hard aground. The launch Taiwu which was to have begun her run on the Great Lake between Wusih and Huchowfu some weeks ago, has not yet been able to get into the middle, though she was able to cross the eastern end some time ago. Until there is more than another foot of water, this boat will be useless. Her owners are naturally very disappointed at not being able to start her during the silk season. A good rise in the water level had been hoped for early in April.

The new homes for the foreign staff of the A.P.C. will soon have their roofs on. These residences are being built in the Concession, just south of the Commissioner of Custom's residence. Near these new residences the Standard Oil Co. bought an old house two years ago which they practically re-built, making it a very pleasant dwelling. Together with the staff of the Customs this makes quite a foreign community in the Concession. Though quite a distance from their offices, the oil men will be in close proximity to their tanks and godowns.

These rains have been most welcome. As the water in the lakes and canals has been so low, the rice fields have naturally been at a considerable level above the water. Pumping with water wheels has therefore been extremely arduous, men and buffalo cows being hard at it day and night.

NEW BRIDGE OVER YELLOW RIVER

Peking, June 13.

A Loyang report says that Marshal Wu Pei-fu is in receipt of a telegram from the Ministry of Communications, dated June 12, with reference to the matter of the reconstruction of the bridge across the Yellow River for the Peking-Hankow Railway. It is understood that a preliminary agreement will be signed shortly between the Chinese Government and an Anglo-Belgian syndicate. The cost of the entire work is not yet ascertainable.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

OBITUARY

Mrs. L. S. Williams

Peking, June 17.

The death occurred here yesterday afternoon of Mrs. L. S. Williams, who was well-known in Shanghai, following an attack of dysentery and paratyphoid.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CLAN FIGHTS GROWING FIERCER

No Longer Question of Face-saving, Fisticuffs and Muzzle-loaders

From Our Own Correspondent.

Taichow, Chê., June 9.

Taichow would scarcely be itself if all were living in peace and quiet. A visit to the two hospitals in the city assures one of the not very comforting fact that it still is "itself," as far as the country districts are concerned at any rate. During the last fortnight or so several men have been carried in suffering from gun shot wounds. Dr. Sagerguist, in charge of the C. I. M. Hospital, has had to deal with one specially serious case of a young fellow wounded in a faction fight. Fortunately he is successfully pulling the patient through.

Whilst recently on a visit in the northern district I was awakened with a start at about 3.30 a.m. by the banging of guns in the neighbourhood. Later on I found one young fellow had been shot dead in the street of a hamlet near by. His dead body was laid near where it fell and covered with straw until some responsible person had viewed it, and a coffin had been made for its reception. The fight took place between two factions in the same village and at surprisingly close quarters. I had occasion to visit the village in the afternoon and found that whilst a middle aged man was evidently the leader of one party, only young men were armed with guns.

Then and Now.

Their guns were of a very superior pattern to those used a few years ago, and had the appearance of service rifles though not of recent make. In the old days villagers used muzzle loaders and sometimes, in their excitement, forgot to put in the bullet, or forgot to ram it home and allowed it to roll out before they fired. The powder, too, in the former times was carried about in lumps, broken up in the street, and divided round. These things I have seen, for I had the privilege, doubtful one it may be, many years ago of being in the thick of a village fight. The present-day contest is quite a different matter. Rifles and cartridges are used. Men are killed or wounded in greater numbers now. Although none of the fighters have confessed as much, I believe the old order of fighting was preferred to that of to-day. Fewer lives were lost, less serious wounds were inflicted, and, if anything, the old guns made more noise than the ones in use to-day, so that "face" was quite effectually saved.

On my way back to the city on the following day I met about 40 soldiers on their way to the scene of battle. Probably the two factions will conceal their weapons, as well as animosity, whilst the soldiers are in their midst. When they return to camp both may reappear unless in the meantime their interests have become absorbed in the cultivation of rice.

Poor Wheat Crop.

Harvesting operations have now practically ceased and most, if not all, the wheat has been gathered in. The crop has been a disappointing one, thin and of rather a poor quality. It seemed to me that what wheat growers call "rust" was making its appearance in one or two districts. No sooner was the wheat gathered in than the work of planting out rice was begun. Most of this work has now been done and for the rest of summer the workers' energy will be bent upon keeping the roots well watered.

As far as personal observation and inquiry go, no poppy cultivation is carried on down here. The habit of opium smoking amongst the well-to-do appears, however, to be steadily growing.

Stories of bandits kidnapping persons at Shaohsing and Ningpo and bringing them to Shanghai where negotiations for their release have been going on between the kidnappers and the families concerned through middlemen, continue to be a prominent feature in the Chinese press.

NIGHT OF FEAR ON YUNNAN BORDER

Between Chinese and Burmese Border Tribes: Traveller's Escape

A travelling representative of the B.-A. T. Co. sends the following vivid narrative of a fight, in which the Chinese were badly routed, between border tribes on the Burma-Chinese frontier, west of Tengyueh, Yunnan province.

Tengyueh, Yunnan, April 29.

We left Tengyueh for Lungchang-kai on Friday, April 24, the Magistrate having made no difficulty about granting an escort. Mr. Harding, the British Consul at Tengyueh, gave me all the information he had regarding recent raids by Kachins (border tribes) and fighting between them and the Chinese at Kanai, but assured me of his conviction, based on the experience of other British subjects during this war, that the Kachins were in no way hostile to foreigners or even to traders, and that there was no danger to be expected if I undertook the journey. Mr. Harding even proposed to travel with me, but had to abandon the idea at the last moment.

We spent the first night at Nan-tien where conditions were quite peaceful. The next day we reached Kanai without mishap and found the village deserted by all inhabitants and with only 150 Chinese troops in possession.

We called on the Commanding Officer, a Major Yen, who told us that the tribes were in rebellion, and that Kanai had been attacked several times during the last few days. They also expected an attack that evening as the enemy had collected in large numbers and were camped in the hills a few *li* away. Taking this to be one of the usual rumours that brighten Chinese warfare, we returned to our inn and turned in at an early hour.

An Early Morning Strafe

At 2 a.m. we were startled by an outbreak of firing. We got up and dressed and settled down to wait for the morning. The firing gradually increased in volume and before long we could here the bowls of the enemy who had apparently entirely surrounded the village. There is open country all round Kanai and no protecting wall.

At 5 a.m. the attack evidently started and the noise was terrific. They were evidently beaten back however, and things became quiet for a while. A glimpse out of the windows revealed a dull red glow which conveyed to us the disturbing news that part of the village had already been fired.

It was a terrible night. Every now and then a horn would sound—a low droning note like a distant foghorn. This would be followed by a deep cry taken up on all sides, exultant and fiendish, increasing in volume. There must have been at least of the enemy, but Chinese reports, of course, put the figure as high as 6,000.

Daylight at Last

At daybreak—the most welcome daybreak I have ever experienced—the garrison sallied forth to attack blowing trumpets and shouting to keep their courage up. We went out and inspected our bodyguard—a band of 20 ruffians who had been detailed to protect us. Most of them seemed to have been recruited locally and they were a weird collection—armed to the teeth with old muzzle-loaders, swords and even cross-bows. They seemed quite cheerful and we gave them tea and cigarettes.

We were soon forced to go indoors, as the firing had again started. Until 10 a.m. the battle continued—the howls of the enemy becoming more and more distinct. Bullets whistled over our refuge. The awful drone of their horns seemed to be coming nearer and nearer. The smell of burning was getting stronger and when we ventured out we could see a huge fire about 50 yards away on our side of the street with the wind blowing in our direction.

It became evident that we must soon make a move, unless we wanted to be roasted, and we were very relieved when an orderly came rushing up and told us to prepare to retreat. We hurriedly saddled the mules and were barely ready when the word came to run. We were compelled to abandon all our luggage and dash for the East Gate under heavy fire. My cook, who was the last to leave the inn saw six Kachins with naked swords and streaming hair coming over the back wall. If we had delayed a minute longer things might have been most unpleasant. As we emerged one of our escort was hit in the hand by a bullet. He picked up his rifle and followed us. At the East Gate we were delayed in the open for what seemed an eternity waiting for the remainder of the troops. The troops with us were panick-stricken but one of the officers held them back and kept control splendidly. As soon as the remainder were sighted we were off, and with a wild yell dashed for the open.

Nightmare Retreat

I am not ashamed to say that I was among the leading members of the retreat and I ran for my very life. I have never heard such a pandemonium. It was a regular pantomime battle, our troops firing as they ran, the bullets whizzing by and hitting the road everywhere. It seems a miracle that none of us were injured, for the Kachins were lying in ditches 100 yards away firing for all they were worth. We could distinctly see the puffs of smoke, and in some places they were standing up and firing. We must have made a glorious target, on the elevated road. Chen Tsu-liang, our Tengyueh manager, had a bullet through the rim of his hat, the cook a bullet between his legs. He was weeping bitterly when at last we stopped. I managed to seize a frantic pony and scramble on, but was thrown into a ditch and wrenched my knee. My next effort was more successful and I caught a mule and was able to hang on.

About a mile from Kanai we stopped and collected our party together. There were remarkably few casualties, a few soldiers wounded and all our party untouched. The total killed and wounded among the Chinese we were told, was about 20. The Kachin casualties were said to be much heavier.

Countrypeople Slaughtered

We set out at once and reached Chetou before dusk. Here we have a dealer who put us up for the night and gave us a good dinner. The following day (yesterday) we returned to Tengyueh and celebrated our wonderful escape. The staff are all badly shaken and have asked for a short holiday before returning to Talifu.

Since writing the above I have heard from Mr. Harding that "every Chinese in the Vale of Kanai, man, woman and child, who did not succeed in escaping has been slaughtered."

HANGCHOW HOSPITAL EXTENSION

Women's Leper Hospital, Fresh Air Home and Other Buildings on Pine Hill

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Hangchow, June 10.

To-day Mr. Hsao, the Chief of Police, opened the new C.M.S. Leper Hospital for Women, the Home of Rest for Nurses and Workers, the Home of Rest for Doctors and Workers, the Isolation Hospital for Women, and the Fresh Air Home for men on Pine Avenue Hill.

Dr. Chang Pao-kyin, Dr. Duncan Main's first pupil who came to him 40 years ago, and is now a leading Hangchow physician, was in the chair, and gave an account of the C.M.S. Hospital's leper work from its inception.

The Police Chief was presented with a gold-plated solid silver key as a memento of the occasion. He and Dr. Li, Chief of the Army Medical Corps here, and a number of other guests referred enthusiastically to the good work of the hospital.

Dr. Main, Principal of the Hospital and School, responding, thanked everybody for their kind words. What he had done in ten years was now before them, and since his return from furlough the five new homes they were opening had been built, costing $26,000. Of this sum only $2,000 had been subscribed by the Chinese for the New Leper Hospital for Women.

VILLAGE WORK BY MISSIONS

Experiences of the Ningpo Missionary Association

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Ningpo, June 12.

Last evening at the house of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas the Ningpo Missionary Association held its June meeting. There was a very good attendance of the five societies making up the Association:—The Anglicans, Baptists, Presbyterians, Methodists and C. I. M. The chair was taken at 7 p.m. by the President, Rev. W. Tremberth and after the dismissal of preliminary business the subject for discussion at the meeting was announced. This was "The Problem of Village Work" and was very ably introduced by Bishop Molony, who at the outset of his remarks called the attention of the members to the work now being done by Mr. Roland Allen, an independent and friendly critic of Missions. This gentleman, said Bishop Molony, had disagreed with some of the methods adopted by long established Missions in appropriating to themselves the new causes that had sprung up quite spontaneously in places hitherto untouched by the Foreign Missionary, thereby curbing the free expansion of a Chinese Christian Church on its own lines and stereotyping to its own form an activity which it would have been far better to have left to develop in its own way.

While not explicitly agreeing with this criticism Bishop Molony contended that there was good in it and he proceeded to point out cases where in the village work of the C.M.S. such spontaneous growths had taken place and how that Society had dealt with them. He also pointed out the system by which the same Society encouraged self support and self control among its Church communities showing how by a reduction of five per cent. per annum of the Mission grants the native Church was slowly trained to assume responsibility and weaned from its dependence upon foreign supplies.

Mr. Tremberth, who has had many years of village work in Yunnan, followed by touching on some vital problems which he declared affected the very existence and continuance of Christianity not only in the country districts but ultimately in China itself. One of these was the tending of the young people. In his (the speaker's) experience the attention of the Chinese pastors was directed almost exclusively to the adults of the Church. Sunday Schools were at a minimum and even societies like the Y.P.S.C.E. had their membership chiefly of grown up people. These in turn had not, it seemed, had enthusiasm enough to bring in their children to admission to the Church and consequently as time had passed the membership of many of the country churches had declined. Services therefore directed to the young were very desirable and to gain these many means might be employed; the more effective employment for instance of the talents and energy of young students who had returned to the village from the Middle School and the rendering of services more interesting by the introduction of a certain amount of form and ritual provided that the purity of spirit was maintained.

The Rev. F. R. Millican, Principal of the Ningpo Middle School aided the debate by relating the work undertaken by the students of his own institution among the outlying villages and showing how fruitful it was on both sides, by giving the student on the one hand right ideas of Christian service and bringing enlightenment and hope on the other into places left destitute of spiritual care. Other contributors were Miss Zimmerman of the Riverside Girls' Academy, the Rev. S. J. Delight and the Rev. W. L. Bromley who brought the discussion to a fitting conclusion by the recital of verses from Tagore showing the essential connexion of the Church with "The poorest, lowliest and lowest," such as were found in the villages of China.

The chairman then announced a change in the programme, forthwith calling upon the more musical section of the company to entertain their fellows. Miss Monica Davies of the C.M.S. was the first to respond by the rendering of two violin solos (Feuillet d'Album and Allegro Brillante, by William Ten Have) which none of those who heard are likely to forget, for their brilliancy sweetness and 'verve' brought down the house. Miss Florence Honey, teacher of music at the Riverside Girls' Academy then rendered with exquisite touch Grainger's "Country Dances" on the piano and Mrs. W. P. Bates (soprano) gave a very feeling interpretation of Gounod's song "O Divine Redeemer" and as an encore "The Smile of Spring" by Percy Fletcher. The accompanist was the Rev. W. P. Bates.

Through the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas refreshments were served at the close and thus ended one of the most delightful evenings that the Association has held during recent years.

THE EXECUTED WUCHANG AGITATORS

Sixth Man Shot at Loyang: Scene at Meeting of Electric Light Co.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, June 9.

Last Saturday was the Dragon Boat Festival. It was kept as usual, as a general holiday; but the usual racing in boats on the river was forbidden. The rumour got about that the reason for this prohibition was fear of a political disturbance. This rumour had a plausible foundation in the fact of the arrest of six labour agitators in Wuchang, as I reported last week. The six were taken to Tayang and five of them were immediately executed there. News has since come to hand that the lawyer, Lin Feng, who was temporarily spared in deference to the telegram from the Provincial Assembly, has since suffered the fate of the other five.

But in all probability, the prohibition of racing had nothing to do with this political unrest. It was simply with a view to preventing the senseless quarrels and loss of life that nearly always accompany these occasions. The boat races that used to be held in connexion with the Dragon Boat Festival nearly always led to clan quarrels, and very frequently, in the fury of these disputes, people were pushed into the water and drowned. The legislation may be grandmotherly; but it is apparently necessary in order to protect such grandchildren from themselves.

A comedy has recently been enacting itself in Hankow over the election of a new Chairman of Directors to the Hankow Electric Lighting & Waterworks Co., which is now a Chinese company under native control. Five or six weeks ago, the term of office of the Chairman of Directors having expired, a meeting of shareholders was called together to elect a successor. There were two candidates for the post, one being a local gentleman and the other from another province. This fact led to a great deal of jealousy. The "foreigner" was violently opposed by the local clique and the meeting broke up in disorder.

A second attempt was made a week later to elect a Chairman, but it ended in the same way. After this, the Governor took matters in hand and a third meeting was called under special orders. The doors were guarded by police, and only those shareholders who promised to vote in the right way were admitted. But even this measure did not succeed in solving the problem. The Chairman was duly elected; but his election was followed by the resignation of the majority of the directors, so it has since been impossible to hold any board-meetings. Since these works supply the whole of Hankow, both native city and concessions, with electricity and drinking water, it is of the utmost importance that their efficiency should be maintained.

A strike of workers has been anticipated, succeeding to the manifest discontent of the shareholders, and in order to guard against this a strong guard of soldiers have been placed on duty, night and day over the works. Every employee is kept closely to his duty, and all going and coming, except of authorized persons, is forbidden. How long this state of things can continue, it is hard to say.

CHINESE-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP

Governor Kao on the Two Countries' Identical Aims and Ideals

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tsingtao, June 5.

With the arrival of the American cruiser Huron, the social pulse of Tsingtao quickened. A reception was given by Governor Kao-En-hung and Admiral Wen Shou-teh on Monday afternoon at Forest Park. On Tuesday afternoon, the American consular officials were hosts to the officers of the fleet and many of the American community.

At the banquet given by Governor Kao En-hung and Admiral Wen in honour of Admiral Thomas Washington and his staff, his Excellency, in the course of a charming speech, said that the peoples of other nations, on account of their geographical situation, had always had different degrees of temperament, but the American and Chinese nations, with their immense territories, natural resources and natural means of communication had always found little need to compete with other countries. There was identical love of peace on the part of the Americans and Chinese peoples. It was the tie that bound the United States and China to a common cause—the preservation of peace.

In 1858, the Governor continued, war broke out between England, and France on the one hand, and China on the other. It was only through the mediation of the United States that peace was eventually restored. Subsequently, in 1868, Pu An-chen, Chih Kang and Sun Kia-ku were appointed by the Chinese Government to visit Europe on a peace commission, the United States lending very generous assistance. "It might be interesting to you to know," Mr. Kao said, "that the American who went with that Commission, and who was known to the Chinese as Pu An-chen, died on account of over-exertions in this commendable service. This was the first appointment of Ambassadors to foreign countries in Chinese history." After that the relations between China and America became closer and closer, culminating in the support extended to this country at the Washington Conference, by which the peace of the Far East was secured—an achievement which would forever have a place in the minds of the Chinese people.

No Peace Without Security.

"As the Chinese and Americans are such peace-loving peoples, why should they both maintain armies and navies?" he continued." In respect of the Chinese there was a very interesting explanation. It was that the ancient Chinese character 'Wu' or 'Martial Spirit' was composed of two radicals bearing the meaning "ceasing or stoppage of arms," and for centuries the saying "Stoppage of arms is the real martial spirit" has been a by-word amongst statesmen, whereas amongst those in military service, it has always been understood that 'soldiers may not be called into action, but they should always be held in readiness.'"

It was evident from all this, Governor Kao said, that those who loved peace should be equipped efficiently to enforce it. Since the American revolution of 1776, she had, in addition to a civil war, found it necessary to take up arms on different occasions until finally she participated in the great European War—to help to maintain the independence, freedom and unity of the world. In each of her engagements, America's motives coincided with the doctrine that the stoppage of arms was the real martial spirit, for in each engagement the motive was to curb the unwarrantable aggression of the enemy.

Admiral Washington replied briefly.

THE STRANDED SEISTAN

Hongkong, June 14.

A salvage tug brought off the 68 deck-passengers of the str. Seistan last night, and will return to the Seistan this morning. There is hope of refloating the Seistan.

June 15.

The str. Seistan, which went ashore on Gap Rock, has been refloated and has been placed in dry-dock at Kowloon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TAGORE'S FAILURE WITH YOUNG CHINA

The Man Who Preaches Spiritual Power and Control Has No Hearing from Young China Set on Material Progress and Physical Domination

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, June 8.

"Young China" is filled with the passion for material progress and force and is continually comparing herself in speeches, in print and in diverse manners (one of which is the student preaching of hate for Japan) with the nations that possess these things. It is a "complex" which takes strange forms—some laudable, some of "self-humiliation" and attempts to stir oneself up by the internal combustion of excited verbiage—not always realized by those affected by it.

Tagore has found already rampant in China the danger he warns the world, swift undigested material progress and mere masses of abstract scientific facts overwhelming the spirit, and such abstractions being accepted as a substitute for real creative truth and concrete moral personality. To such as extent has this gone that those with some knowledge of natural science in China, often very imperfect, usually profess the philosophic theory of materialism, in a way that is 50 years out of date even in the materialistic West.

Rejected of Young China.

This Chinese situation explains the unfavourable reception given to Rabindranath Tagore in Peking, even after he had been officially and rationally invited, and his coming to Wu-han on May 25 suddenly, unannounced, and leaving the same night for Shanghai *en route* for Japan.

Disappointed of a newspaper record himself, the writer is supplying, by request, from his rough notes, for the benefit of those who were disappointed even of hearing the speaker, an outline report of Rabindranath's one utterance in this centre, given in the Wuchang public athletic ground to a hastily gathered and miscellaneous audience of some 700.

The speaker, tall, with a flowing beard, wore a plain and dignified robe and spoke in a clear and beautiful natural voice with great carrying power, almost without any gesture. His English was exquisite; simple and quite without repetition. The Chinese translation that followed the whole speech was very brief and imperfect, and so the address must have had very little effect.

"When invited to come among you," he said, "I did not know if you wanted a man from India. I heard some were opposed to my coming because it might check your special modern enthusiasm for western progress and force. And if you want a man who will help you in these things you have been mistaken in asking me. I have no help to give you here: you already have 10,000 able teachers; go to them. My warning is, that those who would have you rely on material force to make a strong nation do not know history, or understand civilization. Reliance on power is the characteristic of barbarism, nations that trusted to it have already been destroyed, or have remained barbarous.

Greatness Not Material.

"But other nations added intellect to teach how to use power and we can no more despise the science and material progress that has resulted than we can despise our own bodies; but still it is not that that makes or has made nations great; nations that have so relied have either been destroyed or are even now reverting to barbarism. It is co-operation and love, mutual trust and mutual aid which make for strength and real progress in civilization. New spiritual and moral power must continually be developed to enable men to assimilate their scientific gains, to control their new weapons and machines or these will dominate, enslave, and slay them. Men have been losing their freedom, their humanity and their lives to fit themselves for vast mechanical organizations, scientific, political, economic, and military. We see to-day civilizations of vast power and great intellect veiling in a decent way mere cannibalism. It is the nemesis of Science dominant rather than subserving the spirit of man, for the world of mere science is not a world of reality but an abstract impersonal world of force.

"But many will point to the weakness of China and India and tell you that among these strong and progressive world peoples it is necessary to emphasize power and progress in order to avoid destruction. And I would not have you deceived by the Sunday-School talk that no advantage is won by unrighteousness. In the words of one of the great ones of my nation:—

'With the help of unrighteousness men do prosper.
With the help of unrighteousness men do gain victories over their enemies,
With the help of unrighteousness men do attain what they desire,
But they perish at the root.'

We have seen victories won by diplomacy and lies and material force, but there are signs in the civilizations founded on diplomatic lies and blind force that even now their doom is on them. Lies do prosper for a while, but the true life dies at the root.

The World Defied.

"You must accept this prosperity and power to-day, but there is to-morrow. This to-day is burdened with lies and oppressions, it is overburdened, it is sinking. I defy to-day and refuse to let it dominate my purposes. I rely on to-morrow with peace and faith. How do I prove it? I have no proof outside myself, in the depth of my soul. Even at the cost of martyrdom and insult and suffering we must continue to believe in peace and love and kindness and idealism. What is the value of success if it be at the cost of humanity and if it make a desert of God's world? I speak to you as a member of a nation that has gone under in the race for progress and I tell you that I am ready to accept defeat and insult and oppression and weakness in the body, but I will never accept the defeat, the last insult, the utter ruin of my spirit being conquered so that I lose my faith and purpose. My enemies may conquer and slay my body, but they cannot make me adopt their methods or hate them. The devil helps in the sphere in which he is master, but we must reject such aid to save our life from utter destruction. Seek righteousness even though success be lost. I believe this not through the evidence of facts! Facts mislead and oppress you with mere numbers and quantity: the world of personality surpasses facts on every side. Truth comes from above, is conscious of infirmity and is creative. We have accepted and followed and venerate men who gave us such truth and lost success. We need to hear this again and again and never more than in this modern world of slavery and cannibalism in decent guise."

"By the help of unrighteousness men do prosper, men do gain victories over their enemies, men do attain what they desire: but they perish at the root."

SIR ROBERT HO TUNG IN LONDON

A Promise to Continue Work for Peace Conference on Return to China

London, June 13.

Sir Robert Ho Tung was entertained at luncheon to-day by the Overseas League.

Sir Ernest Birch, presiding, eulogized the spirit of duty prevalent among the Chinese.

Sir Robert paid a tribute to the treatment of Chinese in British Colonies. He admitted that the present situation in China was not encouraging, but declared that on his return he intended to persevere in his efforts to arrange a round-table conference. There was no reason why China should abandon her old and excellent traditions while conforming to modern conditions respecting education and civilization generally. He was sure that China would continue to maintain the honour of the race.—Reuter.

JAPAN AND THE SOVIET

Possibility of Conciliatory Policy by Japan's New Cabinet

Tokio, June 16.

Conciliatory modifications of Japan's policy towards Russia, consonant with earlier Kenseikai pronouncements, are regarded as being very likely, according to the evening newspapers, which draw attention to Mr. Yoshizawa's return to Tokio, as well as an interview between Viscount Goto and Viscount Kato, the Premier.

Viscount Goto, who was prominent in the unofficial Russo-Japanese conversations in Tokio last year, is contemplating a trip to Copenhagen *vid* Russia for the international scout rally. He discussed Russian relations with the Premier yesterday evening and it is understood that they will again meet after the Cabinet meeting to-morrow, when the Cabinet's policy will be more clearly outlined.

The opinion is expressed that the Government will announce a date for the evacuation of Saghalien as a preliminary to a formal conference with Russia, which may be held at Dairen or in Tokio.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

A Compromise Reached

Tokio, June 18.

A compromise by both sides has resulted in the reaching of a satisfactory basis for a formal agreement on Russo-Japanese questions, if approved by the Cabinet, according to remarks credited by a press interview to Mr. Miyagawa, an interpreter attached to the Peking Legation.

Mr. Miyagawa, who has just returned from China, is reported to have stated that this compromise affected such questions as the withdrawal of troops and recognition of responsibility for Nikolaievsk.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

AMERICAN BOYCOTT IN JAPAN

Hotheaded Counsels Strongly Reprobated: Police Chief's Warning to Agitators

Tokio, June 14.

Side by side with anti-American movements aiming at a boycott of American goods, films, etc., which, whatever success may be attending the efforts of the promoters, are, at any rate, gaining publicity by demonstrations, meetings and handbills, a voice is being raised in the press and elsewhere against the futility of such methods. Thus the "*Jiji*" this morning counsels prudence, which, it says, "a really great nation should exercise at this juncture."

The first collective denunciation of a boycott is expressed by the Chamber of Commerce of the silk district of Kofu, which declares that such a movement is illogical in compelling exclusion of necessary imports and is calculated to alienate the sympathy of the world and of friends of Japan in America and besides would invite retaliation, which would spell ruin for the country.

Mr. Ota, the newly appointed Chief of the Metropolitan Police, in view of the anti-American movement, warns the people of the necessity for the maintenance of the nation's prestige at the present juncture. He declares that he is determined vigorously to punish those guilty of inciting trouble and violating laws in this connexion.

Christian Bodies' Condemnation of Exclusion Act

Japanese Christian leaders, including independents and those connected with American missionary enterprises, in a conference to-day denounced the American exclusion legislation as insulting and discriminatory and against the spirit of the original treaty drawn up by Commodore Perry. The conference considered, without reaching a decision, a proposal to break with American missions and appointed a committee to prepare a resolution for submission later.

Later.

While the meeting denounced the action of Congress and expressed necessity for declaring its stand against exclusion, it is not intended to adopt an antagonistic attitude *vis-a-vis* of missionaries.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

AMERICAN AVIATORS IN HONGKONG

An Uneventful Trip: Leader's Plane Repaired with Aid of Taikoo: The Typhoon Alarm: Special Precuations After Last Year's Experience

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Hongkong, June 9.

The American world aviators arrived here yesterday morning. On Saturday afternoon when they reached Amoy they were warned by cable from Hongkong of an approaching typhoon which threatened to strike the coast, but undaunted they replied they would continue. All craft in the harbour had battened down their hatches and made for shelter; residents resigned themselves to the prospects of a stormy week-end and another delay in the world flying men's programme was fully expected. The fury of the elements, however, held no terrors for the intrepid airmen. They left Amoy at 9.15 a.m. and at 12.30 they had gracefully glided to the mooring buoys on a sheltered stretch of water off Stonecutter's Island, almost prompt to the minute.

The airmen twice circled over the harbour before they spotted their landing station, a 20 minutes ferry boat journey from the city. A thick mist hung over the harbour and visibility was very poor. To onlookers it appeared as if the planes were no more than a hundred feet above the water and apparently they did not see their landing station until Morse signals were flashed out from the American destroyer Paul Jones. But their landing was perfect. They alighted on the water with the grace of a bird, wind and tide were against them, and "taxied" to the mooring buoys. At the moment they were sighted, the sun peeped out for the first time in the morning. Needless to say, the airmen received an enthusiastic welcome, among the first to offer congratulations being the Governor, Sir Edward Stubbs, who had been waiting on the Government launch Victoria which also had on board the U. S. Consul-General, Mr. W. H. Gale. Sir Claud Severn (Colonial Secretary), and Commodore Grace, R.N., on another launch shouted greetings to Lieut. Lowell Smith, the flight leader, as he was preparing to transfer to the Paul Jones.

A Cracked Cylinder.

Interviewed by the "North-China Daily News" correspondent, Lieut. Smith had little to say regarding his flight from Amoy. Like his colleagues, he was smeared all over with grease and wore a heavy growth of beard on his chin, not having shaved since he left Shanghai. The three hours' flight from Amoy was eventless, he said. They flew through rain and mist virtually the whole way. They met with little wind and visibility was very good. Once they had sighted the harbour they had no difficulty in picking out Hongkong. From Amoy they travelled at an average speed of 90 miles an hour, but owing to the heavy mist they had to keep to a height of not more than 500 feet most of the way.

This afternoon I visited Laichikok and found that the leader's machine had been hoisted from the water by a Taikoo tug and an army of workers were busily engaged in repairing various damages. Lieut. Smith explained that a cylinder had cracked during the flight from Shanghai to Hongkong, which necessitated welding. This difficulty overcome, thanks to the Taikoo engineers' aid, a new pontoon was fixed. The old float had been damaged in the take-off at Japan and a substitute despatched on the Paul Jones.

Off to Haiphong.

June 10.

Though working until dusk last night, Lieut. Smith had not completed the repairs to his machine and after a little sleep he was up again at 4 o'clock this morning to add the finishing touches. It was not until 10 o'clock that the flight leader's plane was lifted by the derrick and transferred from the wharf to the water. Fifteen minutes later there was a deafening roar and the adventurous airmen were on another lap of their long trip. One of the machines (No. 3) seemed to experience some difficulty in rising, but eventually it joined the others and was soon out of sight. The 'planes only skirted the city before heading straight for Haiphong which is a distance of just over 500 miles from Hongkong. Lieut. Smith was confident before he left that they would reach Haiphong before dark to-night.

During their stay in Hongkong, the U. S. airmen had little time to spare to attend any official reception. Except for an occasional respite aboard the destroyer Paul Jones, Lieut. Smith hardly left the side of his machine throughout the 48 hours the machines were here. His colleague, Lieut. Wade, attended Government House at the request of his Excellency yesterday. He was the only representative to go ashore. As in Shanghai, the Standard Oil Co. was mainly responsible for the excellent arrangements made for the convenience of visitors at the welcome and farewell of the airmen.

Hongkong's First Typhoon.

Apropos of the typhoon previously mentioned. Fortunately, for the airmen, the typhoon of which they were warned proved merely to be a false alarm, a storm in a teacup. The ominous warning displayed on Signal Hill was indicated at 11 o'clock on Saturday morning. According to the signs, a typhoon was expected to strike the coast near Hongkong from the east. It was the first time the warning had been given this season—rather an early start. Native craft, junks, sampans and the like made a hurried dive for shelter and by midday there was hardly a junk to be seen in the harbour. Several excursion trips to Macao were temporarily postponed; the ferry boats maintained their clock-work services, but with awnings well furled and the giant Empress of Australia which was lying at the Kowloon Wharf rode out of anchorage in midstream and spent the night at the buoy. Many of the river steamers sought the shelter of the Kowloon Bay. The Whitsun holiday crowds were scared and bathing parties and picnics were put off. Though the signals still flew throughout Saturday night, the two green and white lights on the Observatory mast standing out like a beacon light and visible from all parts of the Harbour, all that Hongkong felt of the prospective typhoon were spasmodic showers and a little wind. Yesterday morning the storm signals were removed. To-day the sun shone and the tennis matches were continued.

After last year's disastrous typhoon, Hongkong shipping people are taking no chances in future. This year, arrangements have been made by the Harbour whereby Naval tugs will patrol the harbour when a typhoon is expected and will be at hand to tow any craft that requires aid to a typhoon shelter. In this week-end's fiasco the Chinese wasted no time; they disappeared as if by magic as soon as the signal was hoisted.

Delayed at Tourane

Hongkong, June 14.

The American Consul-General has received the following radiogram from the U. S. destroyer Hart:—

"The time of departure of the 'planes from Tourane is indefinite. It depends on the replacement of the engine of 'plane No. 2. It is estimated at three days after the arrival of the new engine."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Arrival at Saigon

Hongkong, June 16.

The American Cnosul-General has been advised by wireless that the three planes are at Tourane. The engine of Number 2 is being replaced. The probable time of departure for Saigon is five o'clock this morning.

The destroyer Preston landed Squadron-Leader Maclaren's plane at Akyab on June 13.

Later.

The American fliers arrived at Saigon at two o'clock this afternoon.—Pacific Service.

Bangkok, June 19.

The American world fliers arrived here to-day.—Reuter.

JAPANESE AND THE EXCLUSION ACT

Evidences of an Anti-American Rift in Many Trades: Epidemic of Patriotic Suicides

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tokio, June 12.

The situation throughout Japan in consequence of the exclusion legislation is becoming daily more and more unpleasant for Americans here, most of whom are in a state of acute nervous tension. Exclusion is the main topic of conversation everywhere, in the restaurants, on the trains, in the streets, on trams, in hotel lobbies. No violence of any kind towards Americans has yet occurred, except for an unpleasant incident in the Imperial Hotel during the regular Saturday night dance on June 7, which however, was devoid of violence.

A band of young men, in conventional Japanese attire, burst into the dancing hall, roundly upbraided the Japanese who keep company with Americans, especially those Japanese women whose dancing partners were citizens of the United States, demanded to know whether it is right for the Japanese to be frivolous at a time "when the nation is facing a crisis" and bestrewed the room with hundreds of pahphlets of an anti-American nature.

While this is very dramatic and sounds sensational, still the incident itself is hardly worthy of being taken seriously. The youths who thus broke in are just excitable and irresponsible young men, and are not organized. A prominent Japanese told your correspondent that they are of the *soshi* (bully) type and are just trying to fish in troubled waters.

Orchestra's Cool-headedness

The orchestra deserves every credit for the part it played. The conductor sensed what was in the air and immediately the band struck up the Kimigayo, Japan's national anthem. This compelled the aggressive youths to stand at attention and broke the crest of the excitement. Another Japanese, not belonging to these youngsters, later made a speech in which he pointed out that the demonstration was more against the Japanese than against the Americans and certainly not against other foreigners.

On Sunday, the day following the unfortunate dance incident, I went through a considerable portion of Tokio, on foot, by tram and in crowded buses to try and find out whether there was any particularly unbridled sentiment. I could not find the least trace of this, though, there was writ in the faces of nearly every one the fact that the discrimination of America is keenly resented.

Crowds at Funeral

What is more significant and far more important than the dance incident at the Imperial Hotel was the public sympathy with the young man who committed suicide as a protest against the American immigration legislation. I went towards the cemetery, one of the finest in Tokio being chosen for the interment of the remains, and the crowd could easily have been anything between 50,000 and 70,000. The ceremonies were hardly over when the grave was buried under an immense mound of flowers. This grave is likely to become a Mecca for Japanese patriots, and the newspapers predict that it will take a place beside that of General Nogi who slew himself at the time of the funeral of the Emperor Meiji to "follow my Master in death as I did in life" and to startle the Japanese back to homage to the Imperial Family.

Boycott Commences

The boycott of American goods and products has taken definite shape, though, at the present writing, there is no organized movement on a large scale. The guiding minds behind the boycott movement are emphasizing that American goods alone—and not all foreign goods—should be boycotted.

This morning a prominent British dealer in photographic apparata put up a big card in his show window declaring that his firm was English and not American.

Missionaries are receiving letters urging them to return to the United States and convert the Senators and the anti-Japanese element in America first, on the ground that the immigration legislation is a betrayal of the spirit of Christianity. One Japanese Christian pastor is heading a movement for returning to the United States whatever relief funds and relief goods are yet left, while another has declared that it is time for the Christian church in Japan to carry on alone, without accepting any kind of assistance from "missionaries whose Government has gone on record as favouring discrimination because of race and colour."

An American-trained dentist, whose shingle till recently proudly proclaimed the fact that he was a graduate of a Chicago dental college, has replaced it by one simply bearing his name and profession. Beside this he has put up a board, in English and in Japanese, declaring that Americans must not cross his threshold. A large Japanese firm in the Marunouchi district has put up a similar notice.

The indignation felt is not confined to just one class. It permeates the whole nation. Stores handling American goods have already had their sales decreased by some 30 per cent. The decline in the value of the yen, of course, has something to do with this, but trade reports point out that the falling off is out of proportion to the drop in the value of the yen and out of proportion to the handling of merchandise from other lands. Merchants are reported to have cancelled several of their orders placed with firms in the United States for fear they will not be able to dispose of them.

A Contract for British

The city of Tokio, which placed a contract for 45,000 automatic telephones to replace those that were destroyed last year with a firm in the United States, is reported to have transferred the order to merchants in London and Liverpool.

Moving picture houses have decided not to show any American films after July 1. They declare that they can get just as good pictures from Great Britain and Germany.

Mass meetings are being held in various parts nearly every day. All have but one slogan: The voicing of indignation at the alleged wrong attitude of the United States and the boycotting of American goods.

Epidemic of Suicides

An epidemic of suicides has resulted since President Coolidge wrote the last chapter—thus far—in the immigration law when he signed the bill. Death has always exercised a peculair fascination on the Japanese. One of these took place in the compound adjoining the American Embassay which is now known as Camp Cyrus E. Woods where some 20-odd United States marines under the command of Major Sullivan are camping. They came here following the earthquake, and rendered valuable assistance in transporting relief stores to different parts of the stricken regions, besides looking after the Japanese staff of the American Embassy who are still living in the tents that were pitched for them by Major Sullivan and his men. In order to obviate the possibility of some unthinking hot-head becoming inordinately aroused at the fact that American soldiers are here, it has been decided, your correspondent understands, to close Camp Cyrus E. Woods about the 20th of this month. The camp has certainly outlived its usefulness and the move is a step in the right direction. It is interesting to remark that these American marines are the only foreign troops that have encamped on Japanese soil since the abolition of extra-territoriality.

Anti-American Handbill.

The anti-American handbill with which the hotel dancing hall was littered on Saturday night reads:

"This is no time for idle talking. This is the time for carrying out our purposes.

"We demand all American missionaries to leave.

"Let us prohibit American dancing which kills the nation's spirit and causes demoralization.

"Let us discontinue watching American moving pictures.

"Let us carry out a boycott against American commodities.

"Let us cancel all American treaties and prohibit Americans coming to Japan and Japanese going to America.

"We cannot leave things to our elders. It is time for us to stand up."

FROG THAT TERRIFIED A VILLAGE

Being a Tale of Two Faithless Swains, the Forlorn Maiden and Japanese Legend

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tokio, June 8.

A French frog of the edible species, who was invited in company with his mate to Japan early last year, and who afterwards fell in love with a Japanese maiden of his species and eloped with her, has been the cause whereby thousands of people living in Nagano, a Tokio suburb, went very near being scared out of their wits. It was the female that really did the terrorizing, but it was the male's infidelity and betrayal of her love that caused her to do so. The story reads like a fairy tale, especially in its Japanese setting, but is a real, actual occurrence.

Being of the opinion that edible frogs would be acceptable to the Japanese gourmand, the owner of a frog farm at Nagano imported a pair from France at the beginning of last year. The couple were thriving splendidly when the quake came with its subsequent conflagrations. In the confusion that ensued, Mr. and Mrs. French Frog decided to seek safety themselves. They, accordingly, left the frog farm and went to a small pond further away. Here they are supposed to have lived for months and then along came a Japanese female frog and induced Mr. French Frog to elope with her. Anyway that's the story the villagers of Nagano tell.

The Village Legend

In Nagano some time ago, a young girl, abandoned by her lover, threw herself into this pond and perished. The Japanese believe that true love always mourns, even after death, the agony caused by a faithless lover.

Some days ago, in the dead of night, came croakings from the pond that the superstitious villagers declared were the moans of a broken heart. It was frog-like in tone true, but then it might be—no it was really—the spirit of the love-lorn maiden who, in the guise of a frog, returned to her the spot where she bade farewell to life for the purpose of sighing out her soul. The croaks continued regularly night after night. The villagers got alarmed. Would the spirit of the maiden call down imprecations and curses on the place where she was met and wooed and afterwards thrown aside, a broken doll?

The local police got wind of the tale which had now become the one topic of conversation in the teahouses and restaurants, in the market place and even in the homes of the people, and determined to sift the matter to the bottom. Accordingly, some of them, assisted by the young bloods of the village, decided to keep watch throughout the night.

Mrs. Frog Found

They kept close together, the policemen ready to flash out their sabres and the civilians to down the ghost with clubs and iron bars. About the witching hour of midnight the moaning croak came, repeated at regular intervals. Heroism vanished in the face of superstition and the belief that it really was the voice of one who had returned to this sphere from the Unknown Beyond. All kept close together and remained there until morning. In one thing the watch by the pond was fruitful, namely that they were able to confirm the tale of the villagers that the so-called voice of a heart-broken woman came from the sheet of water in which a young woman who had stooped to folly sought solace from earthly sorrows

With the dawn of day, courage returned. The pond was drained. At first there was nothing but tadpoles by the millions. Then, almost in the centre, they saw, perched on a stone that was shiny with green moss, a large frog. It was carefully captured and taken to the frog farm where the owner identified it as the female of the two he had brought from Paris.

The male is still missing, and, as the female yet continues to croak moaningly, the simple villagers believe—and perhaps they may be right—that Mr. French Frog had fallen in love with a Miss Japanese Frog and is either ashamed, or else does not want, to return to his legitimate mate.

IMPORTANCE OF SAGHALIEN IN RUSSO-JAPANESE NEGOTIATIONS

Japanese Military Strategy, the Japan Sea an Inland Sea and Control of the Amur

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 10.

Something deeper and more widespread than even the oil in Saghalien, though related to it, is involved in the Karakhan-Yoshizawa conversations, namely, the strategy of the Far East.

It is no flight of fancy to say that the whole of the island has been possessed mentally by the Japanese General Staff since 1906. Korea was annexed in precisely the same way long before the actual fact was announced to the world. So was Heligoland by the Germans; it was an objective to the Germans and merely a place on the map to Lord Salisbury.

The Chain of Islands.

Japanese military strategy has two faces—faces which face each other. The first concerns the development of a breakwater of islands which at present stretch from the Kuriles to Formosa and reach out to the mandated islands on the Pacific. The other is on the mainland and is concerned with the establishment of an economic and strategic rear. The milestones in the creation of an island breakwater are already defined, and Japan has never had to retrace the steps she has taken since she exchanged Southern Saghalien for the Kuriles in 1875. It has been an onward march, giving Japan a fanwise outlook over the Asiatic mainland.

Not so on the mainland.

The Allied expedition to Siberia was to be the culminating stroke of the Japanese strategy, which had already established a strong hold on Fukien, the Yangtze and Manchuria.

But the world and the Bolsheviks and the venality of the White leaders combined to frustrate the scheme. Retreat followed retreat until Vladivostok itself, which Japan had made herculean efforts to save from Bolshevism, entered the fold of the Reds.

Saghalien is the sole remains of the Napoleonic dream of the militarists in Japan, a dream that was persisted in months after it had been disowned by the Japanese people. The island means more to Japan than any other part of the territory over which she cast a covetous eye less than three years ago. Its importance is aggravated by the presence in it of oil.

The acquisition of Northern Saghalien would make the Japan Sea an inland sea to Japan, and in that sea, according to the strategists, lies the heart of Nippon. Distance and her island breakwater keep Japan comparatively secure on the south. Her weak point is the north, where Pacific distances are smaller and where she comes in contact with a European Power. If she can lock the Japan Sea, she can prevent the incursion of a foreign fleet, and justify a hope of controlling the hinterland by the domination of the main line of communications.

Opposite the Russian portion of Saghalien is Nikolaievsk. It burst into fame as the scene of the massacre of Japanese troops by the partisans in the course of the intervention, and is the ostensible reason for the occupation of Saghalien. But it has another reason for being well-known to strategists. It guards the entrance to Siberia's main line of communications, the Amur river. To control this line is the strategy behind Japanese occupation of and desire for Northern Saghalien.

Russia's Bargaining Advantage.

If Soviet Russia gives any promise of being a permanent institution, it is more to the advantage of Japan than of Moscow to come to terms. The Soviet aim is not so much territorial or even strategic advantage, as was the case with its predecessors, but rather the inoculation of other peoples with its own idea of government. This is helpful to Japan as long as her own people don't catch the germ. The "realist" way in which Moscow now looks at things may also be helpful to Japan in developing her plans for strategic security. Finally, the country that controls the Chinese Eastern and the Ussuri is in a position to do Japan a distinct service.

Russia has gained a bargaining position by the delay in settling the question of the status of northern Saghalien. Is her need for Japanese recognition at this day when the nations are preparing to recognize Russia on her European side so urgent as to make her juggle out of the dilemma by throwing over the Sinclair company? On the other hand, is Japan diplomatically strong enough to withhold recognition until the question of Saghalien has been settled to her satisfaction?

Reported Expenditure of Y.1,000,000 Prospecting for Oil and Minerals

According to the "Japan Chronicle" the "*Osaka Asahi*" reports that the Mitsui and Mitsubishi companies, leading semi-official companies of Japan, are planning to spend Y.1,000,000 on prospecting for oil and minerals, especially for oil, in Saghalien island. Although nothing has been said lately of oil in connexion with the negotiations between Japan and Russia over Saghalien, it may be taken as certain that the matter has not been forgotten. The concession granted by Soviet Russia to the Sinclair Company (American) to develop the oil resources of the northern part of the island is still an unsettled international issue. That region belongs to Russia but is occupied by Japanese forces.

The "*Asahi*" says: According to experts the mines and oil fields in Saghalien have considerable deposits and the qualities are excellent. In view of the state of Russia, every country is inclined to undertake their exploitation, though none has set her hands to it so far. With the approval of the Government the Mitsubishi and Mitsui companies plan to prospect the mines and oil fields in the island. If the investigations are satisfactory leading business men will take part in the development.

Japan's Oil Supplies

The oil fields at Akita and Nigata are becoming exhausted and the output is decreasing year by year while demand is steadily increasing. At present half of Japan's oil supply is imported, and quotations on the home market depend on those abroad. The Kanegafuchi Spinning, Dai Nippon Beer, and other big factories, which honed to use oil as fuel had to suspend their projects, finding that oil was dearer than coal. For these reasons the Mitsubishi and Mitsui companies are said to place great importance on the oil in Saghalien.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY

Statement by Baron Shidehara: Friendship and Good Will to All Peoples

Tokio, June 12.

Baron Shildehara, the Foreign Minister, to-day made a further statement to foreign pressmen emphasizing that Japan's foreign policy was based on peace, justice and honour, whereby she might face without fear and without misgiving whatever the future had in store. He said that he was convinced by his long experience abroad that there were infinitely more points of similarity than of difference in human nature among peoples divided by race, religion and language, but the differences were sometimes unduly magnified and emphasized so that mutual estrangement appeared. The Minister declared that the world was gradually awakening to a broader vision of international solidarity and good fellowship. The principle of live and let live, which was being more widely recognized, was more successful than the policy of self-assertion without due regard to the rightful positions of others, which was ultimately bound to yield to the adverse verdict of an enlightened public opinion.

"To the nobler principles expressed or implied by the Covenant of the League of Nations and the treaties of Washington," the Foreign Minister continued, "we will adhere loyally and unswervingly, extending to all peoples the hand of friendship and goodwill."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ITALIAN ARMS DEALER SENTENCED

What a Tientsin Customs Official Discovered: False Bottoms in Wine Cases

FROM THE "P & T. TIMES."

Tientsin, June 17.

"Some friends wrote to me three months ago suggesting that they should send some wine from Italy, and put some in the cases. I answered at once and said that they must not do it, for it might get me into trouble." This was the defence put forward at the Italian Consular Court yesterday by A. Pellegrini, Italian, who was charged with importing arms.

His appearance at the Consular Court was the sequel to the discovery by a Customs' employee of 29 pistols and 2,800 rounds of ammunition hidden in false bottoms of cases of wine. The wine was consigned from Genoa to the defendant's firm in Tientsin.

The arms were found by C. W. Landers when Pellegrini came to get the wine passed through the Customs.

Mr. Landers told the Italian Consul, Mr. Gabrielli, that on looking into the second case, he discovered that there was a false bottom. He turned and asked, "Why is there a false bottom?", and Pellegrini answered "I do not know." On examining the case, witness found some pistols, and he then informed Pellegrini that he would report the matter. Defendant answered "What must I do about it? There are only 20 pieces."

On the cargo being searched the following day, the 29 pistols and ammunition were revealed.

For the defence, Mr. De Barbveri said that Pelligrini had never before been charged with any offence. He served in the Italian army during the war, and was now lame owing to a wound.

Mr. Gabrielli sentenced Pellegrini to 25 days' imprisonment.

1,500 Rifles Seized: American Arrested.

A Tientsin telegram to the "*Sinwanpao*" reports the discovery there of 1,500 rifles and hundreds ounces of opium at a certain American firm whose proprietor has been placed under arrest. The Consul has reported the case to the U. S. Court in Shanghai, and the Judge is reported to have promised to proceed to Tientsin on July 14 to try this case. A Tuchun of a Yangtsze Province is said to be involved.

THE RUSSIAN LEGATION

Delicate Questions Involved in Soviet Occupation

Peking, June 12.

The question of occupation of the Russian Legation by a Soviet representative is bringing forward some interesting problems, in view of Soviet Russia's repudiation of the former Russian Government's part in the 1901 Protocol. In addition to the question whether the Russian representative will collaborate with his colleagues in maintaining the administration of the Legation Quarter, which is based on the position defined by the Protocol, there is the matter of a portion of the Russian Legation area which was ceded to the Diplomatic Body by that Protocol. This portion was taken over by the Russians and on it stands a part of the main Russian Legation.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPANESE LOAN FROM UNITED STATES

New York, June 14.

It is understood that Japanese interests, headed by the managing director of the Diado Electric Power Company, are negotiating with New York bankers for a loan of $30,000,000 for the purchase of electrical equipment in the United States.—Reuter's American Service.

MARSHAL Chi Shieh-yuan, Inspector-General of Kiangsu, Anhui and Kiangsi, is said to have again requested the Government to define clearly the areas over which foreign flying machines should be prohibited from passing. The President has ordered General Chao Yu-ko, Head of the Aeronautic Bureau, to frame some regulations.

THE CHINESE EASTERN RAILWAY

Waichiaopu's Reply to Japan: China's Right to Deal With It as She Likes

Peking, June 17.

A Chihling Mandate, dated June 16 and published in this morning's Official Gazette, ratifies the Sino-Russian Agreement, in accordance with a memorial from Dr. Wellington Koo, the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The Mandate briefly recapitulates the documents therein and orders the affixing of the State seals and the counter-signature of the Waichiaopu and the formal exchange of the Agreement between the Waichiaopu and the Soviet representatives.

The Waichiaopu yesterday afternoon replied to the Japanese Note of June 6, saying that before the Sino-Russian Agreement was signed, the Chinese Government had obligations and responsibilities as trustee regarding the Chinese Eastern Railway, as provided by the Washington Treaty. The Sino-Russian Agreement has now been signed, however, formal Sino-Russian relations have been restored, and the situation has become quite different. The matters which China and Russia are going to adjust are questions regarding which those countries alone have rights and interests. The Note, in conclusion, states that the Chinese Government cannot therefore accept the reservations suggested in the Japanese Note.

Simultaneously, the Waichiaopu sent almost identical Notes to the French and American Legations, replying to their Notes of May reminding China of her obligations in connexion with the Chinese Eastern Railway.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, June 18.

With regard to Reuter's Peking correspondent's report yesterday of the Waichiaopu's reply to the Japanese Note concerning the Chinese Eastern Railway, the Waichiaopu says that the report does not fully represent the attitude adopted in the Chinese Note. In declining to consider the reservation, the Chinese reply had reference to a possibility of interference with future Sino-Russian negotiations concerning the Railway, while, as regards the legitimate claims which Japan or any other Power might have against the Railway, it expressly stated that they had not been prejudiced by the recent Sino-Russian negotiations.

A CHINESE EMBASSY IN MOSCOW

M. Karakhan's Invitation: China Undecided

Peking, June 16.

M. Karakhan, in a Note, inviting China to establish an Embassy at Moscow, which was forwarded to the Waichiaopu on Saturday, classes the Tsarist Government with other Powers as hitherto looking on China as a party not enjoying full rights and one which could be coerced into signing humiliating treaties preventing development of this country. It goes on that China is a country with over 400,000,000 inhabitants and a country destined to play a very great role in the development of mankind. Her present position, M. Karakhan affirms, does not give others the right to consider China unworthy of taking her place as a first-class Power. The Note then explains the altruistic attitude of the Soviet towards Asiatic States.

Incidentally, the Soviet representatives everywhere are called Ambassadors, and the suggested establishment of Embassies in Peking and Moscow would not entail alteration of the usual rank of the Soviet representative.

The Waichiaopu states that the Chinese Government has not yet decided what China's attitude will be as regards this invitation.

MERCHANTS propose to obtain the necessary funds for the exhibition of Chekiang products on West Lake, Hangchow, by raising a loan of $2,000,000, bonds of $100 to be issued at $82.

JAPANESE CABINET ECONOMIES

Departmental Posts to be Cut Down But More Money Spent on Navy

Tokio, June 13.

Drastic financial reforms and departmental readjustments, with a view to avoiding wasteful expenditure, are forecast by statements of the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Home Affairs respectively, who are regarded as two of the strong men of the new Cabinet.

The Minister for Home Affairs, Mr. Wakatsuki, in addition, favoured the abolition of all investigation boards set up by the former Government, and the weeding out of all superfluous officials, as well as legislation for universal suffrage.

Changes in the country's naval policy in hastening by a year the auxiliary vessels construction programme, which was postponed owing to the earthquake, are anticipated from a statement made to the press by the Minister for the Navy, Admiral Takarabe, in which he declared that the gaps which had been created in defensive equipment would be filled up as finances or occasion warrant.

The "*Kokumin*" expresses the opinion that the Naval air services will be further developed, with other Naval construction in line with the recent activites of the Powers in this direction.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Drastic Curtailment of Issue of Loans

Tokio, June 18.

The Ministry have adopted a policy of not floating loans during the current year by deciding on drastic curtailment of their predecessors loan policy, which provided for the issue of loans amounting to Y. 437,000,000, of which Y. 110,000,000 was for capital rehabilitation, Y. 104,000,000 for extraordinary military expenditure, and the balance for rehabilitation elsewhere and also for low interest funds to individuals. The newly announced policy, according to an official statement by the Finance Department, reduces the amount to Y. 295,000,000 approximately, which sum is being derived from Government deposits as well as the recent foreign loans.

The statement of policy is warmly welcomed by business interests as calculated to accelerate the economic recovery of the country.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

JAPAN'S POLITICAL PROBLEMS

Minister to Peking Visiting Tokio for Consultation with Cabinet

Peking, June 16.

Late on Saturday night the Japantese Minister, Mr. Yoshizawa, received instructions from his Government to return at once to Tokio and he will accordingly leave Peking by the Mukden train this evening. It is expected that he will be away about a fortnight and in the meantime Mr. Ohta, Counsellor of Embassy, will be in charge of the Legation.

Mr. Yoshizawa's instructions did not say why his presence was required in Japan, but it is presumed that the new Japanese Cabinet wish to discuss with him several important problems he has lately been handling, including, of course, the Russo-Japanese negotiations. —Reuter's Pacific Service.

STATUS OF CHILEAN CONSUL IN SHANGHAI

Peking, June 19.

Replying to an inquiry from the Waichiaopu regarding the status of the Chilean Consul in Shanghai, the Diplomatic Body say in effect that it is a matter in which they do not feel justified in expressing an opinion.

It appears that the point is whether the Chilean Consul is entitled to deal in lawsuits against Chileans in view of the fact that Chile does not enjoy extraterritoriality.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FOREIGN INTERESTS IN C.-E. RAILWAY

Protest Against Exclusive Control by China and the Soviet

Washington, June 18.

With reference to newspaper despatches from China, stating that the Chinese and Soviet Governments have agreed on exclusive control of the Chinese Eastern Railway, the State Department has issued a statement saying that the American Minister in Peking, Dr. Jacob G. Schurman, formally drew the attention of China to American interests in the railway. Dr. Wellington Koo replied to the effect that only China and Russia were concerned in the railway and the arrangement with Russia did not prejudice the rights of other nations.

The statement adds that, while the American forces were in Siberia during the war, the railway was administered by an inter-allied Commission, financed by the Allied Powers. Thus the United States has become a creditor to the extent of about $5,000,000, together with Great Britain, Japan and France.

It is understood that Japan and France have made similar representations to the Chinese Government and have received similar replies.—Reuter's American Service.

DR. SCHURMAN IN HOSPITAL

Peking, June 19.

Dr. Schurman, the American Minister, was taken to hospital this morning suffering from a slight attack of dysentery.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINESE AVIATION STUDENTS

Peking, June 19.

The Aviation Department is asking the provinces to recommend suitable aviation students, who will be taught all branches of aviation at Nanyuan, near Peking.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

TSINGTAO has already had the honour of receiving a "North-China Daily News," the first newspaper ever carried by aeroplane in China, writes a correspondent. This was in May, 1920, when the O. K. Club at that port, received a copy of this paper from the Italian aviator, Ferrarin. Congratulations to Tsingtao. But honours are divided. Hongkong, which is a British Colony and not within the realm of the Chinese Republic, for the first time in its history, received copies of the "North-China Daily News" by airmail.

TAONANFU-TSITSIHAR RAILWAY

Reported Japanese Agreement with Chang Tso-lin

Moscow, June 13.

It is reported here that the Japanese have concluded an agreement with Mukden whereby, without permission of the Peking Government, the Japanese will be allowed to construct a branch railway from Taonanfu to Tsitsihar.

This will enable them to dispense with the Chinese Eastern and Ussuri Railways.—Reuter.

Peking, June 16.

It was stated, in answer to inquiries at the Japanese Legation to-day, that no information had been received there in regard to the agreement reported to have been concluded at Mukden for the construction by Japanese of a branch railway from Taonanfu to Tsitsihar. It was pointed out that, if such an agreement had been made either by the Japanese Government or the South Manchuria Railway, the Legation here would certainly have had news of it, though that would not necessarily be the case if the agreement was concluded by a private Japanese concern. Some time ago, it was mentioned, the South Manchuria Railway built a line for the Chinese Government from Szepingchieh to Taonanfu and it is known that Marshal Chang Tso-lin has for some time contemplated linking up Taonanfu with Tsitsihar.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MACAO, June 17.—It is reported from Hanoi that the departure of the Portuguese aviators from Hanoi for Macao has been postponed to to-morrow owing to bad weather.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

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SHANGHAI NEWS

BUBBLING WELL ROAD SHOOTING AFFRAY

Afternoon Battle between Police and Gunmen: An Exiting Chase: Gang Captured: Two Prisoners Fatally Wounded

A sensational shooting affray took place near the Burlington Hotel on Sunday afternoon, when an armed patrol encountered four Chinese desperadoes, who began firing indiscriminately. Mr. M. O. Springfield, Assistant Commissioner of Police, who happened to be visiting a private house in the vicinity, took part in an exciting chase of the robbers, one of whom took refuge in 6 Seymour Road, the house of Mr. R. E. Toeg.

It appears that about 7.10 p.m. on Sunday a police search party, consisting of two Sikhs and three Chinese constables, held up three Chinese near the junction of Hardoon and Annam Roads, for the purpose of searching them for arms or drugs. The three Chinese at once drew pistols and fired on the police, and then ran northwards towards Bubbling Well Road, with the police still in pursuit, and still firing shots. One ran into a small house near the junction of Bubbling Well and Hardoon Roads, and this house was searched, with the result that one man was found therein with a bullet wound in his stomach. A revolver and a packet of ammunition were also found in this house. The man arrested there is described as a Kompo coolie, about 37 years of age. He was conveyed immediately to the Red Cross Hospital, where he was detained, suffering from very serious injuries.

By Broker Trap and Motor.

The police then continued the chase eastward along Bubbling Road and shots were fired by both parties. Mr. M. O. Springfield, coming out of a private residence on the north side of the road, joined in the pursuit of the fugitives, who were running eastwards under the cover of Mr. S. A. Hardoon's garden wall, while Mr. Springfield was running parallel with them on the other side of the road, as yet unarmed. On the arrival on the scene of the Sikh Havildar, Mr. Springfield took the Sikh's revolver and fired several shots. A Chinese police constable of the search party also arrived about this moment, on the north side, and he also fired. One of the armed Chinese fell wounded near the entrance to the Burlington Hotel, and two others ran eastwards, followed by Mr. Springfield, the Sikh Havildar and the Chinese constable. As the fugitives turned south into Seymour Road, more shots were fired on both sides and near Weihaiwei Road the police were joined by another Sikh constable on duty in Weihaiwei Road. One of the Chinese ran into the garden of Mr. Toeg, Seymour Road, while the other continued in a southward direction towards the French Concession. At this moment a broker's trap emerged from a small road west of Seymour Road and this was commandeered by the police. On reaching the boundary of the French Concession and the International Settlement the fugitive turned east along Avenue Foch, and at this stage of the pursuit the police obtained a motor-car, which, however, was handicapped by the sandy middle of the road. The Chinese eventually escaped over the border into the French Concession after a further exchange of shots, in spite of an attempt by an Annamite policeman to stop him, and having crossed the border, French Concession, where he was very pluckily captured by a Chinese pedestrian whose present whereabouts we have been unable to ascertain.

Miss Jansen's Narrow Escape.

From beginning to end of the affray 17 rounds were fired by the police and many by the armed Chinese. The man who took refuge in Mr. Toeg's garden made good his escape and has not been seen since. The only injury suffered by the police force was that of Sikh P. C. 89, who was wounded in the shoulder in the early stages of the affray, but not seriously.

A Chinese bookbinder, of the Chung Hua Publishing Co., was hit accidentally in the leg by a stray bullet, but not seriously injured, Miss E. R. Jansen, of No. 74 Avenue du Roi Albert, narrowly escaped being hit by a bullet which passed right through her motor-car as she and her sister were driving along Bubbling Well Road at 7.10 p.m.

One of the wounded men died at the Shantung Road Hospital on Monday at 4.15 p.m. Taken to hospital in a very serious condition with a bullet wound in the small of the back, he was, we understand, operated upon during the night, but efforts to save his life were futile.

Three of the Chinese concerned, all of them coolies, appeared at the Mixed Court on Monday, the charge against them being one of having attempted to murder Havildar Bhagwan Singh.

Mr. Springfield's Chase.

Police evidence was given bearing out the facts already reported, and an exciting tale of the chase was told by Mr. M. O. Springfield. He stated that while backing his car from a house in Bubbling Well Road he heard police whistles and the firing of shots and, jumping from his car, saw Sikhs and Chinese police in pursuit of three Chinese. Shouting to the Havildar to hand over his revolver, witness joined in the chase. At first he could not fire, because of two foreign ladies looking into a shop window who were in the way, but, having passed them, he opened fire and brought one of the men down. Stopping to see if the man was capable of doing any damage, witness found that he was badly wounded. Following the other men, who had turned into Seymour Road, witness saw one of them disappear into Mr. Toeg's garden, the other running straight on towards the French Concession. On reaching Avenue Foch, witness jumped into a broker's trap and a little farther on continued the chase in a motor-car. Witness instructed the driver, a Volunteer, to drive over the man. Seeing he was about to be run down, the fugitive swerved, and the driver followed suit, so that the car was almost overturned. The Chinese then turned on to some waste ground, and having used up all his revolver cartridges, witness fired a carbine shot, but missed. The man ran on to the corner of Rue Ratard and Route des Sœurs, where a policeman on point duty attempted to head him off, but he had only his traffic baton and was faced with a revolver. Shortly afterwards, the man was pluckily held by some Chinese who came out of a tea house, and it was then found that he had thrown his revolver away.

The accused were remanded.

Death of Second Man from Wounds

Another of the men wounded in the Bubbling Well Road shooting affair on Sunday died on Monday evening, the first, Sung Poo-sung, succumbing to his wounds at the Shantung Road Hospital late in the afternoon, and the second, Woo Yau-chuen, at the Red Cross Hospital the same evening.

Others who were in the chase, in addition to the Sikh police constable who received a bullet wound in the shoulder, must have narrowly escaped injury as, for example, the bullet hole discovered in the door of the car commandeered by Mr. Springfield indicates.

Two loaded revolvers and 13 rounds of ammunition were left in Mr. Toeg's garden by tthe man who took refuge there.

One touch of humour has been given to this rather grim affair by the "*Sinwanpao*" which on Monday reported it as "an attempt upon the life of a detective in front of the Burlington Hotel." The paper very thoughtfully adds that "on investigation we find this report is not true."

The Inquest: Police Commended

At the inquest held on the bodies of the two Chinese who were killed in the Bubbling Well Road chase, the following verdict was returned: "The deaths were due to the effects of gun-shot wounds." The following rider was added: "That the police be commended for their excellent work in rounding up these robbers."

Wong Ching-pau, an employee of the Chung Hwa Printing Co., who was accidentally shot during the chase, has been operated upon at the Red Cross Hospital and is progressing favourably. The bullet extracted from his leg was found to be of the same pattern as that used by the robbers.

FLATS FOR WESTERN DISTRICT

Huge Block to Be Built in Rue Lafayette: Largest in China

Although flats both for residences and offices are a common enough feature of the central district they have hitherto not appeared in the western district, with the exception, we think, of the block in Avenue Joffre. With land at its present prices and the general cost of building, it must have occurred to not a few people that well designed flats surrounded by sufficient land would contribute very materially to the solution of the housing question; and very much better materials might be employed in such a building, proportionately with the amount of space offered each tenant, than those at present commonly to be found in the appalling jerry-built rabbit hutches which are being allowed to disfigure the Western residential district.

Not a little interest, therefore, attaches to the large apartment building which Mr. J. H. Blackstone is at present constructing in the new extension of Rue Lafayette.

This building is the largest of its kind this side of San Francisco, and contains in all some 31 apartments. Of these there are 20 large apartments containing four rooms together with a pantry and a kitchen, three medium sized apartments consisting of three large rooms with kitchen and pantry, and eight small apartments composed of living room, a bedroom, a bathroom, and a kitchen, suitable for single ladies or bachelors.

All bedrooms have adjoining them bathrooms with hot and cold water in abundance, and the latest modern conveniences. The kitchens are fitted with ice boxes, gas rings, fireless cookers, and small laundry tubs. All the floors of this building are of parquetry set in pitch on a concrete foundation with the exception of those of the corridors which are of mosaic or of tarazzo. Each apartment is connected with the main entrance hall by telephone.

Swimming Pool for Residents.

The building contains a private swimming pool, a large social parlour, where refreshments will be served, a winter garden, and a roof garden commanding an extensive view of the Ezra Estate, and the greater part of the French Concession. There are moderately large grounds adjoining, which contain three tennis courts free to all tenants, and also 12 garages. The exterior of the building is square and imposing and is covered with a veneer of cement and granite, which has the appearance of stone. The total ground space is 132 ft. by 69 ft. with a height of 72 ft. all told. There are five floors with a space between floors of 10 feet. The rents, it is understood will be, for the large apartments Tls. 148 to Tls. 152, medium apartments Tls. 115, and for the smaller flats Tls. 85 per month. This includes all hot water heating, and the servants' quarters, and also all rates and taxes. Meals will also be served in each flat if required.

The architects are Mr. Blackstone and Mr. Johnson, and this is one of the first buildings to be built without a Chinese contractor.

THE story of a murder at Woosung on a vessel bound for Hankow was reported last Friday in the Chinese press, the details apparently first coming to light when the vessel reached its destination. It is said that on the 8th instant, when the Kung Woo was on its way out at Woosung, a passenger, believed to be in possession of a large sum of money, was missed, and upon search being made his dead body, cut in four parts, was found in a box in his cabin. Three men who were occupants of the cabin were placed under arrest.

CHILD LABOUR IN CHINA

Dame Adelaide Anderson's Tour: Chinese Officials Consulting Her on Principal Needs

Dame Adelaide Anderson, formerly Chief Lady Inspector of Factories in Great Britain, who has been making Shanghai her headquarters during her visit to China, left on Monday for Wuchang where she will investigate industrial conditions After this Dame Adelaide will go to Kuling where she will spend the summer, returning to Shanghai in the autumn and leaving for Japan in November.

Although her stay in China has been comparatively brief, Dame Adelaide having arrived in Shanghai from Hongkong last December, she has been able to see much of factory conditions and has received encouraging co-operation from Chinese officials. Coming at the invitation of the National Christian Council and being invited to sit with the Child Labour Commission of the Municipal Council, Dame Adelaide's role has been dual, to place her experience in Great Britain at the service of these bodies and, as an interested individual, to study for herself the existing conditions of factory labour.

That other organizations have taken the initiative in securing the benefits of Dame Adelaide's life long specialization on these lines is shown by the fact that during her recent visit to Peking, Dr. W. W. Yen, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce interviewed her at his private residence, with the Vice-Minister, Dr. Hawling Yen, and the Chief of the Labour Department of the Ministry, Mr. Sun Chi-yi was also present.

A General Awakening

On the one hand, the interview afforded an opportunity of hearing Dame Adelaide's impressions, after some months of service with the Shanghai Municipal Council's Child Labour Commission and of study of the factory situation on behalf of the National Christian Council of China; and on the other, of explaining the plans and activities of the Ministry.

Dame Adelaide Anderson was able to report an awakening interest on the part of officials and employers in the subject of industrial welfare, so that although the conditions, notwithstanding some notable exceptions, are generally speaking very terrible, the outlook is hopeful. The great difficulty is the securing of co-ordinated action, and the great desideratum a wider public appreciation of the issues involved. Emphasis was placed upon the need for the regulation of child labour, its exclusion from night-work, and the provision of education; and upon the shortening of the hours of labour in view of the greater strain of work in factories using power-driven machinery.

Among the subjects discussed were the need for more accurate statistics for the study of health and safety, for means whereby the labourers could voice their own needs the question of trained travelling inspectors, and the preparations for sending a Chinese delegation to the International Labour Conference to be held in Geneva in September this year.

Among other significant invitations was one to address the Chinese Science and Political Society in Peking, Dame Adelaide being the first woman who had ever attended one of its meetings. Mr. S. T. Wen, the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Nanking, also arranged a luncheon for Dame Adelaide at which the discussion was very helpful and left a hopeful impression. Mr. Wen asked for an outline of English law on the subject of factory supervision which has been sent to him.

The Authorities in Kiangsu.

The Civil Governor of Kiangsu has recently issued the following important Ordinance to the Industrial Bureau as follows:

The Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce has already promulgated a set of factory regulations. Although there are special articles in regard to child labour, they are perhaps not perfect since there is no careful inspection. This would tend to make them exist in name only.

Dame Adelaide Anderson of Great Britain has presented personally a memorandum. It was entirely because of her humanitarian spirit that she wished children to be better treated in all the factories.

A Child Labour Commission has already been appointed by the Municipal Council in Shanghai to investigate factory conditions. China should also organize a commission of the same nature to sit in Shanghai so that regulations in regard to children in both the Chinese and foreign factories will be similar.

Besides writing to Commissioner Hsu of Foreign Affairs in Shanghai asking him to see Dame Adelaide Anderson about the matter, the Commissioner of the Industrial Bureau of Kiangsu is also notified.

RUSSIAN SHIPS AT WOOSUNG

Gen. Gleboff's Protest Against Report They Were Brought to Woosung for Sale

The recent activities at Woosung centring round the five Russian ships which have been lying off that port for many months past has occasioned a considerable amount of bitterness between the parties concerned,—and this bitterness has not been lessened in any way by inaccurate reports of what has been happening which have appeared inadvertently for the most part, in Shanghai's foreign newspapers. The following letter sent by General Gleboff, Commander-in-Chief of the Far Eastern Cossack group, to the Assistant Commissioner for Russian Affairs in Shanghai, a copy of which has been forwarded to us by him, is not without interest-therefore:—

Commander in Chief of the Far Eastern Cossack Group.—June 14, 1924, Shanghai.

To the Assistant Commissioner for Russian Affairs in Shanghai:—

"In issue No. 1133 of the newspaper "*Russky Golos*," appearing on the 7th instant, there appeared a report stating that on receiving M. Karakhan's protest concerning the disappearance of the str. Eldorado from Woosung, the Chinese authorities issued an order that that the three remaining ships be brought into Shanghai Harbour and kept under guard until the question of their ownership can be solved by the Chinese Central Government.

Immediately after this there appeared the report in two Shanghai newspapers, the "Shanghai Times" and the "*Echo de Chine*" stating that the three ships in question were compelled by the use of force, exercised by officials from the Bureau for Russian Affairs, the Harbour office and by 20 Chinese policemen, to enter the harbour, and that the men were disembarked and detained under guard.

All the written and personal intercourse I have had with you regarding these ships and the men aboard them shows that the bringing of these ships into harbour and the disembarkation of the men were entirely the result of my persistent demands, and had nothing to do with the Chinese authorities. With reference to the aforesaid reports, however, I can only assume insincerity on the part of the Chinese officials, and I am therefore asking you whether any order was issued by the Chinese authorities for the ships to be kept under guard until such time as their fate can be settled by the Peking authorities.

"If such an order has in fact been issued, then I beg officially to inform the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs in Shanghai that the strs. Mongugai and Zashchitnik are the private property of the Cossack group, while the str. Okhotsk is my own private property, a fact proved to you by documents you know of.

"After what has already been said about these ships I am quite sure that neither the Soviet Government nor the Chinese authorities have the right to dispose of them, for they cannot dispose of what does not belong to them, and I will take every step to defend my rights and my property.

In conclusion, I beg of you immediately to refute the accuracy of the reports in the "Shanghai Times" regarding the ships being brought up the Huangpu by the Chinese authorities.

DEPRECIATION OF SMALL MONEY

Foreign Shopkeepers' Profits Threatened

A meeting of representatives of foreign stores in Shanghai was held on Wednesday afternoon to consider the possibility of taking action in the matter of "small money" losses.

It was mentioned that some firms are losing a considerable amount of money in this connexion, one representative saying that his firm lost as much now in a week as they did in a month three or four years ago. Women, it would seem from the discussion, are the most troublesome customers in the matter of small change, and, somewhat surprisingly, one heard that "globe trotters" are equally fractious about "big" and "small" money.

The matter was discussed at length from the points of view of the customer and the store-keeper, and afterwards a committee was appointed to draw up a report and make recommendations. These will be circulated in due course and, it is hoped will result in the general adoption of a scale of prices for purchases under a dollar which will be equitable both to the storekeeper and the customer.

THE NEW SHANGHAI POST OFFICE

Magnicient Structure on Soochow Creek Now Fairly to Be Appreciated and Due to Open in the Near Future

The fine new premises built for the Chinese postal authorities to replace the building in Szechuen Road as Shanghai's district head post office are nearing completion, and by September it is confidently expected will be complete. The congestion in the present post office should be completely eliminated, for the new premises are large and commodious enough to take even Shanghai's postal traffic,—if the term is permissible. Certainly the counter space is larger, the counter in the parcels department being 523 ft. in length, and that in the public hall, 515 ft. Some idea of what this means can be gathered by picturing H.M.S. Hawkins, and chopping off a little under one-sixth of her length; then take what remains and you have the size of each of these counters. The Shanghai Club bar will be no where in it.

Now that the matting and scaffolding have been mostly taken down, it is possible to realize something of the building's commanding presence,—an effect heightened by the rather dingy surroundings. The clock tower particularly stands out, while the general classical simplicity of design is very pleasing to the eye.

The building was started only about 18 months ago, and occupies a commanding site at the corner of North Soochow and North Szechuen Road, immediately across the new bridge.

Thanks to most efficient organization, extraordinary progress has been made. The contractors, Messrs. Ah Hong & Co., are to be heartily congratulated on their splendid performance, for the building will be completed many months before contract time, a state of affairs very rarely attained in China.

Roughly the premises are U-shaped in plan, five storeys in height, fronting upon North Soochow, North Szechuen and Tiendong Roads, with the various postal departments conveniently arranged to meet the requirements of the public, and to allow of rapid and efficient handling of incoming and out-going mail.

The principal facades to the North Soochow and North Szechuen Roads are designed in the form of a single massive classic colonnade, rising direct from the pavement to a height of more than 50 feet. They will be constructed of granite in the lower portions and artifical granite above.

ONE OF THE TWO HUGE GROUPS OF STATUARY TO BE PLACED ON THE TOWER. THEY WERE MODELLED BY A LOCAL SCULPTOR, MR. WAGSTAFF.

At the corner of these two frontages is placed a clock tower some 200 feet in height, which forms a dominating feature of the design. On the north and south sides of this tower 110 feet from the ground, mammoth groups of statuary, symbolical of the postal services will be placed. These groups are approximately 21 feet wide and 14 feet high. The group illustrated will be placed on the south side. Mr. Wagstaff (of Arts & Crafts) an exhibitor of sculpture at the Royal Academy, is the sculptor who modelled these groups, and the infinite pains he took in the work show up in the finished work.

The ground floor is occupied by the Import and Export Parcels Departments, and the walls, counters and floors are treated in a simple and hygenic manner with encaustic tiles and terrazzo. On the first floor is the postal public hall along the Soochow Road front with mosaic floors, marble and teak counters and ornamental plaster wall and ceiling treatment. It is approached by a double staircase of Italian marble from the Soochow-Szechuen Road Corner and auxiliary staircases at the west end. The remainder of this floor is occupied by the sorting, despatching and other offices.

On the second floor are the administration offices and on the third floor residential flats and quarters for members of the staff.

The architects are Messrs. Stewardson and Spence, F. R. I. B. A., B. A., who obtained the award in competition.

AN IMPOSING VIEW OF THE NEW POST OFFICE AS IT WILL APPEAR FROM NORTH SZECHUEN ROAD BRIDGE, SHOWING THE TWO MAIN COLONNADES. THE CLOCK TOWER IS 200 FEET HIGH.

APOSTOLIC DELEGATE AT ST. XAVIER'S

His Excellency on Materialism in Modern Schools in China

On the occasion of the close of the Catholic General Council in China, the Apostolic Delegate, Archbishop Costantini, and 17 Bishops attended a reception in their honour at St. Francis Xavier's College on Monday. The reception was followed by a delightful musical and dramatic entertainment by the pupils. Among the bishops present in addition to his Excellency, were Mgrs. Gauthier, Blois, Carlo, Rayssac, Terlaak, Aguirre, Part, Bourgain and Van Dick.

Shortly after five o'clock to the strains of Gounod's impressive "Marche Pontificale" the Delegate, accompanied by the visiting Bishops entered the school hall, packed with an enthusiastic gathering past and present students and friends.

Welcoming the Delegate and bishops, the Rev. Bro. Antonin, Director of the College, asked his Excellency to glance at the assembly. It represented 25 different nations, but they were united far more intimately than nations and states. Their hearts beat in unison, their spiritual minds were nourished from the same source, and all were children of the Church.

Referring to the wonderful growth of the College, Bro. Antonin said that it would shortly celebrate its 50th anniversary. Its development had been as rapid as that of the Concessions. In conclusion he thanked his Excellency for having come that afternoon to give them precious encouragement. The visit was the greatest consolation that Christian educators or their pupils could possibly desire.

The Apostolic Delegate thanked masters, and pupils for such a magnificent expression of respect accorded to the venerable Bishops in China on the occasion of the Catholic Council. Might Providence bless the good work of the Marists who collaborated with the Missions with such Christian fortitude, might their numbers European and Chinese never grow less, and might they ever be imbued with the admirable spirit of the founder of the College.

Continuing, his Excellency begged the masters to remember that they had more to do than merely teach languages and sciences. They had to realize the dignity of the human soul.

"Unhappily," he went on," there reigns in modern schools in China a Materialist atmosphere. It is a copy, coming some years later, of the European materialism of the last 50 years, and like all copies far worse than the original. The other day, Tagore, the Indian poet, asked some students at a university whether they believed in a god or not. The question fell like a thunderbolt in the material atmosphere of that university. "It is impossible for me to believe," said the poet, "that the universe with its marvellous life and beauty could be the result of blind mechanical force."

In was in spiritual matters that lay the superiority of their schools, where it was not sufficient merely to adorn the intelligence but where the admirable moral underlying all was the forming of their spiritual consciences.

The choir then rendered "Vive Monseigneur!" and after a humorous dialogue by two of the pupils, "Les Martyrs aux Arenes." Two violin solos by H. dos Remedios and the Lustpiel of Keler Béler, charmingly interpreted by the orchestra followed.

"Le's Jeunes Captifs," a playet by the Abbé Labardin, brought a most enjoyable entertainment to a close.

MR. KUAN CHUN, Senior Magistrate of the Mixed Court, has assured Mr. Hsu Yuan, Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, that he will gladly resume duty after a good rest if his health should be then improved. Mr. Kuan has also expressed his gratification at the solicitude shown him by Mr. Hsu and members of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce.

ANGLO-AMERICAN RULE IN LAW

The Best to Adopt for China: Dr. Tung K'ang's Advice to Chinese Law Students

At the seventh annual graduation of the Comparative Law School of China, the Law Department of Soochow University, which took place on June 14, an honorary degree was conferred on H. E. Tung K'ang, former Minister of Justice and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of China.

Dr. Tung K'ang called attention to the fact that the legal system of China dated back 2,000 years. The educational system, however, retarded the growth of Law because research was unusual and not encouraged. Some scholars, however, interested themselves in the law and during the Tang Dynasty a code was compiled which in some respects resembled the English Common Law.

During the Ching Dynasty a law codification bureau was organized with which Dr. Tung was associated which undertook to revise and codify the laws of China. It was unfortunate, he thought, that the continental instead of the Anglo-American legal systems were adopted in China.

"The former system, with its intricate provisions and complicated procedure, is diametrically opposite to the traditions and customs throughout this country," he said "My tour of England and America has brought home to me most forcibly that a thorough judicial reform according to the Anglo-American legal system is urgently needed."

Delays That Should Be So.

Dr. Tung recommended that the judicial system be reorganized along Anglo-American lines, the procurator system, which only made for delays being abolished and judical powers being vested in the district magistrate and branches of the Supreme Court should be established in various parts of the country. The Civil Code must recognize the variations in local customs and traditions in China and the authority should be vested in local officials to determine the relationship of the law to local practices. Only in case of conflict between local customs and national enactments should the power of the national government be applied. Dr. Tung also favoured arbitration instead of constantly rushing to the courts on every occasion. In the Ching Dynasty, he said that there had been a form of compulsory arbitration.

Bachelor degrees were conferred by Dr. J. A. G. Shipley, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University, upon the following candidates:

Chang Ching-rwen, William Wenpak Chen, Cheng Ying-hou, Afman Hsi, Charles H. Kao, Herbert C. T. Lee, R. C. W. Sheng, Ruchin T. Y. Tsar, Tsiang Koh-fong, Tsok Kong-ming, Yang Feng-chun, Henry T. Yao, I. W. Yen, Zurtin Zao and Zongsan Zia.

HOW TO CHECK THE SMUGGLING OF ARMS

Drastic Powers Against Shipping Available to Customs, If They Wish to Exert Them

The seizures of smuggled arms and ammunition which have this week been made by the Customs officials and police once again emphasize the need for strong counter-measures against the extensive traffic in contraband. Discoveries of the kind have been made on each of the last four French mail boats to arrive and, whilst it is not suggested that offenders are not to be found elsewhere, information gleaned on the present occasion suggests that Marseilles is just now a centre of big business in this trade. Over 200 revolvers have been seized this week, and in this, as in other, cases, it by no means follows that the number actually discovered represents the total cargo. And it is an extremely difficult business for the authorities to tackle, difficult especially in the way of finding the chief offenders. Traffickers in arms hide their cargo away on board and "take a chance" on its not being discovered by the authorities on arrival in Shanghai. If it should be traced, the smuggler remains in the back-ground, the loss suffered by confiscation being easily met by the enormous profits made when a deal is successfully completed.

How considerable these profits must be is shown by the information which has come to light in the latest case, *viz.*, that a revolver and 100 rounds of ammunition can be purchased in Marseilles for Frs. 80, while in Shanghai the same may be disposed of at prices as high as $150. No one is ever brought to book except occasionally a member of the crew attempting a quiet landing with a few revolvers under his coat, or a longshoreman engaged to dispose of some of the contraband on commission, and as long as this method of dealing with the matter continues, the leaders in the trade will continue to run the risk of their goods being confiscated. Playing their cards carefully, it is about the only risk they do run.

The All Essential Permit.

We think it both advisable and necessary to draw attention to the fact that the Commissioner of Customs has very extensive powers in the matter, which powers do not seem to have been rigidly exercised. According to "Customs Procedure," every vessel using the port of Shanghai does so by permit, and the granting of this permit is subject to very special conditions. The "General Discharge Permit" is issued subject to the signing of a guarantee by responsible shipping firms that certain conditions will strictly be observed. These conditions, naturally, make special provision against the introduction of contraband cargo. Amongst other things, the guarantee requires that once at least during a voyage, a steamer must carefully be searched with a view to discovering any contraband or smuggled goods which may be on board and, in the event of any being found, the master is required to deliver the same over to the Customs authorities at the first port reached. The guarantee further sets forth that the master of a vessel and all other officers are to receive the most stringent instructions in the matter of contraband, but its chief condition is this: that the guarantors have to make themselves responsible for payment (if called upon) "of any fine to which the master of a steamer may have become liable through the contravention of any treaty, rule or regulation in case he (the master) shall not, within three months of the alleged contravention, have been brought before the Consul or other official concerned to answer the charge; and, finally, it is provided that the Commissioner of Customs may at any time cancel the "general discharge permit," even without assigning reasons for so doing.

The Companies' Responsibility.

We have not given the precise wording of the regulations, but such is their bearing, and it is obvious that their enforcement would be fraught with very serious consequences for those concerned. It is equally obvious that the regulations, which of course apply to other contraband than arms and ammunition, were intended to be drastic and to place final responsibility on the shipping companies. We do not recall that either the master of a vessel or the agents have ever been proceeded against under these regulations: possibly fines have been levied, paid, and a new permit issued. In any case, here is authority for dealing with the problem in a drastic manner, and it might be well for the authorities to consider whether this greater power should not be exercised to some extent at least to the extent of eusuring precise and sustained caution against the introduction of contraband on a steamer. We do not, of course, suggest that agents and masters of vessels are not taking precautions, and precautions which may seem to them to be adequate, or the utmost within their power but the facts of the case prove that these precautions, rigid as they may be, are being flouted, and the logical conclusion would seem to be that, through the agents, pressure must be brought to bear upon the master, and through the master, upon the members of the crew. No improvement in a situation fraught with real danger to the public generally, can be looked for if we continue to rely solely upon chance discoveries when a vessel arrives in port.

WEDDINGS

Donnelly-Taylor

A quiet wedding took place on Tuesday afternoon at Holy Trinity Cathedral when Miss Lillian Taylor, who recently arrived from Melbourne, Australia, became the bride of Mr. C. A. Donnelly of the Shanghai Waterworks, Ld.

The bride, who was given away by Mr. Allan Youngson, was charmingly gowned in fawn morocain, tastefully embroidered in shades of pink, with large shady picture hat to match trimmed with drooping feather.

The bridegroom was attended by Mr. J. Armour as best man, and Mrs. Allan Youngson, who wore a dress and picture hat of carnation pink crêpe-de-chine, acted as matron of honour. Dean Symons officiated at the simple ceremony, which was short and impressive.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Allan Youngson, 586 Rue de l'Observatoire, where friends of the young couple, who both hail from sunny Australia, met to wish them every happiness in their new life.

Mencarini-Ruiz

An interesting wedding was solemnized at the Capucin Fathers' Church in Manila on Sunday evening, June 8, when Miss Almudena Ruiz, of Alhama de Granada, Spain, became the wife of Mr. Alfredo Fernando Mencarini, of Shanghai, second son of Mr. and Mrs. Juan Mencarini. The church was prettily decorated for the occasion, and the bride presented a pleasing picture in a French satin dress with Brussels lace trimmed with orange. The Misses Pascual acted as bridesmaids, attired in a classic Spanish white mantilla, while the little daughter of Attorney Jubierrz Refida and the bridegroom's nephew, Alhino Mencarini, acted as train-bearers. After a brief honeymoon in the Philippines, the young couple left for Shanghai, where the bridegroom is employed with the Standard Oil Co.

PRIZES were distributed at the Foreign Y. W. C. A. on June 12 to the winners of an essay writing competition for Shanghai schoolchildren on "Alcohol: What It Is (etc.)" organized by the Shanghai Total Abstinence League. The successful competitors were R. M. Noblston, S. Edward Williams, Samuel Harvey, and Charles J. Taylor, who received awards to the value of $75. Nineteen papers were sent in, of which 13 were by boys and six by girls attending the Municipal schools. Each competitor, irrespective of the quality of the essay presented, received a book, and in this way everyone had a souvenir of the occasion. Mr. R. G. Dowie was the judge, and Miss Barchet presented the prizes.

OBITUARY

Dr. Frank George Carpenter

We greatly regret to announce that Dr. F. G. Carpenter, an American journalist and author, who was known the world over by his travel and political articles contributed to newspaper syndicates and magazines, died on Wednesday morning at 7.22 in the Foreign Hospital in Nanking from cystitis, with serious kidney complications. His body was brought to Shanghai on last evening's train and will be sent to America. A simple private service for his friends will probably be held in Bubbling Cemetery to-day.

Dr. Carpenter was on one of his extended tours, having sailed from Seattle on February 14, passing through Japan, Shanghai, and Hongkong *en route* to Manila, where he arrived on March 10. After spending several weeks there he returned to Hongkong and Canton for a week and came to Shanghai on May 10, where he remained until May 21 and then went to Soochow and Wusih on his way to Nanking. After two days in Nanking he became ill and on May 25 went to the Foreign Hospital, where he was under the care of Dr. Wilmot, in consultation with Drs. Hutcheson and Daniels. His secretary, Mr. Chester Wathen, and his friend of 30 years, Dr. John C. Ferguson of Peking, were with him during his illness and everything possible was done for him, but he finally succumbed early on Wednesday morning.

Dr. Carpenter was born in Mansfield, Ohio, on May 8, 1885, began his newspaper work as legislative correspondent for the "Cleveland Leader," at Columbus, and from that time has been a valued correspondent of the largest American dailies, newspaper syndicates and magazines. Besides his world tours he made extensive trips to every part of the globe, having visited China at least four times. He was the author of Carpenter's Geographical Readers and of many educational books for children. His home in the United States was in Washington, D. C., where we understand he has a son and a daughter with whom deep sympathy will be felt.

CHINESE "KU KLUX KLAN"

Reported Establishment in French Concession: Secret Society or Club?

What purported to be a detailed description of the newly-formed Chinese "Ku Klux Klan" was published in the "China Times" on Wednesday. The Chinese reporter stated—with a suitable expression of surprise—that the English language is used at the ceremony of initiation, an interpreter being used if the new member is only able to speak his own language. The usual secret signs of recognition are in vogue, with a special one for use when members casually meeting desire to enter into conversation.

It is said that the offices of the "Klan," in the French Concession, are comfortably furnished as a club, which has its recreation ground, reading room, piano and gramophone. The Cantonese leader of the organization is said to be "an important member" of a foreign firm in Shanghai, and , adds the reporter, among the members is "a fat man, who is a Chilean." It is customary for members to keep exemplary hours, the Club being closed promptly at 11 p.m., and any member residing at a distance is kindly provided with the use of a motor-car. Where the money comes from for all this is a mystery, and the investigator is equally uncertain as to how the following schemes will be financed: establishment of a hospital, bank, university, college and school. One learns that the Klan proposes to sweep away all class distinctions among Chinese, the rule being that all men become brothers from the moment of their election. The "China Times" notes that membership of the Klan is "alarming."

AT the request of the native banks at Nantao, the Constabulary Bureau has detailed additional policemen to patrol the quarters where these banks are situated from 8 a.m. to dusk, commencing from Monday last.

THE ANGERS'S ARMS

Further Seizure and two More Arrests: Guns Purchased at Marseilles for Frs. 80

The excellent stroke of work accomplished by Customs officials in seizing over 200 revolvers and some 10,000 rounds of ammunition on board the French mail str. Angers on Saturday did not, as might have been supposed, account for the whole of the steamer's contraband cargo. It was thought advisable to keep a watch on the vessel, and this has resulted in two arrests and a further seizure of arms.

Early on Monday morning, a Sikh watchman on duty at the Whangpoo Wharf observing three men coming from the Angers went forward with the intention of challenging them. They at once ran away, one making for the ship and the other two dashing off in the direction of Yangtszepoo Road. The alarm which was raised brought other police on the scene, and these two men were arrested and taken to Wayside police Station.. They were then found to have in their possession 19 automatic pistols of .32 calibre and 973 rounds of ammunition, and in addition there were two pistols and 174 rounds which one or both of them threw away in the course of their flight. The police ascertained that the revolvers were purchased in Marseilles at Frs. 80, with 100 rounds of ammunition.

Accused to Be Tried by Naval Court.

The two men, Pierre Renucke and Jean George, of the Angers, were brought up at the French Mixed Court on Tuesdaay, and an order was made that the revolvers and ammunition be handed over to the French police headquarters, that a full report of the case be forwarded to the French Consulate, and that a date be fixed for trial of the accused by a Naval Court on board a French man-of-war.

CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Election of Committee

The ballot box containing the votes at the election of the General Committee of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce for the fifth term was opened in the presence of Mr. Yen Teh-ching, representing the Taoyin of Shanghai, on Sunday last. The total number of votes cast was 437, of which one was declared invalid. The result showed that 35 members, who polled the largest numbers of votes, were elected to form the General Committee, and 35 members who polled the next largest numbers, were elected in reserve, the former being headed by Mr. Fang Chiao-pah and the latter by Mr. Sung Han-chang.

The elected members were notified by the Chamber of their election on Monday, and requested to say whether they were willing to serve or not within 15 days, so that in case of any one refusing to serve, his vacancy might be filled by one of those elected in reserve in time for the new Committee to hold an election of a Chairman and two Vice-Chairman on July 5, next, from among themselves.

BIG OPIUM RAID BY THE POLICE

Two Men Arrested

A raid of specials (Reserves) and members of the S.M.P., under the personal direction of Mr. M. O. Springfield, Assistant Commissioner of Police, on the premises at 349 Santeh Road led, yesterday, to the arrest of two men and the seizure of a considerable (officially described as such) quantity of opium.

The house, which has numerous entrances, has been used by the band for some time for dispensing the drug and when the officers arrived in the morning most of the gang made off. Two of their number, however, not so active as the others, fell into the clutches of the law.

The opium had been made up into small parcels, ready to sell to the ordinary man of the street, who desired just enough for the moment, and there appeared to be thousands of small packages.

The two arrested men will appear at the Mixed Court this morning, when, it is expected, a remand will be asked for.

EXCLUSIVE UP-RIVER RESORT

Russian Belles in Garden Somewhere in Nantao and "Top-Hatted" Clientele

Where can it be?

On Thursday, a Chinese newspaper called "Microscope" printed an account of extraordinary proceedings alleged lately to have been carried on at a pleasure garden on the Nantao side some 30 *li* from Shanghai. The writer of the article presumably refers to foreigners in his description of "gentlemen with top hats and walking sticks" who motor from Shanghai and, arriving at the rendezvous, alight and proceed into the garden" with heavy tread." This last delicate descriptive touch suggests Police Constables, though, we believe, the majority of them do not ordinarily sport "toppers."

The proceedings within the garden, where, it is said, Russian women are engaged to dance, are described in such detail as would make a member of the Moral Welfare League weep. The story is fantastic enough, but there may be some truth in it. Perhaps the authorities will make discreet inquiries, especially as, latterly, a notice is said to have been displayed: "Foreigners only admitted."

RUSSIAN REFUGEES' AMNESTY?

Reported Statement by Soviet Representative in Shanghai

Dealing with the Russian refugee question last Friday, "Shanghai New Life" gave an interview said to have taken place between Citizen Pugacheff and a prominent Shanghai representative of the Soviet Government. The latter is credited with the following statement:

"A guarantee is being given to all military refugees who participated in the civil war that upon their return to Russia they will not be punished for the past. Publication of a special Government Act granting an amnesty to all White leaders returning to Russia of their own free will is expected in a few days, and thus no one will be punished for having assisted the Whites in the civil war. Persons who have committed serious crimes, however, such as murder, robbery, torture of prisoners, etc., as well as persons who were members of the White secret police or who acted as traitors, will not benefit by the amnesty. Nevertheless, such persons will be given an opportunity of having their responsibility reduced if they repent and ask for pardon, and their voluntary return to Russia will itself tend to ensure leniency for them. Rumours which have been spread by Whites reporting the execution of military refugees are baseless. The Labourers' and Peasants' Government has punished only the real culprits, *viz.*, the White leaders, but the Government is prepared to forgive even the Whites provided they express regret and desire to return to Russia. That this is so is shown by the case of General Zaitseff, who recently returned to Russia from Shanghai.

IT was announced on Tuesday that the Shanghai Bar Association (Chinese) has decided to form a special organization to be known as "The Mixed Court Rendition Support Association."

MR. Yu Ya-ching, on behalf of the San Peh S. N. Co., has wired the Minstry of Communications, offering to buy the two steamers, Huata and Huali, for $170,000. No reply from Peking has been received yet.

THE Chinese Banking Association and the Native Banks' Guild have received a telegram from the Mint at Anking, saying that it commenced work only from April 1 last. Due to the mismanagement of the former directors the public has withdrawn its confidence. The low rate of the dollar has made it impossible to go on with the work, and that the Mint has, by permission of the Governor, therefore stopped minting the dollars for several days.

SECOND SHANGHAI DOG SHOW

A Splendid Collection of Dogs but Poor Support by the General Public

The second attempt, on Saturday, of a small group of dog-lovers to start a regular dog show in Shanghai was one of those curious mixtures of success and failure which occasionally occur. So far as the dogs on exhibition were concerned, the show probably was a great deal in advance of what anybody imagined could be done in Shanghai, but the trouble was that there were not a great many more people than dogs present and therefore it is extremely doubtful whether the show paid for itself, apart from making the profit which the promoters were hopeful of handing over to the "Field" Distemper Fund. Last year's show was spoilt by a deluge of rain that continued all day: this year's apparently suffered through the gloriously fine weather, for, as there were no other special attractions until the tennis doubles match late in the afternoon, it is to be assumed that most people must have been engaged at cricket, tennis, or on up-river excursions.

As regards the dogs there can be nothing but praise. There were altogether about 350 benched and certainly 75 per cent. of them were animals who would have ranked well in any provincial show at Home, even though possibly they would not have made much impression in London. There were even some, according to the judges, who could with confidence have been benched anywhere. Notable amongst the latter were Mr. H. E. Morriss' Alsatian bitch, Mr. W. J. Hawkings' bull terrier, Mr. A. W. Burkill's wirehaired fox terrier bitch, Mrs. E. G. Tait's dog of the same breed (though the latter only took third place behind Caesar, last year's Champion), Mr. F. B. Scott's champion Boston bull terrier and Mrs. Schregardus's champion Japanese spaniel. The Alsatians easily were the biggest class, it being possible to make sections for dogs, bitches and puppies, but the pointers probably were the best class as regards quality. It was particularly noticeable that, although only two classes were judged by the same judges as last year—and in neither of these two were the awards the same—in very many cases dogs who secured awards last year also came to notice this time, so that their owners may be sure their animals really have merit.

Judging always is a difficult business and it is impossible to be too lavish in praise of those ladies and gentlemen who officiated on this occasion. Miss Vera McBain, Mr. Trevor Twentyman, Mr. H. E. Gibson and Mr. J. F. W. Milne had the tasks which came more prominently to notice, through being the judges of the more popular classes, and they gave every satisfaction but only those more closely connected with the management of the show know of the immense help given by Miss Jean Armstrong, Mr. P. W. Goldring, Mr. C. H. Green, Mr. J. F. Duncan, Mrs. Wing and Mr. R. Neumann, who judged classes previously allotted to them and at the shortest notice also took over the duties of other judges who were indisposed. Mr. E. T. Byrne, Mr. M. O. Springfield and Mr. A. de C. Sowerby accepted what always are the most difficult tasks—judging the miscellaneous classes—and did them well. One cannot omit some mention of Major H. E. Keylock, who for two hours sat under a broiling sun conducting the veterinary examination, but who seemed to be content with being able to say that not one of the dogs was suffering from disease.

During the afternoon, Mrs. E. T. Byrne kindly presented cups to the owners of the winners in each class, and her husband, as chairman of the committee, in addition to paying generous compliments to all who had assisted, offered some very direct comment, especially reminding exhibitors that it would be quite impossible to run dog shows if people who entered dogs walked them off as soon as the judging was finished, leaving only empty stalls to be viewed by visitors to the show.

Hongkong's public executioner has resigned rather than hang the Chinese woman condemned to death in the Lantao murder case, for poisoning her husband.

WHY SHOULD NOT THE DOGS HAVE A SHOW OF THEIR OWN?

GLENAMOY REFLOATED AT LAST

After Five Weeks: Fine Work Done by Tokio Salvage Co: Ship Now at Beal Is.

The Glen Line motor vessel, Glenamoy, which had grounded on Video Island in the Chusan Archipelago more than a month ago, was refloated last Friday at 4.30 a.m. and towed to Beal Island about 35 miles, where the vessel is now beached.

The Glenamoy grounded on May 11 in the course of a very heavy fog on a trip from Hongkong to Shanghai. Hitting the rocks of the archipelago, the vessel was considered lost. The rocks penetrated the bottom of the ship and held her tightly, while the No. 1 and No. 2 holds were seriously damaged and flooded.

On May 16, the Tokio Salvage Company appeared on the scene with the Azuma Maru, formerly the Brodie Clark, a ship built at the Old Dock, Shanghai. Launches and lighters were also provided the remove whatever cargo could be saved. The Nagasaki Maru, No. 1, stood by to take off the cargo. The position of the vessel was such that no landing place could be provided and the work both difficult and dangerous because of the underwater rocks on all sides of the Glenamoy.

The Glenamoy was hanging by her head in a most critical position when the salvage corps got to work. The flooding of the holds settled the ship in such a way that it was impossible to budge her. The salvage corps first built a coffer dam so that the deck became a bottom and thus prevented further settling.

Under Water Work.

They then pumped the water out of the No. 1 and No. 2 holds into the aft hold to tip her head up. Much of the work was done under water by expert Japanese divers. A corps of Japanese engineers, divers and workmen had been sent over to salvage the ship. Captain S. Mori, Managing Director of the Tokio Salvage Company, superintended the work personally. Chief Engineer Tashiro and Captain Miyazaki were in immediate charge of the crew.

Work on the vessel has been practically constant since May 16, day and night shifts operating. Powerful searchlights were used to make work possible during the night and both steam and gasoline pumps were in action all the time. The vessel finally was freed from the rocks at 4.30 a.m. on Friday. At 9.30 a.m. she was moved off to Beal Island, arriving there at 7.30 p.m. It was impossible to bring the Glenamoy to Shanghai because of the bad condition of her bottom. She was therefore beached at Beal Island, where she is still drawing 30 feet until the lightening is completed.

A Deadly Coast.

Mr. Ito of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha Insurance Dept. and Captain Mori of the Tokio Salvage Company, in describing the wreck, said that it was difficult to prevent accidents from happening to ships off the rocky coast of Ckekiang in the typhoon season, when fogs were thick, gales strong and the current so powerful as to throw almost any ship against the submarine rocks which abounded everywhere in the Chusan Archipelago.

The Tokio Salvage Company operates after the fashion of a Chinese medico. No cure, no pay! In salvaging vessels they do so largely at their own risk, gambling the ability of their divers and engineers with the forces of nature. The Shanghai agents are the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

MAKING MODEL HOMES FOR CHINA

Hygiene Education and Tariff: Sound Principles at 5th Annual Conference

At 2 p.m. on Saturday last, the fifth annual meeting of the Society for the promotion of Model Homes began at the Professional and Industrial Educational Department of the Kiangsu Educational Association. Dr. Y. P. Huang presided. He said in part, that he would call this first day of the meeting "a savings day" and the two following days "the days for care of children and adoption of hygiene principles." The primary aims of the Society, he said, were to encourage the habit of thrift and saving money, proper attention to the upbringing of children, and adoption of healthy principles of hygiene.

Dr. Huang emphasized the importance of practising abstinence, from smoking, drinking and gambling.

Mr. Chao Hen-sen, in charge of the Savings Department of the Shanghai Commercial and Savings Bank, spoke on the necessity of giving every child a complete education for 18 years before we could expect any good result from him or her. In order to meet the large expenses of education now-a-days, he advised all people to save a little money at regular intervals; and he also mentioned many other advantages to be derived from such a thrifty habit.

Mr. Wang of the Hsin Hua Savings Bank also spoke feelingly and interestingly on the same subject.

A programme of music and dancing concluded the first day's meeting.

A REVENUE STAMPS SCANDAL

Stamps Recklessly Mortgaged by Peking Now a Fine Squeeze for Tax Offices

The Ministry of Finance is again ordering all tax offices to report their sales of revenue stamps regularly, according to the Chinese Press. Its order, issued through the Financial Commissioner of Kiangsu, furnishes curious reading. This Ministry, it says, as well as the provincial offices authorized to collect the stamp duty, has mortgaged quantities of such stamps for loans from the banks. The banks, upon the expiry of the terms and without the consent of the Ministry, have flooded the market with these stamps by selling them at a considerable discount. The tax offices have picked up very cheap lots of revenue stamps from the market instead of procuring them from the Government Bureau. Most of these tax offices have failed to report their sales for months, while a few have reported a sale of several tens of cents a month only! The Ministry warns them that they must mend their ways, or they will be dealt with as severely as the penalty provides for the embezzlement of government funds. This looks very much like a case of "heads I win, tails you lose." Poor native banks!

TWO SERIOUSLY INJURED IN MOTOR ACCIDENT

A serious motor accident took place on Sunday afternoon on the Rubicon when Mr. E. Schroeder and Mr. Frentzler were thrown out of a hire car.

It appears that the car was hired from the Nanyang Garage and that the occupants were out for a pleasure ride. The accident was caused by the *stern* wheel coming off which threw the car. The occupants were thrown in the road and it was said that several cars passed the scene of the accident without offering assistance. Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Bena in one car and Mrs. Craig of the, Astor House, in another came along, stopped and did their best for the injured men. Mr. Bena rendered first aid, using a policeman's baton for a splint. The unfortunate victims were taken in the two motor-cars to Dr. Fearn's Sanitorium, 30 Route Pichon, where immediate treatment was provided and every attention shown them. Dr. Birt, who happened to be in the hospital and Dr. Martin, who was called by one of the party, performed an immediate operation. Both patients are suffering from very severe fractures.

CHINESE ATTACK ON CIGARETTES

Smoking Denounced as Harmful, Wasteful and Beneficial to None but Foreigners

A meeting to start a campaign against smoking cigarettes was held on Sunday morning at the Institute of Industrial Education at Lokapang. About 500 persons were present, including many educationists and students. Mr. Li Ping-shu was in the chair.

Mr. Yuan Kuan-lan outlined the object of the meeting. Money squandered in China on cigarettes, he said, far exceeded a hundred million dollars a year, Kiangsu bearing the lion's share to the extent of 24 millions. Something creditable would surely have been achieved, had this huge sum of money been spent on education and industry, instead of being rendered into smoke, literally, from year to year. He estimated that 90 per cent. of this wastage went to the foreigner's pocket. Therefore, this meeting was held with the object of persuading people to refrain from smoking any more cigarettes. Everyone present, he hoped, would do his or her best to preach the benefits of non-smoking.

Chairman Li called upon Mr. Wu Tse-hui and Mr. Ma Hsiang-peh to address the meeting.

Mr. Wu dilated on the injurious effects of cigarette smoking. In the Ming Dynasty, smoking was so rigorously suppressed that smokers were frequently given the extreme penalty, which, he said, was also the punishment enforced in ancient Turkey. Among missionary circles, smoking was taboo, being considered one of the sinful deeds that a good Christian should avoid committing. He regretted to see people the world over being addicted to this pernicious habit, while youths and girls apparently thought it fashionable to be seen with a cigarette dangling between their lips. Mr. Wu estimated the cost of cigarettes annually consumed in China at over 20 million dollars, his own village spending about $75,000 a year on them. He suggested two remedies: (1) To request the Government to levy as heavy a tax as possible on cigarettes, and (2) to conduct an extensive anti-smoking campaign.

The Doctrine of Non-Co-operation.

Mr. Ma Hsiang-peh interspersed his speech with several anecdotes. He spoke of the demoralizing effect of smoking opium. One rich family of his native town was reduced to a state of penury in a couple of decades only, simply because its youngsters indulged in smoking this stuff. When the white man first set his foot on Australian soil, the native population was both numerous and flourishing. The white man gave them wine which the natives drank and felt jolly, but they became indolent. They soon drank heavily. "Now, if we go to Australia, we will not see many natives," Mr. Ma continued. "Let us learn that drinking and smoking, though trivial matters, could exterminate a race of human beings. The white man is now supplying us with cigarettes to smoke and draining us dry of our money at the rate of hundreds of millions a year. If the white man won't repent, nobody can say to what extent mankind will have to suffer ultimately.

"Swear never to smoke any cigarettes again, and we shall be carrying out the doctrine of non-co-operation as is preached and practised by the Indian people," concluded Mr. Ma.

LOCAL NURSES DECORATED

O.B.E. for Miss Dalton and Miss Little

Two local nurses, Miss Catherine Dalton and Miss Norah Little, were invested with the order of the British Empire by Mr. Barton, H. M. Consul-General, at the Consulate on Saturday. Following the ceremony, Mrs. Glass gave a reception in honour of the recipients and their friends.

Miss Dalton, it will be remembered, was matron of the Yokohama Hospital at the time of the earthquake, with Miss Little as her assistant. Their heroic efforts and self-sacrificing work for the sufferers attracted widespread attention. Mr. A. T. White, who assisted them, has been awarded the M.B.E.

(*Continued on Page* 462.)

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

MONEY AND EXCHANGE

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, June 20.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/3 1/16=Tls. 6.07 at 70.65=$8.59

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 71½=Tls. 139.86 at 70.65=$197.96

Mex. Dollars, market rate	70.875
Native Interest	12
Copper Cash	275,000
Bar Silver	34⅝
Bank rate of Discount	4 per cent.
Paris on London	Frs. 80.25
New York on London	G.$4.33½

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/3½
Demand	3/3 1/16
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	71¼
Demand	71½
PARIS—	
Demand	1328
INDIA—	
Demand	231½
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73¼
JAPAN—	
Demand	58
BATAVIA—	
Demand	196¼
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	71

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/4⅛
4 m/s. Credits	3/4⅜
4 m/s. Docs.	3/5⅛
6 m/s. Credits	3/5⅛
6 m/s. Docs.	3/5¼
NEW YORK—	
Demand	72¼
4 m/s. Credits	73⅜
4 m/s. Docs.	74¼
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1395
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/3⅝
New York T.T.	71⅝

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR JUNE.

Hk. Tls. 5.52 at 3/3	£1
„ 1 at 1218	Frs. 13.57
„ 1.27 at 70⅜	Gold $1
„ 1 at 57¼	Yen 1.95
„ 1 at 230⅜	Rupees 2.56
„ 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
„ 1 at 15.85	It. Lire 17.66

Marks and Roubles no quotation

AMERICAN-ORIENTAL BANK

Closing Rates

June 20.

Selling Demand Draft.

U.S. G.$100.00	= S'hai.	$198.17
Stg. £1.0.0	= S'hai.	$8.59
Frs. 100.00	= S'hai.	$10.80
Yen. 100.00	= S'hai.	$82.04

Buying Demand Draft.

U.S. G.$100.00	= S'hai.	$194.67
Stg. £1.0.0	= S'hai.	$8.41
Frs. 100.00	= S'hai.	$10.34
Yen. 100.00	= S'hai.	$80.17

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates for June 20:—

It. Lire 16.40	Tls. 1
Swiss Frs. 4.03	Tls. 1
It. Lire 9.45	Yen 1

Sino-Scandinavian Bank

Selling Rates June 20:—

Tl. I.: Norw. Kr.:	5.15
Tl. I.: Swed. Kr.:	2.59
Tl. I.: Dan. Kr.:	4.11

WEEK'S EXCHANGE NOTES

June 21.

At the close of business on the 19th instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 36,021,000 and $37,960,000. These figures include Tls. 5,870,000 and $19,370,000 in Chinese banks in which there were no bars.

Bar Silver.

Arrivals were:—
349 bars from America
Shipments were:—
10 bars to Hongkong

Sycee.

Arrivals were:—

Tls. 700,000	Mex. Dollars to be melted	
800,000	from	Tientsin
200,000	„	Hankow
50,000	„	Chefoo
Tls. 1,650,000		

Shipments were:—

Tls. 300,000	to	Anhui
160,000	„	Canton
Tls. 460,000		

Dollars.

Arrivals were:—

$700,000	from	Wusih
460,000	„	Nanking
300,000	„	Soochow
300,000	„	Changchow
250,000	„	Chinkiang
200,000	„	Anking
200,000	„	Ningpo
150,000	„	Amoy and Wenchow
200,000	„	River Ports
60,000	„	Kashing
$2,820,000		

Shipments were:—
$1,000,000 to be melted

Silver.

The price came yesterday at 34⅝d. ready and 34 1/16d. forward, against 34⅛d. and 34⅛d. a week ago, showing rises of 1/16d. and 1/16d., respectively on the quotations. Business has apparently been very quiet in the London market, where the Continent has only been reported as a buyer on one day during the week. Reuter reports the market yesterday as quiet, with buyers holding off.

Bars in stock, 2,871, including Silver Yen 10 lakhs, of which we hold 141 bars. Stocks of Sycee and Dollars amount to Tls. 360¼ lakhs and $379½ lakhs, against Tls. 344 lakhs and $361½ lakhs last week, and Tls. 204¼ lakhs and $277 lakhs on June 19, 1923.

Exchange.

Exchange left off last week with the official quotation for T.T. at 3/3⅛d., where it has since remained. We have had no excitement during the week and the market generally has been quiet and steady. The market opened yesterday morning quiet and steady, with sellers T.T. 3/3⅛d. June/August, 3/3⅛d. September/November. Gold $ T.T. 71⅝ June/July, 71⅛ August. At the moment the market is easy with probably no sellers over T.T. 3/3⅛d. ready and forward. Any small amount of bills offering could probably be placed at 4 m/s. L/C 3/4⅛d. and 73⅛ ready and forward.

CHINESE SECURITIES

Latest London Quotations

Following are the latest London quotations on various Chinese securities received in Shanghai:—

Imp. Rly. 5 per cent. Gold Loan	76.25
5 per cent. Gold Loan, 1912	69.75
5 per cent. Reorg. Gold Loan 1913 (London issue)	73.00
5 per cent. Reorg. Gold Loan 1913 (French issue)	71.75
4½ per cent. Gold Loan, 1908	69.75
Honan 5 per cent. Gold Loan, 1905	71.50
8 per cent. Treasury Notes, 1925-9 Scrip fully paid	42.50
Shanghai-Nanking Line 5 per cent. Stg. Bonds	70.25
5 per cent. Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo Loan	76.00
5 per cent. Tientsin-Pukow Rly. Loan (London issue)	71.50
5 per cent. Tientsin-Pukow Rly. Loan (London issue)	66⅝

MODERN CHINA BANKS

At present, throughout the country there are 81 Chinese banks with a total authorized capital of over $368,900,000 and a paid-up capital of over $155,000,000. Of these banks 17 have headquarters in Peking, 19 in Shanghai, 8 in Tientsin, 8 in Hangchow, Chêkiang province, 7 in Hongkong, 3 in Soochow, Kiangsu province, and 3 in Nanchang, Kiangsi province. Other commercial centres, including Hankow, Tsinan, Chungking and Kaifeng, each boast of one or two such institutions. It was not until August 1, 1919, that a foreign exchange department was established by a Chinese bank, the institution being the Shanghai Commercial Savings Bank. Several other banks in process of organization are not included in the above figures.

DUTCH CUSTOMS RAISED

The Hague, June 13.

The Government has introduced yield an extra 13,000,000 florins.—Reuter.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

A Dull Week: Lack of Interest in Piece Goods Result of Fall in Raw Cotton

June 21.

The local markets had one of their almost unexplainable lapses again this week. Last week, after the holidays, every one was happy, for there was a regular boom in business and there seemed to be nothing to interfere with a continuance of it. Of course, general produce is excepted, for that particular line just now is dead. It was piece goods that caused the trouble and the only possible explanation is a continuance of the policy that often has been noticed, of reducing or increasing orders as the raw material goes down or up. Last week the price came down with a run: hence, say some people, a reduction of piece goods orders. As for produce, as one merchant put it, "If 'moribund' was the correct word to use before—and somehow it seems to sound all right—then the market now can only be described as 'more moribunder'."

Piece Goods

Indent business has been very quiet throughout the week. The inquiry, according to dealers' reports, has been of a more general nature, but it has been very limited. Then, too, although local values have been somewhat easier, only small sales have been recorded, on account of native interest being high. Forward business at the moment is unpopular with dealers, for they have a conviction that Home values must weaken.

Cotton, Yarn, etc.

China Cotton.—There is reported to be a scarcity of cotton locally and prices, though they declined rather smartly in the latter part of the week, still are regarded as high. The tendency of the market now is bearish. Yesterday's closing quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange were:—June, 47.20; July, 46.90; August, 46.30; September, 43.30; October, 40.70; November, 40.05. Spot quotations:—Shensi, Tls. 47; Hankow, Tls. 45.50 to Tls. 46.

Yarn.—The market has not fluctuated greatly during the week and now is steady. The closing quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange yesterday morning were:—June, 177.30; July, 175.30; August, 173.90; September, 171.60; October, 167.50; November, 166.30.

In their weekly report, issued yesterday, Messrs. A. B. Rosenfeld & son state:—

China Cotton.—The market has had rather a more active appearance during the early part of the week, prices having advanced about half a tael, due to the local bulls buying. Furthermore, weather conditions had also strengthened. However, prices receded some seven mace for October/November. Market closing steady. In summing up the situation, we see no reason for either materially higher or materially lower prices for cotton in the near future until something more definite can be known as to the general outlook of the crops.

EXTRACTS OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Tungchow, June 16.—Cotton is small, but growing nicely and the outlook so far very good. Stands are from 5 to 6 inches high. Acreage increased about 30 to 40 per cent.

Shanghai and Districts, June 17.—During the early part of the week rains were general throughout these territories and the land has been so wet that little progress has been made. With another few days of clear and warm weather, rapid improvement should take place. Acreage increased about 20 per cent.

Yangtze Valley, June 15.—Weather a little too cool. Crop reports, however, are very favourable.

Chêkiang Province, June 16.—The conditions in this province are steadily improving. Crop prospects so far very good.

Shensi and Shansi Provinces, June 14.—Weather favourable. Farmers are making fair progress with chopping.

Shantung and Chihli Provinces.—No reports to hand.

Yarn.—Fluctuations during the past week have been unimportant, and, although during the early part of the week the tendency was somewhat firmer, the undertone of the market at the close was steady. From present indications, we look for steady markets in the future.

Messrs. J. Spunt & Co., in their weekly report, issued yesterday, state:—

China Cotton.—While the volume of business for prompt deliveries during the past week may be said to have been within narrow dimensions, prices on the whole ruled slightly higher than those prevailing in the preious period and as regards the rates in the local Cotton Exchange on new crop deliveries the predominating tendency moved to higher levels, apparently due to conditions for the growing crop, which is as yet in its delicate state of infancy. Spinners are seriously contemplating further curtailment, being actuated in this direction by the unrelenting unfavourable parity of prices between raw cotton and the finished product. Nevertheless, even if such intended wholesale curtailment were to become an actuality the resultant effect would probably create an appreciation in Mill products, as, for the time being, there are no indications of any drastic curtailment in spindleage affecting materially the present trend of the raw cotton markets which will be regulated from day to day more by the weather map and insect pests than any other factors. Tone of the market, steady.

Produce

The market remains practically unchanged. A few inquiries have been coming forward for sesamum seed, but up to the present local prices are much in excess of buyers' ideas. Inquiries for other commodities are negligible.

AMERICA'S LARGE SURPLUS OF EXPORTS

Washington, June 13.

United States imports for May totalled $305,000,000 and for the past 11 months $3,282,000,000.

Exports totalled $336,000,000 for May and $4,005,000,000 for the last 11 months.—Reuter's American Service.

ROYAL DUTCH OIL CO.

Lodon, June 12.

According to a telegram from Amsterdam, the balancesheet of the Royal Dutch Oil Company for 1923 shows a profit of 84,856,000 guilders.—Reuter.

WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO.

The report of the directors for the year ended February 29, 1924, states:—

The accounts show a profit of £167,201 16s. 5d., and, after providing for the payment of the preference dividends to December 31, 1923, and an interim dividend on the ordinary shares paid December 1, 1923, there is a balance of £107,373 19s. 5d., which the directors recommend shall be appropriated as follows:—

To pay a final dividend of 5 per cent., making 10 per cent. per annum, free of tax and a bonus of threepence per share, free of tax, on the Ordinary shares.

To carry to the reserve account £35,160 16s. 9d., making the reserve £275,000.

To pay the trustees of the employees' provident fund £1,500; and to carry forward the balance of £33,876 17s. 8d., to the next year's account, subject to the payment of Corporation Profits Tax.

CHINA MATCH FIRMS

There are 51 match companies in China, with a total capital of above $6,000,000. The amount of business transacted in a year is at least $12,000,000 in total. Most of the factories employ Japanese methods; therefore, equipment, chemicals, chips and boxes usually are imported from Japan. During the past three years, some of the factories in Shanghai, Tientsin, Tsinan and Mukden have been equipped with saw-mills. The Tam Hwa Company has a capital of $2,000,000, owns a forest and a saw-mill in Antung, and also a factory for the manufacture of requisite appliances, except chemicals.

HWAYANG CONSERVANCY

About 1,000 coolies are being employed in conservancy work on the Hwayang River, Anhui province. The work started some time ago and is expected to be completed in a few weeks.

FU CHUNG COAL

The General Managers of the Fu Chung Corporation advise us that the sales of their coal (Honan Anthracite) for the month of May, 1924, amounted to 142,630 tons."

SUNGALA ESTATE

Messrs. Cecil Holliday & Co. have received advices from their Singapore agents that the estimated outputs of dry rubber from the Sungala Rubber Estate for the following months were:—

	lb.
February	6,260
March	8,713
April	8,922
May	8,838

MAY RUBBER OUTPUT

	lb.
Alma Estates	22,000
Batu Anam (Johore)	15,600
Bukit Toh Alang	31,200
Bute	10,000
Chemor United	20,200
Chempedak	14,700
Cheng	13,000
Consolidated	49,434
Dominion	26,695
Karan	8,100
Kota Bahroe	22,670
New Amherst	15,538
Padang	12,000
Permata	5,956
Repah	14,900
Semambu	14,300
Senawang	20,000
Shanghai Kedah	23,446
Shanghai Klebang	6,300
Shanghai-Malay	20,331
Shanghai Pahang	14,200
Shanghai Seremban	10,000
Sungei Duri	18,512
Tanah Merah	25,000
Tebong	71,900

ITCHY PIMPLES ON BABY'S FACE

Spread To Arms and Legs. Cuticura Healed.

"Small pimples began to appear on baby's face. As time went on they festered and formed sore eruptions which soon spread to the baby's arms and legs. The itching and smarting were awful and some nights we hardly got any rest.

"We sent for a free sample of Cuticura Soap and Ointment and after using noticed a great improvement so purchased more, which healed the eruptions." Signed) Alfred B. Simner, 13, Cross Lane, Sedgley, Staffs., Eng.

Cuticura Soap and Ointment are ideal for every-day toilet uses.

Soap 1s., Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. Sold throughout the Empire. For sample each free address: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27, Charterhouse Sq., London, E.C.1. Also for mail orders with price. Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

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TO AUSTRALIA.
Sailings from DENMARK, NORWAY, SWEDEN, HAMBURG and LISBON to FREMANTLE, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, SYDNEY and BRISBANE.

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Sailings from COPENHAGEN, GOTHENBURG, CHRISTIANIA, HAMBURG and ANTWERP to ST. THOMAS (with transhipment to the GREATER and LESSER ANTILLES), CRISTOBAL (with transhipment to CENTRAL AMERICAN PORTS), LOS ANGELES HARBOUR, SAN FRANCISCO, PORTLAND (Ore.), SEATTLE, TACOMA and VANCOUVER (with transhipment to other NORTH PACIFIC PORTS).

TO SOUTH PACIFIC.
Sailings from COPENHAGEN, GOTHENBURG, CHRISTIANIA, HAMBURG and ANTWERP to ST. THOMAS (with transhipment to the GREATER and LESSER ANTILLES), CRISTOBAL (with transhipment to CENTRAL AMERICAN PORTS), GUAYAQUIL, CALLAO, MOLLENDO, IQUIQUE, ANTOFAGASTA, VALPARAISO, TALCHUANO and CORRAL (with transhipment to other SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS).

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PACIFIC LINES: United Baltic Corporation, Ltd., 158 Fenchurch Street, London. Tel.: "Orienteako."

SHANGHAI.—The East Asiatic Co., Ltd.

COMPANIES' NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ltd.—A dividend at the rate of 2s. 6d. per share, free of income tax, has been declared, payable on July 5. Bearer Coupon No. 43.

The Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ltd.—The 8th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 2 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Friday, June 27, 1924, at noon.

The Transfer Books will be closed from June 20 to 27, 1924, both days inclusive.

The North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—The 21st Ordinary General Meeting will be held at No. 4 The Bund, Shanghai, on Monday, June 30, 1924, at 4.15 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from June 18 to 30, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—The Debenture Transfer Register will be closed from June 21 to 28, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.:—

1905 Issue	6%	Debentures
1909 ,,	6%	,,
1912 ,,	6%	,,
1914 ,,	6%	,,
1916 ,,	6%	,,

The Register of Transfer of Debentures will be closed for the above Issues from June 20 to 28, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Carlton, Ltd.—The 3rd Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Monday, July 7, 1924, at 4 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from July 2 to 7, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Transfer Books of the Shanghai Municipal Loans will be closed from June 16 to 30, 1924, both days inclusive.

Share Report for Week Ending June 20, 1924.

No. 24/24

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Codes in use A1 Code
A.B.C. 4th 5th and 6th Editions
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Members of Shanghai Stock Exchange.
Land, Estate & Insurance Agents.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building,
12 The Bund.
Post Office Box No. 244, Shanghai

There has been no change in the depressed conditions of business on the local share market during the past week and the arranging of accounts for the Settlement on the 24th instant has been the chief object of the majority of the operators in this market.

London quotations during the past week indicate a dull market and the following are the latest prices offered us by cable this week :—

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Gold Loan 1913, B.I.	£ 75. 0. 0	(Middle Price)
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, F.I.	71. 10. 0	,, ex B.I.R.S.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, G.I.	71. 0. 0	(Sellers) ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, Gold Loan 1912	70. 10. 0	,,
,, ,, ,, ,, Hukuang Rly. Sinking Fund	52. 15. 0	,,
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"	3. 10. 6	(Middle Price)
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Estates, Ltd.	1. 6. 6	,,
Shanghai Electric Cons. Co., "B"	2. 12. 6	(Buyers) Ex. Divd. & Rights
Shell Transport & Trading Co., "B"	4. 2. 6	(Middle Price) cum divd.
Singapore Electric Tramways	0. 5. 1	,,
Pekin Syndt. Ltd. Ord shares	0. 10.10½	(Sellers)
Imperial Tobacco of Great Britain	3. 13. 0	(Middle Price)

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/3½.

Shanghai, June 20, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

JUNE	14th		16th		17th		18th		19th		20th	
	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June
RUBBERS												
Java Consolidated R. E., Ld. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	8½	..	..	..	..	..
Kroewoek Rub. Est., Ld. .. ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	..
Tebong Rub. Est., Ld. .. ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.70	..	..	..
Anglo-Java Est., Ld. .. ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..
Kali Gliddk Coffee Est., Ld. ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5½	..
Sungala Rub. Est., Ld. .. ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.67½	..
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
Chin. 5% Reorg. Loan 1913 F.I. £	71½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hall & Holtz Ld. .. .. $	..	..	5½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
New Eng. & S. Wks. (Ord.) Tls.	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
H. & S. Bank .. .. .. $	..	..	..	..	..	..	1145	..	..	..	..	..
Yangtsze Insce. Asso., Ld. .. $	..	..	..	..	..	..	28½	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	74	..	..	..	19	19½
Langkats (combined) .. .. ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	19½
S'hai Loan & Invest. Co., Ld. ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
S'hai Land Invest. Co., Ld. .. ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	118	..	..	..
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co. (Ord.) ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82	..	..	..
Chinese Eng. & Mng. Co., "B" ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20½	..	..	..
COTTONS												
Ewo Cotton Mills Ld. (Ord) Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	11	..	..	..
DEBENTURES												
S. M. C. 1921 8% Debs. .. $	..	..	..	..	108	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
S'hai Race Club 6½%,, .. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	..	..	..
S. M. C. 1919 7% Debs. .. ,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	102	..

FORWARD SETTLEMENTS FOR 1924.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, JUNE 20, 1924.

STOCK	Last business done.	Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc.	Finan year ended	Last Dividend etc:	Paid or Due
BANKS.									
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Cor:	$ 1145			61) 400 000	H $125	(a H $3,379,314	Dec.	Final $3 & Bonus $2 (mkg. $8 1922) less I/T	23-2-24
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. ..London	£ 19 1/16	£19 1/16		600,000	$5	(a £222,197 (c £3,900,000	Dec.	Final 7s. & Bonus 6s. 3d. (mkg. 21 0s. 3d. free of I/T, 1923	9-4-24
INSURANCE.									
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	H $ 223		2'0	55) 200,000	d $10	(au $157,648 (b $59,530 (c $3,888,195	Dec.	Final 16s. (mkg. 10s.) ex 1922 Work. a/c. Interim 24s. & Bonus to Contributors, 20% ex 1923 Work a/c.	16-8-24
North-China Insurance Co., Ld:	T 138			10,000	e $15	(au T610,647 (c T4,742,885	Dec.	Final 14s. (mkg. 30s.) ex 1921 Work a/c. and Interim 16s. ex 1922 Works. a/c.	30-6-23
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld. ..	$ 28½	29		21) 250,000	$10	(au $2,213,432 (au $2,777,068 (c $8,885,925	Dec.	$2½ (22½%) ex 1923 Work. a/c. payable in Taels at Exchg. 73	28-5-24
Far Eastern Insurance Co., Ld.	T 22			1) 50,000	T20	(au T731,344	Dec.	T1.40 ex 1923 Work. a/c.	28-5-24
Canton Insurance Office, Ld.	H $ 680			10,000	f H $250	(au H $1,940,924 (c H $7,149,847	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $40) ex 1922 Work. a/c., Interim H $18 ex 1923 Work. a/c.	21-5-24
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld: ..	H $	565		8,000	g H $250	(au H $515,163 (c H $1,707,811	Dec.	H $35 ex 1922 Working a/c.	27-1-24
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	H $ 135	136		20,000	h H $100	(au H $1,366,779 (c H $6,057,510	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $3 ex 1922 Work. a/c. ..	17-5-24
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	£ 500			14,000	F500	(a F1,413,333 (c F3,744,330	Dec.	None. Floated 1919	....
SHIPPING.									
Indo-China S.N. Co., Ld... (6% cum. pref.	H $ 38	37½		2) 120,000	$5	(a £1,179 (c £1,362,956	Dec.	Pref. 6s. at Exchg. H $2/4½ London Warrants less I/T. Def. Ord., nil..	7-5-24
(def. ord. ..	H $ 140			2) 120,000	$5				
Shell T'sport & Trading Co., Ld. (ord.	'B' £	£4:11:3	£4:3:9	56) 30,000,000	£1	(a* £2,029,056 (c £5,099 099	Dec.	Interim 2s., free of I/T, Coupon 42	5-1-24
(8% cum. 2nd pref.	£			21) 300,000	£10				
(7% cum. pref.	£			57) 10,000,000	£1				
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co., Ld. (ord.	T 82	82		20,000	T25	(a T23,535 (c T410,999	Dec.	Final Ord. T4.50 (mkg. T7, 1923)	11-3-24
(7% pref.	T 51½			10,000	T50			Final Pref. T1.75 (mkg. T3.50, 1923)	11-3-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.									
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld. ..	T 95	91		47) 55,700	T75	(a T102,535 (c T1,948,000	Apr.	T7.50, 1922-23	27-7-23
Hongkong & W'pao Dock Co., Ld... ..	H $ 148		143	‡ 60,000	H $50	(a H $319,736 (c H $4,981,696	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkg. H $9, 1923)	21-3-24
New Eng. and Shipbuilding (ord.	T 6	6		42) 500,000	T5	(a T29,530 (b T200,000 (c T1,511,015	Dec.	Ord. T0.25, 1923	10-2-24
Works, Ld. .. .. .. (8% pref.	T 4.95			65) 500,000	T5			Pref. T0.40 1923..	10-2-24
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co., Ld... ..	T 191	191		‡31) 40,000	T100	(a T3,180 (b T200,000 (c T1,075,261	Dec.	Final T10 (mkg. T13, 1923	4-3-24
H'kong & K'loon W. & G. Co., Ld: ..	H $ 170½	172		30.000	H $50	(a H $290,819 (b H $300,000 (c H $59,240	Dec.	H. $6 & Bonus H. $3, 1923	26-2-24
MINING.									
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ld: ..	£ 12/-	11/3	14/6	24) 500,000	G.$10	——	June	G $0.50, 1920-21	....
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ld. (Bearer).	T 20½	20½		‡‡84) 2,000,000	$1	(a	June	Int. 2/- free of I/T, 1923-1924 (Coupon No 24)	26-7-23
London	£	£3:9:0	£3:12.0			(c			
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ld: ..	H $ 5			200,000	$1	(a £23,613 (c £4,873	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	1-5-24 $1-3-10
LANDS AND HOTELS.									
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld: ..	T 118	117½		‡) 78,000	T50	(a T34,410 (b T275,000 (c T2,289,317	Dec.	Final T3 & Bonus T2 (mkg. T8, 1923)	21-3-24
H'kong Land Invest. & Agcy. Co., Ld. .. (New Reg.)	H $ 105	108½		240,000	H $25	(a H $157,885 (b H $250,000 (c H $6,000,000	Dec.	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares (mkg. H $5, 1923) H $2.50 on 40,000 new shs.	23-1-24
Humphreys Est. & Finance Co., Ld: ..	H $ 21½	21½		150,000	H $10	(a H $158,299 (b H $50,000 (c H $421,488	Dec	H $0.80 and Bonus H $0.80, 1923	11-2-24
Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld:	T 6			3,074	T20	(a T2,916 (c T7,000	Dec.	T1.20, 1923	13-2-24
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ld: ..	T 115½			‡23) 18,000	T100	(a T9,269 (b T20,000 (c) T375,000	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg. T8, 1923-24)	3-4-24
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld: ..	H $ 19 old 13		19 12½	33) 500,000	H $10	(a H $85,238 (c H $4,953,767	Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000 shares (mkg. H $2 (old)..	....
Carlton, Ld.	T 53			14) 10,000	T50		Mar.	Floated April 1, 1922..	24-3-24
Asia Realty Co., Inc...	G $ 100			‡18) 10,000	G $100		Dec.	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware, 1922, 7%	4-1-23
Bavon Trust Co., Inc: .. .. (ord.	G $ 19			††100,000	G $10	(			
(pref.	G $ 10				G $10			Ord. Pref. 1st gr. 1923, 1½%	4-1-23
PLANTATIONS.									
Alma Estates, Ld.	T 5½	3½		70,000	£1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23	19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld:	T 0.10						Oct.	....	....
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld: ..	T 1.80	1.60		‡62) 500,000	T1	a T30,242	Dec.	T0.20, 1923	....
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T 4	4		12) 400,000	10s.	(a T12,442 (c T372,167	Dec.	Final T0.30 (mkg. T0.55, 1923..	1-4-24
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld.	T 21			4) 500,000	10s.	(a T16,223 (b T22,000 (c T69,960	Sept.	Final T2.00, (mkg. T2½) 1922-23	15-4-24
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld: ..	T 0.65	0.50		27) 80,000	T10	a T22,777	Dec.	T0.05, 1923	28-12-23
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T 1.12½	0.70		400,000	T1	o T20,402	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	11-4-24
Bute Plantation (1913), Ld.	T 0.75	0.40		500,000	T1	a T3,595	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	25-7-17
Chomor United Rubber Co., Ld.	T 0.75	0.60		28) 500,000	T1	(a T17,973 (c T12,000	Dec.	....	29-3-17
Chempedak Rub. & G'bier Est., Ld. ..	T 4½			400,000	T0.90			Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)..	....
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ld.	T 1			39) 35,000	£1	a (Loss)T13,435	Oct.	2nd Interim, T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17)	3-4-24
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ld..	T 2.12½	1.30	1½	675,000	T1	a T4,120	June	T0.20,1916-17	16-10-17
				25) 500,000	2s.—T0.75	(a T16,988 (c T60,000	Dec.	....	1-11-17
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T 1½	1½		19) 350,000	T1	a T2,775	Dec.	Final T0.15 (mkg. T0.21, 1923)..	....
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld. ..	T 8½			‡48) 750,000	(21;450,000 (5s; 200,000			T0.10, 1923	9-4-24
Java-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee Est. Ld.	T 8½	8	8½	8) 85,000	£1 at 2/3½	(a T17,215 (c T2,685	Dec.	2s. less I/T 4s. 7½d in £ (Coupon 21) .. — ..	16-4-24
Kali Gliddk Coffee Estates, Ld.	T 5½	5.15		70,000	T5			Final T0.75 (mkg. T1.25, 1923)..	....
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld: ..	T 2.40			35) 15,000	T10	(a T6,377 (c T4,023	Dec.	Incorporated 1923	18-4-24
Karan Rubber Estate Co., Ld:	T 3	2½		25,000	T10	(a T3,008 (b T30,000	Mar.	T0.50, 1922	....
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Ld: .	T 0.50	0.30		390,000	T1	a (Loss)T38,263	June	(Interim 1923, T0.50	19-4-23
Kroewoek Java Plantations, Ld:	T 10	9	10	20) 70,000	£1 at T8.60	(a T12,916 (c T62,339	Dec.	T0.60, 1922-23	17-7-23
Padang Rubber Co., Ld:	T 5½			50,000	T10	(a T15,410 (b T45,000		....	1-6-23
Pangkalan Durian Estates (1921), Ld: ..	T 1.00							T1 (mkg. T1.50, 1923)	8-2-24

RUBBER AUCTIONS.

The following telegraphic advices have been received:—
Singapore, June 18, 1924.

Spot or June	... ...	33⅛ cents
July/Sept.	... ...	34¼ ,,
Oct./Dec.	—	35¼ ,,

Market opened easy, closed steady.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded	Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
S'hai Municipal Council	1905 6 to 20	5-4-24	T97	d 320,000	6	June-Dec.
	1907 do.	19-3-24	T97	500,000	6	do.
	1908 do.	9-5-24	T98	650,000	6	do.
	1909 do.	15-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
	1910 do.	16-5-24	T97	313,800	6	do.
	1911 10 to 30	9-5-24	T97½	350,000	6	do.
	1912 do.	3-1-24	T99	340,000	6	do.
	1913 do.	3-3-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
	10 to 50	19-5-24	T89	500,000	5½	do.
	1914 10 to 30	19-5-24	T88	900,000	5½	do.
	1915 do.	19-5-24	T89	800,000	5½	do.
	1916 do.	28-5-24	T97	1,400,000	6	do.
	1918 10	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
	1919 10	20-6-24	T102	1,793,300	7	do.
	1920 10	1-5-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
	10 to 30	29-3-24	£104	£750,000	6	do.
	1921 do.	17-6-24	$108	$1,000,000	8	do.
	1921 do.	13-6-24	T108	T5,096,400	8	do.
	1922 do.	10-6-24	T104	T8,000,000	7	do.
	1923 do.	29-5-24	T97	a T6,000,000	6	do.
	1924 do.	18-6-24	T95	T500,000	6 %	do.
French Municipal Council	1911 do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6	May-Nov.
	1914 do.	12-2-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
	1915 do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
	1921 do.	20-11-23	T108½	a 2,000,000	8	do.
	1923 do.	17-12-23	T95	a T300,000	6	May-Nov.
S'hai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	1921 10 to 30	9-5-24	T107	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
	1922 do.	6-6-22	T108	T500,000	8	do.
S'hai Gas Co., Ltd.	1922 do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
	1901 do.	2-4-23	T94	e 800,000	6	do.
	1905 5 to 20	31-8-22	T96½	T250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1909 do.	29-5-24	T97½	750,000	6	do.
	1911 do.	26-9-22	T92	250,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
	,, do.	28-3-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
	do.			250, 00	6	Jan-July
	1912 do.	29-5-24	T97½	250,000	6	June-Dec.
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.	1913 do.	3-4-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct.
	,, do.	11-1-24	T93	250,000	6	May-Nov.
	do.			250,000	6	April-Oct.
	1914 do.	22-3-23	T98	350 000	6	June-Dec.
	1916 5 to 25	3-4-23	T88	600,000	5½	do.
	1922 do.	12-2-23	T98	750,000	6	Mar.-Sep.
	1922 do.	10-1-24	T98	500 000	6	May-Nov.
Shanghai Club	1907 20	1-2-24	T93	455,000	6	do
Country Club Lane, Crawford & Co., Ltd.	1901 Perpetual	29-5-24	T91	139,000	6	June-Dec.
	1914 5 to 20			130,000	6	May-Nov.
	1915 do.			110,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co., Ltd.	1906 do.			250,000	6	June-Dec.
	1911 do.	7-6-23	T98	300,000	6	do.
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ltd.	1923 10 to 20	27-2-23	T95½	h 270,000	6	do.
S'hai Race Club	1923 25	19-6-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
Cultv Dairy Co., Ltd.	1915 10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
Hall & Holtz Ltd.	1914 5 to 20	14-10-22	T92	T230.000	7	Jan.-July
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	1922 5 to 20	..	..	T500,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—b—Tls.65,100; c—Tls 51,100; d—Tls.34,100; e—Tls.68,500; f—Tls.262,400; g—Tls.139,800; h—Tls.12,300; (—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-3-24	1924: Apr.	1924: May	Total output this finyr. to date.
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Alma	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	246,648	8.87d	125,000	19,000	22,000	166,000
Amberst (New)	,, 500,000	Oct.	72,442	80,692	90,751	*4.39d.	50,371	14,670	15,538	80,579
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	650,000	540,000	600,000	8.45d.	179,000	62,500	50,000	291,500
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,524,711	1,663,450	..	6.70d	535,100	173,000	140,000	848,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 300,000	Sept.	369,447	58,042	360,000	†0.24.41	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam	,, 400,000	Dec.	258,510	217,822	185,793	9.01d.	39,000	15,300	15,600	69,900
Bukit Tob Alang ..	,, 500,000	Mar.	305,645	248,152	345,000	7.54d.	..	23,000	31,200	54,200
Bute	,, 500,000	Dec.	230,097	177,850	159,516	11.11d.	47,700	Nil	10,000	57,700
Chemor United	,, 360,000	Dec.	310,794	267,627	..	8.40d.	60,000	16,900	20,200	97,100
Chempedak	£35,000	Oct.	145,760	163,063	..	1/5.42d.	50,100	13,200	14,700	78,000
Cheng	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.09d.	134,014	11,400	13,000	158,414
Consolidated (1914) ..	,, 375,000	Dec.	669,389	645,778	761,500	7.47d.	154,214	43,523	49,434	242,173
Dominion	,, £500,000	Dec.	271,150	324,546	306,867	9.63d.	71,685	19,369	26,695	117,749
Gula-Kalumpong	£85,000	Dec.	1,113,000	933,000	1,215,000	1/0½ d.	232,000	83,000	..	315,000
Java Consolidated	,, 150,000	Dec.	686,524	622,225	..	6.25d.	201,500	72,900	63,400	337,800
Kapayang	,, 250,000	Mar.	189,239	146,710	..	†26.99	26,543	5,908	5,541	37,992
Keran	,, 370,000	June	101,783	79,576	84,000	8½d.	..	6,050	8,100	14,150
Kota Bahroe (1921) ..	,, 670,000	Dec.	138,330	339,970	..	..	236,203	19,640	22,670	278,413
Kroewoek	Gns 2,500,000	Oct.	449,000	583,881	540,000	0/7.24d.	173,000	56,000	53,000	282,000
Langkat	Tls. 500,000	April	842,589	913,000	975,000	Glds.0.28	413,300	64,000	..	477,300
Padang	,, 150,000	Mar.	220,232	171,900	..	10½d.	..	..	12,000	12,000
Pengkalan (1921)	,, 250,000	Oct.	135,253	9,255	176,088	†40.19	..	..	..	..
Permata	,, 275,000	Dec.	98,303	86,299	..	0/8½d.	37,535	..	5,956	43,491
Repah	,, 600,000	Sept.	361,816	250,813	..	..	42,000	11,000	14,900	67,900
Sainzaga	,, 100,000	June	179,665	142,000	115,183	11.37d.	150,509	8,200	..	158,709
See Koe (1918)	,, 300,000	Dec.	164,105	245,596	158,264	0/9.37d.	34,400	15,600	14,300	64,300
Semamin	,, 375,000	Jan.	272,500	275,100	..	†17.35d.	30,900	17,200	20,000	68,100
Senawang (1921)	,, 400,000	Sept.	313,414	246,542	..	8.12d.	126,401	23,007	23,446	172,857
Shanghai Kedah	,, 315,000	Dec.	126,106	100,034	..	11.35d.	16,700	..	6,300	23,000
S'hai-Klebang	,, 600,000	Dec.	373,711	293,816	408,961	..	60,510	7,983	20,331	88,824
S'hai-Malay	,, 200,000	June	209,381	188,016	..	9½d.	146,726	11,400	14,200	172,326
S'hai Pebang	,, 325,000	Dec.	171,213	147,112	..	9.89d.	35,100	7,400	10,000	52,500
S'hai Seremban	,, 600,000	Oct.	661,339	679,710	650,000	Glds.0.38	267,158	39,079	..	306,237
S'hai-Sumatra	,, 240,000	Dec.	184,000	157,100	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sua-Manggis	,, 100,000	Mar.	165,757	37,875	..	†7.20	..	8,922	8,838	17,760
Sungala	,, £40,000	June	308,073	296,568	229,000	11.61d.	182,427	10,789	18,512	211,728
Sungei Duri	Tls. 200,000	Dec.	107,011	103,689	99,000	..	12,133	6,518	..	26,865
Talping (1913)	,, 750,000	Mar.	395,990	303,700	..	7.52d.	..	25,000	25,000	50,000
Tanah Merah	,, 750,000	Jan.	630,838	723,000	717,725	0/7.66d.	130,000	59,000	71,000	130,000
Tebong	£150,000	Dec.	514,566	523,000	600,000	7.24d.	183,700	63,300	53,500	300,500
Ziangbe										

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expense

† Straits $ cents;

S'hai Pahang Rubber Estates, Ltd.	T	0.75					200,000		T1	(Loss) T1,213	June	Final T0.09 (mkg. T0.10, 1916-17)		
S'hai Seremban Rubber Estates, Ltd.	T	0.65	0.25				325,000		T1	a (Loss)T10,352	Dec.	T0.04 for 10 months, ended 31/12/22		12-10-17
S'hai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ltd.	T	105	90			7)	30,000		T20	a (Loss) 325,810				31-3-17
										a T812,170	Oct.	T2, 1918-19		
Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ltd.	T	2.65				30	56,000		T5	a T7,451				1-4-20
										c T25,000	Dec.	T0.35, 1923		
Sungala Rubber Estate, Ltd.	T	0.67½	0.60			£5	109,000		T1	a T4,623				18-4-24
										T10,000	Mar.	T0.10, 1916-17		
Sungei Duri Rubber Estate, Ltd.	T	6	6				40,000	$1 at T8.50		a T22,766	June	T0.85, 1922-23		12-7-17
Talping Rubber Estates (1913) Ltd.	T	0.50	0.40				200,000		T1	(Loss) T357	Dec.	T0.04, 1919		12-10-23
Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ltd.	T	0.17½	0.45			32)	750,000		T1	a T31,851				20-5-20
										c T5,737	Mar.	Interim T0.05 1916-17 (Final, Nil)		
Tebong Rubber Estate, Ltd.	T	0.70	0.70			154)	750,000		T1	a T6,379	Jan.	T0.05, 1923-24		7-12-17
Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ltd.	T	2½	2			32)	300 000		10s.	a T17,851				2-5-24
										c T4,24	Dec.	T0.25, 1923		8-1-24
COTTONS, ETC.														
Ewo Cotton Mills, Ltd. (ord.	T	11	11.15			15	1,600,000		T5	a T3,25				
" 8% cum. pref.	T	105				43)	10 000		T100	b T1,400,00		Ord. T0.45, 1922		5-3-24
										c T2,812,50	Dec.	Pref. Rs. 1923		5-3-24
Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ltd.	T	8	6				80 000		T10	a (Loss) T53				
										b T120,00				
Oriental C. S. & W. Co., Ltd. .. .. ord.	T	4.20								c T7,61	Dec.	Final T2, (mkg. 1921)		8-3-22
pref.	T					50)	500,000		T3	a (Loss) T1,5,500				
						31)	5,000		T100	b T200,000				
Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ltd. (Shanghai Boshoku K.K.)	T	61 old 36new	52½ 29				80,000		T50	c T2,551,760	Dec.	Final T0.50 (mkg. T1.50 1921)		25-3-22
						¼	40,000		T50	a T50,375				
INDUSTRIAL.										c T1,270,000	June	T3.50 1922-23		24-8-23
British-American Tobacco Co., Ltd. (ord.	£		£5 5	£5 7		66)	18,000,000		£1	a £3,531,846				
5% cum. pref	£		1/6	1/8			4,500,000		£1	c £2,251,849	Sept.	Final Ord. 1922-23, 9% (mkg. 25%) free of I/T		11-1-24
China Im. & Ex. Lumber Co., Ltd.	T	350					5 000		T100	a T290,406				
										b T300,000				
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.	H $	235					20,000		H $100	c T2,100,000	Feb.	T8, 1923-24		31-5-24
Gordon & Co., Ltd.	T	25				37)	6,000		T25	a H $40,763				
Green Island Cement Co., Ltd.	H $	23 old	5.90 new		21½ old		400,000		H $7.50	b H $600,000				
Maatschappij, &c., In Langkat	T	6	5½				250,000		Gs.10	c H $1,050,000	Dec.	Final H $1.50 (mkg. H $2, 1923)		
										a (Loss) T158,433				4-3-24
										c T190,164	Oct.	T0.50, 1918-19		30-3-20
Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ltd.	T	5	5				250,000		T5	a T35,698				
										c T300,000	Dec.	T0.50, 1923		5-3-24
S'hai Exploration & Development Co., Ltd.	T	9	8			$)	600,000		T5	a (Loss) T174,689	Dec.			
Major Brothers, Ltd.	T	5				10)	6,000		T20	a T6,941				
										c T70,000	Dec.			
John Richards & Co., Ltd.	T	10				11)	25,000		T10	a T3,130				
										c T30,000	Dec.	10%, 1921		
Shanghai Gas Co., Ltd.	T	40				£)	24,000		T50	a T21,325				24-6-22
										b T50,000	Dec.	T4.00, 1923		
										c T655,231				11-4-24
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	T	150	147½			£9)	56 000		$20	a T24,475				
										b T75,000	Dec.	(Final 10s./- (at Exchg. 3/2½ = T3.09) mkg. 20s./-, 1923		
STORES.										c T1 770,985				4-4-24
American Drug Co.	M $	40				44)	10,000		M $100	a (Loss) M $221,183				
										c M $75,560	Dec.	....		
										a T7,895				
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.	$	5½	5½			£16)	23,000		$20	c T104,299	Feb.	$2, 1917-18		....
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	$	30					1,200		$80	a $7,993				1-5-18
S. Montrie & Co., Ltd.	$	50				17)	10.000		$50	c $26,000	Dec.	$6, 1922		
Weeks & Co., Ltd.	$	11				£50)	30,000		$20	a (Loss) $3,867				12-5-23
										a $296,141	Feb.	$1.60, 1922-23		6-6-24
										a $7,918				
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ltd.	$	97	98			£)	2,500		$100	b $20,000				3-5-22
MISCELLANEOUS.										c $250 000		$10, 1923-24		
Gulty Dairy Co., Ltd.	T	11					10,000		T10	a Loss) T26,956				23-5-24
										c T119,293	Oct.	T0.60, 1921-22		
										a £17,022				30-12-22
S'hai Electric Construction Co., Ltd., "B" London	T £1	18	£2:12:6				40,000		£1					
										c £114,315	Dec.	1st Int. 1923, 12s./- (Coupon 23) .. .. ..

Shanghai News

(*Continued from Page 458.*)

THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Sale of Old Premises for Purchase of New Suggested by Mr. Goldring

A startling suggestion was sprung on the Royal Asiatic Society at its annual meeting on Thursday evening by Mr. P. W. Goldring, who suggested that the present premises should be sold and larger and better premises purchased elsewhere. Matters resumed normal when Mr. Barton, H. M. Consul General, presiding, explained that the building was owned by the British Government and not by the Society, therefore it was not their's to sell.

Mr. Barton was supported on the platform by Mrs. Gordon Enders (Librarian), Mr. Stark Toller (Secretary) and Mr. A. C. de Sowerby (Curator).

Mr. Stark Toller, reading the secretary's report, stated that the Society's membership was 650, an increase of 50 during the year as against an increase of 28 last year. He feared, however, that many of the names should be struck off by rights owing to subscriptions not having been paid.

Mr. Toller, reading the treasurer's report in the absence of that gentleman, said the Society had a balance in the bank of $1,342.54, and a balance in hand of $99.40.

After Mrs. Enders had read the librarian's report, Mr. Sowerby reported on his work as curator during the year. He remarked that the museum was very sparsely stocked as far as mammals were concerned, and he hoped up-country members, and people who shot, would remember this when disposing of their kill. They were not so badly off for birds and insects, and during the year a good deal of hard work had been put in tabulating them and bringing them generally into order. He greatly regretted they had not a museum guide book or any guide book to help their members when searching for specimens. The work of compiling such a book would be much too heavy for the curators to do on their own, but he would suggest that it might be done with the aid of an intelligent Chinese clerk and the result would well repay them for their trouble. Another thing he had to record with regret was that the museum records were inadequate and incomplete, and although the birds and reptiles had been catalogued, the work was not very completely done. Generally speaking they were very cramped for space, and really needed much more room.

The report and accounts were unanimously agreed upon and adopted.

A member, apropos the curator's report, said it was his habit to go to the museum in order to identify birds he had seen in the country, and nearly always he came away disappointed. The reason was that most of the birds were in a dilapidated condition, were not marked, or were marked in such indistinguishable handwriting that they could not be read. Also the cases were so crowded and often so high that it was impossible to get at them to see them. He wished to know whether it was not possible to re-label the birds and obtain some new specimens.

Mr. de Sowerby replied that the trouble was largely one of room again. They had not the space to set the birds out as they should be set out by rights. However, if any *bona fide* student of ornithology at any time wished to see birds which he could not get at, it could be arranged that the Chinese in attendance should take the cases down for him and open them, excepting in the summer weather when that course might spoil the specimens. In winter it could be done.

Mr. Goldring then put his question regarding their premises. He pointed out that the building they had now was a very valuable property, but for their purposes very confined. Would it not be possible, he asked, for the incoming council to consider the possibility of disposing of the property and acquiring larger and better premises elsewhere. He reminded the meeting that the Post Office was shortly to be removed, and when that happened there was no telling what was going to happen to that stretch of road. Certainly it would be very much altered, and the probability was that the S.M.C. would be requiring them to slice some of their premises off. This, then, seemed an excellent opportunity to get out and get somewhere larger and better. He felt their work was hampered by lack of space. He was quite sure, also, that with a better hall and better ventilation their meetings would attract larger attendances.

Mr. Barton, replying, said the desirability and necessity of ventilation was realized by them all. Unfortunately, however, they were not in a position to dispose of the property owing to the fact that it belonged to the British Government and was given to the Society under certain conditions. It was extremely doubtful, in fact he would say it was almost certain, that they would not be entitled to realize on the property and with the proceeds go elsewhere.

Mr. Goldring replied to this that if the property was held in tenure from the Government why should the British Government not give them some portion of the Consulate grounds? (Laughter).

This closed the discussion.

The Council was elected as follows:—

President: Mr. Barton, H. M. Consul-General.

Vice-Presidents: Rev. F. L. Hawks Pott, D.D. Mr. Isaac Mason. Curators of Museum: Dr. C. Noel Davis, Mr. A. de C. Sowerby. Librarian: Mrs. Enders. Assistant Librarian: Miss Hays. Honorary Treasurer: Mr. A. E. Baker. Editor of Journal: Rev. G. W. Sheppard. Councillors: Messrs. H. A. Wilden, C. Kliene, R. D. Abraham, C. Harpur, Dr. H. Chatley, Rev. Evan Morgan: Honorary Secretary: Mr. W. Stark Toller.

CHINA'S WRETCHED COINAGE

Mints Issuing Trash: A General Outcry

The chaotic condition of our currency seems to have become still more pronounced recently, remarks the "*Sinwanpao*." Reckless coinage of copper cents was soon followed by reckless coinage of 20-cent pieces. Next appeared the light-weight copper cents, and then light-weight 20-cent pieces in our market. Lately, silver dollars below the standard purity that is stipulated in our Currency Law have been discovered. All the provinces have had quite a busy time in trying to prevent their respective domains from being flooded by these base coins.

Currency tokens should enjoy to the fullest extent a free circulation, but over-supply and inferior quality have both adversely affected such circulation. By the inexorable law which tells us that bad currency will diminish and replace good currency, our market will soon handle nothing but light-weight copper coins and light-weight and inferior quality 20-cent pieces and dollars, unless remedial measures be taken forthwith. However, to find a solution to this complicated problem in the present circumstances is impossible, while it will be increasingly more difficult as times go.

Copper cents in Tientsin have depreciated to 220/225 for a dollar, 235/237 in Changsha and 195/196 in Shanghai, with a decided tendency to fall still further. Conditions in other places appear to be no better, since most places are prohibiting the importation of copper coins from neighbouring provinces. We hear that Tientsin is forbidding their import from Manchuria, and Hupeh refuses to admit them from Hunan. Although Hunan is itself prohibiting the influx of coppers from Szechuan, it is nevertheless straining every energy to transport and sell its own coppers to Hupeh.

Copper Pays No More.

As the manufacture of copper coins is not so profitable now as before, certain mints have turned their attention to turning out light-weight 20-cent coins and inferior quality dollars from which they have derived very handsome incomes for some time.

The issuance of copper cent notes in the north has added not a little to the already chaotic condition of our currency system. A rather strange and reprehensible practice is that indulged by the Chamber of Commerce at Changli in Chihli who, in addition to issuing its own so-called "Financial Relief Notes," has been assisting various firms and shops there to issue the *ping p'iao*, a sort of paper money, by affixing the Chamber's Seal thereon as a sign, we suppose, of good faith, instead of restricting or forbidding such reckless doings as it certainly ought to have done.

Our currency reformers are apt to advocate the aboliton of the tael and the adoption of the dollar as the unit. Yet at Ningpo, people are just doing the other way, discarding the dollar in favour of the tael. What a strange contrast.

CHINESE STRIKE IN SILK FILATURES

Ringleaders Taken to Police Station: Amazons Gather to the Rescue

The present time seems remarkable for signs of unrest among labourers. The strike declared by workmen of the Chinese ink-making shops about a fortnight ago is still as far from being settled as before. The cigarette dealers at Pootung have suspended business for four or five days in order to force the tax office to agree to increase the discount allowed them, but without avail. Now, we are told that work at no less than nine silk filature factories has been seriously interfered with by a number of female workers (said to number 5,000) demanding an increase in their wages and a curtailment of their working hours, and refusing to work until the granting of both demands.

The trouble is reported to have started first at the Yunchen Filature at Hukamochiao in Hongkew, because of the alleged ill-treatment of women by a foreman there. When the trouble spread rapidly to other similar establishments in the neighbourhood, the above demands were advanced as the reasons of their going on strike, probably as an afterthought.

The other eight filatures affected are the Tungfengyu on Dixwell Road, Yuchin, Tungyi, Yuanfeng, Changyuan and Fuhua, all situated in Wuchow Road, Tienchang on Tienpao Road, and Yungtai on Tsepoo Road, the last two being drawn into the quarrel only on Monday.

The chief cause of the strike is the question of wages. Last year, when silk was worth Tls. 1,700 or Tls. 1,800 per picul, the workers got as much as 45 cents a day. But the price of silk this year is now only Tls. 900 per picul; the wage was 38 cents per day before the new crop came on the market, and this should have been increased after the new silk was harvested. The proprietors intended to increase two cents at first, and four cents afterwards, but the works are not yet satisfied, demanding to be paid 45 cents, the same as last year.

14 Filatures Affected

In all, 15 filatures were affected by the strike on Tuesday. At only one of these, the Yungtal Factory, whose wages are on a more generous scale, has work been resumed.

Proprietors of the filatures have held several meetings at their Guild, as a result of which, the Chinese authorities have been petitioned for protection and intervention. A revised scale of wages was also drawn up, raising the daily wages to 45 cents for each worker, and allowing those who work seven days per week a weekly bonus of 20 cents each and also a monthly bonus equal to four days' wages for those who work uninterruptedly throughout the whole month. Absence of every half day will forfeit one day's bonus, so that no bonus will be paid to those women who have not worked for two days in a month.

Criminal proceedings will be taken against the five leaders for inciting the workers to strike and for disturbing the peace. Civil suits will also be filed by the factories, which have suffered damages and losses, at the Shanghai District Court. Legal expenses will be borne by all the filatures in Shanghai in proportion to the number of reeling machines in operation.

SENSATIONAL ALARM ON THE RIVER

But Only a Coolie Broaching Cargo: Signalman's Blunder

Towards dusk on Wednesday the River Police were startled on seeing the N O signal hoisted by the str. President Grant, lying at the China Merchants' Central Wharf: and well they might have been, N O being the international code for the following message:

> I am sinking (or on fire) send all available boats to take off crew and passengers.

Members of the River Police immediately pushed off in a sampan with the intention of saving the ship and/or putting out the fire, but all were much relieved upon nearing the vessel to see the ominous N O signal lowered and the Y N (the ordinary police signal) run up in its stead. All that had happened was that a coolie had been caught in the act of stealing eight pieces of silk, and police were required to take charge of him.

It is interesting to note in connexion with this report that the President Grant, which left port at 2 a.m., is the first vessel of its size to leave the Shanghai Harbour after dark. The reason for this, according to Mr. Martinez, despatching agent, is, that she is drawing 28ft. of water and will require two full tides to make both Woosung and Fairway flats. Had she not left during the night she would have been 24 hours late in arriving at Hongkong.

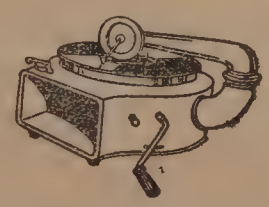
By order of the Constabulary Bureau, exchange and cigarette shops as well as pawnshops in Chinese territory must all put up iron or other metal grills on their counters.

FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

PORTABLE GRAMOPHONES

IN SOLID OAK

$50, $52 and $70



CHILDREN'S GRAMOPHONES

FOR THE NURSERY

WILL PLAY 10" RECORDS

$17

ROBINSON PIANO CO./LD.

34 NANKING ROAD

CORRESPONDENCE

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA

To Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—By comparison with youself I may be a new-comer to China but as it is over 18 years since I first came here, judged by general standards, I think you will admit that I do not come within the category of "New-comer."

It is not my custom to embark on the discussion of a subject of which I know little and I am sorry that my reference to the American "Mercury" should have caused you to believe that this was my sole guide in forming my opinion of the religious Missionary movement in China.

With your permission I will quote some eminent authorities on the subject, whose reputations are almost world-wide. And perhaps I cannot do better than start with Dr. Ku Hung-ming M.A. Ph. D. of whom you recently wrote an admirable obituary notice, thuogh the gentleman is still very much alive. Dr. Ku said:" I appeal to every foreigner who is at all acquainted with the minds of the best and most educated Chinese to say whether such can be converted, whether the very foundation of their national faith and culture can bear such a superstructure as the forms of Christianity which the Missionaries bring into China. Is it not, I say, on the contrary, an open secret that it is only the worst, the weak, the ignorant, the needy and the vicious among the Chinese who have been or could be what the missionaries call converted? If any one should think this too strong a statement I challenge him to show me that the missionary converts are as a class not to say morally higher, but even as educated and as good and useful citizens as those of the Chinese who have not been converted; I ask him to show that these converts, men who have lost faith in their fathers, who are bidden by their foreign teachers to have no sympathy with, if not to despise the traditions or memories of their own past history, who live isolated and as out casts in the midst of their own race and people; that these men when once the mere hope of pecuniary benefits and other external influences are withdrawn, will turn out to be worse than the worst of the Chinese at present. If any one should still doubt the truth of what I say, I would ask him to read the story of the Taiping Rebellion which ought properly to be called by the future historians of China, the Rebellion of the Chinese Outcasts of the Christian Missions in China. Morally and intellectually the Taipings are a type of the Chinese converts in China."

Lord Curzon has said of the missionaries:

"It is impossible to ignore the facts that their mission is a source of political unrest and frequently of international trouble, and that it is subversive of the national institutions of the country in which they reside."

Mr. Ivan Chen once wrote:

"It will be quite impossible to have peace in China so long as foreign missionaries are allowed to interfere with the institutions of the country, and no Government at Peking can be strong enough to protect unpopular missionaries throughout so vast an empire. We may not be able to keep these missionaries out of China, because we are not a fighting nation. Anything will be better than the missionaries.

Peace, prosperity, and healthy commerce will be impossible until the missionary shall have been eliminated from our local problem. Recall the missionaries, and all will go well."

Li Hun-chang on one occasion was asked if he had "ever known an honest Chinaman to become a convert to Chistianity." He said: "No, never; not one!"

There is no end to the authorities one might quote but the foregoing should suffice for the time being.

You speak of the capture of Missionaries as "accidents." I would say that these "accidents" are now of very common occurrence and when five missionaries at a time are captured, as was the case recently, this might be discribed as a "disastrous accident."

I did not in my first letter, as you suggest in your note of comment, belittle the teaching of science, works of charity or educational movements of the missionaries. These are all worthy of praise, but anyone who trys to foist a new religion on the credulous, is deserving of all the suffering he may have to endure and should be denounced by all right thinking people.

As I have previously pointed out some who come to do the Lord's work develop a remarkable capacity for business and money-making. Sent here at great cost and further expense to learn the language of the country, they find it profitable to begin trading, instead of continuing mission labours. If ever such men or women were called of God, constrained by love of Jesus Christ, or moved by the Holy Spirit, for sake of common honesty let them refund to the Mission the whole of the cost incurred in equipping them for their work; the refunded money to be used in further education.

In early stages many start off enthusiastically but after a while become helpless, hopeless human beings like many others, and their wives also become lacksadaisical, and lamentably deficient in all that should constitute a help-meet in the work. Servants must await every beck and call and generally the poor missionary has a far happier time than he could ever expect in his own country, notwithstanding, hardship and sometimes imaginary hardships he has to endure.

It must at least be a great satisfaction to the Chinese to know that the convert rate is but a fraction of their birth rate.

I am, etc.,
P. O. Q.

Shanghai, June 13, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I have been in China more than twice as long as P.O.Q. and have a more or less intimate acquaintance with every part of China and have studied the missionary question. I differ *in toto* from P.O.Q.

Missionaries are human as well as the rest of us and are as liable to mistake and error as others. There is much to criticize in missionary methods but not in the direction mentioned by your correspondent. His letter shows he repeats current nonsensical chit-chat but has no accurate knowledge of the question he attacks.

Missionaries have caused unrest: of course they have or they would have utterly failed in their Mission. But so also have merchants, engineers, doctors and every foreigner. We have introduced new thoughts, methods and civilization. It is unthinkable all this could be done without causing unrest. Unrest is a healthy sign: there would be no progress without it.

The argument advanced by P.O.Q. that the missionaries are forcing their religion on the Chinese is a charge which no thinking man would advance. It is so ridiculous as to really require no answer: but as there may be others who will be influenced by it let the following facts be considered. There is no known modern process by which any man can be compelled to accept any doctrine concerning which he is not convinced. There is no more power in the hands of missionaries to compel any Chinese to accept Christianity than there is to compel P.O.Q.

What are the indigenous religions P.O.Q. is so anxious to preserve? The two indigenous systems are Confucianism, which is not a religion at all, and Taoism, which is a philosophy and only partly religious. The two great systems of religion in China are Buddhism and Mohammedanism and both of these are *foreign* religions, the one from India and the other from Arabia. Christianity is as foreign to Britain and America as to China: it has its origin in a little state long since extinct politically, Palestine—but which is now again coming into being.

Missionaries are seized by bandits because they are working where these blackguards operate. They would just as soon seize P. O. Q. if he were not safely sheltered in a guarded port like Shanghai.

If we had not forced railways on China, there would be no Lincheng case to disturb the nations. If no merchants, there would be no Peking Wall soldier case or assault at Fengtien station. If no mills and commercialism, there would be no industrial unrest. If we had not forced arms on China, bandits and their cousins the Tuchuns would not cause so much unrest. If we had not brought our ideas on philosophy and education into China, there would be no student question and government would have wallowed along as of yore. P. O. Q. is forcing himself on China just as much as any other man, missionary or merchant or what not: he is forcing his presence, his ideas and his good on this poor unwilling people and causing thereby unrest just as much as anybody else.

Why should everything foreign be brought to China with the one exception of religion? P. O. Q.'s position is untenable from any and every standpoint. Has he lived here for 18 years with his eyelids only half open? Wake up P. O. Q. and see things as they are and then use your thinkpan and when you have arranged the information so gathered into an intelligent situation, try again.

I am etc.,
A BUSINESS MAN

Shanghai, June 17, 1924.

SPIRITUAL AND COMMERCIAL PROSPECTS

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—There has been considerable correspondence in these columns recently on the subject of the Commercialization of Missionary Work which I have read with considerable interest.

In to-day's mail I received two booklets in English and Chinese carrying the title, "Hints and Helps on Christian Endeavour Topics" which represents the best tie-up of evangelization and commercialization that I have ever seen. The letter and prospectus which accompanied the booklets states that 50,000 Chinese converts or "prospects" are reached every day in the year by this literature "as one book is often used by a whole family or group." I am also informed that the "English edition is used by missionaries of all denominations working in all parts of China, many of whom have expressed appreciation of the advertisements, the rates for which are reasonable."

Now to prove that the above claims are not pure "moonshine," I find in the Chinese edition a letter signed by one Thomas Mosely, a missionary in Kansu province, who acknowledges receipt of the "Hints and Helps" on Chinese Christian Endeavour. Mr. Mosely says, "It meets a very special need in our work and we wish to congratulate you—last evening we organized a Christian Endeavour among our 18 fine young men in the High School here and they have taken it up with enthusiasm."

So much for the "evangelization" part of it. Now, after Mr. Mosely got those 18 fine young men together, what happened? The last paragraph of his letter then takes up the "commercialization" phase.

"The advertisements are most useful, especially to us in the interior, and this morning I have sent off four letters to various firms for merchandise advertised in your little booklet."

So there you have it! The perfect tie-up of religion and commerce! Get 'em together for Christian Endeavour and then sell 'em "Dimol, The Most Wonderful Discovery of the Century," "Mellin's Food, When Mother's Milk Fails, thte experienced nurse turns to Mellins," "The Small Investors' Company will invest any amount of money to yield you a certain 6 per cent. to 8 per cent.," and so on.

Or, to put itt another way, we might turn to Page 5 of the English edition of "Helps and Hints" where we find the question, "How may we know whether we are consecrated to God or not? Well we might turn to the coloured advertising pages and find the answer: If in doubt, try "Germinol Soap," or if this fails, "Dryco, the Dry Milk," might help. Then, of further assistance we might recommend "Ayrton's Malt Extract and Cod Liver Oil," or "Savonax Hair Shampoo de Luxe."

On Page 6 we find the quotation, "God gives only good things." It is no use asking Him for things that would be bad for us or others. (Matt. 7:11). Turning again to the nearest advertising page we assume that among the "good things" might be included a policy in the Asia Life, or a fixed deposit in the American-Oriental Bank. Other helpful things that might be included in the prayer are Parker Fountain Pens, an Arcola Heating System, or, perhaps, a Pyrene Fire Extinguisher. If a sea voyage is in contemplation, the prayer might include some of Kirby's Sea-Sick Cure, a ticket from Thos. Cook and Son, and the services of the C. P. R.

The subject is not, of course, exhausted by the above examples for on Page 23 we find, "To ask anything in Christ's name is to plead His promise with God, and to ask in His spirit, for the things of which He would approve" (John 14:13,14). Among the things which "He might approve" in the advertising pages are doubtless some of the following, "Osteopathy," "Jaborandi Hair Tonic," "Scott's Emulsion," "Ingersoll Watches," "Dupont Fabricoid," "Campbell's Paints," "Ovomaltine," "Ever-Hot Waterless Bags," "Germicide Disinfectant," or a nice roast and some sausage from "Futterer's."

To sum up the matter, we must admire the enterprise of the publisher of "Helps and Hints for the Christian Endeavour" for he has shown the perfect co-operation and co-ordination of missionaries and business men. There is only one weak point, we find no ads of cigarettes and alcoholic drinks. Why leave these out and give all the advantages to "Kofa Proprietary Medicines," "Kopler's Cod and Malt Extract," "Carnation Milk," "Stark's Headache Powders," or "Allenbury's Foods," and "Chesebrough's Vaseline."

In the introduction to the Chinese edition we are told (in English) that one of the best ways to show appreciation for these books, that is, "Helps and Hints for the Christian Endeavour" is "to mention the fact that you have seen their advertisements in the C. E. Topic Books." And we are also told that *One Lady* wrote as follows, "I appreciate every page of the topic book and read all of it, from the first page of the Introduction to the last of Advertisements." And then still further and better yet we (I use the word *we* as referring to the 50,000 missionaries and Chinese Christians who are supposed to use the book) are told that the publisher will appreciate it if his "*attention be called to any Advertisements which may inadvertently have been included, to which our readers may take exception.*" "It will be observed," says the author in the preface, "that all tobacco and liquor advertisements have been refused, although we have been offered several times the regular rates if we would include them." In reply to this dig we have already voiced our objection to the lack of these helpful advertisements in the "Hints and Helps," and hope they will be included in the next edition.

Yours for more "co-operation."

I am, etc.,
FUNDAMENTALIST.

Shanghai, June 15, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I have carefully read "Fundamentalist's" letter in your issue to-day, but fail to see why your correspondent objects to the inclusion of advertisements in a handbook to be used by Christian societies. His charge that commercialism and missionary work are being mixed up would only be justified if the editor or publisher of the book advertised produce to be sold by themselves for their own account, which is not the case. Is it that your correspondent thinks that advertising is morally wrong? If so, it is wrong also in the "North-China Daily News" and your correspondent should abstain from buying and reading a paper which indulges in so wicked a practice. Or is he upset because he did not find his favourite brand of tobacco or whisky in the advertisements? The exclusion of these articles is amply justified by the fact that many of the communities who use the incriminated book advocate total abstinence from tobacco and alcohol. Or is it the mere fact of buying and selling which in "Fundamentalist's" small mind is tainted with evil? If so, how does he get the clothes he wears or the food he eats?

Correspondents in your paper who find their pleasure in attacking missionaries often refer to the sums collected from charitable people for mission work, in a way which implies disapproval of the practice Would "Fundamentlist" have the publisher of the book go round with a hat begging for money to pay for the paper and printer, rather than get it quite as honestly by advertising for a fixed remuneration honest wares that are bound to be required by his readers?I do not know much about the book that roused "Fundamentalist's" ire, but I think it is sold far below cost so as to bring its teaching within the reach of all.

The funniest thing about the letter is the nom-de-plume by which your correspondent wishes to be known. He calls himself "Fundamentalist." I have been told that the editor and publisher are themselves fundamentalists of the purest water. This would seem to justify the idea current in some quarters that fundamentalists are best left to themselves, because in that case they will promptly devour each other!

I am, etc.,
COMMON-SENSE.

Shanghai, June 17, 1924.

***Is our correspondent serious? Because we are sure "Fundamentalist" was not.—Ed.

A LITTLE TRUTH AFTER DINNER

To Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In your issue of June 12, there are two items which very clearly show the difficulties to be contended with in getting the truth about China across to people at home. One is the report of the experiences of an American girl amongst the wild (?) Lolos, and the other the report of Sir James Jamieson to counter the romances of a Chinese diplomat.

Would that there were more men in China and at home who, like Sir James, do not mind calling a spade a spade. I, Sir, take off my hat to him, and say "That's the stuff to give "em," and, as a Roman could have said, *"Si vellas vestimentum viri, non addis dignitatem."*

I am, etc.,
VIDI.

Nanking, June 13, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I have always thought that a person who has been knighted in England is at least a gentleman, and I have never suspected that a British Consul-General in China would use such language at a public dinner in London society as hardly befits a cockney. So how rudely shocked I had been after I read your London correspondent's report about the affair.

The saving grace is that the Chinese Acting Minister, being a perfect gentleman, took it with such great composure that he has not even demanded an apology.

The incident could evidently be avoided if Mr. Chu had presented Sir James a top-hat—to use Mr. Chu's own expression—by calling upon him to speak at the two Chinese public functions. For that reason only, the incident is regrettable.

I am, etc.,
PROPRIETY.

Shanghai, June 14, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—As a coward dreads the surgeon's knife, so a "perfect gentleman" may possibly object to the bald truth even though it is for his own or his Country's good. That a lot of "tommy-rot" is dispensed to the British public is well known to the China hand, and it is a pity that your Chinese correspondent, who champions the cause of a "perfect gentleman," should lay stress on the personal side of the incident he refers to.

However flowery a picture of China may be painted for the benefit of the British public, the fact remains that strife is the real order of the day—bandits carryon in their own sweet way, kidnapping is rife and even the official police and soldiers have to whistle for their pay. The pity is that some of the officials on the scene cannot be taught gentlemanly habits. In the definition of of a gentleman I imagine honesty should be included.

It is gratifying to know that the official who represents this great country is a "perfect gentleman" and it is regrettable that there are not more like him. Personally I prefer the blunt truth to gilded exaggerations. All who have the interest of China at heart should thank Sir James for his courage and not lose sight of the main issues in personal recrimination.

I am, etc.,
BRUTUS.

Shanghai, June 16, 1924.

UNKNOWN TREES

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I should very much appreciate it if some one would give me, through this column, the names of the various trees seen along the waterway between Nanziang and Kading.

There are tall old trees whose branches are at this season heavily tasselled, and others planted about small fenced burying grounds, etc.

The five trees, so uniform in size, standing beside an old temple I know to be ginkos, but I should be most grateful to have the names of the other varieties, as I wish to make use of it in some descriptive writing of the trip.

I am, etc.,
SOJOURNER.

Shanghai, June 18, 1924.

THE RUSSIAN SHIPS AT WOOSUNG

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I notice an article in your paper of the 7th instant, signed by a certain Pugacheff, whom you yourself consider a Bolshevik agent. Needless to say the real origin of the article in question is well known to me, and in the interests of justice, I beg leave to make known to you, the other side of the story.

When General Lebedeff arrived off Woosung, on the str. Eldorado, his men were offered the alternative of remaining faithful to their group, or returning to Soviet Russia. Two or three score of the men led by Captain Zebin, elected to return to Russia. Captain Zebin, immediately got into communication with Elleder, Kosolapoff, and other members of the Soviet in Shanghai.

On pain of refusal to enter Russia the unfortunate men were forced to sign a statement, the same which appeared in your issue of the 7th, and signed by Mr. Pugacheff. In the same manner the Bolsheviks lately tricked a similar group of 88 men. By such shady methods, the Bolsheviks try to influence public opinion in their favour.

But the chief motive back of all this, is the desire to get possession of the ships and property, which belong to a group of refugees, comprising the remainder of the national army. As always, the Bolsheviks have recourse to a bold perversion of the truth.

To return to the ships. The Okhotsk, Zashitnik, Mongugai, as well as Admiral Stark's fleet, were given to the suffering. starving, army and navy in lieu of pay. The ships are an integral part of the men which are aboard, just as much as an American, or British ship, is an integral part of America or Britain. And let us not forget, the ships were taken after a battle, and when the maritime provinces existed as an independent state.

England, having recognized the Soviet, yet has reserved the right to grant separate recognition to those state formations, who have seen fit to break away from Bolshevik misrule. and tyranny. This shows that the Soviet have not been recognized as the government of all Russia, and therefore have no right to property which they were unable to seize by force, during the civil war.

The same views obtained in the American courts, who upheld the refugees, when the Bolsheviks attempted to get possession of Stark's fleet at Manila.

The ships at Shanghai are the property of a group of Far Eastern Cossacks, who have a right to dispose of them as they see fit, and I shall taken measures to guard the property of the group, from any party whatsoever.

It is frequently stated in your columns, that Russians ought to be repatriated. That is all very well, but we do not care to place ourselves at the mercy of an autocracy who have not only murdered our relatives, but ruined and pillaged our country into the bargain. It is true, the humble need not fear to return. Indeed some of them are not worth killing, as the subservient need not fear slavery. They are slaves by nature.

I hear it remarked that the Russians ought to do their fighting in Russia and not in Shanghai. Let me assure you that we Russians have no desire to disturb the peace of Shanghai.

We are only temporary residents, many of us living for months on end in the stinking hold of a ship. We are exiles, but we know that our country will yet call us to deliver her from the clutches of the red hangman. Then we will return.

Thanking you,
I am, etc.,
GENERAL GLEBOFF.
Shanghai, June 11, 1924.

To Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

Sir,—In your issue of the 14th instant General Gleboff delivered himself of a remarkable piece of correspondence.

If it were not for the quite extraordinary logic revealing the crank representatives of times past and forgotten, and never to return, one could pass up without ado the little epistle. But while dispensing fun the "Cossack-Admiral" offers good opportunity to be shown up together with all his like for the benefit of those who might be otherwise misled by the ridiculous reasoning of this self-appointed saviour of Russia.

Says the General: "The ships are an integral part of the men which are abroad, just as much as an American, or British ship is an integral part of America or Britain." Do you get the logic? According to this theory of the gallant warrior the crews of the U.S.A. and U. K. navies have the right to claim independence from their respective governments, call their battle-ships their "integral part" and take the same "in lieu of pay."

Joking aside, it is high time that the lie were given to the General, and to all those who have been and are giving open and clandestine support to those who shamelessly stole these ships and other property of the Russian people, and who are now bartering this property for their personal gain and naturally resent every honest effort that threatens to take from them what they have unlawfully grabbed, availing themselves of the civil war in Russia.

It is a brazen lie that the ships staying at Woosung belong to a "group of Far Eastern Cossacks" (although it is a refreshing novelty: "naval Cossacks"). The ships belong to Russia, and whoever dares to "dispose of them as he sees fit," is, to say the least, knowingly selling stolen property, besides being a contemptible traitor to his country. If Gleboff finds the hold of these ships "stinking" let him take the fresh air before the strong hand that got Koltchak, Ungern-Sternberg, Pepeliaieff, etc., will get him too, and make him pay for his "temporary residence" in Shanghai.

There is another question of importance touched by the General. It concerns the protest of about 100 of his former followers who after having been exploited, led and misled by sundry Generals and Admirals, have now decided that the place for them to live in is not the stinking holds of the ships but their own country, Russia. They, as so many thousands of their comrades in misfortune, want to return home. It is obvious that this will definitely show to everybody who cares to think about it that the Generals have definitely lost all hold on these people who have now become convinced that the source of all their misery is that they have so far believed the trash about the "White delivery" of Russia by their Generals.

Mr. Gleboff wants to dispose of this question by simply saying that the repatriants have been forced by the agents of the Soviets to sign the protest. I leave it to you to decide whether the gentlemen in question have time, or care for, "forcing" tens of thousands of poor peasants, workers, and "intelligents" to return home to their families and honest work, instead of begging for alms dispensed at soup-kitchens abroad. Fact is, and this is admitted even by the General, that these people need not fear any retaliation. The representatives of the Russian Government have repeatedly declared that the soldiers of the defunct White armies may return without fear of being prosecuted at home.

The All-Russian Central Executive Committee has issued several general amnesties to all who want to avail themselves of the pardon, and it is the greatest pity that the bulk of the deceived masses was artificially kept in ignorance and terrorized by lies about "horrors" that according to the Generals await them at home.

Now all this will quickly end. The Sino-Russian agreement spells the end of all the machinations and mispractices like sale of ships, guns, ammunition and general pilferage of Russian Government property, or in other words, the career of Generals without armies, Admirals without navies and all those who built their individual well-being on the misery of many thousands of their unfortunate compatriots.

Even if the General and his companions succeed in "disposing" of the ships, their game is finished for ever. Russia is great enough to do without a few ships, and while she needs the legions of workers and peasants who are now scattered all over the world, she can very well go without White generals. If Gen. Gleboff is waiting for the time when "the country will call him to deliver her" he will indeed have to do some mighty fine waiting, and will be a very, very old man before such a thing will happen.

Until then, however, he will do better to learn an honest trade instead of spreading calumny about and doing harm to the country which he has so unsuccessfully "delivered" in the past.

This may be a specially Russian matter, which has already had much attention on the columns of your esteemed paper, but the general foreign public of Shanghai that has contributed to the maintenance and repatriation of the Russian refugees, has the right to know who are those who do not want a repatriation—to Russia.

In conclusion, I trust that in common with your practice of *"audiatur et altera pars,"* you will not refuse to print this letter in its full extent.

Enclosing my card,
I am, etc.,
A FRIEND OF RUSSIA.
Shanghai, June 15, 1924.

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS AND THE SOVIET

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

Sir,—We officers, cossacks and soldiers of the Far-Eastern Cossacks' Group descended from all classes of Russia, most of us workmen and peasants, having read with deep indignation the declaration by a group of Russians which appeared in your esteemed paper on the 7th instant signed by certain Pugatcheff and Patireff.

Being sure that said declaration has been written by Bolsheviks and they compelled all repatriants to sign it under menace of not being allowed to return to Russia, still we wish to express to those pusillanimous men our indignation for their sneaking and crawling under the dirty feet of the criminals and murderers who call themselves Bolsheviks.

We mostly workmen, peasants and cossacks have to declare that a Workmen-Peasants Government does not exist in Russia at present. There is just a bloody reign of terror and death.

We state categorically that we do not recognize the Soviet as well as all Russian people do not recognize them and Bolsheviks are still in power because of the horror of death, starvation and division of people's strength.

We have fought our many battles not with Russian people, but with the satanic power of Red hangmen and do believe they will be overthrown before long by means of real workmen and peasants. The Bolsheviks will have to answer before all the Russian population for their many criminal acts as convertions of churches into houses of ill fame, depravation of children and so on.

When our Mother Country shall call us we will go again, every one of us, to fight for Her because we belong to Her, not to U.S.S.R. As to Bolsheviks attempts to seize our ships Okhotsk, Mongugai and Zashchitnik we decidedly declare they are our own property, and we have got all rights and very good means to defend them from their dirty hands.

We firmly and holily keep old covenants of our fathers: "Remember only death can free Thee from execution of Thy duty before Mother Country." And at last being very down hearted about cowardice of some Russians we have to say: "We know what for we are going to die, but you do not."

We are, etc.,
(There follow 683 signatures officers and men of the Far-Eastern Cossacks Group, which signatures we have seen.—Ed.)
Shanghai, June 16, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The problem of the Russian ships in Woosung aroused such a lengthy controversy in the columns of your esteemed paper that there is hardly anything to be added.

But a letter of "A friend of Russia," published in your issue on the 17th is lacking to a great extent a sense of impartiality, one would expect from a friend of a people, suffering under social disturbances.

I leave aside the sarcastic wit of this correspondent towards Gen. Gleboff. I do not know this general and never came in touch with him on duty. I am looking further to the ships in Woosung.

Most of these refugees on board: generals, officers and soldiers fought for Russia since 1914 and being overwhelmed by demagogues in civil war, had had too leave their country.

They escaped on those ships, on board of which they live now in most terrible conditions and the ships are the only guarantee of their existence in future because it is hard to expect some support from outside.

Have they lawful and moral rights to sell these ships?

Let me put a few questions as parallel.

Is it lawful and moral that Lenin accepted money and free passage from Germany during the war?

Is it lawful and moral to conclude Brest-Litovsk treaty—a treason towards our Allies and high treason towards our own country?

Is it lawful and moral that the Soviet was selling the "confiscated" property which belonged to foreigners in Russia—to some other foreigners abroad, not to say about "nationalized" Russian private property?

There might be no end to such parallels.

The demagogues demoralized our Army, denounced our international obligations, refused to pay debts, they stole whole Russia and fancy! they accuse these refugees of grabbing and selling ships not belonging to them.

These ships belong to Russia and there is no Russia at present, but Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—U. S. S. R.

The present Moscow Government protested recently to the British Foreign Office that the old-fashioned expression "Russian Government" ought not to be used in correspondence when addressed to Soviet.

Therefore according to Soviet's own interpretation it must be clearly understood—there is no Russia at present.

And this is why we hate the Soviet! We want Russia, our mtoher-country, our national state.

I do not mean any special restauration—monarchy or republic—anything, but not that international communistic rigmarole—U. S. S. R.

Believe me, Sir, sooner or later this change will come—evolution or another *coup d état*, and there will be no need to persuade our refugees that the best place for them is their country—they will disappear from Shanghai as fast as they have come to it.

"A friend of Russia" mocks at Gen. Gleboff that he will "have to do so mighty fine waiting and will be a very, very old man before such a thing will happen."

A very bad laugh indeed but. . . *rira bien qui rira le derpier!*

The refugees in question are the remainder of the Russian Army and they have full moral right to dispose of the ships for their benefit—the single item the Bolsheviks did not get hold of.

Some witty expressions of "A friend of Russia," like, "Cossac-Admiral," sundry Generals and Admirals, "White delivery of Russia" and so on, make me believe that this "friend" has more sympathy to the present Moscow Government than to Russia itself.

If so—the picturesque name of "A friend of Russia" should be changed to another one, not in the least less picturesque but more up to point: A comrade of U. S. S. R.

It is also not bad to remember a clever aphorism—let God relieve us of our friends—of our enemies we shall get rid ourselves.

Enclosing my card.

I am, etc.
A RUSSIAN OFFICER.
Shanghai, June 18, 1924.

P.S..—As for the "Naval Cossacks"—"A friend of Russia" is mistaken, he does not know Russian history.

About XVI century on the Dnieper, near Kieff there existed the famous Cossacks' stronghold—Zaporojié.

On their "Caidaks" they sailed down to the Black Sea, where their fearless rides were not once a menace to Byzantyne.

R. O.

CHINESE BANK NOTES

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

DEAR SIR,—Permit me a little space in your columns for a small query I wish to put.

In your Thursday issue under "Notes and Comments" you censured the exchange system, or rather, non-system, of China. On the heel of this comes the report published in your Friday issue re the "Anking Bad Dollar." It is well these records are being made against this other system of profiteering and one might say concerning what is being done outside the Shanghai walls,—but can anybody guarantee against a great evil, namely, that the local Chinese bank notes will not suffer some heavy and unrecuperable depreciation of their face value in the near future?

Can you inform me whether there is any security against such a depreciation of the local Chinese bank paper currency that at present is truly flooding the market?

I am putting this question to you as I have been unable to find an answer to it and on an event which any well informed business man will find eventual. And, foreseeing all the possible havoc of the mark and rouble, it is well indeed to be prepared.

Yours faithfully,
SILVER DOLLAR.
Shanghai, June 14, 1924.

***As far as we have know there is no guarantee for Chinese bank notes beyond the name of the bank that issues them. The safest plan is to accept only the notes of banks which the Shanghai Race Club accepts at its meetings.—Ed.

GEN. Lu Yung-hsiang has been explaining by telegraph to the Chêkiang Association in Shanghai the reason for the presence in his province of the defeated Tsang Chih-ping and Yang Hua-chao from Fukien. The Tupan concludes with expressions of "love for the Chêkiang people" to whose satisfaction he "will deal with any situation that may henceforth arise," and says that Gens. Tsang and Yang's tenure in the province will not be of long duration.

IN a circular telegram, Mr. Sun Pao-chi, the Premier, informs the provinces that he had assumed the difficult office of Premier with extreme diffidence; that Wang Koh-ming, the Finance Minister, while absolutely refusing to attend Parliamentary sessions when required and absenting himself from Cabinet meetings, had nevertheless dealt with several very important questions all of which required his (the Premier's) signature and for which he, as Premier, had to bear full responsibility. Mr. Sun felt no personal animosity against Wang, but he regarded national affairs as of such importance that he must expect co-operation from all his colleagues. To remove misunderstanding, he issued this explanation.

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SPORTS AND PASTIMES

WEEK-END CRICKET

S. R. C. and S. C. C. "A" Sustain Defeat: Machine Gunners' Splendid Fielding

All of the four cricket matches played on Saturday were brought to a definite conclusion. In the League, the Machine Gunners got home by a narrow margin over their strongest opponents, the Shanghai Recreation Club; the Shanghai Cricket Club "B" team won easily from their club-mates the "A" aggregation; in a tight finish the S.C.C. 2nd XI vanquished the Police; and the Portuguese Sporting Association gained a comfortable victory over the Parsee Cricket Club.

Details of scores, etc., follow:—

Machine Gun Co.

E. C. Baker, c. and b. C. E. Ollerdessen	1
E. R. Duckitt, c. Willis, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	2
A. E. Green, c. Johanssen, b. Quayle	4
D. W. Leach, c. and b. Divecha	50
H. Rogerson, l.b.w., b. C. E. Ollerdessen	18
C. Knight, c. H. B. Ollerdessen, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	16
A. V. White, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	0
L. Goldman, c. Bhoora, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	42
G. O. Large, c. W. Manley, b. C. E. Ollerdessen	2
T. L. Rawsthorne, c. Shroff, b. T. Main	13
E. G. Barnes, not out	2
Extras	19
	169

BOWLING

	O	M	R	W
Quayle	9	1	47	1
C. E. Ollerdessen	13.5	1	64	7
Divecha	4	—	21	1
Main	4	—	9	1
Shroff	3	—	9	—

S. R. C.

C. H. Bhoora, c. Barnes, b. Leach	52
M. J. Divecha, b. Leach	0
J. A. Quayle, c. and b. Rawsthorne	17
H. B. Ollerdessen, l.b.w., b. Rogerson	21
A. J. Willis, b. Leach	1
A. J. Clark, c. White, b. Rawsthorne	10
S. F. Shroff, c. White, b. Rawsthorne	21
W. T. Manley, b. Rawsthorne	9
J. R. Johansson, c. Rogerson, b. Rawsthorne	10
T. E. Main, not out	4
C. E. Ollerdessen, run out	4
Extras	11
	160

BOWLING

	O	M	R	W
Leach	23	4	82	3
Rawsthorne	17.3	5	48	5
Rogerson	5	—	19	1

S.C.C. "B" (200) v. S.C.C. "A' (96).

The Shanghai Cricket Club "B" team gained a very easy victory over the "A" team by 104 runs.

S.C.C. "B"

Dr. H. H. Morris, c. Murphy, b. Carr	77
A. J. W. Evans, c. Beaumont, b. Carr	17
G. F. Gardner, b. Murphy	43
W. C. G. Clifford, b. Murphy	7
H. E. Muriel, not out	11
Dr. W. E. O'Hara, run out	19
H. C. B. Peck, not out	17
J. H. Raikes, J. R. Harder, E. Jupp and D. R. Mackintosh did not bat.	
Extras	19
For 5 wickets	200

BOWLING

	O	M	R	W
Beaumont	11	1	40	—
Carr	15	1	47	2
Murphy	14	—	76	2
Burn	4	—	18	—

"S.C.C." "A"

A. E. Lanning, b. O'Hara	2
R. D. Bell, b. O'Hara	15
D. Burn, b. O'Hara	14
W. G. R. Murphy, b. Peck	0
J. S. Scott, c. Gardner, b. Peck	2
E. W. Stagg, b. Peck	0
G. C. Beaumont, b. Peck	18
E. Jones, l.b.w., b. Peck	5
A. H. Leslie, c. Harder, b. Peck	20
P. Carr, not out	10
W. J. Monk, c. Evans, b. O'Hara	0
Extras	10
	96

BOWLING

	O	M	R	W
O'Hara	16.5	4	28	4
Peck	18	7	48	6
Morris	10	—	10	—

ATHLETIC SPORTS

South Africa v. Oxford University

Oxford, June 17.

At an athletic meeting here today the South African Olympic Games team drew with Oxford University with four events to four.—Reuter.

LAWN TENNIS

Close Contest in Mixed Doubles Final Won by Mrs. Hicks and Mr. Whitamore

The mixed doubles championship final attracted a big crowd to the Majestic Hotel grounds on Saturday afternoon and was a game of sustained interest, even if it did not provide any special thrill. The finalists, Mrs. Hicks and C. E. Whitamore, and Mr. and Mrs. Elmore, were as evenly matched as could be wished and the result of the game was always in doubt. Mrs. Hicks and Mr. Whitamore won by two sets to one—3-6, 6-3, 6-4—and deserve full credit for their success over experienced and very capable opponents. In the first set, after losing the opening game, Mr. and Mrs. Elmore won three games in succession, lost the next two and then took the set with another three, all very closely contested. In the second set, Mrs. Hicks and Mr. Whitamore gained the substantial lead of 4-1, and although their opponents got three more games, they had little difficulty in taking the set at 6-3. With the third set deciding the match, play was given an added pace and keenness, the score being carried to three-all by dint of clever play on both sides of the net. In the following game, Mr. and Mrs. Elmore twice seemed to have certain scoring chances at the critical point, but both strokes were cleverly countered, Mrs. Hicks in particular making one brilliant recovery which saved the deciding point against her and paved the way to game and match, she and her partner winning the ensuing game and so the match.

The great feature of the game was the prominent part taken in it by the ladies, both of whom were in excellent form. Their driving was fast and of good length, and there were some pretty back line duels between the two. Mrs. Elmore's placing lobbing were excellently judged, and she was especially good in the final set. Mrs. Hicks also played a very sound game, her drives being clean and forceful. In point of style and skill there was barely a shade of difference between the pairs, and it might have been thought that greater match play experience would have given Mr. and Mrs. Elmore the victory, but they just failed at the critical moment and this slight lapse in the final game was turned to the fullest advantage by their opponents. The victory was an extremely narrow one, however, and possibly a replay would see a reversal of the result. The strain of the encounter told rather heavily on Mrs. Hicks, who collapsed immediately play was over. She had been unwell and was really not in a condition to play, but very pluckily stuck to the game and finished it in great style.

International Ladies' Match at Wimbledon: Davis Cup Competition

Copenhagen, June 15.

In the doubles of the Davis Cup third round tie, between Denmark and Italy, MM. Ulrich and Tegner (Denmark) beat Signori Colombo and Demorpurgo (Italy) by 3 sets to 1.—Reuter.

Copenhagen, June 16.

In the third round of the Davis Cup competition, Denmark defeated Italy by 3 matches to 2 and will now meet Czecho-Slovakia in the fourth round.

In the singles, Signor Demorpurgo (Italy) beat M. Tegner (Denmark) by 3 sets to 0; M. Petersen (Denmark) beat Signor Colombo (Italy) by 3 sets to 0; M. Tegner beat Signor Colombo by 3 sets to 1; and Signor Demorpurgo beat M. Petersen by 3 sets to 0. Denmark yesterday won the doubles by 3 sets to 1.—Reuter.

Paris, June 17.

In the third round of the Davis Cup competition, M. Lacoste (France) beat Mr. Sleem (India), 4-6, 6-4, 6-2, 6-4, and M. Cochet (France) beat Mr. Jacob (India), 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2.—Reuter.

London, June 18.

In a ladies' lawn tennis match between British and American teams at Wimbledon to-day, Mrs. Covell (Britain) beat the American star, Miss Wills, 6-2, 6-4, and Miss McKane (Britain) beat Mrs. Mallory (America) 6-3, 6-3. Mrs. Covell and Mrs. Shepherd Barron (Britain) beat Mrs. Jessup and Miss Goss (America) 6-2, 6-2.

Mrs. Covell's somewhat hollow defeat of Miss Wills, whose record of achievement has established her as a strong challenger to Mlle. Lenglen, has caused a sensation in lawn tennis circles, who have been anticipating a great struggle between Miss Wills and Mlle. Lenglen in the Wimbledon final. Miss Wills was unversatile, was faulty in length, repeatedly double-faulted and was slow. It is inconceivable that she showed true form.

Paris, June 18.

France beat India in the third round of the Davis Cup competition. MM. Cochet and Brugnon (France) defeated Messrs. Hadi and A. H. Fyzee, 6-1, 6-4, 7-5.—Reuter.

CRICKET AT HOME

First Test Match: England v. S. Africa: England Bats and Scores Freely

Edgbaston, June 14.

The first test match between England and South Africa opened here to-day in glorious, cloudless weather. There were 4,000 people present at the start, but by tea-time the crowd had increased to 12,000. The wicket was recovering after the rain. H. W. Taylor, the South African captain, won the toss and sent England in. The South African team included the recently discovered fast bowler, Parker, who was born in South Africa and is now playing for the Bradford League team.

Hobbs and Sutcliffe opened the innings, and at the luncheon interval were still in partnership, the former having made 57 and the latter 61. Four extras brought the English total to 122 runs for 0 wicket.

After lunch Sutcliffe was bowled by Parker for an addition of only three runs. He scored one 6 and six 4s.

Woolley then joined Hobbs, but the latter was l.b.w. to a ball from Blanckenberg when he reached 76. Hobbs played a typically excellent innings, without giving a chance. He hit seven 4s. Hendren joined Woolley, who had run up 64 when he was caught by Ward off Parker's bowling. Chapman did not stay long, being bowled by Parker for 8. Fender then joined Hendren and at the tea interval the English score was 291 for 4 wickets. Hendren had scored 44 not out and Fender 24 not out.

After tea Hendren added 30 to his score before putting the ball into Nourse's hands off Parker. He made a 5 and six 4s. Fender was caught by Taylor off Blanckenberg for 36. Kilner was then joined by Tate, who made 19 before being caught by Taylor off Parker's bowling. Gilligan then came in. When stumps were drawn for the day Kilner's score was 40 not out and Gilligan's 4 not out. With 13 extras, the English score was 393 runs for 7 wickets.

J. B. Hobbs l.b.w., b. Blanckenberg	76
H. Sutcliffe b. Parker	64
F. E. Woolley c. Ward b. Parker	64
E. Hendren c. Nourse b. Parker	74
Mr. A. P. F. Chapman b. Parker	8
Mr. P. G. H. Fender c. Taylor b. Blackenberg	36
Roy Kilner not out	40
M. W. Tate c. Taylor b. Parker	19
Mr. A. E. R. Gilligan not out	4
Extras	13
Total for 7 wickets	398

Oxford, June 13.

The match between Oxford University and the South Africans started at two o'clock to-day, the last day of the fixture. The wicket was still very soft. Oxford had scored 117 for 9 wickets when stumps were drawn at five o'clock to allow the South Africans to entrain for the north for to-morrow's test match.—Reuter.

South Africans' Remarkable Collapse: Out for 30

Edgbaston, June 16.

The test match was resumed today in fine, warm weather before a crowd of 3,000.

Roy Kilner was caught and bowled by Pegler for 59. He played a bright innings, batting five fours. The remaining wickets fell rapidly. Gilligan was bowled by Pegler for 13, and Wood by Parker for 1. Parkin made 8 not out. England's total was 438, a record score against the South Africans in this country. The innings took six and a half hours, 33 minutes of which was to-day.

The South Africans collapsed before the bowling of Tate and Gilligan, being all out for 30, the lowest total ever made in Englang in any Test match. They were all out in 47 minutes. They followed on and at the lunch interval had scored 34 for 0 wickets. Taylor's score was 22 not out and Commaille's 8.

After lunch Taylor was caught and bowled by Tate when he had reached 34. Commaille was caught by Hendren off Tate at 29. A partnership between Susskind and Nourse put on 70 runs and the score at the tea interval was 143 for 2 wickets (Susskind 41, not out, and Nourse 29, not out).

After tea Susskind and Nourse were dismissed by Gilligan for 51 and 34 respectively. Catterall and Blanckenberg then entered into partnership and at the close of play had scored 52 and 56, both not out. When stumps were drawn the South African score was 274 for 4 wickets.

The Africans' second innings was a complete reversal of their first innings form. Their batting throughout was very steady. Susskind showed a magnificent defence. Catterall and Blanckenberg collared the bowling with delightfully clean, all-round hitting. So far they have added 113 runs in little over an hour.

Scores:—

ENGLAND.

J. B. Hobbs, l.b.w. b. Blanckenberg	76
H. Sutcliffe, b. Parker	64
F. E. Woolley, c. Ward b. Parker	64
E. Hendren, c. Nourse, b. Parker	74
Mr. A. P. F. Chapman, b. Parker	8
Mr. P. G. H. Fender, c. Taylor, b. Blanckenberg	36
Roy Kilner, c. & b. Pegler	59
M. W. Tate c. Taylor, b. Parker	19
Mr. A. E. R. Gilligan, b. Pegler	13
Mr. W. W. Hill-Wood, b. Parker	1
C. H. Parkin, not out	8
Extras	438

Bowling:—
Parker, 6 wickets for 152 runs. J. M. Blanckenberg, 2 wickets 92 runs. S. J. Pegler, 2 wickets for 106 runs. E. P. Nupen, 0 wicket for 66 runs. A. D. Nourse, 0 wicket for 3 runs.

SOUTH AFRICA.

First Innings.

R. H. Catterale b. Gilligan	0
H. W. Taylor, b. Tate	7
M. J. Susskind, c. Kilner, b. Tate	3
A. D. Nourse, l.b.w. b. Gilligan,	1
M. J. Commaille, not out	1
J. M. Blanckenberg, b. Tate	4
H. G. Deane, b. Gilligan	2
E. P. Nupen, b. Gilligan	0
S. J. Pegler, b. Tate	0
T. A. Ward, b. Gilligan	1
Parker, l.b.w. b. Gilligan	0
Extras	11
	30

Bowling:—

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Mr. A. E. Gilligan	6.3	4	7	6
M. W. Tate	6	1	12	4

SOUTH AFRICA.

Second Innings.

H. W. Taylor, c. & b. Tate	34
M. J. Commaille, c. Hendren, b. Tate	29
M. J. Susskind, b. Gilligan	51
A. D. Nourse, c. Wood, b. Gilligan	34
R. H. Catterall, not out	52
J. M. Blanckenberg, not out	56
Extras	18
Total (for 4 wickets)	274

—Reuter.

South Africans Beaten by an Innings after Uphill Fight

Edgbaston, June 17.

The weather was fine and hot for the third day of the Test Match. There was a small attendance. The wicket was wearing well.

Catterall carried his innings to 120 when he was caught by Hobbs off Tate. Blanckenberg was caught by Chapman off Gilligan without adding a run to his overnight 56. Ward with 19 was the only one of the remaining batsmen who got into double figures. The South Africans were all out for 390, England thus winning by an innings and 18 runs. The innnings closed at 12.45, having lasted 5¼ hours. Catterall played a vigorous innings with superb driving. He hit two sixes and fifteen fours.

Score:—

SOUTH AFRICA.

SECOND INNINGS.

H. W. Taylor, c. & b. Tate.	34
M. J. Commaille, c. Hendren, b. Tate	29
M. J. Susskind, b. Gilligan	51
A. D. Nourse, c. Wood, b. Gilligan	34
R. H. Catterall, c. Hobbs, b. Tate	120
J. M. Blanckenberg, c. Chapman, b. Gilligan	56
H. G. Denne, run out	5
E. P. Nupen, l.b.w., b. Tate	5
T. A. Ward, b. Gilligan	19
S. J. Pegler, c. Hobbs, b. Gilligan	6
Parker, not out	2
Extras	29
	390

BOWLING:—
Mr. A. E. R. Gilligan 5 wickets for 83.
M. W. Tate, 4 wickets for 103.
C. H. Parkin, 0 wickets for 38.
Roy Kilner, 0 wickets for 40.
Mr. P. G. H. Fender 0 wickets for 56.
F. E. Woolley 0 wickets for 41.
—Reuter.

South Africans v. Essex: A Century by Taylor

Colchester, June 18.

The weather was glorious and 3,000 people were present on the opening day of the match between Essex and the South Africans. The wicket was good and easy.

Essex were all out at tea time with 155 runs. Russell made 34 and Pegler took 4 wickets for 34. At the close of play the South Africans had scored 157 for 2 wickets. Taylor was 104 not out. He played a magnificent, all-round innings. Hearne made 43.—Reuter.

The County Championship

London, June 13.

There was no play in the matches between Leicestershire and Surrey at Leicester and Somerset and Gloucestershire at Taunton. The matches between Warwickshire and Yorkshire at Warwick and Northamptonshire and Hampshire at Northampton were also drawn.

At Dudley Gloucestershire beat Worcestershire by 102 runs. The Gloucester bowler Parker took 5 wickets for 50 and 6 for 24.

At Brighton Sussex beat Notts on the 1st innings.

At Manchester Middlesex beat Lancashire on the 1st innings. Lancashire made 207, Fowler taking 5 wickets for 29. Middlesex made 222 for 6 wickets. Mann made 60 and Hendren 104 not out.

The match between Lancashire and Middlesex was for E. Tyldesley's benefit.

London, June 16.

At Kettering, Northamptonshire beat Glamorgan by five wickets. Glamorgan made 108, Thomas taking 4 wickets for 22, and 73, Thomas taking 6 wickets for 32. Northants made 93, Clay taking 7 wickets for 15, and 89 for 5 wickets.—Reuter.

London, June 17.

At Lord's Somerset beat Middlesex by 37 runs. Somerset made 178, Lee taking 5 wickets for 35 and 136 in the 2nd innings. Middlesex made 128, Robertson-Glasgow taking 9 wickets for 38, and 149.

At Horsham, Sussex beat Leicestershire by 10 wickets. Leicester made 186, Bowley taking 5 wickets for 27, and 51, Parkes taking 7 wickets for 17. Sussex made 233 and 6 runs for 0 wickets.

At Colchester, Gloucestershire beat Essex by 4 wickets. Essex made 188 (Parker 7 wickets for 91) and 302 (Russell 104). Gloucester made 195 and 299 for 6 wickets (Dipper 116 and Smith 96.)

At Manchester, Surrey beat Lancashire on the first innings. Surrey made 195 (R. Tyldesley 5 wickets for 32) and 238 (R. Tyldesley 6 wickets for 79). Lancashire made 166 and 197 for 7 wickets.

At Tonbridge, Kent beat Worcestershire by 93 runs. Kent made 137 and 345 (Seymour 167). Worcestershire made 158 and 231 (Foster 128).

At Nottingham, Notts beat Hampshire by 124 runs. Notts made 273 (Whysall 61, John Gunn 87) and 307 for 3 declared (Whysall 150 not out). Hampshire made 217 and 239 (Mead 84).

At Chesterfield, Yorkshire beat Derbyshire by 137 runs. Yorkshire made 169 (Horsley 6 wickets for 42) and 205. Derby made 74 and 163.—Reuter.

THE native press now publishes what it calls an authentic report from Loyang to the effect that the labour agitators who were sent from Hankow to that city are still alive and that the former statement that they had been executed is untrue.

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LAW REPORTS

MR. ERIC MOLLER IN BANKRUPTCY

Public Examination: Composition with Creditors: Mr. Moller's Statement of His Shipping Experience, the Business He Built up and Losses on Ships Commandeered in War

In the Supreme Court on Monday, Mr. Eric Moller came up for public examination in bankruptcy before his Honour Judge Sir Skinner Turner. The statement of affairs showed net liabilities amounting to Tls. 255,607 and assets Tls. 1,616.

Mr. H. Lipson Ward appeared on behalf of the petitioning creditors, the Yangtsze Insurance Association and the Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., and Mr. Reader Harris for the Kailan Mining Administration.

In answer to the Official Receiver (Mr. R. F. le Mesurier), debtor stated that he had been engaged in the shipping business for 33 years, and his father was in the business before him.

The Official Receiver informed his Lordship that at the first meeting of creditors a composition was proposed by Mr. Moller and was accepted by the creditors then present. He had since written to two creditors who were not present and one had replied saying that they also agreed. The other creditor, in Chefoo, had not yet replied, but he anticipated there would be no disapproval. In the circumstances, he did not propose to ask Mr. Moller many questions, debtor having made a very full statement at the first meeting, a statement with which he thought the creditors were more or less satisfied.

His Lordship—You have reason to believe the proposed composition will be accepted by creditors, subject to approval by the Court?

The Official Receiver—It has already been accepted by special resolution.

His Lordship—Very well. I shall not disapprove of the course you propose to take. Have you any objection, Mr. Ward?

Mr. Ward—None.

His Lordship—The public examination must of course be completed before the composition can be put forward, and there would be no difficulty in re-opening it if necessary.

Mr. Ward—In view of the facts, we all hope that the composition will be approved by the Court, and I do not think any good purpose can be served by questioning debtor this morning. If I went into all matters relevant to the bankruptcy it would take a long time, and I do not propose to question debtor on behalf of the two creditors I represent.

Mr. Moller Asks to Explain.

After Mr. Reader Harris had questioned debtor with reference to his client's claim for coal supplied to the strs. Ralph Moller and Henli, Mr. Moller asked to be allowed to make a statement. "I would ask your Lordship to be patient with me," he said, "because this is a great moment in my life. I want to put my position before you and before my friends here in justice to myself and my wife, and to explain how I have been brought to this deplorable and humiliating position. I want to take this opportunity of clearing myself and of showing how I have been unable to prevent an enormous fortune passing through my hands, so that I can leave this court with my head up."

The Official Receiver pointed out that if in his statement Mr. Moller said anything which was likely to raise a controversy, a great deal of harm might be done, and that was what they wanted to avoid, since everybody was agreed that Mr. Moller had been unfortunate.

Mr. Moller said he would be careful in what he told the Court, but he did wish to show how he had come to his present position.

His Lordship—I quite see your position, and I do not want to stop you, but you must remember a composition is proposed and you have not been asked anything at all about your bankruptcy. If you want to make a full statement, possibly you may have cause to withdraw from that composition.

Mr. Moller—There will be nothing personal against any of the creditors in what I say.

His Lordship—Very well. I cannot prevent you making a statement.

Previous Shipping Experience.

Mr. Moller then gave a lengthy account of his business career. He began by saying that he had been brought to this humiliating position after having had an enormous fortune pass through his hands, and he wanted to make his position clear, for the sake of his family, his friends, the Yangtsze Insurance Association, who had trusted him for many years, and all the agencies at the coast ports whose confidence he had long enjoyed. It was 33 years ago this month since he left school and joined his father in business, sailing ships being at that time operated. He took over the business in 1902, on the death of his father, and two years later he found opportunity for using his shipping experience to a very great extent. The Russo-Japanese war came on, and it was then that he first came in touch with the Yangtsze Insurance Association. In that year, he looked after the interests of a Norwegian steamer running the blockade between Shanghai and Vladivostok, and this was successfully done. Meanwhile, he was approached by partisans in the war and was offered a bonus of 20 per cent. on the ship and her cargo if he would divulge information as to her movements. He turned this offer down, and when the late Mr. W. S. Jackson heard what he had done he said he would never forget it and that if the opportunity arose he would assist debtor in shipping.

In 1913 he went to Mr. Jackson and told him that in the preceding 11 years he had amassed a sufficient amount of money to start on the ambition of his life, viz, the owing of steamships. He had already had one steamer for about six years, and he bought the Gemini and Sagittarius— named after race ponies that won the Champions—and by 1916 he had accumulated nine steamers.

On War Service.

In that year the Gemini and Sagittarius were ordered Home by the British Government. He sent them to the New Engineering Works to have repairs done costing over Tls. 60,000, and the steamers were sent to Saigon and loaded with rice for France. Three other boats followed, all to assist in the war, he being glad to assist even though the losses were enormous. Two of the vessels were destroyed by submarines and one was lost on the run between France and England. The Peregrine was also lost, and he thus suffered enormous capital loss without being able to get a copper of it back.

The Lindsay Moller, the Ralph Moller and the Wallowra (in which Messrs. Burkill had an interest), were then taken over by the Hongkong Government, and his business became stagnant, he having no more tonnage. He then decided to build two steamers, and contracted with the Kiangnan Dock to build the Shanghai No. 2, for which he was to pay $650,000, and also the Nancy Moller, for which he paid $475,000 cash. The two ships were delivered and were supposed to be classified Bureau Veritas. On her maiden voyage, however, the Shanghai No. 2 had to be beached in the Shanghai river, being absolutely unseaworthy, and they were all thankful she had not gone out to sea, as she would have perished. The Nancy Moller was also unfortunate on her maiden trip, there being a blow-out of the boiler tubes as she was entering Hongkong. One man was killed and several injured and the boat had to be brought back to Shanghai. These two boats, representing an investment of $1,000,000, were laid up at Kiangnan for over six months. Excellent time charters had been fixed up for both vessels, covering their value, but permission had to be given to the charterers to cancel them. On the question of a claim for damages being raised, the matter was amicably settled, $250,000 being paid in cash, the Shanghai No. 2 being handed back to the builders, and the Nancy Moller being retained. By this time, said Mr. Moller, the market was down, he could make nothing out of the vessels, and they had to be written down to a very normal value.

The Case against Hongkong.

Mr. Moller next described a visit to England which he made to see what had happened to his valuable assets there. He found there were none, for most unfortunately the people to whom he had entrusted his interests had got entangled in the huge financial embarrassment which spread over England in 1919, and so he was at Home for six months without doing anything. Finally, he cut down the value of his property by 50 per cent. and settled on an amicable basis by accepting promissory notes. He returned to China in 1920. During his absence, legal proceedings had been instituted at Hongkong against the Hongkong Government. He was on very friendly terms with Mr. Fletcher, the Colonial Secretary, and had several meetings with him at Hongkong. A case similar to his own had been brought by a shipping company against the Singapore Government, and it was mutually agreed not to spend anything in legal fees but to try to settle their differences amicably when the result of the Singapore case became known.

During 1918, the only year when shipping was to any extent profitable, Mr. Moller continued, the earnings of his vessels amounted to $498,538, which went to the Hongkong Government. He considered he had made an unfortunate slip in holding up his own legal proceedings pending publication of the result of the Singapore case. Returning to Shanghai in the autumn of 1920, he found that business had been bad during his 16 months' absence, but he cleared off every obligation except that with the Yangtsze Insurance Association, a loan of Tls. 120,000 in connexion with the purchase of the Lindsay Moller. This was the only serious financial obligation he then had, all the others being of a minor character, and this amount was put as a mortgage against the Lindsay Moller. Mr. Jackson quite rightly pointed out that the value of tonnage had gone down so seriously that the security was insufficient, and accordingly the Ralph Moller, then unencumbered, was given as collateral security.

Position in 1920.

In 1920, he had property of the total value of Tls. 1,610,808—including in this amount tthe earnings of the steamers being handled by the Hongkong Government, and he felt practically certain he would receive sufficient to clear off his obligation with the Yangtsze Insurance Association. The shipping market collapsed in 1921, and he had further trouble with the Nancy Moller. She was chartered by a firm in Java, but the firm was declared bankrupt and the vessel had to be taken back to Hongkong, at his expense. She was sold there, and all they could get was $26,000. The Lindsay Moller, which cost $250,000, was sold to a Chinese for $32,000, which sum was paid to the Yangtsze Insurance Association. The motor schooner Chris Moller also had to be disposed of, and this vessel, which had cost $213,000, was sold by Messrs. Hopkins, Dunn & Co. for Tls. 12,200, and this sum was also used in the interests of the Yangtsze Insurance Co. The str. Kaho, which cost Tls. 97,000, was sold for Tls. 21,650, and this was the only sum of the whole lot which he touched himself, and he used it in his business in an attempt to stem the run of trouble which he saw coming along.

Mr. Moller went on to say that he had a small limited company, Moller & Co., and he put $50,000 cash into the Shanghai office and $50,000 into the Hongkong office. The Shanghai office unfortunately lost its capital and was quietly wound up, everything being paid. He had also to shelve the Hongkong office, a trusted servant they had down there having embezzled nearly all the capital. This company was being held in abeyance in case one of his children by and by wished to start business at Hongkong.

Hongkong's Indemnity Act.

Mr. Moller described at length his many attempts to get the Hongkong Government to meet his claim in whole or in part, saying that he visited Hongkong two or three times a year for this purpose. The position at one time looked very favourable, he being given to understand that his readiness to accept 50 per cent. of the total amount due would be favourably considered at Home. Then came publication of the Singapore judgment, and the passing of the Indemnity Act, which barred his claim being heard and prevented him from recovering anything. The Ralph Moller was handed over to the Yangtsze Insurance Association and was sold for Tls. 55,000, and thus there passed into Chinese ownership a vessel for which he had paid Tls. 475,000.

Mr. Moller concluded by saying that he was prepared to work to the utmost to carry out his proposal to creditors, but it would entail 10 years' mental strain. He trusted that when the Hongkong Government saw the position in which he was placed they would come forward from behind the barrier of the Indemnity Act and do him the justice of relieving him of some part of the burden he was taking on his shoulders in the attempt to do the right thing by his creditors.

The Ownership of "Fairyland."

After his statement had been read over, Mr. Moller asked permission to make reference to "Fairyland," saying that he did not want any wrong impression about it to get abroad.

Mr. Ward—"Fairyland" has not been disclosed in the statement of assets, and I do not see that it is material until Mr. Moller is questioned about it.

The Official Receiver suggested that the matter should be left till later on.

His Lordship—Nobody has asked you any questions about "Fairyland," Mr. Moller.

Mr. Ward—And you have been treated very kindly, you know.

Mr. Moller—From your point of view, Mr. Ward.

Debtor was allowed to make his statement, and informed the court that "Fairyland" was financed by his father-in-law, Mr. Blechynden, in 1907. Just before he died, Mr. Blechynden asked witness to see that Mrs. Moller and the children were protected, and accordingly he confirmed the property in his wife's name, most of it having been so purchased and registered.

His Lordship—There has been no suggestion, Mr. Moller, that your statement of affairs is not an accurate statement.

The examination was then declared adjourned.

CARGO OF MUSHROOMS

Were They Bad? A Claim for Tls. 50 and Promissory Note Not to Be Evaded

The case of the Polish Chinese Trading Corporation *v.* A. J. Ross was heard before Judge Peter Grain in H. M. Supreme Court on Monday, Mr. John Ross having refused of pay the sum of $50 for a cargo of mushrooms which had been delivered and accepted by him, and in receipt of which he had signed on March 10, 1924 a promise to pay the said sum within 10 days. The Polish Chinese Trading Corporation was represented by Mr. Koogalgan who stated that he was the manager of the Piece Goods & Mushroom Department of the firm.

In defence Mr. Ross claimed that he had been promised a commission of 5 per cent. by the Polish Chinese Trading Corporation and that the mushrooms were in bad condition, in evidence of which he produced samples.

Further evidence showed that the mushrooms were delivered to a Chinese buyer and were stored for a month in a Chinese "Joss House" before any compaint was made concerning their quality. Mr. Ross had on two other occasions had dealings with the Polish Chinese Trading Corporation, and did not think it necessary to make investigations concerning their condition.

At the conclusion of the case the decision was granted in favour of the Polish Chinese Trading Corporation, the Judge's order being that Mr. Ross would have to stand by what he had signed.

THE dispute among the shareholders of the Hankow Electric Light & Waterworks Co. was brought before the Hsiakow Court on Tuesday of last week when Mr. Hu Tzechu appeared and made a statement on behalf of the plaintiff shareholders. The defendant party, however, refused to come before the court, so no solution of the case has yet been arrived at.—In the meanwhile, owing to the resignation of the chairman and directors, Hankow's electric light is in jeopardy.

BROOK MATRIMONIAL DISPUTE

Respondent's Case Not Proved: Restitution of Conjugal Rights to the Wife

The matrimonial action of Brook *v.* Brook, which was a petition by the wife for restitution of conjugal rights, was the subject of an interesting judgment given on Tuesday in the Supreme Court by his Honour Judge Sir Skinner Turner. Respondent alleged displays of violent temper and a confession of misconduct by his wife as grounds for refusing to live with her, but his Lordship found the first grounds inadequate and the second not proved, and granted the petitioner's prayer.

Mr. M. Reader Harris appeared for petitioner and Mr. R. G. MacDonald for respondent.

His Lordship said: This is a claim by a wife for a decree of restitution of conjugal rights: the husband claims that he had reasonable cause for leaving her. It is clear that the burden of proof in such a case is on him, and I am not at all satisfied that I was right in calling upon the petitioner to begin. At all events, the cases of Smith *v.* Smith (1900, p. 66) and Greene *v.* Greene (1916, p. 188) seem to show that it was for the respondent to begin.

The respondent claims that he had reasonable cause for leaving his wife in that (1) she was possessed of a violent temper, (2) she had committed acts of violence towards him, had locked him out of the house, had abused him and accused him of immorality, and (3) she had confessed to acts of adultery in Tsingtao in 1922. All this the petitioner denies, and there is no evidence before me save that of the parties: oath against oath: and such additional matter as is contained in the correspondence, which really only shows that in 1923 the respondent had determined not to cohabit with his wife any longer. It really would be enough to say in this case that the respondent, upon whom the whole burden of proof lies, has failed to make out his case and therefore the decree must go. But I am not satisfied to do this: I want to ascertain the basis and the principles on which a decree of this nature ought to be granted or refused. The law is that up to 1884—Matrimonial Causes Act—47 and 48 Vict. Cap. 68, a respondent could only resist a petition of this nature by proof of a matrimonial offence on the part of the petitioner: *i.e.*, something for which a decree of divorce or judicial separation could be granted. But that Act as interpreted by the Courts in Russell *v.* Russell (1895, p. 315) and Oldroyd *v.* Oldroyd (1896, p. 175), gave the Court some sort of discretion to refuse a decree for matters which do not amount to matrimonial offences. I have to ascertain what that discretion is and how it is to be exercised.

Mutual Duty

I start with the fundamental position that husband and wife are under a duty to each other to cohabit. Unless there has been a separation, judicial or by a valid agreement, the parties are not entitled to refuse to cohabit in the absence of any matrimonial or quasi-matrimonial offence, or even where such an offence has been committed and afterwards condoned. And the law has now given a discretion to the Court to refuse a decree of restitution: but "that discretion is not to be generally or lightly used, but it is to be exercised judicially after a consideration of all the facts:" per Evans, P., in Fletcher *v.* Fletcher (31, T. L. R. 306). Again: "The Court is not to exercise a general discretion in granting or refusing a decree of restitution: to go so far would involve a large alteration of the old law and would confer discretionary power on the Court of far-reaching effect and most difficult to exercise:" Per Barnes, J., in Oldroyd *v.* Oldroyd (1896, p. 183): and that learned judge proceeded to lay down the test, as afterwards adopted by Shearman, J., in Greene *v.* Greene (1916, p. 188): "Has it become practically impossible for the parties to live properly together?"

The position there is that a petitioner is entitled to a decree unless the respondent can satisfy the Court

that it is practically impossible for the parties to live properly together: remembering always that it is their duty to live together and that the Court will not lightly absolve either from that duty.

Parallel Cases.

What is the evidence here? Apart from an alleged confession of adultery, it is to the effect that the wife was violent tempered, and at dates in 1922 had abused, threatened, and even struck her husband: the instances given being at long intervals apart, and there being no instance between December 1922 and September 1923. I cannot say that such conduct is enough to justify the husband in leaving his wife, and I am following here the decisions of two such experienced judges in these cases as the late Sir Samuel Evans and Mr. Justice Shearman. I take the later case of the two, Greene *v.* Greene, already mentioned, tried by Mr. Justice Shearman. The evidence was to the following effect: "The petitioner was hysterical and jealous. She made false accusations against her husband and wrote affectionate letters to other men: she had written letters which no modest or sensible woman would have written, but it is not suggested that there was any guilty intimacy between her and the recipient. She was furiously jealous of her husband, with the not unnatural result of her outbursts that after a time he separated himself from her more and more, with the further result that, if the husband's evidence be accepted, she gradually gave way to drink. Then we find the usual concomitants—untrue accusations and hysterical outbursts." The judge, notwithstanding this evidence, and without calling upon the wife to answer it, felt that he would be extending the law if he held that the husband in this case had reasonable cause for deserting his wife and granted her a decree of restitution. This was on the same principles as led Sir S. Evans to grant a decree to another wife—Fletcher *v.* Fletcher (1915)—where he held that the conduct of the wife did not justify the husband in withdrawing his protection from her: protection "which included not only providing for her livelihood but giving her his society, his care, and that anchorage in life which a frivolous and foolish woman required."

I am satisfied on the principles as I evolve them from the authorities that, even were I to accept the respondent's evidence, he has not (apart from the alleged confession) shown me reasonable cause for refusing to cohabit with his wife. At the same time I hold that he has failed to prove the charges he has made against her.

The Alleged Misconduct

I come now to the alleged confession of adultery, said to have been made by the wife in September 1922. This, if proved and true, would be enough to lead me to refuse the prayer of the petitioner. Again, there is no evidence before me save the word of the parties and the surrounding circumstances. It is suggested that this woman, the mother of two small children, came back from her summer holiday and rather boasted of her intimacy with several men at Tsingtao during that holiday. She strenuously denies the fact and the confession. Why should she make such a confession? The parties, even if their relations were strained, were living under the same roof: why present her husband with this evidence, if true? And the more so, if untrue? And why did not the husband take steps to ascertain more, or even to learn where he was with such a confession in his hands? He did nothing of the sort, and the parties continued to live under the same roof. Nay, more; in 1923 he sends his wife with both the children at his expense to the same place for the summer; and it is only while they are there that he writes the letter of August 17 definitely refusing to live any longer with the wife. In no single letter is any reference made to this confession: it is clear to me that he paid no real attention to it and did not believe it, even if made. Why should I? And I cannot believe that the wife ever made such a confession. I have referred to this matter in this way because it would be most unsatisfactory if I were merely to say that the respondent had failed to prove it. There is no reasonable cause here for the desertion of the wife.

The prayer of the petitioner must be granted: there will be an order for restitution of conjugal rights to be obeyed in 14 days after service, with costs.

INDIAN DEPORTEE'S AFFAIRS

Allegations that Funds and Property were Detained by his Friend: Aiding the Young

The wartime adventures of Gaya Deen, deported from Shanghai in 1918 on the charge of being a "suspect," and who was subsequently allowed to return to the Settlement, had a sequel in H.M. Supreme Court on Wednesday, before Sir Skinner Turner, when be claimed the sum of Tls. 1,000 from Dabe Pudun Das, together with a quantity of photographic materials. The money was alleged to be held in deposit by defendant for plaintiff, and to have been wrongfully detained by him.

Mr. P. W. Goldring appeared for plaintiff; and Mr. L. K. Kentwell for defendant.

Mr. Goldring said that plaintiff, who was now at Watson's mineral water factory, was formerly employed by the Shanghai-Nanking Railway. About June, 1918, there was a considerable amount of trouble among the Indians in Shanghai, and on June 18 of that year plaintiff was placed under arrest and subsequently deported to India. His case was investigated, the deportation order was cancelled, and the man was allowed to return to Shanghai. Nearly 15 years prior to this deportation, plaintiff had been attached to the Medical Department of the railway, and when one of the European employees left for Home, he handed over the photographic materials, etc., to the plaintiff to keep for himself. During his employment Gaya Deen had an excellent character and he had managed to save Tls. 1,000, which he placed on deposit with the International Banking Corporation at the rate of 5½ per cent., which he drew up to the date of deportation.

Then came the period when he was arrested. He was put into gaol, and the prospect of deportation was hanging over his head, with the result that he had to put his affairs in order. Therefore, he endorsed the deposit receipt for his money and gave it to the defendant to look after for him. He also gave him the photographic materials. When he was away, so the plaintiff alleged, instead of keeping that money and afterwards handing the interest over to plaintiff's daughter as instructed, defendant transferred it to his own account and had since refused to hand it over. Evidence would be produced from the bank to show that this transferring of the money took place in 1919. Some of the interest which accused between 1919 and 1924 was sent to plaintiff's family and some to plaintiff himself while he was living with the defendant, but the capital was not handed over, though on several occasions plaintiff asked for it.

Mr. Goldring at this point produced a letter sent to Gaya Deen's daughter by the defendant, which, he said, proved that defendant did possess the deposit receipt and had charge of the money. This letter stated that he had "kept the balance safely," and he was doing the best he could on her behalf. With regard to the photographic materials he had not been able to get the price for them she had asked, and therefore he could not send her the money.

Missionaries Recommended.

"By the way" it ran, "may I mention, whenever you are in need of a true friend or adviser, please call on any of your local British missionary bodies. I am quite sure they will be very glad to see you and help you to mend your present and future life. They will help you far better than your own people can. I am especially saying this because you are young, and your mother is old, and you might come across thouble which it will be hard to deal with, so before you run such risks cultivate the friendship of the missionaries." The letter continued in this strain for some time, defendant stating that he would always do his best to help the young girl to mend her future life.

Plaintiff bore out Mr. Goldring's statement. He added that he had been on good terms with the defendant and had at one time lived in the same house with him at Shanghai. Whenever he asked defendant for the money, he simply made excuses until witness was driven to take this action.

Mr. E. T. Stell, cashier of the International Banking Corporation, stated that the accounts were changed over by defendant into his own name.

Mr. Kentwell said the defence was that the money had been paid back in different sums at various times, the last amount, Tls. 140, being paid this year. Defendant thought nothing further about the matter until he received a letter from Mr. J. G. Priestwood on plaintiff's behalf, demanding the sum of Tls. 1,000. With regard to the photographic materials, they admitted that some of them still were in their possession, but most had been returned. They had been given to the defendant to sell.

The case was adjourned.

Judgment Reserved

The case was continued on Thursday.

Mr. Kentwell pleaded that the deposit receipt around which the case centred had been given by the plaintiff to his brother-in-law to sell for him, when he was deported to India in 1918 on a charge of being a "suspect," and that the brother-in-law sold it to defendant, who paid him in two sums, one of Tls. 860 and the other of Tls. 140. Counsel pointed out that the brother-in-law had not been produced, and now, after the deposit had gone out of plaintiff's possession he claimed from the defendant. Furthermore, he admitted that he endorsed the receipt, and in that action he rendered it negotiable.

After Mr. Goldring had replied, the Judge intimated his intention of reserving judgment.

THREATENED TO "BREAK HER FACE"

Cabaret Girl's Assault Charge Against Insurance Broker: Boarding House Scene

C. S. Maitland, insurance broker, of 7 North Honan Road, appeared before Mr. R. F. le Mesurier at H. M. Police Court last Friday charged with doing bodily harm to Katarina Gonsievsky and "causing her to fear that he would do her some actual bodily harm." On the application of Mr. E. T. Maitland, who appeared for complainant, the charge was amended to one of assault and battery.

Defendant pleaded not guilty, saying he had never done the woman any harm, or threatened her.

Mr. Maitland said defendant had known the complainant for five years and had made himself a continual nuisance, so much so that some time ago complainant went to Hankow because of his annoyance. He called at her room in Haining Road on Wednesday morning and refused to leave, remaining there until 8 o'clock in the evening. About 6 o'clock he lost his temper and seized complainant by the throat. She cried out, and hit him on the head with a China vase—but unfortunately did not seem to have hit him hard enough—and she received bruises on her face, arms and back. Members of the household came into the room at this moment and defendant stopped. Complainant was frightened of the man and would ask the courts to bind him over not to molest her.

"Cut Her Up and Kill Her."

Complainant, a woman employed at the Carlton, gave evidence bearing out Mr. Maitland's statement, adding that defendant threatened he would "cut her up and kill her," if she would not go and live with him.

Mr. le Mesurier—What did he mean by "cut you up."?

Witness—Break my face, I think. The woman went on to say that defendant threatened that he would kill her when she came home at 1 a.m., and in consequence of this she stayed at the house of a friend that night. He had assaulted her many times.

Mr. le Mesurier—How many, two or three?

Witness—More.

Mr. Maitland—It would almost seem that he made a hobby of it.

Defendant cross-examined complainant at some length, apparently to show that she had been living with him and left him when all his money was gone.

Two witnesses called for the prosecution both gave evidence as to a disturbance having taken place, but neither actually saw a blow struck, and defendant denied that he hit the woman.

After a lengthy hearing, the acting Magistrate dismissed the charge of assault, and bound defendant over in the sum of $250 to keep the peace for six months.

HONGKEW BRAWL

Engineer Charged with Attempted Murder: Alleged Sequel to Drinking Bout

W. N. Lester, described as an engineer, of 24 Seward Road, was charged before Mr. Grain at H. M. Police Court on Saturday with attempting to murder John Welsh, an unemployed seaman, by shooting him with a revolver in the Wayport Rooms on Friday.

Mr. E. T. Maitland prosecuted; accused was undefended.

Evidence of arrest was given by Chief Det.-Insp. Cruickshank, who stated that he arrested the accused in the Continental Hotel bar at about 5 o'clock on Friday evening. He went up behind him and grabbed him by the elbows. Accused said to him: "It's all right, I have not got a revolver on me." Witness then told him he was arrested for shooting a man in the Wayport rooms, to which he replied: "Oh, it's that damned bum Welsh, I suppose." Witness cautioned him, but he went on to say: "Oh that's all right, I shot him, I shot him in the leg."

Witness then took accused to Hongkew police-station, where he was charged, and again warned. He made a statement then to the effect that Welsh went to his house at about 3 o'clock on the 10th inst. Accused fitted him out with clothes, boots and a hat, and Welsh then suggested that he should go out and buy some Chinese wine. Accused agreed and gave him 60 cents for the purpose, whereupon Welsh went out and brought back three bottles. They drank it and Lester became so drunk he fell to the ground, and was found in that condition by detectives who wanted to see him about something else. On coming to his senses he found that Welsh had robbed him of everything (so the statement ran) and when he got away from the police he went to look for him. "That bum, Welsh (the statement concluded) took my property and I shot him."

The prisoner was remanded till Friday.

PARKING CARS NEAR THE CARLTON

Another Conviction at H.M. Police Court

A night at the Carlton theatre had a sequel at H. M. Police Court yesterday, when D. C. Burn, of the Kalee Hotel, was fined $3 for parking his motor-cycle and side car in a prohibited area.

P. C. Telfor told the court that he passed along Bubbling Well Road in a police car at about five minutes past nine on the evening of June 6, and he saw defendant's motor-cycle and side-car parked in Park Road. When he came back that way at about 11.10 p.m. the vehicle was still there, so he waited till Burn appeared and then took his name and address.

Defendant, who did not appear, sent a letter to the Court admitting the offence, but pleading ignorance. He added that, before going in to the pictures, he was standing chatting with some friends for five minutes or so, and although a Chinese constable near at hand saw him he said nothing.

P. C. Telfor stated that there were two notice boards, plainly printed and illuminated by the street lamps, stating that the area—Park Road—was prohibited as a parking place. Motorists, when spoken to by Chinese, frequently took no notice and then pleaded the excuse that they did not know what the man was trying to say to them. In this case the constable alleged he had spoken to defendant.

In inflicting the fine, the Magistrate said Mr. Burn could have the case re-opened if he wished to put in an attendance. He had given the excuse on this occasion that the notice served on him to attend the Court was too short for him to put off a business engagement, and that seemed quite reasonable.

MR. HERBERT WEBB v. "CHINA PRESS"

Counsel's Argument: Flowers of Oratory in the Dry Land of Legal Defence

The final arguments in the case brought by Mr. Herbert Webb against the "China Press" for damages for breach of contract, occupied the whole day on Monday, in the United States Court for China, before Judge Purdy. The Court was again filled with people, interested spectators of a most interesting case.

Mr. Rodger reminded the Judge that the defendants pleaded an affirmative defence to the claim, and it was for them, therefore, to prove that defence. They had made three allegations against Mr. Webb; that he had failed to perform his duties under the contract; that he failed to obey the lawful and reasonable orders of the Board of Directors; and that by the use of intoxicating liquors he had unfitted and incapacitated himself, both physically and mentally, for the proper discharge of his duties. These, then, were the only issues before the Court.

The Order as to Hours

Take first, that charge that he had failed to discharge his duties under the contract. The defence pleaded that he had failed to obey the lawful instructions of the directors. In the whole 13 years that Mr. Webb had been in charge of the paper he had only once been given instructions by the directors at all, and that was seven days before his dismissal, when he had been ordered to adopt the working hours of 9-12 and 2-5. Counsel submitted that not only was the order unreasonable, but it was not even given in good faith. They had had the testimony of a number of witnesses, all experienced newspaper men and women, who had unanimously told the Court that such hours were absurd and impossible for the editor of a morning paper. Such an order, if carried out, would have prevented Mr. Webb from fulfilling that part of his contract which gave him complete control and a commission on advertisements and sales. How could he have exercised proper control if he was not on the premises last at night when the paper was "put to bed." The reason he said the order was not given in good faith was that it was given some time after negotiations had been started to cancel Mr. Webb's contract. Mr. Webb had replied to the order, but had received no answer to that reply, and concluded from that, quite justly, that the course he had expressed the intention of taking had met with the approval of the directors.

The Charge of Drinking

Mr. Rodger then came to the charge of using intoxicating liquors to the extent that he had rendered himself incapable mentally and physically of carrying out his duties. There was not an iota of disinterested evidence before the Court to bear out this allegation. On the contrary, it must have been quite clear to the Court from Mr. Webb's conduct in the witness box that he was not a man suffering either physically or mentally from the effects of drink. He asked the Judge to review the witnesses who had given evidence to the effect that they had never seen Mr. Webb drunk or in any way incapacitated as the result of liquor. They were all men who had worked with him day by day, his news editors, cable editors, sub-editors and reporters. Not only that, they were all people who stood to suffer for their temerity in giving their testimony on plaintiff's behalf, for they were all employed by the defendants, and would, therefore naturally incur their displeasure by testifying for Mr. Webb. Certainly they would not have done so had they not believed the allegations to be a slander on Mr. Webb's character both professionally and personally. And in addition to these witnesses they had the evidence of Mr. Graham Barrow, Mr. Laval and Mr. Bruce Lockhart, all of them absolutely disinterested witnesses. All these people had stated that they had never seen Mr. Webb drunk or incapacitated through drink, though they had all seen him at various hours of the day and night regularly.

Against that evidence, Mr. Rodgers continued, they had the testimony of Mr. Norman, who

worked in the business office and whose hours normally concluded every day at five in the evening, when Mr. Webb's day of work was little more than starting. They had the evidence of Jabin Hsu, who, according to the evidence of Mr. West, defendants' own witness, and other witnesses, rarely appeared in the office for more than half an an hour each day. Mr. Norman, also, was an interested witness. Indeed, he might be described as the "$30,000 witness" since that was his regular salary now, as against the $20,000 or so commission which was his pay when Mr. Webb was on the paper. Mr. Norman was, incidentally, a friend of the plaintiff's of some 12 years standing. His evidence was generally unreliable and interested.

Capabilities as Editor

With regard to Mr. Webb's capabalities as an editor, all the old residents in Shanghai knew that he had produced a successful and interesting paper while he had been in command. In August of 1923 Mr. Sopher had come on to the scene and taken command as editor-in-chief. Seven months later the circulation had reached its lowest ebb—a fact testified to by the defendants' own witnesses. The defence had mentioned that Mr. Webb was a frequenter of cafes at nights. Yet they knew that this frequenting of cabarets had been the means of bringing in thousands of dollars worth of advertising to the paper. Mr. Webb had only visited them after business hours, when, late at night he was hungry after six hours' work, and they were the most respectable places to go to at that hour of the night. In any case, if the directors of the paper, thought they were not respectable places, they should not accept their advertisements and persuade respectable people to go there.

Mr. West had testified to the fact that the *esprit de corps* in the office during Mr. Webb's editorship had been excellent, which testimony had been corroborated by Mrs. Kuhn. Mr. West, also, though he was a witness for the defence, had testified that he had never seen Mr. Webb drunk, though he had seen Mr. Norman drunk on one occasion, when he had completely wrecked the office. The defence had alleged incompetence. Yet the evidence showed that under Mr. Sopher, the intelligent editor-in-chief, the paper was costing $10,000 more per month to run that it was under Mr. Webb; that did not seem to show that Mr. Webb was so very incompetent.

It was interesting to notice, too, that Mr. Webb's discharge came just before he was due for six months' leave to New York on full pay, with first-class transportation each way,—another indication that the discharge was simply made for reasons of finance. The truth of the matter was that Mr. Sopher was trying to get hold of Mr. Webb's job as editor of the paper for himself. Mr. Fessenden and Mr. Dollar, the other two directors, realizing that Mr. Sopher had the largest ownership interest in the concern, had just let him have his own way in the matter. It was true Mr. Webb drank whiskies and soda, but what successful business man in Shanghai did not? It was true also, that there had been drinking among the staff, but this drinking had been inconsequential and had not had any harmful effect on the work or the *esprit de corps*.

Mr. Franklin then continued the argument, dealing with the legal aspects of the case.

Mr. Franklin said the contract was admitted, of course, by both parties, and that plaintiff was discharged under the contract was not denied. The defendants had put in an affirmative defence and the burden was on them to prove the allegations they had made. Failing this, he submitted judgment should be given for plaintiff.

A Master of Metaphor

Counsel, after referring the Court to various authorities on the position of master and servant, when the servant held the position similar to that held by Mr. Webb, contended that under the contract defendants had no right to order Webb's hours in as much as if he had followed the hours laid down by them he would have been unable to fulfil his duties for the proper supervision of the paper. He described the whole case as a plant owned by Mr. Sopher in the soil of necessity, watered by the consummate skill of opposing counsel and attempting to blossom in the U.S. Court. And sitting on the branches of the plant it was not difficult to pick out the various birds of prey. Mr. Norman, the witness with a craven heart, paid with a pot of gold; the Esau who would sell his soul for a mess of potage, the witness who would take the stand and testify to anything in order to save his job and to save his skin. And Arthur Sopher, the witness with a nationality as shifting as the flocks which roamed his own native Mesopotamia,—the man who, like a hungry jackal, followed Mr. Webb around, waiting for his job. "This financially lean and hungry Cassius who is waiting to draw down the pay that Mr. Webb formerly earned." These were the witnesses who had sought to establish an affirmative defence, and he put it to the Court, to what did their evidence amount? There was Jabin Hsu, also the young man who would one day be a President of China, that smooth and talkative young witness who was a Chinese reporter under Mr. Webb, and Chinese editor under his present employer, Sopher. Their evidence could not be credited.

The case was at this stage adjourned for tiffin.

In the afternoon Mr. Franklin quoted various authorities and cases at length, arguing that Mr. Webb had fulfilled his contract to the letter.

On the subject of how much he was entitled to, Mr. Franklin said they would leave it to the Judge to decide whether Mr. Webb should be awarded on a basis calculated from the minimum wage of $1,500 guaranteed to him in the contract, or whether he would take the average amount he had been receiving as commission, ranging around $2,100 monthly.

Mr. Fessenden on Directors' Powers

Mr. Fessenden, addressing the Court on Directors' Powers for the defence, first took the point made concerning the order given to Mr. Webb concerning his hours of work. And to do this, he said, they had to go back to the terms of the contract, which stated that Mr. Webb was engaged as having full charge and supervision over the "China Press," subject to instructions to be given from time to time by the Board of Directors." It was that last clause that gave them their justification for the orders they had given to Mr. Webb on that occasion. Much had been made of the fact that an editor should be in the office to "put the paper to bed," but it had been forgotten that in the letter they sent Mr. Webb giving him the order, they had remarked that they had provided for a night editor who would do the work. Surely the directors were entitled to do this if they pleased. Mr. Webb was in the habit of visiting disreputable places, the cafes in town, and he himself admitted he was an habitue of the Del Monte. The Directors did not think this was doing the "China Press" any good, and therefore they were entitled to alter Mr. Webb's hours in such a way that it would not be so convenient for him to make use of these places. As regards the allegation that the order was given in bad faith, that, he submitted, made no difference. Mr. Webb was bound to carry out a reasonable order if even if it was given in bad faith,—which was not admitted,—though he was not bound to carry out an unreasonable order given in good faith.

Drinking on Duty

With regard to the evidence that Mr. Webb had never been seen in a state of drunkenness while on duty, and the great point made of that evidence by counsel, the defence had never alleged that he had been. What they said was that Mr. Webb's drinking had lessened his efficiency mentally and morally. The after effects of heavy drinking could have this effect. They objected, also, to the way in which he ran the office. There undoubtedly was excessive drinking among the members of the staff, and Mr. Webb had participated in this. It was not a thing which could possibly do the office any good.

The Court rose at 5.20 and adjourned till next morning.

Mr. Rodger announced to the Court that he would plead the facts of the case while Mr. Franklin would argue the law, summing up for plaintiff.

Final Speeches Concluded: Mr. Franklin's Last Sally

The hearing was concluded on Tuesday.

Mr. Fessenden, resuming his argument for defendants, said the sole problem the Court had to decide was whether the defendants' had the legal right to discharge Mr. Webb. Counsel submitted that as a matter of law they had the right absolutely to discharge a man under contract for habitual drinking, if that drinking did incapacitate the servant in any way. The law implied a duty on the part of any employee not to indulge in alcoholic liquor to such an extent as to prevent him carrying out faithfully and to the best of his abilities, his duties. That was what they alleged Webb had done. Granted that to some extent prior lapses of his had to a certain extent been condoned. When those lapses, however, became as frequent as they had, when he was continuing his indulgences right to the very day of his discharge, then that discharge was justified. That Mr. Webb's drinking was steady and daily his own witnesses had testified. The directors had every right, taking Webb's course of conduct into consideration, to discharge him.

The Leave Clause.

Dealing with the claim put in by Mr. Webb for leave and transportation to New York, counsel contended that on the phrasing of the agreement, provided the Judge held that the agreement had been breached, he could make no claim for transportation. The agreement read:

> The "China Press" agrees to grant Home leave to the said Herbert Webb for the period of six months in 1923, or if impossible or undesireable at that time, in 1924.

Webb had put in no claim for Home leave in 1923, neither had he brought evidence to show that it was impossible or undesirable at that time. If, therefore, his Honour considered the contract breached, this claim could not be allowed. As to the assessing of damages, it surely was not fair that Webb should be paid his full salary for the next two years for nothing when the chances were that he would get another job long before that time, possibly as good as the position he held on the "China Press" and possibly even better.

Mr. Franklin, replying, said the mere fact of a man's drinking was not enough to justify his dismissal. "Even in our enlightened country," said counsel, "with its XVIII Amendment, it is not a crime to-day to take a drink." The employee could only be discharged if that drinking impaired his efficiency, and that had most certainly not been proved in this case.

The Judge reserved his decision.

ALLEGED FORGERY OF A CHEQUE

Chinese Claiming $3,000 from Asia Banking Corpn.

The case of L. S. Wing *v.* the Asia Banking Corporation was heard in the U.S. Court last Friday afternoon, Mr. W. Y. Char appearing for plaintiff and Mr. E. Anthony for the defendants. The case hinges upon a cheque for $3,045.14 paid by the defendants which the plaintiff alleges was forged; he therefore claims a balance of $3,000 due to him from the account. The plaintiff gave the details of his banking transactions with the defendant company and stated that in examining his cheque book he discovered that a cheque and stub had been abstracted. He notified the bank immediately and recognized the writing of a friend in the signature purporting to be his own. He asked the bank to prosecute and offered them every assistance, even to the furnishing of a photograph of his friend.

On being asked in cross-examination as to the pen with which he signed cheques, plaintiff stated that he used his own fountain or the pens furnished by the bank, and denied that he had delayed prosecution of the alleged forger by failing to produce an enlarged photograph as promptly as was requested.

Giving evidence for the defence, Mr. J. Warner Brown, cashier of the American-Oriental Banking Corporation, expressed his opinion that the signature on the alleged forged cheque had been written by the same man who wrote other cheques admitted as genuine signatures. Mr. Brown said that he had been accustomed to recognizing signatures in a banking experience of six years. He was thoroughly cross-examined with regard to differences of handwriting pointed out by plaintiff's counsel, but maintained that such divergencies were slight, and that signatures, unless copper-plate, were bound to differ slightly.

The case was adjourned until Monday morning at nine o'clock.

Handwriting Expert's Evidence

The evidence of a handwriting expert was given in the U. S. Court on Monday, continuing the case of L. S. Wing *v.* the Asia Banking Corporation, when Mr. Walter Smith, formerly of the defendant company, and now with the China Fibre Container Co., gave his reason for thinking that the cheque alleged to be a forgery was a genuine signature of the plaintiff's.

Mr. Smith stated that minor divergencies in signatures were to be expected, that the shading was an important point to note in comparing signatures, as the shading of strokes was produced by muscle pressure which could not be imitated. He further cited criminology tests for studying the angle of a signature, saying that the relationship between letters was the test, and by judging this difference between the letters of the signature in question he was convinced that it was genuine.

Other points of correspondence were given, among them, a peculiar upward stroke on the "W" which appeared on the cheque in question and on no others except the card signature in the bank's possession, indicating that it could not have been copied from the other cheques but was characteristic peculiarity of Mr. Wing's signature.

Judge purdy gave judgment for the defendant, saying that he was convinced that the cheque was genuine and that the facts in the case were unequivocal. The plaintiff was represented by Mr. W. Y. Char and defendant by Mr. E. Anthony.

SEQUEL TO SHANGHAI ELOPEMENT

Mother-in-Law's Extraordinary Claim Against Young Husband: Dancer's Romance

Alleging that when he became married to her daughter she was deprived of support, Mrs. V. Richter, a Polish subject, at the U. S. Court last Friday claimed from Theodore Tapia, a Filipino musician, $1,200. The complaint stated that defendant signed a document agreeing, to pay plaintiff board and lodging for a period of 12 months at $100 per month, give the plaintiff's son music lessons, and in the event of the son securing a position to provide him with an instrument. Defendant, in his answer, alleged that he was desirous of marrying the plaintiff's daughter who was under legal age and that he was coerced by plaintiff against his will to execute this document before plaintiff's consent to the marriage could be obtained, and that the signature was therefore illegally obtained. Defendant further alleged that he was under age and not legally authorized to sign such a document.

Mr. P. F. Faison and Mme. Flora Rosemberg appeared for plaintiff; Mr. W. Y. Char for defendant.

Plaintiff, giving the history of the affair, said that she was obliged to invite the defendant to meals on account of her daughter. She did not consider it a commercial transaction as she was friendly with him until he "absconded with her daughter," and that previous to that time he had practically lived at her home.

On being asked whether defendant had given her gifts of money or redeemed articles in pawn, plaintiff denied that he had done anything except to redeem a ring which she gave him as a present. She admitted that defendant was under age at the time the document in question was executed, and that she knew he had parents resident in Shanghai.

Met Her at Cabaret

The defendant, who is a member of the French Club orchestra, stated that he had met his present wife when he was playing at the Del Monte and she was dancing there. When he was invited to meals at her home by her or by her mother he went, but he had never lived there and except for the time when he boarded elsewhere for three months he was living with his parents. He could always have his meals at his home and his tea and dinner were furnished by the French Club. He had given his mother-in-law the amount of his bonus and other amounts of money, $60 on one occasion. When he married his wife and deprived his mother-in-law of her support he felt sorry and paid $100. Nevertheless he did not feel called upon to support plaintiff indefinitely. These statements were corroborated by defendant's wife, Yamina Richter Tapia, and by a boarder in plaintiff's house, Mr. Pubel.

In summing up, the Judge said that it was very clear that while defendant was keeping company with plaintiff's daughter he was frequently at meals in plaintiff's house, but that defendant had a house where he could live and have his meals, besides being a self-supporting young man. He was at this time a minor and this fact was known to the plaintiff, but there was no thought in the plaintiff's mind that she was furnishing necessaries. Later when her daughter and defendant ran away and the mother found her main support taken away, she induced defendant to sign the document and then gave her consent.

The only stand the plaintiff could have in court would be to show that the amount she claimed represented necessaries furnished to a minor during the period of the statement and the value of those necessaries. These, however, were not necessaries at all, simply meals furnished from day to day while defendant was in her house as her invited guest, or as the guest of her daughter. The plaintiff, therefore, would not be entitled to recover on this claim and judgment would be given for defendant.

ARSON CHARGE OUT OF REVENGE

A Complicated Case Result of Quarrel: Sentence Quashed on Appeal

An extraordinary example of complications which Shanghai courts are called upon to unravel was recently provided in the French Mixed Court.

In October last fire broke out at a lodging house in Rue Palikao, four houses were destroyed, and a Chinese woman lost her life. The fire originated in a room occupied by one Wang Tsang-chi, but the police were satisfied that the outbreak was accidental.

The next incident in the story occurred on January 8, upon the arrest of three Chinese engaged in a street fight. They were quarrelling about the division of some money obtained from the aforementioned Wang Tsang-chi, and one of the combatants informed the police that Wang had promised them some money to set fire to the house in the previous October. Wang was promptly arrested and admitted having paid $180 to the three fightingmen, not, as they alleged, to set fire to the house, but simply because one of them blackmailed him. The alleged blackmailer thereupon confessed that he himself started the fire, and having gone fully into this story, the Court sentenced both men to 10 years' imprisonment.

Wang's family then intervened and called for a re-hearing of the case, and their request was granted. The whole case was gone into again, and it was discovered that the blackmailer had lied in confessing he started the fire, which, it was now found, began in the room of a lodger who shortly afterwards absconded from Shanghai, he being "afraid of complications."

In view of these disclosures, the court of appeal, composed of M. Wilden and Magistrate Nyeh, cancelled the 10 years' sentence and released both men. The Wang family were represented by Mr. J. Em. Lemière.

Li Yi-yuan, the soldier who has been sentenced by the Tahsin Magistrate to imprisonment of the fourth degree for assault on Mr. Campbell, has lodged an appeal against the judgment with the Public Procurator of the Peking District Court.

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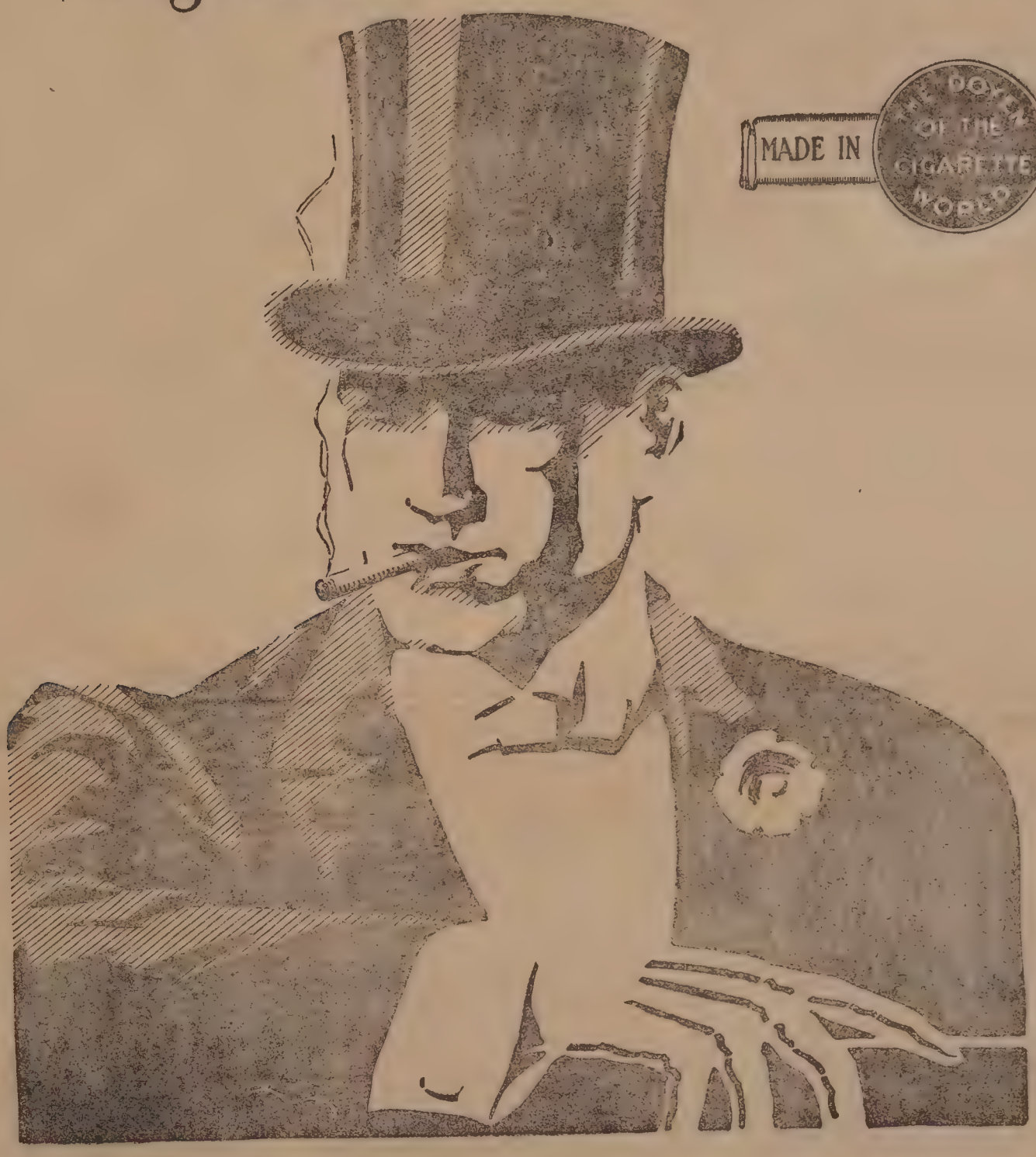

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MUNICIPAL GAZETTE NEWS

Volunteer Corps.

Japanese Company.—Lieut. S. Kikuta resigns his commission.

Italian Company.—Temporary Captain R. Ferrajolo resigns his commission.

Road Openings

The Council has recently had under consideration the question of the condition of the roads, with special regard to the possibility of better co-ordination of effort where road opening work is requisite in connexion with the public utility services, and the following extract from a report by the Commissioner of Public Works on this subject is authorized for publication:—

"With further reference to your letter of April 8, due notification is given to each Public Utility Company and the Electricity Department before any road work is undertaken by this Department. Each Company is also notified of the proposed work of every other Company. Further, near the end of each year, I request each concern to inform me of such of their proposals for the coming year as will involve the public highways. This information is usually given, but the actual work sometimes differs from the original proposal owing to various causes; also, when very large mains are required, twelve months' notice is not always sufficient to enable full consideration to be given to all the interests involved, and, since most of the public service companies must themselves have a fairly good knowledge of their probable major requirements two or three years in advance, it is desirable that this office be acquainted with these requirements as early as possible, since they may have a very direct bearing on drainage, sewerage and road work covering two or three years of construction. These remarks, of course, do not apply to minor extensions of existing distribution systems.

There are many reasons for the present condition of affairs—in the first place, it must be remembered that the population of the Settlement has increased by approximately 200,000 since 1913, and, during this time buildings have been erected to the value of Tls. 94,000,000, covering 44,314 Chinese houses, 604 mills, godowns, etc., 1,505 other foreign buildings and 7,700 miscellaneous buildings, a total of 54,123 buildings in the Settlement alone. The public services have had to cope with the demands which this development has brought about, as well as with a great deal of extra Settlement development for which I have no exact figures. Also, during the years 1917-1919, considerable difficulty was encountered in obtaining material, and extensions during those years were not commensurate with increasing requirements.

During the past five years, 250 miles of trench have been excavated in Municipal roads, and as the mileage of road under the Council's control is some 140 miles, I think it is obvious that this work could not have been carried out without some co-ordination.

In my report for 1922, I wrote as follows:—

"There has been no diminution in the opening up of roads for the purpose of laying underground mains, cables, sewers, etc., a total length of 62.8 miles of trench having been excavated, details of which are shown elsewhere in this report. The sewerage work causes more obstruction to traffic than most other underground work by reason of the greater depth at which the pipes are laid, necessitating close timbering of trenches, and the storage of excavated material until the trench can be refilled. The existence of other underground works, the necessity for maintaining the gradients in the pipes upon which the discharge capacities are based, and the difficulties encountered by subsoil water and leaks from old brick mains, which, in the Central District, flood the new work at every high tide, all combine to make the work slow. Although some of the Public Utility Companies have still important extensions to be carried out in 1923, there is every indication that the total mileage will be 10 to 15 miles less than for 1922.

"In an endeavour to co-ordinate the activities of the various undertakings and the Public Works Department, so far as public thoroughfares are concerned and to keep each in touch with the projected work of others, 11,920 notices, dealing with 2,384 works, were issued during the year, but it is questionable whether such a large number of formal papers receive careful attention. However willing Public Companies are to co-operate, there are many reasons why little success results, such, for example, as the non-arrival of mains and cables from abroad at their expected date and sudden heavy demands for light, water and power from industrial undertakings. *Certain sections of the roadway are allocated in advance for certain works, and that is why sometimes one side of a road may be opened up and filled in, to be followed by similar work on the other side. The majority of the roads are so narrow that often a choice has to be made between closing a road entirely or keeping it partially closed for a rather longer period by carrying out work in sections.*

"It will, of course, always be contended that underground mains and cables should be of sufficient size to provide for any future requirements, but on this point one at once comes into conflict with the financial policy of the undertaking, which, generally speaking, does not wish to expand capital when a reasonable immediate return is not expected."

The absence of any "zoning" bye-laws and the lack of an adequate system of arterial roads has made it difficult to form any comprehensive plan, with much hope that changing conditions will not render such plan useless in a few years.

The situation of the Waterworks and the Electricity power station at one end of the Settlement has entailed the laying of miles of large mains through districts which such mains do not serve, and under conditions which are bad for the work involved, in order to supply the demands of intensive industrial development at the other end of, and beyond, the Settlement.

The root of the whole trouble lies in the poor road system and the inadequate widths of most of the existing roads. Little or no consideration has been given in the past to the effect that a good road system has upon the economy and efficiency of public utility services, and this applies as much to a tramway or omnibus system as to the distribution systems of companies requiring underground mains.

A great advance was made in 1922 and 1923 in the amount of road widenings carried out, but it must always be remembered that the amount of work done has a direct relation to the amount of money available for this purpose; for instance, in the endeavour to keep expenditure in 1924 near the budget appropriation of Tls. 1,000,000, many negotiations are now being allowed to languish and new ones are taken up only when brought about by owners' rebuilding schemes (except in the case of Manila Road).

Owing, unfortunately, to the number of local administrations having jurisdiction in the vicinity of the Settlement, their supposed conflicting interests and their different powers, no real attempt has ever been made to plan an arterial road system for the town as a whole, with the result that in places like Chapei and that portion of Paoshan in the neighbourhood of North Szechuen Road the worst features of the worst parts of the Settlement (such as the Northern District) have been repeated, while in the area West of the Western District private building development proceeds without consideration being given to future road requirements.

I should not omit to mention that since the end of 1920, one or other of the Soochow Creek bridges has (with short intervals) been under construction, and there has been considerable interference with traffic from this cause. The Council of 1908 decided that thenceforth one bridge should be reconstructed annually, but it has been found impracticable to carry out this programme in view of other calls upon the amount of money available. Naturally, one result of the delay is that a much greater volume of traffic is now affected by the carrying out of such works.

I see no prospect of relief from road work in the near future. The doubling of the tramway tracks in Broadway and Broadway East will cause temporary inconvenience to, and diversion of traffic, for, though considerable progress has been made in the widening of East Seward Road, it is not—except for freight traffic—a satisfactory relief road to Broadway. The condition of the track in Bubbling Well Road and Avenue Road also calls for early reconstruction. Railless tram extensions will necessitate several miles of feeder cable, and I think, too, that it cannot be long before additional pumping mains will be required by the Waterworks Coompany for the Northern and Western Districts. The heaviest part of the sewerage works should be over in two years or thereabouts, but so long as the town expands, extensions will be constantly required.

Under existing conditions and so long as the Settlement continues to develop, in my opinion, there must be continued interruptions to the surfaces of the roads since, whatever measures of amelioration may from time to time prove practicable and be adopted, it will always remain that unless roads are drained and sewered and the necessary mains required by the public utility services placed in position in advance of requirements, continued interruption to the road surfaces will be inevitable."

Police Report for May

During the month 422 reports of property stolen, representing a total estimated loss of $116,449, were made to the Police. These cases included 20 of burglary, 10 of house-breaking, 3 of godown-breaking and 9 of shop and office-breaking. In 121 cases investigation was made with successful result, the value of the property recovered being $13,974.

Twelve reports of armed robbery from premises, 1 of armed highway robbery and 3 of highway robbery in which no arms were used were made to the Police. In connexion with these reports 12 persons were arrested.

An alleged daylight holdup and armed robbery of $11,024 from the Yung Yue native bank at No. 497 Tientsin Road on May 30 was under investigation at the month end. This case presented several curious features. No alarm was raised by the people on the premises; a watchman on duty within a few yards of the front door neither saw nor heard anything; the same watchman was informed later that a robbery had occurred but was told by the employees to say nothing about it; no report was made to the police until an hour and twenty minutes afterwards notwithstanding the presence of a telephone in the house. In this connexion may be mentioned the entire lack of all ordinary precautions on the part of native style banks. The Yung Yue is a well established bank of good standing, heavily staffed, and doing considerable business: yet its banking room has no physical protection of any kind, one of its two safes is made of painted wood and thousands of dollars in notes are commonly kept in an unlocked drawer accessible without difficulty to any person entering the room. On this occasion it appears that a coolie employed by another bank had, unaccompanied, a few hours previously carried notes to the value of $20,000 in an unlocked basket through the streets from Ningpo Road to the bank that was robbed—a means of conveyance that is said to be quite usual. With such methods in vogue, constituting as they do an open invitation to robbers, it is clearly impossible for the police to protect people from the natural consequence of their own deliberate neglect.

The attempted murder of a Chinese Police Sergeant by an armed robber occurred on May 2. A night watchman was found strangled in his hut on Markham Road on May 10. The dead body of a Chinese bearing bullet and knife wounds was found in a box in a house in the Wayside District on May 13. As the result of a quarrel, a coolie died in the Harbin Road District on May 14. On May 15 the manager of a pawnshop in Shanhaikwan Road was attacked with a chopper and strangled. On May 18 a Chinese gambler was shot dead outside a house on Point Road. Six arrests were made by the Police in connexion with the above-mentioned cases.

Seven men charged with the murder of two Chinese and the attempted murder of a foreign Constable and a coolie in the Gordon Road District on April 5 were disposed of during the month. Two were sent to the Chinese Authorities for execution, 2 to other Chinese authorities by whom they were wanted, 1 was sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment, 1 was expelled the Settlement and the case against 1 was dismissed.

A Chinese making a false accusation to the Police against a third party of highway robbery on April 13 was sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment.

Several Chinese and foreigners were arrested by the Police for being in possession of or trafficking in firearms.

Thirteen Chinese found guilty of armed robbery or murder, 7 within the Settlement and 6 outside, were executed by the Chinese authorities at Lunghua.

Twelve cases of armed robbery and 1 of piracy were reported as having occurred in Chinese territory adjacent to the Settlement. In one case four men who took part in an armed robbery and shot two farmers were caught by the country people and beaten to death. The commendable spirit exhibited by these folk has no counterpart among the people living within Settlement limits.

During the month 74 opium and gambling raids were carried out by the Police from which a sum of over $5,100 accrued to the Council from fines and confiscations.

Reports of the death of Sun Yat-sen in the middle of the month caused some local sensation.

Over 800 disbanded soldiers from Fukien Province arrived in Shanghai and were either sent back to their homes in North China or provided locally with board and lodging by the Chinese authorities.

Attempts by means of bombs on the lives of Dr. Wellington Koo in Peking and of the Tuli of Fukien were made. In the latter case four soldiers were killed and two senior officers were wounded.

In connexion with the anti-Japanese boycott movement a fair for the sale of Chinese goods at cheap prices was held on May 7-9 in the Chapei Benevolent Institution. The attendance was large and various free amusements were provided for the visitors. On May 9, the so-called Day of National Disgrace on which China accepted the twenty-one demands of Japan in 1915, large numbers of shops in the Settlement closed their doors in response to an appeal sent out by political agitators. A mass meeting attended by about 1,000 people was also organized in the Temple of Heaven in North Honan Road at which speeches were made denouncing Japanese aggression in China and advocating continuance of the boycott as the best means of preventing further encroachments. The speakers included a secretary of Sun Yat-sen.

Information reached the Police on April 30 that an organized attempt would be made to prevent the Council from exercising its right to widen the North Szechuen Road Extension. It was reported that some hundreds of loafers had been hired by interested parties to stop the contractor's workmen from demolishing the adjacent houses and erecting a bamboo fence. Police protection was accordingly provided and the work proceeded without serious incident. Local agitators made the event a pretext for considerable anti-Council propaganda and of course accused the Settlement Authorities of attempting to infringe China's sovereign rights. These views were endorsed by certain sections of the Chinese press which endeavoured to give the affair a wholly unwarranted importance. The public, however, remained indifferent and the attempts of the agitators to organize a mass meeting met with no response.

Shanghai continues to be the dumping ground for undesirables from elsewhere who, in the absence of emigration rules, cannot be kept out of the Settlement.

Four new labour unions were started during May. Labour Day was celebrated on May 1 by a mass meeting attended by some 800 people including Europeans, Japanese and Indians. The speakers, as usual, advocated the extermination of capitalists and handbills advancing similar views were distributed.

Five strikes of workers in the cotton, silk, tailoring and hoisery trades occurred during the month.

The women's suffrage movement is still active in Shanghai and a periodical is shortly to be published.

The movement for the re-establishment of a Chinese Volunteer Corps outside Settlement limits, which was started by the Street Unions and endorsed by the Chinese Chambers of Commerce, has failed to obtain the approval of the local Military Governor and the matter is consequently in abeyance for the time being.

Public Health Report for May

VITAL STATISTICS

Both foreign and Chinese death-rates are below the average, especially the former.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Smallpox.—Only two foreign cases, both fatal, occurred in May, one of which was resident. This was a female British child aged six weeks, unvaccinated; the other was a male British child residing outside the Settlement. In this case the vaccination history was not obtained. Four fatal Chinese cases were reported.

Influenza.—One female British subject, resident outside Settlement limits, died of Pneumonia following Influenza.

Diphtheria.—One case, British female child, aged four years—not fatal.

Tuberculosis.—Eleven deaths were reported among foreigners, of whom seven were residents.

Typhus Fever.—One male British subject died of this disease. He was resident in the French Settlement, and was taken ill on his way to Shanghai.

Scarlet Fever.—Five foreign cases, in one resident family, were notified.

Relapsing Fever.—Two foreign cases, both male Russian subjects, were reported. One of these was resident in Chinese territory.

Enteric Fever.—Two foreign cases of Typhoid Fever, and two of Paratyphoid Fever were notified.

Amœbic Dysentery.—Two foreign cases were notified, one an American male child, and the other a recurrent attack in a British adult.

Bacillary Dysentery.—One foreign case was notified.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—No further cases have been reported. It should be noted that this disease, which is sometimes known as "Sleepy Sickness" has no connection with the "Sleeping Sickness" of Africa. Of late years there have been a few cases annually in North China, but it has not assumed epidemic proportions.

The experience of past years has shown that there is always a considerable increase in the incidence of the Enteric Fevers in late August and September. This means that, for some obscure reason, there is a greatly increased risk of infection between the middle of July and the end of August. It is advisable to guard against this by inoculation, which should be performed in June to give the maximum of protection during the period of greatest risk. Two injections are given, at ten days' interval. This precaution is specially important for anyone going up country. The protection afforded is not absolute, but both the risk of contracting the disease, and the severity of the attack if it is contracted, are very much diminished. Anti-Cholera inoculation may be taken at the same time, and is of value to those who have to pass through infected districts where the sanitation cannot be trusted. The Cholera season is generally from July to September inclusive, and protection lasts about three or four months. The inoculation for Cholera usually causes no discomfort, and only one injection is needed. Anti-Typhoid inoculation should be repeated in full on alternate years; or the second, larger, dose may be given annually to maintain the immunity.

"Health Week" was observed from May 4 to 11 under the auspices of the Council on Health Education. This Department co-operated by the loan of exhibits and cinema films. It is be hoped that the simple, but vitally important, sanitary precautions which were emphasized during that week, may be remembered and practised, and bear fruit in a "Health Summer."

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

M. DOUMERGUE FRENCH PRESIDENT

Victory for Moderate Elements: A Man of Character and Distinction: Strongly in Favour of Understanding with Britain

Versailles, June 13.

The town and Palace are a hive of excited activity. All roads hither at noon were crowded with motorcars bringing not only Senators and Deputies but many members of Paris society.

A meeting of the Left parties of both Chambers immediately prior to the opening of the National Assembly decided to uphold M. Painlevé's candidature.

The Assembly opened at 2 o'clock this afternoon, M. Doumergue presiding.

The voting has begun.

Later.

M. Doumergue was elected President of the Republic on the first ballot.

The new President obtained 515 votes to 309 cast for M. Painlevé.

The Communists voted for M. Camerlinat, who obtained 29 votes. Others received eight votes, while there were seven blanks. The total number of voters was 860.

The *élite* of Parisian society watched the voting from the galleries.. The whole assembly broke into loud cheers when the result was announced, the Communists shouting *"Vive la Commune!"* The demonstration lasted several minutes. The Centre sang the "Marseillaise" and the Socialists and Communists the "Internationale."

The Premier, M. Marsal, immediately afterwards formally invested M. Doumergue with office. Congratulations followed. M. Painlevé was among the first to do so. He and M. Doumergue cordially kissed one another on both cheeks to the delight of the spectators.

In the course of his speech at the ceremony of investiture M. Doumergue declared that he would respect the Constitution, which stood above parties. He trusted that President and Parliament would collaborate to solve the grave problems and to enable France to enter an era of useful work and peaceful progress.

Military rendered honours and the crowd cheered as M. Doumergue, accompanied by M. Marsal, left for the Elysée, whence M. Millerand had meanwhile quietly departed.

Immediately on arrival at the Elysée, M. Doumergue summoned M. Herriot.

M. Doumergue, though a Radical-Socialist, largely owes his election to the fact that the Centre and Right voted for him in order to defeat the official candidate of the Left parties, M. Painlevé. The latter is considered by the moderates as more of a party man than M. Doumergue.

The New President's Career

The new President began life as a lawyer. He was elected to the Chamber in 1893 and held office in many Ministries. He was Premier for the six months ending in June, 1914. As President he is President of the Senate. He is described as a fine speaker, confident, polished, well-informed and much respected. He knows England well and is very friendly towards her. Long before the war he advocated very close collaboration between France and Britain. The prospect, therefore, of M. Herriot and Mr. MacDonald reaching a complete understanding on pending questions at their forthcoming meeting appears very favourable.

M. Doumergue is 61 years of age. He is a Southerner. He is the first Protestant or bachelor President. He was at one time a member of the Colonial magistracy, holding posts in Indo-China and Algeria.

The election of M. Doumergue is regarded as a severe blow to the Left *bloc* as the entire Opposition in the Chamber and the whole Senate, including the Radicals, voted for him.

M. Marsal has tendered the resignation of the Cabinet.

Well Received by the Nation

The election of M. Doumergue is warmly received by the newspapers, which express satisfaction that the Versailles Congress has chosen a good Frenchman and a good Republican to preside over the destinies of the country and unanimously attribute to him the virtues of equanimity and judgment.

The *"Matin"* declares that the political storms of yesterday will become under M. Doumergue only distant memories.

The *"Journal"* emphasizes that the majority preferred an arbitrator who has proved his impartiality and manifested a desire for the maintenance of France's treaty rights.

The *"Figaro"* regards the election as a victory for political morality.

M. Herriot as Premier

Paris, June 13.

The report that M. Herriot will not accept the Premiership from a President elected with votes from the Right is disposed of by an announcement by friends of M. Herriot that "whoever is elected President M. Herriot will answer his call if he is invited to form a Cabinet."

June 14.

M. Herriot has agreed to form a Cabinet. It is announced that he hopes to go to London during the next week-end.

Composition of Cabinet.

The Cabinet has been formed as follows:—

Premier and Foreign Affairs	M. Herriot
Justice	M. Rene Renoult
War	General Nollet
Navy	M. Dumesnil
Interior	M. Chautemps
Finance	M. Clementel
Education	M. Francois Albert
Public Works	M. Peytral
Commerce	M. Raynaldy
Labour	M. Justin Godart
Agriculture	M. Queville
Colonies	M. Daladier
Pensions	M. Bovier Lapierre
Liberated Regions	M. D'Albiez
Under-Secretaries of State.	
Posts	M. Pierre Robert
Merchant Marine	M. Leon Meyer
Aviation	M. Laurent Eynac
Technical Education	M. Moro-Giafferi

Socialists Standing Aloof.

The Cabinet is composed entirely of Republican-Socialists and Radical-Socialists, as the Socialists have refused to take office in the present circumstances. It is characterized by a dearth of striking personalities, though exceptions, beside M. Herriot, are M. Clementel, who had already held the portfolios of Finance and Commerce with distinction, and General Nollet, hitherto President of the Inter-Allied Mission of Military Control in Germany. Political prophets predict that the new Cabinet's tenure of office will be short and stormy. It is noteworthy that M. Herriot is at the mercy of the Socialists, who constitute one-third of the Left majority of 300, or 320 with the Communists, which is faced by a compact Opposition of 260 members.—Reuter.

Why M. Millerand Fell

London June 13.

The replacement of M. Millerand by President Doumergue ends one of the most remarkable incidents in the life of the Third Republic. M. Millerand had still over three years of the presidency to run, but he had too deeply offended the Left for them to agree to serve under him. They, in spite of his denials of unconstitutional conduct, contend that he identified himself openly in the electoral crisis with the National *bloc*, of which he was the founder, while certain reported declarations led to suspicion in some quarters that he was playing with the idea of converting the presidency into a kind of personal dictatorship. Moreover, his action as Premier in 1920 in assisting Poland against the Bolshevik invasion and in putting down the railway strike has never been forgotten by the Communists and others of the Left.—Reuter.

Berlin Press Unenthusiastic.

Berlin, June 14.

The newspapers consider the election of M. Doumergue as a severe blow to M. Herriot and his supporters and not a very good omen for the prospects of the Herriot Government, which, some of them are of opinion, will soon be supplanted by a Cabinet headed by M. Briand.—Reuter.

Favourable Press Comment: A Conciliatory Policy Towards Germany

Paris, June 15.

Press comment on the new Cabinet is favourable, especially with regard to the choice of General Nollet as War Minister, which, it is considered, shows that M. Herriot is carefully considering the question of France's security. It is stated that the Left are resolved to seek a basis of understanding with the Democratic elements in the Reich without any concession which might injure the rights of France.

M. Herriot, in the course of an interview published in the *"Matin,"* said that he would adopt a conciliatory policy towards Germany and make every effort to help her young democracy, but he would show pitiless severity with regard to German reaction and Nationalism. —Reuter.

Ministerial Statement as to Intended Programme of New Government

Paris, June 16.

The Ministerial statement which is to be read in the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, comprises a general amnesty in home politics with certain exceptions, suppression of the French Embassy at the Vatican, strict application of the Law of Congregations, and reduction of military expenditure as far as compatible with the security of the country.

Financial measures include suppression of retrenchment by administrative decrees, restoration of the match monopoly, strict inquiry into the financial position of the country with the object of ensuring the balancing of the budget, prosecution for frauds against the Exchequer, tightening up of the income-tax, readjustment of direct taxation and decrease of taxes paid by the consumer, especially the turnover tax.

The statement also includes observance of the eight-hour law, and the right of Government employees to belong to a trade union. It deals with the consolidation of peace by international agreement, extension of the part played by the League of Nations, the International Labour Office and the Court of International Justice at the Hague, restoration of normal relations with Russia, unreserved acceptance of the experts' report, continuance of the Ruhr occupation until the pledges provided for in General Dawes' report are handed over to the proper international organizations, resumption of the control of disarmament in Germany and solution of the problem of security by guarantee pacts under the aegis of the League of Nations.—Reuter.

Berlin, June 16.

The appointment of General Nollet as French War Minister has been received with consternation and anger by the German newspapers, particularly the Nationalist papers, which indulge in violent language terming it a blow in the face to Germany and evidence that France will continue her old policy. —Reuter.

New President's Message to Parliament

Paris, June 17.

President Doumergue, in his message to Parliament, declares that he is determined to remain an impartial arbitrator above the parties. He emphasizes the need for calm, order and peace in order to develop commerce and industry and restore the prosperity of the country. The President declares that the absence of peace is not the fault of France, who fosters no dangerous ambitions and only desires payment of reparations and guarantees of security. The question of reparations seems to be approaching a final solution, but the debtor must prove good faith by definite action in a conciliatory spirit. France cannot cease her vigilance, and renounce her established position or method of control, which the Treaties entitled her to exercise in Germany, which appears to be preparing for a war of revenge instead of fulfilling her engagements.

The Prime Minister, M. Herriot, in his Ministerial statement, said that it was impossible to evacuate the Ruhr before the pledges provided by the experts and effective guarantees had been constituted and handed over to qualified international organizations. The disarmament of Germany must be controlled by common effort of the Allies and as soon as possible by the League of Nations.

M. Herriot said that resumption of normal relations with Russia was being prepared under conditions imposed by respect for the treaties.

He foreshadowed extensive conversion operations, and said that active military service would be shortened, though in such a manner that France would never be taken by surprise or enfeebled.—Reuter.

Paris, June 18.

The general amnesty, except for evaders of military service and traitors, mentioned by M. Herriot in his letter to the leader of the Socialist Party, outlining his programme on June 3, applies to those convicted by the Senate sitting as a High Court and therefore includes M. Caillaux.

Later.

The Prime Minister, M. Herriot, will leave for London on June 21 and for Brussels on June 23.—

Paris, June 19.

According to *"Le Matin"* the Premier, M. Herriot, would not modify the French policy toward Russia without previously exchanging views with the American Government.—Reuter.

DEBATE ON IMPERIAL PREFERENCE

Resolutions Left to Free Vote of the House of Commons: Government's Decision Regarding Economic Committ: Strong Opposition of Liberal Party

London, June 17.

The Dominions Gallery of the House of Commons and the Liberal and Labour benches were early filled to-day for the debate on Imperial preference.

Sir Philip Lloyd-Greame moved the first of ten resolutions, of which notice had been given in the name of Mr. Baldwin. The first four of the resolutions proposed Imperial preference without imposing any new charge on the foreigner, while the remainder did impose such a charge. While there is small chance of the Opposition carrying the last six resolutions, there is a chance of their carrying the first four, if their appeal for a non-Party debate succeeds. The Opposition in this connexion looks to the 60 Labour members of the British Commonwealth group to give the lead to their party.

The first resolution proposes that Imperial figs, raisins, plums and currants should be imported duty free.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Colonial Secretary, said that while the resolutions would be left to a free vote of the House and the Government would accept the verdict, the Government themselves proposed to vote against the resolutions.

He announced that the Government had re-considered their earlier decision with regard to the Economic Committee, and were prepared, if the Dominions desired, to consider the question, not on the lines of a commitee as proposed, but perhaps as an *ad hoc* body, something like the Shipping Board. The Dominions would be consulted on the matter.

The Colonial Secretary said that it was worth considering whether it would not help Imperial unity and encourage confidence to invite not only the Dominion Prime Ministers, but responsible leaders of the Opposition to the Imperial Conferences. He knew that the latter were reluctant, but opinion he had consulted showed the conviction that some such change was absolutely necessary in order to make the Conferences more effective and real. It would only lead to disaster to continue with the Conferences only to find when they had broken up that nothing whatever had been done. This would lead to agitation against the Conferences, which would be disastrous to everybody.

Sir John Simon, on behalf of the Liberals, stoutly opposed the resolutions.

Major-General J. E. B. Seely, who is an Imperialist Free Trader, however, begged the House to pass the first four resolutions and not to cling to doctrinaire Free Trade to the disadvantage of Imperial relations.

Dr. L. Haden Guest, the Secretary of the newly-formed Labour Commonwealth Group, also announced his intention of favouring the first four resolutions.

Colonel Josiah Wedgwood declared that the lines on which the Labour Party proposed to proceed were more likely to secure permanent unity of the Empire than the Conservative policy.

The debate was adjourned.—Reuter.

Mr. Baldwin's First Four Resolutions Defeated: Remainder Withdrawn

London, June 18.

On the resumption of the debate on Imperial preference in the House of Commons to-day, the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, announced that he would vote against all the resolutions. He said that the first four innocent-looking resolutions were a preliminary declaration in favour of a full programme of Imperial preference.

Mr. Stanley Baldwin declared that the decision was one of profound and far-reaching importance (Opposition cheers). It was important to pass the resolutions as they stood. A reference by Mr. Baldwin to the absence of Mr. Lloyd George caused Opposition laughter in view of a belief that Mr. Lloyd George's absence was deliberate. Mr. Baldwin agreed that, if the resolutions were defeated, there could be no talk of breach of faith as Parliament was supreme.

Mr. Baldwin suggested that the Government might form a committee of economic experts to study the whole question of Empire development and an economic system suitable for Britain at present. Then the political leaders could consider the committee's report and see whether there was any possibility of evolving a fiscal system, which would help us at present and on which there might be sufficient agreement to carry it. Mr. Baldwin also suggested an arrangement with the Dominions whereby the enormous amount of foodstuffs we required might be obtained solely from the Dominions, brought to Britain at cost price and distributed with the least possible margin, and obtaining in exchange free entry of British manufactures into the Dominions where those goods would not compete with Dominion goods. If that could be done, it might last for the best part of a generation, after which it would be reviewed in order to see whether the Dominions, which had filled up in the meantime, desired to become more of manufacturing countries than before.

Mr. Stanley Baldwin declared that defeat of the resolutions would gravely imperil the future of the whole Empire (Opposition cheers and Ministerial cries of "Nonsense"). The Dominions would reluctantly seek elsewhere what we would not give them. There was no country in the world that would not jump at the opportunity.

Mr. Asquith declared that the verdict of the general elections already condemned the resolutions (Ministerial and Liberal cheers). He would vote against all the resolutions. Mr. Asquith, amid loud Ministerial and Liberal laughter, ridiculed the resolutions, causing strong Opposition resentment. He declared that they attenuated the emasculated, anaemic and apocryphal version of the full-blooded nostrum Imperial preference. He quoted Mr. S. M. Bruce, the Australian Prime Minister, as saying that this was not the real thing for which he was contending.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald emphasized that the policy of preference advocated by the Opposition would necessitate abandonment of our principles and recasting of our fiscal system. Mr. Baldwin's speech and his plea was not merely for Imperial preference, but for tariffs and protection, which would inevitably involve increased food taxation.

Imperial Economic Committee

The Prime Minister denied that the Government was cold-shouldering the Dominions. He declared that except in the case of un-

manufactured tobacco it had not been proved that preference had helped to develop the resources of the Empire. He emphasized that he was backing the Empire emigration scheme for all he was worth. He thought we were thus going to draw the Dominions nearer to us. He was sure that along the lines of an Imperial economic committee and the creation of machinery, so that the public opinion of the Empire should influence the Empire policy, far more than in preferences, lay the solution to the problem of creating an economic policy, by which the protectionist Dominions and free trade Britain would co-operate in building up a strong Community of Nations based on sound economic foundations.

Mr. Philip Snowden, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, declared that the resolutions would tie the hands of future Chancellors of the Exchequer. For example, no labour Chancellor could abolish the sugar duty for the next 10 years without breaking the word of the House (Ministerial cheers and Opposition cries of "Nonsense!")

Referring to Mr. Lloyd George's absence, Mr. Snowden said that he understood that Mr. Lloyd George had paired in support of some of the resolutions (Loud Opposition cheers). Mr. Snowden promised that the Government would earnestly consider Mr. Baldwin's proposal, which, he understood was that the Government should arrange with the Government of Australia that the whole Australian production should be sent to Britain and distributed by the Government at cost price. The Government had already gone some distance in that direction, because they had promised to the Dominions the establishment of a permanent economic committee to consider the possibility of increasing consumption of Empire food products in the United Kingdom and promoting the interests both of the producer and of the consumer.

Later.

Reuter's Lobby correspondent states that the division on the first preference resolution will probably be decisive. If it is defeated, which is anticipated, the Opposition will not trouble to divide the remaining resolutions, but, if it is carried, it will divide the others at least till they are defeated on one resolution.

Later.

The first preference resolution was defeated by 278 votes to 272.—Reuter.

Four Resolutions Defeated and Remainder Withdrawn

Later.

The second, third and fourth resolutions, relating to tobaccos, wines and sugar, were defeated in the House of Commons by 284 votes to 271, 285 to 268 and 283 to 263 respectively. Mr. Baldwin thereupon announced that he did not intend to move the remaining six resolutions. —Reuter.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN ELECTIONS

Defeat of Gen. Smuts and Sir Abe Bailey: Labour and Nationalist Gains

Capetown, June 17.

The general elections were held to-day.

The Prime Minister, General Smuts, was defeated in a straight fight with Labour for Pretoria West.

The earlier results show that the polls have increased as compared with the 1921 election.

The Minister of the Interior, Public Health and Education, Mr. Patrick Duncan, and the former Minister of Railways and Harbours, Mr. J. W. Jagger, have been returned.

The Ministerialists have up to the present lost three seats and gained none.

Later.

The Ministerialist, Sir Abe Bailey, has been defeated at Krugersdorp.

The Party gains hitherto are as follows:—Labour, 7; Nationalists, 3; Ministerialists, 3; Independents 1.

It is difficult to see how the Government can now secure a majority.

The polling on the Rand shows increased Labour and Nationalist votes.

Later.

The Labour leader, Mr. Creswell, has been re-elected.

Up to the present the state of the parties is as follows:—Ministerialists, 25; Labour, 18; Nationalists, 12; Independent, 1.—Reuter.

Government's Former Majority Wiped Out: Nationalist and Labour Pact

London, June 18.

The election in South Africa has been the most momentous in its history. There were 267 candidates for 131 contested seats. Many of the rural constituencies cover huge areas, which will delay announcement of the final result, but already the South African Party, of which Gen. Smuts is leader, has had its majority of eight at the dissolution wiped out, with notable leaders like Gen. Smuts himself, Sir Abe Bailey and Mr. Rooth, the Chairman of Committees, defeated.

All three Parties entered the fight with the greatest confidence. The South African Party, which has absorbed the predominantly British Unionist Party, had 129 candidates; the Nationalists, who are mostly Dutch and are headed by Gen. Hertzog, 84; and the Labourites 37. The feature of the election, however, was the agreement or pact between the Nationalists and the Labour Party, who were mutually pledged to vote for one another. The South African party were the most optimistic, claiming that there had been a revulsion of feeling against the pact.

The centre of the fight was the Rand and Cape Province. No important changes are anticipated in Natal and the Free State.

There were very few triangular fights. One of the most notable occurred in the Rand constituency of Denver, where Col. Creswell, leader of the Labourites, defeated a South African and an Independent Labourite.

Capetown, June 18.

Mr. Malan, the Minister of Mines and Industries, was defeated.

Up to the present the state of the parties is as follows:—Ministerialists, 29; Labour, 18; Nationalists, 16; Independent, 1.

Gen. Hertzog Re-elected.

Later.

The position of the parties in the elections is now as follows:—Ministerialists 46; Labour18; Nationalists 41; Independents 1.

The Nationalist leader, General Hertzog, has been re-elected, as has also Sir Thomas Smart, the Minister of Agriculture. Colonel H. Mentz, the Minister of Defence, has been defeated.

The most notable feature of the election has been the Labour and Nationalist sweep of the Transvaal. —Reuter.

THE LONDON RAILWAY STRIKE

Now Completely Ended with Resumption of Work by Last Unions

London, June 12.

The meeting of railway managers and representatives of the Locomotive engineers and firemen has proved abortive. The Society has decided to ballot on the question of a general strike to enforce demands relating to classification of drivers and minimum rates for Sunday work.

One critical phase in the London Underground Railway dispute has passed as an outcome of a meeting of the committee of the Electrical Trade Union to consider extension of the strike to all power-station men. The meeting decided that, as far as the Electrical Trade-Union was concerned, the strike should be called off. A meeting of the London district committee will be held to-morrow to consider the whole position. Thus the strike is again wholly unofficial.—Reuter.

The Strike Ended

London, June 13.

The "Daily Herald" announces the conclusion of the London Underground Railways strike. The joint Secretary of the Strike Committee has informed the paper that the men resumed work at the power station at midnight.

There followed a calling off of a series of meetings, which were held in various areas, at which the position, following the ultimatum signed by Baron Ashfield, the Managing Director of the London Underground Railways, was placed before the strikers by the strikers' committee. All men then decided to return.—Reuter.

London, June 13.

While the unofficial strike of railway shopmen has collapsed, the strike is not yet ended as far as it concerns the shopmen belonging to the four craft unions, namely, the Electrical Trades Union, the Vehicle Builders' Union, the Blacksmiths' Union and the Amalgamated Engineering Union, who will decide to-night whether to return to work or continue the strike.

Meanwhile the Underground service is officially stated to be 50 per cent. of normal, and is expected to be 100 per cent. by to-morrow.

Later.

The four craft unions have ordered their men to resume work on Monday, pending the result of national negotiations, thus completely terminating the strike on the Underground Railways in London.

June 14.

Every station of the London Underground Railways is open to-day and the services are running normally.—Reuter.

POLITICAL OUTRAGE IN ITALY

Sensational Disappearance of Socialist Deputy: Alleged Kidnapping by Fascisti

Rome, June 16.

Italian public opinion is profoundly shocked by the kidnapping in the streets of Rome a week ago of the Socialist deputy, Signor Mateotti, by Fascists. His fate is still a mystery. The report that he has been murdered is not confirmed.

The Premier, Signor Mussolini, in the Chamber of Deputies, in response to indignant protests promised vigorous action against the perpetrators of the "stupid crime."

It is officially announced to-day that a warrant has been issued for the arrest of the advocate, Signor Filippelli, the manager of the Fascist newspaper, the *"Corriere Italiano,"* on a charge of inciting others to deprive Signor Mateotti of liberty.

Later.

In connexion with the Mateotti affair, the Communists are posting up appeals to the working classes and discussing the advisability of a general strike. The entire police force of the nation is being organized to find the missing Deputy, alive or dead.

Later.

In consequence of the national agitation in the Mateotti case, Signor Mussolini has appointed a temporary Directory of the Fascist movement, composed of 11 members, with the object of ensuring that the strength of Fascism shall be used in accordance with the direction of the leaders.

Several Arrests Made

June 17.

Several arrests have been made in connexion with the Mateotti case. They include Signor Dumini, Secretary to Signor Rossi, who has just resigned the mangership of the Government Press Office and his Directorship of the Fascist Party. It is reported that a warrant has also been issued for the arrest of Signor Rossi, whose whereabouts is unknown.

An exciting search is being conducted for Signor Filipelli, who left Rome on board the Pisa train. The police stopped the train at Lodi and searched it, but their quarry had vanished. Telegrams despatched to Piacenza and Milan, ordering his arrest, elicited the information that he had hired a car at Piacenza, after which all trace of him had been lost.

Later.

Signor Filipelli has been arrested at Genoa. His chauffeur, Colini, who brought the car which was used to kidnap Signor Mateotti, surrendered to the police.—Reuter.

Concentration Ministry Formed

Rome, June 17.

Signor Mussolini is evidently determined to purify the Administration from the stains of the scandals revealed by the Mateotti affair. Apart from closing the Chamber of Deputies and the appointment of a temporary fascist Directory, it is reported that the holders of the celebrated Annunziata Order have been summoned to see the King for the purpose of forming a "great concentration ministry," including, besides Signor Mussolini, the former Premiers, Signor Giolitti and Signor Orlando.

Signor Mussolini has taken up the duties of Minister of the Colonies, having appointed Signor Federzoni Minister of the Interior in succession to Signor Finzi, who has resigned in order to defend himself against a charge of complicity in the kidnapping of Signor Mateotti. It is noteworthy that the *"Corriere Italiano,"* of which Signor Fillippelli was editor, was Signor Finzi's organ. Signor Moncada, the Prefect of Trieste, has been appointed Director-General of Public Safety, and three judges have been appointed to investigate the Mateotti affair. Signor Mussolini told the Cabinet that the search for those implicated in the kidnapping was proceeding ruthlessly.—Reuter.

All the Authors Arrested

Rome, June 18.

Signor Mussolini's appreciation of the seriousness of the national situation arising from the Matteotti crime is evidenced by a semi-official statement declaring that all the authors of the crime have been arrested. The authorities are now on the track of some of the accomplices. "Signor Mussolini desires the guilty to be fully punished. The appointment of a new Minister of the Interior and the replacement of the Director-General of Public Safety are calculated to satisfy public opinion. This explains the complete calm in the country and the total failure of isolated attempts at demonstrations and strikes. The situation can now be regarded as normal.

Later.

Signor Filippelli has been undergoing many hours of stringent interrogation, but no light has, up to the present, been thrown on Signor Matteotti's fate, except allegedly damning evidence against Signor Dumini, in whose luggage, it is stated, bloodstained articles were discovered.

June 19.

The police have arrested Signor Giovanni Marinelli, a former member of the Fascist Directory, in connexion with the kidnapping of Signor Matteotti.—Reuter.

H. M. CONSULAR AGENT IN MEXICO

Mexican Government's Threat of Expulsion: Not an Acceptable Diplomat

London, June 15.

According to official advices reaching London, Mr. Cummins, the British Agent in Mexico, is voluntarily a prisoner in the British Legation under a threat of deportation when he emerges. His flight is attributed to the frank tenor of Notes he forwarded to the British Foreign Office regarding the treatment of British subjects in Mexico. —Reuter.

New York, June 15.

A telegram from Mexico City states that the Mexican Foreign Office has issued a statement explaining the threatened expulsion of the British Agent, Mr. Cummins.

It says that Mr. Cummins has long been *persona non grata* to the Mexican Government. It alleges that he has been discourteous and has wilfully made incorrect statements to Britain with regard to local incidents. Mexico has twice asked Britain to recall him, but Britain has supported him.

The statement claims that Mr. Cummins is not a diplomat, but a private person. It declares that Mexico is anxious to renew friendly relations with Britain, but must have acceptable representatives in Mexico, who will observe diplomatic customs.—Reuter's American Service.

A Mission of Inquiry

London, June 16.

In the House of Commons to-day, questioned with regard to the Mexican Government's threat to expel Mr. Cummins, the British Agent, Mr. MacDonald said that there had been friction for some time between the Mexican Government and Mr. Cummins. The Government were unable to agree that the complaints against Mr. Cummins were justified. Mr. MacDonald had been informed on May 13 that, if Mr. Cummins were not withdrawn, he would be expelled on June 10. The Mexican Government had been officially informed on April 15 that Mr. Cummins would leave on the arrival in Mexico of Sir Thomas Hohler on a mission of inquiry with a view to regularizing relations between Britain and Mexico. The Government regarded the action of the Mexican Government as a grave breach of international courtesies, but Mr. MacDonald was awaiting further information as a result of communications he had made to the Mexican Government, whom he had informed that, if they took steps against Mr. Cummins in which the British Government did not concur, Sit Thomas Hohler's mission would not be proceeded with.

Replying to questions, Mr. MacDonald agreed that the trouble was due to Mr. Cummins's representations on behalf of the rights of British subjects. The latest referred to a British woman whose property the Mexican Government wished to seize.—Reuter.

Mexico City, June 17.

The Foreign Office states that it has decided to wait a short time as a result of the Chilean Minister's Minister's amicable efforts on behalf of the British Government in order that Mr. Cummins, the British Agent, should leave, but failing Mr. Cummins's departure after a prudent period the order for his deportation will be enforced. —Reuter's American Service.

London, June 17.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, through the Mexican Consul-General in London, has made strong representation to Mexico with regard to the Cummins affair. The Premier also interviewed the American Ambassador. The United States is being kept fully informed of the progress of events.—Reuter.

Washington, June 18.

The American Embassy has taken over the archives of the British Legation at Mexico City, which were in the custody of Mr. Cummins.—Reuter's American Service.

THE ANGLO-SOVIET CONFERENCE

Premier's Promise to Make a Full Statement when Circumstances Permit

London, June 16.

In the House of Commons to-day, questioned in regard to the Anglo-Soviet Conference, the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, said that he would make a full statement in the House of Commons when the negotiations had reached a stage which would justify his reporting to Parliament.

In this connexion, Mr. P. J. H. Hannon, Conservative Member for Birmingham, asked whether the statement would include limitation of the period of time that the conference would last. Mr. MacDonald replied in the negative. He wanted the conference to have as much time as necessary in order to cover the very wide and complicated ground, which also necessitated certain sections of the conference negotiating with interests outside the Government.—Reuter.

SOVIET AND TURKEY

Trotzky's Further Denial of Speech Regarding Invasion of Bessarabia

Moscow, June 15.

M. Trotzky, in the course of a speech to-day, declared that the reports of his alleged speech at Podolsk in favour of a Russian invasion of Bessarabia as a step towards the seizure of Constantinople and the Straits were absolutely untrue. On the contrary, he declared, the conquest of the Straits was radically opposed to the policy of the Soviet, who had helped Turkey to regain possession of Constantinople and to proclaim the autonomy of the Nationalists.—Reuter.

THE ANGLO-TURKISH DISPUTE

Question of Mosul Frontier to be Submitted to the League of Nations

London, June 16.

In the House of Commons to-day, replying to questions in regard to the breakdown of the Mosul negotiations at Constantinople, the Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, said that as soon as the period of nine months, which is allowed for direct negotiations by the Treaty of Lausanne, had elapsed, the Government would invite the League of Nations to decide the Turco-Iraquian frontier. Meanwhile they proposed to communicate with the Turkish Government in this connexion in order to smooth over any difficulties.—Reuter.

THE SINGAPORE BASE

Portion of Plant Offered for Sale but Only Such as May Deteriorate

London, June 18.

In the House of Commons to-day, replying to Viscount Curzon, Mr. Ammon, Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Admiralty, said that he was aware that the plant collected for the Singapore naval base had been offered for sale. The contingency of the scheme having to be proceeded with in certain events had not been overlooked, and no offers would be accepted which would likely involve the State in a loss.

Replying to supplementary questions, Mr. Ammon said that no prejudice had been done with regard to any future action. The plant offered include everything that would deteriorate by keeping. It might generally be accepted as right that other material was not being offered.—Reuter.

AMERICA'S EXCLUSION OF JAPANESE

U. S. Reply to Japan's Note of Protest: Kindly in Tone But Strongly Worded

Washington, June 18.

Secretary of State Hughes's reply to the Japanese protest on the Immigration Law is kindly in tone, but strongly worded. It declares that Congress is wholly within its rights, and the new statute is mandatory upon the Executive, leaving no latitude for exercise of discretion. The provision, which is called in question, does not greatly differ in practical operation from the understanding with Japan, embodied in the Gentlemen's Agreement. It declares the appropriateness of the long-established United States policy, which is not due to any lack of esteem for the Japanese people, their character and achievements, has been confirmed rather than questioned by the voluntary action of the Japanese Government in aiding its execution.

Secretary Hughes points out that Japan has not failed to exercise her own discretion respecting admission of aliens and conditions of their settlement in Japan. The United States in the Treaty of 1894 expressly reserved the right to enact restrictive immigration laws.

Diplomatic circles are of the opinion that the incident is now closed.—Reuter's American Service.

International Ladies' Match at

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION IN U. S. BATTLESHIP

Three Officers and 43 Men Killed by Back Flash of a Big Gun

San Pedro, June 13.

Three officers and 43 men were swept to death by the premature explosion of a shell in the battleship Mississippi's No. 2 turret and a score of others injured by the flare-back, carrying a terrific charge through the breech instead of the muzzle.

The gun-crew was preparing to fire a broadside when a sailor called for the turning on of the electricity to fire the charge before the breech was locked. A flash followed and the turret was littered with dead and dying.

The Mississippi immediately raced to port, wirelessing the news of the disaster to the hospital-ship Relief, which rushed out to meet her, but just as the Mississippi let go her anchor another blast rocked her and a 14-inch shell shrieked past the steamer Yale, which was crowded with passengers, but ploughed the sea harmlessly.

After the dead and injured had been transhipped it was discovered that another unexploded charge in the gun-chamber was likely to explode at any moment, so the Mississippi hurriedly steamed to sea to obviate the possibility of a shell ploughing San Pedro and killing many persons.—Reuter's American Service.

Insufficient Air Pressure

San Pedro, Cal., June 15.

A naval court of inquiry on board the U.S. battleship Mississippi with regard to the explosion to-day heard the evidence of a sailor, who said that the air pressure was so weak that he, as plugman, was obliged to lend the weight of his shoulder to close the breach of the gun. Naval officials point out that insufficient air pressure would be quite likely to cause ignition of the powder.—Reuter's American Service.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

Proposed Legal Recognition of Liberty of Workers to Form Unions

Geneva, June 17.

Mr. Suzuki, the Japanese Workers' delegate at the International Labour Conference, which has opened here, requested that the question of legal recognition of the liberty of workers to form unions should be played on the agenda for the 1925 session. He asked the Conference to institute an inquiry into the question of liberty of association in order that a recommendation for the suppression of hindrances placed by legislation in the way of development in the organizing of the workers might then be presented.—Reuter.

CANADA'S IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS

Coming Test of Legality

Victoria, B. C., June 16.

Counsel for Vancouver and local Chinese businessmen have lodged formal complaint with the Immigration Department against the Government regulations, requiring all Chinese nationals to register before the end of June. They must give photographs with a synopsis of personal history of the complainants. They say that the regulations discriminate against naturalized Chinese, and assert that the measure will be ignored and prosecutions welcomed as a test of the legality of the provisions.—Reuter's American Service.

DUNLOP RUBBER CO.

Annual General Meeting: The Proposed Reduction of Capital

London, June 16.

At the annual meeting of the Dunlop Rubber Company, Sir Eric Geddes, the Chairman, said that the net profit in the past 18 months, after paying the interest on debentures, was £1,538,000, not including the deficit of £383,000 on the American Company in 1923.

Sir Eric Geddes emphasized that the proposed reduction of capital by writing down the ordinary £1 shares to 6s. 8d., and reducing the "C" Preference shares to 15s., merely expressed the relative values as now established. It represented no fresh losses. The net deficiency was £11,353,000. The report was adopted.

Referring to the fact that the parent tyre company was opposing the scheme to reduce capital, Sir Eric said that this was sufficient to block the scheme. Negotiations with a view to settlement had hitherto been unsuccessful.

Sir Arthur Ducros declared that under the reduction scheme holders of "C" Preference shares in the parent tyre company were asked to sacrifice £630,000, which would be made a gift to the ordinary shareholders, but they would co-operate in the friendliest way in discussing an alternative scheme.—Reuter.

AMERICAN REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

Attempt by Pres. Coolidge's Agent to Get Other Candidates Nominated

Cleveland, June 13.

President Coolidge and General Dawes form the Republican ticket for the 1924 election. President Coolidge was nominated with only a ripple of dissent from the Wisconsin and North Dakota delegations, but the nomination of General Dawes came after ex-Governor Lowden's refusal and after a short race in balloting with Mr. Herbert Hoover as his chief opponent. The official vote on the third ballot was: General Dawes 682, Mr. Hoover 234. The others secured only a few votes.

Mr. Butler, President Coolidge's manager at the Convention, indicated a desire when the ballotting began that Mr. Burton of the House of Representatives should be chosen, but the delegates disregarded the suggestion. Mr. Butler, after Mr. Lowden's refusal, again endeavoured to intervene in favour of Mr. Hoover, but the delegates refused to be swayed.—Reuter's American Service.

BRITISH EMIGRATION

Oilfields in North Borneo

London, June 16.

An interesting new experiment in temporary emigration within the Empire is reported from Lincoln, where a large number of young men who have completed their apprenticeship as mechanics in engineering works are about to sail for oilfields in North Borneo, where they will become assistant drillers and be trained in the work of obtaining oil for the propulsion of machinery.—Reuter.

ECHO OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

Fate of the Tsar and Tsaritza: Remains Taken to France

Paris, June 16.

Writing in the *"Matin,"* General Janin, the former Chief of the French Military Mission in Siberia, relates how he brought back to France and handed over at Grenoble in October, 1920, to the former Russian Ambassador the remains of the Tsar, the Tsaritsa and their children. He had the bodies of other Russian princes buried in Peking.—Reuter.

TRAIN HOLD-UP IN ILLINOIS

$1,000,000 Loot: One Bandit Shot by a Companion

Chicago, June 13.

A daring train hold-up was perpetrated to-day in Illinois and a million dollars in bonds and currency stolen by the bandits, who overpowered the crew of the Chicago-Milwaukee-St. Paul train near Rondout.

The bandits uncoupled the locomotive, forced three mail cars, seized 40 mail pouches and escaped in a motor-car. One of the gang was killed by a bullet from a companion's pistol.—Reuter's American Service.

THE PEACEFUL PRUSSIAN

Berlin, June 14.

The ex-Crown Prince and numerous other princes and former generals, in full-dress uniform, attended the unveiling of a war memorial at Potsdam to 8,000 officers and men of the First Foot Guards. The ex-Crown Prince took the salute and there was a march-past of the former members of the Regiment and of the Reichswehr. Count Eulenburg, the last regimental Colonel, concluded a speech with the words: "May this memorial be a milestone on the road to freedom and vengeance."—Reuter.

BRITISH TRADE RISING

London, June 14.

The Board of Trade returns for May show that imports totalled £122,000,000, an increase of £36,000,000 as compared with April, and exports £70,000,000, an increase of £7,500,000.—Reuter.

NATIONALIST OUTRAGE AT DUESSELDORF

Paris, June 13.

The newspapers report from Duesseldorf that five German Nationalists attacked, bound and placed across a railway line a French inspector. The inspector by struggling fiercely contrived to fall flat between the rails. A few seconds later an express passed over him without hurting him. Near by were found papers bearing the seal of a Nationalist association.—Reuter.

FRANCE'S INCREASE OF REVENUE

Paris, June 15.

The French revenue returns for May totalled Frs. 1,968,000,000, exceeding the figures for 1923 by Frs. 329,000,000. For the first five months of 1924 the increase in revenue exceeds Frs. 2,700,000,000.—Reuter.

RECORD PRICE FOR PEARL NECKLACE

Paris, June 16.

After keen competition, the famous pearl necklace, which belonged to the wife of M. Thiers, the First President of the Third Republic, fetched a record price of Frs. 11,250,000. It is believed to have been purchased for an American millionaire.—Reuter.

SOVIET SUPPRESSION OF FOREIGN TRADE

London, June 17.

At a meeting of the Russo-Caucasian Company, which was formed last year to carry on trading with Russia, the Chairman announced that the Soviets, without warning, had ordered the liquidation of the Company's affairs within a month.—Reuter.

COLONIAL SECRETARY AGAIN AT WORK

London, June 16.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who was recently ill with pleurisy, has resumed his duties.—Reuter.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

DETAILS OF DISPUTE WITH MEXICO

Statement by British Premier: Government Action There but Why not in China?

London, June 19.

That a woman was at the bottom of the trouble between Britain and Mexico appeared in Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's statement in the House of Commons to-day. He said that Mexico accused Mr. Cummins of writing insulting letters and demanded his immediate withdrawal. The letters, which Mr. MacDonald read, related to an attempt by the Mexican Government to dispossess a British subject, Mrs. Evans, of her farm. Mr. MacDonald said that there was nothing objectionable in the letters (cheers). If Foreign Offices objected to such communications, there would soon be no diplomatic relations at all.

The Mexican Government's behaviour was inexcusable. It threatened to break into the Legation of June 16, if Mr. Cummins did not surrender. Mr. MacDonald warned the Consul-General of the gravity of such a step and requested that action be suspended until the Hohler mission arrived. The Mexican Government refused and the United States Government, at Mr. MacDonald's request, arranged for the safe withdrawal of Mr. Cummins and to take charge of the Legation.

The Prime Minister, amid cheers, emphasized the necessity of protecting British subjects and safeguarding the dignity of the British Government. He was not quite sure as to what happened to Mrs. Evans, but he believed that she met with no harm. The whole story was most romantic. One of Mr. Cummins's letters said that she was left defenceless and was alone except for the assistance of a brave young American.—Reuter.

Mexico City, June 19.

President Obregon has ordered the stoppage of proceedings for the expulsion of Mr. Cummins, after learning that Britain will withdraw Mr. Cummins to-morrow.—Reuter.

AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

Mr. McAdoo and Governor Smith Probable Nominees but Other Dark Horse Candidates

New York, June 19.

The Democratic Convention will meet at Madison Square Garden next week and is expected to be highly exciting. Mr. William G. McAdoo, former Secretary of the Treasury, and Mr. Smith, the Governor of New York, are regarded as the most likely Presidential nominees. The former had a triumphal tour from California to New York, where, in response to an enthusiastic welcome on his arrival, he asserted his belief that he would be nominated.

The dark horses are Mr. John W. Davis, former Ambassador in London, Senator Underwood, Mr. Albert C. Ritchie, Governor of Maryland, Mr. Samuel M. Ralston, Governor of Indiana, and Senator Carter Glass.—Reuter's American Service.

GOVERNMENT DEFEAT IN SOUTH AFRICA

No Question of Secession from the Empire: A Hertzog Ministry Certain

London, June 19.

The Nationalist-Labourite pact, which overthrew General Smuts's Government, was formed for the election only. It is noteworthy that the Labourites, who are predominantly British, imposed a condition, to which the Nationalists agreed, that the latter, if successful, would not raise the question of secession from the Empire during the lifetime of the new Parliament. The Nationalists are Dutch Extremists and are avowedly Republican. Their political views are diametrically opposed to those of Labour, but the latter probably hold the balance between the Nationalists and the South African Party.

In the new House of Assembly General Smuts lost most of his ablest supporters, the latest being the Minister of Finance, Mr. H. Burton, who was defeated at Ladysmith.

Reuter's correspondent at Capetown says that a Hertzog Government is now regarded as a certainty. The whole of the South African press congratulates the victors and hopes that everyone will do their best to help the new Government to continue the work of advancement and development of the Union.

London newspapers deplore the defeat of General Smuts, one of the greatest figures of the Empire, but emphasize the local nature of the issues involved. While speculating on the uncertainty of South Africa's political future, they declare that the Labour Party will be a useful check on the Republican Nationalists, while the latter are not likely to treat the Labour Extremists of the Rand with greater indulgence than the old Administration. The consensus of opinion is that responsibility in office will bring moderation and South Africa as elsewhere will benefit by new men and new methods.—Reuter.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

EXPECTED COAL STRIKE AVERTED

The Agreement Between Masters and Men: But the Problem of Coal Not Solved Yet: Some Outstanding Features in a Perennial Dispute

From Our Labour Correspondent.

Manchester, May 21.

Nearly everyone in Great Britain expected a coal strike this summer. The miners have had a very long spell of terribly low wages and were known to be in an insurgent mood. The mineowners wages and have filled columns of space in our newspapers explaining how badly off they were, and how impossible it was for them to do anything for their employees unless the working shifts were lengthened. Everything pointed to a strike. And now we have the good news that the mineowners have had a conference with the miner's leaders, and the latter have consented to recommend the employer's terms to their members. Even the new communist secretary of Miner's Federation, Mr. Cook, has given the offer his blessing by saying that it is the best the men can hope for at present. We are expecting any day now to hear that Moscow has no further use for Mr Cook's services.

There is every reason to suppose that the leader's recommendation will be accepted, although the men in the worst hit districts will vote against them. Some of the latter are already expressing their determination to break away from the Federation and fight the employers. Their attitude is not so unreasonable as some people might suppose. Here in Lancashire a miner in pre-war days had about the wage standard of a builder, printer, or the worker in any other skilled trade. He works just as hard to-day for less wages than are paid to the men who tip the refuse cans into the Corporation dust carts. He will not be much better off if the employer's new proposals become operative.

Despite this agreement there are few far-seeing people in Great Britain optimistic about the future of the industry. The problem, like the boundary dispute between Northern and Southern Ireland appears to be almost insoluble. The only solution that will satisfy the working miners is one ensuring very high wages for very short shifts. As foreign competition precludes this ideal solution and there does not appear to be any "second best" acceptable to the contending parties the future appears to hold little else than a succession of strikes and lock-outs, and an increasing estrangement of a large section of the community from its fellows.

Education Opens Eyes.

The press in Great Britain devotes plenty of space to the disputes when they are pending, but rarely attempts to unravel the cause of the perpetual discontent. Yet many of them are obvious to any observant individual living in close contract with the miners. Among the most important is the improved elementary education now provided in our Board Schools. Twenty or thirty years ago a British elementary school was not a bad place to escape from into the more interesting atmosphere of a workshop or factory. Conditions are very different in the schools of to-day, and after eight or ten years in their stimulating environment it is only a very dull and imaginative lad who would tamely settle down to spend the greater part of his waking life in the gloom and squalor of a coal mine. The amenities of life in our factories and workshops have to some extent kept pace with these improved educational facilities, but conditions in the coal mines have either remained stationary or become worse.

A century ago, and for many decades after, the coal miner had a considerably higher standard of living than his industrial contemporaries. Plenty of good food was then looked upon as an essential requisite for a life of such hardship and danger. But as the easier worked seams of coal petred out and foreign competition increased these comparative advantages disappeared. In the last half of the 19th century, and the first decade of the 20th, a miner's wages were about level with any other artisans. But his work was more unpleasant and dangerous and he was fully conscious of the fact and determined to get adequate compensation for it. In the South Wales coalfields he thought he had discovered the short cut to a millennial dawn in the then popular Syndicalism. He talk wildly of seizing the mines and working them in the interest of the miners. The war came and spoilt that pretty dream.

All that most of the younger men wanted was to escaped from the mine. The war was an ideal opportunity and they jointed up in tens of thousands. A disgruntled minority, however, remained at home and kept the Red flag flying. Their efforts were half-heartedly supported by the elder men, who had little sympathy for extreme political views but a warm appreciation for the high wages the young Bolsheviks won for the industry by their indefatigable agitations.

The Nationalization Bill.

At the conclusion of the war it was said that the patriotic miners from the front would tear their seditious fellow workmen to pieces. They did nothing of the sort. Their disillusionment was also complete, and they joined hands with the Red extremists in increased demands for higher wages and shorter shifts. In 1920 the average wage of a coal miner was more than £5 per week.

The crash came when the Government de-controlled the coal industry in March 1921. Wages were roughly halved and after a long strike the men were hopelessly beaten. The Miner's Federation seemed in danger of disintegration through the thousands of men who withdrew from it in disgust at the bad leadership. The politically minded swung over to the extreme left and are now the back-bone of the British Communist party. The end of the Agreement saw a Labour Government in power and a member of the Extreme Left as Minister of Mines. The Employers offered a new agreement fixing their standard profits in relation to "standard" wages at 15 p.c. instead of 17 p.c., and increasing the minimum percentage to be paid on "standard wages" from 20 p.c. to 30 p.c. The men refused this and asked for more. No further offer was forthcoming at the time and the Labour Ministry agreed to fulfil its promise to the miners and bring in a Nationalization Bill. Mr. Hall, M.P. for Aberdare moved its second reading on Friday, May 16, before a sparsely filled House. It was rejected by 264 votes to 168.

No one expected any different result. There are a considerable number of miners' leaders who are strong advocates of Nationalization and there may be a few enthusiasts for it among the rank and file. But the average British workman has little use for, or interest in, such abstractions. Progress for him is measured by the amount of money there is in the week-end wage packet, and by the time the factory "hooter" blows in the morning and evening.

The Miner's Risks.

A Court of Inquiry was set up to inquire into miner's wages. It was a rather dull affair and did not excite much public interest. The star performers on the men's side, who caused such a sensation by their masterly handling of the ducal royalty owners and mineowners' representatives in the Sankey Inquiry, are now in the Labour Ministry and were not present to give evidence. The most sensational evidence was not strictly to the point. It was Mr. Herbert Smith's account of the terrible dangers of a miner's life to-day. He showed how in 1923, 212,258 men received injuries in the mines disabling them for more than seven days. In the same year, a fairly average one, 1,297 men were killed. "Marshal in one huge procession this army of bruised and broken humanity" said Mr. Smith, "four men in a rank, each a yard and a half apart and you get a procession stretching 45 miles. Every 15 yards of that tragic procession you would have an ambulance containing a man seriously injured and every 61 yards a hearse. This is part of the miner's wages, part of the price he pays in the struggle with natural forces that the people may have coal, and that he and his family may have bread." He said that the miners contended that no part of the procees of the industry should be regard as profit until a reasonable wage at the current cost of living had been paid to the workers. He contended that low wages were partly responsible for this high accident rate through the greater worry on the worker.

Lord Buckmaster, the President of the Court, put some searching questions to the owner's representative. He would not agree that it was a healthy industry and insisted that the miner ran "peculiar and horrible risks" which must be taken into account in estimating his wages. The Report of the Court recommended "The resumption of negotiations between the parties with a view to the modification of the terms of the Agreement of 1921."As a result of this the two parties at a further meeting settled on new terms in which the owners made a very small additional concession. These are to be balloted upon by the men and are likely to be accepted in most of the coalfields.

The Problem Still Unsolved.

The the problem will not then be settled. No passably educated youth will ever regard with equanimity the prospect of a life in the bowels of the earth at heavy and dangerous toil. No mother will ever, if she can help it, let her son start work in the mine. Labour would have done well to have proceeded with the great and practicable scheme for harnessing the tide at the mouth of the Severn, and erecting pithead plant for the more economical conversion of coal into power than in playing about with Nationalization dreams.

EASTER IN LONDON

The British Empire Exhibition

By Cynthia Maguire.

It is many years since I spent Easter in London, it is one's general inclination to get into green fields and leafy pleasaunces at this most wonderful of the year's festivals, but I could not have imagined there would be so much charm in London itself.

For one thing spring came in over the four Easter days; the calendar announced it four weeks earlier but there was scarcely a tree budding on Good-Friday eve, just a chestnut or two getting bulgy and lilac in faint leaf. By Sunday they were ablaze, elms and poplars and oaks and larches,—even the faithful London plane-tree, which sends its roots deep and is therefore the latest to feel the warm earth, was knobby at at twig-tip.

From my window overlooking Thames I could almost see the change take place, first a hawthorn would be green, then an almond would have burst into flower, and by the time I looked again an ash would have shaken its purplish buds into fluffy greenery. Fruit trees were all snowy before the holiday was over.

London at Easter-time was transformed. On Good Friday it might have been a Foreign City. In Fleet Street, Trafalgar Square and Whitehall I heard more French spoken than English. Bands of visitors, guide-book in hand, loitered in the Abbey Cloisters or fed pigeons at St. Paul's, packed char-à-bancs dashed dangerously through otherwise deserted streets, whilst guides, authorised and unauthorised, reaped a richharvest from eager sight-seers.

It is doubtless the opening of the British Empire Exhibition which has brought so many visitors to London. The buildings are magnificent and the whole things has been designed on a scale which is large and generous. The Hongkong section in particular appealed to me, with its green upturned roofs reminiscent of Peking. From the tea-house, where Chinese meals can be partaken of, came strains of music as I approached, real Chinese music such as I had not heard since I left the East. I have often wondered why London's Chinese Restaurants do not cut the jazz.

In Wembley's Hongkong are shops run by firms well-known to Shanghai-dwellers, "Wing-On," "Sincere" and others. You can get food-stuffs or furniture, umbrellas or Cloisonné ware, and prices are not so much above those I paid in Shanghai itself. I did not see any of those wooden figures which are so familiar in Hongkew (and which by-the-way are much prized by folk at home) but I did see a man fashioning little figures in wax such as they make in the Chinese City. I think I shall always take myself first to that corner of the grounds.

OUR PARIS LETTER

President of Chamber Not Permitted to Be Neutral: Duse, the Last Stage Genius

From Our Own Correspondent.

Paris, April 24.

So far, the only interesting feature of the French electoral campaign has been supplied by M. Raoul Péret, the President of the last Chamber of Deputies. He has represented the department of the Vienne for many years, and it was supposed that his re-election was a foregone conclusion, when, to the general surprise, he announced the other day that he did not intend to stand again. It seems that some influential electors in his department have been reproaching him with not voting and thus depriving the department of a voice in national questions. M. Péret, having followed the example of the Speaker of the House of Commons in remaining perfectly neutral and never casting his vote for or against any proposal, considered that he was discharging the first duty of a president, and he was so hurt and disgusted at being blamed for his impartiality that he made the announcement mentioned above. It was of course received with astonishment and regret. Offers poured in from all parts of the country, and M. Péret is sure of election wherever he chooses to present himself. It is nevertheless extraordinary that a man in his position should be driven from his old constituency because he preferred the judicial to the party spirit.

Voting Methods to Reform

There is a growing demand that the next Chamber shall reform its procedure, especially as regards voting. At present each deputy is supplied with a quantity of white and blue voting papers bearing his name. If he supports a motion, he puts a white paper in the urn; if he opposes it, he uses a blue paper. Sometimes both a white and a blue paper bearing the name of the same member are found in the urn. It is then considered that the two votes cancel each other, and the member is recorded as not having voted at all. It also happens that two white papers and three blue, bearing the same name, find their way into the urn. In this case the member is put down as voting against the motion. The system leads to all sorts of abuses.

All that an unscrupulous member has to do is to help himself to an absent colleague's box of papers and use them. This, of course, is very much like burgling, but it happened at least three times during the past legislature, and when the victims entered the tribune and complained, the Chamber laughed and the president delivered a nice little homily. Even when proxy voting is done honestly, it deceives the electors. The citizen who reads in his newspaper that Senator A and Deputy B have voted for such-and-such a measure is apt to suppose that these gentlemen, after carefully following the debate, discovered that their consciences called upon them to vote for the Bill. As a matter of fact, Senator A was playing dominoes at home and Deputy B was looking after his little affairs. It often happens that 600 votes are cast at a sitting at which only a dozen members are present in the flesh. It is a very convenient system for the members themselves—so convenient, in fact, that one very much doubts whether the new Chamber will have sufficient courage to break with it and go in for personal and tangible voting as practised in the House of Commons.

Eleonora Duse

M. Joseph Schurmann, the impressario, in an outspoken article published by the "*Matin*," describes the late Eleonora Duse as the last of the three women of genius whom he took round the world. Adelina Patti, Sarah Bernhardt and now Eleonora Duse have been removed by death. There are still left in Europe, he says, a few women who are great artistes but none who have genius. Of all stage geniuses, Eleonora Duse was undoubtedly the one who made the strongest appeal to the heart. Language was no obstacle; everybody understood her and shared the grief she expressed. Throughout her life she was a victim of love, both on and off the stage. Armand Duval in fiction and Gabriel d'Annunzio in reality dominated her existence. She was the last of the great lovers.

I first saw Duse, continues M. Schurmann, in 1881 while on a tour through Italy with Sarah Bernhardt. I was greatly struck by her interpretation of Alexandre Dumas' heroine in "*La Femme de Claude*" and offered to take her on a European tour. She looked at me in astonishment and replied: "Either you are making fun of me or you are making a great mistake. I am only an unknown Italian artiste, and nobody in another country would understand me. You cannot hold the attention of a foreign audience unless you have genius, and I have none. Let me try to perfect myself in my art, which I love passionately, and do not turn me from the path I have marked out for myself. Later on, if I succeed and gain confidence in myself, we will talk about it again." Not until 1894 did Eleonora Duse accept my proposals, thus enabling us to begin the series of tours that went on for eight years and delighted audiences all over Europe and America. From her point of view, the entire world was the same city, the same theatre and the same public. Plays by Alexandre Dumas, Victorien Sardou and Hermann Sudermann interpreted by her made an immense impression on audiences of all kinds. The receipts exceeded any previously heard of in the theatrical world.

Dominated by d'Annunzio

One day, she met d'Annunzio, who gradually took possession of her whole being. The public did not care much about the works of the Italian poet, which nevertheless filled about one out of every seven performances, although the author never succeeded in writing a rôle, except "*Gioconda*," that was really suitable to Duse. The growing love of the artiste for the author caused her to eliminate all others from her repertoire. Having the financial responsibility on my shoulders, M. Schurmann continues, I objected, but it was of no use. She wrote me: "You are probably right, but I am in love. I have to choose between heart and brain, and I am the heart." Much to my regret, I had to give way and cancel the contract. Eleonora Duse continued to play d'Annunzio. The millions she made during her tours slowly melted away. Being greatly in need of money, she undertook to make a final tour in North America, although she had already said goodbye to the stage, and now she has passed away in the city of iron and foundries. She was a great lady, a noble soul, a *grande amoureuse* and a dramatic genius.

Everybody Spending

Though railway fares have been raised 50 per cent. the number of Parisians who went away to the country or seaside this Easter, and of country people who came to Paris, was enormous. The weather was so fine that no one could resist the pleasure of an excursion. It may also be taken for granted that no one will give up smoking because the tobacco monopoly is putting up its prices—another item in the list of higher taxes. Nothing can discourage the consumer. Prices continue to mount and he continues to pay. Restaurants and cafés are crowded. Nobody seems to be afraid of the figures marked on the saucers on which drinks are served. The theatres, music-halls and picture palaces are taking fabulous sums—at least, so the managers say—the big department stores are constantly enlarging their premises, and the dressmakers, modistes, and dealers in silk stockings and other necessaries are overwhelmed with orders.

This prosperity is of course more or less superficial. The rank and file of employees, the "intellectuals," the people who used to be able to live on pre-war pensions or investments are having a hard time of it, but nobody worries about them. The peasants and farmers have made their pile, and the majority of city-dwellers lead a more varied existence than before. Probably the readiness to spend money is the outcome of a long period of manufacturing activity, fostered by low exchange.

OUNT ISA THE NEW SILVER-LEAD FIELD

Accidental Discovery: Sydney Party's Visit

BY SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE "SYDNEY MORNING HERALD."

Cloncurry.

Queensland, the great north-tern State of the Commonwealth, h a territory exceeding the area any country in Europe except ssia, and with a population of le more than one person to ry square mile, sees to-day in newly-discovered Mount Isa er-lead field a new land of pro-se. Whether it will achieve all at is now claimed for it, whether one of those changes of fortune ich transform obscure places to the rich spots of the earth it ll become famous, the future one can tell.

At present Mount Isa is not on e map. Even if it had attained that distinction, however, the ad to Mount Isa by rail and by ad would be none the less tiring. is a long journey. The small rty which left Sydney for the lds on Wednesday afternoon last, d which included Mr. W. McRae, e of the directors of the Mount a Mines, Ld., and Messrs. Walter otts, T. R. McCulloch, Newman, d J. Verge will not reach Mount a until to-night, after only two mparatively short breaks, in isbane and in Townsville. They ill have been travelling for a little der a week.- It only shows what big place Queensland is.

A Long Journey.

There is nothing unusual in the ct that Mount Isa is not yet on e map, for it is not so long ago at it was discovered. To get to ount Isa one travels to Townsville Northern Queensland, the big rt of the rich outback country, d thence to Cloncurry, a distance all from Brisbane of about 1,300 iles. Then from Cloncurry there a long 130 miles run out to the lds by road, *viâ* Duchess. The ueensland Government has shown s interest in the discovery by anting Mr. E. C. Saint Smith, he Queensland Government Geo-gist, 12 months' leave of bsence in order that he may perintend the development of the ld as the temporary general man-ger of Mount Isa Mines, Ld. his arrangement, it is stated, was ntered into with the original com-any before the other companies ame into the field. The keen in-erest that has been manifested in he field has already given rise to he problem of communication and ransport. Action has been taken y the Main Roads Board to create he road from Cloncurry to the ield a main road within the mean-ng of the Act, and it is expected hat improvements will be taken n hand in the very near future. hen there is the question of rail-way communication. Some time go a deputation representing the estern pastoralists urged upon he Premier the need for a cross ection line linking up the various estern railways in Queensland, so to form a connexion between orth-western New South Wales nd ultimately Camooweal, in orth-western Queensland. The Premier then indicated that there was no immediate prospect of the suggestion being carried out, but that the State Government was giving consideration to the construction of a line from Dajarra, the present terminus of the line running west from Townsville, to the new silver-lead field at Mount Isa. The construction of that line, he believed, would be a big step towards linking up Camooweal with the present railway system. A flying survey of the proposed route to Mount Isa, a distance of about 60 miles, has been made, and further inquiries respecting the prospect are still being carried out.

The Discovery.

It was by accident, according to reports, that the field was discovered. A little copper staining along the prominent belts of the quartzite near the main ore channels is said to have induced a prospector named Miles to break some of the outcrop on the original prospecting area, and this led to the discovery of the field which has now created so much interest. A man named Simpson is also credited with the discovery, as well as the prospector Miles. One recalls in this connexion the discovery of the Broken Hill lode, attributed to a boundary rider, who is said to have pegged the area now known as Block 12 of the Broken Hill Proprietary Mine. The question, however, whether the prospector will live in the history of Australian mining as the obscure boundary-rider has done remains to be seen.

If the success that is anticipated for the field is borne out by development work it will give a much-needed impetus to the mining industry in Queensland. For some years the northern State has suffered a depression in the industry. Queensland is fortunate in having coal areas immediately behind big ports on the coast, while the coal-mining industry has advanced by development in the Bowne field, but Mount Isa is the field to which the move is going, in the hope that the State will have a rich and permanent field. Just now the mining industry in Queensland is completely overshadowed by the State's rich agricultural, pastoral, farming, sugar-growing, and other belts. This is illustrated by statistics. For the year ended December, 1922, the output in Queensland of gold, silver, copper, tin, coal, and other minerals was valued at only £1,825,280. Of this, the silver output was only 273,036oz. It will be seen how welcome some new and rich discovery will be.

The party now proceeding to the field will probably not be able to return to Cloncurry until Friday, and will, therefore, miss the return train to Brisbane from here on Thursday. Further heavy rains overnight on the big western plains between Townsville and Cloncurry have added to the freshness of this vast belt of country, which is looking good following upon the recent rains.

LIANG SHIH-YI LEAVES ENGLAND

Tribute to British Debt Paying: Mutual Trade Openings

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

London, May 22.

Mr. Liang Shih-yi left England this week for the Continent after a very pleasant visit. He certainly saw everything there was to be seen and he was one of the most energetic visitors we have had for some time. Everybody went out of their way to make his stay agreeable and I think on this ground he will have no complaint whatever. On leaving he issued the following statement:—

"I am deeply impressed with the great patriotism of the British people in willingly contributing, in the form of heavy taxes, to the refunding of the National War Debt to America and in maintaining British credit by not including in the Budget as revenue the War Debts due to them by the Continental countries. I have also noted that in the money market of the world London occupies a premier position, due to the co-operation of the British people and their Banks in maintaining this position ever since the conclusion of peace.

"One cannot fail to notice that the British people are principally industrial, while very few are agricultural, which makes it necessary to find markets for its manufactures and in exchange to import raw material and food products. Great Britain can find no better market for its manufactures and no better country from which she can get the raw material and food products required than China. In so doing it will benefit both countries financially."

Mr. Liang Shih-yi at Geneva

Geneva, June 17.

Mr. Liang Shih-yi arrived here to-day on a visit to the League of Nations. He was received by Sir Eric Drummond, the Secretary-General, and entertained to luncheon by Professor Attolico, the Under-Secretary-General, and other high officials of the Secretariat.—Reuter.

COVENTRY'S FATE

Ruin Threatened by Lapse of McKenna Duties: Workers in Arms

The seeker after truth, who wishes to understand the sacred principles of Free Trade, cannot do better than study the industrial history of the ancient but always enterprising city of Coventry. Renowned in the Middle Ages for its craftsmen, Coventry in the middle of the last century was the centre of thriving silk-weaving and watchmaking industries. Then came the triumph of Manchester and the orgy of industrial slavery that followed in its wake.

When the bicycle made its appearance Coventry was waiting with folded arms for industrial death. The bicycle laid the foundations of a new prosperity. The motor-car followed. The war brought money to Coventry, but it was not real money It was the McKenna duties that enabled the imposing structure of the British Motor Industry to be raised on the humble foundations laid by the safety bicycle. To-day there are employed directly or indirectly in the manufacture of motor-cars and motor-cycles in Great Britain about 200,000 workers of all classes. Of these considerably more than a quarter are in Coventry. The sum paid annually to these workers in wages is about 30,000,000 pounds. While unemployment is rife in other industries, and most particularly in other engineering industries, in the motor industry it is non-existent.

How Firms Have Grown.

The number of registered unemployed of all industries in Coventry to-day is 1,500—far fewer than the margin usually allowed for as unemployable by the industrial statisticians. Firms that before the war employed a mere handful of men, now employ hundreds. The larger firms have doubled and trebled the number of their workers. The Standard Motor Company, to take a single example, employed before the war about 500 hands. It now employs more than five times that number. Ninety per cent. of the Coventry Corporation electricity plant's output is taken by the motor and engineering works.

So much has protection done for the British motor industry. But what has happened to Coventry once may happen to Coventry again. Manchester doctrines ruined it before. Manchester doctrinnaires and their puppets may ruin it a second time. Last week the Coventry workers in the motor industry were preparing to demand an increase in wages. It seems likely that in respect to certain categories at least the demand would have had a sympathetic hearing. Now, instead of more wages, they get Mr. Snowden's well-flung brickbat. They were preparing to ask for more bread, and the Labour Government gives them a stone, and a very knobby boulder at that. It is the view of the motor manufacturers that if the McKenna duties are abolished 100,000 workers in the industry will go on the dole, or a proportionately larger number will go on part-time.

Fifteen millions a year snatched from the British workman's pocket—by a British Labour Government! It sounds British Labour Government! It is a wonder that the workers of Coventry and elsewhere are up in arms?

British Car's Supremacy.

Let us consider for a moment the present condition of the motor trade in regard to home manufacture and foreign imports, and how the abolition of the McKenna Duties will, in the opinion of the manufacturers, affect it. In the first three months of 1924 the importations of foreign motor-cars showed a decrease over the equivalent figures for the previous year This represents the definite supremacy of the British car, but the importation tide had already turned. From 1921-1922 the figures rose from £1,293,959 to £2,331,475. From 1922-1923, in which the total sale of cars in the United Kingdom enormously increased, the increase in imported cars was only from £2,331,475 to £2,764,709. Had Mr. Snowden not intervened as the friend—the traditional friend—of the foreigner, the latter's foothold in the British motor market was doomed

The export of British cars had in the same period assumed a new lease of life. From 1921 to 1922 it fell From 1922-1923 it again rose, and the figures for the first three months of 1924 are nearly two and a half times the figures for the first three months of 1923. Turn to commercial vehicles, which are not protected by the McKenna duties. Nearly twice as many were imported in the first three months 1924 as in the first three months of 1923.

This, then, is what the McKenna Duties have done for the British motor industry and for the British worker engaged in it. They have established an oasis of commercial prosperity in a desert of commercial depressin. They have put from 100,000, to 100,040 workers into steady and lucrative employment, and have paid about 75,000,000 pounds in wages into pockets of workers that would otherwise have been filled by the workers' empty hands. They have enabled an industry to be built up to whose potentialities there is practically no limit.

CAN DIAMONDS BE MADE?

Sir Charles Parsons Says "No."

For over 20 years Sir Charles Parsons, famous as the inventor of the turbine engine, has been seeking to solve the mystery of the origin of the diamond, and recently he confessed, at a meeting of the Royal Microscopical Society, that after spending thousands of pounds in his search for a solution he had been forced to the conclusion that the manufacture of artificial diamonds was impossible.

In the last 50 years many eminent scientists have tried to make diamonds in the laboratory, and some have claimed to have succeeded. The late Sir William Crookes, in language anyone could understand, gave the apparently simple formula for manufacturing diamonds when he said that the process consisted simply of dissolving charcoal (for a diamond is just charcoal, or graphite) in a liquid, and waiting for the dissolved substance to separate into crystals by slow evaporation. The ultimate crystals would, he said, be true diamonds. Nature thus transforms carbon into diamonds by subjecting it to enormous pressure and temperature in the earth.

The French chemist, Henri Moissan, subjected carbon to temperatures around 3,600 deg. C., and pressures exceeding 15 tons to the square inch, the carbon being enclosed in pure iron. The crucible containing the iron and carbon was then plunged into cold water, which had the effect of solidifying the iron, which enclosed the carbon in a giant grip. In this condition the dissolved carbon separated out as hard, transparent crystalline fragments indistinguishable from a true diamond. But the largest "diamond" Moissan was able to produce was scarcely visible to the naked eye: 50 side by side could be comfortably accommodated in the space of one inch.

Sir William Crookes himself was convinced that Moissan's crystals were true diamonds, and later repeated the French chemist's experiment with similar results. That was 18 years ago, but since then none of the many that have worked at the problem have succeeded in manufacturing a diamond big enough to compete with the smallest natural diamond. Sir Charles Parsons, after 20 years' labours, has admitted his failure, and he has expressed the opinion that the microscopic crystals obtained by Moissan and Crookes were not diamonds, but carborundum silicon compounds.

Probably Sir Charles Parsons will now abandon his experiments. But others will continue to seek the solution of one of the most fascinating problems of chemical science. The quest, however, is enormously costly, and attended by serious risks of explosions that may for ever end the career of some adventurous experimenter. The topaz, amethyst, ruby, emerald, and sapphire have all been made artificially, but the chemist has yet to imitate the methods by which Nature, in her laboratory beneath our feet, transforms a piece of black carbon into the most beautiful of all precious stones.

THE WHISKY RING

Startling Disclosures at Washington: Officials Declared Bought

That he bought up government officials almost as expeditiously as he acquired his properties was an implication to which he Remus, convicted bootlegger, clung unshaken throughout his examination before the Senate's inquisitorial body. He told the committee that his selling whisky as medicine was a mere pretext and that in reality he was the source of supply for bootleggers in a half dozen central states, the "financial" man of an organization referred to as "Remus and his men."

His "chief counsel" introduced him to Jess Smith in New York in 1921, Remus said, Smith knowing the witness as "a reasonably large operator in whisky," and Remus knowing Smith as "a man very close to the attorney-general." When the third party "retired gracefully" Remus testified that he passed over $50,000 in $1,000 bills. Then began a series of meetings, he added, which continued until the shadow of the penitentiary was falling over him, although Smith was promising even then that the "general," the term applied to H. M. Daugherty, was going to use his influence to obtain executive clemency for Remus. There was a "gentlemen's" agreement, pursuant to which, Remus said, he paid Smith large sums at intervals while "whisky was coming through" on the government permits that enabled the bootlegger chief to withdraw stocks from his distilleries and turn them into the distributing chain of drug houses.

Mr. Daugherty, Remus saw only at a distance. He would not charge that Smith had "double-crossed" him in the end, he explained, because when Jess Smith blew his brains out in Mr. Daugherty's apartment in the summer of 1923, Remus was still fighting his conviction in the United States supreme court. He told Smith when they last met, he added, that "Remus and his men" had remained quite in court, had never gone on the stand, and were entitled to consideration.

Double Service Is Alleged.

There was a double service the Smith was to give for the money payments, Remus said, and they was a double payment as well, the exact total of which he professed to be unable to give. In addition to the amounts paid for "protection," he testified, there was an understanding that "from $1.50 to $2.50 a case" additional on the whisky he handled was also to go to Smith. In a year and a half, he added, he sold about 800,000 gallons of whisky.

Remus asserted that he had a dozen lawyers, one time or another, although E. M. Zoline of New York, a law partner of Thomas B. Felder, also mentioned in the proceedings, was "chief counsel." James Linton, an Ohio attorney, now a special assistant to the attorney-general, was one of his lawyers, Remus said, and received $9,000 or $10,000 "as a fee," but took up his department of justice work after entering Remus' service, and on explicit understanding that he would not attempt influence there.

In Washington, New York, Columbus and Indianapolis, Remus testified, his hasty meetings with Smith were staged. Always the money was paid in cash. His check records, now concealed, he added, would show merely as being made out to "cash," with penciled initials "J. S." upon them. Nobody but himself could find these, he said, and the committee arranged to send him under guard to get the records. There was "no sentiment" in his relations with Smith, the witness added, and the meetings were held merely for the transfer of money.—"Oregonian."

IMPURE BLOOD
brings on Bad Legs, Abscesses, Ulcers, Glandular Swellings, Eczema, Boils, Pimples and Eruptions, Piles, Rheumatism, Gout. To obtain complete and lasting relief, the blood must be thoroughly cleansed. Clarke's Blood Mixture quickly expels from the system all those impurities that lie at the bottom of all blood troubles and so restores health to the whole body.
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SPECIAL ARTICLES

A CURE FOR DEPRESSION

Notes of a Sermon Preached by the Rev. C. E. Darwent in Union Church, Tientsin, on Sunday Morning, May 18

Text: Hebrews I, 7 and 8;" And of the angels he saith,
Who maketh his angels winds,
And his ministers a flame of fire:
but of the Son he saith,
Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever;
And the sceptre of uprightness is the sceptre of thy kingdom."

This author, whoever he may have been, is writing to members of the Jewish race, who had become Christians. They seem to have been scattered about the world. And for some reason or other they were in a very depressed and doubtful state of mind. There may have been persecution by the Roman authorities and likely enough by their own countrymen. In any case they were scattered, low-spirited and depressed, and likely enough they were not sure, that they had taken the right step in abandoning their ancestral faith. This, one would think, must often happen to converts, both in ancient times, and in countries like China to-day. When times of stress and trouble come, there must be "great searchings of heart" to men who have changed their religion.

Therefore the problem for this writer, indeed it is the main purpose of the Letter, is to find some point of view which will cheer them up, get them up out of the mud of depression, out of all their doubts and fears and pessimisms. And no doubt, he thought well as to the line of thought he should take. We are often wrong in thinking, that because these men's books are in the Bible, they were thrown off with inspired ease and almost without effort. Nothing can be more erroneous. When, for instance, Paul says, that he "had determined to know nothing among men but Christ and Him crucified," it does not mean, that he made up his mind in a stupid obstinate way to make the death of Christ for sin the chief subject of his ministry. It means that he had gone over all he knew of Christ, and after mature reflexion on all the aspects of life and the teaching of the Gospel, he had come to the conclusion, that His atonement for sin stood first. So this writer must have thought well as to the line he should take in attempting to pick them up, and set them on their feet again.

The Dismal Jemmies.

And the line he takes is surely the wisest. He gets right to the centre. He tries to show them, that they had made no mistake at all, because Jesus Christ is so extraordinary and transcendant a Saviour. That is, the line he takes is to glorify Christ. He says, "O ye poor depressed people, look up! Try and see Jesus Christ and all He is, then you cannot be down-hearted." It is a very good line indeed, for one notices today, that the most "Dismal Jemmies" of pessimists as to the world and its future, such as Matthew Arnold, Clough, the poet, and Thomas Hardy the poet, and Bertrand Russell, are all men who have lost faith in Jesus Christ. Now wonder, they are "Dismal Jemmies." It does look as if it were cause and effect. It happens too frequently, that the men and women, who have lost the Christian faith in Jesus Christ are "Dismal Jemmies" for it to be a mere coincidence. People who talk about "The lost Radiance" of Christianity are very apt to have lost the radiance it sheds off all our life; life becomes a grey landscape, with little sun-gleam on hillside and rooftree.

There was the late Grant Allen. He was a most brilliant person. His name was at the head of articles on every kind of subject in the magazines, botany, geology, history, archæology; he was a Cyclopaedia of knowledge, which he could always convey in the most fascinating way. That was the bright side of him. But a friend of his, writing about him, says, "It is impossible to paint any portrait of Grant Allen without stating frankly, his outspokenness on the sex question. His friends knew that he was a free-lover as he was a free-thinker. He made no bones about it. He could not see that promiscuity hurt anybody. He was singularly blessed with a loving wife." Poor woman! It is time a little light was let in on some of these brilliant birds, who have "given up Christianity" and imagine the world can do better without it. We see what it so often comes to. In a world of men, like this, would there be any people at all? I should imagine that after a case like this, "loving wives" will prefer that their husbands should be the most orthodox of orthodox Christians.

Who Are the Backward?

One could go on a long time showing what the ultimate result of the rejection of Christian morals and of the influence of Christ comes to. Here is another of these advanced gentlemen, who have "given up Christianity." He is discussing the case of the backward races. And he has a cheerful proposition to make in regard to them. It is this; "A very good case can be made out by those writers who hold that races that cling incurably to barbarism ought to be painlessly extirpated or prevented from multiplying." Nice and cheerful for the backward races is that. I suppose this advanced thought writer is thinking of the "lethal chamber" into which the humane owners of unwanted puppies put them instead of resorting to the old and brutal method of a bucket of water. I think that if I belonged to a backward race I should prefer the method of the missionaries, who preach Jesus Christ, and who have sometimes waited 30 years before they have had a single convert, all because they had this singular faith, that this writer had, that there is simply no end to the grace and power of Jesus Christ. The consequence of which is, that it is absurd to be despondent about yourself, or about the poor "backward races," or even about "advance races," who seem sometimes to be repudiating the great Saviour to whom they owe everything, that has put them out of and above the category of "backward races."

The Illimitable Wonder.

This is the comfort, that this writer is trying to give to these depressed Hebrews. See how splendidly he puts it. He has fine things to say about the angels. He says of them, "Who maketh His angels winds; And his ministers a flame of fire." That is fine. To the ancients fire was a heavenly mystery and gift. They knew nothing about incandescent oxygen. Fire was to the most learned of them something divine. His angels are "fires"; marvellous, mysterious, awe-inspiring; what can they not do? Now, however, notice what he says about Christ;

"but of the Son he saith;
Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever;
And the sceptre of uprightness is the sceptre of thy kindom."

That is still finer, is it not? The writer has no hesitation in applying Psalm XLV verses six and seven to the Risen Christ. He makes no bones about it at all. He hasn't the mealy-mouthedness of some. Not he. He calls Him God. It is no use trying to whittle it down. He doesn't say he doesn't know who Christ is. And what he means is this, that as these people had put their faith in Christ they had put their faith in God. And he clinches it by the further statement, "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever."

His meaning is simple and grand, that there is *no end to Jesus Christ.* You can't exhaust Him. He is like the ocean, illimitable in everything that the distracted individual needs, and in everything, that nations need or ever will need. We are pretty ingenious at raising problems for Conferences to solve; and human sin is still more ingenious at creating problems, that would beat those fires, the angels, but they are not beyond the Son. "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever." There is no end to Jesus Christ. In referring your sinful self, and this sinful world to Him, you are referring them and yourself to an eternal and infinite Person. There is no possibility of exhausting Him. He is always equal to the occasion. That is what the text means. He is not like some of the mines, that old American writers on the first discovery of gold in California describe. Mark Twain is one of these writers. He tells how new-comers would buy a claim, and then have it explained to them by the seller, that the reef was poor at the surface, but the further you went down the richer it got. That was all very well, but the wretched buyers hadn't money to sink the mine a mile deep. It may have been a "bonanza." But you couldn't get at it. Christ is not like that. Touch Him at the surface, and "virtue proceedeth out of Him," as the poor woman, who touched Him in the press found out. Have a big faith in Him, as a Luther and a Bernard had, with heaps of learning as they had, and you find he is still like the ocean, illimitable, deep, all-sufficing; "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever." That is the eternal quality in Him, that gives Him the right to the title of "Saviour of the world."

The Ever Fresh.

This eternal quality in Him is the marvel of the world. And it is this quality in Him, that the writer of this epistle asks the readers of it to consider, and then at once cheer up. Take plain facts, that are open to everyone and you can't deny an infinite quality to Christ. There is preaching. On whom else could we preach at all? Not only in a course of two or a dozen lectures, but steadily through the year? It does not matter whether we do it well or ill. There are thousands and thousands of men who preach, that is, speak about Him at length, all through the year to the same people, with a few strangers present, now and then, and they are not tired. Nay, the more you preach about *Him*, and not around Him, the better they like it. Try that on anyone else, no matter how eminent, and you will see where you are. In three weeks or less they would be sick of him or her, no matter whether you chose Plato, Shakespeare, or Bacon or anyone else. Is there a play or a piece of music, that can get an audience at all more than once in a while? If a play runs a year, everyone throws up his hands in utter amazement at such a marvel. But the story of the love of God in "Christ and Him crucified" never loses its charm. No. It never lacks an audience. No. Some superior high-sniffing musical ultra refined souls affect to look down on a hymn like "Tell me the old, old story." But say what they like, it never lacks men and women glad to sing it, and to go away with their spirit up in the heavens, where Christ is. This has gone on for over 1900 years. And in spite of all the prophecies of the "decay of Christianity" the fact remains that Jesus Christ has more property of incalculable value devoted to His service than any one or thing else; He has more men and women and children who are glad to gather in audiences, great and small, then anyone else; He has more, who stay away if *He* is'nt preached, and rally again if He is. It is the standing audiences, the never-fading away audiences that are the witness to the fact, that "His throne is for ever and ever." There is in Him what men, who seek to hear of Him, find to be eternal, perpetual refreshment to mind, soul, and even body, none can deny this fact Try, if you like to get an audience in every town and village in England alone every week *on any other subject.* Try astronomy, psychology music, art (with a big inflated A), and as I have said, you will find out where you are. Bring it down to "hard-pan." You will have rent and up-keep to pay, and collection box empty. But the church of Christ goes on for ever and ever. It is about the only concern in the world, that is'nt virtually on the rocks, as so many nations are. Why? Because the great Christ of the Church is infinite. There is no end to His love, His attractiveness, His, wisdom, His charm, His ability to lift the soul out of its doldrums into the clear air of the heavens of God. Spurgeon could say truly, that "no one had ever been able to build a chapel big enough to contain all the people, who wanted to hear him at one time." That was true. But why did the crowds flock in to here Supurgeon? Because he had a matchless power of enabling the plain man, rich or poor, to see and feel the grace and eternal love and charm of this Christ, who lived in Galilee and was crucified outside Jerusalem. There is no escaping the statement of this writer

"but of the Son he saith;
Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever:
And the sceptre of uprightness is the sceptre of thy throne."

The Life Eternal.

I might take another line. Take individuals. If they really know Christ, do they ever get sick of Him, or bored with Him? No but the people, who never think about Him are always getting bored with their new sensations, and can't live without new stunts. How is that? Because eternity is in Him and not in these other things In a weekly denominational paper I get I read in every issue of some man or woman who has been a deacon or a Sunday School teacher, or elder, or steward of some little church for 40 and 50 years. There is an old man at home I know very, very well. He joined a church of Christ just 82 years ago, and like a certain pers he is "still going strong." Eigh two years is a good spell as an perience. And if you were suggest to him that it is about t he made a change and sought i piration, help, interest in some else, he would be very surpris And there are millions like him all Christendom, in churches great diversity. Yet all agree, t there is no end to the life of eve kind to be drawn from this Chri They cannot all be mental deficien It is simpler to agree with t writer; "Thy throne, O God, if f ever and ever." One might purs this subject into the general soc and international realm. It generally agreed by all sensi social reform people that if th could only get hold of the christi idea of Society, our social proble would be solved. Jesus Christ is more exhausted than He was wh He rose from the dead. "His thro is for ever and ever."

BRUSH WITH CHINESE BANDITS

Grim Ordeal in Raging River: Death Walk Through Field of M

BY JOHN HILDITCH, F.R.G.S., IN THE "MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE."

Mr. John Hilditch, the well-known Manchester authority and collector of Far Eastern curios, describes each week for the "Evening Chronicle" some of his many remarkable adventures while in search of specimens.

In the following article he tells of an encounter with bandits on a boat on China's biggest river and a grim life and death struggle through a treacherous morass.

* * *

Though the rivers of China generally are known as the Glory of China, there is one river at least that is known as China's Sorrow. That is the Yellow River, and it came very near to becoming my sorrow, too.

This river is too swift for ordinary navigation. In fact, it is too swift for either Mother Nature or human nature thoroughly to control.

The Yellow River is one of the world's wonders. It is thousands of miles long, and yet it flows through a land where even to-day, in all but the well-populated parts, the standard of living is but a bitter fight with the soil and water is ~~priced at fourpence and sixpence per~~ bucket.

We were in the Province of Kansu, and had already seen something of the might of the river that in the last two centuries is reputed to have carried away in its destructive flow not less than seven million people.

We had come to a point where the river, some miles from Niang-ho, divides two towns, and where is situate one of the few places in the river rendered passable, and that only by the keenness and agility of the boatmen, who watch the great river closely. For it is only at rare moments that the men can take their spring and venture their craft into the mass of seething water, and by dint of hard labour and disdain of fear contrive to get themselves, and whatever passengers are entrusted to them, across the rude waters.

There were only two of us, and we were waiting somewhat eagerly for this difficult and dangerous advantage. At last the opportunity came.

We stepped off the banks of golden mud at sound of the ringing cry of the boatman, and took our seats within the low wooden walls of the boat that looked like a cut-down railway wagon.

There were three men in charge, and there were two passengers, and it ocurred to me that I had never before met with boatmen of a nature so quiet.

The fares the men asked, with taels for tips, were paid in advance.

You cannot cut across a fast-going river in a straight line. You must ease your boat to the current, and you must zig-zag just as sometimes a tired horse is seen to do when pulling a weight uphill.

But it had seemed to me that at least we should be across in 15 minutes, provided we met no misadventures. I was mistaken.

When we had imperilled ourselves on the breast of the river for double that time, and when, as I thought, the men were still playing for safety, the quietude of the boatmen collapsed.

They took from the pockets of their slight tunics the money we had paid them, and by many signs and wonders endeavoured to make us see that it was not enough.

Chien-bi (money) *Chien-bi Chien-bi* they all cried in unisc with anger in their voices. I sto perplexed, but hardly dismaye until the first man let go his oar and then I realized that if that w to be the game the Yellow Riv was going to be our grave.

Chien-bi! Still the men shoute and my co-passenger, fello countryman of the brigands (for I now termed them in my mind stood like a figure carved by h country's great sculptors.

With the increased swirl a swell of the river the men saw the chance, and, as the waters thundere past, my co-passenger was sudden felled to the floor of the boat.

Alert as a sparrow, however, h regained his feet, and, springin upon his assailant, threw him dow and, planting his feet upon his bod took the oars in his own hand.

How the box of a boat kept righ side up was a mystery to me.

Difficult Landing.

The second man turned his ragin tyes upon myself. There was a ne grin, fierce, fiendish determinatio upon that boatman's face, he wh had previously looked so trust worthy.

In a moment the man had sprun upon me and was yelling *Chien-bi.* caught him and held him as in vice, and then I turned about th slippery creature and shook him a man was never shaken before.

Less mercy than that he certainl deserved, but who but the skille could get us across that river? was beginning to wish I had neve seen it.

But the brigand, after his attemp upon my own person, tried me n further, and settled to his ow task.

In that old tub little did I think we should ever land. When we di it was in a bed of quagmire, an only with extreme difficulty.

There was no firmness anywhere and when one foot went down int the softness the other had to g down after it because there wa nothing upon which it could kee up!

No man spoke, but the thick slimy composition, as foot after foot went in and out, yielded a soft clicking noise, wicked and irritating

The boatman who had been the first to take hand from oar in the boat was now embedded to the waist, and perspiration was flowing in wide streaks like potter's glaze over all his face.

I, with advantage in height, fared better, but all my fellows were in a weary plight.

It was a case not of sink or swim, but of sink or wriggle, and how long the wriggling must last no man knew.

We were facing a wall which even could it be reached could not be climbed, it being of smooth glazed titles. It had in it, however, a gateway, and this was our goal.

But while our aching limbs still tussled with the slime, evening began to dim the scene around us, and we knew that with darkness the gate would be closed.

The sandals or shoddy foot gear of the Celestials had long since been left in the mire, and their owners were the better off.

I, unfortunately, was wearing boots, to be able to dispense with which I would have given anything.

Through tops and through lace-holes the miry stuff had sunk, and

...ammed my feet that I could al-
...t feel the cessation of circula-

...wilight seemed to rush past us
...her than fall upon us, and soon
...were but dim receding figures to
...ch other.

At last the moon shone out and
...t a whitened shaft along the sea
...oud. It gave to one of the boat-
...n strength for a fresh effort, and
the cost of what must have been
tremendous pull upon every part
his being I could see his head
...d shoulders slowly shifting on
...d on towards that gateway.

Soon there was a shout with a
...e of glee attending it, and I, who
...s now not very far behind him,
...w his body lengthen and his lower
...bs come into sight.

It was a tremendous moment. I
...outed and shouted, also with glee
...r my voice, but, as I did so, I
...opped into a fresh morass which
...ok me nearly to the neck. From
...is it took me long to recover my-
...lf, it being the deepest morass I
...d struck.

As I managed to drag up my body
...re came across that wretched
...aste the sound of a knocking, and
knew that one man, at least, had
...ached the gateway. Indeed, I
...uld dimly see him, and beyond the
...all I could see, too, a tower with
...en windows.

It was well for us that the
...hinese have a mystical love for the
...oon, since to admire it that night
...lady with her attendants had
...scended the tower, from whence
...ecks were seen moving in the mud,
...d knocking heard at the gate.

It was thus came our deliverance.
...eliverance, that is, for those of us
...ho had so far delivered ourselves
...to drag our feet to *terra firma*.

But for one of the five—he who
...d been first to drop his oars—
...ere was no deliverance.

He had found his grave in that
...d of seething mire.

We slept that night upon the floor
...f a pagoda just within the gateway
...at had been our door of hope.
...he fingers of the clock had gone,
...deed, their full round before I
...woke. And when my eyes at last
...pened, it was to meet the smile of
...a Celestial in a painting which hung
...beside me on the wall.

Later I found that the lady who
...ad been our deliverer, never having
...een an Englishman, desired to ins-
...ect myself.

But later she changed her mind,
...inking, perhaps, the ordeal would
...vercome her. Yet still desirous of
...howing kindness to the foreigner,
...he sent her servant to my floor in
...he pagoda, bearing the ancient
...igure of the goddess Kwanyin, to
...hose help, doubtless, she attributed
...er share in rescuing me from
...eath.

"CRUEL ONLY TO BE KIND"

(TRANSLATED FROM THE CHINESE OF JUAN YI-TZU, B.C. 100, AT 71.2).

"Then he seized me by the collar,
"Cruel only to be kind,
"And to my exceeding dolour
"Gave me several slaps behind."
(Tom Hood)

∴

It almost breaks my heart to tell
What tribulation sad befell
The naughty little Chu Chao Hsin
Who was so very expert in
The art of using verbal speech
In order to impress and teach
Something like truth—well, near
enough;
In short, the merry art of bluff.
He took a lot of people in,
Did wily little Chu Chao Hsin,—
Old women dressed as diplomats
And mission folks and such like flats,
Who all unite to loudly bellow
"The Chinese is a splendid fellow!"
So with soft soap they gently eased
The humbug stuff which Chu was
pleased
To scatter round to serve his ends,
Deceiving unenlightened friends.

But to this rotten paradise
There came a youth to whom the vice
Of humbug was the rag of red
That makes the bull charge right ahead.
And one day, at a soft soap dinner,
Thundered the youth to Chu, "You sin-
ner!
"No more soft soap can Patience stand,
"We'll scour you well with Monkey
brand
"Laid on with tongue that's rough and
ready."
Poor Chu, with feelings most unsteady,
Rising as well as he was able,
Collapsed beneath the dinner table.
Old women shouted "Fie! Bad youth!
"No decent people tell the truth
"When truth is not polite to tell."
The youth just murmured "Go to Hel-
'singfors" (somewhere in Finland
found);
And stood his anti-humbug ground.

E'en Chu's thick hide cannot with-
stand
The scouring rough of Monkey brand;
He on his bed of gall lies sore,
Lies as he never lied before
With soft soap ointment on the raw,
Soliloquizing "What a bore!
"The truth is very hard to bear,
"And if we don't take special care
"This Monkey brand, though impolite,
"May show us in our truest light!"

RABINDRANATH TAGORE'S MISSION

The Quest and Gospel of the Ultimate Truth: The Brotherhood of Man: The World's Need for Individuals, not Organizations: A Tribute to the Parsees

During his visit to Shanghai, Dr. Rabindranath Tagore visited the Parsee Social Hall as the guest of the Parsee community and delivered a most striking address. He was welcomed with the reading of an address drafted on behalf of the local Parsee community in which appreciative reference was made to him as "one of the most illustrious sons of Asia of the Twentieth Century" and he was hailed as one who followed the teachings of Zoroaster. Dr. Tagore, addressing his audience as Sisters and Brothers, said in part:—

I am expected to make a formal speech on a subject which in itself is so deep, the theme so intense, that I very often feel it is an act of impiety to be talking about it in a meeting of a formal character. My speech shall needs be with limitations. The Ultimate Truth, I feel to many, sounds so small, trival and insignificant, but in reality what sounds like children's work has a deep significance requiring profound thought to unravel it. In modern parlance it goes unheeded, regardless, and is considered something superficial. The idea is very great; it is all along with them but is too difficult to comprehend for those of us who are thickly surrounded by and move about in fashionable circles. Unfortunately for our age, we do not heed people who fearlessly strive to stand before us with some message to deliver, but we turn our backs to the message which arises from the heart of humanity. We live in this age, the age of Journalism, of cheap ideas and cheap glory and we forget the immense seriousness of life and lose sight of the great purpose of human history.

All the great countries had the basis of their greatness on the sound value of men. These were the great individuals upon whom has been built the great civilization and culture of the world. Now the time has come when our age, which has been a good deal dimmed and shrouded in externals, should strive to clip some of these externals. We cannot afford any longer to remain within our enclosures of national abnegation. All the great teachers of the world strove hard to bring to light the supreme truth which till then remained dormant in unexplored regions. One of the greatest and the earliest of these masters was Zoroaster. They appealed to men, aroused them from their deep slumber of ages to come out from their self-centred egoistic lives and exert their breath for the realization of Truth. Men have not lived up to the ideals and standards set by them. They raised their voices in vain and the world goes on in its boundless revolutions and disasters. And who am I? I have not the strength to utter. My voice is too feeble to arouse humanity from its stupor of slumber and its intemperance. We have not attained our goal. Materialistic ideals pervade the present atmosphere, but they are of no account. The successes of the powerful, the rich, the vainglorious cannot enter the higher field. The rich, the powerful, self-centred souls are rejected. They leave nothing behind them. They have not that illumination which may lighten and shed its lustrous beams on their onward path. Riches, which they strive hard to muster, die with them without any trace.

Realizing the Ideal.

Humanity has been struggling for centuries for the realization of the ideal and I feel the inadequacy of my strength and my voice. I am not able to convince men of the great truth of this mission—the realization of Spiritual Unity. For those who have a natural kindling of faith, who follow dictates of their nature, it is quite easy to love their own people. This is not of much moment, but the time has come when the links of the chain of fellowship and brotherhood of humanity should be strengthened and further cemented. We are in the open, and we have met together, and what path is there which can make us one, which can unite us together? That is the obligation resting upon us and which has tended to flow during the whole course of history. One after another great masters arose, taught people and vanished. The world still goes on its course, throbbing. Still it is on its way towards Spiritual Unity. Miseries and sufferings there are without number and the present age is aching with pain. Why is that the case? Because we have not attained the Truth. We are all suffering from the lack of that essential potent element—Truth. We are out of touch with reality. We are like shadows not in touch with light and grapple with common leaves which fall off and are of no account. We attach importance to ever-changing passing clouds which change their line and colour. But we have been gifted with souls, and that has its own illumination, but its horizon is all obscured by our selfish passion and indifference. A cloud of dust obstructs the vision. We lose our birth-right in this world—the edification of our soul. Only it has to be tuned, it has to be revealed. It pines for that and that must happen. The inherent voice is ever urging us to bring out the lamp which is vanishing, unnourished.

Due to such convulsions, the whole of nature suffered and is suffering. The Great War and the rivalry amongst the class divisions are producing conflagration and a spirit of hostility all over the world, which is but the sign of the failure of humanity to attain the supreme essential Truth. Are we going to languish in this state of affairs? Are we going to make bliss? We have not come in touch with supreme Truth and have no faith to approach it. We are doomed and rejected and swept off like drooping shadows and passing clouds. I do not know how to make it clear to you; how to call you out in the joint meeting when all depends upon individuals.

Never think that we as individuals are insignificant. The great history of men from times eternal has been founded on individuals. The Western culture also rests upon one individual. You have mentioned in your address the name of that great master and leader of men, Zoroaster; he was the one ardent soul who, with his dauntless efforts and teachings, has saved millions of men from utter futility and ruin. Truth is wailing for individuals and not for big organizations. You may be ignored by the fashionable, spurned by the powerful and clever, but any individual, although he has no name or fame, may find his soul higher and brighter by the touch of Truth and he is our leader without knowing it. We are waiting for such a leader who has all the ideals. My friends, do not ask me to make formal speeches about the subject, about people of weak faith and vaccilating minds. I think that it does not rest upon me to claim any result, if I hear the call of truth. I am responsible for the work (the University at Shantiniketan) for giving expression and shape to it and the rest is in the hands of the Almighty.

Parsee Enthusiasm.

My friends, before I sit down, I must express my deep-felt gratitude to the Parsee community. From the beginning, when my ideal was cherished by me, they have come out and have offered me their valuable help with real enthusiasm. I must say I am deeply grateful to them. Two or three years ago, I had no experience of Parsees, or of what they were like. It was because I was far away from that part of India, Bombay, where they live. I had no opportunity to meet you before and I am glad that this mission of mine has brought me in contact with you, and let me tell you are very near my heart. I feel at home with them, not because they are my friends, but some time before, when they failed to realize the ideal, they have helped me in its realization and for this I am deeply gratified and I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you, though far away from India.

A SONG OF PEACH-BLOSSOM FOUNTAIN

(TRANSLATED BY WITTER BYNNER AND KIANG KANG-HU.)

The fisherman is drifting, enjoying the spring-mountains,
Where the peaches on both banks lead to an ancient source.
Watching the fresh-coloured trees, he never thinks of distance
Till he comes to the end of the blue stream and suddenly—strange men!
Its cave—with mouth so narrow that he has to crawl;
But then it opens wide again on a broad and level path—
And far beyond he faces clouds crowning a reach of trees
And thousands of houses shadowed round with flowers and bamboos. . .
Woodsmen tell him their names in the ancient speech of Han;
And clothes of the Chin Dynasty are worn by every one
Living on the uplands, along the Wu-ling River,
On farms and in gardens that are like a world apart. . . .
Peaceful stand their houses under pines in the clear moon,
Till sunrise fills the low sky with sound of dogs and fowl.
At tidings of a stranger, the people all assemble,
And each of them invites him home and asks him where he was born.
Boys and girls in the morning sweep his path of petals,
And fishermen and farmers bring him their loads at dusk. . . .
They left the world long ago, they came here seeking refuge
And have lived like angels ever since, blessedly far away,
No one in the cave knowing anything outside,
Outsiders viewing only empty mountains and thick clouds. . . .
The fisherman, unconscious of his great good-fortune,
Begins to think of country, of home, of worldly ties,
Emerges from the cave again, past mountains and past rivers,
Intending sometime to return, when he has told his kin.
He studies every step he takes, fixes it well in mind,
And never dreams that cliffs and peaks may meanwhile change their form. . .
It is certain that, t oenter through the deepness of the mountain,
A green water leads you, into a misty wood.
But now, wiith spring floods everywhere and floating peachpetals,
Which is the one to follow? Where is the holy fountain?

WANG WÊI.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

Full information is obtainable on application to The Secretary, Southern Rhodesia Settlers' Board (attached to the Government of Southern Rhodesia), P. O. Box 372, Salisbury S., Rhodesia.

The giving of advice to prospective settlers will be facilitated if applicants will advise the Board in detail of their circumstances and the amount of capital they would be prepared to invest in a suitable venture.

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SHANGHAI TIENTSIN

THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

Mr. J. C. Squire is at present compiling an anthology of humorous verse. He is subjecting the poems to severe test, for he is determined to exclude any poem which is not calculated to make the reader laugh aloud.

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A bronze statue of Sir William Blackstone, the celebrated author of the Commentaries on English Law published in 1769, is to be presented to the Temple by the American lawyers who are visiting England next month. Black-stone's "Commentaries" long remained the leading text-book on law, and, though it has been superseded, is still the foundation on which the various British and American treaties on English law are based.

∴

The general political and economic situation, the presence of Mr. Snowden at the Exchequer and the stir caused by the presentation of Labour's first Budget, will doubtless send many readers—anxious to penetrate the mind of the present keeper of the nation's purse—to that interesting work, "Labour and the New World," by the Rt. Hon. Philip Snowden, M.P., a new and revised edition of which has recently been published by Cassell.

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Messrs. Heinemann have just published "Augustus Carp, Esq. (Being the Autobiography of a Really Good Man), by Himself." This book is that rarity, a book of humour. The illustrations by "Robin" are an additional joy.

∴

Mr. Oppenheim's inventive genius appears to be an inexhaustible fountain. Drink we at it never so often, its freshness, its inimitable sparkle, its exciting tonic qualities persist. His last book, "The Seven Conundrums," intrigues us as surely as any of its predecessors. The story gets into stride with the first chapter, in which a trio of destitute though respectable "buskers" are induced to sell their souls, for good or ill, to a mysterious modern Mephistopheles. The idea of employing this innocent little itinerant concert-party for a series of secret service jobs of the first importance is distinctly novel, and each of the seven conundrums in which they are involved has its own peculiar thrill.

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The titles of some of his works—and not only those on mathematics—would surprise the people who only know Lewis Carroll as the author of "Alice in Wonderland" and "Alice Through the Looking Glass," and perhaps "Sylvie and Bruno." It appears, from one item, that Lewis Carroll was also the inventor of a game of circular billiards, which sounds rather like a collaboration between the author of "Alice in Wonderland" and the author of "Condensation of Determinants." It is still difficult to believe them one and the same person.

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Mr. Eveleigh Nash is publishing a novel which, he thinks, takes rather original ground, and if that be so, why, it should be welcome. This ground is indicated by the title the author, Mr. Pearson Choate, has found for it, "The King Who Went on Strike." "Is it not strange," writes Carlyle somewhere, "that so few kings abdicate, and none yet heard of has been known to commit suicide? Fritz, the first King of Prussia, alone tried, and they cut the rope." Probably Mr. Pearson Choate got the idea for his story from this Carlylean passage. Anyhow, his text is, the fixity with which kings have stuck to their jobs and their thrones.

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Good Johnsonians may think an abridged edition of Boswell's life of the master a laying of profane hands on a sacred literary covenant. There is probably, however, a public who would be glad to have the book in shorter compass. Anyhow, Mr. Archibald Marshall, the novelist, has made an abridgment, and it is now in course of being printed. He has always been a great student of Johnsonia. He knows the biography as few know it, and he has taken the greatest pains. By this, it is meant that he has omitted nothing which should be left in and left out nothing which could not be spared without hurt to the narrative.

"RACE" AND ITS AUTHOR

It must be very galling to an author to be told that he continually reminds his renders of Galsworthy, or Conrad, or Kipling, or May Sinclair, or someone else. Comparison in criticism is fatally easy. Sometimes it is justified: sometimes it is only a short and easy way of indicating the manner or style of an author; and often does him an injustice.

I imagine Mr. William McFee must have got tired of being compared with Conrad; though it must be admitted, in defence of harassed reviewers, that Mr. McFee's manner sometimes seemed to ask for it. And there is also the fact that both were in the merchant service. But perhaps a revulsion against the Conradian label has induced Mr. McFee, the novelist, to leave the sea for dry grund—and quite fresh ground.

His new novel "Race" is anything but Conradian, either in manner or conception. It has nothing to do with the sea; it is—if a label is any use at all—more the sort of crowded, leisurely book one would have expected from the late William de Morgan.

It begins in Barnet, in the spacious days when the tall safety bicycle was something new and very daring. It is about middle-class and very real people; but there seems, in the first few pages, to be such a lot of them.

This sort of story is quite unexpected from Mr. McFee; but the other and more familiar McFee manages to get a word in sometimes: as when we are told of his heroine, hearing a stanza from Keats for the first time, that she "had never heard poetry uttered before save when it was given out for parsing, and she trembled with the ecstasy of those to whom words are like shells from distant shores, smooth and lovely, and full of strange noises garnered from countless ages." There speaks the true artist in words.

I do not think Mr. McFee, either in this or his earlier vein, is as well known in this country as he deserves. They seem to think more of him in America. But the comparative few who do know his work are very faithful; and I should never be surprised to hear of the formation of a McFee Club, on the lines of the Aldous Huxley Club which I mentioned some times ago.

Mr. McFee, by the way, has been confessing to his American admirers that he "commenced author" while still at school, where the rumour that he had written a story caused him to be regarded with deep suspicion by his school-fellows.—"Evening Standard."

THE STORY OF FASCISM

ROME OR DEATH: THE STORY OF FASCISM. By Carleton Beals. 12s. 6d. (John Long.)

Success is its only justification; and there can be no doubt that Fascism, under the impulse of the dictator-demagogue, Mussolini, has succeeded amply. So ruthless and generally erratic an instrument of reform as autocracy in action is a dangerous weapon for most countries to use; but Italy, with its old dilatoriness and unsettlement, has proved able to benefit from the sharp medicine. How long Fascism will remain a force of effective government is a question it is unsafe to answer. Prophecy is impossible in the case of nations, especially of southern nations; but this is sure, that if the "black shirts" went to-morrow, their influence would remain and on the whole for good. They have cleared up Italy and given it a new energy and pride. The story of the origins, rise and triumph of the Fascisti is detailed in this book by an American. Mr. Beals was so closely associated with the movement, although from outside, that his volume opens with bloodshed in his presence. It happened to be the blood of a poor plodding and innocent ass; but there was plenty of good will or bad behind the shooting. Mr. Beals writes with enthusiasm and arouses interest.

INDIA

The Vast Problem Confronting Great Britain

"INDIA: A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW." By the Earl of Ronaldshay, P.C., G.C.S.I. (Constable. 18s.).

"As rivers of water in a dry place," so is this attractive volume. For there is nothing so dry as the arid deserts of pessimism, and of pessimism on the subject of India we have recently had enough. Has not "Al Carthill" been explaining to us that we have lost India and the manner of our losing it? Has not M. Romain-Rolland been assuring us that Western civilization has collapsed, and that the gospel of Mr. Gandhi alone can save us? It is refreshing, therefore, to find a very different thesis in this study by a far-travelled observer and an acute thinker, Lord Meston writes, in a "Sunday Times" review. Unshaken by the gusts of passion which are sweeping over India at the moment, he takes a wider vision of the country and its problems. He discovers no melancholy omens that we have lost, or are engaged in losing, India. He has mistakes to tell us of, and cautions to administer; but he is not ashamed of the British work in India, and the psychology of the people convinces him that they still continue to need our help and guiding. It certainly does not detract from the weight of his judgments that Lord Ronaldshay knows his India well, at first hand, and in various capacities, and that for five years he has governed the great province of Bengal with unostentatious and brilliant success. His bird's-eye view, as he modestly calls it, brings home to the thinking Englishman, in a way that no recent narrative has done, the challenge and the appeal of the Indian situation.

Yet it is in no sense a political treatise; nor is it a guide-book, or an encyclopædia. It selects and describes, vividly, as in a series of cameos, a few episodes in Indian history, a few phases of Indian thought, a few scenes in the Indian landscape; we read them, and all unawares we find ourselves with a clearer understanding of the chief preoccupations of India to-day. Some of the cameos—dawn on the frontier, the tragedy at Kerbela, the rainy season in Eastern Bengal, the Holi festival— are gems of word painting; and a number of excellent photographs add to the reader's pleasure.

Influence of Environment.

When a student of human nature sets out to describe a country and its story, he cannot keep human nature long out of sight; and the background of all Lord Ronaldshay's pictures is the influence of environment upon the character and temperament of the people. He quotes, not wholly without approval, the view that Nature, in the West a rugged power to be fought and overcome, in the East a garment of friendship, has made the European a utilitarian and the Indian an idealist. But whatever hand climate may have had in framing philosophies, climate and philosophies between them are responsible for the Indian outlook on life; for it is in malaria and *Karma* that the ingrained fatalism of the land has its roots. Malaria, carried by the mosquito from which no man escapes, accounts for an appalling death-roll, and saps the vigour and fecundity of the living. Karma, or the doctrine of the remorseles reincarnation of the individual soul until at last, by asceticism and meditation, it is absorbed in the Supreme Soul, produces a weariness of life and an indifference to life's healthy activities. The chosen few may vanquish these terrible handicaps; but with the masses they bar the way to what we should regard as the normal instinct of man to strive after betterment. For Karma Lord Ronaldshay does not venture on an antidote; Hinduism, with its profound speculations into the mysteries of the universe, has never been able to devise a sunny creed, and, if light is to come, it must clearly come from without. Of the fight against malaria, on the other hand, the prospects are more cheerful; an interesting chapter tells how the drainage of the Bengal swamps is being tackled and the breeding-grounds of the mosquito despoiled. The task, however, is gigantic, and means a revolution in the habits of the people.

India and Democracy.

Things being as they are, one question at once assails us: On such a foundation of malarial body and fatalistic mind can India ever hope to build up democracy and industralism? Lord Ronaldshay is obviously doubtful. Our incorrigible confidence in the superiority of our own political nostrums is, he hints, the only driving power behind our gift of the elective principle; whatever politicians may pretend, it has awakened no answering chord in India's secret ambitions. Similarly, he fears that the organization of power industries on a large scale is alien to the genius of the Indian people; "the workman's heart is not amidst the restless and tireless machinery alongside of which he toils;" and he is consequently doomed to inefficiency. If we are wrong in pressing representative institutions and industrial development on India, Lord Ronaldshay does not suggest alternatives. Perhaps they are reserved for the following volume which he promises, and to which we shall look forward with keen anticipation.

Behind the climate and psychology and the play of temperament, there stand two of India's gravest practical issues—her racial problem and her North-West frontier. It is the fashion to belittle the one, as it is sometimes convenient to forget the other; but they are both stark realities. How deep and fundamental are the differences between Hindu and Moslem is made abundantly clear by Lord Ronaldshay; and in five instructive chapters he traces the history and the increasing magnitude of the frontier question. Our first punitive expedition in Waziristan was with a force of 1,500 men: our latest required an army of 80,000. The Tirah campaign cost £124,000; the operations of 1919-20 cost £16,000,000. In some ways this is the most striking part of the book. It warns us that, whatever place we may allow for sentiment in the great political experiment which is proceeding in India to-day, we must keep a reserve of unfettered power to prevent the whole structure from dissolving in violence.

MR. SHAW

A Deeply Religious Man.

"BERNARD SHAW." By Edward Shanks. (Writers of the Day Series). Nisbet. 2s.

There are many books about Mr. Shaw—and one more, if we count that brilliant treatise which, under the title of "Bernard Shaw," Mr. Chesterton wrote about Mr. Chesterton. But there was room for another, and Mr. Shanks was the man to write it.

All subjects, indeed, are inexhaustible. Your true poet, if he is moved to write about the stars, is not embarrassed by the thousands who have done so before him; the essence of his poetic faculty is that what he has to say is unique, and could not possibly have been anticipated. So with your true critic. Mr. Shanks has something unique to say even about Mr. Shaw.

His analysis of his subject as novelist, critic, dramatist, "writer of prefaces" and philosopher, is thorough and acute Characteristically, he tells us,

> Mr. Shaw was born romanticist, and moralist and iconoclast at once; and therefore the only possible successful expression for him was in comedy.

And further:

> He is, in truth, a deeply religious man, and he has written of nothing so much as of religion. But he has suffered all his life under a handicap, which is that he is shy of using that word as he is shy of using the name of God, yet cannot find any proper substitutes for them.

This last reproach may, to some, appear to be refuted by "Saint Joan," on which Mr. Shanks has been able only to touch. But what I take to be its implication remains unrefuted. Certainly Mr. Shanks is right in saying that Mr. Shaw has "a real philosophy, in which he believes with all his heart:" certainly he is right in saying that Mr. Shaw is not a logical thinker. It must follow—as indeed was proved by "Back to Methuselah"—that the intellectual aspect of the Shavian philosophy is not the most impressive. The moral matters more to Mr. Shaw than the intellectual. He is prophet, hero, genius, wit, seer—last of the great Victorian romantics, inspirer of a high faith in the unpredictable future. Why should we ask him for a consistent philosophy?—"Daily News."

GILBERT AND SULLIV

THE STORY OF THE SAVOY OPERA. S. J. Adair FitzGerald. With Introduction by T. P. O'Con M.P. 5s. (Stanley Paul.)

There could not have been happier choice of an historian the Savoy Opera, for Mr. Ad FitzGerald has not only seen all operas from the start, but in days knew everybody who took in their presentation. Here he given an authoritative and ent taining account of the origin of operas, full records of everythi of interest concerning them, inclu ing the worries and triumphs author, composer and producer, enriched his chronicle with generous supply of delightful an dotes and the witty sayings of G bert who by turns could be the kin est and unkindest of men and spo according to his moods. The nume ous illustrations include portraits Gilbert and Sullivan, and the acto who became famous at the Savo and fascimile reproductions special programmes. Never has t story of the Savoy operas been to more fully, from the production "Thespis" in 1871 to the latest vivals, and never has it been to more interestingly or more ably. is a book that all good Savoyar will want, attractively produce and at a price that brings it withi everybody's reach.

A GREAT TEACHER OF MUSIC

Leopold Auer, the famous Hun garianborn violinist and a grea teacher of great artistes like Misch Elman and Jascha Heifetz, was bor 79 years ago, and his reminiscences "My Long Life in Music" (Duck worth, 21s.), cover a long an wonderful period in the history o music. He knew all the grea musicians and composers of hi time, and his pages contain interest ing references to such giants a Wagner, Liszt, Brahms (with whom he played at Hamburg), Joachim the Rubinsteins, Tchaikovsky, and Nikisch. The author lived for many years in Russia, his adopted country and in the Bolshevist revolution he lost all his possessions, including his library and manuscripts, but his memory has served him well in this volume, which is generously leavened with anecdote. There is a story of Rossini found by a friend studying the score of "Tristan and Isolde." "Ah," said Rossini, "it is a beautiful work!" The friend was dumbfounded to find that he was reading the score wrong side up. "You are reading the music upside down," he said. Rossini, who was no more an admirer of Wagner than were most other Parisians of his day, inverted the score and then said, after a glance, "Alas, now I cannot make head or tail of it!"

In the course of a tour in the Near East, Auer played before Sultan Abdul Hamid II., a great lover of music, and was told that on no account must he cease playing until the Sultan should deign to give the signal by an inclination of his head. The author played two or three small pieces, being careful to keep his eyes glued on the Sultan's face in case he gave the sign:—

> The Sultan, however, never moved; and before long—since it was very warm in the hall and the air was damp—I found it necessary to tune my violin. I had no sooner started tuning it than Aranda Pasha (head of the Sultan's orchestra) hurried up to me and in a nervous manner begged me to continue playing. I explained to him that my instrument was out of tune and that before I could go on playing I should have to tune it. In a great state of agitation, he hissed into my ear, *"Cela ne fait rien; allez toujours."*

Fortunately, it was not long after this that the Sultan smiled at Auer and gave him permission to withdraw, and subsequently he presented him with a Turkish order and a small leather bag containing one hundred Turkish pounds in gold.

An order for a million copies of their six-penny reprints of standard works such as "Oliver Twist" and "Robinson Crusoe," in the "Readers' Library" of the Readers' Library Publishing Company, has been received from Messrs. F. W. Woolworth. Is this a record for a single order for books from one firm?

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

A MAHJONGG LAMENT

Sing a song of Mahjongg—dragons green and white—
Four crazy women playing day and night
Bridge I like but Mahjongg I like far the best
Though my luck is rotten and my chips go West

I collect the East Wind, Circles or Bamboos
Characters and "Goofies" yet I always lose.
When I try for "No" Score some one has all "Cracks"
Making me so angry I could bite the racks.

If I want my own Wind someone pungs it first
Or they chow the rice bird when for it I thirst
and
When I've got a good hand of dragons and a Kong
Someone tripes upon my left and promptly goes Mahjongg.

O. B. I.

TENNIS TEAS

Why Men Love Mixed Doubles

BY ELIZABETH PEPYS.

Scene, a large shady verandah looking out upon a garden, in the centre of which are two tennis courts filled with players. There are perhaps eight people on the verandah, most of them industriously tucking away a highly superior tea. Enter Sybil Hillier, voguishly attired in a smart blouse of white worsted darned on heavy net, embroidered in red and black in near-Egyptian designs, a white flannel wrap-around skirt and the tiniest of white felt cloches. We believe she carries a tennis racket, but that is a mere detail.

In the ensuing greetings and introductions, Sybil, while murmuring polite banalities, unerringly selects the best-looking male and sinks into his chair with a look which starts him in the direction of a stool on which he seats himself at her side. Sybil continuing, "Yes, thanks, tea. It's such a comfort to feel that one is really entitled to tea when one is going in for strenuous exercise. I always allow myself at least a hundred extra calories when I'm golfing or riding. Really tennis ought to rate 150 extra, don't you think so? Yes, I'm sure you do by the sympathetic glance you cast at the buttered scones across the table. Could you? O thank you so much.

"Isn't it a treat to come to a tennis tea where people are actually playing. You always do? That's because you have decision of character. Of course you have. I can tell it from the way you eat a cream puff. It's not every man who who can appear so casual and yet have so complete a mastery of it. No, Mr. Considine, no indeed, I just say what I think, I'm so impulsive you know.

"You're not the Mr. Considine who won the finals last year? Not really? Yes, of course I remember you. It was a wonderful game, wasn't it? That's just like you silent sportsmen, but I think it was. I dote on tennis, simple *dote* on it, but I can't seem to find time to play. Isn't life positively galloping in Shanghai?

"Yes, I used to play a lot. Yes. O, not since I was in the school room. Last summer I was sailing so much, and summer before that it was polo. No, I wasn't exactly playing, but I was always on the club verandah.

"O, are they ready for another set? Why, we haven't had our ice-cream yet. You're going to play any way? O, well, of course I can have an ice later. No, I shan't mind waiting, thank you. No, no, I'm quite ready. It won't make you too conceited will it, if I tell you I'd rather play with you. You see though I used to play rather a crack game, one does get out of practice and I suppose there are new styles in tennis just as there are in tennis shoes. Don't you rather like these? They're strapped with real alligator.

"Do I stand here? How silly of me! You see I've not played before this year. No, no, I'd just as soon play as not. You can give me any suggestions and I'll carry them out. Just be frank in saying whether you'd rather have me play a smashing game or just place my balls so as to tire them out. And don't be afraid to criticize my style. I dare say you may be more in touch with the latest fads than I am.

"Our opponents look so business-like, don't they? I may be wrong, but I don't see why a girl can't dress attractively even if she is going in for sports. No, thank you, I don't think my skirt will be too long. Do you think buckskin or kid is smarter for tennis shoes this year?

"What? Are they ready? Certainly, partner. Oh, it is our turn to keep changing? Don't you think that's rather silly? Not that I mind the extra exercise but I should think the game would be just as good without it. Of course, if they're used to it, as you say. Yes. I'm quite ready.

"Sorry, partner. You see I thought that ball was going to go back to you, and then it didn't. You can't always depend on intuition, can you? Our game? Ready? I knew the game would come back to me as soon as I got a racket in my hand. We don't change this time? Of course not. What, their game already? Well, win and let win, is always my motto. My serve? Good! I always win on my serve. Try to place my second ball any way? I'm just fooling them now. You wait and see. What? Game? Do you think that score was right? Of course I never argue a point, but I don't see how it could have been their game.

"Another game? Come partner, we really must put our backs into it. That's better. Sorry! You might have hit that if I hadn't tried for it, mightn't you? I'm so impulsive. Do you remember the funny story they told about the semi-finals last year? Why, I wasn't ready for that ball; otherwise I should have returned it, of course. Is that quite fair? Of course I never argue, but—

"It's terribly hot, isn't it? Don't you like to stop between games? Yes, I suppose the others do want

NOTE THE RUFFLED VOGUE

to play. Goodness knows any one could have had my place. I only played because the others insisted on it. That's ours? No? Well, I don't understand that, but I wouldn't dream of disputing.

"There are advantages to golf, though some players do push you right along as if they had a train to catch. And speaking of teas—Sorry! You should wait till I say ready. Set? Ours? No? Now what do you suppose put us off our game? Do you think this racket is right for me? My wrist is so small, though when I'm really in practice it's like steel.

"Now you'll have your ice-cream, Mr. Considine? O must you go? What a pity! Call me up any time you want to play singles. Yes, thank you, Mr. Grey. a *large* ice, please. It's been *such* a strenuous game!"

SHANGHAI TO NANKING

Y.W.C.A. Physical Training School Transfer.

By Abby Skaw Mayhew.

So much interest has been aroused in the announcement that the Y.W.C.A. Normal School of Physical Education and Hygiene is about to be incorporated with Ginling College, Nanking, as the department of Health Education and Recreation that Miss Abby Shaw Mayhew, the first director of the School, and now one of the advisers of the board of management has written for the "N.-C. D. N." the following history of the school and the reasons which make the change advisable.

In the early days of the development of the National Programme of the Young Women's Christian Association in China, the National Committee considered most carefully

MISS ABBY SHAW MAYHEW.

how it could start the work in health education and recreation so that it would put it on a permanent foundation, at the same time having it permeated with the spiritual ideal. One of the fundamental policies of the Association is to train leaders, and in accord with this ideal it was decided to establish a Normal Training School in Physical Education in which Chinese women could be trained to be teachers of their own people. After this decision was made it took three years before such a School was organized and the first class was graduated in 1918.

The Association felt that in establishing the Normal School of Physical Education and Hygiene it was doing a piece of pioneer work distinctly in its province, since no other organization was meeting the need and since there was a real demand on the part of the Chinese, especially from the Government Normal School, for this training. This School endeavoured from the first to give its students sufficient knowledge of the body to teach intelligently all forms of exercise and athletics with the aim of producing health and energy,—physical, mental and spiritual. So for six years classes of young women have been sent out from the School to teach in many of the largest and most important of the Girls Government Schools and in the Mission High Schools.

Since 1920 the School has been housed in buildings of its own adequate to the course being given at present and to the number who were able to meet the entrance requirements. Gradually the standard of the School has been raised, for the young women went out to fill difficult positions which required the best training and the broadest knowledge of the theory of the subject. The Y.W.C.A. committee for the school realized that in raising the standard of entrance and the quality of the course that of necessity, many who were to be teachers in the primary and intermediate grades were shut out from such an education. However the end seemed to justify this course since it was necessary in China, as it has been in other countries, to standardize physical education and place it on a par with other forms of education. For the sake of the future of this professon, a School established to train teachers must set the highest standard. And yet with all of this effort the Directors of the School felt that the time had come to enlarge the scope of the training and the equipment to make possible better courses in hygiene and better education in the fundamental sciences.

No Collegiate Course in Physical Education.

In the same year that this Normal School was opened, another important opportunity for women was offered to China. Ginling College was established giving to women a full College course. Gradually through these nine years a change of ideal has taken place so that girls who were once satisfied with going to Normal Schools or taking a two year course in physical education, are demanding a higher education. This was brought home to the Y.W.C.A. Committee when they discovered that out of the 80 graduates of the Y.W.C.A. Normal School, 12 are now attending Colleges, having stopped their professional work in order to get more education. Since no College for women in China offers a major in physical education and hygiene these girls take up other lines of study and are lost to the profession. Therefore, the Committe has seen the growing demand for a general higher education as a background to this professional work and life.

As it is not the province of the Young Women's Christian Association to do college work or to duplicate work which other organizations are doing, the only course open seemed to be the union with some College. After a careful study of the Colleges in China and conferences with several institutions the Committee of the Association and the Board of Control of Ginling College met with the result that the school becomes the Department of Health Education and Recreation in the College and the Association becomes a contributing member of that College. And as in other instances the Association having done a piece of pioneer work and having brought that work to a place where it could be better done through another agency, is glad to turn it over and help in a union work.

Y.W.C.A. Still Carrying on Health Education.

However, this highest form of education for training leaders of leaders is only one phase of the problem of introducing health ideals and recreation into the schools and homes and communities of China and the National Committee realizes this very fully. The National Secretary of Health Education and Recreation has many plans in her mind for the establishment of playgrounds and the furthering of the play movement and for the teaching of health in the lower schools, in the homes and community life; and with the cooperation of the Provincial Educational Boards and the Mission Educational Associations and other agencies who are seing the need, she feels that a far-reaching movement can be launched.

So while it seems that the Y.W.C.A. is losing a very important piece of work and means of service in passing the School on, it is only making possible a far more adequate trained leadership which China so much needs at the present time. At the same time the National Committee of the Association is fully aware of the great field still untouched which it hopes and plans to enter.

HOME HUMOURS

A Dry Tongue.

Two Scots were on a journey on a very hot summer day.

"Have ye got ony food wi' ye, Thamas?" asked one.

"Ay, a bottle o' beer. What have you, Jock?"

"Ou, a dry tongue."

"Guid! Then we'll gae halves wi' our proveesions."

The beer was divided and drunk.

"Noo for that dry tongue o' yours, Jock," said Thamas.

"Man," replied Jock, "it's no' dry noo!"

Peculiar?

Respectable Citizen: "Yes, I'm just taking my boy to the British Museum."

Perfect Ass: "Great Scott! Is that so? What is there peculiar about him?"

Sorrows of Parting

"Sistah Smith, I's sorry, but I needs must depaht."

"Oh, Mr. Johnsing—needs you must?"

Food.

Doctor (to patient's wife): "What you want to do is to feed him up."

Patient: "She's done that, doctor; she's done that."

Quite Likely.

Gladys (meaningly): "It's a good thing we can't see ourselves as others see us."

Softleigh: "You're right. I know, for my part I should grow beastly conceited, don't you know."

THE HOME CATERER

Hired Help for Harassed Hostesses

Hasting the other day to a neighbouring town to lend a friendly hand with the preparations for a coming-of-age party, I was surprised to find a smiling hostess meeting me on the platform with apparently unlimited leisure at her disposal. Lunch was served as usual in the dining-room instead of snatched, standing wherever one could find a corner to lay a plate; and neither in pantry nor kitchen was there the faintest sign of the usual orgy of sandwich-making that leaves the mistress of the house and willing friends with backs too sore to enjoy the festivities when they begin. As this particular paterfamilias rigidly sets his face against outside entertaining or the bleak, disappointing brilliance of a restaurant-purveyed supper, I thought the whole family had taken leave of their senses until the "find" was explained to me. This consists of an up-to-date young, middle-aged lady who, having little scope for exercising her great catering talent in her own life, places this, for a consideration, at the service of her acquaintances.

Stage I.—The date being fixed, Mamma spends an hour with the friendly caterer and leaves her with copious notes of the decisions arrived at.

Stage II.—On the auspicious day this "good-fairy-for-a-consideration" arrives two hours before the guests with a motor van containing everything practically ready for laying on the table, and within an hour she has departed with just a word of definite instruction to the maids or helpers as to the very few last minute preparations necessary.

Stage III.—Paterfamilias pays.

Result—a real old-fashioned party with home-made food of your own choice at just what it costs, plus a small profit, instead of the wasteful so-much-a-head system, for which you never feel you get full value.

THE SWEET YOUNG THING'S SUIT

At the first interview the client explains the nature of the entertainment, the number and average age of the guests, and gives an indication of how much may be spent. The caterer then advises whether to have set-down supper, running buffet, or both, what to include (i.e., with or without ices, claret-cup, sweets, etc.), and takes the greatest difficulty of all from the hostess's shoulders by telling from her experience exactly how many cakes, sandwiches, etc., will be required. The variety of sandwiches, cakes (home-baked and bought), and puddings is then agreed upon, china and cutlery discussed, and a list made of the supplies of these the caterer will bring with her. On the evening of the party the tables are arranged with cloths and decorations placed, before she arrives (for chairs and tables are not supplied, but only the names and prices of firms who will send them), and the hostess will probably enjoy helping to lay out the goodies under the expert's direction, gaining many a hint in the process, from the turning out of jellies to the saving of steps in serving. On the latter head, indeed, the caterer's advice is invaluable. She views your resources and then propounds just the best way of waiting the tables, keeping supplies of tea and coffee fresh, washing dishes between, and generally avoiding the muddle that the amateur buffet is apt to create.

A Part-Time Occupation.

Can you imagine a more delightful spare-time occupation for the clever girl who has always been at home and who finds time hang heavily on her hands as the family grows up and scatters. Her stock-in-trade need not be large—three or four dozen cups and saucers, tumblers, pudding plates, ice plates, tea spoons, dessert spoons and forks, a dozen each of sugar and creams, crystal jugs, trifle dishes, dividing spoons, plates for cakes and sandwiches, a couple of urns or boilers for tea and coffee, and of ewers for stocking home-made lemonade and "cup." If she is willing to take on a larger job she can undertake to superintend the buffet during the evening also.

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

DUE SHANGHAI:—

Per N.Y.K.S. Iyo Maru ....June 24
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Per H.S.L.S. Emil Kirkdorf .. „ 26
Per M.M.S. Isle de Panay .... „ 30
Per P. & O. S. Malwa ..... „ 30

OUTWARD

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON, ETC.—

Per P. & O. S. Morea .....June 24
Per N.Y.K.S. Suwa Maru .. „ 27
Per M. M. S. Angers .....July 3
Per L. T. S. Nippon ..... „ 3
Per N. D. L. S. Holstein .... „ 4

FOR JAPAN, CANADA, U.S.A. & EUROPE:—

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Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Jeffersen.. „ 22
Per O.S.K.S. Arizona Maru .. „ 27
Per R. M. S. Emp. of Asia....July 5
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Per P. M. S. Pres. Cleveland „ 19

FOR MANILA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND VIA HONGKONG:—

Per R.M.S. Emp. of Asia ....June 21
Per P. & O. Morea ..... „ 24
Per N.Y.K.S. Suwa Maru .. „ 27

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per R. V. F. S. Sishan, June 13. From Vladivostok.—Mr. P. A. Kosolspoff, Mr. O. Zavalny, Mr. and Mrs. B. Bahoveeff, Mrs. G. A. Lempert, Mrs. E. Sudrabin, Miss Sudrabin, Mr. G. Shomodi, Mrs. A. K. Tischenko, Mr. O. Grubel, Mrs. G. Grubel, Mr. V. Grubel, Mrs. C. Grubel, Mr. I. Bojen, Mr. M. Yurkoshek, Mr. G. Bochenko, Mr. I. Menzengora, Mr. A. Martin, Mr. S. Kolosovich.

Per str. Hsinchi, June 14. From Foochow. Mrs. and Miss Wiggin, Miss L. E. Wallace, Miss K. H. Willis, Miss B. L. Birtly, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Topping and two children, Mr. H. Freer, Mr. W. Baker.

Per M. M. S. Angers, June 14. From Marseilles. Mr. Brunner, Mr. de Young, Mr. Gayral, Mr. and Mrs. D. Jaspart and child, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Leclercq, Messrs. Devienne, Fiévez, Smidts, Carena, Bellin, R. P. Ventracten, Mr. and Mrs. Hairsonts, Mrs. Wandemorcatele, Mrs. Thiers, Mrs. and Miss de Rittich, Mr. Bouvet, Mr. and Mrs. Leuwers and two children, Mrs. Balleraud, Mr. and Mrs. Gaussen, Mr. and Mrs. Bodin and child, Messrs. Stewe, Simonnet. **From Port Said.** Mrs. Levèvre, Mrs. Binet. **From Colombo.** Mr. Gjessing. **From Saigon.** Mrs. Vu Thi Bieu and child, Mr. Dupas. **From Hongkong.** Mr. Lorden, Rev. Père Mécéo Urbain, Rev. Sister Marie Demelder, Mr. Paschalides.

Per str. Ngankin, June 15. From River Ports. Mr. J. D. MacDonald, Miss N. D. Sage, Miss Hansenfplug.

Per str. Shuntien, June 15. From Tientsin. Mr. J. Barclay. **From Weihaiwei.** Mr. and Mrs. Hodges, Mr. E. E. Clark, Mr. W. King.

Per str. Fausang, June 15. From Tientsin. Mr. Campbell, Mr. W. R. [illegible].

Per G. L. S. Carnarvonshire, June 15. From London. Mrs. E. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. A. Haywood.

Per str. Loongwo, June 15. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. T. Inonye and child, Mr. A. G. Mossop, Sir S. Turner, Mr. G. W. King, Mr. H. M. Spence.

Per str. Hsinfung, June 16. From Chefoo. Mr. C. Sims.

Per str. Woosung, June 16. From River. Ports. Master and Mrs. Benzeman, Mr. Quelch, Mr. Pelerzi, Mr. R. Schlee, Mr. B. B. Bunting, Mr. Y. Muller, Mrs. Tonnquist and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Karlsson, Mrs. Kullgren, Master Kullgren, Mrs. Whalguise, Misses Wahlguise (2), Mrs. Ahes and children, Miss Wennnberg, Miss Bjorkdahl.

Per R. M. S. Empress of Australia, June 16. From Hongkong. Mr. D. R. Anderson, Mr. J. G. Anderson, Mr. I. Akamatsu, Mr. E. Barnes, Lt. R. E. Beanchamp, Mr. A. Carpi, Mr. H. H. Ellis, Mrs. H. C. Fettes, Mr. F. X. Gutrierrez, Miss N. Leigh, Mrs. P. May, Mr. R. B. Moorhead, Mr. J. M. Remedios, Mrs. Remedios, Mrs. H. G. Remington, Miss Remington, Mr. J. F. Satterwhite, Mr. A. Yedzi, Mr. W. M. Vernor, Mrs. P. Rimarenko, Mrs. E. S. Sorensen, Master V. Sorensen, Mrs. E. Hall, Miss L. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hinkey, Mr. R. Pauliet, Mr. R. F. Shroff, Mrs. J. J. Wilson, Miss E. Ossipoff, Mr. H. Y. Babbidge, Mrs. S. Barros, Miss B. Barros, Master S. Barros.

Per str. Suiyang, June 17. From Hongkong. Mr. and Mrs. C. Johnston, Mr. J. G. Wilson.

Per str. Klangshun, June 17. From River Ports. Messrs. Ulberch, Rossel, Bousgue, One Sister of Charity.

Per P. & O. S. Soudan, June 17. From Bombay. Rev. and Mrs. A. B. Caldwell. Miss Caldwell. **From Singapore.** Mr. J. A. Duff, Mr. R. Garrett. **From Hongkong.** Mr. L. C. Esser.

Per R. D. S. "Presidend Hayes, June 17.—From San Francisco.—Mr. F. C. Murdock. Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Preston, Miss E. Burke, Miss L. Burke, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Chittick, Mr. and Mrs. D. Davison, Mr. and Mrs. W. Irons, Mr. P. Meyer, Mr. M. A. Murphy, Mr. B. Soloria, Mrs. M. S. Arathoon, Miss E. Arathoon, Miss T. Arathoon, Mr. W. H. Cameron, Dr. J. B. Barlag, Mr. F. M. Lucas, Mrs. F. M. Lucas, Mr. L. M. Pace, Mr. C. Thompson, Mr. B. Jacques, Mr. L. R. Davit, Miss E. Frederick, Mr. J. R. Heilbron, Mrs. A. M. Kraus, Miss E. Kraus, Mr. E. Reif, Mr. H. H. Bishop, Mr. G. Blumhardt, Mr. L. Curtis, Mr. F. F. Miller, Mr. O. A. Ritan, Mr. C. H. Schoonmaker, Mr. R. Swan, Mr. M. Wildbolz, Mr. J. J. Jones.

Per str. Tungchow, June 18. From Tientsin. Mr. C. Hauss, Miss Goodwin, Mr. M. Newton, Mr. and Mrs. McCann, Mrs. W. J. Cunningham, Mr. E. Carey.

Per B. F. S. Anchises, June 18. From Liverpool. Mr. D. Gray, Mrs. Thomas. From Singapore. Captain and Mrs. A. W. Brown, Mrs. H. Ellis. From Hongkong. Mr. W. Gray.

Per str. Kutwo, June 18. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter-Mann and son, Mr. and Mrs. Leferre and three children, Mrs. H. C. Pearce, Madam Picca, Mrs. F. Piercy, Mr. G. H. Mitchell, Miss E. Kay, Dr. and Mrs. Smith and three children, Mrs. D. L. Smith, Sister Frances, Sister Catherine, Mr. V. J. B. Holland.

Per A. O. L. S. President Grant, June 18. From Seattle. Miss C. Bryan, Mr. A. Baker, Mrs. J. H. Cubbon, Miss Cubbon, Mr. L. N. Cohan, Miss M. E. Dawley, Mrs. F. J. Fitzimmons, Mr. J. Goulmy, Mr. E. W. Hearn, Mr. S. W. Hee, Mr. G. Hoo, Mr. L. Hoffmann, Mr. K. Kanner, Mrs. L. Knox, Miss E. V. Marcoff, Mr. R. L. Ogilvie, Mr. O. Oswald, Mr. T. H. Phelan, Miss L. Roberts, Mr. B. J. Smith, Mr. A. J. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Turner, Miss A. Turner, Mr. Y. Tominaga, Mrs. B. M. Walker, Miss A. W. Walker.

Per str. Wuchang, June 19. From River Ports. Mr. V. A. Chaln.

Per str. Kiangyu, June 19. From River Ports. Rev. T. L. Sinclair and four children.

Per str. Sunning, June 19. From Hongkong and Swatow. Mrs. K. E. Greig and child, Mrs. F. Stavitzky, Miss Sollman, Mr. W. Woodward.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, June 19. From Ningpo. Bishop C. Durand, Bishop Roughouse, Mr. K. Drimitradis.

Per str. Haean, June 19. From Foochow. Mr. and Mrs. J. Gowdy, Mr. and Mrs. L. Sites, Mr. R. B. Blackney.

Per str. Luenho, June 19. From River Ports. Mrs. Dawes, Miss Jameson, Mr. Tilburn, Dr. M. J. Montgomery, Mr. A. Berlin.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Whangpu, June 14.—For River Ports.—Mr. C. J. Aitkin.

Per str. Linan, June 15.—For Canton.—Mr. Govoroff, Mr. and Mrs. Borodin and child.—**For Hongkong.**—Mr. T. A. Evans, Miss Murray.

Per str. Hsin Peking, June 16.—For Ningpo.—Mr. H. W. Decker, Rev. Bishop Reynard, Rev. Bishop Abels, Rev. Father Verneghe, Rev. Bishop Roughouse, Rev. Bishop Cerg Renard.

Per str. Tatung, June 16.—For River Ports.—Rev. E. J. O'Dogherty, Rev. S. Espelage, Mr. N. Krusse, Mr. S. H. Clark, Miss C. Nelson, Miss I. One, Miss L. Gemhardt Miss M. Bailey, Mr. W. C. Darwin, Lt. Gayral, Mr. Calvare, Mr. Taffault, Miss A. Bowen, Dr. H. Pryor, Dr. M. Brenton, Mr. and Mrs. Rober, Dame Adelaide Anderson, Mr. D. S. Whyte, Mr. A. Kossolato.

Per R. M. S. Empress of Australia. June 16.—For Vancouver, etc.—Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Basto, Mr. F. Batzak, Mrs. E. Beck, Miss E. Beck, Mrs. R. C. Beebe, Mrs. L. Berenburg, Mrs. N. Berkey, and child, Mrs. S. B. Bremner, Mr. A. C. Burgess, Mrs. Burgess, Miss E. A. Carter, Mrs. W. Chalaire, Master D. Chalaire, Mr. J. C. Dekingaura, Mr. A. Donne, Mr. C. Ellis, Mrs. S. A. Fryer and child, Mr. J. M. Gibb, Mr. E. J. Grimes, Mr. H. W. Haggard, Mr. G. A. Haley, Mr. H. Hodgson, Mr. H. D. Holt, Mrs. Holt, Master H. D. Holt, Jr., Mr. G. N. Jackson, Mrs. Jackson and child, Mrs. W. C. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. M. Kemp, Miss M. Kemp, Mr. Lalkaka, Mr. F. R. Lamb, Mr. J. H. Lidell, Miss P. Lin, Mr. L. A. Levy, Mr. J. A. P. Lund, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Lunkley, Miss E. Beardman, Mr. J. Carlton, Mrs. P. L. Corbin, Master A. Corbin, Miss H. Corbin, Mr. and Mrs. R. Douglas, Mr. M. Farley, Mrs. G. R. Fornback, Miss M. Heath, Rev. and Mrs. A. Herman, Mr. P. Herman, Miss E. Herman, Master J. Herman, Miss F. Hunt, Dr. P. C. Leslie, Mr. J. M. Major, Dr. and Mrs. F. P. Manget, Miss E. Manget, Miss J. Manget, Miss L. Manget, Miss M. Manget, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Malone, Master T. Malone, Master R. Malone, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Miller, Master J. Miller, Mrs. M. Mollison, Mrs. H. J. Muriel, Mrs. J. C. McCracken, Miss M. E. McCracken, Mr. T. A. McLean, Miss A. O'Neill, Mr. J. G. Pidge, Mrs. H. C. B. Peck, Rev. and Mrs. D. E. Rebok and child, Master E. Rebok, Mr. G. M. Ross, Miss P. Simmons, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. F. Singleton, Master J. Singleton, Master F. Singleton, Rev. and Mrs. E. H. Smith, Miss E. Smith, Miss M. Smith, Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Smyth, Miss V. Stewart, Dr. and Mrs. E. B. Struthers, Master G. Struthers, Master D. Struthers, Mr. B. E. C. Thompson, Mr. E. M. Thompson, Mrs. A. Trueman, Miss A. Trueman, Mr. R. W. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wright and child, Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Maitland, Master D. Maitland, Mr. J. C. Manning, Mrs. F. Mayer, Mr and Mrs. V. O. Meyer, Miss T. O. Meyer, Miss R. Meyer, Miss S. Meyer, Miss M. Meyer, Mrs. P. H. Millard, Miss Millard, Miss Millard, Mrs. C. A. Momber, Miss J. Momber, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. MacCallum, Mrs. M. McCarthy, Mr. G. D. Nicholl, Mr. L. M. Norkett, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Nouveau, Mr. G. Offord, Miss P. M. Orne, Mr. E. I. Osgood, Mrs. N. Pavlova, Mrs. N. Pavlova, Mrs. E. Pavlova, Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Pott, Miss M. Pott, Miss E. Pott; Mr. and Mrs. J. Pyman. Miss Ramsdell, Mrs. S. Reid, Mr. S. C. Redman, Mr. and Mrs. F. Reilly, Master F. Reilly, Master W. J. Reilly, Mr. G. S. Richardson, Mr. J. Roming, Mrs. A. Rose, Mr. R. J. Ross, Mr. H. Saphiere, Miss P. Saphiere, Miss E. Scottrell, Captain and Mrs. J. Shearer, Mr. G. Thomas, Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Topping, Master C. Topping, Miss M. Topping, Miss R. Topping, Mr. and Mrs. I. Tuxford, Mr. Vakil, Mr. and Mrs. C. Vandervort, Miss M. E. Weir, Mr. A. von der Werth, Mr. H. Wright.

Per str. Soochow, June 17.—For Canton.—Mr. and Mrs. Sunolentzeff, Miss Kulvein.—**For Hongkong.**—Mr. A. E. Gasta.

Per str. Kwangping, June 17.—For Tongku.—Mr. and Mrs. Haywood.

Per str. Shinfoo, June 17.—For Chinwangtao.—Mr. Devienne, Mr. Bellings, Mr. Carena; Mr. Smidts, Mr. Fievez.

Per str. Ngankin, June 17.—For River Ports.—Dr. and Mrs. Morris and four children, Rev. D. Geheng, Rev. S. Somarlla, Miss O. Burke, Mr. F. R. Clough.

Per str. Shuntien, June 17.—For Chefoo.—Miss Hudson, Miss Webster, Mrs. Toone and child, Mrs. F. A. Mullan and child, Mr. Jenko. **For Weihaiwei.**—Mrs. Remington and child, Mrs. H. G. Fettes, Miss E. Rogers, Mrs. M. E. Marples, Mrs. C. Rogers and two children, Mrs. J. C. Roberts, child and nurse. **For Tientsin.**—Mr. Wallace Fadley, Mr. Morton.

Per str. Hsin Peking, June 18.—For Ningpo.—Mrs. H. K. Wright, Miss M. A. Dowling.

Per str. Kaiping, June 18.—For Chinwangtao.—Mr. and Mrs. Leclercq. Misses Leclercq (2), Mr. and Mrs. Jaspart and child, Mrs. Beaumont and three children and Nurse, Mrs. West, Mrs. C. A. Howard, Mrs. Budgen and child. Miss Uriarty, Miss and Master Leslie.

Per str. Woosung, June 18.—For River Ports.—Mr. E. K. Drinkhouse, Mr. and Mrs. N. F. Miller and two children, Mrs. R. Lang and three children and nurse, Miss McCansey, Miss Mayhew, Mr. J. T. Pratt, Mr. F. Lowell. Mr. E. Pers, Mr. Vasilieff, Mr. Kiseleff.

Per str. Hunan, June 19.—For Chefoo.—Mr. Lowrie.

Per str. Suiyang, June 19.—For Amoy.—Rev. Sparrow, Mr. J. Olsen.—**For Hongkong.**—Mr. W. A. Watson, Mr. A. Budd.

Per str. Shengking, June 19.—For River Ports.—Mrs. K. E. Greig and child.

Per M. M. S. Chantilly, June 19.—For Marseilles.—Mr. Rousset, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Brendon, Mr. A. Willaime, Mr. E. Bourquie, Mrs. D. Henderson, Mr. M. Barraud, Miss Soyka, Mr. D. Levy, Mr. and Mrs. G. Seinon, Mrs. Van der Stegen and two children, Misses N. G. Gage and M. Hakenpflug, Mrs. L. D. Simpson, Misses A. Jeffer, F. L. Berg and D. Druckenfels, Dr. R. Porak, Miss L. Norton, Rev. H. Rhodes, Miss Esteb, Mr. J. Gruenwald, Mr. and Mrs. C. Chambard, Messrs. E. Portejoie, Thevenet, Lagsdigal, Mrs. Mejak, Messrs. Nemirousky, Bobkov, Ifland. G. W. Shipway, Mr. and Mrs. Holloway, Messrs. J. Strokappe, P. Dennis, F. Toya, V. Bozire, P. Stéphon, P. Lambert, C. Kettérer, G. Robin, J. Chartron, E. Drouglazet, J. Perrot, E. Caer, V. Guana, H. Boussaud, P. Vivien, E. Habosque, F. Schmitt, J. Basile, F. Ruggieri, K. Flichta, S. Vejnovic, E. Le Gall, J. Cutulic, A. Petite, A. Maillot, V. Lalos.—**For Port Said.**—Miss H. Thomas, Messrs. E. E. Dixon, M. L. J. Decker, Miss C. Markley, Mr. Levin.—**For Colombo.**—Sisters Ernestine and Camille.—**For Singapore.**—Dr. and Mrs. T. H. Lee.—**For Saigon.**—Mr. Chaugeux.—**For Haiphong.**—Messrs. G. Stanevitch, N. Looneff, S. Klablin, N. Tchirikoff, Mrs. R. Oshita.—**For Hongkong.**—Rev. Père M. J. Pitta, Messrs. Gauthier, de Gorostarzu, Fourguet, Du Coeur, Carlo, Versiglia, Walsh, Spada.

Per A. O. L. S. President Grant, June 20.—For Hongkong and Manila.—Mr. S. Johnston, Mr. J. H. Solomon, Miss. A. Lourenco, Mr. R. R. Gibson, Mr. C. W. Olsen, Mr. M. Schwartz, Mr. L. D. Seymour, Lt. I. E. Cox, Mr. J. Craig, Miss F. Carty, Mr. T. J. Dacon, Mr. C. Reith, Mr. C. F. de Covalho, Mrs. M. F. Lourenco, Miss A. Pereira, Mr. K. Bolton, Mr. L. S. Jenks, Lt. L. W. Becker, Mr. L. W. Hartigan, Miss K. Woodington, Miss A. Holleren, Mr. T. J. Davis.

Per str. Newchwang June 20.—For Tientsin.—Mr. A. Kooyman.

Per str. Hanyang, June 20.—For Antung.—Mrs. Seck.

BIRTHS

DIVERS.—On June 18, 1924, at No. 212 Dixwell Road, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. C. Divers, a son.

HUGHES.—On June 18, 1924, at the Maternity, St. Marie's Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. A. Hughes, a daughter.

SARKARI.—On June 15, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Sarkari, a son.

MARRIAGES

GRANT—WADMAN.—On June 17, 1924, at Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, Canada, by the Right Rev. Charles D. Schofield, Bishop of Columbia, James S. Grant to Evelyn Laura Wadman. (By cable).

MENCARINI—RUIZ.—On June 8, 1924, at Manila, P. I., Mr. Alfredo Fernando Mencarini, of Shanghai, China, second son of Mr. and Mrs. Juan Mencarini, to Miss Almudena Ruiz, of Alhama de Granada, Spain.

SINCLAIR—CHAO.—On June 14, 1924, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, Shanghai, before Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., Consul-General, James Alfred Sinclair, son of Mr. Thos. Neal Sinclair, of Kingston, Jamaica, to Evelyn Chao, daughter of Mr. K. S. Chao, of Shanghai.

DEATHS

MACEDO.—On June 15, 1924, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, Anna Michaela, in her 68th year. Macao and Hongkong pepers please copy.

MACROBERT.—On June 11, 1924, at Ben View, Kuling, Isabella MacRobert.

ROSS.—On June 14, 1924, at the Isolation Hospital, Shanghai, Charles Ross, Chinese Maritime Customs, aged 51 years. Hongkong papers please copy.

SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Att'ed Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
June 13	29.88	74.8	S W	1	79.4	71.4	90.2	67.1	O.
„ 14	30.02	73.4	Calm	0	76.8	65.3	87.1	58.5	B.
„ 15	30.04	73.4	E S E	2	72.9	68.4	85.4	63.5	O.
„ 16	29.96	74.5	S S E	2	74.3	70.7	77.6	68.4	O'
„ 17	29.83	73.6	E N E	2	69.3	68.9	81.6	66.2	O. R.
„ 18	29.94	73.4	E N E	3	70.6	65.5	78.6	66.4	O.
„ 19	29.92	73.0	E	2	70.0	65.8	76.5	64.9	O.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Inches 1923
June 13	71.0	70.0	89.0	81.8	Nil.	Nil.
„ 14	65.0	65.6	82.8	81.4	Nil.	Nil.
„ 15	67.0	71.0	82.0	81.0	Nil.	Nil.
„ 16	66.0	72.4	77.4	78.0	0.46	1.81
„ 17	67.0	70.0	70.2	82.0	1.94	Nil.
„ 18	67.0	72.4	76.0	89.8	0.01	Nil.
„ 19	68.0	75.8	73.0	94.0	Trace	Nil.

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AND SUPREME COURT AND CONSULAR GAZETTE

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THE BOLSHEVIK IDEA OF MAKING A GOOD IMPRESSION IN CHINA

Contrary to Moscow's belief, M. Trotzky's message of applause to the soldier Li, who is being tried on a charge of assaulting Mr. Campbell on the Peking City Wall, was very coldly received in Peking

NEW NORTHERN MOVE ON DR. SUN

A Move from Swatow: Fighting Reported on the East River Kiangsi Reinforcements

Peking, June 20.

Consular telegrams from Swatow report important moves on the part of troops hostile to Dr. Sun Yat-sen and apparently working out the Northern plan.

The telegrams say that fighting is in progress in the East River district near Waichow between General Yeh Chu's and General Yung Chi-ming's forces. The latter are mostly Yunnanese supporting Dr. Sun.

General Chen Chiung-ming is reported to have left Swatow for Waichow, apparently with the intention of supporting General Yeh, while General Lin Hu, from Laolung, is endeavouring to link up with General Yeh, and Southern Fukien reinforcements have been ordered to proceed to the East River. General Hung Chow-lin is also on his way to the East River.

Peking recently appointed General Yeh Civil Governor of Kuangtung and General Lin Tuli of Kuangtung.

According to reports reaching Swatow, Marshal Wu Pei-fu has ordered General Tung Shih-sheng to leave Hunan and General Fang Peng-jen to move out of southern Kiangsi in order to support General Chen. Thus it appears that the threat against Canton has begun to materialise.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

GEN. YANG SEN'S NEW APPOINTMENT

Chêngtu, June 9.

Gen. Yang Sen, acting Civil Governor of Chêngtu, has announced his resignation and has taken the title of "Tuli." It is said that he has done this at the instance of Marshal Wu Pei-fu, who has appointed Gen. Teng Hsi-hou to be Civil Governor. The latter is expected to arrive from Chungking shortly. Gen. Yang Sen's office of "Tuli" is described as "Director of Military Affairs and Reconstruction."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE RUSSIAN ISSUE OF CHINESE 1913 LOAN

Combination of Holders to Press for Recognition: Britain and U. S. Assisting

London, June 20.

A committee has been formed to represent the holders of the Russian portion of the Chinese 1913 Reorganization Loan, whose bonds are at present unrecognized by the Chinese Government.

The "Times" City Correspondent says that the committee has the support of the British and American Governments, who are inviting China to submit the matter to the Hague.—Reuter.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS IN KUANGTUNG

Terms on Which It is Reported Dr. Sun Would Make Peace with General Chen

A Hongkong telegram to the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" gives the rumoured terms of peace as arranged between representatives of Dr. Sun Yat-sen and Chen Chiung-ming at Hongkong as containing the following five conditions:—

1. The union army of Yunnan, Kuangsi, Hunan and Kiangsi and the Forces of Chen shall actually participate in the punitive expedition against the North, subject to the orders of Dr. Sun.

2. Chen Chiung-ming shall tender Dr. Sun an apology, when the latter shall circularize a telegram, accepting his apology and declaring the restoration of peace.

3. The regions east of Waichow shall be occupied by Chen's forces and places west of Waichow by the Union Army.

4. The military governor of Kuangtung shall be appointed by Dr. Sun, who will, conjointly with the Governor, appoint all superior officers and officials in the Chao-Mei circuit.

5. The Peace Pact shall be guaranteed by Tuan Chi-jui and Lu Yung-hsiang.

THE ABOLITION OF THE TAOYIN

To Take Effect on July 1: Grades of Office in Local Administration

SIMPLIFIED SYSTEM OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Peking, June 22.

In the permanent Constitution China abolished the office of Taoyin, or circuit intendant, and thus, eliminated all intermediate territorial offices in the local government of the country between Governor and Magistrate. Now it is announced that the abolition of the Taoyin will come into effect on July 1.

Formerly, there were three grades of districts in China's system of local government, *hsien*, *chow*, and *fu*, in an ascending scale. Then came the *tao*, and finally the province. With the establishment of the republic, all the districts were converted into *hsiens*. Foreigners, however, cling to the designations *fu* and *chow* with the same tenacity as they cling to the tael. How many people know that there is really no such place as Yunnanfu, Tsinanfu, or Hangchow; that these names according to the new system of nomenclature are Kunming, Licheng, and Hanghsien. *Tao* now goes the same way as *fu* and *chow*, showing that China is simplifying—officially, at least—her system of local government, and dispensing with the complicated machinery that has developed since the Ming dynasty.

The *tao* dates from the Tang dynasty (618-906), but in its modern form is traced to the Ming dynasty (1368-1643). During the latter part of the Ming dynasty, the country was divided into 13 provinces, later to develop into the Manchu model of 18 provinces. Each province used to be administered by one or two *pu-chen-shih*, who looked after civil and financial affairs, and an *an-cha-shih*, who was concerned with judicial affairs. As time went on, it was realized that the provinces were too large to enable these officials adequately to fulfil their duties from the provincial capital. It was obviously impossible to expect them to maintain personal touch with each of their districts. Therefore, assistants were appointed who were each to look after the affairs of a section of the province which was called *tao*. The sections created by the *pu-chen-shih* and the *an-cha-shih* were not necessarily the same, but were marked out by the officials without regard for each other's convenience. As, however, their functions did not conflict, there was really no need for uniformity.

The Early Tao's.

The *tao's* under the *an-cha-shih* were called *feng-hsun-tao*, which has almost the same meaning as circuit court. The office-holder was called *an-cha-feng-shih*. There were 41 *taos* in this system, and they were created as early as the first part of the Ming dynasty.

The assistants of the *pu-chen-shih* administered what were known as *feng-shou-tao*, or administrative sections. But the creation of assistants did not stop with this division of administration. There were *tu-liang-tao's* for facilitating the supervision of the transportation of rice and sometimes money to Peking. Special circuits were established in Kiangsi and Shensi for the supervision of registration records. Salt taotais looked after the salt monopoly in certain groups of districts, river taotais took care of river conservancy in certain sections of the country, education and mail route taotais sprang into existence, and so on. For all special matters concerning sections smaller than a province and larger than a *fu*, a special taotais was created. In this way China's local bureaucracy was created, each of the officers having some territorial significance, although really actual administration

was vested in the magistrates of the *fu*, *chow*, and *hsien*, and the assistants who administered the *tao's*, and the provincial governors. It is not difficult to appreciate that this rapid creation of offices involved a more rapid creation of office-holders and expectant office-holders. By the end of the Manchu dynasty, the country was glutted with expectant taotais, whose only claim to notice was their official rank. They were petty kings without countries.

Taotai and Taoyin.

This complicated system officially came to an end when the Republic was founded, and the modern *taoyin*, the republican version of taotai (which means "His Excellency of the Circuit") became just the administrator of a section of the province. The abolition of this office, of course, does not mean that every *taoyin* will be "axed on July 1; that depends on the grace of the provincial authorities. But whereas the *taoyin* was formerly a Government official with an official rank, now if he is retained in that office by some perverse province, he will simply be an employee in the provincial government service, whose appointment is a violation of the Constitution. It is extremely doubtful whether any present-day *taoyin* contemplates his retirement with any degree of alarm, for China's capacity for absorbing limpets is well-nigh unmatched. So is her system of social responsibility, and these two factors are bound to combine to find a job for the dispossessed official, who therefore will not require our tears on the date of his official weeding-out.

Reversion to Ming Model.

After that date China will have reverted to the Ming model, so far as the lack of territorial connexion between province and district is concerned. In view of the area of the provinces and the higher degree of administration required nowadays, this may seem an impossible situation; but when one thinks of the growing territorialization of China's military commands, the increase of bureau machinery in regard to special phases of administrative work, and the development of provincial assemblies, there is no danger of China being less administered than before.

NEW ISSUE OF BONDS IN CANTON

To Be Released by Daily Drawings: Mint Again in Full Operation

From a Correspondent.

Canton, June 10.

The Canton Government Mint, in full operation again since June 6, is turning out many new 20-cent subsidiary coin pieces bearing the date of the 13th Year of the Republic. According to a recent official analysis, held in its plant in Canton in the presence of representatives of trade guilds and other public organizations, the 10 coins taken at random and examined gave a fineness of 70 and 17/100 per cent., and the public appeared satisfied, and the requirement was only 70 per cent. fine.

The Department of Finance of the General Headquarters of Dr. Sun Yat-sen in Canton is issuing military bonds dated June 1, 1924, to the amount of $240.000, Canton currency, in $100 and $50 denominations, bearing a monthly interest of 12 per cent. These military bonds will be redeemed within three months beginning July 1, 1924, by daily drawings. The Secretary of Finance to Dr. Sun will set aside certain proceeds from the stamp tax, the profit from the Canton Government Mint, and the fees to be collected from title deeds examination for the payment of principal and interests of these short-term military bonds. The newly organized Yu Kwong Native Bank in Canton will undertake the floating of the bonds and payment of principal and interest when due. These bonds may be used for payment of public revenue and accepted as legal tender in Kuangtung.

Peking, June 23.—President Tsao rejected Premier Sun's application for leave, and it is expected that Premier Sun and Minister of Finance Wang will both attend the meeting of the Cabinet to-morrow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ALLOCATION OF THE BOXER INDEMNITY

Anglo-Chinese Education Scheme as Proposed by Dr. Tsai Yuan-pei

An interesting memorandum with regard to the allocation of the Boxer Indemnity due to Great Britain has been prepared by Dr. Tsai Yuan-pei, Chancellor of the National University of Peking, and has been submitted to the Chinese Association for the Promotion of Education in London. The main points of the memorandum follow:—

I.—The principal portion of the fund is to be utilized for the establishment of a great and inspiring Science Institute, to consist of two departments: the one to contain machinery, models and diagrams, illustrating the different stages of development of the physical and chemical sciences, and illustrating the different stages of the evolutionary processes of the industrial arts, the other to contain natural history specimens, showing the genus and species of flora and fauna, leading up to anthropology.

II.—A portion to be utilized for subsidizing any well-known Universities or Technical Colleges in China for the express purpose of starting or extending certain special faculties or departments of sciences and technology, such as biology, textiles, engineering, chemistry, medicine, agriculture and forestry, etc.

III.—A portion to be utilized for establishing within some of our national Universities facilities for the study of the sciences, arts and literature of Great Britain. Foundation funds will be provided for (1) professorships, (2) purchase of English books on those subjects and works of art, and (3) scholarships for research students.

IV.—A portion to be utilized as a foundation fund for sending teachers and graduates of the Universities and Technical Colleges in China to the Universities and Technical Colleges in Great Britain.

V.—A small portion to be utilized for sending scholars from Great Britain to China to study Chinese literature and philosophy, etc.

VI.—A small portion to be utilized for purchasing Chinese objects of art to be exhibited in museums of Great Britain on condition that the former unworthy ones be removed.

VII.—A portion to be utilized for the exchange of professors between Great Britain and China.

The remission of the Boxer Indemnity Fund by any nation to China is generally appreciated by her people as an act of generous good-will to their country. Her educationalists propose, by the carrying out of the above-mentioned proposals, especially the first one, to have, thereby, a permanent memorial of the great friendly deed of Great Britain. It will be set up in order to create a spirit of reverence for science and industrial arts, becoming, when properly equipped with laboratories and other facilities, a great centre of research and reference.

What I have presented is not merely my personal view, but also represents a consensus of opinion in China. Such opinion, I am confident, will be taken carefully into consideration by all who are interested in this question.

TROTSKY'S INSULT TO CHINA

Sympathy Not Appreciated: How Moscow Tries to Excite Bad Feeling by Falsehoods

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, June 20.

Extraordinary as are Trotsky's repeated references to the soldier Li, they are no whit more extraordinary than the dispatches which are sent from Peking to Moscow dealing with the reception of those references in Peking. Here is a translation of a telegram sent from Peking on May 19 and published by the *"Isvestia"* on May 21: "The speech of Comrade Trotsky concerning the incident of the Chinese soldier, which was published by all the papers, created a strong impression in Peking. The foreign enemies of the Union strongly critieized Comrade Trotsky, declaring that he is instigating the Chinese people against the foreigners; *but Chinese public opinion is very much satisfied with the speech."*

The italics are not the *"Isvestia's,"* but there is no doubt that this sentence was italicized in the mind of the Moscow warlord. And, judging by the latest reference, it evidently accomplished its purpose of "egging him on." He thought he had made a good impression with the Chinese, and all canons of taste seem to have been subjugated to that end in Moscow nowadays.

The writer took the trouble to turn up the Peking papers for evidence of the satisfaction noted by the Peking correspondent of the *"Isvestia"* but found only one comment on the Trotsky outburst. That was the *"Yi Shih Pao,"* which in a well-reasoned editorial, labelled the speech both "false and insulting," comment which was borne out in sundry conversations which the writer had at the time with several Chinese of his acquaintance. If the *"Isvestia"* correspondent deemed that opinion an expression of satisfaction with his comrade Trotsky's speech, then he must have a peculiarly inverted sense of the value of words. The truth is that the sympathy that emanates from time is indeed insulting to China's intelligentsia, to whom the acts of the half-crazed soldier are as alien as the brotherly feeling of Mr. Trotsky.

JAPAN AND THE C.-E. RAILWAY

Further Note to Waichiaopu As to Acquired Rights and Interests

Peking, June 23.

A further Japanese Note, sent to the Waichiaopu on June 21 on the subject of the Chinese Eastern Railway, explains with regard to the Note of June 6 that the "reservation," mentioned in the Waichiaopu's reply of June 16, is a matter of course, hardly calling for a specific declaration by Japan. Japan, however, deemed it advisable to invite the attention of the Chinese Government to that phase of the matter in order to avoid unnecessary difficulties arising in the future.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Note.—The Japanese reservation referred to was that Japan's acquired rights and interests in the Chinese Eastern Railway should not be affected by the Sino-German Agreement. The Waichiaopu declined to admit this reservation, insofar as it implied interference by Japan in the negotiations between China and Russia.—Reuter.

RUSSIAN CONSULATE IN SHANGHAI

The Question of Handing Over to Soviet for Chinese Decision Only

Peking, June 24.

It appears that the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs at Shanghai recently approached the Consular Body regarding the handing over to the Soviet of the Russian Consulate at Shanghai. The Consular Body duly reported the matter to the Diplomatic Corps.

It is understood that neither the Diplomatic Corps nor the Consular Body make any objection whatsoever.

The former Russian Consulate has recently been used as the Bureau for Russian Affairs and is in the custody of the Chinese Commissioner, and therefore the question of handing it over rests with the Chinese.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

SINKIANG AND SOVIET

Proposed Commercial Agreement

Peking, June 22.

According to unofficial reports, the Cabinet yesterday discussed a further communication from Gen. Yang Tseng-hsin, Tuchun of Sinkiang, requesting the Central Government to sanction a commercial agreement between Sinkiang and Soviet Russia. Although Gen. Yang says that the proposed agreement would deal only with local commercial questions, it is not expected that the Government will give approval.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ANKING MINT DEFIES ALL CONTROL

Huge Consignment of Debased 20 Cent Pieces for Shanghai?

The Kiangsu Association, it is reported, has informed the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce that the Anking Mint, in addition to continuing to mint bad dollars, has since June 14 been making 20-cent Kuangtung coins containing only 40 per cent. of silver, a shipment of which is being sent to Shanghai.

Genuine Kuangtung 20-cent pieces, the Kiangsu Association points out, contain 60 per cent. silver, and the Association alleges that the Mint has just shipped 40 cases, each containing 11,000 20-cent pieces, in the str. Chensu to a spot near Nanking, to be afterwards consigned to Shanghai by train. Among the 40 cases are three filled with big dollars for the purpose of satisfying Customs examiners.

At the request of the Hangchow Chamber of Commerce and with the sanction of Tupan Lu Yung-hsiang and Governor Chang, the Hangchow Mint has commenced coining 10-cent pieces, the scarcity of which has caused much inconvenience to everyone. The new coins will probably be put on the market some time next month.

On the face of this coin, two national flags crossing each other will appear in the centre. Chinese characters denoting that the coin "is made in the Province of Chêkiang in the 13th Year of the Republic" will run around its border. On the obverse side. "10 cents Silver Coin" in Chinese will occupy the centre with corresponding English words on the border. The standard fineness fixed by the Government, namely 65 per cent. silver and 35 per cent. copper will be adhered to. It should be understood that this coin is not intended to substitute the subsidiary currency of the same denomination, 10 pieces of which shall be accepted as a big dollar, as mentioned in the National Currency Law, but to be taken at the same market value as the old 10-cent of other small silver coins now in circulation.

Chinese Bank Boycott

According to the Chinese Press, the Chinese Banking Association and the Native Banks' Guild have passed a resolution to the effect that their members shall not purchase bullion silver for the Anking (capital of Anhui) Mint. They consider this is the only effective way to prevent the coining of more dollars of an inferior quality.

The Ministry of Finance, in a telegram dated June 20, informed the two Associations that an official investgator had been appointed to proceed to Anhui to find out facts; that the matter would be dealt with after a report had been received; and that the Shuiwuchu had been asked to instruct all the Customs stations to detain all materials, including silver and copper, as well as coins, shipped to and from the said Mint on and after June 22, 1924, until further orders.

THE CIVIL WARFARE IN KUANGSI

An Armistice Proclaimed: A General Always Ready to Change Sides

Peking, June 21.

According to Chinese reports, an armistice between Generals Shen Hung-ying and Lu Yung-ting has been proclaimed. Gen. Liu is still at Kueilin and Gen. Shen has never succeeded in capturing the city. Gen. Ma Chi (formerly Chief of Staff of Gen. Lu Yung-ting) is now at Chuanchow, Kuangsi, and is endeavouring to bring about peace between the two rivals in power in Kuangsi. Gen. Ma suggests that Gen. Shen Hung-ying should be sent to Kuangtung to join in the attack on Canton. Gen. Shen has changed sides so frequently that it is taken for granted that he would again turn on Dr. Sun Yat-sen if it were made worth his while.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

M. Borodin, Soviet Envoy in Canton, returned to Canton on June 19.

MUKDEN AND THE SINO-RUSSIAN PACT

Fengtien Assembly Objecting to Agreements Made Without Its Knowledge

Peking, June 18.

The Fengtien Provincial Assembly and other public bodies of the three Eastern Provinces have sent out a circular telegram in regard to the Sino-Russian Agreement.

They state that they have no special objection to China's resumption of formal relations with Russia, but they are constrained to raise objection to the fact that Russia made an agreement with the Peking Government, which has no knowledge of the actual condition of Manchuria.

The telegram goes on to declare that they will never recognize any treaties or agreements which have been concluded by the Peking Government since May 1, 1911, and they feel sure that this unanimous opinion of the public in the three Eastern provinces will not be disregarded by Marshal Chang Tso-lin.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Clear Warning from Washington

Washington, June 21.

The State Department declares that, while it at present does not contemplate further steps in connexion with the question of the control of the Chinese Eastern Railway, the Peking Government is under clear obligations, dated prior to the Washington Conference, and will be held responsible for the protection of interests other than their own.—Reuter.

CONTROL OF THE TIBETAN BORDER

Dispossessed Commissioner Appealing in Person to Wu Pei-fu

Chêngtu, June 4.

General Chen Hsia-linge, the Tibetan Border Defence Commissioner, has definitely resigned and is reported to be proceeding to Peking to lay his case personally before Marshal Wu Pei-fu.

For some months he has been threatened from the east by General Liu I-chiu, and his troops have become disaffected owing to non-payment of arrears of wages. It is not yet clear what has become of these troops, though they are reported to have gone over to General Lan Tsin-chih, an old friend of General Liu I-chiu.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

RENDITION OF WEIHAIWEI AND MIXED COURT

Representations from Chinese Chambers of Commerce

Peking, June 22.

The Shantung Chinese Chamber of Commerce has telegraphed to the Government urging that the Sino-British negotiations for the restoration of Weihaiwei should be resumed as soon as possible.

The Shanghai Chinese General Chamber of Commerce has again telegraphed to the Government urging that it should hasten rendition of the Shanghai Mixed Court.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MR. WANG KO-MING'S RESIGNATION

Refused by the President

Peking, June 20.

Mr. Wang Ko-ming's resignation was sent back to him by the President yesterday afternoon. It was carried by Mr. Wang Yu-chi, Chief Secretary of the Presidency, who informed Mr. Wang that the President declined to accept the resignation.

Further efforts are being made to-day to induce the Premier to resume his duties to-morrow, but the outcome is still doubtful.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, June 23.—The Cabinet Ministers and the higher officials of the Waichiaopu were present at an official luncheon given by Dr. Koo to the Soviet Representative to-day.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

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BRITAIN AND THE INDEMNITY

June 23.

THE telegram which we published on Wednesday reporting that the House of Commons had passed the second reading of the bill providing for the remission of the surplus of the Boxer indemnity due from China recalls unhappy memories of the fateful year 1900. It is twenty-four years since the Boxer madness swept over China and those who have personal recollections of the tragic events of that time are an annually diminishing number. The chief actors in those dreadful scenes have, for the most part, passed to their reward and though there are still in China a very few who bear on their bodies scars, that are grim reminders of the horrors they suffered, to the most of us "the Boxer year" is of only academic interest. It is, perhaps, a tribute to our oft reviled human nature that the passions and animosities that were so deeply engraved in the hearts of those who endured the perils or shared in the anxieties of those dark days have gradually faded into a remembrance that is without bitterness. The chief reason for this, doubtless, is that we know now that the Chinese people suffered much more from the cataclysm than did foreigners. The Chinese Government of that day was truly guilty of one of the greatest crimes over plotted against humanity and amongst the people there were many who were but too ready to abet it in its evil designs. But there were also many, and those we are happy to believe were much the larger number, who had no sympathy with the bloodthirsty schemes of the Empress Dowager and her quondam advisers. As is usual, in such warfare, the innocent inhabitants of the route traversed by the avenging armies of the Allies were caught between the upper and nether millstones of the combatant troops and suffered from excesses of both forces. It is, we believe, the realization of this fact that has all but effaced the resentment so keenly felt at the time when the legations were besieged and news of the murder of foreigners in exposed situations was being chronicled in our columns every day. And so, with amazing ease, the bill for the remission of the balance of the indemnity has been passed by the House of Commons with hardly a dissentient voice.

We note with a good deal of pleasure that the bill was passed with no restrictions attached. There are a good many questions outstanding between the Governments of China and Great Britain and there was some attempt made to tack on to the bill a condition that certain of these questions should be settled in a manner satisfactory to us before the remission of the indemnity was carried into effect. The Government, very properly, declined to tarnish a good action by a selfish proviso. If the thing was worth doing this is the way it should be done; in a free and generous manner without any taint of bargaining. It has been said that some of the nations who claimed indemnities in 1900 asked and received much larger sums than they were actually entitled to. We know nothing of the truth or otherwise of these reports. They do not concern us and we do not care to discuss them. But we will emphasize that the claim put in by Great Britain for damages caused by the Boxer rising was based on a rigidly proven statement of actual losses sustained. We are not giving to China that which has cost us nothing but, as an act of sincere good-will, we are renouncing money to which we have an indefeasible moral, as well as legal, right. Doubtless there are those who will tell us that we are acting foolishly and will get nothing in return for our generosity. And to those we reply that they are possibly right, but we reserve to ourselves the privilege of being foolish now and then and, moreover, we have a sub-conscious feeling that the luxury of being generous is sometimes its own reward.

We have said that the remission of the indemnity was unconditional, yet it has this qualification attached to it that the money is to be used for educational purposes and in this limitation, we are assured, China most heartily concurs. There are many good causes to which the money, or part of it, might have been devoted. There are roads to make, bridges to build, railways to construct and many other schemes. But for these China is well able to find funds if she will but set her financial house in order. The American indemnity fund was devoted to the higher education of Chinese students and it has been a most fruitful investment. We could wish that the British indemnity was ear-marked for the wider provision of elementary education for the toiling millions. There is a National Phonetis Script the adoption of which, it is said, would so simplify education, by the elimination of the cumbrous character from elementary schools, that a working knowledge of books could be obtained in a fraction of the time now wasted in studying the difficult ideographs of the written language. An enthusiastic Chinese Y.M.C.A. Secretary, has devised a short cut to literacy through the acquisition of one thousand common characters. This summer hundreds of students will devote their vacation to teaching this system, without salary or hope of reward, to thousands of illiterate men, women and boys in many cities and villages. The eagerness of the toilers to study in the short hour there is left between the end of their darg, which lasts from dawn to dark of a summer day, and the time for sleep is pathetic. Perhaps something could be done with this fund to promote and encourage such movements for popular education. At any rate we sincerely hope the money will be used so as to bring the greatest possible amount of enlightenment to the greatest possible number rather than in over educating a favoured few.

THE SINO-RUSSIAN AGREEMENT

June 24.

THE full text of the Sino-Russian agreement received last week contains, so far as we can see, no essential difference from the terms as already published in summarized form. But it does not at all lessen the difficulties at once visible when the outlines of the agreement were first made known. One is struck at the outset by the joint declaration that "the Chinese Eastern Railway is a purely commercial enterprise." Presumably this is to pave the way for the abolition of the old railway area. But it makes all the more curious the large share in the management of the railway allotted to the Soviet, who get the right to appoint half the Board of Directors, three auditors out of five and the manager. As our Peking correspondent pointed out the other day, this is giving away China's sovereign rights with a vengeance. The length and elaboration of the clauses referring to the C. E. R. suggest that both parties realized there was likely to be trouble over this part of the agreement and tried to guard against it beforehand. And trouble has indeed come, from France who is financially interested in the railway, from America who claims a debt of G.$5,000,000 from it, and above all from Chang Tso-lin, through whose dominions it runs.

Another very curious declaration is found in connexion with the buildings and landed property of the Russian Orthodox Mission: "belonging as it does to the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics." Clearly Mr. Karakhan got this phrase put in in imperfect understanding by Dr. Wellington Koo of the true position. This land and buildings never belonged to the Russian Government even in Imperial days and certainly does not belong to the U. S. S. R. If it belongs to any corporate body, it belongs to the Orthodox Russian Mission, just like the land and buildings owned by other missions in China. In point of fact, this property in the Shanghai area stands in the name of a private individual and is registered in a foreign Consulate. In the next clause we read that "the Government of the Republic of China will at once take measures with a view to guarding all the said buildings *and clearing them from all the persons now living there.*" The italics are ours. Again Dr. Wellington Koo must have given his assent in ignorance of what he was undertaking. On all the Russian Church property in China there must be thousands of refugees, living and being maintained by the Mission. If China is going to clear them all out, she must in common justice provide for them elsewhere. And this would be to impose on her an immense burden and responsibility which M. Karakhan would have very little right to put upon her, least of all in furtherance of a claim on property to which the U. S. S. R. have no title whatever.

This question of Russian Church property and the refugees whom it is supporting naturally leads on to that of the refugees generally in Shanghai. It may be recalled that after China broke off relations with Prince Koudacheff on September 23, 1920, and announced her intention of taking all Russians in China under her wing, the position of Russian citizens in Shanghai at once created a difficulty owing to the peculiar status of the Settlements and the inability of Chinese officials to function therein. Largely through the co-operation of the late Sir Everard Fraser and, it is but just to say, by the tact of Mr. Grosse, an arrangement was concluded in the following March whereby the old Russian Consulate carried on as a Bureau of Russian Affairs, with Mr. Grosse immediately in charge but as Assistant Commissioner, acting for the Chinese Commissioner. It is paying no undeserved compliment to say that this arrangement has worked very well: no one, we feel sure, would admit this more willingly than the Chinese Commissioner himself. During the past three years many thousand Russians have registered at the Bureau—themselves, their marriages, the births of their children, their business. Now the Chinese papers have been saying that the Bureau is to be shut up forthwith and the building handed over to the U. S. S. R. We do not think this is correct; but if it were, it would be no more than what is required by the Sino-Russian agreement.

And in the circumstances, one would venture to urge that fair time should be allowed to the Bureau to wind up its affairs and put them in a condition in which they can smoothly be handed over to the successor in the building, whoever he may be. To shut up the Bureau forthwith cannot but cause confusion and inflict hardship on an immense number of innocent people. Most of them do not recognize and are not recognized by the Soviet, whose agents moreover will have no extra-territorial powers, and in consequence the position of the refugees becomes one of the greatest uncertainty. Who, for example, would give them passports if they wished to leave China for another country? Where will they get papers of any kind or for any purpose? In countries which have not recognized the Soviet, there are organizations which act as a go-between, between refugees and the Government of the country, and one cannot but think it would be a good plan if, in view of the peculiar standing of Shanghai, a similar organization were allowed to be formed here. But in any case the good work and multiplicity of interests covered by the Bureau during the past three years and, we would add, the truly excellent conduct of the refugees as a body, are good grounds for its being allowed a fixed period of some months at least in which to wind up its affairs. The fact that a conference is to be held between China and Russia in which to work out all arrangements under the treaty, gives plenty of excuse for such a small concession.

THE CHEQUERS AND THE RUHR

June 25.

"THE conversations revealed a common determination to overcome difficulties by means of continuous co-operation." So runs the official *communiqué* regarding the conversations between Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and M. Herriot at The Chequers during the week-end. And then a further statement from Paris: "Everything possible was done to create an atmosphere of sympathy and confidence;" and to Mr. MacDonald Paris also attributes the assurance that "in case of German defaults Germany will find herself face to face with Britain, France and Belgium united inflexibly as during the war." The public have come to feel a well founded distrust of all official *communiqués* during and especially since the war. How many conferences there have been between Great Britain and France on the subject of German Reparations, how often the same fair-sounding official reports have been issued, only to result in nothing done and the breach between the two countries widened yet more, it would be a waste of time to recall. But there is something in the tone of the reports of the latest interview between the British and French Premiers which revives confidence and inspires hope that at last the two nations are standing shoulder to shoulder and that this time Germany will not be able to drive a wedge between them. The prospect of friendly co-operation will indeed be welcome to the British people as, we feel sure, to the French. The old saying that "kissing goes by kindness" applies nowhere more truly than in the case of France. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald has been *persona grata* with the French people since his first fair and frank letter to M. Poincaré, after his accession to power.

It is, however, only fair to admit that the way to an understanding between the two Premiers has been immensely simplified by the report of the Dawes Commission. The details of that momentous document may well be recalled. The first of its recommendations is that a new issue bank, or the old Reichsbank reorganized, should be established in Germany, with a monopoly over the issue of paper currency properly secured on a gold reserve, partly held abroad, while all existing paper should be withdrawn. The control of the bank would be in the hands of a German president and a Board of seven Germans and seven foreigners, Allies and others. An elaborate schedule of the amounts that Germany would pay year by year is then set out, but the Commission was not empowered to state the total amount which Germany will have to pay. The German railways should be handed over for fifty years to an international company, with a capital of 26,000,000,000 gold marks, of which the Reparations Commission would hold 11,000,000,000 six per cent. debentures, giving an annual yield after the fourth year of 660,000,000 gold marks. As in the case of the bank, half the Board would be appointed by the Reparations Commission. Certain taxes would also be controlled by foreign commissioners. As regards payments in kind, the Commission represents that in order to avoid upsetting the foreign exchange market these should be paid for out of the monies accruing in Germany to the agent for reparation payments. Two essential parts of the scheme are, first, that Germany must recover her fiscal and economic rights over the Ruhr; without which the experts emphasize that their plans would be futile; secondly, that Germany should issue in the first year a foreign loan of 800,000,000 gold marks in order to enable her to stabilize her currency and to finance payments in kind during the time of her economic recovery. It is further to be noted that in the Commission's recommendations the Allies should make no call upon Germany's budget revenues for the next two years, payment of reparations being provided for out of the foreign loan just mentioned and revenue from railways. The experts calculate that by the end of 1928-1929 Germany's financial and economic situation will have returned to normal.

The scheme when published at the beginning of April had "a very good press" even in France. The provision that Germany must recover her fiscal and economic control over the Ruhr is perhaps the most dubious point. On the other hand, it is to be remembered that when first going into Germany France fully intended that her occupation of the Ruhr should only be an invisible military one; and that the extension of her hold over all the industrial life of the district was forced upon her by the policy of passive resistance actively pursued by the German Government. Nobody expects that the military occupation will cease until Germany has at least paid up the bulk of what she owes. On this point there is no difference whatever in the opinions of Frenchmen, whether they be Royalists, Republicans or Communists. But if France is con-

vinced of the active support of Great Britain in the terms of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's statement quoted above, and if Germany can assure the Allies that she is ready to accept the Dawes Report and carry it out honestly, we do not believe that Paris will make difficulties about the economic side of the occupation. There remains the question whether Germany can pay the amounts demanded of her. Undoubtedly she can. Almost simultaneously with the appearance of the Dawes Report came that of the Experts Committee, which had been inquiring into the flight of German capital abroad, which estimated that the amount of money sent out of Germany was no less than 2,000,000,000 gold marks, without counting the profits, amounting to some thousand more millions, which German banks had made by selling paper marks abroad while there was still anybody to buy. Some commentators at Home remarked, in connexion with the Dawes Report, that the payment of £125,000,000 annually would be a severe strain on any nation. Where they get this figure from is not quite clear; it does not appear to correspond with any sum mentioned by the Dawes Report. But accepting it as an average, there seems no reason why Germany should not deliver it. It is considerably less than a sixth part of what the British taxpayer annually finds.

SHANGHAI HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT

June 26.

It soon will be three years since the Committee of Consulting Engineers, composed of seven of the foremost and most experienced experts on port development and conservancy in the world, foregathered at Shanghai, at the instance of the Whangpoo Conservancy Board, to investigate and report on the best means to be adopted to render the approaches to this port suitable for the entry, and the harbour adequate to the reception, accommodation and despatch, of the largest class of vessel which was likely to come to Shanghai for many years. The Committee laboured on the question from October 15 till November 30, 1921, and during that period went thoroughly into the whole matter. Supplied with an immense amount of data and information which had painstakingly been collected, compiled and collated during a long period prior to their advent, the members of the Committee went carefully into every possible scheme for the improvement of the harbour and its approaches, and at the conclusion of their labours submitted a report which left no relevant aspect of the matter untouched, and which embodied in its recommendations provision for every reasonable eventuality in the development of Shanghai, not as one of the greatest ports of the East alone, but one of the greatest and most efficient in the world.

An outstanding feature of the Report was that the Committee devised an admirable, reasonable and workable scheme whereby no call at all would be made on the troubled finances at Peking for any of the works. The whole of the work recommended would be entirely self-supporting and "the position of the Government safeguarded throughout the Committee's proposed scheme of development and administration and no burden placed on the national exchequer." The Committee further pointed out that its technical proposals for immediate execution represented a very conservative project, the estimated cost of which was (and presumably still is) well within the capacity of the trade, and had the further and very great advantage of readily lending itself to future extensions if and when the requirements of that trade demanded more accommodation. If the recommendations were adopted, a new board in absorbing the present Whangpoo Conservancy Board would succeed in ownership to works and assets of considerable value. The improvement and deepening which have been carried out and maintained with so much success, the dredging plant and appliances, the workshops and in fact all the belongings of the Conservancy Board, representing an outlay during the period 1906-1921 of fourteen million taels, of which ten million could be said to be capital expenditure, would become the absolute property of the new Shanghai Harbour Board without any capital liability. It is unnecessary here again to go into the details of either the technical or financial schemes propounded, in regard to which the Committee pertinently pointed out that the raising of capital and general financial success were absolutely dependent on the constitution of the new Board being such that there were ample guarantees as to the policy and efficiency of that Board's operations. In this connexion, it is interesting to note that the Committee did not recommend any definite number to constitute the Board, or the proportion of Chinese Government officials to trade representatives, but recommended only that the Board should consist of Chinese officials (one of whom should be Chairman), representatives of shipping and trade in Shanghai, and also to a limited extent representatives of the municipalities.

The Report was, we understand, forwarded to Peking at the end of 1921 and that appears to be the last that has been heard of the matter by the public. In any country but China such a thing would be unbelievable, but even in China, with its penchant for procrastination, it is coming to seem more than strange. Allowing for the fact that China is one of the most conservative nations on earth and one which refuses ever to be hurried, and that a scheme of such magnitude cannot be cut and dried, passed, ratified and brought into operation in five minutes, it is amazing that a matter of such vital importance, affecting not only Shanghai but China as a whole, and concerning the Chinese as much as the foreigner, should apparently have been shelved indefinitely, with no indication or prospect of its being accorded attention. We hesitate at any opinion that a matter such as this has been merged in the mire of politics; we are loth to imagine that the scheme has definitely been quashed at Peking; and we are equally disinclined to foster the belief which is held by some that one of the main reasons for the delay is jealousy of the part that the foreigner already has played in the development of Shanghai and the equally important part they conceive he would play if the scheme were adopted in its entirety. It cannot too strongly be emphasized that the scheme of the Consulting Committee calls for no abrogation of any Chinese sovereign or provincial, maritime or terrestrial rights. The Harbour Board that was recommended would be mainly a Chinese controlled body and under Chinese jurisdiction, and the only respect in which the authorities at Peking (or anywhere else) would be debarred from free influence would be in relation to the financial aspect of the undertaking. The scheme concerns Shanghai directly and the money would be found in Shanghai, though the benefits that would accrue would be felt not in Shanghai alone but throughout the whole of China. It is obvious that foreign trade and enterprise, to which so largely is due the actual existence and development of Shanghai's harbour, must benefit by further extensions and facilities. But the benefit which would also ensue to the Chinese is as much greater as the Chinese population is greater than the foreign.

Other ports in the Far East are going ahead in their plans for development—Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, and even Tokio—but Shanghai stands as she has stood for many years, with only the labours of the Whangpoo Conservancy Board preventing its following the fate of Antwerp, which, hitherto one of the world's greatest entrepôts, bids fair to sink to the level of a fifth-rate port owing to apathy and neglect in conservancy. If the Chinese authorities at Peking have decided to quash the scheme of some of the world's greatest experts, let them say so; and if they have any alternative scheme or schemes which will provide in an equal degree for the development of this great port—a development which can be nothing but visionary till Peking issues its dictum and makes known its wishes—let them come forward with it without delay. They owe it as a duty to China, if to no other people, interest or consideration.

GENERAL FOWLER'S REPORT

June 19.

The pleasure of reading Major-General Fowler's report on his recent inspection of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps is enhanced by the fact that it is the third he has written. He is, therefore, able to use a comparative power of criticism which makes his observations as valuable as they are welcome. And he is certainly a most thoroughgoing inspection officer. Since his last visit the strength of the Corps has increased from 1,239 to 1,370 and in the parade at Bubbling Well 1,007 all ranks were present as against 898 last year. Writing of this parade, which was properly a converging march by three columns, Major-General Fowler says:

> The bearing and march discipline of the troops during this exercise was excellent, and gave a most favourable impression of the efficiency and strength of the force which could rapidly be concentrated on any threatened area.

Speaking of the infantry units, he comments:—

> The drill, turn-out and soldierlike bearing of the units was uniformly satisfactory, and in some units very good indeed. The officers appeared to have improved since last year in their knowledge of handling their units, and there was evidence of much careful training by N.C.O.'s and other instructors.

Of the Light Horse Co. we read that

> The turn-out of men and horses was excellent and they drilled with very fair precision. They were steadier than last year, and the horsemanship of the majority of the riders was good.

The turn-out of the Field Artillery "was excellent and maintains the high standard attained in previous years." This year has seen the formation of the new American Mounted Troop which forms a valuable addition to the Corps and with the American Infantry Co. gives the American community a showing in the Corps corresponding with their interests in the Settlement. Of the A. M. T. Major-General Fowler says:—

> The turn-out of the men and horses was excellent and the unit forms a valuable addition to the Corps. Much work has evidently been done in training, and though some movements were carried out at rather too fast a pace, greater steadiness will no doubt be attained.

The Maritime Co. receive praise as do the Engineers on their improvement since last year. The Machine Gun Co.

> Is thoroughly efficient, and the zeal of its members ensures that the Council is getting full value for the large expense that has been incurred in equipping the unit.

The newly-formed Public School Cadet Co. Major-General Fowler saw for the first time and he says:

> It is being well trained, and the boys were well turned out and keen. It is to be hoped that its members will eventually join the senior units of the Corps.

The Italian Co. made a small showing, and "cannot at present be considered efficient." It is understood that a reorganization is in view. Like Loudon Dodd, the Company "means to do better."

The inspection this year was carried out under unusual difficulties, Major-General Fowler's stay was short and the weather was wretched. It may not generally be known that there are two inspections to be made by the General from Hongkong every year: a preliminary one, at which each unit is separately inspected at its own particular work and target practice; then a parade of the whole Corps to which the public are invited. "Keep off the grass" at the Race Course prevented the thorough inspection of units to which they look forward and which Major-General Fowler would doubtless have liked to give. They were, therefore, inspected under varying conditions on race course pathways, the riding track and Rifle Range. All this emphasizes the need for pushing on with Colonel Marr-Johnson's scheme for making the Rifle Range a more or less permanent volunteer camp at which drills could be carried out, camps organized and a satisfactory inspection conducted at the General's annual visits. The land is there in plenty and only needs development. Major-General Fowler's recommendations for more help at Headquarters will, it is to be hoped, be acted upon. By this means better and more frequent instruction by professional N.C.O.'s would be available to units and a more consistent and general standard of efficiency be attained.

As usual the band did not escape without some acid comment by members of the Corps, though we believe it did not come under Major-General Fowler's purview. Yet it is, if we may say so, the Corps' publicity medium apart from its nominal duty of keeping officers and men in step. Of course the absurdity lies in expecting one and the same organization to provide symphonic concerts and military marches. The Corps ought to have a band of its own. It has the necessary material, we are told, scattered among its various units. Will not the Council arm them with the necessary weapons?

THE CHINESE SENSE OF GRIEVANCE

June 28.

"In a violently anti-foreign article," we were told yesterday, "the 'Shanghai Journal of Commerce' dwells upon what it calls the unreasonable and unfriendly attitude lately shown by the Powers towards China." It speaks of the "aggressive and overbearing air displayed by the foreign merchants," whom it is necessary accordingly to curb, the best means of doing so being by means of "an intensive campaign against all foreign goods": but first of all the "Journal" counsels the Chinese "to ascertain the source from which such a hostile policy is being directed and when discovered to deal with it as energetically as possible." By a rather curious coincidence there appeared, side by side with these quotations, reference to a Note which the Waichiaopu is said to be preparing for the Powers, in complaint of their delay in holding the conferences for the abolition of extraterritoriality and the increase of the Customs tariff "as embodied in resolutions passed by the Washington Conference," while they nevertheless urge the Chinese Government to respect the agreements concerning the Chinese Eastern Railway alone.

> "In the hope of securing fairplay in respect of both the rights and duties accruing to China, the Chinese Government would draw the special attention of the Powers to the fact that the two kinds of privileges conferred upon China by the Washington Conference have not yet been placed within her reach."

Here is the Chinese sense of grievance fully aired, both officially and journalistically: China is not receiving fair play; foreigners are behaving aggressively and overbearingly; it is necessary for the Chinese to take drastic action. All very unwelcome reading to put before the Chinese public.

Can the Waichiaopu and the "Journal of Commerce" be blind to the fact that the foreign Powers also have a very strong sense of grievance against China? We are sure they cannot. We take strong exception to the charge that they are "pursuing a hostile policy" towards China: if they were, things would have happened long ago which would effectually have prevented the "Journal of Commerce" from publishing inflammatory stuff of this kind. When we recall the events of the past few years in China, the increasing lawlessness and insecurity of life, the disregard of officials for all responsibility, the continuous and flagrant disregard of treaties, we may justly contend that the Powers, so far from acting with hostility, have shown the greatest lenience and toleration towards China. We admit frankly that their attitude is more chilly than it was at the Washington Conference; they are less disposed now than then to indulge in sentimental self-sacrifice for her behoof. But if the "Journal of Commerce" really cannot understand why this should be so, we counsel it to look at home. In the summer following the Washington Conference Ichang and Wuchang were looted by soldiers whose pay their superiors had purloined, and much damage was done to foreign property. No one has ever been punished and no compensation has ever been given. In the summer following that, namely in 1922, the brigands of Honan and Anhui looted cities, destroyed foreign among other property and carried off numerous foreigners. Again no effective measures to check or punish them and no one compensated. Twelve months ago the Blue Express was derailed on the most important railway in China, and thirty-seven foreigners robbed and kidnapped and held captive for several weeks. Once more no punishment and no compensation. Since then the tale of piracies, lootings, kidnappings and even murders has lengthened to such an extent that we have utterly lost count of them all. When we add to this the illegal taxation to which trade is subjected in many provinces and of many other articles than cigarettes, the flouting of transit passes and the utter and admitted inability of Peking to effect any redress, it is impossible that foreigners should not feel aggrieved and the Powers become distant and cold.

In answer to the two specific grievances of the Waichiaopu that the Powers have not called the projected conferences on

extraterritoriality and tariff revision, Peking's memory appears to be failing and needs refreshing. During the summer following the Washington Conference, the Powers were actually engaged in discussing the formation of a Commission to come to China and investigate her fitness for abolition of extraterritoriality and at least one well known name was mentioned as that of a man suitable to be sent. Many foreigners in China were anxious for the Commission to be sent, some because they really believed that extraterritoriality should go, others because they saw an opportunity of fairly bringing home to their Governments the chaotic state of affairs in China. Before the personnel of the Commission was decided, Peking itself decided its fate. The Chinese Government sent a Note to the Powers saying that they were not ready for the Commission's visit and asking that it might be postponed. By her own act China has utterly put herself out of court in respect of the abolition of extraterritoriality, if not for ever, at least for an indefinite number of years. As for revision of the Customs tariff, it is only necessary to recall what has been said above of the illegal taxation now practically universal which the Waichiaopu has admitted its inability to stop. Can it be wondered at that the Powers, when invited to hold the conference, unanimously replied on the 11th of this month that they did not consider the moment opportune?

There are points on which China's treaties with foreign Powers might conceivably be revised. There are foreigners in China who think they should be revised. And there is no foreigner who would not be glad to see China under such a government that the treaties might go and even extraterritoriality be abrogated. For, contrary to what the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce" appears to think, foreigners in China are the very reverse of hostile to her and would only be too glad to see her taking that place in the world to which her ancient glories entitle her. But before old treaties can go or new ones be framed, let there first be respect for those existing. If the Chinese wish to get rid of the treaties, the first step of all is to convince the Powers that they are willing and able to observe them in all provinces.

"HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE"

Some ladies went on sport intent
To Henli for an outing,
Nor, did they dream, or so 't would seem,
They'd set the "old Dears" shouting.
The Shanghai Girl lives in a whirl,
She rides, she swims, she fishes,
Oh, fie! for shame! why should we blame
Her when she dons her breeches!
With healthy stride she'll walk beside
Her husband, friend or brother,
But in that stride she can't abide
A skirt—her legs to smother.
The years are past, thank Heav'n, at last

When clothes our sports need hamper,
'Twere sad indeed if there were need
The greatest prude to pamper.
Still, maidens dear, just in your ear
I'll breathe a word of warning,
When next you swim, consider *him*
That jolly summer morning.
He likes a pal—the modern "gal"
Can join him swimming, floating,
He'll like you all the more, I'm sure
If modest, when you're boating—
Think of the shock to Grundy's flock
Who linger near the water,
Oh, woe untold! your limbs uncloth'd,
They're glad you're not *their daughter!*
That jersey tight in full daylight
To all is not becoming
But when you've bathed, your figure swath'd
In cloaks, which now are stunning
You, if you please, can lounge at ease
Avoid the scandal recent,
Nor risk you run, when in the sun
You bask—and still are decent.

* * *

Here's to the Pearl—an English girl
To the lass who loves clean sport-s.
Who plays the game, nor soils the fame
Of any girl, in short-s.

M. C.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

The Bible in Commerce

The Parable of the Talents works in most appropriately with a story coming from the University of Nanking College of Agriculture and Forestry, and which centres round the humble peanut—the delicacy of our boyhood days, and now so highly prized an article of commerce. The foreign peanut, by which name the large peanut now grown in China is commonly called, was introduced into China from the United States about 35 years ago by Archdeacon Thompson, of the American Church Mission. Archdeacon Thompson brought four quarts of peanuts to Shanghai and there divided them equally with Dr. Charles R. Mills, of the American Presbyterian Mission (North), who was on his way to Tengchowfu, in Penglaihsien, Shantung. This district was already noted as a large peanut growing section. Dr. Mills divided his two quarters of peanuts equally with two of his church members, on the condition that they should increase them for three years and at the end of that time for general distribution. One of the farmers at the end of the first year ate all his crop. The second farmer, however, fulfilled his contract faithfully and distributed them at the end of the third year. Because of their size they were acceptably received and grown as widely as the three years increase permitted. Hopes in the rapid spread of the large foreign peanut were somewhat shaken when, after trying to express the oil as was their custom by grinding up both the hull and the kernel previous to applying the pressure to extract the oil, it was found that the thick shell of the peanut absorbed practically all the oil. Then someone got the happy idea of shelling the peanuts before expressing the oil. This was done and the value of the foreign peanut was clearly demonstrated. This saved the day for the foreign peanut and ever since its production has been increasing yearly until at the present time it enters into China's foreign commerce to the extent of millions of dollars annually. The introduction of the peanut into Penglaihsien was considered such an important event that a large stone tablet memorializing the virtues of the foreign peanut was placed in the grounds of the Yamên of the Magistrate of the district.

German Gamble in Francs

An interesting sidelight upon what was described at the time as the German attack on the French franc, but which appears actually to have been nothing but a huge attempt to manipulate exchange and the price of lead, is provided in a report received by Lloyd's Bank Monthly from its Berlin correspondent, who states that the liquidation of the liabilities in French francs on April 30 resulted in very great difficulties, the grain and metal markets having particularly been affected. The franc-lead transactions have had far-reaching effects and have attracted particular attention. It appears that the metal dealers discovered an interesting method of realizing a handsome profit without risk by a form of arbitrage business in metals—chiefly lead. They sold francs against sterling for future delivery, and to obtain the requisite francs they sold lead for francs to the public. As it was not possible to sell francs against marks for future delivery, many firms in no way connected with the metal trade bought metal on these terms, hoping to pay with very much depreciated francs. With the appreciation of the franc, a large number of such operators found themselves unable to sell the metal bought or to purchase the requisite francs for delivery, and the metal firms who catered for the speculative public found themselves left in the lurch by their principals and were unable to purchase themselves the francs necessary to fulfil their own obligations. To complete their discomfort, the lawyers found—as lawyers will find—these transactions a very interesting subject for investigation, and many of them have advised the public, through the press, that the contracts entered into infringe on the German exchange laws, and that to fulfil their contracts would expose them to heavy penalties. In addition, many small private bankers are in difficulties owing to their customers not being in a position to deliver francs sold forward or to pay their differences, and this has led already to several failures.

Missionaries in China

The ground of attack on missionaries shifts so much from day to day and from letter to letter that it becomes difficult to keep pace with it. It began in P. O. Q.'s hands, looking very much like an attack on missionaries *per se;* it continues, variously, as an attack on Christianity itself and a denunciation of the friction and disputes to which Christianity has directly or indirectly given rise in every country in the world and as its Founder said it would do. The testimony of one who signs himself "Rationalist" and quotations from a woman like Mrs. Bradlaugh Bonner against mission work are obviously prejudiced, because the writers disbelieve in Christianity, and are therefore worthless. Of the quotations given yesterday by P. O. Q., that from Mr. Herbert Giles was too short to show what it meant and those from Dr. G. E. Morrison and Mr. Archibald Little were in no sense attacks on mission work but merely *exposés* of the difficulty of teaching Christianity to Chinese—which certainly no missionary diputes. And the fact that a freebooting Prussian Government at Potsdam annexed Kiaochou because two German missionaries had been killed, is not the fault of the missions. Our correspondent says nothing of the number of missionaries who have been killed, maltreated and robbed and no claim of any kind made on their behalf. We are far from saying that all missionaries are perfect or that they are always the best men for the work they have to do. Nor would any missionary make such a claim. The root of the matter is this: that in the main they believe something and, believing it intensely, they find in it something further which compels them to go out and endeavour to impart that belief to others in order that, as the missinaries are convinced, they may be benefited by it. Say what one may, that is a purely unselfish aim and in pursuit of it the missionaries expose themselves to sacrifice, discomfort and danger. It appears to us to be very poor work for a fellow-national to throw mud at them.

The Building Tyranny

A good deal more information is needed before we can get a proper idea of why the building employers in Great Britain are declaring a lock-out. But there can be no doubt that the public will pay the penalty. The sequence of recent events is also significant. On May 30 came the news that the second national ballot of building operatives had voted for acceptance of the employers' offer of an extra halfpenny an hour, and that a general strike was thereby averted. On May 31 we received the details of the Governments housing scheme which, it may be recalled, contemplates making a 15-years contract for the construction of 2,500,000 houses at a total cost of £1,376,000,000 of which the state will pay £926,000,000 and local authorities the rest. And now we are told that

> "the employers, in declining to endorse the settlement (of May 30) and breaking off negotiations, point out the continuous disputes and revolts throughout the country, particularly the strikes at Liverpool."

Obviously the employees, seeing what a fat and juicy contract their employers expect to squeeze out of the public, feel that they must get a bigger slice of the plunder than a beggarly halfpenny an hour. So much for Government contracts to private persons in "sheltered" industries at the taxpayer's expense. If memory serves which, during the war, could be declared of national importance and in which a strike could be pronounced illegal. Clearly housebuilding is such an industry and if the Government would deal with the building trade, which has been "sticking up" the whole country ever since the war in an intolerable manner, as it deserves, aright, there were industries it would earn the gratitude of Labour probably not less that of other classes. The example of the Canadian postal strike shows how a really democratic country deals with capricious strikers.

Gen. Yang Sen's Reply

We publish to-day an answer from General Yang Sen to the statements previously received from Mr. Elly Widler on his imprisonment, first at Chungking and then at Wanhsien. General Yang Sen appeals very confidently to foreign opinion in Szechuan in support of his action in arresting Mr. Widler, who, he says, would certainly have been shot in any other country. These, of course, are controversial matters. General Yang Sen is on surer ground when he claims friendship. and friendly dealing with foreigners generally in Szechuan. From all we have ever heard General Yang indeed enjoys a high repute among foreigners and Chinese. We have no intention of attempting to try the case: we have no means of doing so even if it were proper work for a newspaper. Where we venture to think Mr. Widler had cause for complaint was that he was kept in prison for a considerable time, without being brought to trial—and to say the least, Chinese prisons have not the reputation of being either healthy or comfortable. The case was complicated by Mr. Widler not being a "represented" foreigner. But whatever crimes were alleged against him trial ought surely to have preceded punishment.

Trademarks

Recent statements in various papers may have tended to convey the impression that at last all is peace with regard to the registration of trademarks under the new Chinese law. However, the matter is not yet settled by a long way. True, many foreign firms have registered their marks, but we are informed that as yet very few British houses have gone so far, preferring to wait until they have some further guarantees of fair treatment and an assurance of justice should it become necessary to appeal to the courts. Then again, there may be people who think that the whole business is a storm in a teacup and that after all there is little to worry about. Possibly very few realize to what a great extent trademarks enter into business out here and what an enormous number of them are in use. The piece goods firms alone could give the picture of a different mark to every man, woman and child in many of the provincial towns which in England we regard as of quite a fair size. Some of these piece goods "chops," which are highly artistic productions, date back to the beginning of Shanghai and the books in which specimens are kept for reference and record provide a very interesting study. One piece goods firm alone, if and when it considers circumstances justify the registration of its marks under the new Chinese law, will have to pay fees of $20,000, so it is not very surprising that the directors want to be fully secured. It will be remembered that, during the trial of one of the assault cases that has been agitating Peking, a foreigner complained that he was bruised as the result of a blow. The Chinese Judge said that, according to law, in such circumstances there must be a medical examination in court to prove or disprove the accuracy of such a statement, and an official expert there and then solemnly searched for a bruise caused weeks before and that, of course, had faded away! None of that sort of nonsense can be tolerated when one pays $20,000 for the registration of trade marks. One does not want, for instance, to be told that if an extra row of bricks is added to the picture of a house, even though all other features may be identical, there has not been an infringement.

The Farce of Conference

The juxtaposition of the two telegrams reporting the "suspended animation" of the Anglo-Soviet Conference and Zinovieff's speech on the prospects of creating a Communist party in England, and the comment they mutually supply, are suggestive. Curiously enough, too, these telegrams would appear to have arrived in the order printed. As regards converting England to Communism, with the disastrous example of Russia before the working classes of all countries, it will be entirely the fault of British Governments and upper classes if these doctrines ever gain a hold in Britain. As for the conference, is it not about time that the curtain was rung down on this ridiculous farce? We have been informed recently that for every claim made by British owners of property in Russia, the Bolsheviks retaliate with far greater claims for damage done by White counter-revolutionaries for which the claim on Britain is of the shadowiest nature, if it exists at all. While in return for the loan which is really all they care about, the Bolsheviks magnificently offer to abstain from anti-British propaganda in Central Asia, although it is clear from Zinovieff's speech that revolutionary propaganda in England is to be pressed as actively as possible. The plain fact of the matter is that the Bolsheviks are mad dogs (that is the most charitable description) and with such no man can deal. That their dominion cannot endure for ever is certain. Why attempt to treat with them on any lines, when it is extremely probable that their successors will repudiate everything they do and absolutely certain that they themselves will repudiate whatever undertaking it is their pleasure to despise?

Dublin Horse Show

When so much is being done to "boost" other countries as places for the tourist to visit, it is more than a pleasure to find an excuse—if, indeed, an excuse be necessary—to put in a word for our own countries. The world knows by now of the Wembley Exhibition, the greatest thing of its kind ever conceived, and apparently, to judge by the reports coming through every week, likely to be the greatest success in the way of exhibitions ever known. Ascot, Henli, the Royal Tournament and that amazing development of the late Mr. Walter Winans's hobby, the International Horse Show, all will be over before the home-going man from the East at this time will sight Dover's cliffs. Yet he will be in time for Ireland's greatest festival of the year, the Dublin Horse Show. We all know the Irish horse and the Irish horseman, both well-high incomparable, and certainly together a combination very hard to beat. This year, in August, from the 5th to the 8th, at the famous Ball's Bridge site, there is to be a Show greater than any of its wonderful predecessors. People who have seen Dublin Horse Shows will wonder how that can be possible: those who have not seen one should take the word of an enthusiast that if it was not quite up to the standard of previous Shows, even then it would be well worth a visit. Then, too, in August, there are to be the great Tailteann Games at Croke Park, outside Tara, a miniature Irish Olympiad, with the inclusion of the old Irish games. These two attractions, together with the unchanging glories of Ireland's marvellous scenic beauties, should draw people in thousands to the Emerald Isle. After all, though Switzerland, Brittany, Italy, Morocco and other places may have their delights, it is something to be able to say that one knows also the countries of one's own people.

Chinese at Wimbledon

The reference in this week's telegrams to a Chinese lawn tennis player, Mr. Woo, figuring among the competitors at Wimbledon awakes interest as to who he may be, as this is, we think, the first time that one of his nationality has competed at the headquarters of all lawn tennis. So far as we can learn locally, Mr. Woo belongs to the Ng family of Hongkong, Woo, or Wu as spelt in Shanghai, being the mandarin form of the Ng common in the South. This family counts several excellent lawn tennis players among its number, the leader of them, Ng Sze-kuang, having been champion of Hongkong. It is his brother, now an undergraduate at Oxford, we are told, who is playing at Wimbledon. It will be remembered that Mr. Lock Wei, the former Hongkong and Shanghai lawn tennis player, was appointed to choose Chinese to represent China in the Olympic Games, and when he left here it was to meet Mr. Woo and continue with him to Paris for the competitions there. Our informant as regards the above details is somewhat uncertain about them and we should be glad to hear from any reader who can give us further news of an interesting personality.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

GOVERNOR OF INDO-CHINA BOMBED

Shocking Outrage at Canton Dinner Party: Bomb Thrown through Window: Assailant Escapes into the River: M. Merlin Unhurt: Four Foreigners Killed

Three foreigners were killed and several severely wounded as the result of a dastardly attack upon the life of M. Merlin, Governor-General of Indo-China, at Canton on Thursday night of last week.

The first news of this sensational affair, which naturally caused grave concern among the French community in Shanghai, was received here about 9 a.m. last Friday in a private message, and upon receipt of this an urgent telegram was despatched to the Legation for further news. Authentic information available at the time of writing is that the Governor-General, who proceeded to Canton in the French man-of-war Craonne, was entertained by the French community, a banquet being given in his honour at the Hotel Victoria, Shameen. A bomb was hurled upon the dining table —by whom or in what manner is not yet known—but with the most disastrous results. M. Merlin and the members of his suite all escaped without injury, but three of the guests were killed on the spot, two were dangerously wounded, and others received more or less serious wounds. In this early telegram, three casualties were named, these being: M. Rougeau, a member of the staff of the Banque de l'Indo-Chine, Dr. Casabianca, acting-Consul at Canton, and M. Gérin (Manager of Gérin & Co. and brother-in-law of M. Madier, of Shanghai) who was seriously wounded.

Nationalists of Indo-China.

The opinion has been formed here that the attempt to assassinate M. Merlin was the work of political agents associated with the Nationalist party of Indo-China. Though upon a much smaller scale, the country is troubled with the same agitation and revolutionary propaganda as India, and little doubt is entertained but that the outrage is the work of revolutionaries. M. Merlin has held office for less than a year, and during his short term of administration has made no exceptional departure from the policy of his predecessors, and it is assumed therefore that the attack is against his office rather than against him personally.

It may be recalled now that, on the occasion of M. Merlin's recent visit to Shanghai, the French authorities had information that an attempt upon the Governor-General's life would be made here, and they treated the information as being of such importance as to justify special precautions. Thus it was that the distinguished visitor was carefully shepherded from the moment of his arrival until that of his leaving, and he was never abroad without there being half-a-dozen armed men and several detectives in close attendance upon him.

Assailant's Escape.

Further details of the affair are furnished by Reuter, as follows:

Hongkong, June 20.

The French community in Canton were giving a banquet in honour of M. Merlin at the Victoria Hotel in Shameen last night. During dinner an unknown Chinese threw a bomb amongst the party. M. Merlin was uninjured. Mr. P. de Maretz, Manager of the General Silk Importing Company of New York, and his wife and M. E. Rougeau of the Banque de l'Indo-Chine were killed. M. H. G. Gérin, a silk merchant, and M. Pelletier were mortally wounded, and five persons seriously injured. M. Merlin's A.D.C., Capitaine Bernard, was slightly wounded in the arm.

The assailant escaped, jumped into the river and was lost in the darkness of the night. No reason can be assigned for the outrage.

M. Merlin will arrive in Hongkong to-night. Mme. Merlin and her little son did not accompany her husband. They are guests at Government House.

Terrible Scene in Dining room.

Later.

A European who arrived from Canton this afternoon, interviewed, said that the outrage in Shameen occurred at 8.35 last night. Just as soup was being served the assassin flung a handbag with the bomb through a window and hit the end of the table. It seemed that M. Gérin was mistaken for M. Merlin and was aimed at. The bomb exploded with frightful results. The dininghall was soon reduced to a shambles. Mr. Demaretz was found dead seated on his chair, while his wife was lying on the floor. Dr. Casalranca, the acting French Consul, lost his left arm. Two or three Chinese waiters were injured in the head. American and British sailors and residents turned out as soon as the outrage was perpetrated and the bomber was chased. He was shot at with revolvers, but escaped by plunging into the river.

M. Gérin has died.

The Governor has sent a wireless message to M. Merlin stating that he is horrified to hear of the dastardly attempt, congratulating M. Merlin on his fortunate escape and expressing deep sympathy with the French community in their loss.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Terrible Scene of Destruction.

Hongkong, June 21.

M. Chatel, M. Merlin's Chief of Staff, interviewed, gave a graphic narration of the Shameen outrage.

"We had just taken our seats when a man dressed in a white singlet and a pair of white shorts came up to a window and threw a small handbag inside. Instinctively I shouted 'Down Down,' and we got under the table. Immediately there was a terrible explosion. I have seen many fearful sights in the war but nothing quite so terrible as that I saw after the explosion. Three persons were killed outright. Several were seriously wounded, lying on chairs or on the floor. The ladies were simply splendid. There was no panic of any kind. Everyone was quite calm and cool, and anxious to do all to help the unfortunate persons injured. The force of the explosion was such that it wrecked all the furniture in the room. The doors were blown open, tables and chairs were broken, and knives and forks were blown all over the room. Some of the knives were broken into several pieces, while forks were sticking to the wainscotting and walls.

"M. and Mme. Demaretz were killed outright. They were terribly injured in the head. They had only returned to Shameen from Home three days previously. M. Pelletier, who died later, had his head split open and his thigh amashed. Dr. Casablanca had one hand completely smashed like a mashed potato. From his back was abstracted the cap of the bomb. Mme. Rollin was wounded in the arm. Capitaine Bernard was wounded in the shoulder and breast. M. Fournier was badly injured in the head. M. Bozin was seriously wounded in the head and leg.

"The management of the Hotel were most solicitous for the sufferers. British, American and Japanese doctors were early on the scene; while American and British sailors rendered first aid.

"A detachment of French sailors was landed and with British sailors patrolled the district during the night."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Protest by Chinese Students in France

Paris, June 22.

The papers state that they prefer to await precise details before commenting on the attempt made upon the life of M. Merlin at Canton.

Students of the Franco-Chinese Institute at Lyons, who are mostly Cantonese, have handed the papers a note protesting indignantly against the attempt of M. Merlin's life and condoling with the families of the victims. They declare that they will ask the authorities of Canton to conduct an active investigation into the matter and inflict severe punishment on the criminals.—Reuter.

Assassin's Body Said to Have Been Found in the River.

Hongkong, June 23.

The Canton authorities have sent the following telegram to Reuters:—

"The corpse of an Annamite, believed to be the assassin, was found in the river off the East Bund on June 21 with one unspent bullet of French make, three Hongkong dollars and a watch, stopped at 9 o'clock."

The Governor-General and Mme. Merlin left this morning for Saigon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Civil Governor's Insolent Reply to British Consul's Protest

What is characterized by the Chinese Press as a most unreasonable and discourteous protest has been addressed by the British Consul-General to the Canton Government in connexion with the bomb outrage.

Nothing (the Consul is understood to have said) had been done by the Government to suppress anti-foreign agitations. In fact he doubted if it were not actually encouraging the lawless actions in the city, for which the government would be held responsible.

In reply, Mr. Liao Chung-kai, Civil Governor in Canton, wrote on June 23 in part:—"The Government of Canton, upon hearing of the expected arrival of M. Merlin, the Governor-General of Indo-China, made every preparation to give him a cordial welcome, this fact alone proving that both officials and people were pleased at M. Merlin's coming. But upon his arrival, M. Merlin went to Shameen Settlement without visiting the Chinese City. Therefore, you, the Consul-General, who are responsible for the peace and order of the Settlement, and who has nevertheless allowed a person to throw a bomb into the Hotel and to escape by throwing himself into the river, cannot, I am afraid, exonerate yourself from blame. As to your allegation that the perpetrator of the crime was a Chinese, what proof have you? This case clearly proves the incompentency of the Shameen police. The Civil Governor would suggest, and you the Consul-General will doubtless agree, that in future this Government may, whenever necessary, send its police force to Shameen to preserve peace and order there."

Will of Assassin and Photographs Published

Canton, June 25.

In connexion with the recent bomb outrage, a Korean named Hsu Shingya published in to-day's Chinese papers the photograph and name of the culprit, who was identified as an Annamite, together with his will.

In his will, after severely condemning the administration of French Indo-China, the culprit says that he has always objected to the French administration and endeavoured to free his countrymen from the yoke of France. He concludes that he will be at rest if the Annamite people can live peacefully on earth. The Korean, who has published the will referred to, pays a high tribute to the culprit, and compares him to Anju Kon, who assassinated Prince Ito at Harbin.

It is learnt on good authority that in view of this development the Consular Body will shortly issue a warning to the Canton Government, requesting it to control outlaws.—Eastern New Agency.

ELECTRIC CHAIR IN THE ORIENT

First Criminal Electrocuted in Manila: Chloroformed First

Manila, June 26.

The electric chair was used for an execution for the first time in the Orient yesterday, when Juan Buco, convicted of the murder of six persons, was executed at Bilibid.

The prisoner was submitted to an anæsthetic before the current was switched on.

Governor-General Wood refused eleventh hour requests for a pardon.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Peking, June 23.—On learning of the bomb outrage at Canton the Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs sent a secretary to the French Legation to offer his sympathy.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE CHINESE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION WHICH UPSET MR. BENA'S PLAN

Something Tangible About It at Last: A Scheme Which has Hitherto Brought Nothing But $100,000 Loss to Promoters

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, June 19.

It has taken some time to find out the whys and wherefores of the Chinese International Exhibition which is accounted the reason for the non-cooperation of the Shanghai Chinese in the project initiated by Mr. Bena and his fellow-enthusiasts; but the writer has now run it to ground, at least its preparation bureau, which is tucked away inconspicuously in the East City.

The Usual Bureau

The preparation bureau owes its inception to a presidential mandate promulgated as far back as March last year, embodying an idea which has been on the tapis ever since the establishment of the Republic. The full title of the proposed exposition is the Chinese Republic Anniversary International Exhibition, and the director-general of the preparation bureau is a worthy senator by the name of Lee Chin-ho, who, working in conjunction with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce, divided his bureau into four departments, general, editorial publicity, exhibit, and foundation fund.

The foundation fund department is the main department, of course. It has the job of raising the funds, and until it has done its work, there does not appear to be any reason why the general department, the publicity department and the exhibit department should not continue to tuck themselves away inconspicuously. For the exhibition itself hinges upon the work of the foundation fund department.

Raising the Capital

Although it is said in Shanghai that nothing has been heard about the proposed exposition, this particular department has not been idle. It was decided some time ago that the best way of raising funds was by means of premium bonds, to be secured on the property of and receipts from the exhibition itself. As a matter of fact, there was no need for this security, as there was to be no reimbursement of capital, simply the prospect of prizes. And this prospect was attractive enough —as shall be related presently.

The first issue sold in almost every province, and $300,000 was raised. The date of the first drawing came round, May 18, just about the time when the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce decided to withhold its support from Mr. Bena's scheme; and prize money amounting to $400,000 was drawn.

Dead Loss to Organizers

This was very fortunate for the investors, but disastrous for the organ responsible for raising funds for the International Exhibition. The result of the drawing meant a dead loss to the authorities of $100,000. It was a case of a mackerel to catch a sprat, with the sprat, for some unearthly reason, going off with the bait, and somebody else's as well.

This, of course, is not the way to finance a peanut stall, let alone an international exposition; and it discouraged the director-general so much that he has recently instructed the foundation fund department to close up.

The director-general is also faced with another complication in that Parliament is said to be enforcing a rule that none of its members shall hold an official position. It is reported that he contemplates resignation in consequence.

The writer should have said at the outset that the date for the exposition is set for 1926, in Peking, place as yet undecided.

NEW TAXATION IN CANTON

A Levy on Sugar, on Cosmetics, Articles of Luxury and Dancing Halls

From a Correspondent.

Canton, June 18.

A special war tax of two and one-half per cent. on sugar *ad valorem*, apart from the usual customs and transit *likins*, will be levied in Canton. The measure was made effective on June 17 by the assistant secretary of finance to Dr. Sun Yat-sen. Persons holding sugar on June 17 have been given an opportunity to report their stock in hand within seven days ending on June 24 in order to exempt their goods from this special assessment, otherwise they will be subject to the new special tax. The military authorities divide sugar into eight classes or grades, including white, brown, candy, refined, syrup, molasses. fruit juice or extracts containing sugar, and native plate sugar. Foreign imported sugar as well as native production is subject to the special war tax and a fine of five to 20 times the duty or tax payable will be imposed on persons attempting to avoid or failing to comply with this new measure.

In addition to the special war tax on sugar in Canton, the recently dropped proposal to levy a heavier stamp duty on cosmetics and toilet articles ordinarily considered as luxuries will be renewed by the military authorities. According to a recent estimate submitted by an official in Dr. Sun's headquarters some $1,700,000 to $2,400,000 a year may be raised from this source, by means of a 10 per cent. stamp duty on these articles.

Steps will soon be taken by the police authorities in Canton to regulate the so-called dancing halls conducted by Russian women, now numbering not a few in that city. These dancing halls are frequented mostly by sailors from foreign gunboats in Canton harbour.

Peking, June 22.—Mr. Chen Yi, former Resident at Urga, has arrived in Peking in response to an invitation from the Government to give advice regarding Outer Mongolia.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE CANTON ARSENAL CONTROVERSY

Loan of $1,500,000 Floated by Dr. Sun to Pay Balance of Purchase money

From Our Own Correspondent.

Canton, June 17.

The popularity or otherwise of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's foreign policy in Canton will be given a test in a small way during the next few days, when a bond issue of $1,500,000, local currency, will be put before the public. The proceeds are intended to pay the balance of the purchase price of an arsenal equipment, which still remains undelivered to the Canton Government in full, because the claim has never been settled.

It may be recalled that in 1920, when the Canton Government was in the hands of the Kuangsi militarists headed by Gen. Mu Yung-hsin, an arsenal plant was bought through Messrs. Davis & Company, a British firm in Hongkong, with Mr. J. A. Rabbitt, an American, as agent and engineer commissioned to install the machinery; and that the machinery was not fully paid for and delivered upon the outgoing of the Kuangsi military party in Canton. Early last May the vendors attempted to remove the plant from local godowns in Canton with Filippino labour in a Japanese vessel, but agents of Dr. Sun interfered, claiming that the goods were Cantonese property. At the same time Cantonese labourers interested themselves in the matter, asserting that the use of foreign labour in an attempt to remove Chinese property constituted an insult. After an unpleasant dispute over the matter, the vendors finally agreed not to remove the machinery on condition of payment of the balance and storage and interest charges. The Canton Government is issuing bonds to raise the sum needed, about $1,500,000, Canton money.

In a telegram to Mr. Yu Ya-ching, Manager of the San Peh S. N. Co., the Ministry of Communications replies that it is not willing to sell the two steamers Huata and Huali for less than $200,000, their market value estimated by a surveyor.

THE CASE AGAINST MR. WEATHERBE

Charged with Assaulting Peking Octroi Official: Formal Trial at British Legation in Presence of a Chinese Observer

Peking, June 19.

Except for those actually concerned in the case, three or four foreign correspondents and about the same number of Legation officials were the only spectators present when the hearing of the assault charge preferred against Mr. D'Arcy Weatherbe was begun in the British Legation Theatre at 10 o'clock this morning.

Mr. W. P. W. Turner, Britisn Consul in Peking, heard the case and he had on the Bench with him a Chinese observer. The complainant, Liu Kun-kuan, a member of the Octroi police, conducted his own case and the defendant, who entered a plea of "not guilty," was defended by Mr. P. B. H. Kent, of Tientsin.

The complaint against Mr. Weatherbe, as read out by his Honour, was that at about noon on April 23 last he committed an assault on Liu Kun-kuan, a Chinese citizen, by striking him violently on the face and the body. His Honour said at the outset that the case appeared to him to be one that could be properly dealt with under summary jurisdiction and it was, he took it, generally understood that that course would be applied.

Mr. Kent agreed to this, mentioning that he did not think there would be much controversy over the main facts. The defendant intended, he said, to call only one technical witness.

Complainant's Story

Liu Kun-kuan was then called upon to tell his story. He related that on the day in question at noon he was on duty at the Post Office. Mr. Weatherbe went to the Post Office and got a parcel and witness asked him to go to the Octroi so that the parcel could be examined for taxation purposes. Mr. Weatherbe refused and went to his car. He put his parcel into the car and then assaulted witness, striking him on the chest with his fist. Then Mr. Weatherbe tried to go into his car and witness got hold of his chauffeur. Mr. Weatherbe, who had in the meantime got into the car, slapped witness on the face, drawing blood, and afterwards a Chinese policeman came up and separated them. Taking the parcel out of the car, witness still tried to persuade Mr. Weatherbe to go to the Octroi, but the defendant, who still declined to do so, tried to drive away. The car began to move off and witness, who tried to prevent the car from leaving, was knocked down by it. Mr. Weatherbe drove off into the Legation Quarter, leaving behind his chauffeur and the parcel. Both were later on taken to the Chief of the Octroi, Mr. Tung.

The complainant was then cross-examined at considerable length by Mr. Kent and was occasionally interrogated by his Honour. This occupied more than two hours, in the course of which he recapitulated his story at least a dozen times.

Did Complainant Use Force?

Replying to Mr. Kent, he said that his injuries felt painful after the assault and he was under medical treatment for more than two weeks. He denied that he had ever pushed, struck or threatened Mr. Weatherbe and asserted that the greatest degree of force he employed was to beckon Mr. Weatherbe in the direction of the Octroi and pluck him by the sleeve. On two previous occasions, he said, Mr. Weatherbe had been to the Post Office and on those occasions, although the defendant had paid no tax, there had not been any trouble.

Mr. Kent suggested that on this occasion the complainant had made up his mind that he would compel Mr. Weatherbe to pay the tax and Liu Kun-yuan admitted that this was so. He denied, however, the suggestion that he had arranged for one or two colleagues to be ready to give assistance.

His Honour asked the complainant to state exactly what his duty was and the latter said that he was supposed to direct to the Octroi Office people who got parcels from the Post Office.

The first witness called by the complainant was the Chinese policeman who intervened towards the end of the dispute. This man said that he saw Mr. Weatherbe strike the complainant in the face, but could not say what happened before that. He was about 20 paces away and did not hear Mr. Weatherbe call for assistance.

The Court at this stage adjourned for tiffin.

Chauffeur's Alleged Confession

When the hearing was resumed this afternoon several more witnesses were called to give corroborative evidence. One of them, Mr. Shang Yen-sun, an Octroi inspector, bore out the statement earlier made by the complainant to the effect that Mr. Weatherbe struck him "more than 10 times." This witness said that a policeman told Mr. Weatherbe to stop hitting the complainant, but, in spite of this, Mr. Weatherbe still continued to assault him.

Mr. Shang handed up to the Bench a document which he said was a "confession" made by Mr. Weatherbe's chauffeur after he was taken to the Octroi office.

His Honour said he could not accept this as evidence as long as it was possible for the chauffeur himself to be called as a witness.

Mr. Kent mentioned at this stage that the police went to Mr. Weatherbe's house two days ago to arrest the chauffeur without a warrant and, for some reason, they demanded a guarantor. "As far as we are concerned," Mr. Kent declared, "no obstacle has been put in the way of this man's coming to give evidence. We have tried to get him to come and he does not want to."

It was stated that the chauffeur was somewhere about the premises and his Honour indicated that, if the complainant wished, the man could be called to give evidence.

The "Confession" Might Differ.

Mr. Shang then caused some amusement by suggesting that, if the chauffeur were called at this stage, it was quite likely that he would make a different "confession" altogether. The complainant eventually decided that he would dispense with this particular piece of evidence and the case proceeded.

During the latter part of the afternoon Mr. Shang, who had been frequently interjecting on the complainant's behalf, was permitted to sit near the latter and assist him. It had already been explained to the Chinese authorities, his Honour said, why it was not possible to permit the appearance of a Chinese lawyer.

The hearing will be continued tomorrow morning.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Evidence for the Defence

Peking, June 20.

Evidence for the defence was heard when the Weatherbe case was resumed at the British Legation this morning. The proceedings again attracted little or no public attention. On the Bench with Mr. W. P. W. Turner, British Consul in Peking, who presided at the trial, was Dr. Chang Yu-chuan, Counsellor of the Waichiaopu, who acted as Chinese Observer.

Opening the defendant's case briefly this morning, Mr. P. B. H. Kent indicated that Mr. Weatherbe would deny that he struck the complainant on the chest, but would admit that he struck him once on the face. His defence for this striking was that it was done under circumstances of strong provocation, in self-defence, in defence of his property and his servant.

Mr. D'Arcy Weatherbe, who described himself as a retired consulting engineer residing at Paomachang, then gave his evidence. He said that previous to the occasion under review he had collected parcels from the Post Office and had never paid any Octroi tax. When he collected a parcel on April 23 he was handed a paper and he supposed it to be written entirely in Chinese as had been the case always before. He did not realize that it was written in English until his attention was drawn to the fact two days later at the British Legation.

After paying the Customs duty on the parcel, proceeded Mr. Weatherbe, he took it away from the Post Office and threw it into his motor car. He then told his coolie (he had no chauffeur) to crank up the car. When he attempted to get aboard the complainant and at least one other person held on to his coat and tried to prevent him from getting in. Prior to that nobody, to his knowledge, had spoken to him. Just before he got in he noticed that one or two Chinese were following him. Pushing these two men aside, he got into the car and sat down in the driver's seat. He then saw that the coolie was held by two men, not including the complainant. Witness called on the coolie to start the car, but the others held on to him and prevented him from obeying. Witness then got out and protested, but he saw that it would be impossible to get the coolie away without a struggle. He therefore re-entered the car with the object of starting it with the self-starter and was seized by the men and violently pulled and pushed. He managed eventually to get into the car, but could not shut the door because these men crowded in after him. They continued to pull him about and, seeing that it was impossible to get the servant away, he jumped out of the car and rushed at them and they fell back. He struck at the nearest one, who happened to be the complainant, and hit him on the left side of the face. Witness struck nobody but the complainant, and him only once. The man did not fall down and Mr. Weatherbe remarked that he saw no blood. He explained that he struck the blow in order to get away from these men and he did not know of any other method he could have adopted.

Struck Twice by Complainant

Continuing, Mr. Weatherbe said that after he struck the blow he returned to the car and seeing there the policeman who gave evidence yesterday, he called on him to prevent these men from hitting him and to make them release the coolie. The complainant had struck him twice, while he was getting into the car, before he struck the complainant. The policeman took no notice whatever of his request and witness then jumped into the car and, managing to close the door, started the car. Several men, including the complainant, jumped on to the footboard and at least one held on to witness's sleeve. When the car started they jumped off and witness drove off into the Legation Quarter, leaving the car near the Chartered Bank and returning on foot to the Octroi in order to demand the release of his coolie and the return of his parcel, which had been taken from him. He saw the Head of the Octroi and complained of the assault made upon him. The official said that witness had brought it upon himself by running away with the parcel and he refused to let the coolie go. Later on he went to the British Legation and made a complaint about the incident.

When the question of the coolie giving evidence came up about 10 days ago, Mr. Weatherbe said, the man was very nervous and reluctant to appear. The coolie stated that when he was held prisoner in the Octroi he was intimidated and threatened.

His Honour said that this evidence could not be admitted and, Mr. Weatherbe having concluded his statement, he asked the complainant whether he wished to cross-examine. The complainant replied that he would like to ask a few questions and His Honour then decided to adjourn the Court for half an hour in order to give him a chance to prepare them.

Questions by Complainant

Following the resumption, after a number of questions had been put to Mr. Weatherbe by the complainant the former said, in reply to a question from the Bench, that he made no attempt to investigate the nature of the form handed to him. He would have had no object in doing so since the parcel had been delivered to him and apparently was free.

The only witness called for the defence was Mr. H. I. Prideaux-Brune, of the British Legation, who gave evidence to the effect that Mr. Weatherbe came to the Legation and made a complaint which was later put in writing. Mr. Weatherbe complained that he had an unpleasant incident with the Octroi authorities, who had taken away his coolie.

The complainant, when invited to cross-examine Mr. Prideaux-Brune, expressed a desire to see the written complaint, but His Honour pointed out that it was an official record and there might be some difficulty about producing it. He suggested that the complainant should question Mr. Prideaux-Brune as to its nature.

The complainant then mentioned an official despatch said to have been sent to the Waichiaopu. His Honour said he had no judicial-knowledge of this and Mr. Prideaux-Brune, when questioned, said that no despatch had been sent either to the Waichiaopu or to the Octroi. He added that the morning after the incident occurred he went to see the Superintendent of the Octroi, under instructions from the Minister, and communicated Mr. Weatherbe's complaint. He later wrote a private letter to the Superintendent asking for the relaese of Mr. Weatherbe's coolie.

At this point the hearing was adjourned to the afternoon.

Addresses to the Court

After tiffin, addresses were heard from both sides. Mr. Kent, for the defendant, suggested that the evidence for the prosecution was exaggeration and should be received with caution. It was inconceivable, he said, that a man of Mr. Weatherbe's age, experience and position should have committed the unprovoked assault alleged. No evidence had been called to show that the complainant's duties justified him in arresting or restraining people and Mr. Weatherbe was in any case technically within the law. Mr. Kent concluded by asking that the summons should be dismissed.

The complainant's submission was that Mr. Weatherbe had been guilty of assault and had also "forcibly refused" to pay the Octroi tax. He therefore asked that the defendant should be punished according to British law and should be made to pay compensation.

The Court reserved its decision, His Honour stating that the date of judgment would be communicated to the parties in due course.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Defendant Fined $25 and Ordered to Pay $25 Compensation

Peking, June 25.

Judgment was given in the Weatherbe case this afternoon. Defendant was fined $25, and ordered to pay the complainant the same amount. Mr. Weatherbe asked and was granted stay of execution to enable him to consult a lawyer with a view to appeal.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE Hankow Houhu Tax Bureau, which was instituted by Marshal Pei-fu several months ago, propose to pledge a tract of land some 320,000 fong in area to a certain capitalist syndicate in Shanghai. This Bureau is willing to allow foreigners to purchase land at the back of the concessions provided they are willing to pay the taxes and abide by the laws enforced by the Bureau, says the Chinese press.

"FOREIGN SUNDRIES STORES"

Shansi's Vogue in Western Feminine Adornments and Children's Playthings

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Kiangchow, Sha., June 10.

Commercial developments of all kinds are being discussed. This city at the moment is interested in the long-delayed cotton factory the capital for which is said to be now practically subscribed. An electric lighting scheme is under consideration notwithstanding the failure of the company in the rival city of Hungtung to produce any light. Then a branch motor road, and a large number of smaller and larger companies to develop textile manufactures and introduce mechanical power in various trades, are passing through the preliminary stages of talk.

The remarkable boom on trade around here augurs well for the possible consummation of a good many of these projects. One cannot go far afield these days without seeing evidence of prosperity and luxury, in remarkable contrast to conditions even in good years a decade ago. The village child who was content with mud pies then now wants boats of tin, toy motor-cars and indiarubber balls, while his big brother sports a tennis racket, and his sister strolls into city shops on a regular "shopping expendition" and with nonchalant air buys feminine etcetras which were totally unheard of until the recent advent of the "foreign sundries stores."

In answer to the question, "Where does the money come from?" the one reply seems to be the disappearance of opium and the increase of cotton cultivation.

Highway robberies took place recently on the motor-road and people began to wonder if Shansi was beginning to fall into line with other provinces. But immediately the Governor issued a pamphlet for the information of all village authorities and others, telling of the discovery of seven or eight of the bandit fraternity in a village in the Kuwo district, and reiterating his orders that not a single suspected household must be overlooked. Suspicious characters must not be tolerated in any circumstances in any community and Shansi must at all costs be kept safe.

TOKIO, June 22.—Mr. Tomoichiro Yosuhiro, P.C., will succeed Mr. T. Kawamura, President of the South Manchuria Railway, who has resigned.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

MONGOLIA'S BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

A New Customs House and Army Charges: Substantial Surplus Accruing to Government

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Urga, June 7.

According to the Budget prepared by the Mongolian Ministry of Finance, the income for the current year will be Tls. 4,666, 292.—

This is made up as follows:—

INCOME	
Direct Taxation:—	
Taxes on Trading Firms, Licences &c.,	₮20,000
Duties and Indirect Taxes	2,400,000
Automobile Permits, Passports, Weights & Measures Licenses	102,750
Government Properties Land, Water, Forests, Government Buildings,	126,700
Government Monopolies, Telegraph, Posts, Sale of Spirit, Patents Tax, Percentage from Casing Monopoly, Charcoal Tax	287,000
Government Undertaking, Mines, Electric Light, Abbattoirs, Printing Works,	196,700
Receipts for Veterinary Services, Medicine, and Apothecaries business	218,100
Financial Operations — per cent. on Loans, Shares in Bank, Mongolian Co-Operative Sales, Translation &c.,	36,000
Various (Fines &c.)	18,500
Special Income, Receipt of old Debts, Loans from Cash (494,000.) Outstandings	804,542
	₮4,666,292

EXPENDITURE.	
Government Presidium	₮46,530
National Control	15,000
Ministry of Interior	26,100
Ministry of Justice	24,230
Ministry for Foreign Aff:	24,690
Higher Huruldana (The Mongolian Parliament) The first Assembly will be in the Autumn, 1924	23,565
Sino-Mongolia Conference	12,120
Plenipotenriary Ministers of the Mongol Govt.	20,100
Administrative Sait of Altan Bulick, (Kichata) Administrative Sait of Kobdo	13,200
Administrative Sait of Uliassutai	9,700
Administration of Posts & Telegraphs	64,265
Central Prison	13,496
For building New Prison	60,000
Total Taels	364,996

The above does not include expenses for Administration of the Customs, Army nor the amount required for the new Customs House, which will be commenced this year.

From the above it will be seen that there is a substantial sum accruing to the Government.

Last year the income was only Tls. 2,315,000.

It is expected that the sum of Tls. 494,000 (see Special Income) will not be paid in this year but this is easily covered by ready cash in the hands of the Government, which at the beginning of this year amounted to about one million Tls.

VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT IN KUANGTUNG

Defence Force Organized by Merchants to Keep Order on Unruly Days: Stringent Conditions of Membership: Many Recruits but Shortage of Arms

Hongkong, June 15.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen will review the Municipal Police, the Provincial Gendarmerie and the Merchants' Volunteer Corps on June 20.

The Merchants' Volunteer Corps of Kuangtung, a military unit of civilians for local defence, which is the only organization of this character outside the foreign concessions in China, came into existence in Canton in 1912 after the Revolution. The troops at that time were beginning to be autocratic, and the merchants had to co-operate in order to protect their property. One of the chief promoters of the movement was Mr. Shen Chu-pak, an insurance agent, who later became the first commandant of the corps. Mr. Chan Lim-pak, the compradore of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation in Shameen, was also one of the prime movers. He is now Commander-in-Chief of the allied corps of the whole of Kuangtung. The charter to form the corps was issued by the Peking Ministry of War in the first year of the Republic. Since then the strength of the corps in Canton alone has risen from 400 to 13,000 men. More than 160 leading cities, towns and villages have organized similar forces, each community having a company varying from 36 to 126 men. Some towns, like Fatshan, have several regiments. On May 26 this year delegates from more than 100 volunteer organizations met in Canton and perfected the provincial organization, making the headquarters of the Canton Corps at Water Melon Garden, Saae Kuan, the provincial headquarters, and electing Mr. Chan Lim-pak, the commandant of the Canton unit, Commander-in-Chief of the Provincial Volunteers. The supreme control of the corps, however, is vested in a conference of representatives of the various units, which meets annually. A council elected by the members of the conference has charge of the affairs of the corps, but on active service the Commander-in-Chief, his staff and officers have full command.

Conditions of Joining.

In order to be admitted to the corps in Canton, a candidate must be a member or have a guarantee from a responsible firm. He must be able to pass a literary and physical test and to contribute more than $300 for his uniform and arms. He has to be willing to attend military drills for a period of six months. No one is allowed to carry arms until he has obtained a certificate of efficiency after a period of regular training. At the headquarters in Canton a staff of eight instructors, all regular military officers holding commissions from the Government, holds three recruit drills daily in the morning and evening and at noon, when businessmen can get away from their work for an hour.

The Canton corps is 13,000 strong, but not every member is fully equipped owing to the difficulty of purchasing arms. There are 10 regiments, each with its own barracks.

According to an officer of the corps, the property of the organization in land, buildings and equipment is valued at more than $2,000,000. The organization is similar to that of the regular Chinese army, except for slight differences in the ranks.

The Merchants' Volunteers have been regularly on duty every day since the present troubles began in Canton, assisting the regular police and have done much to restrain the mercenary troops.

The Volunteers in the districts are not so well equipped, but are daily growing in efficiency.

Marine Corps Against Pirates.

Shipping interests are considering the possibility of organizing Marine Volunteers Corps to cope with the present prevalence of piracy along the larger rivers in Kuangtung. There is talk of equipping and manning special patrol boats.

Mr. Chan Lim-pan in a public statement the other day said that the Chinese should not depend on their Government alone to bring them peace and order, but should labour for their own salvation.

If the Government is unable to restore peace and order soon, the citizens will have in the Volunteer Corps a fitting instrument through which to take the responsibility into their own hands.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

PORTUGUESE AVIATORS AT HONGKONG

Landing on Kowloon Frontier, Macao Being Impossible by Bad Weather

Hongkong, June 20.

The Portuguese aviators landed at Samchun this afternoon.

Later.

Lieuenant Deires, interviewed by Reuter's correspondent, said that the aviators hopped off from Hanoi at nine this morning for Macao. they flew over the neighbourhood of Macao at 12.50 this afternoon, but, encountering bad weather, decided that a landing at Macao was impracticable. They endeavoured to proceed to Canton and descried the Canton-Kowloon railroad, which they followed, but soon after, ignition trouble developed, and the fliers were forced to land at Samchun market, on the frontier of the British New Territories, at two this afternoon. The aeroplane was slightly damaged. Captain Paes bruised his right arm and leg. The aviators then entrained at Samchun for Kowloon and arrived this evening at 7.15.

Captain Paes and Lieutenant Beires were welcomed by representative Portuguese and others on their arrival and warmly congratulated.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Macao Governor's Compliments.

Hongkong, June 21.

The Governor of Macao has sent a wireless message to the Portugese airman, Captain Paes, expressing his compliments and the pleasure of the Colony to learn of the landing. He says that there was enormous anxiety at Macao. A gunboat will leave Macao to-render services to the airmen and will arrive at daylight this morning.

Later.

The Portuguese aviators will go no further. The gunboats Patria and Macao have arrived and the airmen will leave Hongkong for Macao on Monday.

The Hongkong Dock Company has lent a European foreman, three Chinese fitters and 18 coolies to go to Chinese territory with the object of dismantling the Portuguese aeroplane and to transport it to Hongkong.

The villagers swarmed over the machine, tampering with it and damaging the wings. The Chinese district commander has now posted a guard of 50 armed soldiers to prevent further damage.

Transportation of the aeroplane is expected to be completed by to-morrow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Hongkong, June 24.

The Portuguese aviators called on the Governor to-day and were congratulated by His Excellency.

This evening the Club Lusitano gave a reception in their honour.

They will leave for Macao on Wednesday on board the gunboat Patria.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE MORAL WELFARE OF HONGKONG

London, June 23.

In the House of Commons to-night, replying to Mr. John Harris, Liberal Member for North Hackney, Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Colonial Secretary, said that he was constituting an expert committee to advise him on the subject of *maisons tolérées* in Hongkong, and the proposed bill for registration and control of prostitutes, after which he would be able to make a statement to the House.—Reuter

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Dr. R. Wilhelm, the sinologue attached to the German Legation, has accepted a Professorship in Frankfort-am-Main and expects to leave for Germany some time next month. Dr. Wilhelm has been acclaimed as one of the greatest living sinologues.

HONGKONG LETTER

The Late Mr. A. R. Lowe's Will: M. Merlin's Visit: The Piracy Regulations

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hongkong, June 17.

The will of the late Mr. Arthur Rylands Lowe, member of the firm of Lowe, Bingham & Matthews, chartered accountants, was made public to-day. The gross estate is valued at $290,176. Chief provisions of the will, which was drawn up and signed while Mr. Lowe was lying ill at the Peak Hospital on May 26, two sisters appending their signatures as witnesses, are the bequest of $10,000 free of all death duties and all his personal effects to the widow; £50 to Frank Harold Lowe and the placing of his real estate into the hands of his trustees on the following conditions:—

(a) That all income from it shall be paid to Mrs. Lowe (the widow) during widowhood and a half of it to her during the remainder of her life in the event of her re-marrying.

(b) Subject to the widow's interest in the estate during her lifetime all of his children who attain the age of 21 (in the case of sons) and attain that age or marry (in the case of daughters) also the children of any deceased child of his under the same conditions, shall take that share which parent or parents would have taken.

Three executors and trustees have been appointed, Messrs. W. E. L. Shenton of the firm of Messrs. Deacons, solicitors, Mrs. Lowe and Mr. John Scott Harston. As Mr. Harston had renounced all probate, Mr. Shenton has applied for probate.

Indo-China's Governor

In honour of M. Merlin, Governor-General of Indo-China, a detachment of British soldiers were on parade, the Regimental Band struck up the "Marseillaise" and a salute was fired when he landed at Hongkong from the s.s. Hakone Maru this morning. The distinguished French Governor was met on the pier by the Governor, Sir Edward Stubbs, and many other Government representatives. After inspecting the guard of honour, M. Merlin was driven to Government House, but left shortly before eleven o'clock to attend a reception arranged by members of the Hongkong Annamite community at the Hongkong Hotel. Mr. Felix Yung, President of the Hongkong Annamite Society, presented an address of welcome and extended a toast to the Governor-General. M. Merlin, who is accompanied by Madame Merlin, was taken on a sight-seeing trip round the New Territories (Kowloon) this afternoon by Sir Edward Stubbs. After visiting Canton M. Merlin and his party are due to sail for Indo-China on Sunday by the str. Chantilly.

Young Man's Suicide

Another tragedy of the Far East is reported to-day. Like many other sad stories lack of motive seems to be an outstanding feature. Mr. William George Dowse was found with his throat cut in his bathroom this morning. The Chinese room-boy discovered the body at 8.30 this morning, near by was a razor. The late Mr. Dowse was only 23 years of age and came to the Colony in October, 1922, for the Hongkong police. Six weeks ago he purchased his discharge and joined the China Light & Power Company as electrician. When the police were inspected last week, Mr. Dowse was specially commended by the Governor for his plucky work in endeavouring to arrest armed robbers, who shot him in the breast a year ago. Not long after being discharged from hospital, Mr. Dowse fell ill with pneumonia and his life was despaired of, but he made a remarkable recovery. Among his late colleagues in the police, he was known to be a very retiring and modest young man and neither smoked nor drank. Two letters were found in his bedroom, one addressed to his widowed mother, who resides at Clapham, London, and the other to a person in Australia.

Sequal to Piracy

A sequal to the piracy of the river boat Tai Lee in January when the captain, Mr. Wilcox, was shot dead and the boat seized by pirates, is providing some interesting revelations in a charge brought against the owners by the Captain Superintendent of Police. The owners are summoned to show reason why the money ($5,000) secured in their bond under the Piracy Prevention Ordinance, should not be forfeited. The allegation is that the regulations were not being properly carried out at the time of the piracy. Appearing for the Crown, Mr. T. M. Hazelerigg submitted to the Magistrate at yesterday's hearing that the following were breaches of the regulations:—

1. That the officers had not been instructed to carry a revolver and ammunition in the danger zone (the usual routes between Hongkong and places on the river and on the coast of Kuangtung and Kuangsi.)

2. That the grille door was never kept locked in the danger zone and that, as a matter of fact, it was open at the time of the piracy.

3. That the equipment (rockets, etc.,) was not readily and easily accessible for immediate use.

The case has occupied the attention of the Magistrate's Court for more than a week and the verdict, which is expected to-morrow, is being eagerly awaited. It was over the piracy and the murder of Captain Wilcox that the recent storm of protest was raised in the local newspapers and by the energetic assistant secretary of the China Coast Officers' Guild.

ENEMY OF BANDITS AND OPIUM SELLERS

Gen. Ma's Triumphant Return to Anking After Punitive Expedition

From Our Own Correspondent.

Anking, An., June 16.

After careering about the province for nearly two months uprooting opium poppies, bandits and unprofitable officials, Governor Ma Lien-chia has returned triumphantly to the capital. This visit to most of the important places in the province north of the river, coupled with a few slashing strokes of reform has undoubtdly strengthened his position, locally at least. This is timely, if the reports from Peking are true that there are strong forces at work trying to have him removed. It seems that both Wu Pei-fu and Chi Shieh-yuan are trying to secure the governorship for one of their own henchmen, and that Peking is quite willing, but until they can agree between themselves which is to have this political plum the present incumbent is likely to continue in power.

Four weeks ago the peoples here feared that the continuous rain "would never cease." The sale of pork therefore, was prohibited in order to propitate the rain god. But this was not necessary. Not only did the rain stop, but for nearly a month not a drop fell until the pork vendors feared again for their trade. However, to-day the "sky is leaking" and everybody is happy.

Twelve-foot Snake!

If the appearance of snakes is a promise of rain even the rice farmers may feel confident judging by the size of one snake recently caught in the city. A professional snake catcher while prowling about the old Fan Tai (treasurer's yamen) came upon an enormous striped snake that was over 12 feet in length. He successfully took it alive and carried it to one of the large medicine shops near the west gate where he sold it for the handsome price of $200. A rival shop hearing of the sale, too late, offered an even higher price. After the eggs—considered very valuable as medicine—are secured the snake is to be pickled in wine and kept as a specific for all infirmities, it being necessary only to touch it to obtain complete cure!

Hope for the steady drinker! Dr. Raymond Pearl, head of the Department of Biometry and Vital Statistics at the John Hopkins University, addressing the convention of the National Academy of Science at Washington, said that moderate and steady drinkers had a better expectation of life at all ages above 30 than total abstainers, adding that heavy drinkers had the poorest expectation of life between 30 and 65, while after 65 heavy drinkers and total abstainers had about equal expectation. Dr. Pearl said that his findings were based on many years of study of the drinking habits of thousands of persons throughout their lives, the figures being computed on similar life insurance tables.

CANTON LETTER

First Labour Governor: Policeman Killed by Soldiers: The Arsenal Dispute

From Our Own Correspondent.

Canton, June 18.

The most important event of the last few days in Canton has been the appointment of the Civil Governor of Kuangtung. Mr. Liu Chung-oi, who held the post some time ago, has been appointed to the post. He is a leader of the Labour Department of the Kuomintang, and may be styled "Canton's first Labour Governor."

⁂

The case of the Arsenal machinery for the Canton Arsenal, which was mentioned in my last notes, has not yet been entirely settled but it is believed that an agreement will be arrived at with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the Seventy-Two Guilds to take up Bonds issued by the Government to the amount necessary to pay the final instalment. These bonds will be employable by the merchants for paying taxes and for purchasing rifles from the Government for the Merchants Volunteers.

⁂

On the East River front there have been movements of troops but still no serious fighting has taken place. The leaders of the various armies are now all at the front and it is said that serious operations will start very soon. The centre is composed of Yunnanese and Kuangsi troops under Gen. Lau Chan-wan, They are attacking Aichow. The left is under Gen, T'an Yin-oi, of the Hunanese, with the Shansi troops to help him. The right is composed of the Honanese and Yunnanese, who are in charge up to the Canton-Kowloon Railway.

⁂

The large parade of police and gendarmerie which was to have taken place on the 18th has been postponed for a few days. It is to be held on the North Parade Ground.

⁂

Strenuous efforts are being made by the police to protect the people against the actions of the soldiers in the City, who commit frequent robberies and murders. On the 16th one policeman was killed and a sergeant and two constables were wounded in an affray with soldiers who were trying to rob a pedestrian. The policeman who was killed acted very courageously in attacking the armed soldiers single-handed, and paid for it with his life. He was given a very fine funeral, attended by the Civil Governor, Mayor, and Chief of Police.

⁂

Operations against the pirates in the Delta are being conducted with vigour and there has been no small success attending the efforts of Gen. Li Fuk-lam to suppress these pests.

⁂

The Canton Mint has again started operations and the other day the merchants and bankers were invited to attend an analysis of the coins being minted. The results of the analysis showed that the average of silver in the coins was round about 70 per cent. well above the minimum allowed. The coins will bear the date of the 13th year of the Republic, and notices have been issued warning the people that anyone refusing to accept the coins will be dealt with severely.

⁂

On the 16th Dr. Sun Yat-sen went down to Whampoa for the purpose of attending the opening exercises of the new Military School which has just been formed there for the purpose of training officers. The school is under the charge of Gen. Chang Kai-shek, a well known military expert. The course is to be a six-month one.

Prosperity is returning to Harbin, says the correspondent of the "Peking and Tientsin Times." "To let" signs are no longer seen. New American, British and German offices are opening in all lines of business, an English paper finds it possible to exist and even flourish, amusements of all kinds are heavily patronized, racing has taken on a new lease of life. Foreign visitors fill the hotels, and Siberian expresses bring through passengers every week. In the country the area of grain cultivation has increased enormously.

BLOWING IN THE WALL OF KUEILIN

Second Massed Attempt to Take the City: Another Failure Before Strenuous Defence: 41 Days of Siege

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Kueilin, Si., May 21.

At 4.45 this morning the southern section of the city was shaken by a big explosion which occurred just east of the South Gate. A large section of the city wall fell in but the prompt resistance of the city soldiers prevented the attacking forces from gaining an entrance.

For weeks large enemy forces have been strongly entrenched in the large Changtai godown just outside the south gate not far from the city wall, and it is surmised that the enemy have been sapping from this shelter with the object of blowing up the wall. Repeated attempts have been made to burn the building but these have failed. Big native cannon have also been used in an attempt to blow the building down, but the massive brick walls, though damaged have stood firm and have defied every effort at destruction.

When the explosion occurred great quantities of earth mixed with stone and brick were cast high into the air, and the buildings in the near vicinity were so badly shaken that pictures fell from the walls and scrolls were moved from their places. The trench dug under the wall must have been a large one and the charge enormous for both inner and outer sections of the wall caved in for a distance of ten yards while the whole wall settled down about five feet.

Some of the soldiers stationed on the city wall were killed by the explosion while others were buried in the mass of earth and stones that caved in the opening.

Fierce Bombardment Follows.

The shaking from the explosion had hardly ceased before the enemy's big guns began to throw shells into the city, and at the same time the attacking soldiers rushed the wall. But the defenders of the city rallied at once and poured such a fusilade of rifle and machine gun fire into the face of the approaching troops that they were compelled to retreat.

Marshal Lu and Director of Forces Nan were soon upon the scene and encouraged their men to defend the gap, and directed a large corps of workmen who in the face of deadly fire from the enemy's guns, used huge water vats filled with sand and stone and soon had the breach stopped. Meanwhile Red Cross workers hurried to the scene and helped carry the wounded off to the hospital and Red Cross base for treatment.

The streets next to the city wall were at once proclaimed a forbidden area and civilians were warned against trespassing in that district. Later paving stones from the main streets were dug up and carried away to be used in re-building the wall and in other fortification work, and a company of military advisers visited the district with a view to deciding on how best to prepare for possible future attacks and conducting a successful defensive should the wall again be threatened.

Of the ten odd shells that fell into the city, two fell into a pond near the Fukien club house; two fell in a military yamên, one fell near the Chamber of Commerce, one fell in the old Fu yamên, and one in the magistrates yamên while the others landed in empty houses or private dwellings. A few of the shells went screaming over the city and exploded with a thunderous roar sending lead and pieces of iron in all directions and while a few civilians were wounded, none were killed.

An Interminable Strife.

When will the end come? Already the city has been besieged for 41 days during which time both sides have done their utmost to win the campaign. The attacking forces have tried every strategy they know to force an entrance into the city, while each time the city soldiers have successfully withstood them and have forced them to withdraw with much loss of life. But still the struggle continues. Ten thousand bullets are being turned out daily in the city and as the troops are not so reckless now in their use of ammunition it is estimated that they can hold out indefinately while waiting for the relief forces to arrive.

month and all classes of people are at peace as usual. Soldiers and civilians are living in harmony and 10 thousand hearts are as one in the utmost effort to keep the city. There is fire-wood, rice, oil, salt, and such commodities sufficient for the entire military and civilian population for six months, while we still have hundreds of thousands of rifle bullets. The soldiers are healthy and the rations plentiful, and along with the soldiers who guard the wall is a labour corps and together these are guarding every yard of the parapets and placing brass cannon in position, while others are preparing explosives. Everything is in readiness so that when you make another attack nine out of every 10 of the attackers will be slain. Moreover though you guard both within and without, in the daytime there is alarm, while at night you get no restful sleep, and your food is insufficient. Such suffering is not without reason.

"Ere long our relieving forces who are gradually approaching from every side and who are already within 10 *li* of the city will arrive. You doubtless know that, according to the report of our spies, are although you are daily sending out your forces to block the roads leading to the city, the relieving forces are strong in the right and their purpose is fixed, and it is impossible to hold them back. But even if you could close one road how can you close them all? Ask yourselves how many cartridges have your combined companies got, and how long will they last? When our relieving army arrives and we attack you from both sides though you had wings, it would be impossible for you to fly away.

Peace and Pardon

"My Command cannot bear the thought of your soldiers dying in vain and for this reason I am again addressing you in the hopes you may awaken and quickly stop hostilities. If you arouse yourselves My Command is stationed in Kueilin in order to exterminate robbers and bring peace to the province, which is a legitimate task, and if you can believe that I have no intention of injuring you, then come forward and surrender your arms and you will be treated with consideration. Those who wish to continue in the army will be at once enlisted, while those who do not wish to be soldiers any longer will be given expenses to return to their country homes. My Command emphatically instructs you for no other reason than a desire that you may understand right from wrong and protect your lives. Whether you do so or not, or whether you listen or not each must decide for himself.

"May you all conscienciously consider the matter and make up your minds lest later you have cause to regret it is what I earnestly desire."

THE COMMANDER OF KUEILIN APPEALS TO THE TROOPS WHO ARE BESIEGING HIM

In connexion with his above report of the siege our Kueilin correspondent sends the following letter from Marshal Lu Yung-t'ing "to the Troops of General Shen Hung-yin, who for Forty days have Besieged the City of Kueilin and have Battered in Vain to Gain an Entrance."

Kueilin, May 20.

"To the soldiers of General Shen. Let it be clearly known that at this time General Shen and you soldiers who are attacking Kueilin have allied yourselves to Sun Wen and are perversely listening to Shen's counsel which is deceiving you into devastating your country. Will you not consider carefully that this man is a turncoat by nature and is seeking after private gains and does not care for the lives of others. You are unfortunately listening to his orders through the various commanders, who in bringing you to attack Kueilin are leading you in the way of death. Do you not known that the city of Keilin is firm and cannot easily be broken down? Your battalions have attacked the city many times and the dead and wounded of your soldiers are numbered by hundreds, while the rifles you have lost to us are not few. Your wounded are lying in the open fields with no competent doctors to attend them and consequently have little hope of recovery, while the bodies of your slain soldiers are wet by the dews and as no one buries them the stench rises to heaven while worms fatten on their carcases. This is seen by your own eyes. Think a moment. Why is it thus? A great man always has an object in view either on behalf of the country or for the protection of the people before it is worth while to sacrifice a single righteous life. On this occasion Shen Hung-yin and his followers have no reason or object in causing you to attack Kueilin. Why will you listen to his commands and take the body which your parents gave you and throw it away in the open fields? Think! After you have been killed, who will take your place at home and care for your parents? To whom will your wife and children look to for support? In the silent night consider what you are doing is not according to the principles of right and after death you will be cursed by your fellows:

You Were My Soldiers Once.

"Remember that in former days most of you belonged to my command and I cannot bear to despatch soldiers out to exterminate you, but I have sennt you a printed letter to instruct your officers and soldiers, but you are still deluded and do not know it and as usual are listening to the instigations of your superior officers in coming to attack the Old Man mountain. The people in the city do not know where to hide and consequently unfortunately a few were killed by your stray bullets, and their relatives came weeping to the yamên to give notice of death. My command cannot but take to heart the condition of the people and I at once sent two or three hundred men who rushed out and drove you back. You were defeated by my soldiers and many of your men were killed and you lost of rifles not a few, and the hills which you had occupied were recaptured by my troops. Think again, if on the hills which you occupied and where many troops were stationed; where you had also trenches in close formation, and where you were on guard to the utmost, if under these conditions after fighting one battle your troops were defeated and retreated in disorder, how much less can you stand upon the plains.

We Are Unconquerable.

"My Command has now been stationed in the city for over a

AEROPLANE MISHAP IN MANCHURIA

Forced Landing With a Cargo of Passengers Bound for Newchwang Races

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Mukden, June 22.

Capt. Mackenzie, piloting the Handley-Page machine on the passenger service for Newchwang Races, met with a mishap on his way to the races some two or three miles past Shaho, being compelled to make a forced landing with his 11 passengers. The engine started knocking badly a short distance past Shaho, and having observed a good landing place when passing over the station, he returned to the spot and effected a safe landing a few hundred yards away. The Chinese and Japanese passengers who formed the complement are lucky to have been deposited so near to an alternative medium of conveyance.

Mechanics were summoned from Mukden aerodrome, and their combined efforts succeeded in making the machine ready by Sunday morning at an early hour. Capt. Mackenzie took off at about 3.45 a.m. and by 5 a.m. the machine was in the hangar again.

The consequences might have been much more serious, if no landing ground had been available.

PEKING, June 20.—A mandate appoints the ex-Minister of Communications, Mr. Chang Chih-tan, Vice-Chairman of the Financial Readjustment Commission.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

FAIRY OPERETTA AT KULING

Gallant Entertainment by American Schoolchildren: School Commencement Week

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Kuling, Ki., June 18.

This is commencement week at the Kuling American School.

The musical recital, with which were held the exercises on Saturday afternoon was a great success, 38 out of the 43 pupils taking lessons at the piano appearing in the Assembly Hall before an audience of pupils and parents. The same evening five of the more advanced pupils delighted their hearers with the following programme:—

Beethoven Sonata, Op. 31, No. 3, 1st movement (Valentina Tourchinsky); Chopin Prrelude, Op. 28, No. 17 (Frances Roots); Rubinstein, Kamenoi Astrow (Charlotte Littell); Chopin, Waltz in at Flat Major (Valentina Tourchinsky); Gottschalk, "The Spark" (Majory Tooker); Beethoven Sonata, Op. 57. Two Movements (Frances Roots); Chopin: Butterfly Etude and Hollaender: "Spring" (Valentina Tourchinsky); Schumann: "Soaring" (Charlotte Littell); Schumann: "Whims" (Frances Roots); Chopin: Nocturne, Op. 15, No. 2 (Charlotte Littell); Chopin: Military Polonaise (Valentina Tourchinsky); Beethoven Sonata, Op. 27, No. 2 (Charlotte Littell); Palmgren, Bird Song (Frances Roots); Nevin: Love Song and "Good Night" (Esther Keller).

One did not notice any straining after effect, the performance of each pupil plainly indicating a development both of feeling and technique.

Contest in Elocution.

On Monday evening the annual competition in oratory took place. Miss Hanna, the English teacher, was in charge and each pupil announced his or her subject—some famous speech which had been committed to memory. Esther Keller was the winner and received a beautifully bound bible for her spirited rendering of "Spartacus of the Gladiators." William Johnson, interpreting with dignity and feeling, Channing's speech on "War," was given a very close second place, Elizabeth Goddard, who chose an address by Dr. Van Dyre, was third.

The guests were much impressed as usual, with the attractive, well built edifice in which the pupils make a real home during the School year. The announcement was made by the presiding officer at the Graduation Exercises this morning that preparations are being made for securing in addition a class room building.

"The Lost Flower Queen.

June 19.

The Kuling American School distinguished itself again last evening when its pupils, under the direction of Miss Richardson and with the assistance of Miss Ditmars and Miss Hanna, gave the operatta. "The Lost Flower Queen" in the fine new Auditorium. As the delighted audience dispersed one heard laments that so-and-so was not yet "up the Hill" and so enabled to be present. and hopes that it might be repeated later in the summer.

From the moment William Johnson, Patrol Leader of the Boy Scouts, stepped to the centre of the stage to read the Synopsis of the play, till the last "weed" skipped into the wings in the final procession, there was not a dull moment. This was no doubt partly due to the spirited way in which Valentina Tourchinsky played the accompaniments. It is often said that an accompanist's difficult work goes unappreciated; but on this occasion, after the operatta was over, her name and that of Miss Richardson, of the School, was cheered by the enthusiastic audience.

The big stage had been lined with ferns and branches that rainy morning by the performers, who by the way, included every pupil in the School. A high dais in the centre held a double throne, occupied first by the Queen of the Fairies and later by the Queen of the Flowers. This fair Queen, so the story runs had been stolen by the King of the Weeds and his retinue who looked, by the way, "wild" enough to frighten any farmer. These came boldly in to announce to the gentle flowers the capture of their queen and to gloat over their anticipated victory over all the Flower kingdom in case the Queen were not found within a day's time. The consternation into which the Flowers were thrown by this news was mitigated by the cheery counsel of "Johnny-Jump-up."

The help of the Fairy Queen is sought, the message being carried by two gorgeous heralds, clad, in scarlet with pheasant plumes streaming from each cap, and "silver" trumpets wherewith they sound the summons. Her Majesty comes escorted by a band of most winsome little fays who dance and sing and search everywhere for the lost queen, but all to no purpose.

Though these reports are discouraging, Johnny-Jump-Up still persists with his message of hope. And, sure enough, hope appears in the person of a band of Boy Scouts who report that, as the result of a campaign against their enemies, the Weeds, their Troop had defeated and captured the King of the Weeds and has rescued the Flower Queen. The Weeds are brought in and the Flowers call angrily for their immediate execution, but the Boy Scouts suggest that instead of killing the Weeds they should be sent to the Wizard of the West that he may change them to plants which will be of use to the world.

The whole show went off very well and put the whole community very much in the pupils' debt for providing such a joyous evening.

EXPLOSION IN MUKDEN

Fireworks Factory Blown Up but Only One Casualty

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Mukden, June 18.

A heavy explosion followed by a series of minor detonations disturbed the otherwise tranquil hour at noon to-day, and shook several houses in the foreign quarter considerably. Knots of boys and coolies gathered along the roads looking apprehensively towards the West city gate, as if expecting some appropriate sequel to the cause of the disturbance, but the more thoughtful of the community inclined to the conclusion that it could not have been the arsenal.

Investigation showed that a firework factory, just near the mud wall of the Chinese city, had blown up, luckily without serious consequences, and with but a small blaze. One casualty resulted, however, Hsueh Tzu-chin, who was painting the building, losing his life. He was still lying among the ruins at 6 o'clock this evening awaiting removal.

Very little debris was to be seen; only a few smouldering rafters and littered fireworks being strewn over the courtyard in which the building was situate, which protection must have localized the effects of the explosion not a little. The loss falls on one Teh Tsung.

Since the Banks were closed there has been no resumption of exchange operations.

NEWCHWANG RACES

An Interesting Innovation: Aeroplane Service from Mukden: Expert Pilots

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Mukden, June 18.

The Newchwang races will be held or the 20th, 21st, and 22nd instant inclusive, and the Handley-Page machine of the Fengtien Aerodrome will arrange to carry passengers on the above dates as follows:—

June 21, Saturday, at 5.30 a.m. from Mukden to Newchwang.

June 22, Sunday, at 6.00 p.m. from Newchwang to Mukden.

Single trip, Mex. $15.00.

Return trip, Mex. $24.00.

Tickets may be obtained at Fengtien Aerodrome.

The aeroplane will also fly above the Newchwang racecourse to obtain a bird's-eye view. Mex. $5 will be charged, tickets in this case being obtainable at Newchwang racecourse. The expert pilots whose services have been secured for the trip are Capt. Mackenzie, who has made a personal reconnaisence of the landing ground to ensure safety, Col. Chao Tzu-feng, Lt.-Col., Pei Yi-su, and Lt. Ma Shou-tung.

TOKIO, June 24.—Mr. Takejiro Tokonami, former Home Minister, was to-day elected President of the Seiyuhonto Party.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE NIGHT SHOPS OF TOKIO

A Relic of Old Japan That Time Cannot Stale

By Alfred E. Pieres.

Tokio, June 18.

Despite exclusion laws, agitators and suggested boycotts, there is a part of Tokio's life that flows on calm and unruffled, as it has done for decades, nay, for generations. This is the *Yomisé*, or the night shops of the capital, an institution that existed long before Commodore Perry knocked at the closed doors of this land, and which form one of the most delightful links binding the bustling, hustling, modern Tokio of to-day with the Yedo of Old Japan when feudal Shoguns exercised supreme sway. As the name suggests, these night shops commence business after day has fled, and practically the entire neighbourhood surges about in the narrow streets, laughing, merry, hunting bargains, meeting friends.

Memories.

To one who has lived a fair length of time in Tokio, especially to one who has endeavoured to enter into the lives and spirit of the people, these *Yomisé* (night shops) are replete with cheerful recollections.

One treasures a little tray, the only thing saved from the earthquake's destruction, because it came from a particularly happy *Yomisé* jaunt. One remembers how the first actual bargaining, on the Japanese language, with the aid of that little handbook that the firm of Kelly & Walsh issues, raised many a good-humoured laugh as one dived again and again between its tiny covers to get the right word or phrase, determined to do the bargaining in the Japanese language and unaided. Can one forget the silvery peal of laughter that rang out in a combined callenge-invitation, as a pair of dark auburn eyes mischievously flashel mocking mirth, devoid of any malice, at the crude attempts of the stranger to talk the lingo of Dai Nippon? And at the *Yomisé*, all this comes back in pleasant retrospection Truly, "there's not a joy the world can give like that it takes away."

In the company of an Australian friend whose conversation is as alluring and instructive as it is pleasant, we mixed and mingled with the surging, jostling, pushing, laughing, chattering sea of humanity. The *Yomisé* is one of the *Edokko's* (indigenous inhabitant of Tokio) greatest relaxations, and a splendid relaxation it really is for both mind and body. In the moonlight, the children, in their multi-coloured summer kimonos, looked like gigantic butterflies. In the mental oppression caused by alleged discriminations, boycotts and rumours of boycotts, one felt that it would be a merciful dispensation of Providence, if one didn't have to become more than a child, if there was no adult creation which so often wrecks the wonderful fashionings of the Master Architect.

Flowers.

Right up to a flower seller we went. It was a job what to buy. Children in Christmas toyland could not have been more perplexed than were we. Despite Shakespeare, the lean man and the man who hath no music in his soul may yet be fit for better things than treason and stratagem, but what hope is there for him who loves not flowers? My friend was casting covetous looks at a beautiful clump of azaleas, of the *kirishima* variety, blossoming in a bamboo bowl, its crushed-strawberry hues out-rivalling anything that the skill or knowledge of man could even fancy.

My thoughts went back to South China where, for a paltry five cents, you can get a bunch of violets or a "posey" (rose) with maiden hair fern that simply sends you into transports of delight, and thought with Pagan Omar:

> I wonder what the florists buy
> One half so pretty as the things they sell.

And in many lands, under various climes, I have never yet passed a flower shop without telling myself that these creations from the garden of Eternal Love were never meant to be used in sordid commerce, like pretty women put up for sale to the highest bidder in some slave market. In Japan, however, this feeling becomes immensely softened because the Japanese loves his flowers with all his heart and soul, talks to them as though to his dearest friends, and seeks inspiration from them.

Doditsu.

The time was creeping round to mid-night and the *Yomisé* was getting ready to close up. Through its "unshoppy" atmosphere—for it does not seem as though the buyers realize that they are making purchases—we got out into the work-a-day world with tramcars clanging, motors honking and cycle bells ringing. The sea of humanity that filled the street where the *Yomisé* were held now flows homeward.

On the midnight breeze floats the shrill voice of a woman, perhaps a geisha, singing, in the melancholy music of Japan, a *dodoitsu* (lyrical ballad of the ordinary Japanese.) We listen:

> Tsuki no tsukashite
> Moshi to mireba,
> Matsu wa ureshiki
> Nushi no kaho.
>
> Eager for you, I looked
> As the moon shone on the pine
> And when I saw your face,
> Then instant joy was mine.

May the *Yomisé* of Tokio never retreat before the onrush of "progress," and may they continue to cheer and inspire in the future as they have done in the past, said my friend and companion from the land of the Southern Cross.

OUTRAGE ON THE UPPER YANGTZE RIVER

Mr. E. C. Hawley's Death After Affray with Junkmen: Action by British Gunboat

Peking, June 22.

A wireless message to the American Legation from Wanhsien, confirming the death of the American, Mr. E. C. Hawley, following a dispute with junkmen, states that the commander of the British gunboat Cockchafer, acting with commendable vigour and promptitude, under threat of bombardment of the city, compelled the leading military officials to follow Mr. Hawley's cortêge on foot to the grave and also to execute two of the principal junkmen.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

H.M.S. Cockchafer's Action Applauded in New York

New York, June 24.

Commenting on the action of the commander of the Cockchafer in compelling, under threat of bombardment of the city, the leading military officials at Wanhsien to follow the cortège of Mr. E. C. Hawley, the American murdered by junkmen, and to execute two of the principal junkmen, the "New York Times" says that, although there is no doubt that the Commander violated international law, he is not likely to be denounced by the United States Government or censured by the British Government. Foreigners are often in dire peril along the Yangtze, the paper declares, and it is useless to appeal to Peking.

One reason why the Navy Department was concerned at the Senate's failure to pass the appropriation for new gunboats, according to the "New York Times," was that on Chinese rivers Americans are often dependent on the protection of British or Japanese naval craft.—Reuter's American Service.

JAPAN'S PREFECTURAL GOVERNORS

Tokio, June 24.

At the Cabinet meeting to-day, the following officials were appointed as Prefectural Governors:—

Mr. Takesuke Shirane, Gifu Prefecture;
Mr. Gonshiro Matsubara, Aomori Prefecture;
Mr. Hideo Ikeda, Akita Prefecture;
Mr. Makoto Kinoshita, Tottori Prefecture;
Mr. Sotaro Beppu, Shimane Prefecture;
Mr. Takeo Mimatsu, Yamaguchi Prefecture;
Mr. Saburo Asari, Kagawa Prefecture;
Mr. Mitsumasa Kamei, Okinawa Prefecture;
Mr. Chotaro Kiyono, Kanagawa Prefecture.—Eastern News Agency.

Hongkong, June 25.—The Portuguese airmen, on board the gunboat Patria, left to-day for Macao.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE CAPTURED WUCHOW MISSIONARIES

Advice Disregarded: Statement by Department of Foreign Affairs in Canton

With reference to the recent piracy at Taikwong, Kuangsi, of the American Mission motor-boat Roanoke and the capture by bandits of the party of missionaries who were on board on a relief expedition to succour a number of missionaries besieged at Kueilin, the Department of Foreign Affairs, Canton, having now received full particulars from the military authorities in Kuangsi, has issued the following statement summarizing the facts relating to the unfortunate venture:

"Upon learning unofficially last month of the intention of some missionaries at Wuchow to proceed on a relief expedition to the assistance of the missionaries stationed at Kueilin, the Department of Foreign Affairs strongly discouraged the venture. Department Officials pointed out in the first place that if the missionaries at Kueilin desired to or could get out, they would have done so of their own accord, whereas if they would not or could not the proposed relief party consisting of only four missionaries from Wuchow was not likely to serve any useful purpose, since it was in no sense a sufficiently large and properly equipped expedition. Furthermore, it was pointed out that the region all along the Fu River between Wuchow and Kueilin was infested by innumerable bandits, and was also the war zone of contending military factions without being under the clear and exclusive jurisdiction or control of any faction. Consequently, without likelihood of rendering any service to their beleaguered brethren at Kueilin, the Wuchow missionaries would merely be exposing themselves to unnecessary danger in such circumstances.

"Even after the Wuchow missionaries, disregarding the advice of the Department, had embarked on their venture, the voyage would scarcely have turned out so sadly as it has done, if the advice of the military escort, which had been provided for the Roanoke, had been heeded. The missionaries would not wait for the completion of the arrangements which were being made for their safety and started before the appointed hour without the full escort. It appears that even when the Roanoke party was first held up by the bandits at Taikwong, the boat could have turned back without mishap, but the missionaries insisted on parleying with the bandits and decided to land and go off in person to negotiate with the bandit chief. They therefore deliberately and with open eyes walked into the bandit lair and, as was to be expected, were made prisoners.

"While the fullest sympathy and regret will be felt at the unfortunate out-turn of the Roanoke venture, it ought to be stated that had the missionaries acted with less precipitancy and complied with the advice repeatedly tendered, they would at least have avoided complicating the situation in Kuangsi by their courageous but ill-conceived attempt to negotiate with the bandits.

"Two of the captured missionaries, Messrs. Jaffray and Hiller, have been released by the bandits, and are now back at Wuchow.

"Meanwhile, the military authorities under the instructions of this Government are not relaxing their efforts to secure the release of the remaining two missionaries."

Further News Received

Further information was received in Shanghai last Friday as to the missionaries in the besieged city of Kueilin, the following telegram being sent to Mr. Bailey, of the Church Missionary Society, from Yungchowfu:

Wilson, Blands, Baileys, Scantler and Mrs. Cunningham arrived. Others well. Still besieged.

The people referred to are: the Rev. J. R. Wilson, the Rev. R. N. Bland and Mrs. Bland, Mr. H. S. Bailey and Mrs. Bailey, Miss Scantler and Mrs. Cunningham, widow of the Rev. J. R. Cunningham, who was killed during the siege. The "others" referred to as presumably being still in the besieged city are: Bishop and Mrs. Holden, Dr. Charlotte Bacon, Miss Watkins and Miss Bin.

56 RIVAL GENERALS IN SZECHUAN

All Wanting Fat Jobs: General Yang Sen, Military Governor; His Popularity

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chêngtu, June 3.

General Yang Sen has received official word from Peking that he is appointed Tuli for the Province. This disposes of the problem for the present as to who shall be the first man in the Province. If General Yang's own wishes had been consulted he would have chosen to be Civil Governor rather than Military Governor, but there is no doubt that he is the man eminently fitted for the position, and will do all in his power to give Szechuan a time of peace and prosperity. Ten Sieh-hou is to be Civil Governor. It is not decided yet whether he will remain in Chungking with his office or come to the Capital.

The other leading generals Liu Hsiang, Liu Tsen-hou and Yuan Tsu-ming seem to be satisfied with their appointments as Border Chieftains. It remains to be seen after all the plans and change of plans, whether the present arrangement is really satisfactory to all concerned. One can hardly think so in West China where the change of office has become a habit, and a dangerous one.

There is little wonder that it is difficult to keep peace very long here when we know that there are 56 eligible generals roaming about the country, most of them with an eye on the best positions. Of course Hsiong Keh-wu and Tan Mao-shin are eliminated for the time being, but if reports are true and they are purchasing millions of dollars worth of arms and ammunition from France and other places, then it is quite possible that they will make an effort in the near future to regain prestige here.

CHRISTIAN COLLEGE COMMENCEMENTS

Soochow University

From Our Own Correspondents.

Soochow, June 24.

The commencement exercises of Soochow University, School of Science of Science and Arts, are to be held on Friday, the 27th instant. The commencement week programme was initiated last Sunday by the Rev. J. W. Shen, of Nanking Theological Seminary, who preached the Bacclaureate Sermon. The class day exercises in which the graduating class bid farewell to schoolmates and faculty was held on Wednesday evening. On Thursday a play, "Lady Windermere's Fan," translated into Chinese, will be performed by the departing seniors. The chief speaker on the programme on Friday will be Mr. J. M. Van, the editor of the "Association Progress."

There will be six candidates to receive the degree of Bachelor of Arts, three Bachelors of Science and five Bachelors of Science in Chemistry. An honorary degree of Doctor of Laws will be conferred upon Mr. Wang Ching-kui.

The Alumini day, instead of being held sometime this week, has been postponed until the autumn, when the new Science Hall will be formally opened. The China medical Board Fund providing for equipment and supplies in the science departments is now available and orders for same have been sent out.

The teaching staff of the science departments will be increased by the arrivals of Dr. White, Mr. Tomlin and Mr. Tsai. Dr. White will join the department of chemistry, Mr. Tomlin physics and Mr. Tsai Biology.

St. Faith's Girls' School, Yangchow.

Yangchow, June 23.

The Commencement Exercises of St. Faith's Girls' School are being held to-day. There are two who graduate from the Middle School, four from the Higher Primary and ten from the Lower Primary departments.

Yesterday afternoon a piano recital was given by Miss Hsu and Miss Chen, two girls who are receiving diplomas to-day. They are the first graduates to have taken the entire course in St. Faith's School, opened 10 years ago, and this year's exercises have been of unusual interest on this account.

SWALLOWED A LIVE CENTIPEDE

As Anti-Foxin: Chinese Woman's Ordeal: Dragon Festival at Mienchow

From Our Own Correspondent.

Mienchow, Sze., June 9.

A few days ago a Chinese woman in the city was extremely ill. She went to a local doctor and he prescribed a centipede, charging her three dollars, and instructing her to eat it. It was a poisonous variety and the idea seems to have been that it would act as an anti-toxin to the poison in her system. It made her very ill. Her face and lips swelled to such an extent that she eat no food for five days.

This is only one of many examples that might be given which show that the ordinary Chinese is still living in a world that belongs to a far distant past.

The Boxers, or Red Lantern Sect to use the expression of a formant, are busy in the neighbourhood of Chungpa. They write certain mystic characters on paper, burn it and sprinkle the ashes in water, they then drink the water and suppose that they are immune from bodily damage. I have even heard that sometimes soldiers refrain from firing at them supposing it would be a waste of good ammunition. These people are doubtless much the same type as the Shuen Tien-chiao whom I mentioned sometime back. There does not appear to be any specially anti-foreign element in their attitude.

The Dragon Boat Festival.

The Dragon Boat Festival this year was a great success. The military took it in hand, and there was quite a regatta on the River Fou, with crowds of spectators on the large concrete dyke and along the shores of the river. Several boats were pavilioned with vari-coloured calico, and one gorgeous effort was canopied with red silk. There were soldiers, and their ladies on all these boats. Athletes from among the rank and file paddled canoes swiftly up the river, dived for ducks and otherwise enjoyed themselves. Successful divers were ornamented with a red band round the head.

The Dragon Boat Festival of course commemorates the historic suicide of Ch'oh Yuan, a statesman of the Chow dynasty who drowned himself in the Tongking Lake as a protest against his sovereign's bad government. The repentant monarch went to find him in a boat. He would be a bold man, however, who dared to a categoric statement of everything the Chinese do believe in connexion with the feast. The name by which it is most popularly known up here is *Tuan Yang*, although *T""i'en Chong* is also heard occasionally. *Tuan Yang* connects it in natural sequence with *Ching Ming*, and alludes to the end of the Yang period in the year's progress, and the immiment approach of *Yin* which arrives at Hsia Chih, or the Summer Solstice. *Yang* is the period of Earth's impregnation: the time when the crops are sown; Yin is the period of gestation when fruitful Earth brings forth her treasures. The Chinese here say that the present local peace results from the keeping of the feast.

We have had a lot of rain. On the 7th the river rose considerably beyond the bridge. It is now below the bridge once more. Seldom does the water remain so low up till June.

LABOUR IN JAPAN

Geneva, June 24.

With reference to the protest of Mr. Suzuki, the Japanese Workers' Delegate to the International Labour Conference and his proposal for the Conference to institute an inquiry into the question of liberty of association of workers, the Japanese Government delegate stated that the Japanese Government had shown goodwill towards the development of workers' associations and observes and fully appreciates the principle of freedom of association of the workers, but will oppose Mr. Suzuki's proposal on various grounds—Reuter.

THE RECENT INVASION OF A TOKIO HOTEL

Now Effectively Shown to Have Been a Farce Staged by Young Men Desiring Notoriety: The Danger of Exaggerated Views

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Tokio, June 11.

When I wrote in a previous communication that the so-called raid on the Imperial Hotel during its regular Saturday night dance, on June 7, by a band of thugs masquerading as patriots had nothing really serious behind it, except that it was an unpleasant and unwarranted intrusion, I did not know that my observations, based on the knowledge of the Japanese character gained during a period of many years' intimate co-operation with them and on conversations which I have since had with people of this country in all walks of life, both official and unofficial, would be so soon confirmed.

It is now fully proved that the "invasion" of the hotel ball room was a farce, planned to play on the ignorance of foreigners here—and the greater portion of the foreigners in Tokio to-day are those who have come here since the earthquake and do not purpose staying, once reconstruction demands have been fully met—and to force themselves into the limelight. In the latter objective, the irresponsible youths, who masqueraded as patriots, have succeeded beyond their most sanguine expectations, if one may judge from the cables received here of the headlines said to have been carried by the British and American newspapers. This is exactly what these youngsters wanted to secure, according to confessions made by them to the police, who have the whole gang under lock and key, and they were immensely aided by some of the foreign correspondents, who lost their nerve and could not size up the situation in its proper perspective and proportion.

The hotel management has decided not to have any further dances for a time, and these "patriots" have been enabled to stick another feather in their caps thereby, though the wisdom of the decision of the management is hardly to be questioned. It is not only the Americans and other foreigners who suffer through this temporary interdiction of dancing in the Imperial Hotel, but also several Japanese who looked forward with longing to these functions for some pleasant relaxation.

Need for Temperance

Feeling is still tense, though; but there are already ample indications of the feverheat of anger having passed its zenith. The students here—like the Chinese students—feel that on their slender shoulders depends the wiping out of the "insult" suffered by Japan, and they continue, and will continue, to make demonstrations and indulge in soap-box orations. I have listened to several of these. The main theme was that American goods should be boycotted. The listening audience was almost uninterested in the capitulation of thread-bare sentimentalities. There is an element of drama in street-corner harangues and the dramatic attracts youths and the more bovine, intellectually, of the grown-ups. The gatherings listening to the fulminations of the students-orators were for the most part composed of students themselves and of the lower classes. Occasionally, an individual of the black-coated, middle class, would stop, listen awhile and pass along with a grin on his face.

On notable feature of the agitation is that those participating have taken a pledge to abstain from "hot and rebellious liquors" while the campaign is on. This is a tremendous asset to all concerned, for a drunken orator can easily make trouble.

Puerility of the Agitators.

Dancing in Tokio is not, by any means, at a complete stop. I went yesterday to a cabaret behind the Ginza, Tokio's main shopping street, and found things just as usual. In fact, there were more people than ordinarily go there. The Japanese were, by far, in the majority, but there were also British, French and one Hollander. At the entrance was posted a notice:

"American Ladies and Gentlemen will please oblige by not entering."

I thought the tone in which the prohibition was made deserved every praise. Evidently this is merely a sop to the agitators and does not represent the feelings of the cabaret management or of those who go there. Dancing was done to the strains of a Victrola and American jazz records.

The puerility of the agitators and the absurd lengths to which they are trying to go—lengths that are already bringing trouble on themselves from their own countrymen—was strikingly borne on me yesterday as I was riding in a street car. In walked a coy Japanese maiden attired in Occidental clothes. As the car clang-clanged along, a couple of youths walked up to her and demanded to know whether she was a Japanese woman.

"Certainly," came back her reply.

"Why do you then wear American clothes? Why not wear a kimono?" was the next question.

"How do you know these are American clothes?" she flashed back. "These may be French, English, Italian. What do you know about clothes anyway?"

The motor-man shut off the power, the conductor came where the debate was going on and all in the car listened attentively to the verbal passage at arms between the fair passenger and the two husky youths. Then another young man stepped forward, walked up to the two and asked: "What clothes are you wearing anyway."

There was no reply. These two pestering "patriots" were also clad in Occidental garments—and the rescuer of Beauty from the "patriot beasts" appealed to the passengers to prevent such displays of asinine stupidity as would make Japan the laughing stock of the whole world. The passengers saw the point and firmly, yet politely, ejected the two young men. The conductor, with a twinkle of humour in his eyes, gave them each a transfer ticket.

This episode shows that it is not fair to judge of what is transpiring here merely through the medium of sensational news such as the Imperial Hotel incident.

Boycott of Canned Goods.

A boycott of canned goods has been commenced by an organization of housewives. This is really not an anti-American development and is not, in fact, even a new development. It has gained headway and headlines in the newspapers since it coincided with the recent untoward demonstrations, but the boycott of canned goods was agreed on weeks before the Japanese Ambassador, Mr. Hanihara, sent his now historic note to the secretary of State Mr. Hughes.

The canned goods boycott began when it was discovered that the tin-cutter, that ubiquitous aid in kitchens all over the world, was making inroads into purses that were far from elastic and that, so the men at least claimed, was making okusan (the housewife) lazy since she had proportionately much less cooking to do.

I understand that Japan takes more tinned meats from the Argentine Republic and Australia than from the United States so that to characterize this as an anti-American move is again incorrect. Japanese manufacturers of tinned meats and tinned stuffs find this a splendid opportunity for popularizing their wares and are putting forward all the possible propaganda for the purpose.

IF the plans of the Waichiaopu materialize a Chinese consulate will be shortly established in Indo-China. It is said that the subject was broached during the visit of Governor Merlin in Peking and that the latter expressed himself in favour of the Chinese proposal, promising to bring the matter to the attention of the French Foreign Office.

THE League of Nations will hold an international opium conference in November this year. A preparatory committee meeting will be opened at Genoa on June 27. The question of inflicting penalties for infringements of the Opium Convention in China will be discussed. Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, Chargé d'Affaires in London, will attend the Conference, representing China.

ARMED ATTACK ON HANKOW STORE

Escape of Robber Without His Booty: Consternation in Business Circles

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Wuchang, June 19.

Last week, in Hankow, a daring attempt at robbery was committed. It was not a success; but the thief was so nearly successful, that the shop-keepers and bankers of this centre have been given furiously to think, wondering how their establishments can be protected against similar attempts in the future. It was a cloth-shop on the busy First Mat'eo, the most crowded and busiest street in Hankow. The attendants were preparing to put up the shutters at the end of the day, and the day's takings were being counted preparatory to being placed in the safe. One of the assistants, having counted several bundles of notes, placed them upon the counter for just a moment. Immdiately, a man sprang in, seized the notes, and was out of the shop again almost before any-one had realized what had happened. Chase was given at once, and became so hot that the thief was glad enough to drop his booty and get away. It is said that he fired a revolver at one of his pursuers, but no-one was hurt.

The very simplicity of this kind of robbery, and the ease with which the thief can make his escape, whether successful or not, has caused something like consternation in commercial circles. The bankers of Hankow have met together to consult what measures can best be taken to avoid a danger of this kind in the future. A reward of $500 has been offered to any-one who can effect the arrest of the criminal, and $1,000 is promised to the relatives of any-one who should lose his life in trying to bring about the arrest. Special detectives are to be employed to watch shops where wealth is likely to be displayed in such a way. The simplest way would be to forbid shop-assistants to place any bundles of notes on the counters, or in any positions where they could be seized by a sudden dash from the street. But such a prohibition would probably be useless!

Electric Light and Water Supply.

It is rumoured that the streets of both Hankow and Wuchang are shortly to be lighted at night by electricity. It is difficult to see how this most desirable thing is to be done,—on this side of the river at any rate,—for the power at present supplied by the Wuchang Electric Lighting Company is barely sufficient for its present uses. Seeing that the Governor's yamen, the military barracks, and every Government school in the city, have all to be supplied with electric light free of charge, and that there is naturally no idea of economising in power in these institutions, it is evident that the Company starts with a heavy handicap before it can begin to make any profits. Consequently, the light used by merchants and private citizens is both expensive and dim, and has often been know to fail altogether. Two or three years ago, an extra power station was added, outside the city on the north-west side, and this has done a good deal to relieve the situation. But the lights are still not satisfactory, and not always to be depended upon for a continuous supply. Owing to this fact, more than one institution has preferred to incur the expense and trouble of installing its own electric lighting plants, rather than rely on the public supply. Boone University, has been running its own engine for three years; and two years ago Wesley College invested in a 1½ kilowatt Delco engine.

Water supply is another problem, which institutions that aim at efficiency have had to try to solve for themselves, because the public authorities will do nothing. Wuchang is surrounded by a chain of lakes, and has the Yangtze half encircling it, so that a system of water-supply could easily be erected, were the money forthcoming and honest men ready to control it. If a company were formed, and the works put in good hands, it would pay for itself over and over again. But no such thing! Every-one in the city and outside it has to be content to draw their water from wells; and when the wells run dry, then to pay coolies to bring water in buckets from the river, even if it is a distance of two or three miles. Wesley College has five wells, which give a sufficient supply except in times of drought; Generally in the autumn the wells run dry, and then it becomes necessary to hire the right to dig pits in the fields in some low-lying land outside, and to employ coolies to carry this water into the compound. Finally, when the pits become dry, the last resource is to send men to the river, more than two miles away. A strong man can make four journies in the day, carrying two buckets each time, and each load costs four hundred cash.

Boone University have recently built their own water-tower. The engine which is used to supply the electric light is also used as a pumping-engine to pump the water from the well into the tanks at the top of the tower, and from this the whole compound is supplied by means of pipes. The big hospital of the American Church Mission has recently sunk an artesian well in the middle of their compound. From this, a fairly good supply is obtainable, but not so much as was hoped for. During the sinking, more hard rocks was encountered than had been bargained for. Consequently, it has been found impossible to drive the bore so deep as was originally intended, and the big supply has not been tapped.

DISASTROUS FIRE IN YUNNANFU

Surroundings of New Memorial Gate and Part of Building Itself All Destroyed

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Yunnanfu, June 6.

It is only a week or two since we chronicled the opening by the Governor, Tang Chi-yao, of the improved South Gate of Yuannanfu with its circle of shops and central gardens.

Now we have to record a disastrous fire which broke out in a candle shop a few yards away and destroyed about 300 shops and dwellings including about one-third of the new buildings. How the fire actually originated is not definitely known but within a few minutes of the outbreak in the candle shop a number of buildings were ablaze.

The fire rapidly spread to the beautiful "chung ai" pai-fong and this was soon a mass of flames, forming a bridge by which it spread across the main street and ignited the buildings opposite.

There had not been rain for several months and water was very scarce but the fire brigade and many willing helpers did their best to arrest the spread of the fire with what water could be got and by pulling down buildings in the vicinity.

It was obvious from a distance that a big fire was in progress and the aviation school, which is situated a few miles outside the southern suburb in the country, after sending an aeroplane to reconnoitre, despatched their fire engine to assist in fighting the flames.

It appeared at one time as if the whole of the new buildings and gate would be destroyed, but thanks to the absence of wind, a most unusual thing at this time of the year, the area of the fire was limited.

Suicide of the Candle Dealer.

The owner of the candle shop who was not on the premises but arrived soon after the outbreak, when he realized that the origin of the fire was in his shop, threw himself into the flames and perished.

It is reported that four other people lost their lives in the fire.

The area all round the southern approach to the new gateway is now a mass of ruins.

The deputy of foreign affairs was early on the scene and made a careful inspection of the devastated area.

A subscription list for sufferers from the fire was opened and received good support, the B. A. T. heading the list.

Many of the shopkeepers lost everything that they possessed and were on the verge of starvation.

They have now been helped with one to two hundred dollars and booths are being rapidly erected to enable them to start their business again.

KIDNAPPING TERROR IN CHEKIANG

Inrush of Defeated Soldiers from Fukien: No Violence Yet But Much Panic

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Yenchow, Chê., June 16.

Some of the rich homes in certain quarters of this region have been stirred to panic excitement. It appears there are several roving bands of brigands who are bent on kidnapping and holding to ransom. Two wealthy homes have already been plundered with loss of life and a young boy of each family carried off with no trace, thus far, as to their whereabouts. Proclamations have been posted offering big rewards for the capture of the ruffians who are supposed to hail from the gangs operating in Chenghsien district.

Added to this scare, great consternation has arisen through the news of the Fukien defeated soldiers making their way back to the province through a corner of Kiangse and Chêkiang. It appears that part of this defeated army made their way out to the Kuangsi river and had, more or less, to fight their way up from Hokeo to Kuangsinfu and Yushanhsien. Outside the latter city a stand was made and for 20 hours heavy firing continued with loss on both sides. Eventually, crowds of the retiring troops reached the city of Changshan. The officials there became panic-stricken and together with the business people, large sums of money were collected and conveyed by a deputation who went out some distance to meet the incoming soldiers. It appears there are a great many sick amongst them and some died on the road. Many city people, fearing for the worst, fled to the country. Everyone seems to be on the tip-toe of expectation as to what may happen next but no violence has been shown simply because food and money have been freely given by the people. It is said that the soldiers on reaching the city freely bought from the shops with the money they had received, even watches and rings, but chiefly cloth to make fresh clothes.

They have hired all the folks they could get hold of to wash clothes for them and attend to their immediate needs. The tailors are having a busy time and almost every household has lent tubs for warm baths and the tea shops provide tea. It appears these retreating soldiers have pledged themselves not to burn houses or kill and steal and they have given their word that no woman shall be molested. The majority of the men who reached Changshan are young fellows, in their twenties. The first batch numbered some 300 but now they are well over a thousand strong. A large detachment from the Chuchow garrison has been sent up to maintain order.

GUNBOAT TURNED PIRATE

After Surrendering to Freebooters: Sensational Piracies

A Hongkong telegram to the *"Shunpao"* reports a sensational *coup* by pirates on the Chinese gunboat Kiangtah, probably with the connivance of the crew of the man-of-war, who were discontented for having received no pay for a long time.

Pirates were concealed on board the Kiangtah, the captain and sub-commander were overpowered and bound up, and the gunboat was forced to proceed to the Heungshan District.

Three boats on the Hongkong-Shekki run, and a dozen or more boats carrying silk and five or six boats carrying other cargoes were systemetically pillaged by the gunboat. The total value of the booty is estimated to amount to between $700,000 and $800,000. It is believed this was the biggest case of piracy committed in the Canton delta in recent years.

Upon the approach of a British gunboat, the pirates made off in a launch they had commandeered, taking with them the Captain as hostage and most of the armament of the Kiangtah, including some machine guns and a Maxim gun. The Kiangtah then returned to Whampoa on the afternoon of June 21.

THE JAPANESE CHURCH AND EXCLUSION ACT

A New National Move: Christian Pastors' Indignation at the Senate's Discriminatory Action

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, June 17.

With the object of establishing a pure Japanese Christian church and shaking off the "monetary yoke" that the parent missions in America are alleged to have saddled on Christian organizations here, a meeting, attended by the leading representatives of over 150 churches throughout the country and 200 different Christian scholars, was held in Tokio to decide what steps should be taken to break the bonds now linking the Christian churches in Japan with parent missions in the United States. Heated discussions ensued and a committee of ten was appointed to go into the matter thoroughly and to formulate plans for independence.

The aim to establish a Japanese Christian church, untrammelled by dependence on missions abroad, is no new thing. This has been the subject of discussion at annual mission synods long before the immigration question came to have the large part in the life of the Japanese nation that it has to-day. At that time, however, the proposal for securing complete independence also aimed at carefully preserving all other bonds of union and co-operation. The elevation of Japanese pastors to the episcopal chair was regarded as a step in the direction of permitting the Christian Church in Japan to stand on its own feet, and the parent missions were in full sympathy with the aspiration of the young Christian church here to carry on the work of evangelization unaided. To-day, the exclusion law has been further availed of to press home the move for independence and has also included within its scope, at least in so far as many individual Japanese missionaries are concerned, something akin to non-co-operation with American missions so long as the exclusion law remains on the statute books of the United States.

"U. S. Commercialized Christianity."

The Christianity of America was severely censured at the meeting, elderly Japanese pastors declaring that "besides the exclusion law being un-Christian, insulting and discriminatory, the Christianity of America to-day commands no respect, and America is responsible for commercializing the faith preached by Jesus Christ."

One of the speakers, the Rev. Naomi Tamura, waxed both indignant and belligerent, and, in the course of his speech, declared that the time will yet come when Japan and America will have to fight, if the United States "continues to maintain her present attitude towards the coloured races. One hundred years from now," he shouted, "all that territory west of the Rocky Mountains will be Japanese."

Open With Prayer.

The meeting of Christian pastors and scholars, which has proved to be one of the stormiest yet held in connexion with the passing of the new immigration law, commenced in orthodox fashion with prayer and meditation. The debate was launched by the Right Rev. Bishop Uzaki who declared that the exclusion bill would have far-reaching effects in the future, and that it not only put the Japanese residents in America in an ugly position, but that it also formed a source of acute embarrassment to the entire Japanese people. "There were several ways of reaching a solution," he said, "but the Senate preferred to insult and despise us, and this action was based on racial grounds. As Japanese, we cannot accept this without demur; as Christians, we must protest or it would be acqui scing in the wrong and bolstering up a falsehood. It is time for us Christians in Japan to awaken our fellow-Christians in America to the dangerous current on which their country is drifting. There is no racial prejudice in the eyes of Jesus Christ and no room for it anywhere, however camouflaged, in His doctrines. Japanese Christian missions should forthwith organize and coalesce into one strong federation, and carry on their evangelical mission without relying any longer on monetary aid from America."

Quotes First Treaty.

The Rev. Kanzo Uchimura, who has been a Christian pastor for 47 years, read passages from the first treaty concluded between Japan and the United States shortly after Commodore Perry's arrival here.

"The first article in this treaty," he said, "declares that 'There shall be perfect, permanent and universal peace, sincere and cordial amity, between the United States and Japan. . . . without exception of persons or places.' The American Congress has not hesitated to tear this treaty to pieces, just as it has done to so many others.

"We cannot keep silent at this juncture. It would bring on us the rightful accusation that we are being bribed by the American mission boards. If we fail to combat this un-Christian trend of the United States we shall be wanting in duty towards ourselves and shall be betraying the spirit of the Gospel."

Splits into Two.

The discussion was, at all times, fast and, occasionally, even furious. The gathering split into two camps, one demanding extreme measures such as the immediate severing of all bonds binding the Christian church in Japan to the American missions abroad, while the more moderate wing asked that further time and consideration be given to the matter before any drastic measures are taken. The result was the appointment of a committee of ten to investigate and report on the situation.

Those in favour of complete independence from the parent missions, quite apart from the smart of the immigration ruling which has brought matters to a head, declare that the Christian church in Japan has outgrown the stage of a "young industry" and ought to set up house for itself, and that financial assistance should not be accepted from abroad because such would be the securing merely of the shadow instead of the substance of independence.

JAPANESE RECEPTION OF AMERICAN NOTE

Empty and Theoretical: Japan's Main Contention Unanswered: Public None the Less Calm

Tokio, June 20.

While generally appreciating the friendly tone of the American reply to the Japanese Note of protest against the Immigration Bill, the morning newspapers practically unanimously stamp it as empty and theoretical. They criticize it for failure to answer Japan's contention that the Immigration Law does not conform with the spirit of true friendship and is a violation of international comity and morality.

Rather than urging that the question should be followed up, the tendency is evinced by many commentators to recommend that the matter should be dropped and Japan's future policy conformed to the changing conditions of international relationships.

It is stated on reliable authority that Japan does not propose to send another Note at present, but it is indicated that she will send an acknowledgment and attempt to keep the question open until a more favourable opportunity offers, apparently until after the American elections and the assembling of the new Congress.

Officials are quoted as approving the friendliness of the Note, but being somewhat disappointed, though appreciating the difficulties under which it was written.

Protest Meetings General

Meanwhile protest meetings continue to be held in different parts of the country, and resolutions are being adopted, the principal tenor of which is building up the national strength and prestige.

Evidences are accumulating that the attempted anti-American boycott is losing ground, especially in face of the increasing opposition and condemnation of traders and others who have a recognized right to speak.

The Minister of Commerce this morning condemns such a movement as dishonourable and likely to prove a boomerang. He says that the Government are opposed to an anti-American move, but are ready to encourage the exclusion of luxuries, if this opportunity is seized, to inculcate habits of thrift and simplicity of life as well as for the development of domestic industries.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Yokohama, June 25.

Yesterday afternoon, prior and during the arrival of the President Madison, foreigners, particularly Americans, were subjected to an unusually rigorous examination by a petty Customs official. He went the length of ordering them to take off their boots and stand in their stockinged feet on wet floors. Receiving a complaint, higher officials intervened and apologized for the unnecessary discourtesy. The offender has been dismissed.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

Tokio, June 25.

Christian workers in Japan, American as well as Japanese, who are sitting in conference here, today passed a resolution of their firm determination to co-operate for the solution of the American-Japanese question. The meeting was characterized by a spirit of sympathy, which, it is stated, has removed any likelihood of a breach amongst the churches of Japan.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION

National Convention to Meet at South-eastern University in Nanking

Nanking, June 21.

The convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Education will be held at the National South-Eastern University from July 3 to 9. About 1,000 delegates will be present. The resolutions reached at the Convention are expected to have a wide national influence.

The World Federation of Educational Associations, of which Dr. A. O. Thomas (America) is President and Drs. P. W. Kuo (China) and Sainsbury (England) are Vice-Presidents, will hold its second convention in Scotland during 1926. The Convention was held in San Francisco last July and was a notable success, and hopes are entertained that the second will be of still greater value. Chinese educators, under the leadership of Dr. P. W. Kuo, are already making preparations for the Chinese delegation.

Next Wednesday, June 25, will be a red-letter day in the history of the National South-Eastern University. Besides the commencement exercises, the new Library will be formally opened and the corner-stone of the new Science Building will be laid. Both the Military and Civil Governors of the Province have consented to speak on the occasion.

The new Meng-Fang Library was named in memory of the father of Marshal Chi, who donated $150,000 for its construction, besides a large collection of books. The building is of reinforced concrete in the Greek style and has a capacity of over 1,000,000 books.

The new Science Hall is to be built on an even larger scale, having a frontage of 250 feet and an area of about 18,750 square feet. The building will be three-storeys high and will cost about $200,000 for construction, wiith an additional $50,000 for equipment and $30,000 for staff. Half of the total sum of $280,000 has been donated by the China Medical Board of the Rockefeller Foundation, and the other half by the Chinese Government.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

It is reported that Mme. Wu Pei-fu, accompanied by her eldest son, arrived by train in Hankow on Tuesday afternoon last. She is now living in a private residence in the native city.

At Merchiston, Banff, on May 5, Mr. Robert Campbell Edwards, late of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, Yokohama, was married to Heather Abercrombie (Harry), daughter of the late Dr. E. P. Macfarlae, Japan.

CLASSIC "WEN LI" RESTORED

Mukden's Superb Contempt for the New Learning: Text Books Scrapped

From Our Own Correspondent.

Fakumen, Man., June 18.

A curious retrograde step in education has been taken by the authorities in Mukden. The school text-books based on "Kuo Yü," or colloquial Chinese, which are national in scope, are to be scrapped, and in their stead, an entirely new set is to be introduced, the language of which is to be the classical or "Wen Li." The causes of this change of front are two-fold: (1) Manchuria still asserts its independence of Peking and the Government there; (2) The Civil Governor, who is immediately responsible for making the change, is not an expert in the new education and evidently hankers after the great days of old.

From every point of view, such a reactionary ukase is deplorable. The "Pai Hua," or ordinary spoken Mandarin, has become the recognized tongue of the Government and people. Thanks to the heroic campaign of Prof. Hu Shih his colleagues of the National University of Peking, the battle for freedom from the fetters of the past was won in a four years' fight against tremendous odds. What in the realm of language Luther did for Germany by translating the Bible into common speech, and Wycliffe did for England, and Dante for Italy, has been accomplished by these far-seeing and self-sacrificing scholars, in order to bring culture to the people and raise their tongue to the level of literature. The battle is over, and will not be fought again. As Dr. C. I. Cheng has said: "What the missioners failed to achieve in the work of a hundred years, has been gained in four year by the New Thought Movement."

And now with the enthusiasm for Night-Schools for the illiterate, inaugurated by Mr. James Yen (of the Y.M.C.A.) and his brilliant idea of a set of Four Books teaching 1,000 of the most useful characters, China is awaking to the real problem of Republicanism—How are the masses to learn to read?

Countering the Movement.

Manchuria, therefore, to the utter disgust of the school teachers and the educated youth of the stricken area, is turning its back on the present day and ignoring the needs of the coming generation. The only remedy perhaps is, in the words of a local official of the County Education Office: "Let the Churches and Y.M.C.A.'s go ahead with colloquial language teaching and pay no heed to the new curriculum emenating from Mukden." Possibly also, a wave of zeal for night schools may result. Outside one of our local Government Schools, notices have been posted, announcing Night-School classes and inviting pupils regardless of age to join the classes gratis. It will be a real calamity if one man in high position, unfamiliar with the facts, is able to put back the hands of the clock.

Good Work in Drug Suppression.

The power of Chinese officials for good or evil is remarkable. Because a new Police Superintendent is installed in Fukumen, opium and morphia are being suppressed. In itself that is a notable event. But when policemen are stationed outside Japanese morphia dens, ready to arrest Chinese frequenters as they come out, then we know that a new broom is at work. Whether a clean sweep will be made, remains to be seen. Starving out the Japanese dens would obviously be an ideal policy, which could hardly lead to friction. One never can tell, however, how long an effort at social reform will persist. "Five minutes of hot heart," is the Chinese modern quip anent their own tendency to impulsive action devoid of staying power.

As an outcome of the recommendations made by the Hongkong Marine Court of Inquiry on the foundering of the Loongsang during the disastrous typhoon of August last, 17 90-ton concrete blocks are to replace the present buoy anchors in the harbours. Each block is 13 feet square and 7½ feet high, with a suction cavity at the bottom. It is hoped to lay from four to six this season.

TSINGTAO AS EDUCATIONAL CENTRE

Suggestion that American Indemnity Funds Be Used to Start Technical College

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, June 17.

The American remission of the Boxer Indemnity has created a stir here. In educational circles suggestions of various kinds, as to the best way to make use of the money remitted, are being advanced. There is a strong plea for the establishment in Tsingtao of a university of high technical and professional training. At a dinner given in honour of Mr. T. C. Chu, the retiring Vice-Managing Director of the Kiaochou-Tsinan ailway, on Monday night at the International Club, there was a heated debate on the subject.

Dr. D. Y. Lin, the chief of the Forestry Department here, an authority on educational matters, in an interview with me before the dinner, said he had no intention whatever to minimize the importance of those proposals which had already been made, but he felt he was entitled to advance a suggestion, which was that there should be established here in China a university of high technical training similar to the Tsing Hua College in management. Such a university should be modelled after the Massachusetts Institute of Technology of Boston or other technical colleges of recongnized standing in America. It should specialize in different branches of engineering, mining, agriculture and forestry, and arrange to give the students a thorough training along such technical lines. In view of the vast resources in China awaiting development, said Dr. Lin, the importance of such training became evident. The fact that every year there were hundreds of students going from the different provinces to Europe and Amrica for higher technical training was sufficient proof that there was a great need here for a university which he had in mind.

"The Tsing Hua College in Peking as we all know has done splendid work during the last 14 years or so by preparing and sending students to America, and such work has certainly filled a special need and should be continued. But if an institution of high technical training is started here in China, it will mean that these Tsing Hua students or at least those who wish to specialize in technical studies, need not travel several thousand miles for their education."

The following reasons were advanced in favour of Tsingtao as a centre for such an institution:—(1) Because Tsingtao is a city of international significance:—(2) because Tsingtao is a modern city easily accessible and is bound to become the port for North China; (3) because Tsingtao has all the necessary technical facilities such as harbour and municipal works, railway workshops, factories, agricultural and forestry experimental stations and such facilities could be used for practical work for students; (4) because the present Tsingtao administration has already set aside a group of splendid buildings for a university scheme and would welcome any plan whereby the returned indemnity might be used to carry out the scheme and to make it a success. The buildings set aside are ideally located iin the residential section of Tsingtao, and according to estimate would easily accommodate 1,500 to 2,000 students. It should be mentioned that these buildings were formerly occupied as a barracks by the German troops and are solid structures and fit in every way to be used for educational purposes. If built to-day, they would easily cost a million dollars.

Foreign residents are on the whole in favour of Dr. Lin's scheme and so are, it is understood, Mr. Walter Adams, the American Consul, and Admiral Washington who, when here, displayed great interest in the matter.

At the dinner to Mr. T. C. Chu, Dr. Lin, Mr. Li, of the Salt Gabelle, and others spoke strongly in favour of a determined effort to secure the indemnity for the purpose heretofore outlined. The opposition, chiefly led by Railway employees, was against the diverting of any funds from the Tsing Hua College. One speaker said there was always the fear that the money would fall into the hands of politicians.

INSURING SHENSI AGAINST FAMINE

A Great Irrigation Scheme to Protect and Revive Grain Areas: Over 1,400,000 Mow to be Saved in 2½ Years for $1,750,000: A $2,000,000 Dam to Irrigate Twice as Much Later on

Preparations are being made by the China International Famine Relief Commission and the provincial authorities of Shensi for putting in hand an extensive irrigation scheme which will bring new life to the food-producing region of Shensi and practically insure the province from future famine, states the "Chinese Economic Monthly. The area is called the Wei Peh region, and comprises over four and a half million mow of land. At present, owing to the gradual deterioration of irrigation machinery which existed in times gone by, only 35,000 mow of this extensive tract of land are irrigated. Shensi's granary is therefore dependent on the vagaries of Nature, with disastrous consequences sometimes to life and crops. By the scheme initiated by the Famine Relief Commission, the price of land will advance by no less than $30 a mow. Unirrigated land in the province sells for $10 a mow, while the land comprised in the 35,000 mow of irrigated territory fetches $40. Thus it will be seen that from the point of view of land values alone the undertaking will mean an addition to the provincial wealth of many millions of dollars. The crops raised in this region are wheat, beans, millet, and cotton, wheat comprising about 60 per cent. of the production; and it is anticipated by the Famine Relief Commission that as a result of systematic irrigation, present crop returns will be doubled. This does not seem an over-optimistic estimate when the extent of the scheme is realized, as well as the existing state of the region, which depends almost solely for its water supply on intermittent spring rains.

The project is divided into two parts. As a result of the first scheme over 1,400,000 mow will be irrigated. This will cost about 1½ to 1¾ million dollars, and will take about 2½ years to complete. The southern part of the Wei Peh area will be irrigated first, and the project will include a low head dam 40 feet high with a detention reservoir for settling the worst of the mud deposits, a long line of ditchwork which will take the water over the plains, one main canal with laterals, and a tunnel nearly 2,500 metres in length.

A Monster Dam.

The second project will be in the nature of an extension of this work, with a high dam, a reservoir at the lower end of the tunnel, and a high canal leading over the northern part of the territory. Over twice as much land will be irrigated by the second project, and the cost will be in the neighbourhood of two million dollars. For the time being, however, plans for this half of the work have not been worked out, the Commission wishing to concentrate on the initial scheme in all its bearings. It is expected that it will take another two years to complete the second enterprise.

The finances of the first scheme have been tentatively budgeted, and, it is said, have been approved by the Governor of Shensi province. The Commission, in addition to supplying the brains of the work, will advance half a million dollars at 10 per cent. interest for three years. The Governor has agreed to be responsible for the remainder of the money, about a million dollars. The whole of the cost is to be borne eventually by the irrigated district. A condition of the scheme is that the million dollars apportioned to Shensi is to be raised within two years.

It is only due to the neglect of modern times that the Wei Peh region is so ill provided for. Irrigation works are recorded as far back as 246 B.C. This was the Cheng Kuo Canal which was completed by the great engineer, Cheng Kuo, and which watered the great plain for 130 years. The canal ran from the mouth of the King valley, crossing the Tsing, Yeh and Cho rivers, and then joined the Lo river which flowed to Tungchow. The main channel was 300 *li* long and the irrigated area 4,000,000 mow. This canal served for 130 years, but the slope of the King river was so steep and the current so swift that the rocky river bed soon wore out, with the result that the Cheng Kuo dam fell over, leaving the river water too low to reach the mouth of the canal.

In 95 B.C., an engineer of the Han Dynasty, named Pe Kung, built a canal at a place 135 feet above the mouth of the Cheng Kuo canal, flowing to the Wei Ho, a distance of 200 *li*. The irrigated area was 450,000 mow. In the T'ang Dynasty the people along the canal began to erect mill wheels, which hindered the free passage of the canal, and in 770 A.D. the irrigated area had diminished to 6,000 mow. Until the year 965 the people used kaoliang, brush and timber piles to dam up the river for irrigation purposes. This of course, improved the condition a little, but they had to be repaired after every summer storm and eventually proved impracticable.

In 1107 the Feng Li canal was dug 280 feet above the Pe Kung canal with its bed five feet below the water level of the river. This new canal was cut into the rocky hillside for a distance of 3,141 feet, with a section 12 feet wide at the bottom and 14 feet wide on top by an average depth of 30 feet. The canal then ran through the earthy strata for 42,200 feet to join the old canal. Two stone culverts and two locks were built for regulating the water supply. This canal did not last long, and in the year 1308 an investigation into the change of the King river bed revealed the fact that the mouth of the Cheng Kuo canal was 30 feet higher than the water surface, that of Pe Kung canal 11 feet and that of Feng Li canal seven feet. In 1339 Wang Yu Shih shifted the canal 510 feet farther up the river. The mouth of this new canal was three feet above the water level in the King; and to force the water into the canal a low dam about 15 feet high was built across the river with 110 stone baskets. The bank of the canal broke as time went on, while the muddy King water began to silt up the canal. Therefore, in the Tsing Dynasty it was decided to change the irrigation scheme altogether. Springs along the hillside were utilized for this purpose, and the entrance of the former canal was closed to prevent flooding from the King. This project is known as the Lung Tung canal, which has now an irrigation area only a hundredth part of the Cheng Kuo scheme. It irrigates only 35,000 mow. The new project will again provide a continuous water supply over the whole of the plain, 4,000,000 mow in extent; and its successful completion will provide China with its most ambitious irrigation undertaking of modern times.

Insurance Against Famine.

Mr. O. J. Todd, engineer representative of the China International Famine Relief Commission, recently investigated the Wei Peh region. His report, refers to the scheme in detail, and also affords an interesting glimpse of the economic conditions prevailing in the province. He says in part:—

"The matter of finances is, of course, the thing that concerns all of us and this has been discussed with both the Governor and with Gen. Tien, whom I met in Sanyuan on April 4. At that time I suggested to him that he should figure on forming a reclamation for irrigation district and call a meeting of the leading farmers and merchants most vitally interested to get them to pledge financial support by buying reclamation bonds. In this way Gen. Tien should raise $750,000 within less than two years in the Wei Peh region. Governor Liu should raise another $750,000 from general revenues. It is estimated that the work will take two and a half years from the time of completing all financial arrangements and actually beginning work. Half of this sum should be in reliable banks in the name of our Commission or subject to our drafts for this work by January 1, 1925. The other half should be ready by January 1, 1926. This matter of money must be attended to before orders can be given for equipment or cement.

"It seems likely that this district is the key of the food-producing area of Shensi, and the regulation of the water supply should mean practical insurance against future famines, for after all the Wei Peh district is the granary of the province and is the centre of the population. From this standpoint there seems no doubt as to the practicability or necessity of carrying this project through to completion at the earliest possible date. With good co-operation the work of completing the first unit to function for 1,400,000 mow of land should not require more than two and a half years.

"More encouragement should be given to the planting up of gulches, not only with willows such as are found in the valley of the Yen Shui east of Yenanfu, but also in putting in poplars and locusts, which will soon produce thickets that will have a decided effect in holding the toes of slopes. To plant the hilltops with trees is out of the question, due to the great amount of watering required to get them started and keep them alive the first few years. All through the province there is a tree planting campaign along the main roads, but no large portion of these trees will live unless a large amount of labour is put on, keeping them alive with water. In the valleys along the streams there is no difficulty. As a rule the willow is being planted by the road side. Pines are almost unknown from the Wei River north as far as we travelled. Cedars are grown successfully around temples wherever water is used in starting them. So important is this matter of renewing the timber supply that it is quite likely that we may include in our work programmes for future famines a certain amount of intelligent tree planting, with an understanding that the community receiving the benefit will keep them watered and protected from attacks of all kinds.

"In places we found the country so cut up by weathering that not over 50 per cent. of the country was tillable. In other places great care had been taken to plow and plant hillsides with 45 degree slopes. Here the planting was done like corn in hills 18 inches apart. But despite former brigandage that has driven people from the region and laid towns waste, the people are keeping all tillable land under cultivation and apparently raising more grain than they consume. Though all the plateaux and hill sides are doing dry farming, the river valleys are all carrying on irrigation by the use of small ditches, each farmer handling his own water supply. In no cases did it appear that a community ditch of any size was being maintained.

"This is the region that furnishes grain for parts of Shansi and Honan. It was to tap this region that the Red Cross road from Fenchowfu to the Yellow River was built in 1921. No carts are now used in this part of Shensi, and transport is almost all by donkey until the Yellow River is reached. The lack of roads makes it difficult to get this grain supply out to districts that used it. Without either telegraphic or road connexions, this country remains isolated and backward, and of little use to the rest of China. Even the coal that is being mined east of Yenanfu has but a limited local use."

THE DREAD HUAI RIVER

Conservancy Commissioner Sent from the Capital to Investigate

Peking, June 21.

Mr. Chang Jao-kuai, Director of the National Conservancy Bureau and Vice-Chariman of the Yangtze Commission, will leave here shortly for Nanking, where he will discuss with Marshal Chih Hsieh-yuan matter related to the conservancy of the Huai River. Mr. Chang Jao-kuai will also visit Mr. Chang Chien at South Tungchow.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

ARRIVAL OF MR. REX RAY AT WUCHOW

Peking, June 23.

A Consular telegram from Wuchow reports the arrival of Mr. Rex Ray, the American missionary who escaped after being captured by the bandits who raided the American hospital-boat Roanoke.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

THE GREAT MOULE BROTHERS

Subscription Opened for Hangchow Memorial Cathedral

An appeal has been launched by Bishop Molony for funds to enable a start to be made on Hangchow Cathedral, to be erected in memory of Bishop G. Moule and Archdeacon A. E. Moule, two brothers who gave half a century's devoted missionary service to China. These two brothers came to China in 1857 and 1867, and started work in Ningpo. There they passed through the great dangers of the Taiping Rebellion. After it was over George Moule moved to Hangchow, where the rest of his missionary life was spent until his death on a visit to England in 1911. He was Bishop in Mid-China from 1880 to 1907, and built the present church, which it is now proposed to replace by a Cathedral. Arthur Moule worked chiefly at Ningpo and Shanghai and became Archdeacon in 1880. He was an indefatigable worker and writer.

A sum of over £100 for the new church has been collected in England, largely among relatives and friends of the late Bishop and Archeacon. The making of an appeal in China has been delayed owing to other urgent claims, such as famine relief.

The Committee have now decided on a general plan: The total length of the church will be 144 feet (nearly as long as Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai), and it is hoped to build in brick faced with Soochow stone. The cost of the apse and six bays, which will probably be erected first, will be about $40,000: the remaining bay and the two towers will cost another $20,000. This is a large sum, but the Chinese are collecting and the Committee wish to begin building as soon as possible. Contribution will be gratefully received by Bishop Molony, Ningpo. Cheques should be crossed "Hongkong and Shanghai Bank." Church collections will be specially gratifying as representing the offering of the poor for whom these two brothers spent their lives.

The Brothers' Work in China.

The lives of these two brothers were wholly given to the evangelization of the Chinese, and the building up of what is now the Church and Diocese of Chêkiang. Sons of the saintly and gifted Henry Moule, vicar for more than 50 years of Fordington, Dorchester, George Moule, born on January 28, 1828, and Arthur Moule, born on April 10, 1836, enjoyed the early training and holy influences of that home which their youngest brother, the late Bishop of Durham, has so beautifully described in his "Memories of a Vicarage."

It was only 14 years since the first two missionares of the C.M.S. to China had sailed for that distant land, when, at the age of 30, George Moule, with his wife, joined the pioneer missionaries who had reached Ningpo 10 years previously. The first two converts had been baptized seven years before, and in 1858 their total number did not exceed 100, all of them in and around the city of Ningpo. Three years later his younger brother, also bringing a devoted wife, was added to the missionary band.

Their earlier years were marked by the great upheaval of the Taiping rebellion, but as soon as the storm had passed, vigorous evangelization was recommenced, new out-stations were opened, and converts gathered in, till in 1864 George Moule moved to Hangchow, the first missionary of the C.M.S., or of any Protestant mission, to take up permanent residence in an inland city of China.

Meanwhile Arthur Moule remained at Ningpo; and at that time the converts of the Mission had grown to about 300.

In 1870 the Shaoshing mission was opened, and in the following year medical work was begun in Hangchow; while in 1872 the pioneer missionary of Ningpo, and friend and guide of the two brothers, W. A. Russell, was consecrated bishop, with the title of Bishop in North China.

Developments rapidly followed this important step. In 1875 Sing Eng-teh, the friend and fellow-evangelist of Arthur Moule was ordained deacon, and in the following year three other Chinese, all of whom had been pupils of the brothers, were also admitted to Holy Orders. In this way began that succession of faithful Chinese clergy which George Moule in later years did so much foster and guide.

Luke Chow's Conversion.

Just at this time George Moule returned to England, and Arthur was transferred to Hangchow. To him it was given first to carry the Gospel into the great district of Chuki, 70 miles distant from Hangchow. The story of Luke Chow's conversion, and the commencement of the Great Valley mission, is well known to students of missionary history in C.M.S. fields.

In 1897 Bishop Russell died, and it was felt that one of the two brothers must succeed him. Eventually the elder was appointed, and consecrated in 1880, with the title of Bishop in Mid China—the younger brother becoming his archdeacon.

During the 27 years' episcopate of George Moule the Church in Chêkiang, which was his main charge, was greatly enlarged and strengthened. The development of Chinese pastorate and church councils, and the establishment of a diocesan synod, were due to his initiative and wide guidance. His was the leading spirit also in those meetings of bishops which led up to tthe union of Anglican Churches in China in the Chung Hwa Sheng Kung Hwui.

Four years later George Moule resigned his bishopric, and was succeeded by H. J. Molony of one of the Society's Indian missions, with the title of Bishop in Chêkiang. Dr. Moule continued, however, to serve as a private missionary up to the end, placing all the store of his own experience and knowledge at the service of his successor. The same may be said of Arthur Moule in his office of archdeacon, which he continued to hold. The last years of his missionary life in China were filled with evangelization and itineration through every part of the widely-spread Church which the brothers had done so much to found and to foster.

Ready to Return at 90.

In 1911 Arthur was at length persuaded to leave the foreign mission field for the charge of a home parish, on the express understanding that he stood ready to return to his beloved field whenever required, up to the age of 90. George Moule, left a widower during the last three years of his life, reverenced and beloved by all his Chinese flock, and very many friends throughout the world, blessing and being blessed to the last, died at the age of 84, at Auckland Castle, his brother Handley's home, on March 3, 1912, during furlough in England.

Arthur Moule passed away on August 26, 1918, in his 83rd year, in the vicarage of Damerham, near Salisbury, the home of one of his sons, a place where his earnest messages at the time of the National Mission left a lasting impression.

CHANGSHA'S NEW Y. M. C. A.

Foundation Stone Laid

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Changsha, Hu., June 14.

The foundation stone of the new Y. M. C. A. building was laid this afternoon by Dr. F. C. Yen, the Chairman of the Changsha Board. A large gathering assembled to take part in the proceedings, at which Mr. M. K. Hsiao presided. A representative of the Governor and a representative from the provincial Assembly both read messages of greeting and congratulation.

The U. S. Consul also addressed the meeting. Mr. Meinhardt was able to speak not only as the representative of his country, but as an active co-operator in the work of the Y. M. C. A., especially in the building scheme.

The site was purchased by Chinese contributions. The building was to have been erected by funds from America, but improvements and enhanced cost of materials and of labour, have led the building committee beyond the very handsome contribution from the U. S. Association. An additional gold $12,500 is promised if Changsha will add an equal amount. Mr. Tan Hsin-i, the senior Chinese secretary, made an able appeal for this amount.

SHANGHAI NEWS

SPIRITUALISM IN THE CHINESE CITY

Art by Unseen Hands: Conversations with Confucius and Shakespeare

[illegible] for Psychical Research would be in their element were they able to attend the proceedings of the Five Religions' Society just now attracting numbers of Chinese to the picturesque gardens of the Grain Merchants' Guild in the native [illegible] gardens have been thronged with Chinese and there has been a curious mixture of sacred and profane activity, private devotions being paid at various shrines hard by groups of visitors indulging in the gossip of the day and taking their modest refreshment. The principal attraction undoubtedly has been the demonstrations of "spirit" writing and painting, carried out under the auspices of the Shanghai Spiritualist Society. These afford matter for interesting speculation and are of at least as much, perhaps greater, intrinsic interest than some of the "manifestations" which have claim[illegible] investigators in Europe. Two may be described.

On the floor of a room, and facing the shrine of Confucius, there was laid a sheet of white paper, measuring 15 feet by ten, with two strips of yellow paper on either side. The writing instrument consisted of a huge brush, weighing 48 catties (about 60 lb.) suspended from the entre of a bamboo pole, in length about the width of the paper. Standing on the yellow strips of paper, two Chinese took hold of the bamboo pole, one at each end, and at just sufficient height to allow of the brush touching the paper. The brush having been dipped into a bucket of indigo ink, the unseen writer did his work, producing a huge character, in firm bold outline and taking just under 10 minutes to perform the operation. The character produced was that meaning "soul," and when this had been written down, the date was added and the name of the writer, one Toong Faung. According to a learned Chinese, Toong Faung is known to history as a very high official who flourished in the days of the Han Dynasty, 2,100 years ago.

The second experiment resulted in the production of a couple of landscapes, not of any very great artistic quality, but showing fair brush work, accuracy of design and correct blending of colour. Both would have "passed" at the recent exhibition. These were produced in the following way:

The instrument used was a bamboo hoop about 12 in. in diameter, to which was affixed a Chinese writing brush, while on the table there was a sheet of white paper, framed, and a palette of four colours against it. Two Chinese, standing one on either side of the table, took up the hoop, holding it lightly by the fingers with the brush touching the paper and then, the "spirit" moving, the brush was dipped into the colour and the painting began, with the result already stated.

Both demonstrations were preceded by a prayer, and the men who held the brushes were selected by the "spirit," a list of members' names being laid upon the table and two of them being mysteriously "ticked off" for performance of the office. In one of the rooms the visitor may see displayed half a dozen pictures produced in this way, and two of them represent brushwork of no ordinary distinction. The most casual inspection of these impresses one with the fact that, if it were possible to practise deception in their production by means of the bamboo ring, then the men holding it must exercise an uncanny degree of skill. This, however, is not an "investigation;" merely a record of what the Chinese saw and what they most firmly believed was the work of compratriots revisiting the glimpses of the moon.

Engli-h or French, Please!

Yesterday the programme was to consist of "foreign writing" by means of the planchette. Last year—these gathering are an annual event—writing was done in script ranging from the most beautiful Chinese character to letters which no man could understand, some, we believe, even in old German text! To ensure that the writing shall be decipherable, the following prayer has solemnly been offered:

"We humbly pray Thee who to-day graces our gathering with Thy presence and comes to give us Thy counsels, to make use either of the English or French language in Thy communication."

In the most matter of fact way, as though he were merely commenting upon the rain pouring down at the moment, a member of the Society assured a "North-China Daily News" representative that among those who were expected to communicate on Thursday was Shakespeare!

It remains to be added that the Chinese in attendance take these proceedings seriously, some of them, children and women noticeably, performing devotional exercises before the various shrines in the manner of the most devout. There is no distinction of creeds. What more tolerant than a temple in which there are shrines of the Christian faith—which has its conventional picture of the Good Shepherd—of Taoism, Confucianism, of Buddhism, and of Mohammedanism? Lest the righteous be troubled, we shall not say which one of these it was—a little retreat beautiful in its simplicity—where, against a censor giving forth fragrant perfume stood a box advertising somebody's brand of cigarettes.

CHILEAN SUBJECTS IN SHANGHAI

Despute As to Status Between Chinese Commissioner and Consular Body

Action by the Chinese authorities in connexion with the Chilean Consulate in Shanghai was reported in the Chinese press on Thursday. It was stated that the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs has addressed the following letter to the Senior Consul.

"It has been ascertained that the Consular Body has resolved that cases involving Chilean citizens should be dealt with by the Chilean authorities, who will send an Assessor to the Mixed Court. I have already referred the matter to the Waichaopu for instructions, and have also written to you requesting that the Consular Body be urged to revoke this decision."

After pointing out that Chile has no extraterritorial powers, as was clearly indicated when the certificate was issued to the new Chilean Consul in Shanghai, the letter proceeds: "Moreover, as this is a matter which concerns Chile and China alone, no third party has any right to deal with it. Apart from notifying the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body at Peking, the Waichaipu has instructed me to lodge another representation with the Consular Body and to communicate with the Chilean Consul informing him that he is not entitled to the privileges of Consular jurisdiction. I therefore have now to request that the Consular Body be advised to revoke their former decision."

AT an entertainment given at 712 Dixwell Road by Miss A. Spalding, General Secretary of the Women's Christian Temperance Union of China, the North China Women's Christian Temperance Union was formed. The following officers were elected: -President, Mrs. Ching Yi-chen; Vice-President, Lucy J. Webb; treasurer, Mrs. Pai Sung-lee; secretary, Mrs. Hung C. A. Chen.

MEMORIAL TABLET TO DR. N. MACLEOD

A Tribute to a Worthy Man and his Valuable Services to Shanghai Generally

A memorial tablet to the late Dr. N. Macleod was unveiled on Wednesday at the Shanghai General Hospital by Cav. de' Rossi, Italian Consul-General. Amongst those present were Mr. E. S. Cunningham, U. S. Consul-General Mr. Yada, Japanese Consul-General; Mr. Fessenden, Chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Council; Mr. W. P. Lambe, S. M. C.; M. Le Bris, president of the French Municipal Council; Mr. John Prentice and Mr. D. E. J. Abraham, old friends of Dr. Macleod; Dr. R. J. Marshall, Dr. J. B. Fearn and a large number of the hospital staff.

Before the unveiling of the memorial Dr. Marshall made a brief speech in appreciation of the work of his late partner, especially in connexion with the hospital.

"We are here to-day," he said, "to assist at the unveiling of a tablet to the memory of the late Dr. Neil Macleod in recognition of the many valuable services he rendered this hospital during his lifetime. As the present senior member of the staff and one who has had the privilege of being Dr. Macleod's friend and associate for 22 years I have been asked to say something about him before the [illegible].

"His memory is still too fresh to make it necessary for me to say much to remind you of what he did for Shanghai and this hospital, and therefore I shall be very brief. For a quarter of a century he was officially connected with the Shanghai General Hospital, first on the staff, of which he was senior member till he retired from practice in 1913. He then became Governor, was appointed Chairman in 1915, and continued so until 1920, the year preceding his death. This hospital was entirely built in his time, thanks to his initiative and persistence. It is no exaggeration to say that the X-ray department was the work of his own hands.

"Dr. Macleod was a great and interesting personality. One could not be long in his presence and fail to be impressed by the keenness and enthusiasm with which he tackled whatever he had in hand. He was wonderfully well-informed on practically every branch of his profession, and, in fact, on any subject out of it that interested him. An indefatigable worker, and a great reader, he kept himself well abreast of the times. His manner to his younger associates was always most kind and considerate, and it was a positive education to consult with him. He was such a storehouse of knowledge and experience. I think his most notable quality was his thoroughness, and when you find thoroughness, combined with outstanding ability, as in Dr. Macleod's case, it means success. As a physician Dr. Macleod was undoubtedly a success. He was master of whatever subject he cared to specialize in. He at one time did some very valuable work in bacteriology, and by his knowledge of this subject was often of great service to the Health Department here. The radiological work he did in this Hospital was acknowledged by the greatest experts in England to be of the very highest order, even at a time when the apparatus at his command was of a comparatively primitive character. He kept pace with the advance of this science and we owe it entirely to him that we can now boast of a Radiologinea Department that any hospital might be proud of.

"Dr. Macleod was one of the finest citizens that Shanghai ever had. By his death the medical profession here lost its greatest ornament. The benefits that this community derived from his presence in many cases only recognized by the few, will be enjoyed by all for generations to come. No man deserves more the tributes now being paid to his memory."

Cav. de' Rossi, after a few brief remarks in which he expressed the regret that none of Dr. Macleod's family were present, then unveiled the memorial. The memorial is situated in the entrance to the building, and consists of a handsome tablet in bronze and marble, with a medallion of Dr. Macleod, under which the inscription reads:—

Erected by popular subscription in memory of Neil Macleod, M.D., Edin. Born at Greenwich on 15th January, 1847, Died at London, on 19th May, 1921. For 44 years a prominent citizen and a distinguished medical practitioner of Shanghai. He held the appointment of visiting physician to the staff of this Hospital from 1896 to 1914, and radiologist from 1913 to 1920. He was elected Governor in 1913 and was Chairman of the Board from 1915 to 1920. A keen student and leader in the science and art of his profession, the present extension of this Hospital and the X-Ray department stand as his memorial.

The memorial was designed by Mr. Spence, of Messrs. Stewardson & Spence, Shanghai, under the direction of Dr. Macleod's daughter in London.

TUNG CHIH COLLEGE, WOOSUNG

Proposed Conversion into a School for Navigation: The Navy's Claim

Peking, June 22.

In connexion with the recent report that the Ministry of Communications wanted to take over the Tung Chih College at Woosung and convert it into a Navigation College, it is now reported that the Minister of the Navy has drawn the attention of the Cabinet to the fact that the area in question was first given to the Ministry of the Navy, and that, while the Tung Chih College has recently been in possession of the College buildings, a large compound attached to the College has been used by the Ministry of the Navy as a Naval aviation experimental station.

In a memorial to the President, Admiral Li Ting-hsin makes no objection to the Ministry of Communications taking over the College, but urges that the aviation compound shall remain under the control of the Ministry of the Navy, which will establish on that site a Marine Survey Bureau.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

HONGKEW FLOODED

And Parts of Central District under Water after Thursday's Downpour

The heavy downpour of the last few days has resulted in floods in Hongkew and some parts of the French Concession, and considerable inconvenience to both the foreign and Chinese population in the affected areas.

In Hongkow on Thursday evening the streets were entirely submerged from the Hongkew market to Haining Road and in Woosung Road. Shops were flooded out while in many parts the water was over a foot deep. All sorts of refuse was floating around generally adding to the unpleasantness of the flood, and getting about in any comfort was impossible for all but the bare legged coolies.

It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good, however, and the ricsha coolies have been doing a roaring trade. Tramcars have been able to get through with comparative ease and crowds have made use of them, but the ricsha has been the most popular form of conveyance. In the French concession the lower part of Rue de Consulat was flooded, and the Hotel Parisien, Rue Montauban, stood out like an island in a miniature lake. Ricshas had to go right up to the inside of the hotel door in order to deposit their charges safely and drily.

We understand that in some parts of Hongkew foreigners have been driven from their homes by the invasion of water and have had to seek shelter in the hotels.

MR. W. W. Lockwood, associate general secretary of the Shanghai Y.M.C.A. was given a farewell luncheon by the newly-formed Shanghai chapter of the Y.'s Men's Club (affiliated to the International Y's Men's Association, Toledo, O.) last Friday at the American Returned Students' Club, prior to his departure for the United States on furlough. The president of the Y's Men's Club, Mr. Wm. Yinson Lee, was in the chair.

THE KU KLUX KLAN ARRESTS

Americans Handed over to U. S. Consulate: Detained 24 Hours by Chinese

In connexion with the raid by the Chinese police on 7 Henpeng Road, Chapei, the office of Ku Klux Klan organ, "The Klansman," and arrest of Dr. S. S. Ching and Mr. William Tung, its American promoters, it is now learnt that the police visited the premises to secure advance copies of the paper, which was to made its appearance this week. In addition to taking into custody Dr. Ching, who is a doctor of medicine practising in Seattle, and the other Chinese-American, the Chapei police arrested two Chinese. A third foreigner, Lawrence K. Kearny, also an American citizen, is reported to have been on the premises at the time.

Dr. Ching and Mr. Tung were released on Thursday afternoon, having been handed over to the U. S. authorities. No charge, it is stated, will be preferred against them.

Following their arrest on Wednesday night, friends of the two men immediately communicated with Mr. J. P. Davis, Executive American Consul, who at once informed Mr. S. K. Chen, secretary to the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, what had taken place. The prisoners were accordingly ordered to be released, but it was not until the middle of Thursday afternoon that they regained their freedom. Shortly after noon they were tranferred from the [illegible] pei police station to the ci[illegible]. Here they were closely [illegible]. Satisfied that they were of American citizenship, the authorities sent them under escort to the U. S. Consulate-General.

"Detained" not Arrested.

Realizing apparently their mistake the Chinese police now do not claim to have arrested but merely "detained" Ching and Tung.

Dr. Ching and Mr. Tung are the typical soft mannered returned students, quiet in their speech and nothing like the red-hot clansmen one might imagine them to be. There is nothing out of the way in their gospel, it could be that of the ordinary student. They both wish to purify the laws, abolish opium smoking and rid the Government of corruption. This was to be accomplished by a moral crusade.

It is not certain whether they will proceed with their original plan of holding a meeting in the country on Sunday. It would seem that the qualifications for belonging to the organization include the wearing of a gown and hood.

There is no information at hand whether the remainder of the party, the Chinese citizens, have been released.

SHANGHAI LIBELLED

The following appears in a recent issue of the "Manchester Guardian":—

To the Editor of the Manchester Guardian.

Sir,—In noticing my book "Far Eastern Jaunts" your reviewer says that in Shanghai I "saw no industry but that of the lotteries." This statement grotesquely misrepresents what I said and I trust you will let me correct it. In the passage in question I was writing of one particular street in one particular quarter of Shanghai. In that street I did not see the "marvellous silk shops" mentioned by your reviewer, for the very good reason that there are none. I may say that I have more than once already been in hot water over my published criticisms of the city of Shanghai, and do not wish to get into further hot water over criticisms I never made.—Yours, etc.

GILBERT COLLINS, Author of "Far Eastern Jaunts."
11, Woodside Road, Bournemouth,
April 26.

[Our reviewer writes:—I regret exceedingly the mistake referred to in Mr. Collins's letter. I have no copy of the book within reach, but I accept, without question, his correction that he was speaking of one street only, and not of all Shanghai, as occupied exclusively with lottery business. I apologise freely for a careless slip in reading a book most interesting from its fresh outlook on present-day China and Japan.—ED. "GUARD."]

THE vernacular press reports that Rear-Admiral Nagano, Imperial Japanese Navy, is to arrive in Shanghai by the Shanghai Maru on Sunday. After visiting this port, he proposes go on to the Yangtze cities and Peking.

WEDDING

White-Cooper

A very pretty wedding was solemnized on Saturday afternoon at St Joseph's Church by the Rev. Father MacDonald when Miss Monica Mary Cooper, daughter of Mrs. A. Cooper, of Dulwich, London, was married to Mr. Harry Augustus White, the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. O. White. The church was elaborately decorated with green and white flowers by the Lewis Nurseries for the ceremony.

The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. T. A. Cooper, looked charming in a handsome gown of silver lace, trimmed with pearls and tulle. The long veil, which formed a graceful train, was caught into a cap shape, and fastened at either side with orange blossoms. She carried a sheath bouquet of white lilies, with long ends of fern-fronds and ribbons reaching to the ground. The bridesmaids, Miss Clara Talbot and Miss Dorothy Eveleigh, wore picturesque frocks of green organdie and silver tissue, trimmed with roses, and hats to match. The little flower girls, Maria Augusta Silva and Olga Silva, were also dressed to harmonize with the green and white colour scheme with lace hats, and each carried a basket of flower petals. Masters Harold Bidwell, Albert White, Mario Simoes and Augusto Aquino, wearing white suits, shoes and socks, acquitted themselves well in the responsible duties of pages.

Mr. Edward Silva attended the bridegroom as best man, and Messrs. A. Ferguson, F. C. Clarke, J. Mahon and J. Pote-Hunt were ushers. A very enjoyable reception, attended by a large number of relatives and friends, was held at "Whyteleafe," 603 Avenue Haig, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. H. O. White. The house was beautifully decorated and the strains of a string band added to the enjoyment of the afternoon. The bride's health was proposed by Mr. A. Eveleigh. Mr. and Mrs. White left later for Tsingtao, where the honeymoon will be spent, the bride wearing a smart costume of white *crêpe-de-chine* with a green hat.

THE PRESS IN CHINA

Plea for School for Journalists out of Indemnity Funds: Rotary Debate

An appeal for a portion of the remitted American share of the Boxer Indemnity to be used for the establishment of a Chinese School of Journalism was made by Mr. Jabin Hsu, editor of the "Shanghai Tribune," at a meeting of the Rotary Club on Thursday.

After tracing the history of journalism in China, which he said began somewhere about 200 B. C., when the literati had the laws of the land published in bulletins and distributed throughout the Empire by couriers, Mr. Hsu said that the Press in China although young was becoming powerful.

But its troubles were many. Most of the papers were unable to operate independently and forced to subsist on official patronage or subsidy.

Editors were generally underpaid and uneducated, and subscriptions and advertising rates were too low to make papers profitable enterprises. It was difficult to induce good men to go into the profession because of its lack of standing and opportunities.

If a portion of the American share of the Boxer Indemnity could be used in the establishment of a school of journalism, Chinese young men could be educated in accordance with the ideals of journalism prevalent in America and Britain and much good would result. "Journalism is a public service," he declared, and reminded both Chinese and foreign business men the value of legitimate advertising, not only for the purpose of increasing business, but in enabling the Press to become independent of outside influences.

LOCAL agitators for the return of the Mixed Court to China believe that they have a firm friend in the British Consul-General, according to the Chinese Press. They propose to invite him to a dinner at which the strongest pleas are to be urged in favour of the proposed rendition. At the same time various bodies intend publishing a manifesto in English to endeavour to enlist the sympathies of the Consul-General's fellow countrymen.

THE JOYS OF HOUSE-HUNTING

PRIZE DAY AT ST. JOSEPH'S INST.

Interesting Display by Girls of Well Trained Talent

Prize Day at St. Joseph's Institution was a very interesting occasion, not only for the school girls themselves, but also for their relatives and friends who filled the large school hall, which was tastefully decorated with gay yellow sun-flowers and green garlands festooned from pillar to pillar. The Mother Superior, with Rev. Dather Maúmus, the Superior of St. Joseph's Church, and M. Wilden, the French Consul-General presented the prizes to the fortunate recipients, each of whom received a laurel wreath, as well as her prize book. The students filled the stage, with the guests of honour on the front seat of the auditorium. A well arranged programme which displayed the abilities of the pupils varied the presentations, the numbers being as follows. Opening chorus by the school, "Labor Omnia Vincit" (the school motto); address of welcome in French by Marthe Moisson; pianoforte overture, "Diamande de la Couronne," (2 pianos, organ and violin); Chorus by the school, "Lilac de Platen"; violin solo, "Simple Aveu," Dorothy Cosier; Song, by the youngest pupils; pianoforte duet, "Hungarian Danse," Una Smith and Grace Clark; Final March, Schubert, 2 pianos and orchestra.

So large a number of prizes were given out that it is impossible to mention all the fortunate recipients and only a few outstanding awards can be mentioned. The Senior Cambridge Examination honours were won by Maudie Tebbutt, with Vera Allen leading in the Junior Examination. The girls passing the general Cambridge Examinations were Maudie Tebbutt (with Distinction in French) Freda Narrados (Distinction in French) Lilian Fowler, Kathleen Barentzen, Julia Remedios. Prizes for Conduct were awarded to Virginia Sullivan and Wilhelmina Bigel of the boarders and to Freda Barradas, Maudie Tebbutt, Carmen Kupsch, and Aurea Marques and in the Second Division to Tatsuko Matsumoto, Cecile Logers, Monica Johns, Carmen Victal, Lilian Johns, and Odette Hibert. Honours in the French Examination were won by Lucia Luciani.

In the smaller classes the students winning the greatest number of prizes in all subjects were as follows: Class, II, Jimmy Cumming; III, Phyllis Murray; IV, Edith Tebbutt; V, Lucy Dalder, (2d div.) Mabel Remedios; VI, Gladys Head, (2d div.) Margaret Oliviera.

THE new building for the Chinese Fire Brigade at Nantao was formally opened on Sunday afternoon. Many foreigners and Chinese were present, and several felicitous speeches were made. Mr. Pett, Chief officer of the International Settlement Fire Brigade, addressed the gathering.

JUNE SETTLEMENT

Speculation in Langkats Leads to Severe Difficulties

The June Settlement has proved a very unsatisfactory one and the arrangements made by no means amount to an actual clearance of the quarter's business.

It was practically a Langkat settlement. Business in cottons, docks, wharves and rubbers has been normal, but there has been a great deal of speculation in Langkats. The speculators were carried over December and March and the big drop in prices principally accounted for severe difficulties which had to be faced on Monday.

Explorations had gone down from Tls. 15 to Tls. 8, Loans from Tls. 7½ to Tls. 5, and Langkats from Tls. 15 to approximately Tls. 6, so that after March purchases had been made at about Tls. 35 for June, the price for combined shares sagged away to approximately Tls. 19 or Tls. 20. One large firm of outside brokers very heavily engaged compromised to the extent of paying 85 per cent., and hope to be able to pay the balance in due course.

On the whole, it may be said that there has been a fairly free exchange of promissory notes and, while a very considerable amount of business has been put through normally, it may be said that the position generally is a very unsatisfactory one. Hongkong has been but slightly concerned in the settlement.

OBITUARY

Mr. James Howard Moore

Old-timers in China, as well as in Siam and the Malay States, will regret to learn of the death of Mr. James Howard Moore, who passed away on May 17, in Queen City, New York. He was best known in Shanghai through his connexion with the British-American Tobacco Co. and the Tobacco Products Co., having been associated with the former firm at the time of its transfer to British registry. So far as can be ascertained he left no heirs.

"Admiral" Moore, as he was called, was very popular because of his lovable character and because he was a clever *raconteur* with a skill in recounting incidents of his adventurous career which reminded his hearers of Conrad. In Siam he enjoyed the friendship of the King and held a large teak concession, in which he employed a large herd of elephants for hauling the teak trunks out of the forest

[illegible] astic collector of Chinese curios and his assortment of Chinese snuff bottles was said to be the largest private collection in [illegible] for [illegible] Moore [illegible] an currency [illegible] sed of at a small profit. He confirmed the magnate in his estimate of its value and took occasion upon his return to China to make diligent search among Kiu[illegible]ng's antiques, being fortunate enough to secure the mate to the first vase. For this, indeed, he had to pay $25 but as he was able to dispose of it to the same London merchant for £250 it was a profitable transaction. "Those were the good old days," he would add. "Collectors could hope to pick up some finds in those times."

SHANGHAI'S YOUTHFUL CRAFTSMEN

Woodwork Exhibition at the Thomas Hanbury Schools

The annual exhibition of wood carvings by public of the Municipal Schools opened on Tuesday at the Thomas Hanbury School for Boys. Some interesting carvings by boys and girls from various schools in Shanghai were shown. Perhaps the most interesting were a sewing basket with carved stand, and an inlaid chess board.

It is hoped by Capt. Hansen, instructor of manual work, that woodwork will play a more important part in the curriculum of Shanghai schools in the near future and that the subject will be embraced in regular school hours, which should add more enthusiasm to the work and tend to more scope and opportunity. It is also hoped through the generosity of a Shanghai resident, Mr. David Petersen, to have ready for occupation in September a centre for metal work and light handicraft. This centre should prove a welcome boon to the amateurs in wireless telegraphy, telephony and other hobbies requiring machined parts and fittings.

PURE MILK

Early in the year Mr. Ellwood Varney, manager of the Liberty Dairy, offered $20 as prizes for the best essays on pure milk, to be competed for by pupils in the Shanghai American School. The contest was conducted by the "S. A. S. Nooze," the school's bi-weekly publication and the results have been announced by the Editor, Mr. F. Rawlinson. In the High School five essays were submitted and two prizes have been awarded, $6 going to Marjorie Billing, of Foochow, and $4 to Helen McCracken. In the grades, over 40 essays were submitted and three prizes have been awarded, $5 to Ida Gorelkina, $3 to Mary McCracken, and $2 to Elizabeth Wallace.

MR. Huan Chun, Senior Magistrate of the Mixed Court, has been granted six months' leave, commencing on July 1.

GENERAL YANG SEN AND MR. ELLY WIDLER

Reply by General Yang: His Statement of Reasons for Which Mr. Widler Was Arrested and Put in Gaol

We have received from General Yang Sen, Commanding the Second Szechuan Army and Acting Civil Governor the following statement in answer to the recent charges published by Mr. Widler. We take no responsibility in the matter but as the imprisonment of Mr. Widler attracted much attention at the time General Yang Sen is entitled to state his side of the affair.

"During the past months reports have appeared in the Press purporting to be the facts concerning the treatment of one, Elly Widler, who was arrested last September by General Yang Sen, General Commanding the Second Szechuan Army. As these reports have emanated from one source only, and do not give the facts as they are, the undersigned respectfully asks for space to present this statement of the truth regarding Elly Widler.

"This name has been before the public in Szechuan for a number of years. While most foreigners in China have very excellent reputations, and conform to all the laws of their own country, as well as to the laws of China, it is so much more remarkable when any one, claiming to be a foreigner, breaks the law, that the case is known far and near.

"Surely no official, or military officer, in China, has more interest in foreigners than the one who writes this letter. Whether in Luchow, Chungking, Wanhsien, or more recently here in Chêngtu, I have sought to be friends with all foreigners and foreign institutions—missionary, as well as commercial and official— and have supported every one that has appealed for funds, or for any other assistance.

"It was therefore entirely against my nature, and against my inclination, to arrest a man who claimed to be a foreigner. The man, Widler, was arrested because there was no other way to stop his conduct, he had been well-known in this province for years."

The letter then alleges that Mr. Widler conducted a business in fox skins at Tachienlu, advertising them for sale in Shanghai at $30 apiece, but that nobody got the skins. And it continues:—

"The circumstances of Widler's going to Tachienlu, the fact that he had no foreign passport, and the nature of his business, compelled the Chinese authorities to take action.

The reason, as given by Widler, for his expulsion was that Tachienlu is not an Open Port and that a foreigner could not do business there, but the facts are as stated here.

Quarrel With an Official.

"When he reached Tachienlu he rented, in an irregular manner, a house that had been confiscated some time before and retained as an official headquarters for soldiers. At that time the Kangting Magistrate was not at home, being away in Tibet on official business. After his return to Tachienlu he was one day out on a tour of inspection and noticed a pile of refuse in front of a house. He went in to inquire about the matter and was standing below (Tibetan houses are two-storied) instructing some natives how to clean up when the "foreigner" appeared at the top of the stairs and demanded in a very rude manner what he was doing. Widler then ordered his workmen to eject the official. They, naturally, refused to do so, so he went down himself, threw the official's chair into the street, and forcefully ejected him.

"This matter was taken up by the Commissioner for Tibetan Affairs, General Cheng Hsia-ling, the Taoyin of Tachienlu, the Taoyin at Yachow, the Foreign Office in Chêngtu (from which this is record), and the Foreign Office in Chungking. The latter reminded Mr. Widler that he had not been given permission to travel beyond Yachow when he left Chungking, as the country was then in disturbance due to the rebellion of a military officer in Tibet. Mr. Widler was then ordered to vacate the house that he was retaining irregularly. This he refused to do so he was forcefully ejected. None of his goods were confiscated. He was also ordered to leave Tachienlu and return to Chungking. When he refused he was arrested by soldiers, and the Foreign Office in Chungking was asked to watch his movements.

The letter then alleges that while in Chungking at this time Mr. Widler tried to establish an insurance company and sold shares to the amount of thousands of dollars and that when his office was closed down he said all the assets of the Company were destroyed, so that the shareholders got nothing. "Widler then opened a club. He made himself agreeable to Chinese and foreigners alike; and I, myself, was pleased to treat him as a friend, as I do all foreigners. I feel sure, however, that the foreigners in Chungking will be able to state that my estimate of the character of the man is not far wrong.

"After his arrest no foreigners came to me on his behalf, though all knew well that I am always approachable in such matters. The fact is that many foreigners have declared to me, and to others, that the man ought to have been severely punished.

The Charge of Gun-running.

"During the Civil War in this province in 1923 there was some attempt at "gun-running" on the Yangtze River. All who read the papers are familiar with these stories. The same things have occurred in all countries, especially where there is civil war. It is well-known by every one, especially by those who engage in the traffic, that capture by the enemy means the death penalty at dawn. When any one engages in such traffic they must reckon accordingly. Widler was not the only one apprehended in this traffic. It is well-known that two boat officers belonging to another nation (where they have proper credentials as citizens of that nation) were captured by my enemies in the act of gun-running. These officers have suffered worse hardships than Widler suffered. They were in custody for a much longer time while the Consuls of that nation, and others, did all they could to effect their release. We feel sure that those men consider themselves very fortunate in coming out of the episode with whole skins.

"The guilt of Elly Widler is even greater than that of the officers mentioned. Any person might justify their action in trying to supply war materials to a regular army, though they would know that the enemy would condemn them. But guns were being supplied to irregulars and bandits who were able to pay outrageous prices for them. It was when we had proof of this that Mr. Widler was arrested. We understand that he was selling for as high as $800 small arms that cost him about $80 in Shanghai. About 300 automatic pistols were taken by the Customs authorities in one shipment. They were contained in beer boxes.

"When it was found that this shipment of pistols had reached Wanhsien, the Customs authorities reported the matter to the Customs authorities in Chungking. It was supposed at that time that the matter would be adjusted through the Foreign Office. But when the Foreign Office asked the different Consuls in Chungking where Widler was registered they replied that he was not registered in any Consulate. It was therefore necessary for the Chinese authorities to deal with the case and Widler was arrested. In this matter the Customs authorities were consulted, and his arrest was as much at their instance as at mine.

The Question of Nationality.

"While he was in prison we wired to Peking to see if Widller had any standing as a foreigner. The reply from the Waichiaopu stated that there had once been a man registered in China under the name of Widler, but he left China years ago, his name was removed from the register, and no one has any knowledge of his whereabouts. We cannot tell whether this is the same man or not."

"It has been known among all foreigners in Szechuan for years that the man called Widler had no standing as a foreigner. Most foreigners have discussed him, and no one was able to find out what nation he belongs to. It is understood that he has posed at different times as a German (before the War), as an American, and as Brazil, and where not. This is, of course, a very serious matter, and lowers the prestige of all foreigners who maintain proper relations with their own Governments.

"While Widler was in prison in Chungking he wrote to certain friends in Shanghai asking them to see if they could get him registered as a Swiss citizen. While no proof has come to us to show that the attempt was successful (and even if it were) it must be held to be irregular), his friends wrote to him saying that they had been able thus to register him. The letter was intercepted by the Second Army, as Widler was then a prisoner in their hands, and is now in our possession. It did not contain a certificate of registration, nor a passport for a Swiss citizen. Furthermore, no representation has ever been made to us on behalf of this man Widler by the Consular authorities of Switzerland in China.

"This being the case his arrest by Chinese authorities was entirely regular. If he had been registered as a German (as now they have no extraterritorial privileges) it would be regular. And it is much more so when it cannot be proven that he is registered anywhere.

The Treatment in Gaol.

"As to the alleged mistreatment while in gaol, this is largely a matter of the way in which Widler would look at it. Of course he did not have foreign food. But Chinese food would be no hardship to a man of his experience in China. Furthermore we were in a state of siege in Chungking and we suffered as well as he. When we were obliged to retire to Wanhsien we took him with us as we did not wish him to fall into the hands of our enemies and furnish them with guns. The journey was doubtless hard on him. When we reached Wanhsien he was turned over to the Wanhsien Magistrate with instructions to look after him and provide for him well. It was not a palace, and he doubtless had much to complain of, but we doubt there being any real suffering, more than the circumstances demanded."

The letter goes on to allege that "as there is sufficient evidence to prove that the man was guilty of a very serious crime in trafficking in arms, and as that evidence may be found in the records of the Customs authorities in Wanhsien and Chungking; as the foreign Consuls in Chungking know fully the history of this case; it is not necessary for us to go into details here. In any similar case in any land, in time of war, the man would have been shot with little ceremony. In treating him as we did we thought we were showing Widler very great courtesy. Considering that this was the first time he had been guilty of such a serious crime, and hoping that he might be led to reform, we preferred to show him clemency. His attitude in reporting the case as he has done through the newspapers, and trying to make absurd claims for damages, shows that he was not worthy of such clemency.

The Release.

"After the Second Army reached Chêngtu and we were feeling happy over our great victory the Wanhsien Magistrate wrote to me suggesting that Mr. Widler might be released. As we felt like being generous at that time we agreed and he was set free. Up to that time there had been no representation by any foreign Consular authority in behalf of the man. It was entirely a matter of our clemency toward him. We treated him thus as he claimed to be a foreigner, and we have always tried to treat foreigners in a friendly manner. This friendship would be seriously affected if we found that many such incidents occurred. Fortunately for us, as well as for the reputation of all foreigners in China, this is an isolated case in many years of dealing with foreigners in this province; and we trust that we may not have another such for many years to come.

YANG SEN.
(Seal)-General Commanding the Second Szechuan Army and Acting Civil Governor.
Chêngtun, Sze., June 2, 1924.

MR. WIDLER'S REPLY

We have received from Mr. Elly Widler a copy of his letter to General Yang Sen in answer to the latter's statement. We publish the portions essential to Mr. Widler's defence on the points raised by General Yang Sen.

Sir,—I have seen a letter written in English, dated Chengtu June 2, and signed in type by you addressed to the foreign press in China, worded in a slanderous manner, which appeared in a Hankow and Shanghai newspaper, and I am replying to this letter so that you may know that what you termed to be "the truth regarding Elly Widler" is nothing else but falsehood and fabrication. You made a very great mistake by ordering my arrest in September last and you have no one else to blame but yourself that my case has aroused so much interest, causing the foreign press in China to take the matter up, and numerous articles derogatory to yourself appearing in the foreign press in America and England regarding this matter. Had you taken the advice of General Yuan Tsu-ming, your ally and fellow general at Chungking, in September last, you would not have ordered my arrest, and you would then have avoided all the publicity detrimental to yourself in connexion with this case. You say in your letter that I was arrested because there was no other way to stop my vicious conduct, and in reply, I thank you for this compliment."

The Fox Skin Business.

Mr. Widler then alludes to Gen. Yang's charge that he formerly ran a fox skin business in Tachienlu but that only would-be purchasers got "skinned" and he says:—

"In the first instance, you are mistaken regarding the price I offered fox skins for sale, and in the second instance, there is not a single buyer who can claim that he was "skinned." It is a great surprise to me, General Yang Sen, that you, who have known me for so long, would allow your name to be signed to a letter containing such a childish statement as this. If you intend to infer that I "skin" people for small amounts, why is it that you yourself, only a few months prior to my arrest, offered me large sums of money, which I refused to take from you? If I was a cheat, and your remarks regarding the fox skins can infer nothing else, then why did I not "skin" you for $30,000 or $50,000, when you yourself were willing to pay me this money, and which I refused to take? You will distinctly remember how you sent for me several times, and refusing to call at your headquarters, you did me the honour by calling yourself at the Cosmos Club. You offered me large amounts of money, and which amounts you were not afraid to trust me with, yet I refused to accept your money, knowing that I could not execute your wishes; and this is the thanks I get for treating you in an honourable manner.

The House at Tachienlu.

Your description of the circumstances of my trip to Tachienlu, the irregular manner in which I rented a Tibetan house and my affair with the Tachienlu magistrate, is interesting reading. The facts are that I left Chungking with a regular passport issued by the Chungking Foreign Office and signed by Mr. Chen, the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, and in this passport it was clearly stated that I was a Swiss citizen. The Commissioner of Foreign Affairs explained to me that since the country was in an unsettled condition he would issue the passport for as far as Yachow only. I received a further document from the Chungking Chinese Maritime Customs and in this document it was also stated that I was a Swiss citizen; it contained a description and quantity of merchandise which I was carrying with me and stated therein that my destination was Tachienlu. This document was countersigned by Mr Chen, the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs and Superintendent of the Chinese Maritime Customs. It pleases you to state that I rented a house at Tachienlu in an irregular manner, but the fact is that I rented the house from a Tibetan and paid the rental regularly. The fact that it so happened that this very house was "confiscated" by the Chinese military was no concern of mine, and this matter would never have been brought up if it were not for the fact that the Chinese authorities were prejudiced against me."

The Dispute with the Magistrate.

With regard to the alleged throwing out of doors of the Tachienlu magistrate Mr. Widler says:—The facts are that the Kangting magistrate (Kangting being just another name for Tachienlu) walked into the house which I had rented and caused a disturbance in my compound. If you claim to know anything about the foreign law, you will know that no man has a right, whether he be civilian or official, to go into another man's house and create a disturbance. I was therefore quite justified in ordering the Kangting magistrate, Mr. Han, to leave my premises. Your remarks that I forcefully ejected the magistrate is not true. I, however, made it quite plain to the magistrate that he must leave my compound and made it clear him that if he desired to come into my premises in a regular way that I would only be too pleased to receive him.

"During the eight months which I stayed at Tachienlu the officials were working unceasingly and putting every possible obstacle in my way with a view of getting me out of the Tibetan frontier, and in which, as you know, they eventually succeeded. My stay there appeared to have caused a great deal of uneasiness in various circles. An excuse had to be found to get me out of Tachienlu and it started with informing me that I had no right to live at Tachienlu as that town was not a treaty port. When I pointed out to the local officials that other foreigners were trading at Chêngtu, the provincial capital of Szechuan, at Atungtse in Yunnan Province, at Peking and in a number of other centres which were not treaty ports, it semed to have no effect on the Chinese decision that I must leave Tachienlu. I wrote a letter to the Swiss Minister at Tokio inquiring whether or not Swiss citizens in China enjoy extraterritorial rights. I pointed out my position in my letter to the Swiss Minister, addressed to Tokio, and mentioned that I had for many years been registered at the French Consulate at Chungking as a Swiss citizen, and that living in Tachienlu, without consular protection I wanted to know my exact status with the Chinese. In due course I received a reply from the Swiss Minister at Tokio in which he informed me that the Swiss government had a treaty with China, in which Swiss citizens shall enjoy the same privileges as are, or may be, ceded to the most favoured powers.

"I used to object very much to the treatment that the local Chinese and Tibetans were subjected to and every time a Tibetan or a Chinese was bambooed at the magistrate's yamen at Tachienlu, I used openly to voice my objection. I could not help hate the few Chinese officials who were in power at Tachienlu for the bambooing the local Chinese and Tibetans on the very slightest pretext. One of my neighbours was taken into the yamên and bambooed. . . because he was standing upright when the magistrate passed the small narrow street in which we lived. I publicly objected to this kind of treatment and I pointed out, in the streets in Tachienlu, to the Chinese and Tibetan civilians that China was now a republic and that according to republican rule this kind of treatment was not allowed."

Mr. Widler goes on to show that with the Tibetans he was on the friendliest terms, and he continues:—

"It is quite an easy matter to invent stories about any particular person when it is desired to do that person harm. Here at Shanghai I daily meet a considerable number of Chinese from Szechuan, men who are citizens of the same district in Szechuan as from where you come, and these men accuse you of a great number of unlawful acts, but it is not for me to write and tell you, or cause it to be published through the press, what other people say about you.

The Alleged Insurance Co.

Mr. Widler then deals with the charge that he started an insurance company in Chungking which failed and nobody got their money. "In all my twelve years at Chungking I never established any insurance company and your report in this connexion is absolutely without foundation. What you probably tried to infer was that whilst at Chungking I established a Savings Society and finding that I had received opposition from the Chinese press at Chungking regarding this Savings Society, I dissolved the company and the shareholders, all and everyone, received back their money.

The Charge of Gun-Running.

Mr. Widler then takes up the charge that he went in for gun-running and supplied arms to bandits and he says:—

"You don't mention what proof you had, but you intimate that 300 pistols were found in beer boxes and that the Consular Body in Chungking and the Chinese Maritime Customs at Wanhsien and Chungking are fully acquainted with the details of this affair. The fact is, as you must know, that the pistols which were found in the beer boxes were claimed by the First Army. The

fact that these pistols were found in these beer boxes and that the beer boxes were consigned to the Cosmos Club does not necessarily mean that the pistols were being sold by me to irregulars and bandits as outlined in your statement. No doubt, the circumstantial evidence, without a proper investigation, would throw suspicion on the Cosmos Club; but, as you know very well, the fact that the First Army (South) claimed these pistols, proves that the accusation of my connexion with this matter is false. "It is very difficult to comprehend what you mean by a regular or an irregular army in the Szechuan compaign. You must remember that you yourself were an officer in the First Army under General Shen Kea-wu, and that it is only recently that you have decided to join the faction fighting for the North. So, whilst it pleases you to call the First Army an irregular army, and refer to them as bandits, it gives them an equal right to refer to your army as being irregular when they defeated you on October 16 last.

"It cannot be regular for you to accuse me of being guilty of any infraction of the law without giving me a proper chance to defend myself. At no time during my arrest and during the six months' detention in your hands was I given a chance to make any statement in defence of my case. Both at the trial at the magistrate's yamen at Chungking and at the court martial at your headquarters prior to your retreat of October 16, I was intimidated with threats of death and was accused of having supplied thousands of rifles to the First Army, and later I was accused by your soldiers and officers of being responsible for the defeat of the Second Army on October 16. If at any time this matter has to be brought up, it is not for me or for you to declare whether I was innocent or guilty. This matter is a. subject open for a proper, judicial investigation where I can be properly represented and defend myself without being afraid."

Swiss Citizenship.

Mr. Widler then devotes a good deal of space to showing that at the time of his arrest he was duly registered as a Swiss citizen; but a few months after my arrest, when it was necessary for the Swiss Consul General to refer this matter to the government in Switzerland it appears that documentary evidence of the Swiss citizenship of my father was required by the Swiss government. Since my father had been dead some twenty years, there was some difficulty in obtaining such documentary evidence, and it did not appear that there was any great need for this, and before my actual release could be effected, the Swiss government in Berne notified the Swiss Consul-General at Shanghai that the investigations made by the Swiss government failed to establish, to the satisfaction of that government, the Swiss citizenship of Mr. Elly Widler. But this doesn't alter the fact that at the time of my arrest I was duly registered as a Swiss citizen, proofs of which exist to this day; and therefore, it is absolutely clear that my being kept a captive in your hands for six months and four days was irregular.

Confiscated Property.

Mr. Widler denies *in toto* that he ever posed as a German citizen. About his treatment in gaol he says he has prepared a statement which he will publish later.

"As regards the confiscation of my money, goods and other property. My claim is not in the least exaggerated, nor is it absurd. Everybody in Chungking, both civilians, civil and military officials and foreigners alike know that for weeks boat loads of goods, articles and furniture, etc., were being moved from the Cosmos Club, over to the city of Chungking to the Bureau of Foreign Affairs. There is irrefutable evidence, as I have letters here in my possession written by Mr. Kenneth Wang, Chief Secretary of the Bureau of Foreign Affairs at Chungking, offering my billiard table and other articles of furniture for sale and mentioning that all my things have been "confiscated." You try to lay great stress on the fact of my being an unrecognized foreigner. If you publicly proclaim that because I am an unrecognized foreigner you are permitted to confiscate all my money, goods, etc., then how do you expect all the foreigners who at the present time enjoy extraterritorial rights will view this incident with regard to the much desired abolition of extraterritoriality?"

SILK WORKERS' STRIKE

Also Cigarette Shops Agitation against Tax Stamps: Ink-makers Leaving Shanghai

The strike at the Chapei silk filatures continues, and the majority of the factories are now closed. According to the Chinese press, the manufacturers are not very much concerned, trade being dull at the moment, but they are making efforts to effect a settlement.

In view of the obstinate attitude of the women workers, the masters, it is stated, have decided to stop work altogether and for an indefinite period. They will not re-open until they can get an assurance from the workers not to cause any more trouble. Outside the factories, a notice has been hung up, calling on the workers to come and get the balance of wages due to them.

Cigarette shops in Pootung are still holding out for a more liberal discount of the tax stamps sold them by the tax office. Ten days have elapsed since they walked out and their position remains the same as before. The Tax Office contends that as it has been officially decided that the revenue stamps shall be sold to the shops within the nine sections of the Pootung district at 75 per cent. of their face value, the office cannot reduce the rate to 45 per cent., at which rate the stamps are sold to shops in the Chinese police jurisdiction of Shanghai and Woosung.

The ink-makers on strike hail from different parts of Anhui. They have decided to sever their connexion with the Shanghai shops for good, and will return home as soon as they have received their back pay. About 400 men have signified their willingness to abide by this decision by signing a paper. An application has been made to the Hui-Ning Guild (whose members are natives of Huichow and Ningkuofu) for permission to let the men live in the guild before departure, the men undertaking to provide food for themselves.

The silke filature women returned to work on Thursday. Condititions of the sttlement are thtat no more heavy fines will be imposed upon defaulters, working hours are to be decreased during the hot weather, and the granting of a special weekly bonus is to be considered at a later date, while the women's demand for higher pay has been deferred until business improves.

THE SUMMER DISEASES HOSPITAL

The Chinese Hospital for Summer Diseases at 316 Tientsin Road on Sunday was formally opened for the season. This institution was founded by the late Mr. Shen Tung-ho, President of the Chinese Red Cross Society, and it is at present managed by Dr. W. L. New, assisted by his brother, Dr. W. S. New, Dr. Y. R. Hwang, Dr. S. B. Lu, Dr. M. Hwang, Dr. C. T. Neal, and a staff of 16 nurses, men and women. The hospital is capable of accommodating 100 patients, and has two extra wings and a central hall, which were used during the epidemic of 13 years ago. There are three classes of patients for which the hospital is open and the third class receive all medical treatment free of charge. Last year the total number of resident patients was 638, of whom 359 were cholera cases. There were also 1,984 outpatients.

Credit is due to Mr. Chuang Tetse for his very able work in organizing a financial appeal, to which the public has responded splendidly. The hospital in the past has done excellent work in relieving the sickness and distress which necessarily arises in the hot weather.

EIGHTY students were graduated on the second commencement day of William's College, on the Chinese Bund, on Wednesday afternoon, Nineteen received diplomas from the high school department of the college and 61 from the preparatory department. The Domestic University scholarship was won by Mr. Chiang Tsahwa. Mr. Dzao Liktse, former Minister of Education, addressed the graduates, and Dr. William Liu, President of the college, delivered the opening address.

THE Mokanshan Summer Resort Association's Bulletin again contains much interesting information which those about to spend a holiday on the "foothills of the Himalayas" cannot afford to be without. It is noticeable that the journey, which never took longer than one day from Shanghai to the top of the mountain, can now be performed under more comfortable conditions on the last stage from the Sanchiaopu Rest House. The old and narrow road, with many steep and dangerous steps, was always somewhat trying to delicate nerves. A new road, built in 1920, and now owned by the railway, has none of these terrors. Beginning with this season, chair coolies, who characteristically prefer the old road, must now take the new unless otherwise requested by their fares. The turning point to the new road is clearly marked by a large white sign and new comers should watch for it. Visitors may obtain the bulletin from Messrs. Edward Evans & Sons.

To Mercury, on the New Post Office

I.
Oh Mercury! how can you sit
Taking your dolce far niente
While postmen have to haste and flit
With heavy bags of mails in plenty!

II.
A truly bad example, you,
Dallying there among the ladies!
What do they represent, those two?
Explain and tell me what their trade is.

III.
Your proper attitude is that
Prescribed for you throughout the ages,
Dressed simply in your wingéd hat
Skipping along in graceful stages.

IV.
Is it the "Poste Restante" that you
Are meant to typify? If no,
Let's hope your slackness isn't due
To featuring the C.P.O.

V.
But when arrives the torried heat
Which in the summer is Shanghai's,
You'll find it hard to keep your seat,
For Mercury's the first to rise.

CORRESPONDENCE

KU KLUX KLAN

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Regarding your article about the Chinese K.K.K. copied from the "China Times" we beg to inform you that you were wrong in some parts as follows:

We are not a club and have no club rooms, we have a headquarters for the order and where only business pertaining to the order is carried on. The meeting places are at such places where a klan is located, but not club rooms.

Chinese is the only language that is used in the initiation of members, and Chinese is the official language of the order. We have numbers of members, especially officials that have a good knowledge of the English language and we recomend that wherever possible the English language be used, so that members will become familiar with it and help them keep in practice what they learn in the schools and in business. All members are Chinese and we do not know of any fat Chilean who is a member or even a visitor.

We have no club in the French Concession.

We are starting a paper, the first issue will be on the press Saturday, June 21, 1924, and will be available on Monday. It will be issued weekly.

We have grips and signs the same as the Masons or any other foreign secret order or society. We have no secrets that we hide and the "China Times" reporter must have had a pipe dream.

The klans are growing fast and we will say that the reporter dropped at least one cypher in the number of members and some of the other figures were also wrong.

Naturally, the first question will be, Are we anti-foreign? We will state that we are not. We are neither anti or pro anything. We are only for China and the Chinese.

The reporter of the "China Times" could never have been to the headquarters or he would not have said that the leader was a Cantonese prominent in a foreign firm, because we have many Chinese who are holding very big positions in both foreign and Chinese firms. Who are they? Well ??????, he don't know that is sure.

Thanking you and trusting that you will correct the article in question and assuring you that we have great respect for the really best morning paper in China, and that you will make your own investigations,

We beg to remain sincerely,
THE GRAND KLAN.
K.K.K.
Shanghai, June 19, 1924.

THE RECENT INVASION OF A TOKIO HOTEL

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In his contribution, appearing in to-day's issue, your own correspondent at Tokio writes:—

It is now fully proved that the "invasion" of the hotel ball-room was a farce, planned to play on the ignorance of foreigners here,.....according to confessions made by them to the police, who have the whole gang under lock and key."

If the whole gang is under lock and key then, unless your own correspondent has had access to them in gaol (which I very much question), the foregoing information has been given to him by the officials. Some of us have lived in Japan for very many years and have a great deal of sympathy with them at this juncture, but speaking for myself I object to have my intelligence rated at such a low ebb as the foregoing farrago of piffle would seem to imply.

Once again may I ask you to conform to the universal spelling of the name of the capital of Japan? No person or firm in Japan writes the name as "Tokio" and I take leave to doubt if your own correspondent heads his letters "Tokio" although you print it in that form. It is one of the first things one learns on becoming resident in Japan. Another thing one very quickly learns is not to refer to the people as "Japs" although one frequently hears that expression outside.

I am etc.,
MARUHODO.
Shanghai, June 21, 1924.

*We fear the wet weather has disagreed with our correspondent. But at least in respect of "Japs" there is no galled jade in this office to wince.—Ed.

"THE TAINT OF FRANCE"

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—On reading the remarks of Bishop James Cannon published in your issue of to-day, respecting American boys and girls staying out all night, drinking bootleg hootch, breaking human and divine laws, etc., etc., one is at a loss to know how such a rambling statement should be taken.

To blame France for such a state of affairs as existing in America at the present time is not only a slight on our gallant allies, but the height of discourtesy. Does this Bishop try to tell us that had America waited a little longer before deciding to cast in her lot on the side of right, and eventually been too late, that the Land of Liberty would to-day have been a real paradise, with no drinking of bootleg liquor or bobbed haired bandits No Bishop, you are wrong, and incidentally this is one of the most paltry excuses ever put forward in respect of prohibition law breaking.

If America is tainted with "the taint of France," what is the state of the British Isles, whose sons were on French soil for three years before the Americans? What is really meant by the "taint of France"? It would be well for the Bishop to remember that France is not the only country in the world where loose women are to be seen at every corner.

Where the real business was being done in France there was no time for wine shops, free living or loose women. To one who saw a good deal of fighting in France, who has nothing but great admiration for the French people, and who has always been generously received by the French, it is really nauseous to read such cant as vomitted by this irresponsible Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

I am, etc.,
WM. T. FULSTOW.
Shanghai, June 22, 1924.

GEN. YANG SEN AND MR. WIDLER

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—With reference to the article which appeared in your paper this morning under the heading of "General Yang Sen and Mr. Elly Widler," I have the honour to draw your attention to the Swiss Consul-General's letter of February 27, published in your issue of February 28, in which it was stated that the Federal Government have refused to recognize Mr. Elly Widler as a Swiss citizen on the ground that he was unable to establish his claim to Swiss citizenship.

I shall feel obliged if you will cause this letter to be published in to-morrow's issue of the "North-China Daily News."

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
For The Swiss Consul-General:
F. KAESTLI
Acting Vice-Consul.
Shanghai, June 25, 1924.

"S.M.C. AND NEW ROADS"

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Why is it that our neighbours can lay down beautiful broad roads in the outside districts, whilst very little in the way of opening up new roads is being done in the International Settlement. I hope that our City Fathers who have decided on new roads will bear in mind that if there is one thing that ratepayers will support them in spending money freely on, it is roads.

It is far better to pay a few thousand taels more a mow than considered a fair price, rather than wait until prices are away up and we have to pay through the nose and curse our City Fathers.

I am, etc.,
A RATEPAYER.
Shanghai, June 23, 1924.

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Is is good that "A Business Man" has championed the cause of the missionaries in China as it takes two at least to continue an argument and I am therefore afforded by his letter (and with your permission) an opportunity, to offer some more authorities as evidence in support of my contention. I may say at first that it is also more than twice 18 years since I first landed in the Far East where missionaries operate, but it does not take more than a small portion of that time for one to gain sufficient knowledge of the subject and form his ideas as to the necessity or otherwise of missionaries in China.

I did not answer your comment on my last letter as you did not rise above quoting your amah as a shining example of one converted to the Christian Faith. Neither did I answer the letter of Miss I. O. Nary, for her letter was silly and childish. Her query as to whether I am the type of foreigner who delights in belabouring his neighbour's ricsha coolie is sufficient to show that argument with her would be futile. The question I hoped to set in my first letter was whether religious missionaries in China were necessary or not and my contention is they are not.

"A Business Man" believes they have as much right here as the merchant. I would tell him that commerce and religion have no parallel. There is mutual benefit when the foreign merchant engages in an exchange of goods with the Chinese, but it is a onesided affair when a missionary foists a new religion on a weakminded Chinese.

I would remind "A Business Man" that it is not necessary that one should be a Christian in order to be upright, honest, kind-hearted and just. The teachings of Confucius are quite as lofty and ideal as those of Jesus Christ, but the unfortunate part is that people do not live up to the teachings of their respective religion or philosophy.

In my former letters I have quoted eminent authorities to show that the activities of religious missions in China have cost her millions of lives and dollars. To me the opinions of those already quoted and of the late Dr. G. E. Morrison, one-time Political Adviser to China, Mr. Herbert A. Giles, M.A., probably the greatest sinologue the World has known, the late Mr. Archibald J. Little, merchant, traveller and writer and many others too numerous to mention are convincing testimony; and to those who are ready to see things as they are, it must be apparent that the religious missionary is better out of China. Let me quote what the late Dr. G. E. Morrison has recorded:—

"Look, for example, at the difficulty there is in telling a Chinese, who "has been taught to regard the love of his parents as his chief duty, as his forefathers have been taught for hundreds of generations before him—the difficulty there is in explaining to him, in his own language, the words of Christ, 'If any man 'come to Me and hate not his father, he cannot be My disciple. 'For I am come to set a man at variance against his father."

Also, "Talk to the Chinese of religion, of a God, of heaven or hell, and they yawn; speak to them of business, and they are attention."

And the late Mr. Little:—

"It is one thing to convert African savages or Polynesian fetish worshippers, and another thing to spend millions of money in attempting to convert Chinese who possess an ancient and admirable system of ethics of their own."

Also Mr. Herbert A. Giles:—

"From time to time a few scientific treatises are translated by ambitious members of the missionary body; but such only tend to swell the pastor's fame among his own immediate flock; they do not advance civilization one single step. The very fact of their emanating from a missionary would of itself be enough to deter the better class of Chinese from purchasing, or even accepting them as a gift."

One more example of the cost of the Foreign Religious Invasion of China to this country—

KIAOCHOU. In brief the story is as follows:—

On November 1, 1897, two German missionaries were killed in Shantung by some irresponsible villagers who were strongly opposed to the missionary propaganda. Germany promptly required Kiaochou as a naval base and regarded as the legitimate *hinterland* of Kiaochou, the province of Shantung with its 128,000 square miles of area, its 37,000,000 of inhabitants, and its profoundly sacred character as the birthplace of Confucius and Mencius. It is to China what Palestine is to the Christians and Mecca to the Mohammedans.

The subtle rudeness of "A Business Man" does not avail and abuse is no argument. But when he tells me to use my thinkpan I surmise the little grey matter he possessed has gone to the frying pan.

I am etc.,

P. O. Q.

Shanghai, June 20, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Some days ago you published a letter from "A Business Man" who stated that "there is no power in the hands of the missionaries to compel any Chinese to accept Christianity," but I question whether anybody has ever made such a claim. But has your correspondent never heard of "the power of the purse?" It is well known that in Great Britain alone over four million pounds sterling is raised every year for the conversion of the heathen, and in the United States and Canada the total for that purpose is about G.$18,000,000. We do not know exactly how much money is spent in China by Protestant missionaries, but it is estimated to be about a quarter of the total amount or say roughly 20 million silver dollars per annum, and add to this an equal amount spent by the Roman Catholic Church and we then see what enormous power the missionaries have. It has become a huge vested interest. The total converts in China are claimed to be about two and a half million, accepting the claim of the R. C. Church that they have two million converts in China. Does this huge amount of about 40 million dollars per annum not exert some influence? It is a well-known fact that it pays the Chinese to become Christians. I could, if I wanted, give details on this point. I remember one remarkable case where a mission obtained several hundred "converts" through feeding starving people. However, the excuse is often made that the missionaries are doing good in educating the Chinese, but even on that point the best Chinese thought holds the opposite view. In this connexion I would refer you to a book "Christianizing the Heathen" by Mrs. Bradlaugh Bonner (Watts & Co., London) where a survey is made of the whole missionary field. My attention has been drawn to a very able article written by Pan Han-lien, published in the "Hsueh Teng," and which I translate as follows in part:—

"We Chinese must not overlook the fact that in many of the Christian schools our children are taught in a wrong direction, and we non-Christians find the result is absolutely unsatisfactory. Some people argue that better teachers are required, but this is an empty dream as the sole object of the Christian missionaries is to make converts. Do you think that these Christian schools will sacrifice the influence of God in order to improve Chinese education? If you investigate this matter you will find that these students spend a lot of time every day in repeating such words as God and Our Saviour. The prospectuses of these schools always state that a study of the Bible is compulsory. Chinese girls in these Christian schools are said to be "young women of purpose and noble ideals who are hoping to go abroad to complete their education, but what does it result in except an extravagance of dress, and denationalization? Many of our young men point to many of the returned students who are now occuping important positions, and in order to get such jobs they become Christians and follow in their steps. This of course is most ridiculous, but yet it is a common way of looking at things. Even if these Christian schools employed better Chinese teachers it would only result in more converts as the teachers would see the importance of a stable income, thus ensuring rice for their families."

I am, etc.,

RATIONALIST.

Shanghai, June 23, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Further to my last letter may I ask "A Business Man" and others of his ilk why it is that the Editor of every self respecting journal deprecates anything approaching a religious controversy and closes his columns against such? Is it not because a controversy of this nature arouses, or would arouse, ill-feeling and conflict between an otherwise peaceful community? And for the same reason the descent of thousands of foreign men and women upon this country, men and women whose object and aim and business is the attempt of conversion in religious beliefs, of the people, is responsible for nine-tenths of the trouble between China and the Foreign Powers.

The Chinese merchant who visits say, England, is afforded every protection that a law-abiding person should expect; but if Chinese were to invade England in their thousands for the express purpose of converting some of the inhabitants to a belief in the teachings of, say, Confucius, it is certain that those responsible for law and order would not undertake to guarantee the safety of the intruders. It is more likely that they would not even be allowed a landing. Why, therefore, should China continue to countenance this intrusion, this invasion of a misguided horde of trouble-makers, whose energies could more profitably be spent in their own country? There is no reason why this moderate toleration, this passive acquiescence should continue, and it will be the beginning of the end of one of China's curses when she finds strength and moral courage to give marching orders to the army of religious missioners who have cost her so many millions in men and money.

I am, etc.,

P. O. Q.

Shanghai, June 21, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Allow me to support what you have said in this morning's Notes and Comments in regard to the missionaries in China. I have just come back from a two months' trip around China, where my work brought me into contact with missionaries and their institutions. I am on general principles opposed to proseletizing, and have, moreover, a high regard for the culture of the Chinese, and the spiritual and moral value of their religions and philosophies. I can therefore appreciate what some of your correspondents have to say in opposition to missionary institutions. As regards the missionaries themselves, however, I must say that I was impressed with their devotion to real uplift, with their intense desire to be of practical, moral, and spiritual service to the people, whom they genuinely love, and to whose needs they try to respond as well as they can. I was struck with the conditions under which they live, far removed from kith and kin, in dirty, unsavoury cities and villages, toiling away under great difficulties sometimes, always true to their ideal of service, often struggling along on a meagre pittance. I have listened to the conversations they have among themselves; one doesn't hear much of how many converts they have made, but always their talk is of practical work: education, hygiene, sports, community service, relief, 24 hours in the day. Their life seems saturated with the idea of service; of their devotion and unselfishness there can be no doubt. We may not agree with the practical benefits they bring to China, but men and women who toil as I have seen them toil, with personal disinterestedness and at the cost of personal discomfort, to say nothing of occasional danger, must have the profound respect of every thinking man. Let us discuss by all means whether or not the missions have brought any benefit to the Chinese, but let us do so impersonally, without disrespect to the personnel of these missions. Even if they are in the wrong they deserve our utmost sympathy.

I am etc.,

A. HORNE.

Shanghai, June 24, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Under "Notes & Comments" in your issue of this morning you make the assertion that the testimony of your correspondent "Rationalist" and quotations from a woman like Mrs. Bradlaugh Bonner against mission work are obviously prejudiced because the writers disbelieve in Christianity, and are therefore worthless.

Ergo, the only persons entitled to an opinion are Christians who believe in mission work, and whose opinion, *of course*, (the italics are mine) are not prejudiced. Oh, dear, no.

All argument is a form of prejudice, otherwise why argue? But if your puny little discharge of abuse is your *un-prejudiced* contribution to the argument then I should be tickled to death to see some of your prejudiced arguments. They ought to be really funny.

I am not a Christian but I would like to ask one question. Have you not, in common with the majority of persons, an instinctive distrust of a convert?

I am, etc.,

OLD NICK.

Shanghai, June 24, 1924.

*In answer to the last question, no certainly not. The question of whether Rationalists are likely to be the right kind of people to criticize the operation of a religion to which they are antagonistic, we leave to our readers. The correspondence on this question is closed.—Ed.

DISCIPLINE IN HONGKONG UNIVERSITY

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In every Mission or other educational institute throughout the whole of Chnia, the one thing upon which parents can rely is the excellence of the discipline. We have known parents who are not specially interested in Christianity, but who have withdrawn their sons from Government schools and placed them in missionary institutions solely on the ground that the control is such that the parents can enjoy peace of mind. It is therefore very unfortunate that in such a splendid institution like the Hongkong University confidence in its discipline is being shaken. The rumours of students failing to keep hours and of tutors who attempt to enforce rules being left without adequate backing—and, it is stated, there are cases where zealous tutors have been threatened should they persist in their cleansing of the stables—are very disquieting. We don't wish to raise any controversy in this matter, but as we are British we feel an intense interest in the Hongkong University and would very much like to know if there is any foundation for the stories of successful resistance to the imposition of the rules, and if it is true that teachers are so fed up with lack of proper support from their superiors in the matter of enforcing discipline, that they are inclined to let things rip.

Enclosing my card,

I am, etc.,

CONCERNED.

Peking, June 15, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Having recently come to Shanghai from Hongkong where I stayed for over two months on a visit to my brothers and fifty odd friends who are students of the Hongkong University, I believe I am in a position to answer your correspondent "Concerned."

No fault is to be found with the discipline of the H.K.U. In fact the discipline there is of a far superior kind to that of a great many so-called colleges and universities scattered all over China insomuch as there is much difference in the constitition and training aimed at. Most of the students of the H.K.U. hail from Malaya and the Dutch Indies, places where self-government for the student body is the practice. Consequently we would expect to find the students there given opportunities whenever practicable and advisable to govern themselves with one of the professors standing by to give any aid required.

This being the case the 'Varsity may be justly proud that her students have never intentionally abused the freedom granted them. My statement may give occasion for the question, "Is it better thus?" All educationalists who had tried this method of control would without doubt reply in the affirmative.

The hostel chairman (elected annually) assisted by a committee of eight, is responsible for calling the roll of his hostel, morning and evening—absences are reported to the Warden. There is, I think, only one case on record of a student failing to observe regulation hours after having been warned. Does this not show the general conduct of the students?

Tutors of the H.K.U., so far as I know, are broadminded men of experience who know better than to treat the students like school boys to hard and fast regulations like the rules of the twice one are two table.

For many years I have been greatly interested in the H.K.U. and during the time no word reached me of students openly coming into conflict with their tutors.

"Concerned" should write for the catalogue of the 'Varsity and subscribe to the Hongkong University Union Magazine, should he really wish to know fully the conditions existing there, for I can assure him the rumours he heard are unfounded.

The H.K.U., Magazine is wholly managed by the students in the interests of the students. On the cover are these words or something similar, "Give me leave, a chapter as large as the wind, to blow on whomsoever I please."

I am, etc.,

BANGSA ORANG CHEENA.

Shanghai, June 25, 1924.

CHINESE PLACE NAMES

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I note with satisfaction that the Royal Geographical Society of London and other kindred institutions have adopted the appellations for place names in China in accordance with the Chinese Post Office List which is the only standard work on the subject hitherto published.

There is one exception however and that is the ex-German Port of "Tsingtao," as now spelt. The character means " a rocky Island in the sea and is rendered by all sinologues as "Tao" and not Tau.

The Chinese Post Office might do worse than follow its system consistently and substitute "Tao" for "Tau," which latter is not used in any other standard list of place names.

Why China should retain a name given to a place by an alien Power is a mystery to me, because I imagine she would be only too glad to adopt its own recognized standard to transliteration.

I am, etc.,

J. B. BRADLEY.

Shanghai, June 21, 1924.

QUESTION FOR SINOLOGUES

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I am desirous of obtaining information as to the history and date of "The old man of eighty-two." He is said to be a certain Shih Liang Hou (石良瘤) well known as an historical personage, who was still studying at this age, and lived, I believe, near Hangchow.

There is also another man Wang Shih Chun (王石軍) who has some historical significance as a henpecked husband, about whom I am trying to get some information.

If any well-informed reader can give me any information through the columns of your paper I shall regard it as a great favour.

I am, etc.,

定 不

Shanghai, June 24, 1924.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—One of the names inquired after by your correspondent is probably 王右軍, not 石軍 as written. An account of this individual is to be found under 王羲之, no. 2174 in Giles' Biographical Dictionary. He lived A.D. 321—379 and was both student and soldier, but is chiefly remembered for his marvellous skill with the pen.

I am, etc.,

I. M.

Shanghai, June 25, 1924.

THE GARDEN CITY

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I am informed that the Garden City at Hungjao has been washed away by the recent rainstorm. Can any of your readers confirm this information?

I enclose my card herewith.

I am etc.,

INQUIRER.

Shanghai, June 25, 1924.

WHAT ARE HIVES?

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—May I ask if someone will kindly tell me what to do for "Hives"? I think that is the name. Their first appearance on children is just like a flea bite, speedily forming a small blister which breaks, leaving a sore; they come in pairs or groups and are very irritating. Will someone please tell me their cause, prevention and treatment?

I am, etc.,

C. H.

Shanghai, June 25, 1924.

COMMERCE AND FINANCE

MONEY AND EXCHANGE

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, June 27.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/3 1/16=Tls. 6.10 at 70.75=	
Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.$100 at 71=Tls. 140.53 at 70.75=	
Mex. Dollars, market rate	71
Native Interest	19
Copper Cash	273,500
Bar Silver	34 1/16
Bank rate of Discount	4 per cent.
Paris on London	Frs. 81.70
New York on London	G.$4.33⅝

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

	Per Tael
LONDON—	
Telegraphic Transfer	3/3⅛
Demand	3/3 1/16
NEW YORK—	
Telegraphic Transfer	70⅜
Demand	71
PARIS—	
Demand	1338
INDIA—	
Demand	230
HONGKONG—	
Demand	73¼
JAPAN—	
Demand	59½
BATAVIA—	
Demand	194⅜
SINGAPORE—	
Demand	71⅛

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—	
Demand	3/4
4 m/s. credits	3/4⅛
4 m/s. Docs.	3/4⅛
6 m/s. credits	3/4⅜
6 m/s. Docs.	3/5⅛
NEW YORK—	
Demand	71⅜
4 m/s. credits	73¼
4 m/s. Docs.	73⅜
PARIS—	
4 m/s. Docs.	1405
Closing business done at	
London T.T.	3/3 1/16
New York T.T.	71⅛

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR JUNE.

Hk. Tls. 5.52 at 3/3	£1
„ 1 at 1218	Frs. 13.57
„ 1.27 at 70⅜	Gold $1
„ 1 at 57½	Yen 1.95
„ 1 at 230½	Rupees 2.56
„ 1 at 1.50	Mex. $1.50
„ 1 at 15.85	It. Lire 17.66

Marks and Roubles no quotation

AMERICAN-ORIENTAL BANK

Closing Rates

June 27.

Buying Demand Draft.

U.S. G.$100.00	= S'hai.	$195.75
Stg. £1.0.0	= S'hai.	$ 8.43
Frs. 100.00	= S'hai.	$ 10.25
Yen. 100.00	= S'hai.	$ 81.46

Selling Demand Draft.

U.S. G.$100.00	= S'hai.	$199.29
Stg. £1.0.0	= S'hai.	$ 8.61
Frs. 100.00	= S'hai.	$ 10.70
Yen. 100.00	= S'hai.	$ 83.33

Sino-Italian Bank

Selling Rates for June 27:—

It. Lire 16.30	Tls. 1
Swiss Frs. 3.97	Tls. 1
It. Lire 9.55	Yen. 1

Sino-Scandinavian Bank

Selling Rates June 27:—Nominal:

Tl. 1.: Norw. Kr.:	5.13
Tl. 1.: Swed. Kr.:	2.59
Tl. 1.: Dan. Kr.:	4.15

WEEK'S EXCHANGE NOTES

June 28.

At the close of business on the 26th instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 37,588,000 and $38,190,000. These figures include Tls. 6,260,000 and $19,640,000 in Chinese banks, in which there were no bars.

Bar Silver.

Arrivals were:—
66 bars from America.
25 „ „ London.
—
91 bars
—
Shipments were:—
158 bars to Bombay.

Sycee.

Arrivals were:—
Tls. 1,750,000 Mex. $ and small coins melted.
Tls. 500,000 from Tientsin.
150,000 „ Chefoo.
100,000 „ Hankow.

Tls. 2,500,000

Shipments were:—
Tls. 870,000 to Bombay.

Dollars.

Arrivals were:—
$650,000 from Nanking.
420,000 „ Chinkiang.
400,000 „ Wuhu.
280,000 „ Soochow.
250,000 „ Wusih.
200,000 „ Ningpo.
150,000 „ Shantung.
100,000 „ Tientsin.
80,000 „ Yahzah.

$2,530,000

Shipments were:—
$100,000 to Hangchow.
1,700,000 „ be melted.
Mex. $500,000 „ Hongkong.
„ 500,000 „ Bombay.

$2,800,000

Silver.

The price came yesterday at 34 1/16d. ready and forward, against 34⅛d. ready and 34 1/16d. forward a week ago, showing declines of 1/16d. and ⅛d. on the respective prices. Both India and China are reported as sellers, whilst the Continent bought, but apparently there has been very little support to the market.

Bars in stock, 2,638, including Silver Yen 10 lakhs. Stocks of Sycee and Dollars amount to Tls. 376 lakhs and $382 lakhs, against Tls. 360¼ lakhs and $379½ lakhs last week, and Tls. 211 lakhs and $290 lakhs on June 26, 1923.

Exchange.

Exchange left off last week with the official quotation T.T. 3/3⅛d., where it remained until Monday, when it opened at T.T. 3/3⅛d. It opened at the same rate on Tuesday, when, with some demand and few bills offering, the rate was dropped a further ⅛d. to 3/3d. during the forenoon. At this level it remained until opening on Thursday afternoon, when it was raised to 3/3⅛d., where it remains. The market is entirely a speculator's one, with little genuine merchant business of any kind doing yesterday morning the market opened quiet with sellers T.T. 3/3⅛d. and Gold $71 June/August, 3/3 1/16d. and Gold $71⅛ September forward. Following the speculator's operations these rates soon improved to T.T. 3/3 1/16d. and 71⅛ for near delivery, but fell back shortly before the tiffin interval to the opening quotations.

THE SILVER MARKET

A Healthy Reaction: Rising Rates Expected: Demand for Silver Dollars in Manchuria

Reporting from London on May 14, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

After the steady advance of prices during the last week or so, there has been a healthy reaction. This is but natural considering that on the whole there is really an absence of competition. Only the recurrence at intervals of bear covering contends at the present time with the inquiry for the Continent, as China and India do not figure as buyers. Moderate selling takes place occasionally from China. It has not been difficult at the higher level of prices to obtain silver from America, but even if the market continues mainly of a "one-horse" character, the undertone is likely to keep good, and, should competition from India or China set in, rising rates can be expected. A feature of the week has been considerable Continental sales, which, however, found a ready market.

The China correspondent of the "Capital," Calcutta, thus dealt with the movements of silver coin in Manchuria and Mongolia:—

"The demand for silver dollars in Manchuria is still to a certain extent unsatisfied, silver dollars at the present time going to a great extent to Manchuria and Dairen. In this connexion it is interesting to note that the Japanese yen notes have superseded Russian rouble notes in Manchuria, which prior to 1919 were current in North Manchuria. For instance, the Bank of Chosen notes in North Manchuria at the end of last year were estimated to be nearly 100,000,000. It is stated that Chinese bankers in Tientsin are objecting to the transport of silver specie to Urga, the capital of Mongolia, and also have protested against the levying of the 20 per cent. tax by the Russian authorities on imported and exported goods from Urga. In the long petition that they have sent to the Peking Government the bankers pointed out that some 3,000,000 dollars are exported every year from Kalgan to Urga, thus creating a diminution in silver stocks not only in Tientsin but also in Peking. It is contended that this is eventually finding its way to Russia. It would be interesting to note how an exported quantity of 3,000,000 dollars could have such a serious effect on the monetary markets of North China as the Tientsin merchants try to picture. . . . Just how much of this silver goes into Russia proper for hoarding it is difficult to state, but reliable despatches from the Consular bodies at Kalgan seem to lean to the view that most of it is used legitimately and in the financing of trade. The Mongolians, no doubt, are addicted to hoarding silver currency, but in this respect they are certainly not unique, for the people of China are similarly given to hoarding silver, a very pronounced feature in many interior parts.'

The silver quotations to-day for cash and two months' delivery are respectively ⅛d. and 1/16d. above those fixed a week ago.

Rising Prices.

May 21.—Supplies have not been freely forthcoming and prices have had to rise in order to attract potential sellers. A certain amount of competition now exists, owing to bear covering from India and China, and there have also been some purchases for shipment from the former quarter. A higher level of prices would therefore appear to be justified, and the undertone may be regarded as favourable. Continental sales have not been in evidence, and the price still seems considerably below the figure which would elicit sales for forward delivery on China account.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and two months' delivery are respectively ⅜d. and 1/16d. above those fixed a week ago.

Heavy Continental Buying.

Reporting from London on May 22, Messrs. Mocatta & Goldsmid state:—

The bullish feeling referred to in our last circular has developed during the past week and caused a fairly sharp rise in the quotations, the price to-day being 34 1/16, as against 33 1/16 a week ago. The recent heavy purchases for the Continent are now beginning to have their effect and with a continuance of these purchases for more than one quarter of the Continent, the market has a very hard undertone. India and China, with the exception of covering part of their bear commitments, have recently not given much support to the market, but, on the report that the Canton Mint will shortly re-open for coinage, the possibility of China buying seems much nearer; this has been reflected in the Indian bazaars, where the price of silver has become much nearer to London parity than it had been for some time. Since the Continental demand is chiefly for forward delivery, the difference between the spot and forward quotations has been comparatively small, but stocks in London are not too large and seem likely to be absorbed in the near future. At the higher level of rates, America has been disposed to sell moderately, but the market is very dependent on New York for supplies and should the buying continue on the present scale a further rise would seem inevitable.

THE GOLD MARKET

Stabilization of Currency Best not Only for United States but all the World

Reporting from London on May 7, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on the 30th ult., amounted to £126,295,715, as compared with £126,291,545 on the previous Wednesday.

The larger proportion of the fair amount of gold available this week has been taken for the East. Gold valued at $5,350,000 has arrived in New York—$3,500,000 from London and $1,850,000 from Germany.

May 14.—The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue on the 7th inst. amounted to £126,345,760, as compared with £126,293,715 on the previous Wednesday.

The Indian bazaars hav taken a large share of the moderate amount of gold offering in the market this week. Gold valued at $4,080,000 has been received in New York from London.

The Transvaal gold output for April amounted to 768,923 fine ounces, as compared with 795,671 fine ounces for March and 743,651 fine ounces for April, 1923.

The United Kingdom imports and exports of gold during the month of April were as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
Neitherlands	£ 27,957	£ —
Belgium	—	4,100
France	300	2,762
Spain and Canaries	2,919	—
Egypt	—	14,000
West Africa	140,197	2,575
United States	2,837	4,307,715
Central America & Indies	1,045	—
Various S. American countries	260	—
Rhodesia	191,917	—
Transvaal	4,411,478	—
British India	—	782,139
Straits Settlements	—	12,347
Other countries	9,651	217,606
Total	£4,788,561	£5,343,244

The Dawes Report.

The report of the Advisory Council to the U. S. Federal Reserve Board on the finding of the First Committee of Experts (the Dawes Report) has now been published. It draws attention to the advisability of finding ways and means to permit the gold reserves and banking strength of America being applied to benefit countries striving to put their houses in order and to rehabilitate their currencies. It emphasizes the danger to the United States of gold saturation and the advantages that would accrue to the United States from a return to an effective gold standard on the part of European countries in which it remains in abeyance. It adds, "In the opinion of the Council, the sooner Germany can be placed on a gold or gold exchange basis, the sooner can England and other countries also return to an unrestricted gold standard, while if Germany were placed on a sterling basis, England, in returning to an unrestricted gold basis, would have to pull not her own weight, but that of Germany also." To sum up, the Advisory Council in our letter the wisdom of the policy which we ventured to outline in our letter of April 23 last, namely, that loans for the stabilization of currency systems, when a judicious opportunity arrives, would appear calculated to serve the true interests of the United States as well as that of the world at large.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

A Very Dull Week: Heavy Declines in Piece Goods: Cotton and Yarn Prices Down

June 28.

Dull as the markets were last week, they have been even worse this week and only the most gloomy reports can be obtained all round. It had been hoped that the slump in piece goods was only temporary, but the situation has grown worse, owing to the combined influence of the drop in cotton prices, the wet weather and the work in the fields whenever there has been a chance to do any. The position looks even worse now that several mills, owing to the shortages of supplies and the unsatisfactory prices, have decided further to reduce working hours.

Piece Goods.

The inquiry has been so small and clearances so poor that trade during the week may be described as practically at a standstill. The majority of the dealers are simply standing by, waiting to see what happens. A trifling second-hand demand has been noticed, but money is very tight and only the most pressing trade orders are being met. The northern ports have shown slightly more interest, but even they will not go beyond Whites. Local values now are barely steady.

Cotton, Yarn, etc.

China Cotton.—There has been an average drop of about Tls. 1 during the week, but very few purchases are reported. The undertone is much easier as a consequence of more favourable crop reports and the reduction of operations in several of the mills. The closing quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange yesterday morning were:—July, 46½; August, 45.55; September, 42.40; October, 39.50; November, 39.10. Spot quotations were:—Shensi, Tls. 46.50; Hankow, Tls. 44.50 to Tls. 45.

Yarn.—There has been a lack of business in this market and poor clearances. Prices are about Tls. 2 down on the week. The closing quotations on the Chinese Cotton Goods Exchange yesterday morning were:—June, 177; July, 174.60; August, 172.90; September, 170.70; October, 165.80; November, 164.30.

Produce.

Slightly increased interest in the produce market is reported, although business in most commodities continues featureless. European buyers have been inquiring for groundnuts, but on account of the low stocks the local market immediately strengthened and practically no sales have been effected. Rabbit skins are in good demand and considerable purchases have been reported. Easier exchange rates are assisting in making business prospects more favourable than they have been in the past few weeks.

THE TEA MARKET

Heavy accumulation of stocks, both in the American and European markets, due to shipments of very inferior and undersirable grades, caused a complete stagnation, and prices accordingly showed a decline for all China growths. A lower basis was naturally expected on the opening of the local market with business on a small and conservative scale. The early reports regarding the quality of the Black tea crop unfortunately proved to be only too true on the arrival of the early musters. The cold and wet weather experienced during the early spring had its effect on the leaf. A large proportion of the Keemun, Ningchow and Hankow crops may be described as tainted and rain damaged. This is true too of some of the Green tea districts, although too few musters have been shown to offer a decided opinion.

Business during the first month of the new season has been of a restricted nature, and consuming markets are doubtless anxious to see musters of early purchases before operating on a normal scale. In any case, the volume of business will in no way compare with last year.

	half-chests
Keemun:—	
Arrivals	79,998
Settlements	36,306
Stock	43,692
Ningchow:—	
Arrivals	14,746
Settlements	4,900
Stock	9,846
Wenchow:—(Black)	
Arrivals	8,450
Settlements	4,755
Stock	3,695
Hankow Tea:—	Boxes
Arrivals	96,382
Settlements	15,800
Stock	80,582

RESTRICTION OF RUBBER OUTPUT

Petition for Abolition from Chinese in Malaya

London, June 24.

Commenting on the fact that Chinese rubber interests in Malaya are petitioning the Straits Government to abolish the rubber restriction scheme, the "Financial Times" emphasizes that there is not the slightest prospect of annulment of the scheme at present. It says that from August 1 onwards there is now practically certain to be a further five per cent. cut in production, followed by an additional five per cent. every three months until the average price of rubber reaches 15 pence.—Reuter.

Trade With Australia

MR. E. T. Sheaf, The Australian Government Trade Commissioner in the East, will be pleased to furnish upon request information and advice regarding.

ALL AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES

Postal Address:
P. O. Box 25, SINGAPORE
Cable Address:
AUSTRADCOM, SINGAPORE
Office Address:
67 Robinson Road, SINGAPORE
Telephone 551.

COMPANIES' NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.

The Shell Transport & Trading Co., Ltd.—A dividend at the rate of 2s. 6d. per share, free of income tax, has been declared, payable on July 5. Bearer Coupon No. 43.

The North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—The 21st Ordinary General Meeting will be held at No. 4 The Bund, Shanghai, on Monday, June 30, 1924, at 4.15 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from June 18 to 30, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—The Debenture Transfer Register will be closed from June 21 to 28, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.:—

1905 Issue	6%	Debentures
1909 "	6%	"
1912 "	6%	"
1914 "	6%	"
1916 "	6%	"

The Register of Transfer of Debentures will be closed for the above Issues from June 20 to 28, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Carlton, Ltd.—The 3rd Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 10 Canton Road, Shanghai, on Monday, July 7, 1924, at 4 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from July 2 to 7, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Transfer Books of the Shanghai Municipal Loans will be closed from June 19 to 30, 1924, both days inclusive.

The Sungala Rubber Estates, Ltd.—The 9th Annual General Meeting will be held at No. 40 Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Monday, July 7, 1924, at 5 p.m.

The Transfer Books will be closed from June 28 to July 8, 1924, both days inclusive.

Share Report for Week Ending June 27, 1924.

No. 24/25

J. P. BISSET & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "BISSET SHANGHAI"
Codes in use A1 Code
A.B.C. 4th, 5th and 6th Editions
B. Broomhall's Imperial Combination Code
Bentley's Complete Phrase Code.
Telephone Cent. 171 & 174.

Members of Shanghai Stock Exchange;
Land, Estate & Insurance Agents.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Building,
12 The Bund.
Post Office Box No. 244, Shanghai

The much discussed June Settlement was apparently carried through on the 24th instant to the satisfaction of all those who were fortunate enough to be on the right side of the book but it is generally known that many were unable to fulfil contracts and in consequence several of the regular large operators had great difficulty in arriving at a settlement and in a few cases liquidations resulted. Business has not as yet resumed normal conditions since the Settlement.

London market quotations have continued fairly steady and the following are the last prices offered to us by cable this week:—

Chinese Govt. 5% Reorg. Gold Loan 1913	B.I.	£ 73. 5. 0 (Sellers)*
" " " " " "	F.I.	71. 5. 0 " cum B.I.R.S.*
" " " " " "	R.I.	69. 5. 0 " " "
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., "B"		3. 9. 3 (Middle Price)
Unia Kalumpong Rubber Estates, Ld.		1. 6. 9 "
Shanghai Electric Cons. Co., "B"		2. 14. 0 (Buyers)
Shell Transport & Trading Co., "B"		4. 2. 6 (Middle Price)
British-American Tobacco Co., "B"		5. 7. 6 "
Imperial Tobacco of Great Britain Ord		3. 16. 6 "
Singapore Electric Tramways, Ltd.		0. 5. 6 (Buyers)
" " " "	5% Debentures	80. 10. 0 (Sellers)

* Ex dividend.

Sterling Quotation.—The opening T.T. Rate on London to-day is 3/3¼.

Shanghai, June 27, 1924.

Following is the official business recorded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange:—

JUNE	21st		23rd		24th		25th		26th		27th	
	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	June	Cash	Sept.	Cash	Sept.	Cash	Sept.
RUBBERS												
Bukit Toh Alang R. E., Ld. Tls.	0.75	..	..	..	..	..	5.35	..	5½	..	..	..
Kali Gliddk Coffee Est., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.30	..	..	..
S'hai Seremban R. E., Ld. .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS												
Langkats (combined) .. .. Tls.	..	..	19½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
H. & S. Bank .. .. .. $	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1145	..	..	..
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld. Tls.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	73½	..	..	..
S'hai Loan & Invest. Co., Ld. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5½	..
Hall & Holtz Ld. .. .. $	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
COTTONS												
Ewo Cotton Mills Ld. (Ord) Tls.	..	..	..	..	11.15	..	..	..	11.15	..	..	..
DEBENTURES												
S. M. C. 1919, 7% Debs. .. Tls.	..	..	102	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

FORWARD SETTLEMENTS FOR 1924.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS, JUNE 27, 1924.

STOCK		Last business done:	Buyers	Sellers	No. of Shares	Authorized Value	Reserve, etc:	Finan. year ended	Last Dividend etc:	Paid or Due
BANKS.										
London	£	132½								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Cor.	$	1145	1145		61) 400 000	H $125	(a H $3,379,314	Dec:	Final $3 & Bonus $2 (mkg. $3. 1923) less I/T	23-2-24
							(c H $64,494,394			
Chartered Bank of I., A. & C. .. London	£	19⅜	£19 15/16		600,000	$5	(a £222,407	Dec:	Final 7s. & Bonus 6s. 3d. (mkg. £1 0s. 3d.) free of I/T, 1923	9-4-24
							(c £3,900,000			
INSURANCE.										
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	H $	223			55) 200,000	d $10	(au $457,648	Dec:	Final 16s. (mkg. 40s.) ex 1922 Work. a/c.,	
							(b $89,500		Interim 24s. & Bonus to Contributors, 20%,	16-5-24
							(c $3,883,195		ex 1923 Work a/c	
North-China Insurance Co., Ld.	T	138			10,000	e $15	(av T610,687	Dec:	Final 15s. (mkg. 30s.) ex 1921 Work a/c. and	
							(c T4,782,885		Interim 15s. ex 1922 Works. a/c.	30-6-21
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ld. ..	$	25½	28		21) 250,000	$10	(av $2,213,327			
							(au $2,375,638	Dec:	$2½ (22½%) ex 1923 Work: a/c. payable in	
							(c $8,838,965		Taels at Exchg. 73	28-5-24
Far Eastern Insurance Co:, Ld.	T	22			1) 50,000	T20	(av T164,845			
							(au T731,344	Dec:	T1.40 ex 1923 Work. a/c.	28-5-24
Canton Insurance Office, Ld.	H $	680			10,000	f H $250	(au H $1,940,924	Dec.	Final H $22 (mkg. H $40) ex 1922 Work. a/c.,	
							(c H $7,149,847		Interim H $18 ex 1923 Work. a/c. ..	24-5-24
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ld. ..	H $		565		8,000	g H $250	(au H $515,107	Dec:	H $35 ex 1922 Working a/c.	27-3-24
							(c H $4,307,811			
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	H $	135	150		20,000	h H $100	(au H $1,366,779	Dec.	H $7 and Bonus H $3 ex 1922 Work. a/c. ..	17-5-24
							(c H $6,047,240			
Assurance Franco-Asiatique	F	500			14,000	F500	(a F191,368	Dec:	None, Floated 1918	....
							(c F3,784,330			
SHIPPING.										
Indo-China S.N. Co., Ld. .. (6% cum. pref.	H $	38	37½		2) 120,000	$5	(a $1,179			
(def. ord. ..	H $	140			2) 120,000	$5		Dec.	Prof. 6s. at Exchg. H $2/4½ London Warrants	
							(c $1,862,956		less I/T; Def. Ord., nil	7-5-24
Shell T'sport & Trading ('B' ord.	£		£4:11:3	£4:3:9	56) 30,000,000	£1				
Co., Ld. (5% cum. pref.	£				21) 300,000	£10	(a* £2,029,056	Dec:	Interim 2s., free of I/T, Coupon 42	5-1-24
(7% cum. 2nd pref.	£				57) 10,000,000	£1	(c £5,000,000			
S'hai Tug & Lighter Co., Ld. (ord.	T	80	82½		20,000	T25	(a T23,575	Dec.	Final Ord. T4.50 (mkg. T7, 1923)	11-3-24
(7% pref.	T	51½			10,000	T50	(c T410,000		Final Pref. T1.75 (mkg. T3.50, 1923) —	11-3-24
DOCKS AND WHARVES.										
Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld. ..	T	95	92½		47) 55,700	T75	(a T102,535	Apr.	T7.50, 1922-23	27-7-23
							(c T1,948,000			
Hongkong & W'pao Dock Co., Ld:.. ..	H $	143	144		80,000	H $50	(a H $319,790	Dec.	Final H $5 (mkg. H $9, 1923)	21-3-24
							(c H $4,051,695			
New Eng. and Shipbuilding (ord.	T	6	6.10		42) 500,000	T5	(a T59,500		Ord. T0.25, 1923	10-2-24
Works, Ld. .. .. .. (8% pref.	T	4.95	5.10		65) 500,000	T5	(b T300,000	Dec:	Pref. T0.40 1923..	10-2-24
							(c T1,311,045			
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co:, Ld:.. ..	T	191	195		(31) 40,000	T100	(a T3,480			
							(b T200,000			
							(c T1,035,261	Dec:	Final T10 (mkg. T13, 1923	4-3-24
S'kong & K'loon W: & G. Co., Ld: ..	H $	174	172½		30,000	H $50	(a H $290,319			
							(b H $300,000	Dec:	H: $6 & Bonus H. $3, 1923	26-2-24
							(c H $59,240			
MINING.										
Oriental Consolidated Min. Co., Ld. ..		12/-	11/3	14/6	24) 500,000	G. $10	——	June	G $0.50, 1920-21	26-7-23
Chinese Eng. & Mining Co., Ld. (Bearer).	£	20⅝	20½		††24) 2,000,000	£1	(c	June	Int. 2/- free of I/T, 1923-1924 (Coupon	
London	£		£3:7:9	£3:10:9					No. 24)	1-8-24
Raub Australian Gold Min: Co:, Ld. ..	H $	6			200,000	£1	(a £23,613	Mar.	1s. 2d., 1909-10	31-3-10
							(c £4,873			
LANDS AND HOTELS.										
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld: ..	T	118	117		‡) 78,000	T50	(a T34,410			
							(b T275,000	Dec.	Final T3 & Bonus T2 (mkg. T8, 1923)	21-3-24
							(c T3,289,317			
H'kong Land Invest: & Agcy. Co., Ld: ..	H $	109½	109		240,000	H $25	(a H $157,880	Dec:	Final H $1.50 & Bonus $2 on 200,000 shares	
(New Reg.)							(b H $250,000		(mkg. H $5, 1923) H $2.50 on 40,000 new shs.	28-1-24
							(c H $6,000,000			
Humphrey's Est: & Finance Co., Ld: ..	H $	22½	22½		150,000	H $10	(a H $158,299			
							(b H $50,000	Dec	H $0.80 and Bonus H $0.80, 1923	11-2-24
							(c H $421,438			
Weihaiwei L: & B, Co:, Ld:	T	6			2,374	T20	(a T2,946	Dec:	T1.20, 1923	13-2-24
							(c T7,000			
Anglo-French Land Invest. Co:, Ld: ..	T	115½	117		‡23) 18,000	T100	(a T9,289			
							(b T20,000	Feb.	Final T4.50 (mkg: T8, 1923-24)	3-4-24
							(c T375,000			
Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ld: ..	H $	19 old 13		18 11½	33) 500,000	H $10	(a H $85,238	Dec.	Final H $0.75 & Bonus H $0.50 on 375,000	
							(c H $4,953,767		shares (mkg. H $2 (old))	24-3-24
Carlton, Ld.	T	53			14) 10,000	T50		Mar.	Floated April 1, 1923	
Asia Realty Co., Inc:	G $	180			‡18) 10,000	G $100		Dec:	Incorporated under the laws of Delaware	
Raven Trust Co:, Inc: — — (ord.	G $	10			††100,000	G $10			1922, 7%	4-1-23
(pref.	G $	10				G $10			Ord. Pref. 1st gr. 1923, 1½%	4-1-23
PLANTATIONS.										
Alma Estates, Ld:	T	5½			70,000	£1 at T9	a T28,940	Sept.	T0.50, 1922-23 — — — — —	19-12-23
New Amherst Rubber Estate, Ld:	T	0.10			‡62) 500,000	T1		Oct.		
Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ld: ..	T	1.80	1.60		12) 400,000	10s.	a T30,242	Dec.	T0.20, 1923	1-4-24
Anglo-Java Estates, Ld.	T	4	4		4) 500,000	10s.	(a T12,442			
							(c T372,167	Dec.	Final T0.30 (mkg. T0.55, 1923..	15-4-24
Ayer Tawah Rubber Co., Ld:	T	21			27) 30,000	T10	(c T16,223			
							(b T22,000	Sept.	Final T2.00, (mkg. T2½) 1922-23	28-12-23
Batu Anam (Johore) Rub. Ests., Ld: ..	T	0.65			400,000	T1	(c T69,960			
Bukit Toh Alang Rubber Ests., Ld: ..	T	0.75	0.70		500,000	T1	a T22,777	Dec:	T0.05, 1923	11-4-24
Bute Plantation (1913), Ld.	T	0.75	0.40		500,000	T1	a T20,402	Mar.	Final T0.25 (mkg. T0.50, 1916-17)	25-7-17
Chemor United Rubber Co., Ld.	T	0.75	0.60		28) 400,000	T0.90	a T3,595	Dec.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1916)	29-3-17
							(c T17,973	Dec.		
Chempedak Rub. & G'bier Est., Ld. ..	T	4½			39) 35,000	£1	a (Loss) T13,435	Oct.	Final T0.05 (mkg. T0.10, 1923)..	3-4-24
Cheng Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	1			675,000	T1	a T4,120	June	2nd Interim, T0.50, (mkg. T1, 1916-17)	16-10-17
Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ld..	T	2.12½	1.40		25) 500,000	2s.—T0.75	(a T16,988	Dec.	T0.20, 1916-17	1-11-17
							(c T60,000			
Dominion Rubber Co., Ld.	T	1¼	1½		19) 250,000	T1	a T2,775	Dec:	Final T0.15 (mkg. T0.21, 1923)..	9-4-24
Gula Kalumpong Rubber Ests., Ld: ..	T	8¼	7½		‡48) 750,000	(21;450,000	(a		T0.10, 1923	16-4-24
						(5s; 200,000	(c			
Java-Consolidated Rubber & Coffee							(a T17,215		2s. less I/T 4s. 7½d in £ (Coupon 21) .. —	15-4-24
Est. Ld.	T	8½	8		8) 85,000	£1 at 2/3⅛	(c T2,685	Dec.	Final T0.75 (mkg. T1.25, 1923)..	13-4-24
Kali Gliddk Coffee Estates, Ld.	T	5½	5½		70,000	T5		....	Incorporated 1923	....
Kapayang Rubber Estates Co., Ld: ..	T	9.40			35) 15,000	T10	(a T6,977		(T0.50, 1922	
							(c T4,023	Dec:	(Interim 1923, T0.50	19-4-23
Karan Rubber Estate Co:, Ld: — ..	T	3	2½		25,000	T10	(a T3,008			17-7-23
							(b T30,000	Mar.	T0.60, 1922-23 — — — — — — ..	1-6-23
Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Ld: .	T	0.50	0.30		390,000	T1	a (Loss) T38,263	June		
Kroewoek Java Plantations, Ld: — ..	T	10	9		20) 70,000	£1 at T8.60	(a T12,946	....	....	....
							(c T62,532	Dec:	T1 (mkg. T1.50, 1923) — — — — —	8-3-24
Padang Rubber Co:, Ld: — — — —	T	5½	2½		50,000	T10	(a T15,410			

RUBBER AUCTIONS.

The following telegraphic advices have been received:—

Singapore, June 26, 1924.

Spot or June	33	cents
July/Sept.	34	,,
Oct./Dec.	35	,,

Market opened easy, but closes firm.

DEBENTURES.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
(1905	6 to 20	5-4-24	T97	d 320,000	6	June-Dec.
1907	do.	19-3-24	T97	600,000	6	do.
1908	do.	9-5-24	T98	650,000	6	do.
1909	do.	15-3-23	T99	300,000	6	do.
1910	do.	16-5-24	T97	313,800	6	do.
1911	10 to 30	9-5-24	T97½	350,000	6	do.
1912	do.	3-1-24	T99	340,000	6	do.
1913	do.	3-5-23	T100	756,300	6	do.
,,	10 to 50	19-5-24	T89	500,000	5½	do.
1914	10 to 30	19-5-24	T89	900,000	5½	do.
1915	do.	19-5-24	T89	800,000	5½	do.
1916	do.	28-5-24	T97	1,400,000	6	do.
1918	10	18-10-23	T103	507,300	7	do.
1919	10	23-6-24	T102	1,793,300	7	do.
1920	10	1-5-24	T103	2,240,000	7	do.
,,	10 to 30	29-3-24	£104	£750,000	6	do.
1921	do.	17-6-24	$108	$1,000,000	8	do.
1921	do.	13-6-24	T108	T5,096,400	8	do.
1922	do.	10-6-24	T104	T8,000,000	7	do.
1923	do.	29-5-24	T97	aT6,000,000	6	do.
1924	do.	18-6-24	T95	T500,000	6%	do.
1911	do.	8-10-23	T96	400,000	6	May-Nov.
1914	do.	12-2-23	T88	500,000	5½	June-Dec.
1915	do.	5-3-24	T90	350,000	5½	do.
1921	do.	20-11-23	T108½	2,000,000	8	do.
1923	do.	17-12-23	T95	a T800,000	6	May-Nov.
1921	10 to 30	9-5-24	T107	2,000,000	8	June-Dec.
1922	do.	6-6-22	T108	T500,000	8	do.
1922	do.	2-10-23	T105	T1,000,000	7	do.
1905	do.	2-4-23	T94	e 800,000	6	do.

LOANS	Term in years	Last business recorded		Loan Amt.	Int %	Payable
(1905	5 to 20	31-8-22	T96½	T250,000	6	June-Dec.
1909	do.	29-5-24	T97½	750,000	6	do.
1911	do.	26-9-22	T92	250,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
,,	do.	28-3-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
,,	do.			250, 00	6	Jan-July
1912	do.	29-5-24	T97½	250,000	6	June-Dec.
1913	do.	3-4-23	T98	250,000	6	April-Oct.
,,	do.	11-1-24	T98	250,000	6	May-Nov.
,,	do.			250,000	6	April-Oct.
1914	do.	22-3-23	T98	350 000	6	June-Dec.
1916	5 to 25	3-4-23	T88	563,000	5½	do.
1922	do.	12-2-23	T98	750,000	6	Mar.-Sep.
1922	do.	10-1-24	T98	500 000	6	May-Nov.
1907	20	1-2-24	T93	455,000	6	do
1901	Perpetual	29-5-24	T91	139,000	6	June-Dec.
(1914	5 to 20			130,000	6	May-Nov.
1915	do.			110,000	6	Mar.-Sept.
(1900	do.			250,000	6	June-Dec.
1911	do.	7-6-23	T98	300,000	6	do.
S'hai Mutual Tel. Co., Ld.	1923	10 to 20	27-2-23	T95½	£ 270,000	6	do.
S'hai Race Club	1923	25	19-6-24	T100	1,200,000	6½	Mar.-Sept.
Cuity Dairy Co., Ltd.	1915	10			50,000	7	Feb.-Aug.
Hall & Holtz Ld.	1914	5 to 20	14-10-22	T92	T230.000	7	Jan.-July
Asia Realty Co., Inc.	1922	5 to 20	..	..	T500,000	7	Jan.-July

*Plus interest accrued since last half-yearly payment.

a—Now Issuing; Redeemed or Unissued:—b—Tls.65,100; c—Tls.51,100; d—Tls.34,100; e—Tls.68,500; f—Tls.262,400; g—Tls.189,800; h—Tls.12,300; i—$18,90

RUBBER OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Company	Authorized Capital	Financial yr. closes end of	Output last 2 fin. year: Year before	Output last 2 fin. year: Last year	Estimated output present fin. year	All in cost per lb.	Output from end last fin. year to 31-3-24	1924: Apr.	1924: May	Total output this finyr. to date.
			lb.	lb.	lb.	d.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Alma	Tls. 630,000	Sept.	292,500	259,100	246,648	8.87d.	125,000	19,000	22,000	160,000
Amberst (New).. ..	,, 500,000	Oct.	72,442	80,692	90,751	*4.89d.	50,371	14,670	15,538	80,579
Anglo-Dutch	£200,000	Dec.	650,000	540,000	600,000	8.45d.	179,000	62,500	50,000	291,500
Anglo-Java	£250,000	Dec.	1,524,711	1,863,450	..	6.70d.	535,100	173,000	140,000	848,100
Ayer Tawah	Tls. 300 000	Sept.	369,447	58,042	360,000	†0.24.41	..	..	..	..
Batu Anam	,, 400,000	Dec.	258,510	217,822	185,793	9.01d.	39,000	15,300	15,600	69,900
Bukit Tob Alang	,, 500,000	Mar.	306,646	248,182	345,000	7.54d.	..	23,000	31,200	54,200
Bute	,, 500,000	Dec.	230,087	177,850	159,516	11.11d.	47,700	Nil	10,000	57,700
Chemor United	,, 360,000	Dec.	340,794	267,627	..	8.40d.	60,000	16,900	20,200	97,100
Chempedak	£35,000	Oct.	145,760	163,063	..	1/5.42d.	50,100	13,200	14,700	78,000
Cheng	Tls. 675,000	June	151,923	145,338	..	11.09d.	134,014	11,400	13,000	158,414
Consolidated (1914).. ..	,, 375,000	Dec.	669,899	645,778	761,500	7.47d.	154,214	43,523	49,434	242,173
Dominion	,, 350,000	Dec.	271,150	324,546	306,867	9.63d.	71,685	19,369	26,695	117,749
Gula-Kalumpong	£500,000	Dec.	1,113,000	938,000	1,216,000	1/0.7/8d.	232,000	83,000	..	315,000
Java Consolidated	£85,000	Dec.	686,524	622,226	..	6.25d.	201,500	72,900	63,400	337,800
Kapayang	,, 150,000	Dec.	159,229	146,710	..	†26.90	26,543	5,908	5,541	37,992
Karan	,, 250,000	Mar.	104,783	79,676	84,000	8½d.	..	6,050	8,100	14,150
Kota Bahroe (1921).. ..	,, 340,000	June	128,330	339,970	..	..	236,203	19,640	22,670	278,413
Kroewoek	£70,000	Dec.	449,000	583,881	540,000	0/7.24d.	173,000	56,000	53,000	282,000
Langkat	Gs. 2,500,000	Oct.	842,589	943,000	975,000	Gldo.0.28	413,300	64,000	..	477,300
Padang	Tls. 500,000	April	220,232	171,900	..	10½d.	..	..	12,000	12,000
Pedang	,, 150,000	Mar.	135,253	9,265	176,088	†40.19	..	..	..	..
Pengkalan (1921)	,, 250,000	Oct.	98,303	86,299	..	0/8½d.	37,436	..	5,956	3,491
Permata	,, 275,000	Dec.	68,584	217,087	..	..	42,000	11,000	14,900	67,900
Repah	,, 600,000	Sept.	561,416	250,813	..	..	..	..	..	..
Samagaga	,, 100,000	June	179,665	142,000	115,183	11.37d.	150,506	8,200	..	155,708
See Kee (1918)..	,, 300,000	Dec.	164,105	245,596	158,264	0/9.37d.	34,400	15,600	14,300	64,300
Serdang	,, 375,000	Jan.	272,500	275,100	..	*17.35d.	30,900	17,200	20,000	68,100
Semawang (1921)	,, 400,000	Sept.	313,414	246,542	..	8.12d.	126,401	23,007	23,410	172,837
Shanghai Kedah	,, 315,000	Dec.	126,106	100,034	..	11.35d.	18,700	..	6,300	23,000
S'hai-Klebang	,, 400,000	Dec.	373,111	288,810	408,961	..	80,510	7,083	20,000	80,524
S'hai-Malay	,, 200,000	June	209,881	188,016	..	9½d.	146,726	11,400	14,200	172,326
S'hai Serendem	,, 325,000	Dec.	171,212	147,112	..	9.82d.	35,100	7,400	10,000	52,500
S'hai-Sumatra	,, 600,000	Oct.	681,338	679,710	650,000	Gldo.0.38	267,158	39,079	..	306,237
Sua-Manggis	,, 250,000	Dec.	184,000	157,100	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungala	,, 100,000	Mar.	165,757	37,875	..	..	†7.20	..	8,922	17,760
Sungei Duri	£40,000	June	308,073	296,508	229,000	11.61d.	182,427	10,769	18,515	211,708
Talping (1913)	Tls. 200,000	Dec.	107,011	103,039	99,000	*130	12,133	6,548	..	26,865
Tanah Merah	,, 750,000	Mar.	395,900	303,700	..	7.92d.	..	25,000	25,000	50,000
Tebong	,, 750,000	Jan.	630,838	723,000	717,725	0/7.66d.	130,000	59,000	71,000	130,000
Ziangbe	£150,000	Dec.	514,566	523,600	600,000	7.24d.	183,700	63,300	53,500	300,500

*Excluding Depreciation and Shanghai Expense. † Straits Cents.

See Kee Rubber Estates (1918), Ld.	T	0.85											
Semambu Rubber Este., Ld.	T	0.85											
Senawang Rubber Este. (ord. Co. (1921), Ld. (12% Cum. Pref.	T	0.70						63)	300,000	T1	a	T4,817	Jan.
Shanghai Kedah Plantations, Ld.	T	0.75	0.50					67)	100,000	T1			
S'hai Klebang Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.50	0.25					34)	400,000	T1	a	T1,183	Sept
S'hai Malay Rubber Estates, Ld. .. ord	T	3						131	315,000	T1	a	T12,033	Dec.
,, 8% cum. part. pref.	T	9						22)	30,000	T10	a	T621	Dec.
S'hai Pahang Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.75							200,000	T1	(Loss)	T1,213	June
S'hai Seremban Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.30	0.25						325,000	T1	a (Loss)	T10,352	Dec.
S'hai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ld.	T	105	94					7)	30,000	T20	a (Loss)	325,810	
Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ld.	T	2.65						30	56,000	T5	a	T7,454	
Sungala Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.67½	0.65					‡5	100,000	T1	c	T812,170	Oct.
Sungei Duri Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	6	6						10,000	£1 at T8.50	a	T25,000	Dec.
Talping Rubber Estates (1913), Ld.	T	0.50	0.45						200,000	T1	a	T22,766	Mar.
Tanah Merah Estates (1916), Ld.	T	0.47½	0.47½					32)	750,000	T1	a	(Loss) T857	June
Tebong Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.70	0.75					‡54)	750,000	T1	a	T56,013	Dec.
Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ld.	T	2½	2.10					82)	300,000	10s.	a	T6,379	Jan.
COTTONS, ETC.											(a	T17,851	
Ewo Cotton Mills, Ld. (ord.	T	11.15	11					15	1,000,000	T5	c	T3,243	Dec.
,, (8% cum. pref.	T	105						43)	10 000	T100	a	T3,257	
Laou Kung Mow C. S. & W. Co., Ld.	T	8	8						80,000	T10	b	T1,400,000	
Oriental C. S. & W. Co., Ld. .. .. ord. pref.	T	4.20						80)	500,000	T3	c	T2,802,920	Dec.
Shanghai Cotton Mfg. Co., Ld. (Shanghai Boshoku K.K.)	T	61 old 36new	30					3)	5,000	T100	a (Loss)	T36,057	
INDUSTRIAL.											b	T120,000	
British-American Tobacco (ord. Co., Ld. (5% cum. pref.	£		£5 5/16	£5 7/8				66)	13,000,000 4,500,000	£1 £1	c	T7,612	Dec.
China Im. & Ex. Lumber Co., Ld.	T	350							5,000	T100	a (Loss)	T83,536	
China Sugar Refining Co., Ld.	H $	235	243						20,000	H $100	b	T200,000	
Gordon & Co., Ld.	T	25						37)	6,000	T25	c	T2,551,760	Dec.
Green Island Cement Co., Ld.	H $	23 old	6½ new	20½ old					400,000	H $7.50	a	T80,375	
Maatschappij, &c., In Langkat	T	6							250,000	Gs.10	c	T1,270,000	June
Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ld.	T	5	5 (comb. T194)	5 (comb T19)	(comb. T				250,000	T5	a	T35,695	
S'hai Exploration & Development Co., Ld.	T	9	8					$)	600,000	T5	c	T300,000	Dec.
Major Brothers, Ld.	T	5						10)	6,000	T20	a (Loss)	T174,689	Dec.
John Richards & Co., Ld.	T	10						11)	25,000	T10	a	T6,941	
Shanghai Gas Co., Ld.	T	40	40					‡)	24,000	T50	c	T70,000	Dec.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.	T	150	147½					‡9)	50,000	£20	a	T3,130	
STORES.											c	T30,000	Dec.
American Drug Co.	M $	40						44)	10,000	M $100	a	T21,325	
Hall & Holtz, Ld.	$	5½	5½					‡16)	38,000	$20	b	T50,000	Dec.
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.	$	30							1,200	$60	c	T655,231	
S. Montrie & Co., Ld.	$	50						17)	10,000	$50	a	T24,475	
Weeks & Co., Ld.	$	11						‡50)	30,000	$20	b	T75,000	Dec.
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ld.	$	97	98½					‡)	2,500	$100	c	T1 770,985	
MISCELLANEOUS.											(Final 10s./- (at Exchg. 3/2½=T3.09) mkg. 20s./-, 1923			4-4-24
Cuity Dairy Co., Ld.	T	11							10,000	T10	a (Loss)	M $221 193	
S'hai Electric Construction Co., Ld., "B" London	T £1	18	£2:14:0						40,000	£1	c	M $75 560	Dec.
S'hai Horse Bazaar & Motor Co., Ld.	T	50							5,400	T50	a	T7,895	
Shanghai Mercury, Ld.	T	25							3 000	T50	c	T104,299	Feb.
Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co, Ld.	T	73½	73½					‡49)	40,000	T50	a	$7,993	
Oriental Press (L'Imprimerie Francaise)	$	100							940	$100	c	$26,000	Dec.
											a	$12,581	
											c	$392,000	Mar.
											a (Loss)	$5,567	
											c	$206,141	Feb.
											a	$7,913	
											b	$20,000	
											c	$250 000	
											a	Loss) T26,956	
											c	T119,293	Oct.
											a	£17,022	
											c	£114,315	Dec.
											a	T21,118	
											c	T220,000	
											a	$109,513	
											b	$9,000	
											c	$24,101	Mar.

											a	T2,232,406	
											b	T300,000	
											c	T2,100,000	Feb.
											a	H $40,768	
											b	H $600,000	
											c	H1,200,000	Dec.
											a	T22,319	
											c	T140,015	
											a	H $93,347	
											c	H $1,050,000	Dec;
											a (Loss)	T158,433	
											c	T190,164	Oct.
											a	T35,695	
											c	T300,000	Dec.
											a (Loss)	T174,689	Dec.
											a	T6,941	
											c	T70,000	Dec.
											a	T3,130	
											c	T30,000	Dec.
											a	T21,325	
											b	T50,000	Dec.
											c	T655,231	
											a	T24,475	
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											c	T1 770,985	
											(Final 10s./- (at Exchg. 3/2½=T3.09) mkg. 20s./-, 1923			4-4-24
											a (Loss)	M $221 193	
											c	M $75 560	Dec.
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											c	T104,299	Feb.
											a	$7,993	
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											a	T21,118	
											c	T220,000	
											a	$109,513	
											b	$9,000	
											c	$24,101	Mar.

See Kee Rubber Estates (1918), Ld.	T	0.85											
Semambu Rubber Este., Ld.	T	0.85											
Senawang Rubber Este. (ord. Co. (1921), Ld. (12% Cum. Pref.	T	0.70						63)	300,000	T1	a	T4,817	Jan.
Shanghai Kedah Plantations, Ld.	T	0.75	0.50					67)	100,000	T1			
S'hai Klebang Rubber Estate, Ld.	T	0.50	0.25					34)	400,000	T1	a	T1,183	Sept
S'hai Malay Rubber Estates, Ld. (ord	T	3						131	315,000	T1	a	T12,033	Dec.
,, 8% cum. part. pref.	T	9						22)	30,000	T10	a	T621	Dec.
S'hai Pahang Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.75							200,000	T1	(Loss)	T1,213	June
S'hai Seremban Rubber Estates, Ld.	T	0.30	0.25						325,000	T1	a (Loss)	T10,352	Dec.
S'hai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ld.	T	105	94					7)	30,000	T20	a (Loss)	325,810	
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											a	Loss) T26,956	
											c	T119,293	Oct.
											a	£17,022	
											c	£114,315	Dec.
											a	T21,118	
											c	T220,000	
											a	$109,513	
											b	$9,000	
											c	$24,101	Mar.

For all Dollar shares quoted on the Shanghai Stock Exchange the Exchangerate is fixed at 73.

REFERENCES.

a Carried forward at last Ann: Genl. Meeting.
b Dividend Equalization Reserve.
c General and Other Reserves.
d Uncalled liability £6 per sh.
e ,, ,, £10 ,,
f ,, ,, H $150 ,,
g ,, ,, H $200 ,,
h ,, ,, H $ 30 ,,
,, ,, Tls. 25 ,,
u Working Account 1923
v Working Account 1922
w Working Account 1921
† Registered; or Bearer (idem. "B").
†† Issued Capital: 7% Cum. Pref. 24,461 shares; Ordinary, 16,270 shares.

‡ Debentures Issues also.
§§ Subject to Estate Managers' Commissions
* Subject to E. P. D. and Corpn. Tax.
** Contingent liability for Interest on 12% Cum. Prof. Shares of Tls. 9,162
1—14,000 sh' unis'd.
2—70,411 ,,
3— 5,000 ,,
4— 4,000 ,,
5—19,182 ,,
6—50,000 ,,
7—10,761 ,,
8—10,000 ,,

9—16,470 sh. unis'd;
10—500 ,,
11—15,200 ,,
12—50,000 ,,
13—1,337 ,,
14—3,063 ,,
15—100,000 ,,
16—1,562 ,,
17—3,332 ,,
18—5,380 ,,
19—183,330 ,,
20—15,000 ,,
21—100,000 ,,
22—2,690 ,,
23—5,000 ,,
24—70,810 ,,
25—125,000 ,,

26—60,000 sh' unis'd
27—8,121 ,,
28—200,000 ,,
29—4,683 ,,
30—2,000 ,,
31—4,000 ,,
32—50,000 ,,
33—125,000 ,,
34—102,570 ,,
35—200 ,,
36—189 000 ,,
37—1,443 ,,
39—7,695 ,,
42—290,000 ,,
43—1,000 ,,
44—1,672 sh' unis'd

47—500 sh. unis'd
48—100,000 ,,
49—5,644 ,,
50—3,1.8 ,,
54—40,000 ,,
55—89,000 ,,
56—10,834,3[illegible]6 ,,
57—5,000,000 ,,
60—16,000 ,,
61—240,000 ,,
62—401,055 ,,
63—15,000 ,,
64—600 000 ,,
65—200,000 ,,
66—1,953,930 ,,
67—66,057 ,,

§—350,000 shares now being offered for subscription
(Not to be issued for less than 950 ea

In order to ensure of the above details, Agents and Secretaries of Companies are requested to notify Messrs. J. P. Bisse & Co. of any alterations errors or omissions.

COMPANY MEETINGS

SHANGHAI EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT CO., LD.

Call for Tls. 3,000,000 Increase of Capital: Shareholders' Questions: Resolution Carried Despite Opposition

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Exploration & Develop- [illegible] No. 1 the Bund last Friday afternoon. Mr. P. S. F. McBain, Chairman, presided, supported by Messrs. John Prentice, A. W. Burkill, and W. R. McBain.

The Chairman, after reading the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report, said:

From the accounts you will have noticed that there was a loss on working at the Mentoukou Mine from July 1 to December 31, 1923, but of course during the greater part of this period the production was small, and for about two months the mine was closed down completely. Even when the mine is closed our expenses are fairly heavy as the amount of water to be dealt with is great and the overhead charges still continue. Every precaution has been taken during the year to guard against the possibility of having to close down again during the forthcoming wet season, and it is very likely that we shall be in a position to work right through, but of course one can never be quite certain about things of this sort. I think I can safely say that excluding special and capital expenditure the mine is working at a profit at the moment, but it is impossible for me to give you reliable figures showing the cost of production and prices at which the coal is sold as these vary so very greatly. The cost of production is governed to a great extent by the quantity produced, water to be pumped, etc., etc., and the sale prices vary from month to month. When we first came into the market, prices were very good, but our production, added to the quantity already available in the Peking-Tientsin area, proved to be rather too much for the consumption, and prices were quickly forced down by our competitors, and eventually reached low level just before last China New Year, as that is the time when many of the native pit owners are forced to sell, and buyers naturally take advantage of the situation. Since then the market has improved gradually and recently we have been able to sell all that we have produced at fair rates. However, we have not been able to dispose of our large stock of lump up to now, and the present is a bad time of the year to try, but we have several parties interested and anticipate before very long we shall be able to dispose of it. In any case buying for the autumn market starts about August, and we should be able to find a market for it then, if not before.

Increase of Capital

With regard to the proposed increase of capital of which a notice has been sent you, I wish you to know that this matter has had the earnest consideration of your directors for some time past, and although it is possible that we are asking for more than we shall require, it was decided that it was advisable to place the company in a thoroughly strong financial position and able to meet competition, if required to do so. With funds available to take any steps the directors may consider necessary for the improvement of market conditions. It is conceivable that we might wish to purchase coal if thrown on the market at very cheap rates. Also we may be forced in the future to purchase our own trucks in order to be in a safe position with regard to the transportation of our coal to the points required.

The development of the T. W. Concession has also to be considered, as we may be able to make the necessary arrangement to work it at any time, and it is, in the opinion of our engineers, a very valuable property.

Lastly, there is the further development of the Mentoukou Mine to be thought of, for, as you are aware, our present equipment is not capable of handling more than 1,500 tons daily. In addition to the foregoing there are many other minor reasons for our recommending you strongly to pass the resolution which I shall propose later on.

Increased Output.

Since our last meeting our output has gradually increased from about 300 tons to between 500 and 600 tons a day. As we have the equipment to deal with at least 1,500 tons per day, our engineer-in-chief expects in due course a gradual increase to that figure.

During February our output dropped owing to the Chinese New Year Holidays.

We must not forget that in this mine where we are dealing with large quantities of water, it is essential that precautions are taken to tap this pressure of water before allowing the miners to work the coal, otherwise the pressure would cause the coal to collapse on them.

We are now working in our 320 ft. level, but are sinking to the next 500 ft. level. At present we have reached a depth of 420 ft., but we have stopped further sinking temporarily as the rainy season will soon be here, and our engineer does not wish to run the risk of overloading his pumping capacity should he strike water.

A great deal of preperatory underground work has been accomplished since our last meeting. Besides making a new underground pump room, sumps, and stables, we have tunnelled 2,137 ft. through rock, and 19,352 ft. of rises and cross-cuts were made in our first coal seem.

We are at present working in our "A" seam (Tse Erh Tsao) estimated to have a workable average thickness of 12 ft. Recently we reached our "B" seam (Hei Mei Tsao), which has a thickness of three feet. The coal of this seam has the reputation of being of better quality than the "A" seam, and we are at present having a sample analysed. We are now driving to seam "C," (Pei Mei Tsao), but do not expect to reach this seam before the rainy season.

We are working our mine in three shifts of eight hour each; our miners are well housed and free medical attendance is provided. Owing to the approach of the harvest and the recent commencement of a railway in the neighbourhood, we have experienced a great shortage of labour; in fact it has seriously interfered with our output. We are making every endeavour to recruit more labour.

Native pits have caused our Engineer-in-Chief much anxiety as a great deal of reckless tunnelling has been done in the past, and no records kept of the direction in which these tunnels have been driven. Moreover, no precautionary measures have been taken to fill pockets after the coal has been taken out, and during the rainy season rainwater drains into these pockets, and percolates into our workings. We are making every attempt to safeguard our position by negotiations with the native owners, and by building concrete walls.

During the rainy season the mine had to suspend work for two months. This was a precautionary measure to safeguard ourselves from flooding as we had not then a reserve of pumping power to justify our carrying on with our excavations. Since that time we have been installing a new electric pump of 2,000 gallons per minute capacity, which will be ready before the next rainy season. With the addition of this new pump our margin of safety during the rainy season is very much higher than it was last year.

Railway Difficulties.

Owing to the shortage of cars on the Peking-Suiyuan railway line we were placed in a difficult position up to February of this year. They were scarcely able to supply us with more than 250 tons per day. This caused our stocks of coal to accumulate very rapidly at our mine; but in February we succeeded in making arrangements for an additional 500 tons per day; unfortunately, this arrangement is not permanent, therefore in the opinion of your directors we must own our own trucks. This of course will require the tying up of several lakhs of capital.

We have also experienced a great deal of difficulty regarding weights, both with the railway authorities and our contractors, and hope now that we are having our own weighbridge installed this will be eliminated.

Our Engineer-in-Chief reports that in his opinion we need now have no great anxiety during the wet season regarding supply of electric power. The Peking Power Company has recently put into operation a new 5,000 kilowatt generating set, and we can now be supplied from three independent units. In the case, therefore, of a complete breakdown of one unit, we can be switched on to either of the other units. To make our position as safe as possible we have authorized our engineer to carry out his recommendation of protecting the high tension transmission poles where they cross the Yung Ting Ho River, by building reinforced concrete bundings round the foot of each pole.

Before closing my remarks I should like to say that I think the thanks of the shareholders are due to our Engineer-in-Chief, Mr. Mamet, and all his staff for the good work they have done during the past year—often under somewhat trying circumstances.

I should also like to make a few remarks about the valuable help the directors have received from Mr. W. R. McBain. He has spent a great deal of time during last year and this year at the mine and in Peking on the business of the company, and has arranged many of our various difficulties satisfactorily. He has been very helpful in negotiations with officials of the government and the railways, as well as in organizing the marketing of our coal at different centres. These, as you can imagine, are not easy matters to deal with and the able way in which he has tackled them deserves the thanks of the shareholders as well as the directors. (Hear, hear.)

Before I put the resolution which is proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Prentice I shall be pleased to hear any remarks that any shareholder may care to make and to answer any questions.

Mr. D. M. Gubbay asked how it was the auditors in their report stated they had received no information as to the value of expenditure on the T. W. Concession.

The Chairman replied that the money had been spent, but it really came to nothing, and the auditors had thought it better to draw the statement up in that way. They had struck a 13 ft seam, but they had not continued the working yet.

Mr. Robertson's Catechism.

Mr. Horatio Robertson wished to know what was the company's policy regarding Mentoukou Mine. Could they sell 250 tons of the 500 tons they mined per day?

The Chairman—I have told you we are selling it.

Mr. Robertson—Can you sell your output without the slightest trouble?

Mr. A. W. Burkill replied. He stated that he had been to Mentoukou after an absence of some years and he was very favourably impressed by all he saw there. Before he went north he had heard a good deal of criticism regarding that mine, but he was glad to say the critics had since turned round and they all believed the company had a very valuable concession. As regards the selling of the coal, there was at first a good deal of trouble, but they had to remember that they were coming in on a market that was more or less a close preserve and consequently they had a good deal of competition to face. He was glad to say, however, that not only was the 500 tons they were producing each day going regularly into consumption, but they were asked for more and more if they could possibly produce it. Unfortunately they could not owing to difficulties in organization and labour. As regards the T. W. Concession he believed they had a valuable mine with a good future before it. If they expected wonderful things right away then they would be disappointed, but the progress could be relied upon to be slow but sure.

Mr. Robertson said they did not look for everything in five minutes, but he had asked them whether they could sell the 500 tons they produced daily. Could they assure the meeting that they could get a firm or a man to contract with them for 10,000 tons of their coal if they could produce it.

The Chairman said there was no doubt in his mind that they could market the full amount they could produce.

Mr. Robertson then wished to know what were the calls on their stock. Was it consumed industrially, domestically, by the railways or what?

The Chairman said it did not seem to matter a great deal what it was used it for once they had sold it.

Mr. Robertson begged to differ. He pointed out that if it was only used for domestic purposes they were up against every little Chinese pitman who liked to scrape for coals in that area. He had every right to do so and no overcharges. All he did was to scrape it together and ship it away on camels.

The Chairman—I do not think it is entirely consumed by domestic users.

Industrial Demands.

Mr. Burkill replying to a further question from Mr. Robertson, said it might be of interest to the meeting to learn that the native coal miner was not a very serious obstacle. It cost them—the native miners—$2 per ton to get their coal to Peking by camel. Industrial concerns would take all the coal they could get at Peking, but it was no use their attempting to go in and get this demand from industrial sources, as they easily could, because they would not be able to cope with the orders.

To Mr. Robertson's question as to whether they had now the rights over the T. W. Concession, the Chairman replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Robertson said if the property was their's why not get on with the work?

The Chairman—That is what we want some of the money for.

Mr. Robertson—Then let us have a programme as to what you are going to do. We cannot go on from year to year, there is a limit to everything. Let us know what you are going to do. I want a more definite programme as regards T. W.

The Chairman replied that it had taken them some time to work Menkoukou, and that was much nearer and easier to work than T. W. They could not do very much more with that latter concession than they had done already.

After further questions on the same lines, Mr. Robertson again pleaded for a policy. "Let us know what you are going to do," he said, "instead of making these spasmodic calls for more money, more money."

The Chairman—I said in my speech, Mr. Robertson, that we probably should not want all the money we are calling for.

Mr. Robertson—Then don't call for it with the state business is in in Shanghai. There is too much of this sort of thing altogether in Shanghai. Let us have a policy in regard to T. W. We are entitled to information, we have waited long enough, five years.

The Chairman—There is no doubt we shall do something with it, Mr.

Heads I Win; Tails you Lose.

Robertson. We will consider the matter.

Mr. Robertson.—When, when, when? In the time of our great grandchildren?

After further discussion the matter was allowed to drop, albeit reluctantly on the part of Mr. Robertson, and there being no further questions the resolution was put to the meeting.

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John Prentice, the report and accounts were adopted.

The following resolutions were also carried:—

That the appointment of Mr. W. R. McBain by the directors to fill the vacancy on the board caused by the retirement of Mr. J. K. Tweed be confirmed.—Proposed by Mr. Ellis Hayam, seconded by Mr. W. G. Pirie.

That the appointment of Mr. R. S. F. McBain as a director of the company be confirmed.—Proposed by Mr. Kenneth Martin, seconded by Mr. Ellis Hayam.

That Mr. A. J. Welch be re-elected a director of the company.—Proposed by Mr. A. Woods, seconded by Mr. D. M. Gubbay.

That Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year.—Proposed by Mr. R. L. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Gensburger.

Extraordinary Meeting

An extraordinary general meeting followed, when, on the proposition of the Chairman, seconded in each case by Mr. John Prentice, the following extraordinary resolutions were carried:—

"(1) That the capital of the Company be increased to Tls. 3,000,000 by the creation of 350,000 additional ordinary shares of Tls. 5.00 each ranking for dividend and in all other respects *pari passu* with the existing ordinary shares of the Company.

"(2) That of the said additional shares 250,000 shall be offered in the first instance at par to the members of the company in proportion to the number of ordinary shares held by them respectively in accordance with the company's register of members as on July 31, 1924 (the transfer books and register of members to be closed from July 25 to July 31, 1924, both days inclusive) and upon the footing that the amount of each share taken up shall be paid to the company as follows:—

Tls. 2 upon application.
Tl. 1 on August 30, 1924.
Tls. 2 on October 30, 1924.

Shares taken up and not paid in full before the expiration of one week from October 30, 1924, shall be forfeited by the directors and deemed to be the property of the company.

"(3) That of the said additional shares 100,000 be offered in the first instance at the price of Tls. 600,000 to the Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ld., and upon the footing that the full amount of such price be paid to the company on acceptance of the offer.

"(4) That such offer to the shareholders and to the Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ltd., shall be made by notice specifying the number of shares offered and limiting the time within which the offer if not accepted will be deemed to be declined and that the directors be empowered to dispose of the shares not taken in response to such offer as they consider to be expedient in the interests of the company."

An amendment proposed by Mr. Horatio Robertson that there should be no further issue of capital till they could conceive a policy with regard to T. W. failed to find a seconder.

There was no further business.

ASSURANCE FRANCO-ASIATIQUE

The annual general meeting of shareholders in this company was held at the head office 7 Avenue Edward VII, on Tuesday, June 17. Rev. Père Sallou presided, supported by Messrs. M. Speelman, R. Fano, J. Sauvayre (directors) and other shareholders. The notice convening the meeting having been read, the Chairman said:—

In conformity with the articles of association of the company, your directors beg to present you for the fifth time with the accounts of the company, and submit for your approval the balance sheet and profit and loss account for the 12 months ending December 31, 1923.

The premiums received, after deduction of reinsurances, in respect of fire, marine and motor car and general insurance, were Frcs. 6,481,549.49, being an increase for the year of Frcs. 396,540.73. The claims paid and to be paid amounted to Frcs. 3,631,516.42. After adding interest and other credit balance and deducting commissions, general expenses, etc., there is a credit balance of Frcs. 3,351,856.76, out of which reserves for unexpired risks amounting to Frcs. 2,923,902.07, a reserve for commissions payable of Frcs. 115,399.48, and a reserve for fluctuation of investments of Frcs. 21,648 have to be provided, leaving a balance of Frcs. 290,907.21, which your directors recommend to allocate as follows:—

20 per cent. to legal reserve (Art. of Assoc. Art. 43, VII) Frs.	58,181.24
To write off 20 per cent of the furniture and fixtures carried at Frcs. 163,679.46 in the balance sheet	32,725.89
To carry to the reserve for bad and doubtful debts	100,000.00
To carry forward to 1924	99,990.08
Frcs.	290,907.21

During his stay in France, your managing director, Mr. Speelman, after carefully studying the question with your Paris manager, decided to open the accident branch, writing all forms of accident insurance. The necessary authorization for the establishment of this branch was given by the Ministère du Travail, after the security required by law had been deposited. The funds necessary to establish the reserves have been transferred from the special reserve of Frcs. 1,000,000 established on December 31, 1922, and we ask you to give this decision your approval. The accident branch has been doing business since the beginning of January, under the management of Mr. Grieb, assisted by Mr. Baudot. The offices have been opened in the company's building, 85 Rue St. Lazare, Paris. The initial deposit was settled at Frcs. 400,000; securities have been deposited, valued at the time of deposit at Frcs. 430,125 leaving an excess of guarantee furnished of 30,125. There remains a balance of 569,875 to be applied as the business required.

Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be glad to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

No questions were asked and the following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

Proposed by the Rev. Père Sallou and seconded by Mr. Fano:—That the report of the directors and statements of accounts for the year ending December 31, 1923, as presented, be accepted and passed. That the special reserve be transferred to provided the accident insurance funds. That Frcs. 58,181.24 be carried to the legal reserve. That the furniture and fixtures be written off to the extent of Frcs. 32,735.89. That Frcs. 100,000 be carried to the reserve for bad and doubtful debts. That Frcs. 99,990.08 be carried forward.

Proposed by Mr. Donne, seconded by Mr. Straetmans, that Rev. Père Sallou, Messrs. J. Beudin and Li Sheng-tai be re-elected directors.

Proposed by Mr. Speelman, seconded by Mr. Sauvayre, that Messrs. Seth, Mancell & McLure be re-elected auditors for the year 1924.

Proposed by Mr. J. Thesmar, seconded by Rev. Père Sallou, that Maitre A. du Pac de Marsoulies be re-elected legal advisor for the year 1924.

"THE annual reports of the Shanghai Municipal Electricity Department have been for years of a nature to arouse admiration, if not envy, in the minds of station engineers in this country, and to cause ordinary people to wonder when we shall be able to record a corresponding progress in any of our own areas of supply," states "Engineering." Shanghai uses coal for generating purposes, as we do, and although it has a large cotton-mill load it cannot have advantages in this respect over certain parts of Lancashire. If Shanghai had no electricity supply at all, or at best a little antiquated plant, one could find many reasons why matters should be thus; but when we find a town in the unchanging East easily surpassing any municipal undertaking in this country in output of electricity, we have little cause for self-congratulation."

LAW REPORTS

INDIAN DEPORTEE'S PROPERTY

Claim on Former Friend for Tls. 1,000, Furniture and Photographic Stuff

In the Supreme Court on Wednesday Sir Skinner Turner gave judgment in the case of Gaya Deen *v.* Daba Pudun Das, a claim for Tls. 1,000, together with a quantity of photographic materials and some furniture, said to have been deposited with defendant during plaintiff's enforced absence in India—a wartime deportee—and then alleged to have been wrongfully detained. The value of the photographic materials was placed at £87 and $870 and of the furniture $323.

His Honour, in giving judgment, said the defence put in was that the Tls. 1,000 was actually transferred to defendant for cash; that defendant did have the care of certain photographic materials—but of nothing like the value alleged—and that these had been handed back, while there was a complete denial as to the furniture.

The facts shortly were these, his Lordship continued: In June 1918 plaintiff was arrested in Shanghai, under the powers which existed at that time, with a view to being deported to India, and he was deported in August of that year. He was in Shanghai for a period of six weeks at least before leaving for India. He returned to China in August, 1920, and nothing at all was heard of this matter, so far as documentary evidence was concerned, from the date of his return until the beginning of this year. At the time of his arrest plaintiff's wife, children and brother-in-law were in Shanghai, and for the purpose of winding up his affairs he signed a very full power of attorney, dated July 8, in favour of his brother-in-law who from that time on had full power to deal with plaintiff's property and affairs in China. Plaintiff left Shanghai at the beginning of August, and at a little later date was joined at Hongkong by his wife and family and his brother-in-law. His Lordship did not know whether they ever came back, but they were not here now and had not appeared to give evidence.

Furniture and Photography.

Plaintiff claimed that the furniture handed over by him to defendant had never been returned, but defendant denied this altogether and said he had no property of plaintiff's in his possession at the present time. There was no evidence that plaintiff or his attorney ever handed any furniture to defendant. If anybody had charge of it, it was the man who held the power of attorney, Santa Ram, and his Lordship could not see that there was any evidence at all to support the statement that this or any furniture was handed over by anybody to defendant. The fact that defendant might have been present when some of it was removed did not carry the case any further, for it was quite possible, the parties then being on very friendly terms, that defendant did assist Santa Ram to remove the furniture. Nor did the statement of plaintiff that he saw some of the furniture in defendant's house when he came back carry the matter any further.

With regard to the photographic materials, said to be of very considerable value, his Lordship said he found himself in the same difficulty. There was very little evidence that this enormous amount of very valuable photographic material was ever in defendant's possession. There was evidence that he had some—and defendant admitted this—but no evidence that he had all. Defendant said that he was given about $60 worth of it but that he could not sell it at that price and afterwards returned it. His Lordship concluded that there was no reason why the defendant's story that there was some sort of settlement some time after plaintiff's return from India should not be believed.

The Bank Deposit.

The third item was more difficult. There was no doubt that at the time of his arrest plaintiff possessed a bank deposit receipt from the International Banking Corporation for Tls. 1,000, expressly marked "not transferable," and they knew from the Bank what happened. Upon going to India and taking his wife and family with him, plaintiff not unnaturally wanted money. He handed the deposit to Santa Ram and, according to his own statement, he was told by Santa Ram that he handed it to the defendant because, for some reason or other, he could not get cash for it. But they now knew from the Bank that there was absolutely no reason why the deposit note should not have been cashed at the time, at any time up to August 1918, though perhaps with some loss of interest. Plaintiff endorsed it in blank and its subsequent history was quite clearly known. It was handed to defendant by Santa Ram and nothing more seemed to have been heard of it until its due date in January, 1919, when it was to all intents and purposes cashed by the Bank when handed to them by defendant and bearing the true endorsement of the depositor. Defendant took out a deposit receipt in his own name for the same amount of money and that amount remained until January of this year. In September of last year the Bank informed plaintiff what had happened to it, but it was not until January that application for the money was made to defendant through a lawyer. Defendant's explanation was that he purchased the deposit note for cash and an i.o.u. No documentary evidence existed at all, defendant explaining that the parties had a general statement after plaintiff came back and that all documents existing at that time were destroyed. If it was impossible for plaintiff to cash the deposit receipt in Shanghai before he left for India, his Lordship saw no reason why plaintiff should not have taken it with him, this Bank having branches in India.

A Point for Defendant

An important point was the admission by both sides that what defendant said was correct, that he did in fact purchase from the bank a draft of rupees for the plaintiff and members of his family. It was a point in favour of the defendant that he quite openly kept the money in his own name. If he had wanted to cheat the plaintiff out of his Tls. 1,000, the obvious cource would have been to cash the receipt in January, 1919, and it would have been very difficult to trace the position afterwards. But he re-deposited it, treating himself as the true owner. There was urged against the defendant a letter which he sent to India in February, 1919, in which he spoke of "your deposit receipt" and said "you will be glad to know it is being kept safely on for next year," but defendant's answer was that this letter referred only to the balance which he owed. Nothing seemed to happen when plaintiff returned from India. He lived with defendant for some time on quite friendly terms, and he could easily have discovered what had happened to the deposit receipt had he gone to the bank. Instead of that, he allowed it to lie idle from August, 1920, until January, 1924. The admissions said to have been made in the case were very doubtful and were entirely outweighed by the long delay and the absence of written communications, and against this there was the affirmative story of defendant and plaintiff's admission that he received a draft in rupees.

His Lordship came to the conclusion that plaintiff had failed to prove his claim, and gave judgment for defendant with costs.

Mr. P. W. Goldring appeared for plaintiff and Mr. L. K. Kentwell for defendant.

SIKHS' HOTEL VENTURE

Are the Partners' Liable for all the Tradesmen's Claims?

The affairs of the Imperial Hotel again occupied the attention of his Honour Judge Grain at H. M. Supreme Court on Monday, when the three partners, Gujam Singh, Bishan Singh and Sucha Singh, had two more claims against them. Dah Tuck & Co. claimed $75.65 for fruit supplied to the hotel, and Chen Kee $321.56 for meat and vegetables.

Plaintiff, a Chinese owning both businesses, gave evidence that the goods had been ordered by the hotel manager, Mr. da Silva, between January 11 and April 11.

Gujan Singh, speaking for the partnership, said they did not know how many more of these claims would crop up. They had not been allowed to go into the hotel for some time and did not know what had happened?

His Honour observed that he had given judgment against defendants in other cases because of the deed of partnership, but recently it had come to his knowledge that da Silva had turned them out of the hotel and would not allow them near it, and it appeared a little doubtful whether the goods were ordered by da Silva or by the partnership. He was not at all sure that the defendants were liable.

Mr. V. MacDonnell, for plaintiff, raised the question as to when da Silva's power as manager was revoked.

Gujam Singh said they had not taken any part in the management of the hotel since January this year.

His Honour adjourned the case for the production of letters written to da Silva on defendants' behalf.

LANDLORD AND TENANT

H. E. Whiddett Again in Court: Committal Order Asked For

H. E. Whiddett appeared before his Honour Judge Grain on Monday on a judgment summons taken out by Messrs. Akgar & Co. for payment of Tls. 300 and $50.25 costs.

Mr. Tycho Wing, for plaintiffs, said that on March 3 judgment was given against defendant for Tls. 300 and $50 costs. Nothing was paid and on April 10 defendant was ordered to vacate plaintiffs' premises, which he occupied, by the 17th of that month, otherwise he would be committed, and costs were assessed at $85.25. Defendant promised to pay Tls. 100 a month. He afterwards moved to another address and could not be found, and an advertisement was put in the newspaper calling upon him to appear in court. He had paid nothing. Counsel asked for a committal order.

Defendant pointed out that he paid Tls. 100 on giving up possession of the premises, and Mr. Wing, on looking through his documents, admitted that this was so and the payment had been overlooked.

His Honour adjourned the case until July 7, defendant explaining that he was unable to pay anything but might be in a better position at that date.

HONGKEW SHOOTING DRAMA

Lester Again in Court Charged with Attempted Murder: Sensational Evidence

W. N. Lester, the engineer residing at 24 Seward Road, who is charged with attempting to murder John Welsh, an unemployed seaman, by shooting him with an automatic pistol, made his second appearance at H.M. Police Court last Friday befor Mr. G. W. King. Lester is alleged to have shot a man named Welsh in the Wayport Rooms shortly after four o'clock on the afternoon of the 13th instant after accusing the latter, who is now in the General Hospital, of stealing his clothing.

Mr. E. T. Maitland prosecuted for the police.

Chief Det.-Insp. Cruickshank was called to repeat the evidence of arrest he gave when defendant first came before Judge Grain, presiding in the absence of the Magistrate.

Dr. N. Hay Bolton was called. He stated that he attended Welsh in the General Hospital on the 14th instant, and found him suffering from a bullet wound which penetrated through the abdomen where it joins the thigh, and after taking a downward, backward and outward course finished inside the body, where the bullet, which inflicted the wound, still remained. The reason the bullet had not been removed was that to do so would be a dangerous proceeding. It was doing no harm where it was.

Just Missed Femoral Artery.

Questioned by Mr. Maitland as to whether he would describe the wound as serious, witness replied he would so describe it, owing to the fact that there was a remote danger

of death. The bullet had only missed the large femoral artery by a fraction of an inch, and it was possible the wall of the artery had been damaged, in which case there would be danger of death. There were no signs of this, however. The wounded man would have to keep to his bed for the next three or four weks.

Formal evidence regarding the taking of certain photographs of the Wayport Rooms was given by Inspector G. W. Gilbert, of the Finger Print Department of the Municipal Police.

Mr. Eigurl Schack, a Norwegian, manager of the Wayport Roms, described the alleged shooting as he saw it. He stated that he was sitting on a bench in the rooms on the 13th instant in the afternoon, and shortly after four o'clock the accused came in. He sat down by witness and ordered a drink, and witness said to him. "What, drinking again Lester?" Witness asked this question because Lester had told him he had given up drink for a time. Accused replied, "No, I want to steady my nerves." Shortly afterwards Welsh came in and walked over to the billiard table. Lester called out to him by name and Welsh said, "What do you want?" Lester replied to this, "Where is my gear?" and Welsh shouted back, "Which gear." Lester answered, "My clothes." Welsh said he had not got the man's clothes, and with that Lester pulled out a gun, said "You haven't Then we will see." With that he fired, and witness saw Welsh fall to the ground clutching his hip. Witness went out to look for a policeman, but had to go to Hongkew police station before he was able to get anybody. When he returned to the Wayport Rooms in company with some detectives Lester had gone and Welsh had been removed upstairs.

"Next Time Through the Head"

Hughie Dennis McCauley, an American deck engineer, who was also in the Wayport Room at the same time, bore out the previous witness's story. He added that Lester shot Welsh with a .22 automatic pistol, and then went over and kicked him three or four times, passing the remark, "You son of a ——you, next time I ought to give it you through the head." Witness then went out to get the police, but he met Schack on the same errand and so returned, putting the injured man to bed upstairs and telephoning for an ambulance.

Nicholas Rusesky, manager of the Astor Bar, told the Court that the accused went to the Astor Bar at about half past four on the afternoon of the 13th instant. He appeared to be rather nervous, and he went into the back office and borrowed a piece of paper from witness, with which he made a parcel out of something. In view of his excitement witness asked him what was the matter and he replied, "Oh nothing much, I've just shot a fellow in the Wayport Rooms." With that he laughed and went out, leaving witness to look after the parcel he had mentioned till he returned. Later in the day some detectives came in and made inquiries about Lester and when they had gone he opened the parcel and found it to contain an automatic pistol and some cartridges.

Det.-Sub.-Insp. Schmidt gave evidence of going to the Wayport Rooms on Schack's information and finding no-one there. He stated that the pistol and cartridges were brought to Hongkew station by Schack, together with a spent cartridge case which had been picked up on the floor of the Rooms.

McCauley, recalled, said the cartridge in question was picked up by the boy.

Accused was remanded until Monday.

Lester Committed for Trial

Accused appeared on remand before Mr. G. W. King at H. M. Police Court on Monday. Upon completion of the case for the prosecution, conducted by Mr. E. T. Maitland, accused was committed for trial.

Tsu Sung-ling, a boy employed at the Wayport Rooms, gave evidence as to finding the empty cartridge case.

Lester asked if it was regular for the prosecuting solicitor to take a witness before the arrival of the Magistrate in court, and show him the evidence and ask him questions?

Mr. Maitland explained that he had not had an opportunity of seeing the witness before he came into court that morning.

Lester—He showed the boy the cartridge and asked him if it was the right one. Is that a proper thing to do?

His Worship said he did not think it necessary to give any ruling on the point. He imagined it was not absolutely irregular.

Lester—Supposing the witness [illegible] the cartridge before?

Witness said that the cartridge case which he found behind the bar on the day in question was similar to the one then shown to him.

The court then adjourned in order that the Magistrate might visit the General Hospital and take the evidence of the injured man.

"Told Lester to Cheer Up."

When the Magistrate visited the hospital, a full story of the affair was told by Welsh, who is making favourable progress. He stated that he visited the Wayport Rooms on the afternoon of the 13th shortly after 4 o'clock, and saw Lester there, having a drink. They spoke, and upon Lester saying that he did not feel very well, witness advised him to cheer up. They each went out for a few minutes, and when witness returned he saw accused talking to the Manager. Witness was leaning against the billiard table smoking a cigarette when Lester called out to him, "Where is my gear?" "What gear?" witness asked, and accused repeated: "Where is my gear?" Witness answered that he did not know, and pointed out that he had only one suit of clothes which Lester had given to him. "Well, we will see," said accused, and upon this he fired at witness, discharging a revolver which had been hanging outside his hip pocket. Witness received a wound in the groin and fell, Lester then coming across the room and kicking him several times. "I should kill you," accused said. "Bill, you're off your head, you don't know what you are doing," said witness, pleading with him.

"Behaved Like a Madman."

Witness went on to say that he had been on friendly terms with the accused and his "coming like that" all of a sudden made him think the accused was mad. He did think Lester intended to shoot him, but not to kill him. Accused had had a lot to drink and behaved just like a madman.

Lester appeared in court again in the afternoon, and a charge was then framed against him, *viz.*, that he wounded Welsh with intent to do him grievous bodily harm, or to maim, disfigure or disable him.

Upon receiving the usual caution, Lester said he did not wish to say anything, or to call witnesses, and he would reserve his defence.

Accused was then committed for trial.

RIVER POLLUTION BY WASTE OIL

New Engineering & Shipbuilding Works Charged in Police Court

Infringement of harbour regulations in the matter of river pollution was the subject of a case in H. M. Police Court on Tuesday, before Mr. G. W. King. The New Engineering & Shipbuilding Works were summoned "for that on the 18th instant they discharged oil or oily matter into the Huangpu River and/or that such oil or oily matter found its way into the river from the premises of the company at Yangtszepoo Dock, contrary to section 39 B of Harbour Regulations for the Port of Shanghai, dated February 1, 1923, and King's Regulations No. 7 of 1923."

Mr. M. B. Brown appeared for the Customs, who prosecuted through the River Police, and Mr. A. C. Holborow represented the defendants.

An Oil Tank Ship.

Mr. Brown informed the Court that on the morning of the 18th instant a sergeant of the River Police on patrol duty was passing Yangtszepoo Dock when he saw two coolies emptying a bucket of oil from the jetty into the river. He went ashore and made inquiries, finding that the oil tank ship Natica was in the defendant's dry dock having her forward tanks emptied of oil, and he was given to understand that the Dock Company were carrying out the work and that the ship's crew had nothing to do with it. The Dock- [illegible] this and said it was the ship's crew who were doing it. At all [illegible] quantity of oil in the river. About 11 a.m. the same day a telephone message was received from the Shanghai Waterworks complaining of there being oil in the river opposite the Company's intake. The police made further inquiries and learned definitely that the ship was in the hands of the Dock Company and that they were responsible for cleaning out the oil tanks. A police officer took photographs showing the oil on the river, and next day it was found there was still a quantity of oil in about the same spot. It was a serious matter for the Waterworks Company, whose intake was less than half a mile from the Dock, while oil was rapidly carried down by the tide.

Mr. Holborow observed that defendants fully recognized that the presence of a considerable quantity of oil on the river might be of serious consequence to the Waterworks, but the only present issue was the responsibility of the defendants under the regulations.

Oil for Half a Mile.

Sgt. Visser, of the River Police, gave evidence bearing out counsel's opening statement, saying that he saw two coolies empty a bucket of oil into the river, and two more of them dump on the foreshore a bucket of waste saturated with oil. There was an almost continuous stream of oil for half a mile down the river from the Dock.

After Supt. Woodfield had given evidence of his investigations into the case. Mr. Holborow observed that the Company did not dispute that they were in charge of the work on the Natica and were responsible for any oil which escaped.

Statement by Waterworks.

Evidence in support of the case for the prosecution was given by Sgt. Cavanaugh, Sgt. Hess, and Mr. C. B. Ogilvie, Works Engineer of the Shanghai Waterworks, the latter saying the result might be most serious if oil got into their tanks. If oil were taken in at night when it could not be observed, quite possibly Shanghai would get no water on the following day.

For the defence, Mr. Holborow submitted there was no case to answer, because the charge had definitely been limited to one bucket of oil and it had not been proved that the two coolies were servants of the defendants.

His Worship, however, overruled this submission.

Mr. Holborow then said that infringement of the river regulations was the very last thing his clients were likely to countenance. If the oil in fact escaped from the Dock, the only possible explanation they could offer was that, in order to save labour, coolies engaged in cleaning out the ship's tank had taken out a plug at night and allowed waste to flow into the well of the dock, whence unwittingly it would have been pumped out in the ordinary course. The well was covered in, and the engineer in charge of pumping could not know that there was oil there.

A Fine of $20.

Mr. Archer, the Dock foreman, explained the method by which oil was removed from the ship's tanks prior to repairs being undertaken, and supported Mr. Holborow's statement as to the possible manner in which the leakage occurred.

Mr. G. McMurdo, Dock Master, gave evidence that all precautions were taken against the escape of oil into the river, and added that there were very strict orders to the staff on the subject. As soon as he saw oil in the river, he thought possibly it might have come from the well, and gave orders to stop pumping.

His Worship accepted the suggestion of the Company's witness as to the oil having come from the well of the dock, but went on to say that defendants were liable for the negligence of their servants and therefore in law were guilty of negligence. The presence of oil in the river was a serious matter, and he must impose a fine of $20.

CARLTON BUILDING DISPUTE

Judgment for Architects: Defendants Held to Blame for Delayed Construction

Judgment was given by Judge Purdy at the U. S. Court last Friday in the action brought by the architects of the New Carlton against the builders. Plaintiffs, Dowdall & Tulasne, were awarded Tls. 4,583.33, which they claimed from the Shanghai Building Co. as balance of the amount due for supplying the plans. Defendants had originally agreed to pay plaintiffs Tls. 14,000 in six separate instalments for their services. Upon completion of the work in 1922 defendants were still indebted to plaintiffs in the amount claimed. Defendants refused to pay this sum on the ground that the plans had not been prepared and furnished by the plaintiffs within the time agreed upon, and because some of the plans were defective and did not comply with the requirements of the Shanghai Municipal Council. By reason of such delay and such defective plans, defendants contended they sustained damages which were more than sufficient to offset the balance.

In the course of his judgment, his Honour said: There are manifestly but three questions of fact for consideration and determination by the Court. The questions of fact are as follows:—(a) Have the plaintiffs made out a case on their second cause of action for the reasonable worth and value of additional plans and calculations alleged to have been furnished to the defendants? (b) Are the defendants entitled to damages as an offset for and on account of delay in furnishing the plans and calculations to them under their original contract? (c) Are the defendants entitled to damages as an offset for cost of undoing certain work and scrapping certain material by reason of changes which defendants were required to make by order of the Commissioner of Public Works of the Shanghai Municipal Council?

It plaintiffs furnished certain plans to the defendants which did not meet or fulfil the requirements of the building regulations of the city of Shanghai, they certainly had no good cause to complain if they were required to furnish other and additional plans which did fulfil and meet such requirements. Plaintiffs are not entitled to recover on their second cause of action.

Plans Ready in Time

I find no evidence which would justify me in reaching the conclusion that the plaintiffs failed to furnish to the defendants the plans with reasonable promptitude. It is true that defendants' final letter of acceptance contained the statement that "an early completion of the buildings is the essence of this contract." There was nevertheless no time specified within which the plans should be furnished. The buildings were in fact completed and in readiness for occupancy within practically nine months from the day on which this letter was written. I am, therefore, constrained to find that the defendants were not damaged as a result of any delay on the part of plaintiffs in furnishing the plans in question.

Defendants next claim for damages as an offset is based upon alleged defective plans. It is contended that the plaintiff furnished a set of plans for the roof of one of these buildings, which the Municipal Council did not approve and certain defective plans relating to staircases or fire escapes, and that the defendants, by reason of having used the same, were damaged in the sum of Tls. 3,000.

P. W. D. Objections

The changes and alterations which were required to be made by the Commissioner of Public Works on account of defective plans relating to staircases and fire-escapes, were not, in my opinion, due to any fault or negligence on the part of the plaintiffs. It does not appear that the plaintiffs made, or were required to make, under their contract, a survey of the land, or parcel of ground upon which these buildings were to be constructed. The plans were prepared largely if not solely, upon information furnished the plaintiffs by the defendants. After certain progress had been made in the preparation of these plans for the theatre building, which was the last building to be constructed, the defendants' contractor and builder informed the plaintiffs that they had more land by some two or three feet than they had at first supposed, and, thereupon plaintiffs were ordered to enlarge the plans of the theatre building so as to utilize such additional ground. The changes so ordered resulted in not affording, by some two or three feet sufficient space for the staircases or fire escapes in accordance with the originally approved plans. —that being impossible by reason of the lack of sufficient space. The defendants were thereupon required by the Commissioner of Public Works Department to alter and change the improperly constructed staircases, which was done at considerable expense to the defendants, and they are now attempting to charge up such expense against plaintiffs as an offset.

Defendants Responsible for Their Losses

In my judgment such damage and loss to the defendants was primarily due to the fault of the defendants' own building contractor, and not to any fault or negligence on the part of these plaintiffs. The defendants should have then suspended work upon the staircases until new plans could have been prepared instead of going ahead with the work in disregard of the plans which had been approved by the Municipal Council. They apparently preferred to take a chance that the staircases would pass Municipal inspection, and when they failed to do so, they had no one to blame but themselves.

SAVED FROM PRISON BY EMPLOYERS

Office Boy's Amazing Series of Forgeries: Tls. 3,900 Involved

The mercy of the Mixed Court, coupled with the goodness of the complainants and restitution of a major part of embezzled funds by kind-hearted relatives, saved Tsha Kyung-dzen, self-confessed forger, from 18 months in prison on charges arising out of 44 cases of imitated hand writing on compradore orders. The youth who had been in the employ of Messrs. Harrisons, King & Irwin, made a practice during the past two years of forging the name of Mr. B. W. Gale to these orders, and did it so cleverly over this time that the suspicions of the compradore were not aroused until a month ago, when he mentioned to Mr. Gale that abnormal amounts were coming through his orders.

An investigation was ordered and the Municipal Police were called in. In the drawer of the boy was found a chit book full of signatures, which he admitted having practised upon his return from a "sickbed," after having been absent from the office for 10 days. The accounts were balanced and it was found that 44 orders amounting to Tls. 3,900 had been forged, mostly in amounts ranging from $50 to $100.

As the orders had no serial number upon them, there was no absolute check, though the members of the firm usually wrote in both figures and words to sums desired. No counterfoil, however, was retained.

After filling the order, the youth usually got a coolie to cash them. When a coolie became suspicious another was procured.

Brought to the Court on May 27 a two week's remand was asked for by Det.-Sgt. Tinkler, who had charge of the case, to permit of further inquiries and to ascertain the guilt of the messenger. He denied all complicity, so the charges against him were dropped. At the resumed hearing on Tuesday complainant said now that nearly a full financial reimbursement had been made. He did not wish the boy to go to prison, so it was ordered that 17 months out 18 months imprisonment ordered be remitted.

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SPORTS AND PASTIMES

CRICKET IN ENGLAND

Essex Beaten by South Africans: County Matches

Colchester, June 19.

The match between Essex and the South Africans was resumed to-day in fine weather before 3,000 people. The wicket was good. The South Africans carried their overnight score to 263. They were all out just before lunch. Taylor made 126. He played a superb innings, [illegible] his total in one hour and 25 minutes, scoring 17 fours. Nourse [illegible] analysis to-day being 6 wickets for 25.

Essex, at the close of play, had [illegible] made 108 in three hours. He hit 10 fours. His batting was characterised by clean cutting and driving. O'Connor made 51.

Scores:—Essex 155 and 296 for [illegible]; South Africans 263.—.

Colchester, June 20.

The third day of the match between Essex and the South Africans was fine.

Essex declared at 12.30 with 345 [illegible] lasted 5 hours and 9 minutes. Douglas made 40 not out. Carter took 5 wickets for 70.

At the close of play the South African's score stood at 239 for 9 wickets. Nourse made 36 and Hands 64. Louden took 4 wickets for 82. South Africa thus won by 1 wicket.

Scores:—Essex 155 and 345 for 9 wickets declared. South Africans 263 and 239 for 9 wickets.—Reuter.

South Africans v. Hants.

The weather was fine and 3,000 people were present on the opening day of the match between Hampshire and the South Africans. Tennyson won the toss and Hampshire opened the game. They were all out for 279. Day made 100 with vigorous straight driving, but gave several chances. He hit 11 fours. The innings lasted 3 hours and 10 minutes. Newman made 58. The South African bowler, Blanckenberg, took 6 wickets for 121.

At the close of play the Africans had scored 63 for 2 wickets.—Reuter.

Century by Nourse

Southampton, June 23.

The match between the South Africans and Hampshire was resumed to-day. The Africans concluded their innings for 336. Nourse made 121 with magnificent strong driving and cutting. He hit a five and 16 fours. His innings lasted two hours and 50 minutes. Commaille made 62 and Blackenberg 69. Newman took 4 wickets for 118. The innings lasted 4¼ hours.

At the close of play Hampshire had scored 185 for 4 wickets, to which Fowler had contributed 46 not out.

Scores:—Hampshire, 279 and 185 for 4 wickets; South Africans, 336.—Reuter.

Hampshire Defeated.

Southampton, June 24.

The weather was hot and there was a small attendance on the final day of the Hampshire-South Africans match. The wicket was wearing well.

Hampshire carried their unfinished second innings to 330. Fowler [illegible] 90. Dissett took 5 wickets for 102. The innings lasted 4¼ hours.

The Africans made 275 for 5 wickets. Taylor played a magnificent innings for 93, without giving [illegible] minutes and hit 11 fours [illegible] a few minutes to play an exciting [illegible].

Scores:—Hampshire 279 and 330. South Africans 336 and 275 for 5 wickets.—Reuter.

South Africans v. Mr. Leveson-Gower's XI.

Reigate, June 25.

The match between Mr. H. D. G. Leveson-Gower's XI and the South Africans opened here to-day in hot weather before 4,000 spectators. The wicket was good and hard.

The Africans won the toss and went in. They were all out for 253 runs. Taylor played a delightful innings for 81. He was batting for 2 hours and 3 minutes, and hit seven 4s. Commaille made 42. Rhodes took 6 wickets for 56.

At the close, Mr. Leveson-Gower's XI had scored 57 for 2 wickets.—Reuter.

The County Championship

London, June 19.

At the Oval, Surrey beat Derbyshire by an innings and 34 runs. Derby made 130 (Sadler 4 wickets for 23) and 120 (Sadler 5 wickets for 32). Surrey made 284 for nine wickets and declared (Hobbs 118 not out).

At Dewsbury, Yorkshire beat Somerset by an innings and 202. Somerset made 132 and 100 (Macaulay 3 wickets for 10). Yorkshire made 434 for 8 wickets and declared. Sutcliffe made the highest score of the season, 213.

At Horsham, Sussex beat Worcestershire by 5 wickets. Worcester made 280 in the first innings (M. Foster 157 not out). In their second innings they were all out for 57, Tate taking 8 wickets for 18. Sussex made 155 and 184 for 5 wickets.

At Leicester, Cambridge University beat Leicestershire by 4 wickets. Cambridge made 138 and 185 for 6 wickets, Leicester made 221 and 101.—Reuter.

London, June 20.

At Northampton Notts beat Northamptonshire by 3 wickets. Northants made 134 and 172, Richmond taking 8 wickets for 56. Notts made 96 (Wells 5 wickets for 35) and 211 for 7 wickets (Whysall 138).

At Cardiff Warwickshire beat Glamorgan by 170. Warwick made 269 and 169. Glamorgan made 134 in both innings.

At Tonbridge Middlesex beat Kent by 49 runs. Middlesex made 233 (Mann 83) and 134 (Collins 8 wickets for 73). Kent made 130 (Durston 5 wickets for 55) and 198 (Durston 5 wickets for 67).

At Gloucester Lancashire beat Gloucestershire by 208 runs. Lancashire made 313 (Iddon 86) and 225 for 5 wickets declared (E. T. Tyldesley 96). Gloucester made 179 and 151.

London, June 23.

At Kidderminster, Warwickshire beat Worcestershire by 6 wickets. Worcester made 182 and 74, Howell taking 5 wickets for 37. Warwick made 119 and 141 for 4 (Parsons 81 not out).—Reuter.

London, June 24.

At the Oval, Oxford University beat Surrey by 4 wickets. Surrey made 388 for 9 wickets, declared, (Jardine 105 not out), and 238 for 7 wickets, declared (Sandham 104, Jardine 63). Oxford University made 311 and 316 for 6 wickets (Guise 154 not out).

At Leyton, Middlesex beat Essex by an innings and 23. Essex made 196 and 251. Middlesex made 470 for 8 wickets, declared, (Hearne 116).

At Sheffield, Yorkshire beat Sussex by 226 runs. Yorkshire made 200 and 343 for 3 wickets, declared (Sutcliffe 160). Sussex made 192 (Tate 102, not out) and 125.

Hallows' Two Centuries

At Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Lancashire beat Leicestershire by 270 runs. Lancashire made 259 (Hallows, 112 not out) and 242 for one wicket, declared, (Hallows, 103 not out and E. Tyldesley 101 not out). Leicester made 136 and 95 (Parkin taking 9 wickets for 32).

At Burton-on-Trent, Somerset beat Derbyshire by an innings and 55. Somerset made 447 (M. Lyon [illegible] the highest score of the season). Derby made 222 (Jackson 93) and 170.

At Cambridge, Cambridge University beat Northamptonshire by 3 wickets. Northamptonshire made 253 (Wells 90) and 291 for 8 wickets, declared. Cambridge made 224 and 322 for 7 wickets (Lowry 133).

At Nottingham, Notts beat Kent by 8 wickets. Kent made 349 (Hardinge 125) and 162 (Hardinge 53). Notts made 469 (George Gunn 92, Whysall 151) and 43 for 2 wickets.

At Lord's, Sandhurst beat Woolwich by ten wickets. Sandhurst (Robinson 143, Dunolly 113) and 21 for no wickets. Woolwich made 177 and followed on with 199.—Reuter.

LAWN TENNIS

International Ladies' Match at Wimbledon: Davis Cup Competition

London, June 19.

In the ladies' international lawn tennis competition at Wimbledon to-day, Britain beat America, winning the first four of seven matches.

Miss McKane (Britain) beat Miss Wills (America), 6-2, 6-2. Miss McKane was superior in all departments.

Mrs. Covell (Britain) beat Mrs. Mallory (America) 6-2, 5-7, 6-3; Mrs. Beamish (Britain) beat Miss Goss (America), 6-1, 0-6, 6-3; and Miss Wills and Mrs. Wightman (America) beat Miss McKane and Miss Colyer (Britain), 6-2, 2-6, 6-4.

Britain won by 6 matches to 1.—Reuter.

Paris, June 19.

In the last two matches of the Davis Cup tie between India and France M. Cochet (France) beat Mr. Sleem (India), 6-4, 0-6, 6-4, 2-6, 6-0. Jacob (India) walked over M. Lacotste (France), France thus wins by 4 matches to 1.—Reuter.

Japanese Player's Success at Roehampton

London, June 21.

In the final of the Roehampton lawn tennis tournament, which is one of the recognized preliminaries to the Wimbledon tournament, the Japanese, Mr. Okamoto, defeated Mr. Condon, a member of the South African Davis Cup team, 6-4, 6-4. The game was brisk. Mr. Okamoto was more accurate and had better control of the ball. Mr. Condon missed valuable points through inaccuracy.—Reuter.

Wimbledon Tennis Tournament

Wimbledon, June 23.

The Lawn Tennis Championships opened here to-day in glorious weather before a huge and fashionable crowd. Ten thousand spectators viewed the matches on the Centre Court, while thousands were around the outer courts.

The first match on the Centre Court was between the American, Mr. Vincent Richards, and Mr. Park (? J. C. Parke). The American, who is favoured as a finalist, was not extended in defeating his opponent with a score of 6-1, 6-1, 6-0.

This was followed by a very exciting and brilliant match, the Frenchman, M. R. Lacoste, disposing of the young Japanese, Mr. S. Okamoto, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

The Spaniard, Senor Manuel Alonso, beat Mr. J. Gregory, 6-1, 6-3, 6-4.

The meeting of two prominent British competitors resulted in the elimination of Mr. O. Turnbull by the Davis Cup player, Mr. J. Gilbert, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

The British players, Messrs. Lycett, Greig, W. Crawley and Clole-Rees, won comfortably, but the Davis Cup player, Mr. L. Godfree, went down before the American, Mr. W. Washburn, 6-4, 6-0, 7-5.

The Frenchmen, MM. Borotra and Feret, and the South Africans, Messrs. Spence, Condon and Raymond, scored victories.

The Chinese, Mr. Woo, has a "walk-over."

The Japanese, Mr. Fukuda, beat Mr. Browne, 6-4, 9-11, 6-3, 6-2.—Reuter.

Several Foreigners Enter Third Round

Wimbledon, June 24.

The second round of the Lawn Tennis Championships was played to-day in glorious weather before a crowd of 15,000. The spectators included a large proportion of women, attracted by the first appearance of Mlle. Lenglen and Miss Wills. The scene was brilliant, with sunshades of all colours and wonderful dress creations. The day was one of thrills and surprise. Wimbledon has never seen finer tennis than that in the match in which M. Lacoste defeated Senor Manuel Alonso, 2-6, 6-2, 13-15, 6-3, 6-1. Lacoste showed himself versatile and untiring. His passing shots were brilliant. Alonso gave a magnificent exhibition of forehand net-work and volleying, but tired after the third set.

The Australian, Mr. J. Bayley's, defeat of Mr. Randolph Lycett, 7-5, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 was the surprise of the day.

The three Americans, Messrs. Hunter, Richards and Washburn, entered the third, as did the British players, Mr. Gilbert, Col. Kingscote, and Messrs. Greig, Leighton-Crawford and Wheatley.

Mr. Hunter beat Mr. J. Hillyard 6-0, 6-3, 6-2. Mr. Vincent Richards beat Mr. R. Dash, 6-0, 6-4, 6-3, and Mr. Washburn beat the Canadian international, Mr. H. Mayes, 4-6, 6-4, 6-0, 5-7, 6-4.

The Frenchman, M. Jean Borotra, beat Mr. Max Woosnam, 6-3, 7-5, 2-6, 6-4.

Mr. Harada (Japan) beat Mr. E. Crawshay-Williams, 6-2, 6-1, 6-4, and Mr. Fukuda (Japan) beat Mr. T. Mavorgordato, 1-6, 7-5, 6-4, 6-4.

In the first round, Mr. Norris-Williams beat Mr. E. Maguire, 6-1, 6-4, 6-4.

The Ladies' Championship

In the first round of the Ladies' Championship, Mlle. Lenglen beat Miss Lumley-Ellis, 6-0, 6-0. Miss Wills beat Miss Scharman, 6-1, 6-0. Miss Ryan beat Mrs. Bouverie, 6-0, 6-0. Mrs. Mallory beat Miss Harvey, 7-5, 6-3.—Reuter.

Wimbledon, June 25

Twelve thousand people were present at Wimbledon to-day, when the second round matches began. The weather was very hot and the crowds round the courts were a blaze of colour. Turned-up sleeves and panamas were the order of the day for the players.

The first match on the centre court was between the Australian veteran, Mr. Norman Brookes, and the Cingalese, Mr. D. Rutnam. Brookes won, 6-2, 6-2, 2-6, 6-1. His uncanny anticipation and skilful placing kept Rutnam on the run. He showed no signs of tiring and was at his best in the fourth set.

Miss McKane beat Mrs. Mallory 6-1, 6-0. Miss McKane won the first five games and only lost the sixth by venturesome play. Mrs. Mallory was outclassed in the second set. Mlle. Lenglen beat Miss Clarke, 6-0, 6-0. Miss Wills beat Miss Dransfield, 6-0, 6-2.

The American, Mr. Norris Williams, beat the Frenchman, M. Feret, 6-4, 4-6, 8-6, 6-4.

Mr. S. Hadi (India) beat Mr. K. Hooihye (Japan), 7-5, 6-3, 6-2.

Men's Doubles

In the first doubles match played to-day on the centre court the Americans, Messrs. Vincent Richards and F. L. Hunter, defeated the Hon, F. M. B. Fisher and Mr. J. Peacock, 3-6, 7-5, 6-4, 6-3.

On an outer court Messrs. Okamoto and Hooihye (Japan) beat Messrs. L. Owen and W. Aitken, 6-2, 6-2, 6-2.

The British players, Mr. Gilbert and Colonel Kingscote, beat MM. Roupell and Duminy (France), 6-4, 6-3, 6-2.

Messrs. Fukuda and Harada (Japan) beat Messrs. E. Lamb and G. Crole-Rees, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.—Reuter.

BRITISH OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Result of the Qualifying Round: Taylor First with Score of 142

London, June 23.

With a record entry of 277, the qualifying rounds of the British Open Golf Championship, which began to-day, had to be split over two courses, half playing at Hoylake and half at Formby. They will change over for the second round to-morrow. There is a formidable American contingent, including the ex-champion, Hagen, Sarazen, MacDonald Smith and Jim Barnes. There are also two Spaniards and half-a-dozen Frenchmen. Both course records were broken.

George Gadd (Roehampton) headed the Formby score with 70. MacDonald Smith made 72, Sarazen 75, Ray 76, C. Whitcombe 77 and Abe Mitchell 78.

In the Hoylake half, the veteran, J. H. Taylor (Mid-Surrey), made a course record of 70. Havers, the holder, scored 72, Tolley 77, Wethered and Duncan 78, the American, Nicholls, 79, Barnes 81, Hagen 83. The two last-named need excellent rounds to-morrow to gain a place amongst the first 80, who will compete for the championship proper at Hoylake on Thursday and Friday.—Reuter.

London, June 24.

The qualifying stages of the Open Golf Championship concluded to-day in glorious weather. All the native Americans qualified. Taylor with 142 and Gadd with 147 led the respective fields. Havers followed Taylor with 146, and the order was then Tolley and the Frenchman, Boomer, 149: Duncan 151: Wethered 155: Hagen 156: Barnes and Nichols 157.

At Hoylake, Frank Ball followed Gadd with 148: Compston's score was 150: Sarazen 151: Braid 152: MacDonald Smith and Mitchell 153: C. Whitcombe 154: Ray 157.

Those who did not qualify include Ockenden, Vardon, Douglas Grant, and the Spaniard, De La Torre.—Reuter.

BOXING

Light-weight Championship of Europe

Paris, June 24.

In a 20-round boxing contest for the Light-weight Championship of Europe the Frenchman, Fred Bretonnel, beat the Englishman, Danny Frush, in the eighth round, when the latter retired.—Reuter.

INTER-VARSITY POLO

London, June 21.

In the inter-'Varsity polo match at Hurlingham to-day, Oxford beat Cambridge by 7 goals to 5.—Reuter.

GOLF LONG-DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIP

Hoylake, June 25.

The golf long-driving championship was won by J. Smith of Canteluppe with the best aggregate of three out of four drives. His distances were 236 yds. 0 ft. 2 in., 247 yds. 2 ft., and 244 yds 1 ft. Abe Mitchell's aggregate was 666 yds. 1 ft. 6 in., and Duncan's 653 yds. —REUTER.

DR. Tsai Yuan-pei, Chancellor of the University of Peking since 1917, who is at present in England, says the outstanding feature of the American educational system he finds to be its concentration on original thought; the German, its insistence upon logic, and the British, the emphasis it lays upon the building up of character. In that respect he feels that the Chinese system is akin to the British, and on his return home he intends to do whatever he can to strengthen the moral side of education is his own country.

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MUNICIPAL GAZETTE NEWS

Volunteer Corps.

Annual Inspection.—The Report of Major-General Sir J. S. Fowler, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., Commanding H. M. Forces in China, upon his recent Inspection of the Corps, is appended, together with letter of acknowledgment:—

Hongkong, June 9, 1924.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith my Inspection Report on the Shanghai Volunteer Corps.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN S. FOWLER,
Major-General,
Commanding British Forces in China.

E. S. B. ROWE, Esq.
Acting Secretary.

REPORT OF 1924.

1.—At the invitation of the Chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Council, I carried out the annual inspection of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps between May 20 and 23.

2.—Appendix "A" gives a list of the units inspected and their strengths, also the numbers on parade on various occasions.

From this it will be seen that the total number of enrolled members was 1,370. The corresponding number at the same time last year was [illegible].

This increase is partly due to the inclusion of the American Troop and the Cadet Company since my last inspection.

3.—The condition of the arms, equipment and stores in possession of the Corps is satisfactory. They were inspected recently by the Chief Ordnance Officer, Hongkong.

4.—On account of bad weather the usual ceremonial parade of the Corps on the recreation ground could not be held, and a concentration march of the whole Corps, moving in three columns from their assembly posts to a point in the Bubbling Well Road, was substituted.

The movement of the columns, protected by the Armoured Cars, was well carried out, and all arrived at the time laid down. The concentration having been sucessfully accomplished, the whole force marched past along the Bubbling Well Road.

The bearing and march discipline of the troops during this exercise was excellent, and gave a most favourable impression of the efficiency and strength of the force which could rapidly be concentrated on any threatened area.

A very good opportunity was thus given to the residents of Shanghai to see the Corps as it would turn out when called upon.

The numbers on this parade were 1,007 in all, as against 898 last year.

5.—*Inspection of Units.*—This was carried out in accordance with the programme given in Appendix "B."

(a) Infantry.

The infantry units in the Corps are as follows:

"A" Company, British.
"B" Company, British.
Customs Company.
American Company.
Portuguese Company.
Japanese Company.
Chinese Company.
Shanghai Scottish Company.
Reserve Company.

These were all seen either at drill, at musketry or carrying out a tactical exercise. The drill, turn-out and soldierlike bearing of the units was uniformly satisfactory, and in some units very good indeed. The officers appeared to have improved since last year in their knowledge of handling their units, and there was evidence of much careful training by N.C.O.'s and other instructors. I was glad to see that much attention is being paid to Lewis gun training, and that a good number of men are trained in the use of this important weapon.

(b) Mounted Troops.

The Light Horse.—The turn-out of men and horses was excellent and they drilled with very fair precision. They were steadier than last year, and the horsemanship of the majority of the riders was good. It appeared to me that the new pattern of saddle would be improved, for a long day's work, by having a blanket carried under it.

The signal section is a most useful addition and has attained a good standard of visual signalling. Musketry has much improved, and the machine gun section has evidently been well trained.

The American Troop.—This Troop only started training as a unit last October. The turn-out of the men and horses was excellent and the unit forms a valuable addition to the Corps. Much work has evidently been done in training, and though some movements were carried out at rather too fast a pace, greater steadiness will no doubt be attained in the future. The bitting of horses and fitting of bridles and saddles can be improved.

Field Artillery Battery.—The turn-out of men, horses, and equipment was excellent and maintains the high standard attained in previous years. The addition of a motor lorry to the battery, for the transport of men and ammunition, and, when required, of a howitzer on the lorry, enhances its mobility. The arrangement for getting the howitzer on and off the lorry is ingenious. A howitzer can also be towed at a moderate pace.

The musketry of this unit has much improved.

(c) Machine-gun Units. — The machine-gun units in the Corps are as follows:

The Machine Gun Company.
The Maritime Company.
The Italian Company.

Of these the Machine Gun Company, with its armoured lorries, forms one of the most important units of the Corps. I consider that it is thoroughly efficient, and that the zeal of its members ensures that the Council is getting full value for the large expense that has been incurred in equipping the unit.

The Maritime Company.—This company is well trained and in good condition.

The Italian Company.—This company, which is armed with the Fiat machine gun, has decreased in strength from 40 to a nominal 32 since my last inspection. Of this number only 13 were present at the unit inspection. The unit cannot, at present, be considered efficient. I understand that it is contemplated to take steps to remedy matters.

(d) Engineers.—The Engineer Company has improved, both in numbers and efficiency since last year, and its training has become more practical. It is a good unit and would be very useful in an emergency.

(e) The Public School Cadet Company.—This company has been newly formed and was inspected by me for the first time: it is being well trained, and the boys were well turned out and keen. It is to be hoped that its members will eventually join the senior units of the Corps.

6. *Tactical Training.*—More attention has been paid to this most essential part of training since my last inspection.

At a tactical exercise in Jessfield Park units moved smartly, and with a good idea of the tactics that should be employed. The nature of the ground made the exercise, as a practical example of what would occur if there were bullets in the rifles, somewhat unreal. The difficulties of combined training in the vicinity of Shanghai are fully realized, but in spite of this I consider that there has been considerable improvement.

7. *Mobilization Scheme.* — The new scheme of using strong mobile Columns enables the Commanding Officer to keep his forces better in hand, and meets my comment of last year on the risk of dispersion without adequate reserve.

8. *Musketry and Rifle [illegible].*—A great improvement has been made in the Musketry of units armed with the rifle. There are now 483 first class shots in the Corps as against 334 last year, and an even greater proportionate increase has taken place in the number of marksmen.

The rifle range is in good order and the range discipline in this important part of the training of the Corps is well carried out.

9. The completion of the Hutted Camp on the Ranges will facilitate the training of the Corps.

10. *Headquarters of the Corps and Permanent Staff.*—The Corps headquarters is well and efficiently run, and the Staff have carried out their duties with great keenness. The work is heavy, and it is for consideration that with increasing numbers in the Corps, the Staff should be increased.

11. This is the third time I have had the honour of inspecting this Corps. I have been much impressed by the keenness and amount of time that is given by individuals to its training, and I feel sure that the Corps is keeping up its high reputation and will acquit itself well when the occasion arises.

J. S. FOWLER.
Major-General,
Commanding British Forces in China.

Council Chamber,
June 23, 1924.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of June 9, transmitting your Report on the Inspection of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps.

In reply, I have the honour to convey to you an expression of the Council's thanks for your kindness in carrying out the Inspection, and for your very thorough Report thereon, to which, in its opinion, considerable value attaches, in that it will be of great assistance to the Commandant and the Council in maintaining and furthering the efficiency of the Corps.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
E. S. B. ROWE,
Acting Secretary.

Major-General Sir JOHN FOWLER,
K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.,
Commanding H. B. M. Forces
in China, Hongkong.

Mixed Court Report for May.

Criminal Cases.—8012 persons were charged with criminal offences during the month, and, in order to cope with the large number of important cases the Court on several occasions sat until 1.30 p.m. and in addition remanded several robbery and murder cases for special sessions. 8 persons were dealt with on charges of murder, and 11 persons for robbery; of this total 5 were sent to the Arsenal Authorities with the proviso that if not executed they were to be returned to this Court to be dealt with.

Corporal Punishment.—In passing sentence on a gang of seven men charged with robbery and murder, the Assessor repeated what has been stated by the Court on several occasions previously, i.e. the Court considered that if it had the power to inflict corporal punishment, that punishment would be far more effective in reducing crimes of violence than any of the sentences authorized under the present code.

Unrepresented Foreigners.—On May 2, five Russians were charged with stealing jewellery to the value of $1,000 from 545 Taku Road and other offences, three were subsequently sentenced to 18 months imprisonment and expulsion, and two to 3 months and expulsion. An Austrian was sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment (suspended) on May 6 on a charge of False Pretences. The total number of foreigners charged before the Court was 38, an increase of 13 over the previous month.

Foreign Defendants.—Counsel for O. M. Matias, a defendant detained in a foreign civil case, having made certain statements in Court regarding the treatment of foreign debtors, the Assessor was asked to investigate the conditions under which foreign defendants were confined, and, as a result of his investigation, announced in open Court that in his opinion everything possible was being done for such defendants. Counsel later stated that his protest was directed more particularly against the system which made it possible to imprison a man for debt. The Court pointed out to him that conditions in Shanghai were perhaps different from those in any other place and that in certain cases it was necessary to take steps to prevent debtors leaving the jurisdiction of the Court.

Foreign Civil Cases.—77 Petitions were filed during the month and 67 sessions of the Court were held and disposed of 89 cases leaving 82 cases on the hearing list, 33 of which are awaiting a first hearing, a decrease of 28 in the cases pending.

Of the cases dealt with 37 related to money lending by Indians. Owing to the peculiar nature of the transactions the hearing of these cases takes up a considerable amount of the time of the Court. The amount involved is usually small, being anything from $20 upwards, and the manner in which these loans are negotiated is very unsatisfactory; generally the defendant states that he has only received one-half of the amount mentioned on the promissory note, and although the note only calls for 2 per cent. per month the defendant in nearly every case claims that he has paid 5 per cent. per month; as however the borrowers are usually of the poorer class of Chinese, no receipts are demanded, resulting in many cases, so it is alleged, of extortionate demands being made by the plaintiff. The only way to prevent this abuse is to license the plaintiffs as professional money lenders and to have all loans registered. It has now been arranged that special sessions be arranged for the hearing of these cases; by this means the Court will have more time at its disposal to sift the evidence adduced, which is generally uncorrobrated and of the most contradictory nature.

Chinese Civil Cases.—113 Petitions were filed and 69 sessions were held during the month, 312 cases being dealt with; at the end of the month there were 167 cases awaiting a first hearing and 42 part heard cases on the hearing list, a decrease of 49 on the figures for the previous month. The decrease is due to the fact that the temporary courtroom has been in partial use for the greater part of the month, and this will undoubtedly become a big factor in wiping out the congestion prevailing in this department during the earlier part of the year.

Return of Communicable Disease.

Reported during [illegible]		
[illegible]		
midnight, [illegible] 21, 1924.		
[illegible]		
[illegible]	0	0
[illegible]	2	6
[illegible]	0	0
[illegible]	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	4
Tuberculosis	0	23
Plague	0	0
Amœbic Dysentery	2	1
Bacillary Dysentery	1	
Measles	0	4
Total Deaths from all Causes	6	162

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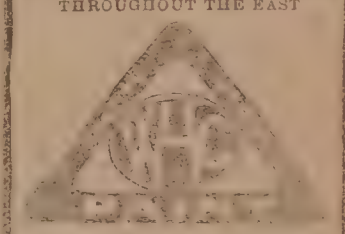

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FOREIGN TELEGRAMS

THE INTERVIEW AT THE CHEQUERS

A Preliminary to an Inter-Allied Conference: Belgium and Italy to be Conferred with: Desirability of Participation by America: Dominions to be Consulted

London, June 21.

M. Herriot, accompanied by the French permanent Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, arrived in London to-day, bound for the Chequers, where he will meet Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, accompanied by Sir Eyre Crowe. High hopes centre in the week-end conversations, which will take place in the most favourable atmosphere, and are expected to prove an important first step towards settlement of Europe's outstanding problems.

The fact that General Nollet accompanied M. Herriot as far as Calais in order to explain the exact position of France's security, a question with which is bound up that of the control of German armaments, indicates that this is likely to be a prominent topic. Application of the experts' report will likewise be discussed.

Mr. Herriot, interviewed by Reuter's representative, expressed the greatest faith in the Entente, for which he had worked whole-heartedly. He declared that close Franco-British relations were essential both now and in the future for the peace of the world.—Reuter.

Germany Driving a Wedge

Paris, June 21.

"*Le Journal*" publishes a report from Berlin that the German Government has made a *demarche* to Britain with a view to securing a formal undertaking that the Ruhr towns of Duesseldorf, Duisburg and Ruhrort will be evacuated as soon as the Reichstag has accepted in legislative measures to give effect to the experts' report. The question will be discussed by Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and M. Herriot at Chequers.—Reuter.

Improved Relations Between Britain and France: The Dawes Report

London, June 22.

There has been a distinct advance in relations between Britain and France as an outcome of the Premiers' conversations at the Chequers, with which, it is stated, M. Herriot is much pleased. It is understood that the talk of the two statesmen was very frank. Both desired a personal understanding and this was attained without either conceding any vital point.

M. Herriot on his return to London laid a wreath on the Cenotaph and also on the grave of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey. He will leave for Brussels to-morrow, where he will interview MM. Theunis and Hymans, the Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

A *communiqué* states that M. Herriot and Mr. MacDonald had a friendly, informal discussion at the Chequers during the week-end on questions arising from the Dawes report and the measures to put it into execution. A definite conclusion was not reached, pending consultation of the Italian and Belgian Governments. The conversation revealed general agreement of the British and French points of view and a common determination to overcome difficulties by means of continuous co-operation. It was agreed, subject to the convenience of the other Allies to hold a conference in London not later than the middle of July for the purpose of definitely settling the procedure to be adopted.

The two Premiers agreed to pay a brief visit to Geneva together for League of Nations in September.—The opening of the Assembly of the [illegible]

Paris, June 23.

A [illegible] agreed to the interview between Mr. MacDonald and M. Herriot says: "We aimed to conclude a pact of [illegible] co-operation."

The two Prime Ministers did everything possible to create an atmosphere of sympathy and confidence. Mr. MacDonald repeated his assurance that, in case of German default, Germany would find herself face to face with Britain, France and Belgium, united inflexibly as during the war.

Mr. MacDonald's undertaking, it is believed, will help to facilitate the military evacuation of the Ruhr.

The statement assumes that the United States will be invited to participate in the next London conference.—Reuter.

Required Check on Germany

Paris, June 23.

The "*Matin's*" special correspondent in London states that the guarantees asked by M. Herriot before the Ruhr can be militarily evacuated include the possibility of sending troops to the Rhine in the event of German defaults. This would involve absolute control of certain strategic lines.

Strong representations will be made, according to the correspondent, with regard to disarmament. The Conference of Ambassadors will demand the drawing up of a full inventory and the inspection of German armaments by the Inter-Allied Commission.

The correspondent states that the Germans will be invited to the drafting of a protocol, which will be signed with them for the initiation of the experts' scheme.

It was also agreed that France and Britain should each appoint two experts to examine the question of debts with a view to finding a settlement without awaiting the participation of the United States.—Reuter.

London, June 23.

M. Herriot left for Brussels from Victoria station this morning.—Reuter.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's Statement in the House of Commons

London, June 23.

In the House of Commons to-day, replying to Mr. Stanley Baldwin, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said that the purpose of his interview with M. Herriot, the French Premier, was to discuss the technical arrangements necessary in order to put the experts' reports into operation and also to discuss certain matters in which co-operation between France and Britain seemed desirable in order to promote security and peace in Europe. The Prime Minister said that this must not be taken to mean that it was intended to make any exclusive arrangements between any two Powers. The discussion would be reported to the Prime Ministers of Belgium and Italy, to whom M. Herriot and Mr. MacDonald were anxious that no decision should be presented as already taken. The talk was preliminary to an inter-Allied Conference in London, probably on July 16. The *communiqué* issued covered the ground of the conversation.

Replying to Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. MacDonald said that it was most desirable that America should be represented at the Conference on July 16 (cheers). A communication to that effect would be made to America immediately. Representation of Germany had been discussed, but it was obvious that an inter-Allied agreement was in the first place essential with regard to what they were prepared to do to give effect to the report. It was felt that the report imposed certain obligations on Germany somewhat outside the obligations of the Treaty of Versailles. The question remaining for consultation with Belgium and Italy was how best they could make Germany a willing partner in sharing these obligations.

The Inter-Allied Debts

Mr. MacDonald said that the business of the inter-Allied Conference would be the Dawes report. As soon as all the machinery was [illegible] in order to put the report into operation, the Conference would proceed to discuss and, if need to arrange other outstanding questions between France and Britain, including inter-Allied debts, but he emphasized that the debt question would not be mixed up with putting the report into operation.

Replying to Mr. W. M. R. Pringle, Liberal Member for Peniston, the Prime Minister said that the question of the proportions in which the Allies shared the payments from Germany would certainly not be reopened.

Replying to Mr. Ronald McNeill, Unionist Member for Canterbury, Mr. MacDonald said that the Government was communicating with the Dominions. He gave assurance that the Dominions would be completely consulted, so that they might feel that they were partners with the Government in everything the Government did (Opposition cheers). He emphasized that in settling the question of putting the Dawes report into operation the Government would take no responsibility which would lead to Britain or her Dominions being mulcted in seeing it carried out.

In reply to Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. MacDonald said that Germany would be asked to come in to make good the final arrangements for putting the Dawes report into operation.—Reuter.

Collective Note to Germany

Brussels, June 23.

It is authoritatively stated that Mr. MacDonald and M. Herriot at the Chequers decided on the terms of a collective Note to Germany, after the anticipated Belgian approval has been obtained, drawing Germany's attention to the interest she has in giving material guarantee of her good will and good faith, if she wishes for the restoration of normal relations with the Allies. The Note will insist most urgently on the necessity for Germany giving all assurances on the vital question of disarmament without delay.—Reuter.

Attitude of United States.

New York, June 23.

With regard to the MacDonald-Herriot meeting, it is indicated that there is no likelihood of deviation from the Government's policy of no formal participation in European discussions, but, as a matter of course, the United States will expect to be represented in some way at the inter-Allied Conference.

It is remarked as a coincidence that this meeting will probably be held at the same time that Secretary of State Hughes will be in London with the American Bar Association.—Reuter's American Service.

UNITY OF THE ALLIED POWERS

Measures to be Taken to Carry Out Experts' Plan with Regard to Germany

Brussels, June 24.

In the course of long conversations, M. Herriot communicated to MM. Théunis and Hymans the details of his conversation with Mr. Ramsay MacDonald. According to a subsequent statement by M. Théunis, these conversations permit the hope of close co-operation between Britain, France, Italy and Belgium with a view to carrying out the experts' plan.—Reuter.

Berlin, June 24.

It is understood that a personal message from M. Herriot and Mr. MacDonald was communicated this morning to the Chancellor, Herr Marx. It points out that very disquieting reports are reaching the British and French Governments of the increasing activities of Nationalist militarist associations. It urges the German Government in its own interest to facilitate such an examination of armaments as will dispel suspicion.—Reuter.

Brussels, June 25.

Belgium has agreed to attend the conference on July 15 with a view to putting the experts' report into operation. The conference will be of an inter-Allied character, and it will not be necessary to call German representatives. The Ruhr will not be given up until Germany has given proof of her willingness to accept the experts' plan by giving guarantees. Whatever Germany may reply to the note of the Conference of Ambassadors, Belgium is as firmly decided as France to claim the complete disarmament of Germany.

Washington, June 25.

Mr. Frank B. Kellog, the United States Ambassador in London, has been instructed to attend the forthcoming conference of Prime Ministers on the subject of the Dawes report.—Reuter's American Service.

MILITARY CONTROL IN GERMANY

German Cabinet's Discussion of the Allied Note

Berlin, June 25.

The Cabinet to-day discussed the Allied Note with regard to military control. It is expected that a reply will be sent at the end of next week. There is no doubt that it will accept the Allies' demands, provided the proposed military investigation is really the control commission's last action and after that the League of Nations will take charge of the matter.—Reuter.

GOVERNMENT TWICE DEFEATED

Combination of Conservatives and Liberals Regarding Housing Bill

London, June 23.

The Government sustained another defeat in the House of Commons to-night by the sustantial vote of 315 to 175, in consequence of an Opposition and Liberal combination in favour of a motion to refer the Housing (Financial Provisions) Bill to a Committee of the whole House, instead of a Special Committee, as the Government sought to impose. The defeat, however, was on a question of procedure not of principle. No political significance is, therefore, attached to it, and other business proceeded.

Prior to this incident, the Bill, which embodies the financial resolutions, had already passed the second reading, after an Opposition motion of rejection had been defeated by 269 votes to 206. The Opposition argued that it was unsound in theory and practice and that its finance was thoroughly bad. The Liberals also expressed some discontent and it was the Liberal, Mr. C. F. G. Masterman's motion, that ultimately resulted in the discomfiture of the Government.—Reuter.

London, June 24.

The novelty attaching to Government defeats in the House of Commons is somewhat wearing off. For the sixth time they received a set-back to-night, when an amendment to the Traffic Bill was carried by 195 votes to 168 by the Conservatives and Liberals. The amendment pressed the Transport Ministry to adopt a certain arrangement for submitting regulations to Parliament. which, the Minister objected, would hamper the work of his department. The defeat is regarded as unimportant.—Reuter.

THE ANGLO-SOVIET CONFERENCE

Resumption of Negotiations Doubtful: A State of Suspended Animation

London, June 25.

The diplomatic correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" says that the official Anglo-Soviet negotiations are at present in a state of suspended animation. The British side considers it futile to proceed further until negotiations for raising a loan and reaching an agreement with the British holders of Russian stock have fructified. Therefore, the resumption of the plenary conference is problematical.—Reuter.

Moscow, June 24.

M. Zinovieff, in the course of a speech at the Communist Internationale Congress to-day, declared: "England is now our chief task. If we succeed in creating a mass Communist party there, half the European victory will be achieved. We must not undervalue the happenings in England. We must set to work in the British Colonies."—Reuter.

SYDNEY, June 20.—Sitting in Admiralty Street to-day awarded £6,000 to the owners and crew of the tug Champion for the salvage of the Honolulu Maru, which was wrecked off the coast of New South Wales last April.—Reuter.

RUSSIA'S DESIRE FOR TRADE FACILITIES

Anxious to Place Orders in Britain for Manufactures if Credits Granted

London, June 25.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. L. R. Lumley (Unionist) asked whether the Russian Government had intimated that it was prepared to place orders in England which would provide work for large numbers of engineering workers if credit facilities were forthcoming. Mr. William Lunn, the Secretary of the Department of Overseas Trade, said that he understood that proposals involving the placing of orders in England for manufactures had recently been submitted to the advisory committee under the Trade Facilities Act.

Replying to Commander Kenworthy (Liberal), Mr. Lunn said that the trade facilities scheme had not been extended to the Russian Government at present, but that would not prevent the committee from considering the scheme.—Reuter.

SOUTH AFRICA'S NEW PARLIAMENT

Gen. Hertzog's Assurance that Nationalists Won't Raise Secession Issue

Capetown, June 20.

It is reported from Pretoria that Mr. Tielman Roos, the leader of the Transvaal Nationalists, writing in the Dutch newspaper, "*Ons Vaderland*," invites "our South African Party brothers to unite with us." He says that the Nationalist Party will act moderately and fairly and hope to create a better future for the country. He urges a reunion of all the Dutch, who desire to develop and build up South Africa.—Reuter.

Bloemfontein, June 20.

Addressing an enthusiastic open air demonstration to-day, General Hertzog emphasized the necessity for co-operation between the two races, for which he had always worked. He declared that, although the pact was formally ended, he was convinced that the two parties strongly desired to continue to co-operate. Gen. Hertzog gave assurance that the people of South Africa would no longer be "governed by violence."

No Secession Meditated

June 21.

In an interview published in the "Cape Times," General Hertzog, referring to the statement made by Mr. Tielman Roos, the leader of the Transvaal Nationalists, yesterday, inviting "our South African Party brothers to unite with us," said that Mr. Roos was free to say what he liked but he himself was not.

General Hertzog admitted that it was impossible for the Nationalists to carry on without the support of Labour. He expected that the two parties would shortly come to a mutual understanding with regard to policy.

General Hertzog emphasized that the Nationalists were determined to keep the pledge not to attempt to change South Africa's constitutional relations with Britain as laid down in the Act of Union. The Nationalists did not consider secession a matter of practical politics and were unlikely to do so until the rest of the people, especially the mass of British feeling, favoured it.—Reuter.

Premiership Resigned by Gen. Smuts: Gen. Hertzog to Form a Cabinet

Cape Town, June 23.

General Smuts has resigned the Premiership. The Governor-General has summoned General Hertzog and has asked General Smuts and his Ministry to continue pending the formation of a new Government.

It is announced that General Smuts will not be opposed at Standerston, Transvaal, the seat offered to him by Colonel Classen.—Reuter.

GREAT BRITAIN AND EGYPT

No Intention to Abandon the Sudan or Administration of the Suez Canal

London, June 25.

The British Government has declared that it is not going to abandon the Sudan in any sense whatever.

This definite endorsement of the policy of previous Governments was proclaimed by Lord Parmoor in the House of Lords to-day in reply to a question. It assumes greater importance in view of the impending visit of the Egyptian Premier, Zaghlul Pasha, to discuss outstanding questions with Britain and the Egyptian demand for the cession of the Sudan.

An important contribution to the discussion on the subject in the House of Lords was made by Viscount Grey of Fallodon, who, in the course of a striking utterance, deplored the fact that practically all Lord Cromer's splendid work in the administration of Egypt was gone or going. Viscount Grey insisted that the Egyptian Government should be made to understand that the right of protecting and administering the Suez Canal will not pass to it. We must also make it quite clear that Egypt will have no say whatever in the question of the Sudan. The only exception will be the question of the Nile waters, which is a case for a joint Egyptian and Sudanese Commission.

Lord Parmoor, giving the reassurance afore-mentioned, emphasized that Britain recognized that its obligations to the Sudanese were of such a character that no Government could abandon them without very serious loss of prestige.—Reuter.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN FRANCE

A Vote of Confidence: Determination of Socialists to Retain Independence

Paris, June 19.

The Socialist attitude towards the Herriot Government was defined to-day in a statement by M. Paul Faure in the Chamber, namely, that the Socialists will retain their independence, but will support the Government as long as the latter remains true to its own principles.

M. Herriot foreshadowed stringent financial retrenchment and rigorous collection of the income-tax. He declared that at present there was no question of a capital levy.—Reuter.

Latter.

Prior to M. Herriot's departure for London, the Chamber of Deputies passed a vote of confidence in the Government by 313 votes to 234.

The Poincarist, M. de Selves, was elected President of the Senate by 151 votes against 134 votes received by M. Herriot's candidate, M. Bienvenu-Martin.—Reuter.

FREE FIGHT IN FRENCH CHAMBER

Communist Attack on Socialists: From Abuse to Fisticuffs: Opposition Cheers

Paris, June 20.

There was an uproar in the Chamber of Deputies yesterday evening. The sitting was twice suspended, firstly, owing to a battle of expletives between the Right and Left Deputies, and, secondly, owing to a fight with fists between the Socialists and Communists at mid-night.

The Socialists assaulted a Communist Deputy, who declared that the Socialists were traitors to the working class because they supported the Government. The Communists rushed to the support of their colleague and a mêlée ensued. The Communist, M. Marty, standing on a bench, directed the operations, whirling a belt round his hand. The Radicals were against and the Right and Centre cheered ironically.—Reuter.

SECUNDERABAD, June 21.—The Nizam of Hyderabad has granted the ex-Khalif, Abdul Medjid, a life pension of £300 a month, beginning in July.—Reuter.

FRANCE AND SOVIET RUSSIA

Intended Exchange of Views with United States as to Recognition

New York, June 22.

M. Herriot has sent a despatch with a view to bringing about an exchange of views with the United States before taking steps concerning French recognition of Soviet Russia. He intimates the belief that the United States and France have much in common on their attitude towards the Soviet Government, and might therefore benefit mutually and perhaps reach an understanding regarding the course each shall pursue. The despatch significantly recalls President Coolidge's recent message to Congress, when he laid down the conditions of American recognition, namely, abandonment by the Soviet of the policy of confiscation or nationalization of private property, indemnification for past seizures, acknowledgment of Russia's just obligations and cessation of propaganda in the United States.—Reuter's American Service.

Paris, June 22.

The Quai d'Orsay points out that negotiations have not opened between Paris and Washington with regard to recognition of the Soviet. M. Herriot has merely instructed the French Ambassador to communicate to the State Department as an act of courtesy the text of the passage in his Ministerial declaration, thereby drawing official attention to the new French policy towards Russia. A reply was not requested and is not being awaited. A similar *démarche* was made at the French Embassy in London and in the other capitals interested.—Reuter.

Soviet's Attempt to Pledge Chinese Eastern Rlwy.

London, June 22.

The "Morning Post" says that the transfer of the Chinese Eastern Railway to the Soviet caused M. Herriot to withhold recognition of Russia, and the paper believes that M. Herriot raised the question during his visit to Chequers. It states that M. Litvinoff made an attempt in London to sell the railway or pledge it as a guarantee for a loan but, in view of energetic diplomatic steps taken in London by Japan, the United States and France, M. Litvinoff's efforts failed.—Reuter.

SOVIET ESPIONAGE IN FRANCE

Russian Ex-Officer Sentenced to Imprisonment for Theft of Plans

Paris, June 25.

A former Russian officer, Boris Mindiouck, was to-day sentenced to three years' imprisonment and a fine of 1,000 francs, and a French engineer, Antoine Thivat, to 10 months' imprisonment on a charge of appropriating important plans belonging to aeroplane factories, where they were employed, concerning interests of national defence. It was alleged that Mindiouck had admitted that he intended to communicate the documents to the Soviet.—Reuter.

THE MURDER OF SGR. MATTEOTTI

Kidnapped Socialist Now Said to Have Been Murdered and Body Burnt

Rome, June 19.

The arrest of Signor Marinelli, one of the original Fascists, administrative secretary of the Party since its foundation and enjoying authority second only to that of Signor Mussolini, amazed and shocked the public though the fact that he was not included in the Directory appointed on June 16 had already revealed that he no longer enjoyed the confidence of Signor Mussolini. Reuter.

Rome, June 21.

The "*Messaggero*" says that one of the principal men arrested in connexion with the Matteotti crime has admitted complicity and has accused three other prominent Fascists, two of whom have been arrested as instigators.

It is alleged that Signor Matteotti was dragged into a motor-car and murdered, the car driven into the woods and the body thrown into a hedge. The murderers returned to Rome and conferred with others with regard to the disposal of the body, with the result that one of the assassins drove into the woods in the night and disposed of the body, which the prisoner believed was burned.—Reuter.

Socialist Meetings of Protest in Geneva and Paris

Rome, June 22.

Cesare Rossi, the former head of the Government Press Office, who is charged with complicity in the Matteotti affair, has surrendered to the police.—Reuter.

London, June 23.

The Matteotti crime is arousing the ire of Socialists throughout Europe.

Reuter's correspondent at Geneva states that a stormy public protest meeting was held there, attended by 2,000 persons, including the Labour Conference delegates representing Britain, France, Holland, Germany and Belgium. Allusion to the Fascist *régime* in the speeches provoked cries of "Assassins! Bandits!" and tumult, accompanied by expressions of "To the guillotine!" Finally the meeting passed a unanimous resolution demanding freedom for the Italian workers.

Reuter's Paris correspondent telegraphs that disorderly scenes followed a Communist protest meeting, which included many Italians. When the meeting concluded, the participants encountered a procession of local societies with bands playing. They mistook them for a counter-demonstration and a free fight ensued. The police intervened and the fighting became a fierce three-party mêlée. Casualties were inflicted on both political parties before the police cleared the streets.—Reuter.

Indignation and Regret of President of Senate and Signor Mussolini

Rome, June 24.

In the Senate to-day, the President, Signor Tittoni, expressed indignation at the murder of Signor Matteotti and repugnance at the motives of self-interest surrounding the crime. He affirmed the Senate's determination that a full penalty should fall on those responsible.

Signor Mussolini, in a long speech, associated himself with these sentiments. He reiterated his extreme regret and horror. He declared that the Fascisti were among the first to condemn those responsible. Justice would be meted out irrespective of person. The Government would stand fast, but this did not mean that it might not be reconstructed in order to enable it better to achieve national pacification. There was no question of his clinging to office, but he would regard himself as the most cowardly of men if he shirked his moral and political responsibilities at a difficult moment.

He refused to agree to dissolution. Fascism had certainly received a blow, but it had already profited and would continue to profit from it in getting rid of bad elements. Fascism would refuse to bow to the storm of reproach. The incidents at Bologna were indicative of the moral and political tension, which had reached its maximum, particularly in North and Central Italy, where Fascism was not strongly represented. Everything must be done to prevent the situation becoming worse.—Reuter.

RIOT IN THE REICHSTAG

Berlin, June 24.

Violent scenes occurred in the Reichstag to-night in the course of the debate on a motion for the release of political prisoners. A regular hand-to-hand fight took place between Nationalists and Socialists. One Member apparently tried to strangle another. Insults were shrieked across the House. The sitting was twice suspended. The Communists walked out in a body as a protest against a remark by a Nationalist.—Reuter.

BRITISH PRESTIGE IN MEXICO

New York Press Disposed to Resent Mr. MacDonald's Act

New York, June 20.

Commenting on Britain's breaking off of relations with Mexico, the "New York Times" says that Mexico is clearly entitled to demand the recall of Mr. Cummins, but this ought to have been done without the use of offensive language. The world is startled at the sight of a Pacifist MacDonald bearing himself in an international dispute very much as Lord Palmerston would have done.

The "New York World" says that the MacDonald Government inherited from Marquess Curzon the quarrel with the Obregon Administration, which, through ignorance or obstinacy, it has made its own and in breaking with Mexico it has manifested an unfriendly spirit which makes its motives questionable.—Reuter's American Service.

Mexico City, June 21.

Mr. Cummins, the British Agent, left here yesterday evening for the United States on his way home.—Reuter.

AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

Large Number of Presidential Candidates and Differences of Opinion

New York, June 23.

The city is decorated with miles of flags and bunting and Fifth Avenue at night is glowing under myriads of yellow, white and blue lights, the official colours of the city, in honour of the opening of the Democratic Convention on June 24.

The Convention is expected to prove one of the most exciting on record owing to the large number of potential candidates and the differences of opinion with regard to the questions of Prohibition, the Ku Klux Klan, the World Court of Justice and the League of Nations. Those against the Ku Klux Klan desire a plank in the platform opposing the Klan by name, while others suggest a plank which would merely denounce subversive organizations generally. Division on the foreign relations plank hinges generally on whether or not the League of Nations should be specially referred to. With regard to the liquor issue, some delegates urge a plank suggesting amendment of the Volstead Act so as to permit light wines and beers. Others want enforcement of the law with a proviso that, if the statute is imperfect and out of harmony with the Constitution, Congress should alter it.

Mr. Smith, the Governor of New York, and Mr. McAdoo, the former Secretary of the Treasury, are still the most prominent candidates for the Presidency, but keen political observers declare that Mr. Davis, the former Ambassador to Britain, is daily gaining adherents.—Reuter's American Service.

Republican Home and Foreign Policies Condemned

New York, June 24.

Addressing the Democratic Convention on being elected temporary chairman, Senator Harrison, of Mississippi, unsparingly condemned the Republican home and foreign policies. He referred bitterly to the recent graft disclosures at Washington, exclaiming that "the least the American people expect of their public servants is common honesty. Oh, for a man at the White House with the matchless statesmanship and fine fighting qualities of Woodrow Wilson." Senator Harrison said that President Wilson's policy was definite, wise and brave, while the Republican policy had been vacillating, halting and weak. He praised President Harding's attitude towards the World Court, but complained that President Coolidge, since assuming office, had made only a bow in that direction.

Thirteen thousand party "warhorses," delegates and spectators packed Madison Suare Gardens for the opening of the sitting at midday in stifling summer heat. To-day's proceedings were brief, but surcharged with intense feeling as a result of the pre-Convention campaign.—Reuter's American Service.

Arguments For and Against Joining League of Nations

New York, June 25.

The Democratic Convention at present appears to be at sixes and sevens with regard both to platform and candidates. The resolutions committee all night long listened to arguments for and against America's joining the League of Nations and with regard to Prohibition, the Ku Klux Klan and other internal issues. Apparently no agreement on any of them was in sight when the committee adjourned. Judge Westcott in an impassioned address to the committee urged a platform in favour of joining the League, after which he fell fainting. Other speakers urged a referendum on the question of joining the League, while others favoured adherence to the League under conditions which would not endanger the sovereignty of the country. Some are of the opinion that Mr. McAdoo's chances of nomination have been injured by the refusal of the rules committee to change the rule, making a two-thirds vote of the delegates necessary for nomination to a bare majority vote.

Later.

Senator Walsh, of Montana, has been elected permanent chairman of the Democratic Convention. In a speech he condemned the Republicans' sins of commission and omission, declaring that President Coolidge's party had palliated the offences of unfaithful public servants. "It is in this easy tolerance of turpitude that the real danger of free government lies." Senator Walsh advocated tariff repeal, relief of agriculture and general reform. He warned the Democrats against making the League of Nations the chief issue of the campaign.

Mr. Owen Young, who was a member of the Dawes Committee, impressed on the platform committee of the Democratic Convention that the Democrats should take up a position regarding the attitude of the United States in relation to European politics. He subsequently accepted a resolution as correctly representing his position to the effect that: "The United States should sympathetically co-operate with its former allies and the League of Nations, having in view the ultimate adhesion of the United States to the Covenant with proper reservations."—Reuter's American Service.

Bleeding Noses.

Washington, June 26.

Towards the close of the Democratic Convention yesterday a resolution was passed to hear the nominating speeches immediately as the platform committee was not ready to report. A delegate then began to nominate Senator Underwood. There was a demonstration when candidates hostile to Ku Kluxism were mentioned. Collisions with delegates unfavourable to Senator Underwood resulted in bleeding noses. Brilliant orators submitted the claims of Senator Robinson and Mr. McAdoo. A vigorous demonstration followed continuing in the case of Mr. McAdoo until the adjournment.

And a Black Eye.

Considerable merriment was caused in the Capitol yesterday when simultaneously with the news from New York that Senator Robinson's name had been submitted for Presidential nomination at the Democratic Convention, it become known that the Chevy Chase Golf Club had temporarily suspended Senator Robinson for blackening the eye of another member on the links last week in the course of a dispute.—Reuter's American Service.

MANILA, June 24.—Nine old-style submarines left for America to-day, *viâ* Hongkong, Amoy, Shanghai and Chefoo, to be replaced by 18 large modern vessels from the United States.—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CALCUTTA, June 20.—Two Bengalees, caught redhanded when the police discovered a complete bomb factory here in March, have been sentenced to 10 and 7 years transportation respectively for posseasing live bombs.—Reuter.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT

Necessity of Remedies to Rectify Imperfections of Administration

London, June 19.

The terms of reference of the committee, which the Government of India are appointing to inquire into the difficulties and defects in the working of the Government of India Act, show that the committee may only suggest remedies which would be consistent with the structure and purpose of the Act and such amendments as would be necessary to rectify administrative imperfections.

Members of the Committee include Sir Alexander Muddiman, President of the Council of State, who is Chairman of the Committee, the Maharaja of Burdwan, Sir Mian Muhammad Shah and Sir Tejisapru. —Reuter.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTIONS

Amendment of Liquor Act Generally Rejected

Vancouver, June 22.

The general election is proceeding in British Columbia. The Premier, Mr. Oliver, was defeated at Victoria City, but the other Cabinet Ministers have all been re-elected. At the same time a plebiscite taken on the question of amending the Liquor Act to allow the sale of beer and light wines by the glass in licensed premises has resulted in the cities and most of the larger towns voting against the amendment.—Reuter's American Service.

POSTAL STRIKE IN CANADA

Service Badly Disorganized

Ottawa, June 20.

A general strike has been proclaimed by postal employees as a protest against the new wages rates, fixed by the Civil Service Commission. Up to the present the strike has badly disorganized the mail services in Ontario and Quebec. —Reuter's American Service.

BUILDING TYRANNY IN BRITAIN

Lock-out by Employers: Men's Retort: Country in Grip of a Monopoly

London, June 21.

The National Conference of Building Employers to-day decided to declare a national lockout from July 5 to enforce observance of the national agreements.

The lockout will involve nearly 700,000 men and will probably mean the stoppage of the bulk of building throughout the country.

The decision of the employers is all the more surprising because the national agreement, embodying the settlement reached on May 30 for an increase in wages of a half-penny an hour, was formally signed only on June 16.

The employers, in declining to endorse the settlement and breaking off negotiations, point out the continuous disputes and revolts throughout the country, particularly the strikes at Liverpool.

The building operatives declare that the employers have repudiated their own negotiating committee and hint that, if the terms of settlement are not observed, the operatives may strike without waiting for the lockout.—Reuter.

PUNJAB LIBEL CASE

Labour M.P.'s Motion for Removal from Bench of Mr. Justice McCardie

London, June 23.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. George Lansbury, Labour Member for Bow and Bromley, asked if the Government would grant time for discussion of his motion asking for the removal of Mr. Justice McCardie from the Bench in connection with [illegible] in the libel case of Sir Michael O'Dwyer, former Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, against Sir Sankaran Nair, a former member of the Government of India.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said that the Government had come to the conclusion that discussion of this subject would only add to the harm done to India by the words complained of.—Reuter.

IRISH FREE STATE AND UNITED STATES

Suggested Appointment of a Minister Plenipotentiary

London, June 25.

In the House of Lords to-day, Lord Arnold, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, stated that the Government had instructed the British Ambassador at Washington to inform the United States Government that they had concluded that it was desirable that the conduct of matters at Washington exclusively relating to the Irish Free State should be confided to a Free State Minister Plenipotentiary, accredited to the United States, and they trusted that this proposal would be acceptable to the United States Government.—Reuter.

EXTENSION OF OLD AGE PENSIONS SCHEME

Provision for Single People and Married Couples: Not for Mothers and Widows

London, June 25.

A quarter of a million elderly persons will benefit by the result of the extension of the Old Age Pensions Scheme, which has obtained the approval of the House of Commons.

Mr. Philip Snowden, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, introducing the necessary financial resolution, said that single persons having means, not necessarily earned, of 25s. a week, will be entitled to a pension of 10 shillings a week. A married couple, whose income is 50s. a week, will be entitled to a sovereign a week jointly. The cost of this increase will exceed £4,000,000 for the first year, but will rise to £7,000,000. The proposals could in no way be regarded as a final settlement of the problem. Mr. Snowden said that he hoped shortly to submit a scheme for mothers' and widows' pensions and to reduce the age limit to 65.—Reuter.

ORIENTAL POTENTATES VISITING LONDON

Received in Audience by the King

London, June 25.

The King to-day received in audience the Sultan of Perak. The Sultan was attended by Sir Ernest Birch, former British Resident in Perak, who presented the Rajahs Kechil Dngan, Kechil Bongsu, Aznam Shah, Kintas, Datoh Panklima and Tohmuda.

His Majesty also gave an audience to the Regent of Kedah, who presented his two half-brothers, Tunku Mansur and Tungku Mahomed Jiwa.

Sir Ernest Birch also presented the Raja Muda of Selangor.

The Prince of Wales received Sir Robert Ho Tung.—Reuter.

OBITUARY

Sir Dighton Probyn

London, June 20.

The death is announced of General the Rt. Hon. Sir Dighton Macnaghten Probyn, V.C., P.C., G.C.S.I., G.C.B., G.C.V.O., LS.O., at the age of 91.

Sir Dighton Probyn had been Comptroller to Queen Alexandra since 1910 and Extra Equerry to the King since 1910. He entered the Army in 1849, and served on the Trans-Indus Frontier (1852-57), in the Indian Mutiny (1857-58), in China (1860), and in the Umbeyla Campaign (1863). He was knighted in 1876 and attained the rank of General in 1888.

Sir Dighton Probyn retired from the office of Governor of Wellington College in 1919.—Reuter.

BRITAIN'S INCREASED IMPORTS

Improved Exports Also

London, June 19.

In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Sidney Webb, President of the Board of Trade, introducing the Board of Trade estimates, said that trade conditions were considerably more promising than they were last year. There had been a wonderful increase in imports, mainly the principal raw materials on which British commerce depended. Exports had also increased. Coal and steel production in Britain had reached the pre-war figures.—Reuter.

TRAGEDY ON MOUNT EVEREST

Two of the Explorers Killed When Almost Arrived at the Summit

London, June 21.

Tragedy attended the latest attempt to conquer Mount Everest, according to the "Westminster Gazette," which states that Messrs. Leigh Mallory and Irvine, two members of the party, were killed during the final attempt to reach the summit.

The "Daily Express" says that news received by the victims' relatives shows that Messrs. Mallory and Irvine were caught in a monsoon near the summit.

Sir Francis Younghusband, interviewed by the "Westminster Gazette," stated that the expedition was within a short distance of the summit; indeed, higher than it had ever previously attained. It was practically certain, however, that the expedition would now have to be abandoned, at least for the present year.—Reuter.

MURDER OF JAPANESE IN CALIFORNIA

Believed to be the Outcome of a Bootleggers' or Gambling Feud

London, June 22.

The New York correspondent of the "Sunday Express" telegraphs that the dead bodies of two Japanese have been found on a country road near Fort Arthur, California, and another in Colorado Street, outside Pasadena. Police suspect the murders to be a reprisal for the anti-American incidents in Japan. They believe that the men were murdered in Los Angeles and the bodies taken to the spots where they were found.

The correspondent states that recent anti-Japanese outbreaks near Los Angeles have caused the Japanese Businessmen's Association to appeal for police protection.—Reuter.

Los Angeles, June 22.

The police have identified the bodies of the two murdered Japanese as notorious under-world characters. The body of one of the victims was literally riddled with bullets. The police believe that the murder was the outcome of a bootleggers' or gambling feud.—Reuter's American Service.

Japanese Feeling under Control.

Tokio, June 23.

The murders of Japanese in California are understood to be the outcome of an inter-Japanese quarrel, according to information from official sources.

Reports of these incidents naturally found a prompt echo here, especially in the reactionary press, which sensationally displayed the news and commented on it with vigour, while the larger and more moderate papers either refrained from comment or counselled self-control in the absence of details.

As soon as the reports were received extra precautions were taken for the maintenance of order, especially at hotels and the residences of Americans, who were assured by the authorities that every provision would be made to ensure complete control of the radical elements.

The leaders of the Taikosha, which is alleged to have been responsible for the incident at the Imperial Hotel on June 7, now appeal to their fellow-nationals to uphold the character of the Samurai, who would scorn "to persecute innocent Americans in Japan."—Reuter's Pacific Service.

CHINESE SMUGGLERS IN BERLIN

Two Hundred Arrested in Raid of Chinatown: a Plea of Ignorance

Berlin, May 24.

Two hundred members of the Berlin Chinese colony were haled into court yesterday as the result of a raid of Chinatown in search of smuggled goods. The court hearing developed the fact that most of the goods in question were smuggled by way of the occupied area, where the control is not so effective as elsewhere.

Dr. Hoo Chi-tsai, secretary of the Chinese Legation, appearing as interpreter, pleaded that his countrymen were unacquainted with the complicated German import laws and suggested the payment of a lump sum as a fine. The court declined to accept this solution and will issue individual indictments.—Reuter.

RUSSIA'S COINAGE REQUIREMENTS

Contract with British Mint for Manufacture of Forty Million Half-roubles

London, June 22.

In consequence of the inability of the Leningrad mint to meet sufficiently quickly the coinage requirements for trade uses, the Soviet Government has contracted with the Royal Mint for the coining of 40,000,000 half-rouble pieces, called poltinniks. They consist of nine parts of silver and one of copper and their value is about one shilling. The Soviet Trade Delegation in London will supply the necessary silver, all of which has already been quietly secured. Coinage will begin at the end of June and delivery will be effected within four months. The Leningrad mint is also manufacturing silver roubles, silver poltinniks, silver 20, 15 and 10 kopek pieces and also smaller denomination copper-coins.—Reuter.

PRESSMEN IN THE EAST

An Editor's Advice to Young Journalists: a Field for Gaining Experience

London, June 24.

Sir Thomas Bennett, proprietor of the "Times of India," and Mr. Arthur Still, editor of the "Straits Times," were the principal guests at a luncheon of the Institute of Journalists to-day, Sir M. Bhownagree, Sir Alfred Robbins, Mr. Robert Donald and many other prominent Home and overseas pressmen were present.

Mr. Still dwelt on the varied character of the recognition pressmen received in the East. He advised young journalists not to shirk opportunities of securing appointments abroad because every year spent overseas added to their value both as journalists and citizens. He hoped that the Institute and the Empire Press Union would bear in mind that the newspaper press was not entirely confined to Fleet Street.

Sir Thomas Bennett referred to the growth of Indian newspapers during the past 40 years.—Reuter.

THE CRUELTY OF RODEO

A Wild West Show at Wembley That Excites General Condemnation

London, June 20.

The "rodeo" contests in the British Empire Exhibition at the Stadium, in which American and Canadian cowboys performed very daring feats of horsemanship, have excited considerable agitation in Parliament and the country in consequence of alleged cruelty in the course of lassoing and securing wild steers. Several steers were hurt and had to be killed. Police Court proceedings have been instituted against the promoters. Meanwhile, in consequence of the growing volume of protests, steer-roping has been cut out of the programme.—Reuter.

RUMANIA AND SOVIET

Recognition and Bessarabia

Bukharest, June 20.

Replying to an interpellation on the Government's policy towards Russia, the Premier, M. Bratiano, and the Foreign Minister, M. Duca, made speeches declaring that Rumania was anxious to resume normal relations with the Soviet, but emphasized that recognition depended on Russia acknowledging Rumania's rights over Bessarabia.

A motion of non-confidence in the Government was defeated by 136 votes to 35.—Reuter.

WRECK OF THE CLAN MACMILLAN

Rescue of Captain and Crew: Ship Abandoned

London, June 21.

A despatch from Rangoon states that the steamer Leicestershire reports having received an S.O.S. from the steamer Clan MacMillan, in a sinking condition 30 miles south-east of Table Island.

The Leicestershire is within 16 miles of the Clan MacMillan, which was bound from the Clyde and from Calcutta for Nukualofa in the Friendly Islands.

Later.

It is reported from Rangoon that the steamer Leicestershire reached the reported position of the Clan MacMillan at mid-day, but there was no sign of the Clan MacMillan or her boats. A search is being made.—Reuter.

Rangoon, June 21.

It is reported that the Clan MacMillan's boats have been sighted off the Andamans.

June 22.

All efforts to find the Clan MacMillan have failed. The earlier report that her boats had been sighted off the Andamans is untrue.—Reuter.

London, June 22.

No further news has been heard of the Clan MacMillan, which carries a crew of 27 but no passengers. It is presumed that she has sunk or been abandoned. Heavy weather and gales are prevalent in the Bay of Bengal.—Reuter.

London, June 23.

It is reported from Rangoon that the Clan MacMillan was wrecked off the Preparis Shoal. The steamer Minhoa has picked up 60 of the crew to the south of Alguada. The Captain's boat is still adrift. Six steamers are still searching.

Later.

The Clan Line announce that a message has been received in London stating that the Captain's boat has been picked up. All the crew have now been accounted for.—Reuter.

Captain Loth to Leave His Ship Until Last Moment

Rangoon, June 24.

The crew of the Clan MacMillan experienced a trying 48 hours before they were rescued. The night was pitch black and the sea rough when the vessel grounded on the shoals of Preparis Island. Shortly after she started to sink rapidly.

The crew took to the boats, but stood by for 12 hours until the ship was finally submerged. Meanwhile the captain remained on the bridge, and the chief officer literally had to drag him off. The boats then rowed away. They had an electric torch as their only signalling apparatus. They encountered high seas and a strong wind, which necessitated continual baling.

After the Minhoa sighted the two boat-loads of shipwrecked men, she still had considerable difficulty in picking them up owing to a half gale blowing. The tanker Schwe Dagon came up and went off to search for the other boat, which has now been brought to Chittagong with the captain and others on board.—Reuter.

GRAND PRIORY OF THE ORDER OF ST. JOHN

Investiture by the King of Knights, Ladies and Associates

London, June 24.

As the sovereign head of the Grand Priory of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, the King held an investiture at Buckingham Palace to-day of Knights, Ladies and Associates of the Order. Besides 150 candidates for investiture, there was a numerous assemblage in the hall-room of the Palace. The ceremony was attended by the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of York and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. Among the donats invested were Mr. Ho Kom-tong and Sir Robert Ho Tung, who received silver badges.—Reuter.

SUGAR CULTIVATION IN TRINIDAD

Viscount Milner's Appeal for Further Funds for Development

London, June 23.

In a letter to the press, Viscount Milner, the Chairman of the Colonial Office committee for that purpose, appeals for £100,000 for the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture of Trinidad in order to complete and equip the laboratories now under construction and also to provide for the establishment of an instructional sugar factory, towards which sugar machinery engineers of Britain have contributed apparatus to the value of £20,000.—Reuter.

CONFERENCE OF COCOA MANUFACTURERS

Scheme for Co-operative Marketing of Products

London, June 25.

The conference in London of representatives of the chief cocoa-growing countries of the world to-day passed a resolution in favour of collaborating with British Empire producers in a scheme for co-operative marketing of cocoa. A committee has been appointed to discuss the details.—Reuter.

EXPLOSION ON BRITISH STEAMER

Seven Men Badly Burned and Two Missing

New York, June 24.

Seven men were badly burned and have been taken to hospital, while two are reported missing, as the result of an explosion on board the British freighter Egremont Castle, which was loading here for China.—Reuter's American Service.

N. YORK-SAN FRANCISCO IN 22 HOURS

Remarkable Feat of Endurance by American Aviator

San Francisco, June 24.

The airman, Lieutenant Russel Maughan, arrived at San Francisco at 9.44 this evening. He left New York at 3.59 this morning and thus flew across the continent, a distance of 2,670 miles, between dawn and dusk.

Lieutenant Maughan used a 275 H.-P. 12-cylinder Curtiss "Pursuit" aeroplane. His actual time, including five stops for refuelling, was 21 hours and 48 minutes.

The object of the flight was to test the speed at which Army airmen could be mobilised at either coast in the event of an invasion.—Reuter's American Service.

AMERICAN OIL TRUSTS

Washington, June 25.

Some 50 of the principal oil companies in the United States are involved in anti-trust proceedings, instituted by the Government in the Federal Court of Chicago. The Attorney-General has asked for an injunction to restrain the companies from further violations of the Sherman Law.—Reuter's American Service.

WORLD'S MOSLEM CONFERENCE

Delhi, June 26.

The Central Khilafat Committee, after private sittings lasting three days, it is understood, has settled the personnel of the Khilafat Delegation to the World's Moslem Conference, including the brothers, Mahomed Ali and Shaukat Ali. The Committee has also drafted instructions to the Delegation, which, it is believed, will be authorized to urge upon the Turkish leaders the imperative necessity of changing the venue of the Conference from Cairo to Constantinople.—Reuter.

COMMUNIST AIMS AGAINST GREAT BRITAIN

Moscow, June 26.

M. Beinkop, a member of the Dutch Communist Party, speaking at the Congress of the Third Internationale, said that the British Empire was the centre of gravity of the world's capitalism. The United States was also a stronghold of the same creed. They must concentrate their efforts on the British Empire, because there lay the shortest route to a world revolution.—Reuter.

U. S. FARMERS CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT

St. Paul, Minn., June 20.

The National Farmer-Labour Party has nominated Mr. Duncan McDonald, ex-President of the United Mine-workers of Illinois, and Mr. William Bouck, a fruit rancher-owner, as the Party's candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the United States, respectively.—Reuter's American Service.

CANADIAN POSTAL STRIKE A FAILURE

Ottawa, June 20.

The postal strike has proved a fiasco except at Toronto and Montreal. The Postmaster-General has ordered the dismissal of all strikers not returning with in 24 hours.—Reuter.

ROUND-WORLD AIR FLIGHTS

Rangoon, June 20.

The American world-fliers arrived here to-day.—Reuter.

Akyab, June 26.

The American world-fliers left here to-day for Calcutta.—Reuter.

Rangoon, June 25.

Squadron-Leader MacLaren arrived here to-day on his world flight.—Reuter.

THE PROMOTION OF CAPT. D'OISY CONFIRMED

Paris, June 22.

The promotion of Lieutenant Pelletier d'Oisy to the rank of Captain and of Sergeant Besin to the rank of Knight of the Legion of Honour has been confirmed.—Reuter.

THE FIRE ON THE EGREMONT CASTLE

New York, June 25.

The Egremont Castle, on which an explosion occurred yesterday, while she was loading for China, has been beached and the fire extinguished.—Reuter's American Service.

PRINCE OF WALES TO VISIT SOUTH AFRICA

Capetown, June 25.

General Hertzog has decided to invite the Prince of Wales to visit South Africa. The date has not yet been fixed.—Reuter.

CHINA Journal of Science & Arts, edited by Mr. A. de C. Sowerby and Dr. J. C. Ferguson, is a bi-monthly, profusely illustrated magazine. It contains authentic articles written by experts on the Arts, Literature and Science of China. The annual subscription is $10.00 Shanghai currency, or $6.00 gold U.S.A. and Canada. Office:—Room 102, the Ben Building, Shanghai. Central 3247.

SATURDAY'S TELEGRAMS

THE ANGLO-FRENCH ENTENTE

Premier's Denial of Any Agreement as to a Defensive Military Alliance

London, June 26.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald was cross-examined at question time in the House of Commons to-day with reference to a statement attributed to M. Herriot in an interview published in the *"Independance Belge,"* which aroused furious controversy in the French and British press, that in the event of a premeditated German attack he had received a firm promise that Britain, as in 1914, would be on the side of France and Belgium and that he had the assurance of a firm pact binding the three countries. Mr. MacDonald complained that his conversations with M. Herriot had been grossly misrepresented and falsified by certain newspapers.

The *communiqué* issued on June 22 and his statement of June 23 covered the whole ground of the conversations. The reports mentioned in the question were based either on confusion or imagination. There was absolutely no kind of undertaking as regards a defensive military alliance so far as the conversations with M. Herriot were concerned.—Reuter.

The London Conference.

Paris, June 26.

M. Herriot announced in the Chamber to-day that the United States had accepted the invitation to be represented at the London Conference, officially on questions concerning the United States and semi-officially on questions interesting the other Allies.

Inter-Allied Debts

Submitting an account of the Chequers and Brussels conversations to the Senate and Chamber of Deputies to-day, M. Herriot said that Mr. MacDonald told him that, in the event of German default in the execution of the Dawes' plan, Britain would solemnly undertake to stand by the Allies. Britain desired Germany to give a written undertaking to carry out the necessary measures for the execution of the plan. M. Herriot insisted to Mr. MacDonald on the necessity of a settlement of the question of inter-Allied debts. The British Premier admitted that it should be taken up without delay.—Reuter.

Washington, June 27.

The Government have been definitely assured that the conference of Premiers on July 16 will be restricted to discussion of the Dawes' plan and will not include the question of inter-Allied debts.—Reuter's American Service.

Ruhr Expulsions Lifted.

Berlin, June 27.

Following M. Herriot's declarations in the Chamber with regard to expelled Germans, permission has already been given to 30,000 persons to return to French occupied territory. The return of the majority of those expelled will be rendered possible shortly and the majority of those taken prisoner at the time of the Ruhr conflict will be freed.—Reuter.

IRISH FREE STATE AND UNITED STATES

The Right of Representation at Washington: A Self-Governing Dominion

London, June 26.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. J. H. Thomas, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dealing with Irish representation at Washington, said that there seemed to be an impression that, if the Irish Republic asked for it, it would be conceded. It should be understood that any such demand would receive the same reply as he believed would be received from either of the two previous Governments. The Government believed that peace and friendship could be maintained in Ireland by the establishment of the Free State as a self-governing Dominion in the British Commonwealth and in no other way.—Reuter.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE SUDAN

Alleged Suppression of Patriotic Demonstrations in Khartum

London, June 26.

In connexion with Lord Parmoor's announcement in the House of Lords yesterday that the Government would not abandon the Sudan, Reuter's correspondent at Cairo reports that a Deputy read in the Chamber on June 24 a telegram which he said had been received from Khartum, alleging that the police had dispersed a peaceful demonstration of Sudanese in favour of King Fuad and Zaghul Pasha. Eleven of the demonstrators were wounded and five were imprisoned.

The Nationalist organization, the Wafd, has issued a manifesto alleging that the imperialists are suppressing expressions of public opinion in the Sudan and are trying to obtain the confidence of the Sudanese by illegitimate means and faked petitions. The manifesto says that the Wafd, which has assumed the task of realization of the complete independence of Egypt and the Sudan, protests very strongly against such methods and informs their Sudanese brethern that the hour of salvation is near.

The Egyptian Senate has passed a resolution protesting against the "English methods towards the Sudan directed at preventing the Sudanese from expressing attachment towards Egypt."—Reuter.

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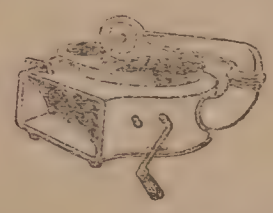

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FROM THE FOUR WINDS

OUR AUSTRALIAN LETTER

Mr. Bruce Firm for a Comprehensive Defence Policy: Labour's Gains through Its Opponents Quarrels: Dame Nellie Melba Back: Home Govt.'s £20,000,000 Imigration Scheme

From Our Own Correspondent.

Melbourne, May 19.

Every effort is being made by Mr. Bruce, the Nationalist Prime Minister, and Dr. Earle Page, Country party Treasurer, to arrive at some understanding regarding the position of their respective followings at the next general elections. The fear of a Labour triumph is before them, and naturally Labour wishes to bring about an appeal to the electors before the differences are composed.

One of the wise old statesmen of the last century made the remark that the greatest asset of a politician is patience. We saw Mr. Lawson, the Victorian State Premier, impatiently break up his government, because he was dissatisfied with the attitude of the Country party organization, and though his successor, Sir Alexander Peacocke, is carrying on it seems certain that he will soon be defeated in the Assembly and will than have to go to the country with a somewhat slim chance of success.

It cannot be said that Mr. Bruce, the Commonwealth Prime Minister, is lacking in patience. He refuses to be hustled, makes no promises and is seeking for a programme which will appeal to both sections of his followers. I have on previous occasions mentioned his assertion of adherence to the protectionist policy, concerning which Labour makes capital in the Eastern States on the grounds that ministerialists are inclined to wobble, and in the western States on the ground that protection places undue burdens on the primary industries.

The protectionist declarations of Mr. Bruce are therefore calculated to rob the Labour party of some of its thunder, and at the same time make things easier for the Nationalists.

Then Mr. Bruce has announced the policy of using the excess tariff revenues as a means of compensating the primary producers by granting bounties on production and subsidies on steamers in order to secure markets for the surplus products.

Mr. Bruce Defence Policy

Following upon this, the Prime Minister, without going into details, which we may expect very shortly, has declared for a definite and comprehensive defence policy. That will gratify the Nationalists and at the same time afford the Country party members a chance to reverse the stupid opposition to military and naval expenditure which they displayed in 1922, chiefly for the purpose of harrying Mr. W. M. Hughes.

There is yet another item of policy, which will certainly create a serious division between Labour and the Country party. The latter pledged itself at the last elections to push on with a vigorous scheme of immigration, but in actual fact the results of 1923 appear to be little better if not worse than those of 1922. Again the purpose of the Country party was to discredit the Hughes Ministry, but it not unnaturally would be glad to show that it was accomplishing something of what it said should be done.

Senator R. V. Wilson, whom Mr. Bruce left behind him in England to look after Australian interests at the Wembley exhibition, will shortly return to Australia, and it is announced that he has made arrangements with the British government for a new and elaborate scheme of immigration. It is said that the amount involved will be something like £20,000,000, on the basis of a 15-year loan. This is not, as at present, solely for the purpose of bringing new settlers to this country, but also for the importation of artisans, labourers, and others whose entry is fiercely opposed by the Labour party on the grounds that it tends to swamp the Labour market. The programme so far may thus be summarised:—1.—Maintenance of protection; 2.—Shipping subsidies and new markets;—3.—Comprehensive defence scheme; 4.—Speeding up immigration of all classes.

Industrial Troubles

The Melbourne tramway strike lasted a fortnight, and then collapsed. The leaders told the men that they had won, because the Arbitration Judge had ordered them to go back to work, and had ordered the Board which governs the tramway service to say without delay what punishment it proposed to inflict upon the man whose flat disobedience was the cause of all the trouble. The Board has since said that it will keep him out until July 1, and now the men say that the treatment is harsh, but they do not say it very loudly. The fact is that the men were stampeded into striking in the belief that their services could not be dispensed with, whereas the general public was well-served by motor 'buses, and all sorts of motor vehicles, the congestion of the traffic in the streets was reduced, and time in travelling was saved. The hotheads who brought about this strike have gone a long way to give back to private enterprise the public utility which not so long ago was municipalized.

Another industrial trouble promises to have much the same sort of result. Men have been called off the ships of a certain line, and have been idle for several weeks. The ships remain tied up. The cause of the trouble is that one of the crew of a steamer of the line bruised his thumb, and the union demanded that he be paid £50 damages. The shipping company replied "not until it is ordered by a court," but the union officials refused to take the thumb into court and proceeded to hang up ship after ship belonging to the company. The latest news is that the men who have thus been thrown out of work are beginning to ask themselves what it is all about, and are moving the Disputes Committee of the Sydney Trades Council to bring the impasse to an end. Meanwhile several union officials in connexion with shipping have been committed for trial for alleged conspiracy, with an unpleasant prospect, if they cannot square the jury, of finding themselves in gaol.

In 1923 the number of industrial disputes throughout Australia was easily the lowest since 1919 and the number of workers—directly and indirectly—involved comparatively insignificant. These last two strikes will hardly encourage further interruptions of industry, so that we may expect a relatively peaceful year. For the first quarter of the present year out of 388,960 members of 423 unions only 7.6 per cent. were reported as unemployed, but this did not include persons on strike or locked out.

Victorian Government Defeated

The end of the Victorian government and the final act of revenge against the Nationalists for daring to flout the Country party has come with dramatic suddenness, and the government of Sir Alexander Peacocke has just been defeated in connexion with a Redistribution of Seats Bill upon which the Nationalists and Country party were agreed, prior to Lawson's break with the latter. On the second reading division a number of Country members crossed the floor and joined the Labour Opposition, with the result that the Bill was defeated by six votes. The question now is, what action will the Governor take? Will he give Sir Alexander a dissolution, or will he send for the Labour leader. Naturally Prendergast, the leader of the Opposition, contends that the latter would be the correct procedure. His theory is that no defeated government has the right to control elections—a novel and suggestive contention. It is generally assumed that Lord Stradbroke will grant a dissolution, and thus within a few months yet a third State election will be held in which the anti-Labour forces will fight each other, and allow Labour, quite possibly, to come back strong enough to take office. The late Western Australian elections gave a startling illustration of how Labour wins not on its own merits, but on the quarrels of its opponents. The votes cast for Labour numbered 38,000 and those for the opponents of Labour 55,000, yet Labour achieved the apparently impossible and got into power.

The Governor's Tea Party

The Presbyterian Church is generally considered a very serious body, but in Victoria it has recently given the public something to laugh about. Dame Nellie Melba, the great singer, has brought to Australia a Royal Opera Company, which has been performing to crowded houses in Melbourne. Most of the principals and the whole of the male chorus are Italians or foreigners, and this fact may account for the *contretemps* which has greatly disturbed the church. It seems that the Earl and Countess of Stradbroke bethought themselves to entertain the vocalists in Government House grounds, and as the proposed guests were mostly engaged on week days the Vice-Royalties chose a Sunday. Everything went off satisfactorily, and hosts and guests, not the least important of whom was Dame Nellie, had a very pleasant time on the beautiful lawns and in quite decent weather. Then terrible to relate it was discovered that four of the young women had found tennis racquets and balls and amused themselves for a few minutes knocking the balls about. This desecration of the Sabbath was brought up at a Presbyterian Assembly and very solemnly debated. At first it was proposed to censure the Governor of the State for permitting tennis to be played on Sunday, but it was felt that this would be disloyal, and eventually a very mild resolution was passed in which the god-fearing qualities of Lord Stradbroke were emphasized, the tendency to non-observance of the Sabbath deplored, and his excellency's own pecadillo just hinted at. It must not be thought for a moment that all the clergy present belonged to the old school of divines who condemned to everlasting torment the small boy "who whustled or went fushing on the Sawbath." There was at least one who had studied his history to such good effect that he was able to tell the assembly that John Knox, the great reformer, played bowls on the Sabbath, while others appeared to think that in the original motion they had caught a tartar and would fain let him go on the easiest terms possible.

Seaplane Flight Round Dominion

The seaplane flight around Australia, to which I referred about a month ago was completed and this morning Wing-Commander S. J. Goble and Flight-Lt. Ivor McIntyre landed in the Bay off St. Kilda, a Melbourne suburban watering place, to be warmly greeted by thousands and officially welcomed. They left to fly round Australia unobtrusively on April 6, and covered 8,500 land miles in approximately 90 flying hours. The same journey if undertaken by one of our ordinary coastal steamers would have occupied 32 days and nights. The ground organization, which was in the hands of the Vacuum Oil Company was excellent, no fewer than 32 depôts being established along the coast. The men were able to test the qualities of the Departmental seaplanes, of which there are only half a dozen in Australia. They are of the Fairey type and are fitted with powerful Rolls-Royce engines. They are designed to carry three men, but in this case additional petrol took the place of the third, and even then the machine was limited to a non-stop flight of 500 miles. The seaplane stood well. It experienced very bad weather in the South, the intense heat of the tropics, and only failed when its engine collapsed about 4,000 miles from home. A delay of ten days was caused by the instalment of a new engine, and in the final fly to base a heavy gale compelled the aviators to turn back to the nearest petrol depôt. All, however, has ended well. The two officers are being lionized, and in their speeches frequently mention the immense areas of country they saw from the air which apparently had never been even trodden by a white man. Their work will of course have an important bearing on the defence issue, which is steadily taking the form of underwater craft and flying machines.

BRITISH PARLEYS WITH SOVIET

The Truth About the "Deadlock:" Russia's Offers and Claims

London, May 6.

The statement made by the Liberal member for Lancaster, Mr. O'Neill, that "the Anglo-Soviet conference has reached a deadlock on the question of debts," is largely justified in substance, writes our Russian Correspondent, if not, perhaps, in form. Technically it is scarcely warranted, as the Committees and Sub-Committees sitting on the subject of claims and counter-claims have not got beyond the stage of mere filing of such claims and counter-claims. But should the Soviet delegates persist in their uncompromising resistance to claims tabulated by British sufferers from the Russian revolution, while urging in full the Soviet "bill" for counter-claims in respect of "foreign interventions," and thus making the Russian counter-claims exceed the claims of British subjects by many millions sterling, no agreement can, of course, be possible.

According to the latest information available, the Russians, while refusing to bind themselves on principle to the recognition of pre-war and war-time debts of the Tsarist and Kerensky Russian Governments, have intimated their willingness to recognize the claims of certain groups of British creditors. Such British creditors are those who have suffered damage and losses as the direct result of the action of the Soviet Government as such and the application of its decrees. Recognition, however, is refused to the claims of British subjects who have suffered as the result of the Revolution. At the same time, the Soviet Government demands the unconditional recognition of all Russia's counter-claims, which amount to over four thousand millions sterling.

The Soviet Delegation, we are given to understand, has been advised to drop this matter for the time being and to seek some form of agreement with the various separate groups of British private creditors of Russia themselves. Certain informal conversations, as previously announced in these columns, with such groups have already been proceeding for some time.

The Russian Guarantees.

The Russian Delegates are still clamouring for substantial credits from the British Government, or, at least, for an extension of credits under the Trade Facilities Act to the amount of £30,000,000

In return for a Government loan with credit facilities, it is stated that Moscow may be inclined to give the following economic and political guarantees:

(1) The sale or transfer to this country of the Eastern Chinese Railway;

(2) The withdrawal from Afghanistan of all Soviet diplomatic, economic, and propaganda representatives, delegations, missions, and agencies and of all organizations or branches of the Third International.

(3) The closing of the special training college for Communist propagandists and anti-British revolutionary agitators established in Tashkeut and composed as to personnel of anti-British subversive organizations in Eastern countries.

(4) The complete cessation of anti-British propaganda in Persia and the withdrawal from that country of all organizations and agents acting on behalf or in connexion with the Third International.

These terms, it is believed, will be discussed at the secret sessions of the pending congresses of the Communist Party and of the Third International which will be held in Moscow in May and June, and until then no final decision can be expected to be taken by the Soviet Government.

Under the circumstances little advance from the stage which the work of the Conference has now reached is likely for some weeks, and to this extent the official assurances denying a breakdown can be accepted as being no violation of the truth.

Moscow's Hand in Our Politics.

Paris, May 6.

Further evidence of the efforts that are being made by the Moscow Soviet to influence the political situation in England has been revealed by documents seized by the Bulgarian Government in the action it has recently taken for the purpose of breaking up the Bulgarian Communist Party. According to the "*Matin*" the documents secured include details of the decisions of a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Third International held in Moscow on March 12 last, a copy of which was transmitted on March 25 under the number 10,176 to the Communist organization in Berlin by Kolaroff, the General Secretary of the Executive Committee and President of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

Financing Propaganda in Britain.

What is extremely interesting, in view of the persistent efforts which the Soviet delegates now negotiating with Mr. MacDonald are making to secure an immediate loan from Great Britain, is that this official Soviet document reveals that at the same sitting it was decided to advance a sum of £10,000 for the furtherance of Communist propaganda in England, and also to furnish a subsidy of £7,000 a month in aid of the English strike funds, "in order to support the strike movement in the textile industry and among the miners and dockers." It was also decided to contribute £5,000 towards the support of the Communist Press in Great Britain.

The Moscow Committee decided at the same meeting to contribute one million gold roubles towards Communist candidates' campaign in the German general election, 40,000 dollars, plus a monthly subsidy of 25,000 dollars, to the Communist war chest for use in the American election contest, 50,000 gold roubles to aid the use in the French elections.—"Morning Post."

A STRANGE SIGHT

Huge Dust Cloud from Hawaiian Volcano

A Hilo, Hawaii, message of May 11 says:—Volcano House, the Government station, reports that it is the strangest sight seen for many years. Avalanches of rock continue to thunder within it, lava cracks are falling from the crater, and steam and gas are escaping from the crevasses. Volcanological instruments continue to give evidence of the temperamentality of the ancient cauldron. The flow of lava continues, with an unknown outlet, which, the Assistant Volcanologist (Mr. Finch) indicates, is probably into the sea. The sides of the crater are falling in, and the lava movement shows a sinking tendency. Minor earthquakes have been occurring in the neighbourhood, according to the seismograph.

Kilauea is a hill 16 miles to the southeast of Mauna Loa, in Hawaii, and it has the largest active crater in the world. The earliest recorded eruption was in 1879, and there was another in 1882. This volcano was first made known to the civilised world in 1823, when Mr. Ellis and a party of American missionaries visited it. At an elevation of 4,490 ft. above the sea they found in the midst of a plain an oval crater nine miles in circuference with vertical sides 1,000 ft. deep, covered at the bottom with a lake of liquid lava, at one end red and boiling. A stony ledge round the inside of the crater, and 300 ft. or 400 ft. above the lake, indicated that the lava had risen to that height, and had then run off by a subterranean channel to the sea, where some miles of coast had been filled up with liquid lava a few weeks previously. Since that time many travellers have ascended to the craters of both Mauna Loa and Kilauea, and have given vivid descriptions of the very grand and wonderful phenomena they witnessed. Amongst the minor phenomena, they speak of the delicate glassy fibres called Pele's hair by the Hawaiians, which is spun by the wind from the rising and falling drops of liquid lava, and blown over the edge or into the crevices of the crater. Pele in idolatrous times was the dreaded goddess of the volcano.)

OUR PARIS LETTER

Imposing Figures of the Elections: Settling Down to Olympic Games

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Paris, May 9.

One of the most remarkable figures in the French general election contest, which is just on the point of closing, is M. Georges Mandel, who is seeking re-election in the Gironde. As in the case of so many French public men, the name by which he is known is not inherited but assumed. His real name is said to be Jeroboam Rothschild, and he is of Jewish race. During the latter part of the war, he occupied a position of considerable influence, unhampered by responsibility. He was the confidential secretary of M. Clemenceau, who left all details to him and gave him wide powers, which he used freely and at times ruthlessly.

After M. Clemenceau retired from power, M. Mandel resolved to strike out for himself in public life. He was successful in his first attempt to enter Parliament, and he has more than once proved a thorn in the side of M. Poincaré during the past legislature. Needless to say, he is a strong adversary of the Bloc National. He has a bitter, ironical style of oratory, and an inconvenient memory for facts and dates. He generally exasperates his opponents by professing to look down upon them from the heights of his intellectual superiority.

Two Powerful Allies.

Personally he can hardly be much liked, but in his election campaign he has on his list a very popular candidate, the Abbé Daniel Bergey, curé of the parish of St. Emilien, known all over the world for the excellent claret it produces. The abbé is a fine-looking, tall young priest, who served in the war and won the Legion of Honour and Croix de Guerre. He has what the Irish call "a way with him." He knows the wine-growers and peasants of the Gironde and can talk to them in a way which they probably appreciate much better than M. Mandel's irony.

But M. Mandel has an ally even more influential than the Abbé Bergey. Cardinal Andrieux, Archbishop of Bordeaux, is placing all his influence at the service of the Mandel list, and Cardinal Andrieux is no ordinary prelate. Not long ago he expressed himself strongly against the diocesan associations which the Pope now permits for the administration of Church affairs in French dioceses, and now he is advising all Catholics to vote for the list headed by M. Mandel. He thinks they can have confidence in that gentleman because he voted for the resumption of relations between the French Government and the Vatican and in favour of allowing certain congregations to return to France.

The Cardinal does not think that M. Mandel's religious convictions need be taken into account so long as he defends the rights of the Church. "We do not ask those who help us in a just cause to share our religious beliefs," remarked the Cardinal the other day, "but I am none the less surprised that so intelligent a man can be so indifferent in religious questions. I said to him: "My dear M. Mandel, if you turn your mind towards God, He will come to you."

The interviewer asked if the Cardinal had any idea of converting M. Mandel, but the Cardinal only smiled and replied: "It was my duty to say that to him."

The Olympic Games.

The preliminaries of the Olympic Games have begun with the Rugby football tournament match between France and Rumania, in which, as everyone expected, the Rumanians, though plucky enough, were hopelessly outclassed. Next Sunday they play the United States, the latter meet France on the following Sunday and that will finish the tournament, without the participation of any of the countries in which the game finds its highest expression. The Association football tournament which comes next will be larger but equally unrepresentative, and it follows that an Olympic championship title for football can carry no weight. The truth is that too many sports, practised in different seasons of the year and different conditions of climate, have been added to the Olympic programme since the Games were revived at Athens in 1896. On that occasion they lasted only six days and it was possible to get all the competitors together on the Stadium for the opening ceremony.

As the programme stands now, the public, hearing of Olympic football matches, wonders why there has been no ceremony of inauguration, not realizing that this solemnity is reserved for the beginning of the athletic competitions in July. As for the 1924 festival, its organization has been hampered by the indifference or impotence of the public authorities. The Municipal Council became jealous of the Olympic Committee and could not make up its mind to assist liberally. A great deal of time was lost in bickerings over the selection of the site. At the present moment the approaches to the Stadium are in a state of chaos because the work of making extra roads has been left to the very last moment.

Lieut. d'Oisy's Record.

Lieut. Pelletier d'Oisy, the French airman who at the present moment of writing is supposed to be flying somewhere between Calcutta and Siam, has a fine record. During the war he shot down four enemy machines and won the Legion of Honour as well as the Croix de Guerre with numerous bars. Since the war he has made innumerable long distance flights, notably from Tunis to Paris in 11 hours and from Paris to Casablanca and Tunis. He has gained great popularity by his frank and boyish character. While in the army before the war, he was given two days' confinement to barracks for some trifling offence, and, happening to see a pole within reach, he used it for a jump over the wall and escaped. He tried it a second time and broke his leg. When at Bucharest two years ago, hearing that a French team was about to play a Rugby match at Belgrade he put on his football clothes under his flying suit, set off in his machine, came down on the ground and joined in the fray.

During the war he and Navarre, a kindred spirit, were sent to a station where their taste for chasing the enemy was not appreciated, and they were kept under severe discipline, which they resented, and the commander, not knowing what to do with such headstrong spirits, ordered them back to Rheims. They took their departure in the presence of the whole aerodrome staff and of some British officers, and, to revenge themselves, they carried out a little comedy. They started their engines and made straight for the group of officers, pretending that their machines would not leave the ground. The officers hastily threw themselves flat in the mud, and the aeroplanes sailed just over them. When they reached their destination the two jokers were sentenced to 15 days' confinement to barracks for making a "too sensational start."

Of course Pelletier d'Oisy, being a full-blown lieutenant and come to years of discretion, would not indulge in any such pleasantries now! He is known throughout the French air service as "Pivolo" the name of a character in a sensational novel that appeared some years ago. One of Pelletier d'Oisy's comrades happened one day to call him "Pivolo" and the name stuck. It fits the simple, frank and adventurous character of its new owner.

Election Surprises: M. Poincare Overthrown by Discontent at High Prices

Paris, May 15.

The result of the general election has been almost as great a surprise to the French themselves as to the rest of the world. A week ago it was regarded as certain that M. Poincaré would secure at least a working majority. The absence of excitement during the final week of the campaign strengthened this opinion, it being supposed that, if the electors really wanted a change of policy, they would have given some outward sign of their intentions. The results show that the real feeling of the electorate has been misunderstood. They do not condemn M. Poincaré altogether, but they show that in the new Chamber he would be in a minority of between 20 and 30, and he has therefore decided to retire at the end of this month, when the powers of the present Chamber expire, without waiting for an adverse vote.

The voters' verdict may be partly due to the feeling that M. Poincaré was too absorbed in foreign affairs and did not pay sufficient attention to internal questions, but the most likely cause is disappointment and resentment over the high cost of living. The man in the street considers that, as prices began to go down after reaching the high-water mark in 1922, they ought to continue to decline, and that their rise must be due to some mismanagement on the part of the Government.

M. Poincaré also has to bear the burden of unpopularity for this year's increase in taxation, which is now much heavier than it has ever been. He did what his predecessors ought to have done years ago. He realized that one cannot have stability and lower prices without sound national finances or, in other words, tangible proof in the eyes of the world that the country is making sufficient provision to meet its liabilities. Unfortunately the ordinary elector does not reason on the lines of political economy. He is discontented, and he turns to the other side, who promise him, in the usual style, that if he will leave it to them all will be well.

The Royalists' Collapse

After the defeat of the Block National by the Radicals and other sections of the Left, the most striking feature of the elections is the collapse of the Royalists. They do not keep a single seat in Paris. M. Léon Daudet himself is left out in the cold. Both M. Clemenceau's principal lieutenants have bitten the dust. Both had the mortification of seeing other candidates on their list returned while they themselves were rejected. This happened to M. André Tardieu in the Seine-et-Oise and to M. Mandel in the Gironde, where Anbé Bergey, M. Mandel's clerical colleague, got in. One of the new members for Paris is vice-Admiral Jaures (retired), a brother of the great tribune and, like him, a Socialist. M. Malvy, the ex-Minister sentenced for reason, is back again.

M. Herriot, the Mayor of Lyons and leader of the Radicals, seems the most likely person to be the next Premier. It is not by any means certain that the Socialists will share the responsibilities of power with him, and, if they hold aloof, his position will be far from secure. If the Radicals try to carry out their financial programme, which includes considerable decreases in taxation, they will have to find some other source of revenue, and if they resort to a capital levy, to secure the Socialist and Communist vote, they will break up their own party, many Radicals being opposed to such dangerous experiments. It is very likely that some members of the now victorious Left will ask for the abolition of the French Embassy to the Vatican, and that the new Government will not carry out M. Poincaré's promise to allow the return of missionary and charity congregations.

Everyone seems to think that a Radical Cabinet will be just as unlikely as M. Poincaré to give up the Ruhr except in return for some other guarantee, which has not yet been discovered, and if the Germans continue to refuse co-operation unless they regain full control of the Ruhr, we shall be no nearer a settlement than we are now.

Mahjongg Mad

One noticeable feature of the Paris season now in full swing is that there is less dancing than usual. This is due to the popularity of mahjongg the game which Europeans say is Chinese, and which the Chinese say is European. Among the "advanced" set it has not only reduced dancing but has made great inroads on bridge. That game has had a very long innings, and society was ripe for something new. So great is the vogue of mahjongg that it has started a fashion of special tables and chairs inspired by the styles of the country from which the game is supposed to come. The tables are lacquered and have very small drawers, and the chairs are also lacquered, red or black. The women who feel that they really must do the thing thoroughly wear long dresses of Chinese embroidery, and when they manipulate the precious dominoes decicated to the "winds,' the "seasons," the "dragons" and the "flowers" they look rather like priestesses celebrating some mysterious rite.

Paris is simply invaded by things Chinese. Parisiennes have Chinese embroideries on their dresses and use Chinese jade and corals as ornaments. They have a temporary craze, too, for Chinese furniture, and the woman who has no Chinese boudoir is simply not "in it." There is a graet demand for Chinese screens, fans, parasols, braids and heaps of other delightful things. Old Chinese embroidered silks, such as the griffin fresh from "home" is sure to buy during his first months of residence in the guileless East, are made into bags and fancy cases, and, as the quantity of genuine material is limited, the French manufacturers have to imitate it, which they do very successfully. The Parisian of to-day has no need to follow the example of his forefathers of the 18th century who used to send their furniture to Peking to be lacquered, their porcelian to be decorated and their glassware to be shaped. French artists and craftsmen are very quick to assimilate any kind of foreign masterpiece, but it must be admitted that they create more than they copy.

Chinese Legation Wedding

In view of the present Parisian furore for the Far East, countless Parisiennes must be regretting the lack of publicity attending the wedding at the Chinese Legation the other day, when the daughter of the Minister, Mr. Cheng Lo, was married to Mr. Raymond C. Wang, attaché at the Chinese Legation, Berne, and son of the Minister to Japan. The Legation being theoretically Chinese territory, the ceremony was in accordance with Chinese law, but only the bridesmaid wore Chinese dress. The bride had the conventional European costume for such occasions, with veil and orange blossoms, and the white silk of her gown was embroidered with coloured flowers.

It was distinctly out of the common to see a bride in Western costume singing the register in Chinese characters and using a brush for the purpose. As attendants she had two quaint little children of her own race.

WHAT TO DO WITH THE RABBIT?

Some Australian Schemes

I do not know who introduced the rabbits to Australia, writes a Sydney correspondent of the "Observer." There is a historical record of the event, but there is no monument to the hero, for the rabbit is the greatest pest the country has to endure. The prickly pear has covered six million acres, the dingoes are a curse, but the rabbit is long past cursing. You can motor for hundreds of miles, thousands of miles, in Australia with rabbit netting on each side of the road.

Here are a few particulars of what the rabbit means to New South Wales. It costs the country £25,000,000 per annum by eating pasturage which otherwise would feed 30,000,000 sheep. As a sheep is reckoned to eat five acres of pasturage per annum the rabbits have foreclosed on some 150,000,000 acres, and probably a great deal more. The State of New South Wales has already paid out £6,644,015 for wire rabbit fencing. In addition the rabbit is trapped, skinned, and thrown aside, which does not appreciably decrease his numbers but incidentally causes a loss of £5,000,000 per annum to the State. Before the rabbit came there were no blowflies. The carcases of the rabbits have brought the blowflies and attendant troubles. The blowflies cost the State in direct expenditure £12,000 each year.

A proposal is on foot to get rid of the rabbits by commercializing the nuisance. The State will have nothing to do with it. It is sick to death of rabbits, so private enterprise is to try its hand. By carrying out a commercial campaign consistently, it is believed that not only can the rabbits be kept down, but considerable profit made. It is estimated that 86,265,466 rabbits are annually destroyed. They produce 12,323,638 lb. of skins, which are worth £1,232,638. In addition to the skins, the carcases now thrown away can be utilized. Rabbit, properly treated, could be made as useful to Sydney as pig is to Chicago. They make the finest chickmeal—rabbit chickmeal is quoted at £17 per ton. Of course, it takes a lot of rabbits to make a ton of chickmeal, but we have rabbits by the myriad here, and a couple of hundred million would hardly be missed.

Then rabbits make very superior nitrogen fertilizer, claimed to be 100 per cent. better than any other nitrogen fertilizer. Of course, rabbits frozen and rabbits canned are well-known menu items. But, in addition, rabbit alba, or white meat extract, is claimed to be something very superior—a sort of Australian caviare. And, besides freezing, canning, and other forms of preparation, rabbit meat cubes are stated, on the authority of the promoters, to be equal to any meat cubes of any other animal that ever lived and was cubed.

THE OLD BAILEY

What It Would Be Like In France

BY A FRENCH JURIST.

If I met Sir Henry Dickens, K.C., in the tube I should not recognize him again, but I know if I go on riding in the tube for ever I shall never meet him. Yet have I stood on the toe of a French judge (with mutual apologies) in a train, the "Landru Special," to be precise and I know I am likely to meet him at any time.

These thoughts crossed my mind the other day when I sat in the Common Serjeant's Court at the Old Bailey, and tried to compare the different methods of meting out justice as practised in France and England. If the Old Bailey were a French Court there would be a picture of the King, because in every court and police station in France there is a bust of the Republic. On the walls would be a motto, the equivalent of "Liberty. Equality and Fraternity." There would be much more noise; there would be much more fuss; Oh! much more of everything.

In France the judge is like the Public Prosecutor. He says to the prisoner: "Tell me now, why did you kill your wife?" To which the prisoner answers: "Mister, the Judge, I did not kill my wife." And the judge, with an assumption of anger, comes back with: "Now, now; did you shoot her or did you strangle her?" In France a prisoner is held to be guilty until he proves himself innocent.

"Landru Special."

On the Landru Special, as we used to call the train which took the judge, the Public Prosecutor, the witnesses, and the journalists to and fro from Versailles to Paris, the judge was hail fellow with everybody. One evening I saw him rise politely and give up his seat to a large blonde; then he stood and chatted with the Public Prosecutor, and from his pocket took a paper bag, and from the bag a sausage roll, which he munched meditatively. I do not think the Common Serjeant would do that.

I cannot visualise the counsel for the defence in the case at the Old Bailey going out into the lobby while the hearing is suspended, and talking to reporters and the public concerning the merits of the case. I cannot imagine a man on trial for his life at the Old Bailey being treated as an animal at bay: Press photographers standing on the ledge of the dock and fixing a hundred candle-power lamp to obtain a good "close-up" as the judge pronounces sentence. Yet all these things have I seen across the Channel.

Lip-Sticks in Court.

I do not think the British public at a murder trial would drink champagne and eat foie gras sandwiches; nor would women produce lip-sticks and powderpuffs; but it is done—across the Channel.

I was particularly impressed at the Old Bailey by the silence, broken only by the scratching of quill pens, by the dignity of British justice, and, above all, by its scrupulous fairness. The defendant surrendered to his bail, and was bowed into the dock by a policeman. A wonderful dock, large and furnished with chairs and tables. I notice there were no flowers. Possibly by request.

But at the very end I found something that was the same in both cities—the C3 looking young men, with ferrety chins and shifty eyes, dodging about the corridors, and looking very important when summoned to conferences in the corner with men a blind man would know were detectives.

BY order of the Generalissimo, Tsen Kuei-jui, a Chinese resident in Mexico, who was on home leave in Canton, was shot on June 21. He was charged with having instigated the Mexican Government to expel the Kuomintang members.

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

A Great Canal Scheme: Joining the Forth and the Clyde: Miner M. P. as Lord High Commissioner: Emigration from the Hebrides: America and the Golf Championships

From Our Own Correspondent.

Edinburgh, May 21.

The idea of a mid-Scotland ship canal is not new. It has hovered at the back of the minds of our engineers as persistently as schemes for the Channel Tunnel. It is not surprising, then, that in the "Scots Magazine," Sir Ian Hamilton, that literary general who has the courage of his original ideas, makes a very downright claim for the plan on the rock-bottom ground of practical usefulness. Sir Ian gives these details—one notes with interest the "is to be." "The canal is to be at sea level, flooded with sea water twice every 24 hours from the North Sea. At high water the Eastern sea gate will lie opened, without any lock for an hour for the free passage of ships. There are to be no locks between the sea gate at the Forth and the sea gate at the Clyde. The lift at these gates is to depend on the state of the tide, the highest lift at the Forth end being 18-ft. and at the Clyde 15-ft. The Clyde gate will be close to Glasgow. There are to be extensive docks with an open tidal water-way leading from them to the Clyde and to the sea, so that ships can enter and quit whenever it suits them. The canal will nowhere be less than 40-ft. deep and 120-ft. wide." It is estimated that this scheme would cost 25 million. What are the main advantages which make reasonable this big outlay? First—On a voyage from London to Glasgow the canal would save us 271 miles; from Hull to Liverpool 264 miles; from Hull to Liverpool 264; from Aberdeen to Liverpool 218 miles; from Dundee to Glasgow 434 miles; and from Hamburg to Glasgow (the vital issue of the near future) 487 miles. Apart from the commercial, think of the strategic value of that saving. Then, it would add 29 miles to the coastline of the Highlands and a like distance to the coastline of the Lowlands. Coal, oil, and minerals in plenty lie along this line. What is the danger of delaying for even the shortest space the construction of this ambitious waterway? Sir Ian Hamilton would suggest that there is a danger of American shipping steering a more northerly course and sweeping down into Hamburg by way of the Orkneys, leaving Glasgow and Liverpool as exasperatingly helpless as the old Chinese seaport of Amoy is in the face of the flanking Formosa ports held by the astute Japanese.

Remarkable scenes were witnessed at the opening in Edinburgh of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland by Mr. James Brown, the miner M.P., as the King's representative and Lord High Commissioner. "'From Log Cabin to White House' was nothing to this," said a Highland minister on his way to the State Levee at Holyrood, and entering through the gates he saw the pomp and pageantry. The words are true; for White House is of yesterday. There pageantry is wiped off the slate; but the long centuries are crowded together at Holyrood, and the roots of ancient history are deep embeeded. Not a single change was made in the time-honoured ceremonial. On the steps of the Throne His Grace received the members of the Assembly as every Lord High Commissioner has done for these hundreds of years. And yet there was a difference. For the number who presented themselves to His Majesty's Commissioner was much larger than of recent years; the crowds in the streets were eager in their anticipation; the windows in the "highlands" had each a little crowd with fluttering flags; and the High Street was almost impassable. There is no doubt the appointment of Mr. James Brown as Commissioner brought a new breath of life to the old regal rites. This is a changing world; and the change which brought a Commoner to Holyrood has made a great appeal to the imagination of the people of Scotland.

With the opening of the General Assembly the London papers return with pleasing energy to the subject of Mr. James Brown. Fleet Street correspondents are at Auchtermuchty, and [illegible] dilate on the [illegible] witnessed by the [illegible] when they called on Mrs. Brown, the High Commissioner's wife. "When our representative called on Mrs. Brown yesterday," says one organ, "he found her frying sausages. Is there any one so dead that he is not stirred by the fragrance of the tale? What name more glorious than Brown? What occupation more dignifying for a woman than cooking sausages for her good man?" and so on. The paper adds that it hopes the glorious fragrance of those sausages will carry its message to every snobbish nose in the land. At the present moment, indeed, Mr. Brown may be called the most written about man in London.

In Scotland we are not making such a "steerie," but Edinburgh has been stirred by the coming of the first Labour man to the Assembly as the personal representative of the King. A broadsheet has been issued from the Porpoise Press, and as a curiosity some of the lines—they are from the pen of Mr. R. Watson Kerr—are worth reproducing. The price of the broadsheet is not, as in the olden days, one penny, but one shilling, the title is "The Ascension of Jimmie Broon," and it is not, as may be guessed, cried through the streets by hawkers.

Doon from the North, South, East nad West
Jostle God's holies wi' muckle zest!
Bookies and saints and brother frauds
A' mixed up wi' honest bawds—
The common Scottish term for which is. . .
O then the flingin' O' hats and shouts—
"Good auld Jimmie!" from honest louts.
"Long live His Grace and Lady fair!"
From more respectable people there—
As thro' the slums at Palace gate
Clatters the pageantry o' State:
Officials wi' official faces,
Huddin' grim to silver maces;
Lawyers, Lords and lady bodies
Every whit as prood as cuddies
Prancin' wi' their harness clinkin'—
I wonder what it i s they're thinkin'?—
Body guard o' sodgers trim
Bobbin' on ahint o' Him;
And a' the other pompous swells,
Known to reporters and themsel's. . .
Thus pondering, rode he thro' the toon—
O happy, happy Jimmie Broon!

Wedding.

Married at Fountainhall Road U. F. Church, Edinburgh on May 17, by the Rev. Wm. Ross, B.D., assisted by the Rev. H. Moffat Scott, Robert Victor Liddell, B.B., Ch.B., eldest son of the Rev. J. D. and Mrs. Liddell, Tientsin, China, to Ria Burnet, A.L.C.M., youngest daughter of John Aitken, 70 South Clerk Street, Edinburgh.

Access to Mountains.

The position of Highland deer forests is one on which it is extremely difficult to get an opinion which is not under suspicion of being coloured to some extent by personal interest or predilection or by political opinion. A Highland landowner, harried by taxation, and faced with the problem of making his accounts balance and, incidentally, getting something to live on, is bound to take a somewhat different view of the matter from the social idealist or the town-dweller whose chief interest in the Highlands is that of an occasional tourist. Public interest in the matters dealt with in the Access to Mountains Bill, which received its first reading in the House of Commons, has been heightened by the statements made by Dr. Ernest A. Baker in a recent book on mountain-climbing in the Highlands. Dr. Baker has further elaborated his views in an article contributed to the current number of "The Scots Magazine." His point is that the development of the Highlands has been hindered by the restrictions prevailing in more than half the area comprising Sutherland, Caithness, Ross and Cromarty, and Inverness. The "positive impediments" resulting in prohibition of access mean that "out of 543 peaks attaining the height of 3,000-ft. above the sea, not many more than the odd 43 are freely accessible to the public." The "negative obstacles" consist mainly in the systematic "suppression of all public or private accommodation throughout large areas of country." "No scheme for the utter depopulation of a country should be more effective," says Dr. Baker, "except complete devastation by war." One may admit that it is an anomaly that the mountain areas of one's own country should be less accessible than those of France, Switzerland, or Germany. It is also probably true that the opening up of the Highlands to the ordinary tourist would aid in the solution of the problem of depopulation. But mere freedom of access will not of itself build the bridge between the present state of matters and one in which the economic basis of the Highlands will be satisfactorily broad. A large scheme of organization is necessary, in which all Scottish interests shall be represented. It is in the formulation and furthering of such a scheme, rather than in personal complaint or political agitation, that the hope resides of developing the possibilities of the Highlands as a British Switzerland.

Emigration from the Hebrides.

The exodus from the Western Isles continues. Like the proverbial snowball it tends to grow with every revolution, and unless something is done with Government assistance to arrest its progress it will soon attain alarming proportions. A great many of those who sailed on the Canada with the latest liner did so with money sent home by friends in the Dominion for the purpose of taking them out. It is characteristic of the Isleman to remember his old home, and considerable sums of money are regularly remitted from the Colonies and America to support aged parents and friends. In one village from which quite a number of young men and women emigrated last year, the smallest sum remitted home is said to be £20, while the average total of remittances to the village in question during the year would be upwards of £60. The majority of the latest batch of emigrants bore surnames beginning with "Mac."

By the Way.

When the Russians thought they were going to find an easy thing in the new British Labour Government, they forgot that the Premier is a Scotsman.—Detroit Free Press.

A large motor car stopped before an hotel in the Rob country last week, and its Yankee occupant, strolling up to a laird's son who stood at the door in Highland dress, inquired in all good faith, "Sye, are you the advt. for this ha'owse?"

Dollar Academy must surely be able to supply its pupils with the secret of perpetual youth. At the school sports one of the competitors in a half-mile race was watched from the ropes by his small son seated in a perambulator. An excellent example for the child!

The Scots flier has been held up at Calcutta because water made its way into his petrol supply—the dilution of spirit below proof being unpopular with any Scot even so far away from home.

One of my colleagues who was touring Ulster the other day with a party of British journalists retains as an interesting souvenir of the trip a cutting from a Belfast newspaper, which records their visit to a distillery, "where the party partook of the finished product." The cutting continues—"Reluctantly the visitors left and proceeded to Portrush," where "the plus-four men unfortunately foozled their drives."

A Chance for Cricket.

For the first time this year cricket was in full swing in Scotland. Wickets are still on the soft side, however, with the result that honours lay with the bowlers. Preston, the Grange professional, captured eight Selkirk wickets at a cost of 14 runs. Few tall scores were recorded, although there was one notable exception—the schools game at Old Anniesland. In this match E. W. Wilson, the captain of the Royal High School, scored 115 not out, and he is thus the first player in Scotland this season to top the century. In the Scottish Counties Championship, Clackmannan, 69, beat Aberdeen, 62; and Stirling did capitally by scoring 159 to Forfar's 98. In the Western Union, Drumpellier, Clydesdale, Kelburne, and Uddingston were the winners. Among the principal club matches, Grange easily accounted for Selkirk, —138 for 51. Carlton put on 134 to Perthshire's 111 for 8. Watsonians quite overran Cupar,—202 for 8 to 74. Royal High School defeated Edinburgh Academicals,—124 to 83. Stewart's won from Gala, and Heriot's from Edinburgh University.

America and Golf Championships

The Amateur Golf Championship at St. Andrews a fortnight hence will be all the poorer in respect of the absence of the American competitors. But the thing goes really further than that; and Scotland is to be the unlucky country in this business. Both the Amateur Championship in Scotland and the fight in Britain for the Walker Cup with American amateurs is an affair of every second year. As it is now apparent the American golfers are only going to compete in our Amateur Championship in the same year as they have to cross the Atlantic for the Walker Cup match, it works out that when the Championship is decided in England the Americans will be there and when in Scotland they will be absent.

Golf Record.

Mr. Francis F. J. Brown, of Honolulu, America's one entrant for the Amateur Championship, playing over the Old Course at St. Andrews with Mr. W. L. Hope of Turnberry, the Scottish and British Internationalist, broke George Duncan's record of 68 by going round in 67. Mr. Brown is described as one of the longest smiters of the golf ball ever seen.

ROYALTY AS A VOCATION

Interview with King Alfonso

The "Morning Post's" Paris correspondent writes:—King Alfonso of Spain has just given an interview to a lady representative of the "Figaro," in course of which his Majesty made several very frank and interesting statements as to the vocation of the modern king. In reply to the direct question, "How does your Majesty conceive the role of the modern King?" King Alfonso said:

"Royalty is not a vocation that one would choose, but a duty that is imposed on one. I have been a King since my earliest infancy, and all my education had the functions of royalty for its object. I was always taught to obey my people and love my country—as a Spaniard first and as a King afterwards."

"If your Majesty had been free to choose a career, what would you have liked to be?" the King's interviewer artlessly asked.

"Probably," replied the King, "I should have been a soldier—I would never have wished to be a king. I have never had time, however, to think of anything except the mission that was reserved for me. Whatever happens and whatever contingencies arise, I shall always remain at the service of my country."

In the course of further conversation King Alfonso remarked that he considered the manner in which Spain was judged abroad to be deplorable. "It reminds me," he said, "of the childish discussions of the people who frequent cafés and comment on events of whose meaning they are ignorant and of which they know only a few isolated facts from the newspapers. Foreigners do not understand that the advent of the Directory in Spain was the first necessary phase to changes which must shortly occur in this country. It is the only possible form of government, invested with absolute power to abolish and reform."

"Does your Majesty expect shortly to re-establish Constitutional government?"

Sustaining the Faith of the Nation.

"But we have never gone outside its limits," retorted the King promptly. "I am essentially a Constitutional Monarch, but there are moments in history when it is indispensable to interpret the desires of a people, in order the better to represent it later on. Twenty-one years of reigning have proved that I have always bowed to the will of the country. For Spain, a fresh war began in 1918. There are other wars than trench wars—others more cunning and less noisy, but not less painful. At present Spain is at the period of the *union sacrée*, and it is necessary to sustain the faith of the nation."

His Majesty intimated that he proposes in accordance with his usual custom, to spend a holiday in both France and England this year, "provided public affairs in Spain continue as well as at present, as to which I have no shadow of a doubt."

NAKED SUN BATHS

Sir H. Barker's Tilt at Mrs. Grundy: Summer Campaign on South Coast

Sir Herbert is convinced that sun bathing offers mankind a cure and a preventive of all its diseases, and would sweep away all minor epidemics, such as influenza.

"I hope to start a world movement by recruiting enough pioneer enthusiasts to assist in educating the people out of foolish conventions," said Sir Herbert to a "Daily Express" representative. "Stark-naked bathing is essential for the best results.

"Questions of prudery should not be considered, and the grandmotherly regulations of seaside towns, compelling people to wear enveloping costumes, should be abolished.

"There are many ideal spots on the south coast which could be set aside for curative bathing, keeping the sexes segregated. Every seaside town, and others possessing open-air baths, should appreciate the value of sun bathing.

"Margate and Ramsgate should be ashamed of themselves for insisting on a two-piece costume. Nakedness does not cause immorality; draperies suggest it.

"Healthy and Moral."

"Mixed bathing is healthy and moral, but thin muslin shorts could be worn to satisfy Mrs. Grundy. Sunrays do not penetrate silks or woollens.

"I am satisfied that people must go back to the sun for health. Look at me." Sir Herbert bared his arms and chest, which are bronzed the colour of an Indian.

"I never really lived before, and at 56 I feel a youngster," he said. "The treatment has made me impervious to colds, and without my clothes I am as warm as when wearing them.

"When you are pigmented as I am you are clothed; it is nature's covering. The best way for a beginner is to do as much as he can in his bedroom unclothed. I am always naked when I shave."

PEER WITH WANDERLUST

Mysterious Expeditions of Earl Of Perth

Once again friends of the Earl of Perth are speculating on the whereabouts of the wandering peer. A great traveller, the Earl has frequently disappeared mysteriously on a pilgrimage to a foreign land. All that his most intimate associates know is that he is alive and well.

"Where is the Earl to-day?" a close relative was asked. "That has become a familiar question in the family of recent years. To tell you the truth, I don't know," he replied. "He might be in the South Seas or on a trip to the North Pole—one of the few spots I believe he hasn't visited so far."

Chief of the Clan Drummond and for some time a captain in the Black Watch, the Earl has spent many years abroad. About 1910 he decided to settle in Germany and sold his Strathallan and Tullibardine estates in Central Perthshire for £127,000. The following year he married Anna, the daughter of the Herr Strauss of Prague, and settled at Munich.

When war broke out he was interned at Ruhleben. His fellow prisoners styled him the "Pearl of Earth," because although then in his 46th year he made the most gallant attempts to race against men half his age. He also gained the reputation of being the best chess player in the camp.

The treatment he received during his internment decided him against Germany as a permanent place of residence, and on his release after the Armistice he returned to London. But it was not for long. Soon the old wanderlust claimed him, and within a very few months he was off again on his mysterious expeditions.

The title of the Earl of Perth is one of the oldest in the country. First of the line, John Drummond, Constable of Stirling Castle, was created Lord Drummond of Cargil in 1488 for noteworthy service to the State

LABOUR'S FIRST BUDGET

A Trade Union View

BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.

Manchester, May 22.

Nothing that the Labour Government has done since it was placed in office has created more interest than its Budget proposals. For many weeks prior to Mr. Snowden's declaration of his intentions the press had been full of speculatiye forecasts on what taxes would be reduced, increased, or abolished. The conspicuous feature of these guesses now proves to have been their moderation. That twopence a pound should come off tea, and a halfpenny off sugar, was thought to be all the relief the public were likely to get. The generous largesse they have received exceeded all anticipations. The tea duties were reduced from eightpence per pound to fourpence. Sugar duties were reduced from 2½d. per pound to 1½d. The duties on cocoa, coffee, and chicory, have been halved. The inhabited House Duty has been abolished. The Entertainments Tax has been abolished up to 6d. seats, and reduced from 6d. to 1s-3d. seats. The Corporations Profits Tax has been abolished. The Dried Fruits Duty is to be reduced by 3s-6d. The duty on mineral waters has been abolished. There is to be a reduction in local call and trunk charges on the telephones. There is to be a proportional refund if motor licenses are surrendered before expiring. And finally the much discussed McKenna Duties are to be abolished.

Few budgets have had such a favourable reception on the day following their publication. With the exception of the employers and workers in the industries protected by the McKenna Duties everyone got something. The "Daily Mail," unable at the time to find any evidence of the Hidden Hand of Moscow or Germany in Mr. Snowden's effort contented itself by describing it as a "Sleeping Draught Budget," devised to lull the people into a false sense of security and confidence while fresh schemes were being hatched to ruin the country.

The only dissentient note to the general chorus of approval at the time was that raised by the spokesmen of the Income Taxpayer's League. Their anger and dismay can be easily understood when the present Labour Budget is compared to the budgets of Mr. Bonar Law and Mr. Baldwin. In 1922 the Government of the former gave £50,000,000 relief to "direct income tax payers and only relieved "indirect" tax payers £5½ millions. In 1923 Mr. Baldwin took another 6d off income tax. The result of this, with other reductions, in "direct" taxation was a further cut of £38½ millions in "direct" taxation and about £16½ millions in "indirect" taxation. From these two Conservative budgets the "direct" tax payers benefited by more than £88 millions, and the "indirect" by only £22 millions. Mr. Snowden's budget, on the other hand, was first estimated to benefit "indirect" taxpayers £29 millions, and "direct" taxpayers £14. It is hardly necessary to point out that cuts in "indirect" taxation chiefly relieve the working, and the lower middle classes. Cuts in "direct" taxation largely benefit the wealthy.

If the whole of the tax reductions were passed on to the consumers an average working class family of four persons would benefit to the extent of about 1s-8d per week. At the present time this reduction in the cost of living operates, but we have been warned that it will not last very long. Most of the great multiple shop firms made the reductions the day after the Chancellor of the Exchequer read his Budget speech. They did it for advertising reasons, as the old rate of taxation had been paid on the commodities then in stock at their shops. Merchants now say that these reduced prices are only temporary. It is reported that there is both a sugar and a tea shortage, and the increased consumption arising from the reduced price will enable the planters to reap the whole of the benefit.

The other tax reduction which has created most interest is that on entertainments. This concession seems insignificant to the well-to-do patron of the theatre and kinema, but it will be a great boon to the millions of workers who nightly crowd the cheaper seats of the suburban houses. While the charges for seats in most of the picture theatres in the centres of our great towns are from 1s-0d to 3s-0d it is often forgotten that those for the great suburban kinemas are from 4d to 1s-3d. Most working people now visit such picture houses once, if not twice, every week. As it is the usual custom for all the family to go the reduction in the entertainment tax will reduce the family expenditure by several coppers per week.

Although Labour would like to forget it there is no escaping the fact that all this bounty was made possible by the under estimate of the national revenue made by the previous Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. Snowden had nearly £50,000,000 to play with as a result of this over-cautiousness. All parties are agreed that he expended it with extraordinary skill. The Budget has enormously increased Labour's political prestige. The Liberals claim that it is a purely Liberal Budget and have expressed unqualified satisfaction with it. There is little doubt that the satisfaction they express is far greater than that which they feel for they have not failed to mark that it has made their chances of success at the next general election appreciably lower.

The Conservative Party has given all the proposals a grudging approval with the exception of the repeal of the McKenna duties. Their antagonism to this has the support of a number of Labour members whose constituents are likely to suffer as a result of the removal of the protection these duties have hitherto given.

Nothing is more difficult to understand than official Labour's attitude towards such protection. If an employer breaks away from an Employer's Federation and employs non-union labour at less than the trade union rate in any town in England the trade unions affected will go to any lengths to injure his chances of doing business. Yet if a foreign employer works his unhappy serfs for long hours at infinitesimal wages the trade unionist is represented as being eager to provide every facility for him to market his goods in free competition with those produced under decent conditions. In reality this picture of the worker's desires is far from the truth. The unintelligent specimens have only the most hazy idea of the issues involved and are stampeded with the misleading catch phrase "Everything will cost you more." The back bone of the Free Trade movement in Great Britain consists of the clerk, and petty tradesman, section of the community. Joined with them in their opposition to any proposal likely to increase prices are the post office workers, railwaymen, corporation employees, and all other workers who have fixed jobs little affected by foreign competition. The actual producers of the nation have little enthusiasm for Free Trade, and those in trades that have felt the pinch of unscrupulous foreign competition are Protectionists to a man. The workers in the motor industry are now appealing to Mr. Snowden to re-consider his decision to repeal the McKenna Duties. Unhappily, the reasonable claims are being gravely prejudiced by discreditable allies. The 'stunt' press has taken up their case and by over-statement and misrepresentation is making it ridiculous. To read the "Daily Mail" one would imagine that the repeal of the McKenna duties would bring the whole of the industries of Great Britain to a standstill. Millions of men, it is prophecied, will be thrown on the streets as a result of this new German conspiracy. For they have now discovered that Germany is at the back of it. British Labour takes its orders from the "Arbeiter Zeitung" which is controlled by Germans who are sworn to ruin our Empire by making us oppose any form of Protection. As a result of this 'support' the motor workers can confidently anticipate defeat in their just and reasonable claim for the continuance of the small measure of Protection they are now receiving.

One of the factors Mr. Snowden is reported to have entirely overlooked when he was planning the tax remissions is now creating great anxiety among Labour leaders. It is the existence of the many wage agreements periodically re-adjusting wages to the cost of living. These operate in several large industries and by their action the workers affected are in danger of losing any benefit the remissions in taxation would otherwise give. Many anxious workers are now of opinion that Mr. Snowden would have been wiser to have expended his surplus in the establishment of a more comprehensive scheme of industrial insurance or in a widow's pension scheme. As things are there will be very little money now for any of Labour's ambitious schemes of social betterment. It is said that even the proposal to pay Old Age Pensions, irrespective of the income of the pensioner, is in danger although it has received support from all political parties. What truth there is in all these gloomy forebodings we cannot say. It is sufficient for the time being that we are all a little better off than we were a fortnight ago. It will be time enough to deal with trouble when it comes. Not a few men have gone out to meet it by cutting down their wives' housekeeping allowances. In most cases they are reported to have got it.

LONDON TO PEKING IN ONE TRAIN

BY BEN SMITH, M.P., IN THE "EVENING NEWS."

An overland route from Charing Cross to the Far East opens up a new vista of world travel. One thinks of the possibility of travelling direct without change of carriage from say Vladivostock to Wembley. What a fillip would be given to the Wembley Exhibition were a tunnel across the English Channel in actual existence instead of being an aspiration.

The construction of the Channel tunnel would provide employment, directly and indirectly, for many thousands of our own people.

The construction, moreover, would involve no liability on public funds, because it is understood that the necessary funds can be obtained even without any guarantees under the Trade Facilities Act. Over 30 millions of money would be spent, mainly in wages.

The construction of the tunnel would be among the easiest to solve of the world's great engineering problems. The French company has already obtained powers in conjunction with the French Northern Railway Company, and it but remains for the British company and the Southern Railway Company to obtain Parliamentary sanction for the work to proceed.

Waterloo World Terminus.

The financial success of the tunnel is certain, because even 60 per cent. of the existing traffic would ensure its paying its way, and who can doubt that it would attract and could handle successfully an enormous increase on the present traffic?

The reverberations of its construction upon unemployment would be enormous. Adjacent to Waterloo would need to be constructed a great world terminus. The Channel tunnel track would be electrified, and the lines feeding would be converted to the same system.

The new regime in Spain is seriously considering the construction of a tunnel beneath the Straits of Gibraltar connecting Europe with North Africa. The possibility is thus opened up of a through service from London to the Gold Coast.

I visualise our London as the centre from which would radiate services, via the Channel Tunnel, to practically the entire world, with the exception of the Australian and American Continents.

Perhaps even America could be connected by train ferry across the Bering Strait during the summer months, for from East Cape (Asia) to Cape Prince (Alaska is but 40 miles. This last, however, is a vision of the remote future.

The more or less immediate future, following upon the construction of the Tunnel, would see the possibility of through service from London to all European centres, of an overland route to India and China—think of Charing Cross to Pekin!—to Egypt and the Cape, and through Europe to the Pacific at Vladivostock.

To make this possible we need but construct a tunnel 22 miles long.

MACHINERY of the Wireless Station at Chinshan, near Macao, has been transported to Canton, says the "Canton Gazette" which explains that the building of this station was destroyed and the machinery partly damaged recently by tyhoon. The machinery, the paper says, will be stored in Canton temporarily for the time being until funds are available for the repair of the building and machinery of the station.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THIS MAN?

The Ambrose Bierce Mystery

There are people who have never heard of Ambrose Bierce, and there are those who consider him the greatest short-story writer that America has produced since Edgar Allan Poe, Mr. Francis Gribble writes, in "John o' London's Weekly." He certainly wrote short stories with the sure hand of a master. Yet he was a failure. The public voted him "unpleasant." In the end, having a very good and just opinion of his own powers and value, he got cross about it. At the age of 51 he ceased to write fiction; but he lived—a disappointed man, albeit making a sufficient living out of journalism—for another 20 years. Then—he disappeared mysteriously; and it is not known for certain, to this hour, whether he is alive or dead.

Because he once worked as a London journalist, it has sometimes been supposed that he was an Englishman; but that is a mistake. He was an American, born in Ohio in 1842. He fought, as a volunteer, in the Civil War, took part in Sherman's famous march through Georgia, attained the rank of major, and was wounded in the head at Kenesaw Mountain. The Civil War was his subject. He wrote about it with realism. American readers were still keenly interested in that struggle. The vainglorious reminiscences of the generals were very popular with them; but they did not want to be reminded that the hogs assembled at night and gnawed at the dead bodies on the battlefields. So they never allowed Ambrose Bierce to win the reputation which he deserved.

When "demobbed," he is said to have tossed up a coin to decide what his civilian career should be. The upshot was that he went to California, worked for a short time in the Mint, and then drifted into journalism and wrote satirical paragraphs for the "Argonaut." It was not, probably, a very lucrative occupation: and that may be the reason why, in 1872, he turned up in London, where he was just moderately successful. He wrote for "Fun," then edited by Tom Hood, and for the London "Figaro," then edited by James Mortimer, and produced the "Lantern," a journal subsidized by the Empress Eugénie for the purpose of annoying Henri Rochefort.

He also wrote a book—"Cobwebs From an Empty Skull"—highly praised by Gladstone, who had picked it up in a second-hand bookshop; but Gladstone's commendations failed to do for him what they were to do, at a later date, for Mrs. Humphry Ward. In 1876, therefore, he went back to San Francisco, managed a mining company for a season, but spent most of his time in writing for the Californian papers until, in 1896, the Hearst Press took him up and sent him to Washington.

A Proud Craftsman.

He was a disappointed man, but not impecunious. He refused to "write down" to tastes which he deemed degraded. "My wants," he said, towards the end, "are few and modest, and my royalties give me quite enough to live on. Don't you think that, after a man has lived as long as I have, he deserves a rest?"

His age, in fact, was 71 though, save for his white hair, he looked much younger. His immediate destination was Mexico, where, at that date, fierce civil strife was raging. His last letters were written from the Texas border:—

For more than a month (he wrote) I have been rambling about the country, visiting my old battlefields, passing a few days in New Orleans, a week in San Antonio, and so forth. I turned up here this morning. There is a good deal of fighting going on over on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande, but I hold to my intention to go into Mexico if I can. In the character of "innocent bystander" I ought to be fairly safe, if I don't have too much money on me, don't you think?

And then:—

Good-bye—if you hear of my being stood up against a Mexican stone wall and shot to rags please know that I think that a pretty good way to depart this life. It beats old age, disease, or falling down the cellar stairs. To be a Gringo in Mexico—ah, that is euthanasia.

There is a rumour that Bierce, having joined Villa, was captured and shot by the Carranzistas. There was another rumour to the effect thaat he found his way to the trenches in Flanders and perished there in 1915. But neither rumour is backed by evidence. It is just as like that he was murdered by some roving band of brigands. It is barely possible that he is still alive.

COCOA'S FOURTH CENTENARY

And Pepys' First Cup of Tea

The fourth centenary of the introduction of cocoa into Europe is to be celebrated this month by a conference of Empire producers either in central London or at the British Empire Exhibition. Following the conference, the British Empire Producers' Organization (3, Old Queen Street, S. W.) hopes to arrange meetings with foreign producers, manufacturers, and dealers, and anyone interested in cacao production who will be in London in July is invited to communicate with them.

Of the three popular beverages, cocoa was introduced into Europe first. There is no reference to tea in European literature before 1588, and the appreciation of coffee as a beverage dates only from the seventeenth century. How long before the discovery of America by Europeans cocoa was used in its native country it is hard to say. The soldiers of Cortez who landed in Mexico in 1519 first encountered it there, and it was introduced into Spain about 1524.

Coffee, we know, was used in Abyssinia in the fifteenth century, and it was then stated that it had been used from time immemorial. Tea, according to Chinese legend, goes back to almost 3,000 years before Christ, and, if legend is a doubtful basis of history, it is at least certain that it was already a beverage as long ago as the Tang dynasty, which began in the seventh century.

To England the three beverages were introduced about the same time, the middle of the seventeenth century. London coffee-houses date from 1652. Five years later the Public Advertiser" announced that "In Bishopsgatestreet, in Queen's Head-alley, at a Frenchman's house, is an excellent West India drink, called chocolate, to be sold, where you may have it ready at any time, and also unmade at reasonable rates." Cocoa was brought from the West Indies to Bristol, and it is suggested that the large commercial interest which Quakers have in the product may perhaps be traced to this association, Bristol having for long been one of the chief centres of Quakerism.

Pepys drank his first cup of tea on September 25, 1660, but at least two years before this date it had come to London, for the "Mercurius Politicus" of September, 1658, contains the advertisement: "That excellent, and by all physitians approved China drink called by Chineans Tcha, by other nations Tay, alias tee, is sold at the Suitanese Head, a cophee house in Sweetings Rents by the Royal Exchange, London."

INCOME TAX ON BRITONS ABROAD

The conditional provision made in the Snowden Budget for relieving British subjects resident abroad from payment of income tax is the subject of interesting comment in League of Nations quarters. The problem of the double payment of income tax by persons living in a foreign country has been dealt with at various international conferences, more particularly at the Brussels Financial Conference of 1920 and the Genoa Conference of 1922, and has been investigated by the Finance Committee of the League.

Only last month an expert committee of the League drawn from the Inland Revenue Departments of various States met in Genoa to draw up recommendations. Before that a League committee on which Great Britain was represented by Sir Josiah Stamp made a preliminary investigation of the problem. The League hopes to obtain the assent of the various Governments and Parliaments to whatever recommendations are now drawn up by its committee, and it is felt that the lead of the British Government will improve the chances of success.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

THE TRINITY IN TERMS OF ENERGY

A Sermon Preached by the Rev. A. N. Rowland on Sunday Evening, June 15, 1924, in Union Church, Shanghai

"In Him was Life and the Life was the Light of Men."—John, ch. 1, vs. 4.

I wonder how many rose this morning with the knowledge that this was the Trinity Sunday, and how many came to Church with a feeling of praise for this last of the Christian festivals. It will have to be confessed there is very little enthusiasm, or even interest, for the doctrine of the Trinity. It is not considered practical or even quite intelligible. I read in a naval chaplain's notebook that the sailor man knows little and cares less about the Trinity, and the observation follows that it is probably the same with his fellows on land. Mr. Wells turned his vivid mind upon the subject in "The Invisible King," wherein he says much that is helpful and fine. But he is wrong in attributing the doctrine to the Council of Nicea—still more wrong when he dismisses it, and unconsciously admits he is wrong when he reconstructs a trinity of his own.

It is hard to believe that there was a time when this doctrine exalted the conversation and inspired the song of labouring men at Constantinople and Alexandria. Now if it is ever referred to, we expect a frown on a high brow. Yet trinity Sunday is the climax of the Christian year. It completes the meaning of those facts that constitute the Christian gospel. The ideas expressed at the season of advent are consummated in this high thought of God.

The difficulty so many of us find is to fit the Holy Ghost into a conception of God that is already filled by the Father and the Son. I remember a lady in London of high standing and influence in the field of Christian education saying that she could not find room for the Holy Spirit in her doctrine of God.

We must allow for the fact that we have nature always with us as the visible sign of the Creator. We have the New Testament close at hand as a mirror of the personality of Christ. But the Holy Spirit has no such outward manifestations; its witness is within. It may be that if we could place the Spirit in our thinking we could make better use of it in our life.

The Conservation of Energy.

Let me invite those who do not appreciate the doctrine of the Trinity to think of it along lines that have recently been made available. There is a doctrine of science called the "conservation of energy," the use of which is one of the chief secrets of Western civilization. In one part of the City you have a power station, in consequence of which trams are run and engines driven in other parts. Heat, motion, light are interchangeable forms of the same energy. The forces of nature are such that if you spend them here you find them there, changed but not lost. Our social life is largely based on the fact that what is originated in mystery may be effectively generated and generally transmitted or applied. And surely what is true of energy, which may be considered the underside of the Divine, is not less true of Personality, in which the Divine is more fully expressed; that being so in essence it is convertible in experience.

Love, Light and Life.

There is a remarkable correspondence between this thought and the Gospel according to John, who presents the Divine in terms of love, life and light that pass into one another. The first half of the gospel is that the love of God is the life of Jesus. That is what we celebrate at Easter. What glorifies the life of Jesus and gives it significance to all mankind is that, in its brevity and sorrow, as well as in its beauty and power, it breathes and brings the very love of God. The foundation of our hope is that the love of God was the life of Jesus. "Herein was the love of God manifested in us that God hath sent his only begotten Son into the World that we might live through him." And the second half of the gospel is commemmorated on Whit Sunday, that "the Life of Jesus is (has been converted into) the light of men." His moral force has been translated into the spiritual power by which we live in faith, hope and charity. I cannot do better than quote the words of John Masefield describing the transformation that came to Saul Kane through the touch of the Quaker lady in the public house.

"The bolted door had broken in,
I knew that I had done with sin.

∴

O glory of the lighted mind
How dead I'd been, how dumb, how blind.
The station brook, to my new eyes,
Was bubbling out of Paradise.
O glory of the lighted soul
The dawn came up on Bradlow Knoll,
The dawn with glittering on the grasses,
The dawn of light, which never passes."

"In Him was life, and the life was the light of men."

By thinking of God as the Father we think of the mysterious origin of spiritual power; by believing in him as the Son we confess the historic generation of that power in the Life of Christ. But just as the power accounts for the lightened house, we also believe that what Jesus was has been made the illumination of our hearts. In no other way could the Divine have access to our personal life but by the conversion of energy historically generated into a spirit of conviction and persuasion. Thus the Spirit is necessary for the final unfolding of God, it is the form of the power whereby alone he can reach and react upon us.

Fire, Forest and Sun.

Six months hence when the cold days of Advent are upon us again the mystery and comfort of fire will be with us. When the coal burns in your grate think of the forest that grew and died and was buried that your coal might have virtue in it, and think beyond that of the original heat in the infinite sun that has made itself at home with you in your need. So when your heart glows with thought, courageous or contrite, refer the influence to Christ, "for the whole fulness of God was pleased to dwell in Him," and to the Father who was "in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself." Thus the doctrine of the Spirit is the means of glorifying Christ as Christ himself was the means of glorifying God.

The Lever of History.

On this last festival of the Christian year let your faith in Christ take this turn. The dynamic that was in Him was not lost through the exigencies of Time and Space any more than physical energy is lost in the wide realms of Nature. It is only "converted," as the scientists would say, into influences that enable and ennoble Christian life. That is the doctrine of Whitsunday that needs to be expressed in the doctrine of the Trinity. It was the teaching of Thomas Carlyle, and it has passed into a commonplace of thought that personality is the lever of history. It is energy of soul that has accounted for every upward move and every saving influence we know. And the supreme illustration is that the life of Christ has supplied the only heavenly light of men. None but he can provide and maintain our conviction of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of men.

Not on Paper but in Power.

The Life of Jesus then is our illumination and inspiration, and we may make that light incandescent in various ways according to our various capacities. Some use sacraments, others use creeds; others again get the glow through efforts of duty or claims of fellowship, or the meditstions and prayer of the heart. But though all these may be of service there is one way that cannot be neglected, and that is contact with the Gospel story, for that is the meeting place of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the shrine of the Trinity. Only we must remember that the life of Jesus is not on paper but in power. "The Lord is the Spirit." His Life was a divine energy that has been translated into the real presence of His Spirit in resurrection power.

The Conservation of God.

I would put it then to those who have as yet gained nothing from the doctrine of the Trinity that it is in no sense an incubus, but it is an inspiration when expressed in terms of energy. It is no mere orthodoxy or scheme of thought, lodged in the antique and unintelligible formulae of the Athanasian creed. It is the doctrine of the Conservation of God in all the kinds of experience that are open to men. The love of God has been converted into Life that it might reach man; the life of Jesus has been converted into light that it may reach men. This gospel according to John we are especially ready for to-day. As we have the privilege of reading God the Father into the sufferings and sympathies of Christ, so we may realize the presence of Christ in all that enlightens the soul and rejoices the heart. We may take him out of the book, the creed, the sacrament, and apply him to the infirmities and faults, the aspirations and discouragements with which we are so familiar. And we will rejoice in this doctrine of the Trinity that links God in highest heaven with the lowliest needs of the heart.

HOLMES IN SEARCH OF THE K.K.K.

The Master Mind Focussed on the Ku Klux Klan of Shanghai

"Well, my dear Watson, what do you make of this?" Holmes asked, handing me a postcard and at the same time delicately extracting a pinch of cocaine from his snuff-box.

I took the proffered document and examined it with some care. "Obviously," I ventured, after a couple of hours' close scrutiny, "obviously this was written by a man and, if I am not mistaken (a rare occurrence) by a red-headed man with a large family about 6ft. high and with an impediment in his banking account."

"Admirable, Watson, admirable," exclaimed the great detective. "You do but confirm the conclusion I had formed before the postcard arrived. Come, let us decode the cypher.

Always original, Holmes had a decidedly novel, truly Holmsianic method of decoding messages in cypher—as those who did me the honour of reading my modest little memoir on "The Dancing Men" may remember. It was his practice always to work on such conundrums to the soothing accompaniment of slow music. The mysterious communication now claiming attention was written in block letter on a pink-scented, eau-de-cologne-coloured picture postcard, thus:

DV ZIV MLG HL YZW ZH DV ZIV KZRMCVW RMEVHCRTZCRLM RMERCVW KKK N HKPK 7

Placing the card on the mantelpiece against a bust of Gaboriau Holmes took down his beloved Stradivarius from the hat stand and dreamily began playing the latest and daintiest fox trot, "Boston Beans (for two)," and so absorbed did he become in the problem confronting him that all unconsciously he found himself, or rather I observed him, drawing the long bow across the back of the instrument. I listened with rapt attention. Suddenly, Holmes leapt from the piano with an exultant yell.

The Secret Unmasked.

"Upon my word, Watson," he cried, "I have it. Just look at this."

I looked. Tense with excitement, the great man held the postcard up to the mirror and—well, there you were. The code message was simply done by reversal of the letters of the alphabet and by transposition in the mirror the message was read with ease, as thus:

WE ARE NOT SO BAD AS WE ARE PAINTED INVESTIGATION INVITED KKK N HKPK 7

"Holmes," I cried in amazement, affectionately clapping him on the back with a volume of the Encyclopædia Britannica (India paper edition), "Holmes,, you're a genius."

"Thanks, old man," he replied, modestly. "I have often thought so myself. But don't mention a word outside. I shouldn't like the accusation to become known. Now, the thing is, who is going to investigate the matter of the K (u) K (lux) K (lan)?"

"Who but Mr. Sherlock Holmes?" I suggested, concealing deep emotion at the wonderful prospect of another fine and juicy story for readers of the "Stranded Magazine."

"No, Watson" was the rejoinder. "It is a business I cannot conveniently undertake at the moment for, as you well know, I am as it were immersed in The Strange Case of the Small Money Swindle. You must tackle the job yourself, Watson."

I shuddered with surprise and gratification. To think that the mantle of the great Holmes should have fallen into my shoes!

Where to Go?

"You had better start at once," Holmes continued, briskly. "You know how fond these Chinese secret societies are of working on the here to-day and gone to-morrow principle."

"I shall be delighted, Holmes, if you will but tell me where I am to go and what I am to do upon arriving there.

"Go north, young man."

"But why 'north.'?"

"Don't you see the arrow following the letter N in the code?"

Had I really caught the great man bending? I looked at the postcard again. Yes, sure enough, the arrow was not there. I pointed this out.

"Tut tut," Holmes ejaculated, a little petulantly, I thought. "If the arrow isn't there it ought to be, and an arrow always indicates direction. Therefore you go north—Hongkew side."

"And then?' I queried.

"My dear Watson, it really is time you purchased a 'North-China Daily News' map of Shanghai, $5 plain, $8 coloured. You would then know that there is only one thoroughfare the name of which begins with the letters H K P K—Han Kee Pan Kee alleyway. That's your destination."

Without more ado, I grasped my hat and revolver (Frs. 80 f.o.b. Marseilles) and prepared to leave. Then a brilliant thought struck me. "Do you think it advisable, Holmes, I should go in disguise?"

"It might be advisable," he assented. "But, mark you, anything except a Minghong Road topper."

With this sage advice in mind, I slipped on the silvery uniform of a Captain Superintendent (as being least likely to attract attention) and sallied forth into the purlieus of Han Kee Pan Kee alleyway.....

The Sleuth on the Ground.

No. 7 was easily found, but its appearance was disappointing. Not a sign of life. No hum of conspiracy, no mysterious figures in hood and cowl (*vide* illustrated press) prowling about the neighbourhood. Truly, if these K. K. K fellows had any secret at all, thought I, they jolly well kept it to themselves. I thought of returning to Headquarters at once and reporting all quiet and a distinct slump in the secret service line, when happily I made a discovery. Near the door of the house I descried an object which had at first glance escaped my notice: a wooden box almost large enough to hold a motor car.

What was the box doing there? Following the methods of my friend, I mentally tabulated various alternatives. It wasn't a dog kennel—obviously not, otherwise, there would have been at least one bone outside. It wasn't a garbage receptacle—all available garbage was strewn about the alleyway. It wasn't.....but, stay, it might be.....It was large enough to contain any member of the Society—even a fat Chilean—and might it not be a hiding place for the Tyler peeping through a spy hole upon inquisitive visitors? A distinct clue! Taking out my magnifying glass, I was about to examing the grain of the wood when suddenly a quiet voice addressed the back of my neck.

I swung round, prepared to sell my life for as much as it would fetch, but calmed down upon seeing a disconsolate-looking Chinese of the Student class, carrying a black portmanteau and himself wedged between a couple of sandwich boards, whereupon was an advertisement:

KU KLUX KLAN
THE ONLY KLAN WITH A KICK IN IT
JOIN TO-DAY AND
GIVE US YOUR MONEY
TO-MORROW

The disconsolate youth addressed me. "Sir," said he, "It appears that you are interested in our society. May I invite you to join? I have here—(opening his bag)—the Book of Words, membership card, and a brand new domino, and all for five bucks."

I made a wild grasp at the book of words, hastily glanced through some of its pages, saw that they contained full details of the Ku Klux Klan, thrust five dollars into the fellow's hand. "Take that," I cried "and give my compliments to the Grand Klan."

The poor fellow recoiled as if stung, but I, in no mood for ceremony, dashed off and laid my treasures at the feet of Holmes, the next moment sinking exhausted into a chair. Presently Holmes, who had spent a few thoughtful moments looking through the KKK *vade mecum*, stepped softly across the room and, affectionately patting me on the head, exclaimed:

"Watson, I congratulate you. This is the dope all right."

And so it was.

IMPRESSIONS OF CHINA

By George E. Sokolsky.

A Chinese Emperor

The story is told of the Emperor Chien Lung that his mother was barren until an advanced age, when she gave birth to a girl. At about the same time the wife of a vice-minister of one of the boards also gave birth to a child, a boy. The Empress inquired after the lady and learning that a son had been born to her, invited her and the child to the palace. The lady came. The children were exchanged. The Empress now had a son. When the wife of the vice-minister returned to her home, she told her husband what had happened. He realized that he was now the father of a future Emperor, which was an impossibility. Enjoining his wife to silence on the subject, he cut off his queue and disappeared. He became a monk.

In the course of years, Chien Lung became Emperor. His mother, the Empress, told him of a famous monk in the South whom he ought to know. The monk went by the name of Eight Cross (八叉). Chien Lung journeyed southward. He visited the beautiful cities of Kiangsu and Chêkiang. Hangchow became the garden spot he sought. But nowhere could he find the monk. He searched in temple and monastery, in lonely hermit cave. Nowhere could he find Eight Cross. He thought that his mother wanted him to go south and gave the search of the monk as an excuse. So he gave himself up to the hectic pleasures of the time, to flower boats and the beautiful women of Soochow and Yangchow, to song and dance and the appraising of porcelains and paintings.

In due course he returned to the Capital and told his mother that Eight Cross was nowhere to be found. Other visits southward were made and each time with the same result. Finally, the Dowager asked him to write the characters for Eight Cross one above the other. He did so, both rather large characters and far apart.

"Write them more closely together and smaller," said the Empress.

Chien Lung wrote the characters closely together and they produced the character for Father (父). He understood. He threw himself upon the ground and kow-towed to his ancestor. He understood that he was no Manchu but a Chinese and it was his immediate desire to change from Manchu to Chinese apparel, to order the cutting of the queues and to establish a Chinese dynasty. Other counsel, however, prevailed and this beautiful little story was kept out of the records of the House of Ching.

Three Zeros

During the Revolution a doctrine was preached called the Three Zeros. No nation, no church, no family. No state, no religion, no marriage. It was a doctrine of negation, of nothing, perhaps a modernization of Lao Tze, perhaps affected by Russian Nihilism, but its inventors called it socialism, meaning anarchism—a confusion of words not surprising in the inexact. The doctrine made almost no impression on China, for the three institutions attacked are as powerful in China as elsewhere, or one might say, as powerful elsewhere as in

China. Wherever attacked, they survive. In time, everyone forgot the Three Zeros, including the authors of the scheme. Nationalism became the order of the day. And now pagodas and temples are being rebuilt and beautified and a religious revival is taking place.

One sometimes wonders whether those Chinese who adopt the curiosities of Western civilization, the weeds in the garden, the *débris* of intellectual activity, cannot find activities for themselves in China more harmonious with the character of their own people. The Three Zeros are forgotten, but other peculiar ideas spring up every day, among them, it is now reported, a Chinese Ku Klux Klan, an order despicable in its own country, purposing only the revival of forgotten hatreds, existing because men still retain vestiges of savagery, because the mob functions like a herd, running down the prey, stampeding, wild, unthinking. There are better things China can take from the United States.

Sang de Bœuf

I held a piece of Sang de Bœuf, a colour never to be forgotten. One hundred and 20 years of prosperity produced that vase. One hundred and 20 years of peace made that colour. From K'ang Hsi to the death of Chien Lung, what a world of beauty was produced in China! From the death of Chien Lung until this day, what has been produced in China?

THE GOLD STANDARD

America's Huge Holdings: Need for Financial Reconstruction in Europe

By Hartley Withers.

It seems that the financial authorities in the United States are beginning to be very seriously exercised concerning the huge holding of gold which were poured into the country by its enormous war profits, and by the need for financial reconstruction in Europe, to secure for America some advantage from the possession of this Gargantuan hoard, The London "Times" of May 15 contained a telegram from its New York correspondent quoting from a highly significant statement just issued by the Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Board on the subject of the policy which, in its view the Reserve system should follow in, the present international situation. It urges the Reserve Board to consider the question of amending some of its regulations so that it may be able to approach Europe's problems in the same helpful spirit as that shown by the Bank of England and other central banks, and the following important passage is quoted *verbatim* by the telegram:—

"Unless America finds ways to permit her excessive banking strength to benefit other countries, particularly those striving to put their house in order, the dollar cannot maintain its position as the world standard of exchange, and foreign countries—even American banking and commerce—will once more, and in a larger degree, become tributary to the pound sterling to the greater exclusion of the dollar."

All who are anxious for the revival of European prosperity—so vital to that of the rest of the world—will welcome the conclusion reached by the Council, tho' the logic of its argument is rather difficult to follow. It would seem to the "man in the street" that if America finds means of placing her excessive banking resources at the disposal of foreign countries that are trying to work their way back to sounder financial methods, the most probable result will be a rise in the value of Continental currencies and a decline in the premium on the dollar. The pound sterling as an important medium for the remittance of funds between America and the Continent, is likely to benefit from the Continental appreciation, especially if the Bank of England stubbornly pursues its policy of bringing sterling back to par, by every means at its disposal. And if there is consequently a rise in the value of the pound, and a return to a free gold market in London, New York's present eminence as practically the only gold standard centre will be eclipsed.

Serious Difficulties

Curious, however, as the Advisory Council's argument is, its advice to the reserve system that it should play a helpful part in European reconstruction is excellent, if it can be carried out. But there are some serious difficulties in the way. A country's banking system can do a great deal in leading it into fresh fields of investment, but it cannot drag it against its will. For the American banks to give credits to German and other Continental borrowers will be a great help; but if the American public will not follow and place its savings at the disposal of Europe, bank credits will not go very far. And hitherto it does not appear that the hard work that has been done, to make American investors ready to take European securities and cherish them as investments has been very successful. It is confidently stated, for instance, that by far the greater part of that portion of the Austrian loan, which was lately placed in the United States, has already drifted back across the Atlantic, and is held by British investors, and that a similar fate has befallen other securities such as the Dutch East Indian loan, of which a part was issued with apparent success in New York, but failed to find a permanent holding there and so came back to Europe.

It is very natural that American investors should cherish this prejudice in favour of keeping their money at home where there are abundant openings for it in expanding enterprises that are under their own observation, rather than sending it abroad in the present unsettled state of the world; but as long as they do so cherish it the reduction of America's gold surfeit by means of foreign investment is hardly to be expected.

The Dawes Report.

Another interesting observation made by the Advisory Council is to the effect that the Dawes report has "led the world to the cross roads" with regard to the selection of an international standard. It is the question" it says, "whether the world is more likely to regain the blessings of economic stability under the sway of several fluctuating standards of exchange or by a general return to definite relations of exchanges to gold as the ultimate measure and regulator." But has not the Council rather discovered a "mares nest" in this connexion? No one, surely, is advocating "the sway of several fluctuating standards of exchange" —at least, not anyone whose views are accepted by practical banking opinion. Bankers in England only differ as the degree of vigour with which, in their opinion, the policy of working back to the gold standard should be pursued, and in other European countries "definite relations of exchanges to gold" are generally received as the goal towards which every sanely governed nation will wish to work. The Council seems to think that we have been brought to the cross-roads because the Dawes report provides for a German note issuing bank on a gold basis, "but leaves the door open to place it on a sterling basis, and it cannot be denied"—so the council thinks—"that there is no small probability of the latter basis being chosen." If this should happen. "England, in returning to an unrestricted gold basis, would have to pull not only her own weight, but that of Germany also," and so "the world must prepare itself to remain on a basis of exchange instability for a prolonged period, the end of which cannot be foresoon." Now there may be many good reasons why it may be more desirable that the new German Bank should go straight onto a gold basis, but the one put forward by the Council is not very convincing. If American banks are going to grant extensive credits to Germany, England's return to the gold standard seems more likely to be hastened than retarded by the adoption of sterling as the basis for the new German Note issue. But if the Advisory Council's logic is open to question, there is much comfort to be derived from the evidence that its statement gives, that America is beginning to be driven by the urgency of her gold problem, to give help to her poorer neighbours.

MARY'S LILIES

Ye that would marry, make haste, or tarry,
Mate in April, or wait till June:
April for passion, or June for fashion,
But May is Mary's maiden moon.

April is showery, tender, and flowery,
June brings roses, scented and gay:
But Mary's will is for tall, white lilies,
Set round her shrine all the month of May.

Bride's thoughts wander, as dreams grow fonder—
May month through ye shall marry not;
Earth hath eleven, spare one for Heaven,—
Lest Mary's lilies should be forgot!

G. B. S.

("Morning Post")

THE VAGABOND JUGGLER

Marvellous Exhibition of the Conjuror on a Chinese City Wall

By Our Wuchang Correspondent.

He was dressed in coolie-rags. His countenance was ugly, but merry withal and he had a quip or a jest for the passers-by which soon collected in a small crowd around him. He had his station on the high part of the wall over the Hanyang Gate, where there is a broad space in front of spot used to stand the famous Yellow Crane Tower. His stock-in-trade were a piece of sacking with many holes in it, a basket containing two or three old rice bowls, some eggs, marbles, a few pieces of cotton tape and—no doubt the most important of all—a small stick or magic wand. Having leisure, I joined the circle around him and waited to see what he could do.

I had often seen Chinese Jugglers before, performing tricks of a more or less childish nature with rice-bowls and peas. But their methods were more or less obvious, and could only deceive the merest tyro. But here I found a real sleight-of-hand conjuror, performing really mysterious tricks such as Devant himself need not have scorned to show.

First of all, he spread his sacking, and placed upon it inverted two empty rice-bowls. These he tapped with his magic wand, and then he lifted one and placed an egg underneath it. More tappings, mystic wavings, accompanied by a string of jokes about the peculiar properties of eggs. Presently, the rice-bowl was lifted, to discover no egg at all underneath it. But he lifted the other bowl, and there was a little live chicken. He lifted the former bowl again, and discovered an orange! His sleeves were rolled up, so that nothing could have been concealed there. His mechanism must have been underneath the sacking. But that had been spread on the bare ground. One really seemed to be back in St. George's Hall enjoying Devant's jokes and mysteries.

Three Snakes!

A shower of coppers rewarded the effort. Again, he took a rice-bowl, and crushing up in his hand a length of tape, he placed it underneath. A second screwed up ball of tape was placed under a second bowl, and yet another under a third. More tappings with the magic wand, and passes in the air, while the crowd, by now become bigger, gaped in expectation. After a while, he lifted the first bowl. Oh! a real live snake uncoiled itself and wriggled upon the ground. From the second another snake was produced, and from the remaining bowl a third. One of them wriggled away through a hole and disappeared underneath the sacking. The remaining two, he screwed up into balls, just as he had done the tapes, and threw back into his basket. More coppers were flung in by the onlookers. One old gentleman next to me with a fine white beard who was leaning on one of those long tobacco-pipes which serve equally well as a walking stick, waxed enthusiastic, and flung several large coppers for which he received much thanks.

After this, the conjurer produced eight or nine pink marbles, or large beads. These he put in his mouth, one by one, and swallowed them with evidently much pain and effort. But no sooner had he safely passed them down his throat, than he produced them again from different parts of his body. One he plucked forth from his knee, another from his ear, and so on, until the tale in his hand was complete once more.

A Disastrous Sally.

Next, the beads were all flung into the air, and disappeared. The conjurer jokingly accused the crowd of having robbed him, but they all disclaimed having any knowledge of where his precious beads had disappeared to. Turning to a little boy the conjurer insisted that he had one of the beads, and amid roars of laughter he appeared to draw one of them from the astonished youngster's nose. Another he recovered from the waist-belt of a coolie who was standing by. But alas! the performer made a *faux pas* when he ventured to discover one of his marbles in the white beard of the old gentleman whose admiration had been excited by his previous trick. This sally, which excited mirth in the crowd, was taken as a gross insult by its victim. The old gentleman flew into an ungovernable rage, and poured forth vituperation. Had he not given generously to the vagabond juggler?, and how should such a son of a pig dare to insult one who might be his grandfather? In vain, the conjuror protested that it was only his fun, and no insult had been intended to the venerable beard. Raising his stick, the old man rushed forward in a furious onslaught, and would have beaten the conjuror if some of the bystanders had not seized his arms and restrained him. At last he was led off, more or less pacified. But the show was ended and with a good humoured smile, our conjuror packed up his basket of tricks and left the scene.

AN ECHO OF HENLI

(With Apologies to Goldsmith.)

I

When lovely woman condescends to folly,
Her charms, in public view, strives to display,
The correspondents' mist of melancholy
Is dissipated by refulgent ray.

II.

Yet each, his animus but ill dissembled,
O'erlooks what lovely woman's garb betrays:
That frequently, she's faultily assembled.
As builder of the modern motor says.

R.K.L.F

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

SOUTHERN Rhodesia which was inaugurated as the youngest self governing Colony of the British Empire on October 1, 1923, and which had previously for 33 years been ably administered by the British South Africa Company possesses one of the finest climates in the world with long hours of sunshine, breezy temperate days and cool nights. For those who wish to take up farming or ranching in order to make the most they can of their capital, energy and technical knowledge, or for those who wish to retire from strenuous business or professional life and make a home, Rhodesia offers many advantages unequalled elsewhere. The business, social, sporting, educational and medical facilities bear favourable comparison with those of other countries. Native labour is plentiful and when properly managed is cheap and efficient. Taxation is light. Good land in healthy surroundings and amidst fine scenery is plentiful and not expensive.

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SHANGHAI TIENTSIN

THE BOOK PAGE

BOOK NOTES AND NEWS

The Earl of Meath has written a second book of memories, covering the past 20 years.

∴

The tercentenary of George Fox falls this summer and the Cambridge Press is to issue an edition of his "Little Journals."

∴

Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch has been making his "Adventures on Criticism," which appeared long ago, into nearly a new book.

∴

Sir Leo Chiozza Money has a volume of verse appearing with Mr. Cobden-Sanderson, "The Immortal Purpose and Other Poems."

∴

A collection of short stories by the late Louis Couperus, the Dutch novelist, is announced by Messrs. White, "Eighteen Tales."

∴

Lady Richmond Brown lately took part in an adventurous expedition to the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. She describes her experiences in a book called "My Voyage to the Unknown," which will appear with Duckworth. Its chief interest lies, perhaps, in its account of the discovery of an unknown tribe of Chucunaque Indians. Their marked Mongolian characteristics have disturbed existing theories as to the origin of the native American population and aroused a sincere interest throughout the whole scientific world. Lady Richmond Brown is a clever photographer, and her book is fully illustrated by herself.

∴

At one time Sir William Robertson Nicoll hoped to write the biography of George MacDonald, the Scottish novelist. The years went by, however, and the task and the materials for it fell to the novelist's son, Dr. Greville MacDonald. It will appear, through Allen and Unwin, and it will have an introduction by Mr. Chesterton. The book will mark the centenary of George MacDonald's birth, and another token of that will be new editions of his fairy tales and his story of "Lilith." Some of the celebrities in the biography are John Ruskin, Lewis Carroll, Frederick Denison Maurice, and Lady Byron.

∴

Mr. Murray is adding two more well-known volumes to his series of popular reprints issued at two-shillings net: "Perch of the Devil" by Gertrude Atherton, and "The Bridge Across" by L. Allen Harker.

∴

For 60 years over 200 letters from that incomparable letter-writer, Jane Welsh Carlyle, have been packed away in privacy. The cousin to whom most of them were addressed, Jeannie Welsh, afterwards Mrs. Chrystal, had no notion of their literary value apart from the personal friendship they enshrined; but eventually the present owner of the letters, "Jeannie's" daughter, Miss Chrystal, came to realize the treasure of her possession, and they are now to be published by Mr. Murray under the title "Jane Welsh Carlyle: Letters to her Family, 1839-1863." The letters are full of lively sketches of Mrs. Carlyle's visits and visitors, and all the well-known figures of her circle re-appear: Carlyle himself, Mazzini and the band of exiles, Dickens, Thackeray, Tennyson, Erasmus Darwin, the Bullers, the Sterlings, and Lady Ashburton, to name but a few. The book is edited by Mr. Leonard Huxley, LL.D.

∴

The phenomena associated with Joan of Arc—her voices, her extraordinary career—are naturally regarded by advocates of spiritualism as instances of mediumship on her part. That side of her is studied in a book entitled "The Mystery of Joan of Arc," which John Murray is publishing. It is by a Frenchman, Monsieur Leon Denis, and it has been translated into English by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The English version is rather abridged, but it deals fully with the Maid as a "perfect medium," gifted with clairvoyance, clairaudience and prophecy.

WIRELESS WONDERS

THE YEARLY BOOK OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY & TELEPHONY—1924—The Wireless Press, Ld.

Out in China the steady advance of wireless communication is probably even more signicant than it is to those in the home lands. There is a fair prospect that not so many years will elapse before it will be possible in Shanghai to receive and send telephonic messages to people in Europe and America with not much greater delay, expense or difficulty than is now involved in a local call. The consequences of this are almost incalculable. The grass-widower will be required to give daily reports of his behaviour to his wife in Harrogate and the Shanghai Champions tickets will be purchased in Reno up to the starting moment of the race.

That such prospects are not very remote is apparent from the annual under review, which is now an established institution. We find it stated that "probably the most notable feature in wireless communication of the year which has just passed (1923) is the great extension in broadcasting." It appears that in Great Britain nearly half a million licenses for receiving sets have been issued, while in the United States as many as 826 licenses for broadcasting stations were issued. Similar activity is proceeding in other countries. Some of the specially interesting items for the year are the new high power wireless station at Saigon, the fitting of a lifeboat with wireless, wireless control of aeroplanes without pilots, radio fogsignals, and traffic control by radio-telephony.

The development of the thermionic value proceeds apace and figures largely in the book. The usual legal information and lists of land and ship stations are given together with key maps. Rather signicantly no new legal information appears under the head of "China." The scientific signal section has been improved and systematized, and the information in connection with aviation is growing. Only one Chinese name appears in the biographical notices (Mr. Tsiang Tseng-yi.) This work is practically indispensible to both professionals and amateurs.

HERBERT CHATLEY

CHINESE SCULPTURE

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF CHINESE SCULPTURE. By Leigh Ashton. (Ernest Benn, Ld. 45s. net.)

In this age it is perhaps futile to expect the art collector to collect only that which appeals to him aesthetically irrespective of its scarcity and antiquity; for this form of collecting amounts to an act of creation. Mostly the collector is impelled by a snobbish whim or some psychological obsession—an obsession on which exponents of the New Psychology, no doubt, would be able to speculate very fully. But the collector who gets the greatest satisfaction from his pursuit is he who has the historic sense richly tempered by a welldeveloped appreciation of beauty. It is this latter type of collector to whom Mr. Leigh Ashton's book on Chinese sculpture will be of greatest value; although it may be said the pure aesthetic will find very little with which to find fault, while the other types of collectors will be rewarded with material enough to provide them with the manifest disguises for their obsessions and their snobbism. The author, never forgetting the aesthetic side of his subject (although he is, at times, inclined to undervalue the primitives' feeling for the sculpturesque appropriateness to the material in which they were working), traces the history of Chinese sculpture from the primitive ages to the decline of the art in the later Ming dynasty. He contrasts the pre-Buddhist era with the epoch of the rise and expansion of Buddhist doctrines in China, and at the same time weaves into his theme the political influences at work throughout the period. There is an uncommon unity of conception throughout the whole of this book which adequately fulfils the purpose, mentioned in the foreword, of providing "a background for the systematic study of Chinese sculpture." The various periods are well represented by half-tone illustrations. Mr. Leigh Ashton has excluded from the illustrations all fragmentary heads, rightly assuming that a work of art, possessing as it does a quality of unity, must necessarily be reproduced in its entirety or not at all.—The "Spectator."

LOVE AND MARRIAGE IN MODERN FICTION

BY R. ELLIS ROBERTS

"JANET MARCH." By Floyd Dell. Lane. 7s. 6d.
"LAST YEAR'S NEST." By Dorothy à Beckett Terrell. Duckworth. 7s. 6d.
"THE TEMPTRESS." By V. Blasco Ibanez. Thornton Butterworth. 7s. 6d.
"DELIVER US FROM EVIL." By W. F. Hewer, Cecil Palmer 7s. 6d.

The inventor of "It's love that makes the world go round" was presumably referring to the recognized revolutionary movement which most of us take on trust rather than on actual experience, or any profound knowledge of the basis of the Copernican theory. To-day, however, novelists almost agree in treating love not as a healthy, normal affection of mankind, with natural results, but as a mixture of disease, dope, and despair responsible for minor and major earthquakes. The world goes round in all these novels, but it goes round in the way so regretably common, if we are to believe the American novelists and not the American Ambassador, in countries where alcoholic liquor is prohibited. Love for our four novelists is a plague, an invasion, quite outside the will and the conscious desire, and the lovers are thrown about with the eccentric energy of mundane revolution.

This agreement is the odder because it is the only thing in common to Mr. Floyd Dell, Miss Terrell, Senor Ibanez, and Mr. Hewer; otherwise in style treatment, and literary merit four books could scarcely be more unlike. But in all of them "the world goes round and round and round and rounder" as the reveller said as he clung to the lamppost and gazed at the twinkling arc-light.

All About Marriage.

Mr. Floyd Dell is a serious American novelist. He wants to tell you; he desires that you should take it from him. And here it is—all about marriage, and birth control, and experimental unions, and prostitution (with cross references to Krafft-Ebing, whom the American young apparently are still reading), and free spirit, and parents. For the purposes of his great "telling" Mr. Floyd Dell chooses two people, Janet March and Roger Leland. First he gives us the history of Janet March—into whose life at the age of six Roger unexpectedly breaks—and then separately the history of Roger. He divides his information very fairly between the two protagonists, who finally enjoy themselves thoroughly by telling each other the story of their lives.

Unfortunately the novel-reader is not likely to share either Janet's or Roger's enthusiasm. Mr. Dell is very serious, most tiresomely conscientious; neither Roger nor Janet ever shows a spark of humour—though Janet has a hoydenish sense of fun. Roger is literary, and keeps a bookshop; Janet is bent on trying to earn her living and on seeing life. Roger tries desperately to be gay and Greek, but unfortunately fixes on Sally, who is bourgeoise and puritan and actually likes "being engaged." What Roger wants is "laughing kisses . . . as inconsequent and untroubled as butterflies," but when he tries to take them "it was a statue he was kissing, cold and passive, with marble lips."

Janet is different, does not mind being called "Devil," and the book ends with her marriage to Roger, after a time of experimental concubinage. It seems strange that so much experience, mostly sordid, and 450 odd pages should be needed to bring these highly-cultured people to a recognition that there is such a thing as matrimony. Mr. Dell takes it all with a kind of sentimental earnestness which should makes his book popular.

Mother and Daughter.

Miss Terrell is lighter in manner; her people are less burdened with experience, but have even smaller claims to verisimilitude. Jenny Morris, a widow, marries Philip, 20 years her junior. Unfortunately, even before their wedding Philip (though he does not realize it, being exceptionally thick-headed) has fallen in love with Jenny's daughter Gillian. Miss Terrell avoids the rather ugly possibilities of her theme, but only by a series of coincidences which finally hurls Gillian into the arms of an ex-officer, so terribly disfigured that he lives in complete solitude. Parts of the story are not without humour and observation. The best thing in the book is the subsidiary story of Raymond Morris and his entanglement with Mrs. Hepburn. In the telling of that Miss Terrell displays more energy, more temper and a good sense of dramatic effect. She shares, however, one fault with Mr. Floyd Dell. Each of these books reads more like an essay with illustrations than a novel about people.

The "Vamp."

This is a charge no one could bring against Senor Ibanez. I imagine "The Temptress" is a comparatively early work of his.

The book is good, old-fashioned melodrama—a modern, vulgarized rendering of the Helen legend, now known in the States as the Vamp movie. Ibanez even calls his enchantress Elena; but he makes the fatal mistake of bringing her often on the stage.

Helen should remain as mysterious as her fascination; and I never find myself crediting this common, greedy, inconsiderate little creature's fatal lure. She is the wife of an Italian Marquis—Torre Bianca—and ruins him. He is rescued by his friend Robledo, who takes both of them to a small town in Patagonia, where Elena upsets the whole community by her frantic passion for attention. She stages a tragedy which turns out in the end a disaster for herself, and the story ends with Robledo's discovery of her, worn out, broken and oblivious of her past, in a cheap Paris café. What merit the novel has lies not in the main story, but in Senor Ibanez's account of Patagonian life, and his ironic, sympathetic presentation of Elena's different wooers.

Mr. Hewer writes of the Church of England; of a tactless, stupid parson; of true love (between the parson's daughter and a young man who is illegitimate,) and of the efforts of a parish worker to marry the vicar. "Deliver us from Evil" is extraordinarily amateurish, and has all the appearance of having lain in a drawer for the last 30 year. —"Daily News"

MUSICAL STORIES

A Conductor's Memories

"MY MUSICAL LIFE." By Walter Damrosch. Allenand Unwin. 18s.

Mr. Damrosch has been a leading conductor and musical organiser in America since 1895, when he founded the Damrosch Opera Company. Most of the celebrated instrumentalists of his time have performed under his baton, and many of the greatest composers were his intimate acquaintances. The dream of his father, with whom he imigrated from Breslau in the sixties, was to introduce the music-dramas of Wagner into their adopted country; after his death Mr. Damrosch set himself the same ambition, the achievement of which he regards with justificable pride and satisfaction. His career, indeed, has been so uniformly successful that no great interest attaches to its record.

The most attractive feature of the book its its pastiche of anecdotes about wellknown figures in the musical world. Mr. Damrosch know Tschaikowsky when he was composing his "Pathetic" Symphhony, of which he was privileged to give the first performance; Saint Saëns, at the height of his popularity, when his appearance in a Paris boulevard used to be greeted with cheers and Liszt in his decline, a kindly old man, sensitive to imaginary slights, striving pathetically to keep up his friendship with Wagner while that ruthlessly uprising personality was busy eclipsing his fame.

Marianne Brandt, the singer, was once refused a registered letter at the New York G.P.O. until she could give evidence of her identity:

"You will not give me the letter? I will prove to you that I am Marianne Brandt." And then she proceeded with full voice to sing the great cadenza from her principal aria in "Le Prophète." Her glorious voice echoed and re-echoed through the vaulted corridors of the post office. Men came running up on all sides to find out what had happened, and finally the agitated official handed her the letter, saying: "Here is your letter, but for God's sake be quiet."

Mr. Damrosch tells us that he was conducting Beethoven's Ninth Symphony before a hushed audience, when one of his braces suddenly snapped, "and for the rest of the performance I was in mortal fear that my trousers would not stay up." The sublimity of this composer's work seems to have been a special target for these incongruities. On another occasion, at the end of a concert given in a Nebraska town.

My double-bass player told me that with a colleague whose head was devoid of hair, he had stood directly below a proscenium box in which a group of cowboys were seated. While the orchestra was playing the Fifth Symphony, one of these cowboys, who was chewing tobacco violently, amused himself by spitting frequently, and always aiming for the bald head of the bass-player, who had to keep one agitated eye on the conductor and the other on this horribly resourceful listener, in order to avoid his only too well-directed shots.

Mr. Damrosch's book is full of such reminiscences, and is sure of a wide welcome among those who like to take their doses of life and music in brief and pleasant draughts.—"Daily News."

STANDING AND STARING

Mr. Davies' New Poems

"SECRETS." By W. H. Davies. Cape. 3s. 6d.

This new book of verse by Mr. Davies is as near to Spring as ink and paper and lyrical genius will ever get. It is true that there is a touch of misanthropy in the new book, that here and there Mr. Davies lays aside his boxwood flute to play the Timon for a verse or so. Thus, the last (and perhaps the worst) verse in the collection has a very misanthropic air:

Call me a Nature poet, nothing more,
Who writes of simple things, not human evil;
And hear my grief when I confess that friends.
Have tried their best to make a cunning devil.

And elsewhere there are references to false friends, and two very angry verses addressed "To a Lady Friend," who, we gather from the poet, only inspired him in his youth because at that time anything would inspire him. But it is Mr. Davies' delight, and not his sorrow and anger, that makes him the poet he is. His best songs, which for artless loveliness cannot be matched in our time, are the fruit of much standing and staring—as, indeed, he tells us himself:

The power was given at birth to me
To star at a rainbow, bird or tree,
Longer than any man alive;
And from these trances, when they're gone,
My songs of joy come, one by one.

And this little book sparkles with songs of joy, telling us that "Rainbows are lovely things," that "Leafy with little clouds, the sky is shining clear and bright," that "The star of Day, both seen and heard is but a little English bird."

Though there are still a number of bad, false rhymes in these verses, the general level of their technique is, I think, rather higher than that of any other single book, excluding collected editions, that the poet has issued. Here and there we find those odd naiveties that are the result of either an abundant but somewhat misplaced humour or of a singular lack of it, such phrases as "When the life-force in my blood," or "Go to that girl and state your happy case," or "He sits to breakfast with no care Of others that have none." On the other hand, we find poem after poem like a May morning, enchanting little things still glistening with dew. Most of them are on familiar themes and in a familiar voice (and no more to be despised on that account than is the lark's song), but there are, too, some unexpected moods and manners. In particular, there is "Down Underground," which describes how "The worms have found the place where Ceauty lies," and is an unusually macabre lyric. As a specimen of the rest, here are two exquisite verses called "The Rivals:"

Pleasure is not the one I love:
Her laughter in the market-place
Makes every fool her echo there;
And from her finger tips she throws
Wild kisses in the open air.

Give me that little miser, Joy,
Who hoards at home her quiet charms;
And offers with her two soft lips
A warmre kiss than any thrown
By pleasure, from her finger-tips.

Here, in these 40 poems, with their quaint decorations, is value indeed for three shillings and sixpence.—"Daily News."

THE WOMAN'S PAGE

SHANGHAI MOTHER GOOSE

BY ELIZABETH PEPYS.

"Pure & Precious Vases."

A dillar, a dollar, a summer's day scholar,
What do you in school?
We read and play and write and sing
And swim in the cool pool.

The Peeved Pup.

Bow, wow, wow, whose wonk art thou?
I was at the Dog Show, deserved a prize, so now.
If dogs could only write, I'd pay up for that slight,
And every reader of the "News" could learn my views all right.

Sing Song Licenses.

Sing, sing, what shall we sing?
Our theme must be some respectable thing.
Politics are debarred, and the mention of vice.
The Council is keeping us thoroughly nice.

CHITS WE SHOULD LIKE TO SEND

To the Weather Man

BY ELIZABETH PEPYS.

Dear Sir:—In addressing you I have no desire to underestimate the value of the service you daily render us. What the world would do should you neglect to provide it with our diurnal and nocturnal weather, I hesitate to dwell upon. Certain is it that three-fourths of current conversation would cease. Considering the varied tastes you have to meet, the difficulty of reconciling the farmer's requests for rain with the tennis enthusiast's demand for clear skies, the rector's plea for good-church going weather with the would-be stay-at-home's desire for a gentle, soaking rain—I have to say that you even things up very well.

But can you not refrain from playing such practical jokes upon us as seems your daily custom at present? Being of necessity an early rising and industrious person I must needs adjust my costume at an untoward hour. This morning, for example, at eight a.m. it was raining cats and dogs and Ethiopian infants. I scrambled into rainy day togs, thanked heaven for the invention of motors, and before I could reach the office, the sun was blithely shining and my clothes looked about as a appropriate as a *thé dansant* frock at Henli.

"Uncertain and Unreliable."

The other morning, secure in the promise of early sunbeams, I donned my best hat and classiest light morning frock, with the same results, but in reverse. This mutibility of intention is quite as disconcerting to the leisured golf enthusiast who may call off an appointment for a round only to find that when the shower ceases her partner has already made other arrangements. The mother countermands the motor and postpones a round of errands for an inspection of the house, only to bewail her decision too late. Children grumble at being whisked in and out of rainy-day clothes. Domestic complications are rife.

Such are the trials you inflict upon us, dear Mr. Probilities. Now that it has been explained to you, won't you please give us better weather tips? A system of signals might perhaps be arranged, whereby smart showers at eight a.m. might indicate clearing and warm at nine, or a fair morning prognosticate a thunder storm in the afternoon. Just be consistent, that's all we ask.

Patiently yours,
Perplexed Dresser

SLAVES

BY ELIZABETH PEPYS.

He is only fantastical that is not in fashion.

"Such utter twaddle!" exclaimed a certain clear-thinking woman of my acquaintance impatiently, "Women have only themselves to thank for being slaves. It's not because of the tyrant Man or the disabilities of Sex or the iniquitous Political System. It's their own silly fault!"

With this introduction she proceeded to attack the existing systems of slavery, our conclusions running something along these lines. Physical slavery has gone out of style. We no longer trade in human flesh and blood, and although peonage in a modified form does exist, it can hardly be said to be countenanced by public opinion. But slavery to conventions is still strong. We inherit our political

Miss Margaret G. Bondfield, long known as a leader among British women Labour leaders, and now Chairman of the general council of the Trades-Union Congress as well as Labour Member for Northampton. The settlement of the boiler-makers' strike has been largely attributed to her.

convictions or acquire them early in life, and then by dint of reitterating "My party, right or wrong," it becomes impossible for us to break away from this slavery.

In religion we are slaves to tradition to prejudices, to emotional anesthesias, in thralldom to the faith of our fathers. We are most hopelessly enslaved socially, for while politics do not always intrude and religion is seldom insistent, we are social animals every minute of our existence, keenly sensitive to what people will say.

"The Fashions of These Times."

Nowhere is this more clearly seen than in the world of Fashion. The "little more and how much it is, and the little less and what worlds away" seems to have been written to emphasize the importance of the placing of a lapel, the gravity of the misplaced button. No man would dare wear a straw hat when felts are prescribed, and how then shall pliant woman stand out against the irresistible current of style.

Of course variety spices life, and no one need quarrel with a desire for change, but the irritation of the lockstep is that intelligent women are called upon to discard favourite articles of apparel because the style arbiters have decreed a change. No compulsion, you may say, but is the necessity not practically present. And why? The average woman does not blindly follow out the instincts of her being by wearing her skirts long one season and short the next, affecting red one month and garbing herself in black the next. She may think she does, but is this really so?

An Indictment.

We firmly believe, although we are in no position to prove it with documents and sworn statistics, that in dressing most of us women are puppets, dancing at the whim of the manufacturers or designers who pull the strings behind the scenes. We admit that we are inconsistent, inasmuch as knowing the truth with regard to this, should logically set us free from this thralldom. We are not. Indeed we hug the chains with what grace we may, and shall continue to sing the evanescent vogue with the best fashion articles we can achieve.

Nevertheless and not withstanding, we are all too well assured that it is not pure love of art which causes the designers to utter pronouncements of long waists one year and Empire styles the next. Manufacturers must have their innings, looms must be kept whirring, finished products must be sold. Woman is exploited and happy in her thralldom. Then why change this blissful ignorance, one queries? In the interests of real art, in the name of clear thinking, for the securing of greater leisure for other pursuits.

But how? Ah, that must be another story.

EXPERT ADVICE ON BOOKS

Personal Service Given by Chinese-American Publishing Co.

Martin Tupper first said "A good book is the best of friends," and since that time many have echoed his sentiments. We all love to have friends and there are very few of us who would not love to have books—provided of course that they are the kind of books we love. What a responsibility in choosing a book if we are to make it a friend for life! How even more momentous the decision upon a book for a friend! A subtle compliment or a deadly insult may be conveyed by the choice of a book for a gift

In Shanghai, where opportunities for outdoor sport and indoor socialibities, are so inviting we do not devote as much leisure to books as we do at Home, and hence quickly drop out of touch with the latest literature. Our own fault, too, as we must ruefully admit, when the excellent book shops of Shanghai do their best to keep us supplied with the new books and if our tastes are peculiar will cater to them by sending in special orders.

A Wise Guide

Now comes an announcement of special interest to the Outports, whose residents cannot stroll into our alluring shops and handle the books for themselves. In a letter addressed to inland dwellers by Ellen Hunt of the Chinese-American Publishing Co. we read:

I am sure that there are certain types of reading in which you feel a particular interest. There are books which will so absorb your thoughts that hours will speed by unheeded, long evenings be but welcome, and the dreary heat of summer pass by unoticed.

These are the kinds of books with which I hope to keep you in touch; old books living from generation to generation, new books fresh from the pens of the best authors of the day—and the in-between books which you may not as yet have found time to read.

There are many ways, in which, from time to time, I could personally advise you as to the selection of these books, or attend to the prompt filling of your orders, if desired.

Isn't this almost enough to make you move to the Outports? One might expect an exodus from Shanghai if the happy second thought did not occur to us that we may ask the advice of the well-read clerks in charge of our local shops, and moreover, see their wares for ourselves. Otherwise one might be tempted to conspire with out-of-town friends and mail letters from the wilds of Szechuen as follows:

Sample Requests

Dear Miss Hunt:

Please send me a novel so exciting that I can forget bandits and their disturbing ways. At the same time please send what you consider the best book on small fire-arms for women.

-or-

Dear Miss Hunt:

Please send to steamer Soand So the book of your selection for Mr. Whatyoumay callhim, with the enclosed card. He is tall and dark and athletic. He has a sense of humour, but don't waste anything American, like Don Marquis, on him. Please tie up with Oxford colours.

-or-

Dear Miss Hunt:

Please send me for Christmas gifts one volume for my Chief in the educational institution with which I am connected. It must be high-brow, but not inaccessibly so. If you know a novel with a Purpose that doesn't spoil its Plot it might do. Please pick out one that will keep in style

Mrs. Lyttleton, an Englishwoman who has taken an active part in the English-Speaking Union and is a delegate to the League of Nations.

a long time and that folks at Home will read and mention in their letters. (He doesn't care for W. G. Wells). And a book for his wife, too, please. This may be lighter, but not patently frivolous. The sort of story that makes you laugh but that has some quotable epigrams that no one at the dinner-table will quite understand.

Please include one Vogue, one English Mercury, one American Ditto, and one Eve. I have to be able to talk with all the faculty, so if you have some new collections of humour that is safe and sane I might use them.

FUR IS BEING WORN ON THE LIGHTEST OF SUMMER WRAPS

THE BIG THINGS OF LIFE

(A Little Girl's View)

Picnic baskets, wild flowers, mirro pools, aunts, animals, birthday cakes, baby brothers, dishes, sand pails, merry-go-rounds.

Parasols, hair-bows, grandmas, fudge, dolls, sunshine, fairies, weddings, uncles, riddles.

Rain, the wind, secrets, dancing lessons, stories, clouds, mother, daddy.

E. J. K., in "Life."

OLD BRIDGES

That Generations of Women Have Crossed.

Woman with her sixth sense, her intuition, her sensitiveness is quick to respond to the atmosphere of happiness or of depression that greets her in old buildings, churches, palaces, or houses. Some can find charm and atmosphere lingering around old bridges. And why not? There are countless bridges that have been the scene of romance in love and war, scenes of battles, ambushes, lovers' meetings, inspiration to poets and story-tellers.

Memory recalls at once famous names—the Bridge of Sighs, Old London Bridge, the bridge of boats that Cæsar burnt behind him, and in so doing gave to posterity an undying simile; the one Horatius held so well in the brave days of old, and that one at Avignon where they danced.

What a Pageant!

But to women the most interesting of old bridges must be that very ancient one at Crowland, in Lincolnshire, first built in 803. A triangular bridge built to cover three streams, much water has flowed under it in eleven centuries, and countless women of all types have mounted its quaint worn steps and crossed its steep arch. Crowland was famous for its Abbey, old when John of Gaunt went there in 1389, and for the great fairs held in its neighbourhood—the Wembleys of mediæval days—so one could dream for long over the pageant of English womanhood that this old bridge has seen.

Saxon, Norman, and Tudor women in flowing robes and high-built head-dresses; women in farthingales and hoops, the women who wore the first heeled shoes and the first corsets. Women of the Cavalier period, with high tapping heels and sweeping ostrich feathers; beauties of the eighteenth century in powder and patches. Women in crinolines, in shawls, in tailor-mades, and the women of to-day and to-morrow, with their beautiful, unhampered clothes, their 20th century freedom.

Tales of Romance.

Our own land abounds in bridges whose very stones might cry out with tales of romance, of "battles long ago," of fair women and gallant fighters. The Auld Brig of Ayr, for ever immortalized by Burns, many a bonnie lass has trod these hoary stones; the Brig o' Turk—who could linger there on a summer evening and not weave in the whisper and shimmer of the birches pictures and stories of kings and fair maidens, huntsmen and raiders?

Love of Country.

That is a wonderful bridge that spans the rapids at Connal Ferry, a triumph of modern engineering set down in one of the most story haunted and beautiful spots in Scotland. Trains and motors sweep be[illegible] its high-hung cantilevers carrying the traveller as though by magic back to the days of adventure. Here by Appin wandered the lad with the silver button; here sounded the pibroch; and here flashed the fiery cross. One wonders not a little about the women of these far-off days, they had in their lives so many difficult bridges to cross, bridges that only passionate love of their country could carry them over. These women who wept in Glencoe and these others who so gladly sold their jewels for the "King over the water."

When John Duke of Argyle 300 years ago made a Highland high road not so very far from Glasgow he spanned a broad stream with a picturesque Roman arch. Only a few years ago the old bridge was demolished and replaced by a modern concrete one. It took but a summer storm to sweep away the new bridge within a few months of its erection. Well might the stones of Argyle's old bridge cry out in derision.

To-day we have women in Parliament, in the pulpit, in the Law Courts, and even one brave pioneer in a ship's engine-room, but I have not yet met a woman bridge-builder. She may, however, arrive any day in this astonishing age and prove herself a worthy competitor to the strong, silent man so popular with certain women novelists as the typical builder of bridges.—Mabel Penman, in "Glasgow Herald."

MAIL NOTICES

INWARD

DUE SHANGHAI:—

Per P. & O. S. Malwa ..... June 30
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Madison .. „ 30
Per P. M. S. Pres. Cleveland July 1
Per T. K. K. S. Siberia Maru „ 2
Per O.S.K.S. Alps Maru ... „ 2

OUTWARD

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON, ETC.—

Per H.A.L.S. Preussen ..... June 28
Per M. M. S. Angers .....July 3
Per L. T. S. Nippon ..... „ 3
Per N. D. L. S. Holstein .... „ 4
Per P. & O. S. Soudan ..... „ 5

FOR JAPAN, CANADA, U.S.A. & EUROPE:—

Per T.K.K.S. Shinyo Maru.. June 30
Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Grant ..July 1
Per R.M.S. Emp. of Asia.... „ 5
Per A. O. L. S. Pres. Jackson „ 9
Per O.S.K.S. Arabia Maru .. „ 12
Per T. K. K. S. Siberia Maru „ 15
Per P. M. S. Pres. Cleveland „ 19
Per R. M. S. Emp. of Canada „ 21

FOR MANILA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND VIA HONGKONG:—

Per A.O.L.S. Pres. Maddison July 1
Per P.M.S. Pres. Cleveland .. „ 2
Per M.M.S. Angers ..... „ 3

PASSENGERS

INWARD.

Per P. & O. S. Karmala, June 19. From London. Mr. H. Neale, Mr. D W. M. Price, Miss R. Bristow, Mr. F. Gutteridge, Mrs. G. E. Scott, Miss Scott, Mr. H. J. Pearce. Captain R. C. Davenport, Mr. J. A. Farrell, Mr. Rogers, Mr. S. V. Gash, Mr. R. G. White, Mr. D. D. Anderson, Mr. J. T. Shields, Mr. W. M. Penny, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Weaver and child. From Singapore. Mr. E. Hobden, Mr. M. G. Brash. From Hongkong. Captain J. L. Collings, Mr. H. Goecke, Mr. K. Nietsch.

Per str. Ningshao, June 20. From River Ports. Mrs. G. J. Stoneman.

Per str. Poyang, June 20. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Foster and five children, Mr. K. Leavers.

Per R. M. S. Empress of Asia, June 20. From Vancouver, etc. Mrs. H. G. Harris, Mr. B. Brodhead, Mr. M. H. [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. [illegible], Mr. R. A. Connor, Mr. F. W. [illegible], Mr. W. B. Foster, Mrs. C. W. [illegible], Mr. I. A. Fortner, Mr. P. [illegible], Miss N. Hillary, Mr. W. [illegible], Mr. K. [illegible], Mr. and Miss Dyal Matthews, Mr. [illegible], Mr. R. Rowcliffe, Mr. F. M. Satterthwaite, Mr. F. Smith, Mr. F. A. Vizina, Mr. E. C. Young, Mr. C. S. Zacha, Mr. A. Cobb, Mrs. M. H. Fegert, Miss C. Flagher, Miss Kimura, Mr. T. T. Lee, Mrs. A. Schoch, Mr. J. Wall, Miss N. A. Balakshin.

Per str. Chungking, June 21. From Amoy. Miss W. Wise.

Per str. Wenchow, June 21. From River Ports. Mr. Turnbull.

Per str. Kiangwah, June 21. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Taylor, Mr. Hartly, Mr. Kornyloff.

Per str. Pakhoi, June 22. From Hongkong. Mrs. Sucha.

Per str. Luenyi, June 22. From River Ports. Messrs. L. A. Glintz, T. Vennum, Corwin, F. B. Comstock.

Per str. Fengtien, June 22. From Tientsin. Mr. and Mrs. Mencarini, Mr. Elkus. From Chefoo. Mrs. Evans, Master H. Smith. From Weihaiwei. Mrs. Hayin and maid, Mr. Elais.

Per str. Tuckwo, June 22. From River Ports. Mr. Garvey, Mr. and Mrs Green, Mrs. R. P. Hinrichs and child, Miss B. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Fippard, Mrs. Dix, Mrs. Hempstone, Dr. Noelting.

Per str. A. O. L. S. Pres. Jefferson, June 22. From Hongkong and Manila. Mr. W. C. Brockman, Mr. F. S. Brockman, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Clarke, Mr. J. H. Dilkes, Mr. W. J. Hawker, Mr. A. N. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Harber, Miss A. Turner, Mrs. J. E. Denton, Mr. B. Lalkaka, Mr. C. J. Ferguson, Mr. J. W. Wilson, Mr. G. F. Stokes, Mr. J. Joseph, Mr. G. F. Stockes, Mrs. F. H. Greary, Mr. A. R. Curtin, Mr. A. Fisher, Mr. H. Lutjens, Mr. W. P. Carman, Mr. J. S. Guzdar, Mrs. R. Brozise, Mr. S. H. Lawrence Mr. F. L. Bullock, Mr. C. D. Jackman, Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Lawrie, Miss E. M. A. Lawrie, and Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Mencarini.

Per str. Kingsing, June 23. From Chefoo. Mr. Murray, Mr. Garrett.

Per str. Chusan, June 23. From Tientsin. Mr. and Mrs. Bothwell, From Tsingtao. Mr. Popinoff.

Per str. Kiangyong, June 23. From River Ports. Mrs. Sergeniloff. Mr. and Mr. Colmar.

Per str. Liangchow, June 23 From Hongkong and Swatow. Mr. P. Schicker, Mrs. C. Zidanva, Miss M. Winn, Mrs. Portway, Mr. M. Mackenzie.

Per str. Kiangan, June 24. From River Ports. Captain G. Kirkham, Mr. S. H. Clark.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, June 24. From Ningpo. Messrs. McAuliffe, Aug and Y. C. Dowchent.

Per str. Hsinchi, June 24. From Foochow. Misses E. T. Rick, M. Barslett, O. Oswald, G. Hoskin, Holton, Mr. G. Pattison.

Per str. Suiwo, June 24. From River Ports. Captain Jorgensen.

Per str. Luchow, June 25. From Hongkong. Mr. Hunter.

Per str. Hsin Peking, June 25. From Ningpo. Mr. J. Parson, Mr. K. W. Johnson, Mr. W. Smith.

Per str. Tatung, June 25. From River Ports. Mrs. and Miss M. Marten, Mrs. Bailey, Miss Morrisson, Captain E. Reffell, Mr. Groty.

Per str. Shuntien, June 25. From Tientsin. Mr. and Mrs. Morton. Mr. F. Morton. From Weihaiwei. Mr. Hopson Jones.

Per M. M. S. Porthos, June 25. From Marseilles. Messrs. S. du Jonchay, W. Jagodzinski, Le Guillou, D. Favolle, Englebert, A. Vanzaren, Mr. and Mrs. Ozenda and child, Miss L. Brennan. From Saigon. Messrs. Revel and Hellio. From Hongkong. Messrs. North, M. Talboi, A. E. Gupta, S. A. Ismail, Iron Brus, Savitsky, Cocevich, Mrs. Kremer, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Greene, Miss Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. A. Castro, Mrs. Rankin, Miss V. Ryhoff.

Per str. Ngankin, June 26. From River Ports. Miss Williams.

Per str. Sunning, June 26. From Tsingtao. Mr. Cheale, Miss S. Tippin.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, June 26.—For Ningpo.—Mr. E. B. Kennedy, Mrs. W. W. Peter and three children.

Per str. Loongwo, June 26. From River Ports. Mr. E. P. Dunnett, Dr and Mrs. Robertson, Rev. and Mrs. C Derr, Mrs. Lewis, Miss B. Robertson, Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Robert and child, Dr. and Mrs. Berkel and child.

OUTWARD.

Per R. D. S. President Hayes, June 20.—For New York, etc.—Mr. A. G. Stevenson, Mr. C. H. Anderson, Miss E. Haber, Mrs. F. K. Ferguson, Mr. G. G. John, Mr. J. F. Jones, Miss E. M. Proctor, Mrs. A. G. Stevenson, Mrs. T. Lefevre and three children, Mrs. R. H. Dunlap, Miss G. McGullough, Miss J. Hashagen, Mr. I. A. Wood, Mrs. C. H. Anderson, Mrs. P. A. Muyer, Mr. F. R. Thomas, Mr. E. Busse, Mr. D. C. Sims, Miss E. Kay, Mr. T. Lefevre, Mr. F. F. Mills, Miss F. Russell, Col. R. H. Dunlop.

Per str. Sunning, June 21.—For Tsingtao.—Mrs. J. M. Ward and two children, Misses Yard (2), Mr. W. Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Cornish.

Per str. Tungchow, June 21.—For Weihaiwei.—Mrs. H. C. Pearce, Mrs. Picca, Mrs. Goodale's nurse and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Goodale, Mrs. H. E. Muriel and two children, Mrs. T. J. Fisher and child.—For Chefoo.—Mrs. P. Taylor, Mrs. Laughlin, Mrs. R. B. Cricton and child, Mrs. Host, Mrs. Hewitt, Mr. and Mrs. Gilmer, Mrs. Stark, Dr. Bonsfield, Mrs. F. H. Wells, Mr. E. F. Casey, Mr. Slizky.—For Tientsin.—Mr. Jepson.

Per str. Poyang, June 21.—For River Ports.—Mr. Hartzell, Miss E. Berger, Miss B. Smith, One French Sailor, Two British Sailors, Mrs. Hillary, Miss Lockhead, Mr. G. S. Smail, Mr. A. Jenkins, and Mr. J. T. Reid.

Per P. M. S. President Lincoln, June 22.—For San Francisco etc.,—Mr. and Mrs. Hunter Mann, Master Hunter Mann, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Schuhl, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Stewart, Mr. H. O. Hashagen, Mr. W. E. Souter, Mrs. H. H. Herts, Miss F. Goodwin, Mr. and Mrs. Barton, Miss Barton, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Healy and child, Mrs. V. Clumeck and family, Mr. E. Shellin and family, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Benzeman and family, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Thompson, Mr. M. L. Gregg, Mr. E. M. Draper, Mrs. A. Shainin, Master Shanin, Mrs. R. G. MacDonald, Miss B. M. Coutts, Mr. P. L. Jackson, Lieut. D. H. Wilson, Mr. R. H. Smith, Mr. J. B. Voit, Mr. W. N. Hand, Captain and Mrs. C. C. Fenn, Mrs. D. L. Smith and children, Mrs. J. L. Fleming.

Per str. A. O. L. S. President Jefferson, June 23.—For Seattle, etc.,—Miss A. Woods, Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Graham and two children Mr. H. C. T. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Pease, Miss Pease, Mr. C. C. Squires, Lt. Comdr. F. L. Riefkehl, Mrs. A. B. Cates, Mr. F. G. Carpenter, Rev. R. G. Boville, Miss B. Vankirk, Miss M. S. Norton, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Lockwood, Mr. and Mrs. H. Huizinga and two children, Mrs. L. O. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Peters, Miss Peters, Rev. and Mrs. T. L. Sinclair and two children, Mrs. F. Pearson, Mr. L. S. Anderson, Mr. R. Mills, Mr. and Mrs. C. Wade-Jone, Mrs. A. B. Lowson, Miss Lowson, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Gray, Mr. E. Cranston, Mr. I. Akamatsu, Miss D. Pray, Mr. C. Wathan, Mr. J. L. Evans, Miss L. E. Miske, Miss L. Thomasson, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Blume, Mr. G. M. Ivory, Mr. K. Uemori, Mr. R. R. Brattain, Miss F. M. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gowdy, Mr. M. S. Tuttle.

Per str. Nanchang, June 24.—For Chefoo.—Mrs. Benting, Mrs. J. Parker, and Mr. H. Quelch.

Per str. Szechuen, June 24.—For Hongkong.—Mr. and Mrs. G. Buchanan and child.—For Swatow.—Mr. Harting.

Per P. & O. S. Morea, June 24.—For London.—Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Steptoe, Master P. N. Steptoe, Captain and Mrs. R. C. Hamilton, Mr. T. V. S. Twentyman, Miss G. M. S. Twentyman, Mrs. A. G. Cozen and child, Mrs. A. and Miss Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Easton and child, Miss J. M. Frantzen, Mr. I. R. Melville, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Bucklin and child, Dr. and Mrs. G. A. Huntley, Messrs. W. and L. Huntley, Miss G. Huntley, Mrs. and Miss H. P. Wilkinson, Mr. P. Hartley, Rev. and Mrs. Cullen and two children, Master J. Smith, Mr. A. F. Ealham, Mr. W. J. Grills, Miss D. M. Bolton, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Green, Mr. H. Mackay.—For Marseilles.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Malcolm, Mr. F. Kulka, Mr. P. Harvey, Mr. L. A. Glintz, Mr. O. M. Corwin, Mr. F. B. Comstock, Mr. T. Vennum, Mr. L. N. Edmuntis, Mr. J. L. McCord, Mr. J. Lockwood, Mr. J. W. Shipley, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Mabee, and three children, —For Colombo.—Miss R. P. Wright, Miss L. Wild, Miss C. Curtis.—For Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fippard, Miss K. Sanderson, Miss F. M. Newton, Mr. B. S. Garvey, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Watson and two children, Mr. R. Garrett.—For Hongkong.—Mr. W. H. Batchelor, Mr. H. N. Urquhart, Mrs. J. A. Urquhart, Miss S. Urquhart, Mr. and Mrs. A. Claire, Dr. A. G. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Bentley, Mr. J. W. Vick, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. de Carvalho, Mr. T. A. Magee, Mr. E. Brunner, Mr. E. A. Long, M. G. Brown.

Per str. Luen Yi, June 24.—For River Ports.—Miss M. M. Mills, Mrs. Schoch.

Per str. Pakhoi, June 25.—For Antung.—Mrs. Klubien and child, Mr. D. M. Whamond, Captain Thomson.

Per str. Fengtien, June 25.—For Weihaiwei.—Mr. S. H. Ellis, Miss May, Mrs. C. J. Scott and three children, Mrs. A. E. Fenton and two children, Mrs. H. E. Rigge and three children and nurse, Mrs. MacLennan, Miss MacLennan, Master. MacLennan.—For Chefoo.—Mrs. Brix, Mrs. C. J. Robertson, Mrs. B. Sorensen and child, Mrs. Green, Mrs. McMakon, Mrs. H.L. Wyatt, and three children.—For Tientsin.—Miss Doyle.

Per str. Liangchow, June 26.—For Hongkong.—Mr. L. R. O. Bewan, Mr. N. H. Ewing.—For Amoy.—Mr. Hodgkin.

BIRTHS

BAKER.—On June 21, 1924, to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Baker, a son.

BLOCK.—On June 23, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Block, a son.

CARVALHO.—On June 21, 1924, to Mr. and Mrs. F. R. de Carvalho, a son.

FELGATE.—On June 26, 1924, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. Reginald H. Felgate, a son, Reginald Hudson, Jr.

SNYDER.—On June 25, 1924, at Dr. Fearn's Sanitarium, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Snyder, a daughter.

WELLS.—On June 25, 1924, at 316 Route Dupleix, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Wells, a daughter.

MARRIAGES

DONNELLY—TAYLOR.—On June 17, 1924, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, Charles Adrian Donnelly, of Melbourne, Australia, to Lillian Hazel, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, St. Kilda, Victoria, Australia.

WHITE—COOPER.—On June 21, 1924, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, before Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., and afterwards at St. Joseph's Church by the Rev. Father MacDonald, S.J., Harry Augustus White, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Owen White, of Shanghai, to Monica Mary, youngest daughter of Mrs. A. Cooper, of Dulwich, London.

DEATH

WILMER.—On June 23, 1924, at Hove, Sussex, England, in his 69th year, James William Wilmer, late of Manchester, and father of Harry B. Wilmer.

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(Aktieselskabet Det Ostasiatiske Kompagni)

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TO SOUTH PACIFIC.
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SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer 9 A.M.	Wind Att'ed Therm	Wind Direction 9 a.m.	Wind Force (1-12)	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Dry	Hygrometer 9 a.m. Wet	Thermometer in Shade Max.	Thermometer in Shade Min.	Weather conditions
June 20	29.76	73.3	E	2	71.8	70.4	77.9	66.6	O. D. R.
„ 21	29.70	73.2	E N E	2	69.3	68.6	70.4	67.3	O. R.
„ 22	29.65	72.2	N W	2	68.0	66.0	78.6	63.8	O.
„ 23	29.87	73.0	W	2	79.2	76.9	89.2	64.0	F.
„ 24	29.85	73.6	E S E	2	75.2	72.5	87.8	66.6	O
„ 25	29.77	75.4	W S W	1	77.2	75.0	84.2	72.5	O.
„ 26	29.70	76.3	S W	1	77.6	75.4	80.4	71.6	O. D. R.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.) Minimum 1924	Minimum 1923	Maximum 1924	Maximum 1923	Rainfall Inches 1924	Inches 1923
June 20	69.0	76.0	74.0	87.0	0.20	Nil.
„ 21	69.0	76.0	71.2	87.6	2.38	1.34
„ 22	64.8	69.0	77.4	79.4	0.13	0.32
„ 23	66.8	68.8	86.2	84.2	Nil.	Nil.
„ 24	69.6	71.8	85.2	81.8	Nil.	0.03
„ 25	74.8	71.4	82.0	83.0	0.35	Nil.
„ 26	73.0	72.0	84.2	79.0	3.21	0.33

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